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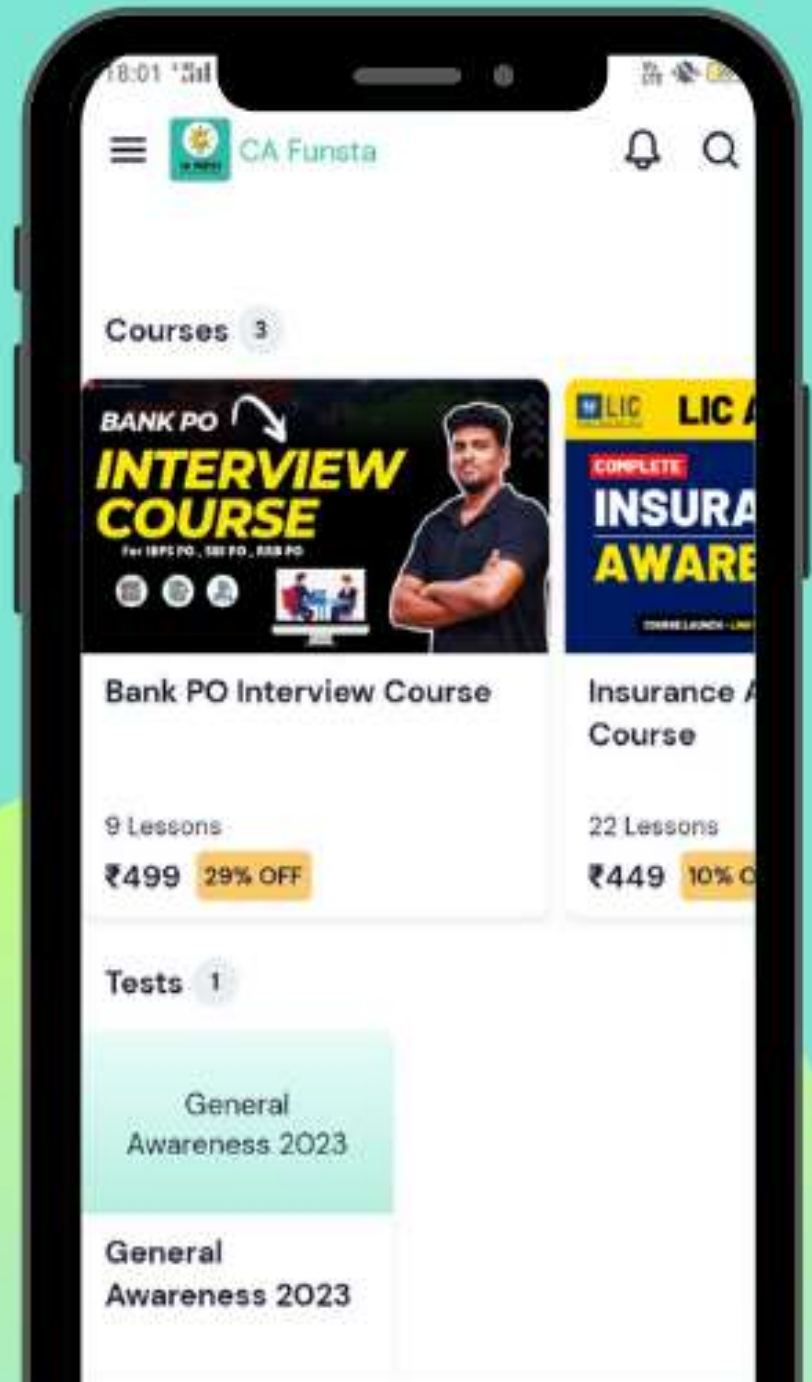
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➤ **When will the IPL 2025 season begin?**

- A) March 14, 2025
- B) March 15, 2025
- C) March 31, 2025
- D) April 1, 2025
- E) May 25, 2025

**Answer**

**A) March 14, 2025**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Announcement of IPL dates for 2025–2027 and player additions to the IPL 2025 auction list.
- **Location:** IPL auction scheduled in **Jeddah**, Saudi Arabia, on November 24 and 25, 2024.





## Mandates and Objectives:

- **IPL Schedule Updates:**
  - **IPL 2025:** March 14 to May 25.
  - **IPL 2026:** March 15 to May 31.
  - **IPL 2027:** March 14 to May 30.
- **Auction Details:**
  - Auction timing shifted to 3:30 PM to avoid clashing with the Perth Test.
  - Addition of players like Jofra Archer, Saurabh Netravalkar, and Hardik Tamore to the auction list.
- **Player Base Price Adjustments:**
  - Lowest base price increased from ₹20 lakh to ₹30 lakh.
  - Jofra Archer: Base price ₹2 crore.
  - Saurabh Netravalkar and Hardik Tamore: Base price ₹30 lakh.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **IPL Auction:**
  - Annual event where franchises bid on players to assemble their squads for the upcoming IPL season.
- **Base Price:**
  - The minimum price at which a player can be bought during the auction.
- **Jofra Archer:**
  - Barbados-born English pacer known for his express pace and performance in global tournaments.
- **Saurabh Netravalkar:**
  - USA left-arm pacer who impressed in the 2024 T20 World Cup with six wickets at an economy rate of 6.63.



## Static GK Information:

- **Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)**
  - **Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra
  - **President:** Roger Binny
  - **Founded:** 1928
- **Indian Premier League (IPL)**
  - **Founded:** 2008
  - **Administrator:** BCCI
  - **Current Title Holder (2024):** Chennai Super Kings



## Tabular Summary:

Key Detail	Information
IPL 2025 Season Dates	March 14, 2025 – May 25, 2025
Auction Dates	November 24–25, 2024, in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia
Players Added to Auction	Jofra Archer, Saurabh Netravalkar, Hardik Tamore
Lowest Base Price	Increased from ₹20 lakh to ₹30 lakh
Player Base Prices	Archer: ₹2 crore; Netravalkar & Tamore: ₹30 lakh





➤ What is the new transaction limit for UPI 123Pay as per RBI's latest update?

- A) ₹2,000
- B) ₹5,000
- C) ₹10,000
- D) ₹7,000
- E) ₹1,000

**Answer**

**C) ₹10,000**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** RBI doubles UPI 123Pay limit and announces updates to UPI services.
- **Location:** India-wide implementation.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Key Updates for UPI 123Pay:**
  - Transaction limit increased from ₹5,000 to ₹10,000.
  - Aadhaar OTP is now mandatory for onboarding UPI 123Pay users.
  - New purpose code (86) introduced for transactions; old code (31) discontinued.
  - Integration with UPI numeric ID mapper to enable UPI numbers for transactions.
- **UPI Lite Wallet Changes:**
  - **Wallet balance limit:** Increased from ₹2,000 to ₹5,000.
  - **Per-transaction limit:** Increased from ₹500 to ₹1,000.
- **Implementation Deadline:** Changes to be fully implemented by January 1, 2025.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **UPI 123Pay:**
  - A digital payment system designed for feature phones, allowing payments without internet access.
  - Utilizes methods like IVR, missed calls, OEM-embedded apps, and sound-based technology.
- **UPI Lite Wallet:**
  - A simplified UPI-based wallet for small-value transactions, enabling faster and offline payments.
- **NPCI (National Payments Corporation of India):**
  - Umbrella organization for digital payments in India, overseeing systems like UPI and RuPay.





## Static GK Information:

- **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**
  - **Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra
  - **Established:** 1 April 1935
  - **Governor:** Shaktikanta Das



## Tabular Summary:

Key Detail	Information
Event	RBI doubles UPI 123Pay limit, raises UPI Lite limits
Date Announced	October 9, 2024
New UPI 123Pay Limit	₹10,000 (previously ₹5,000)
New UPI Lite Wallet Limit	₹5,000 (wallet balance); ₹1,000 (per transaction)
Aadhaar OTP Requirement	Mandatory for onboarding UPI 123Pay users
Implementation Deadline	January 1, 2025
Purpose Code Update	New code: 86; Old code: 31 discontinued



➤ Which globally recognized organization has PNB joined to strengthen its climate responsibility efforts?

- A) UNFCCC
- B) GCF (Green Climate Fund)
- C) PCAF (Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials)
- D) CDP (Carbon Disclosure Project)
- E) RBI



**Answer**

**C) PCAF (Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials)**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Punjab National Bank (PNB) becomes a signatory to PCAF.
- **Location:** New Delhi, India.
- **Date:** November 24, 2024.





## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objective of Joining PCAF:**
  - Adopt internationally recognized standards for measuring and disclosing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from its lending and investment activities.
  - Align with global best practices in climate responsibility and transparency.
- **Alignment with RBI Framework:**
  - PNB's move complements the RBI's draft framework on climate-related financial risk disclosures, effective from FY 2025-26.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Benefits of PCAF Membership:**
  - Access to **technical support**, country-specific data, and insights tailored for India.
  - Participation in **global working groups** to refine GHG accounting standards.
  - Opportunity for **knowledge sharing** through workshops and webinars.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **PCAF (Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials):**
  - A global collaboration of financial institutions focused on accounting for and reducing GHG emissions from financial activities.
  - Provides standardized methodologies for financed emissions reporting.
- **Business Responsibility and Sustainability Report (BRSR):**
  - A reporting framework mandated by SEBI for Indian companies to disclose environmental, social, and governance (ESG) aspects.
  - Includes metrics for climate-related emissions and sustainability practices.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **GHG Emissions Accounting:**
  - The process of calculating emissions (Scope 1, 2, and 3) associated with an organization's operations and investments.



## Static GK Information:

- **Punjab National Bank (PNB)**
  - **Headquarters:** New Delhi
  - **MD & CEO:** Atul Kumar Goel
  - **Founded:** 1894
  - **Tagline:** The Name You Can Bank Upon



## Tabular Summary:

Detail	Information
Event	PNB becomes a signatory to PCAF
Objective	Enhance transparency in GHG emissions reporting
Reporting Framework	Business Responsibility and Sustainability Report (BRSR)
Alignment	RBI framework on climate-related financial risk disclosures
Key Benefits	Access to global data, technical support, and training





# APPOINTMENTS



➤ **Who has been appointed as Mali's new prime minister by the ruling junta?**

- A) Assimi Goita
- B) Abdoulaye Maiga
- C) Choguel Maiga
- D) Abdoulaye Diop
- E) Sadio Camara

**Answer**

**B) Abdoulaye Maiga**



# APPOINTMENTS



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Appointment of Colonel Abdoulaye Maiga as the new prime minister of Mali.
- **Location:** Bamako, Mali.



# APPOINTMENTS



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Reason for Appointment:**
  - Former Prime Minister Choguel Maiga was dismissed after criticizing the junta for decision-making secrecy and delays in transitioning back to democracy.
- **New Prime Minister:**
  - Colonel Abdoulaye Maiga, junta spokesperson and expert in international affairs, has taken the role.
  - Represented Mali at international forums, including the UN General Assembly and COP29.
- **Implications of the Appointment:**
  - Highlights increased militarization of Mali's government.
  - Fuels uncertainty about the postponed presidential elections, initially scheduled for February 2025.



# APPOINTMENTS



## Key Political Context:

- **Mali's Junta Leadership:**
  - Gen. Assimi Goita leads the junta, which came to power in a 2020 coup.
  - Key cabinet members, including Defense Minister Sadio Camara and Foreign Minister Abdoulaye Diop, remain unchanged.



# APPOINTMENTS



## Key Political Context:

- **Challenges Facing Mali:**
  - Election Delays: The junta has indefinitely postponed elections, citing “technical reasons.”
  - Internal Conflicts:
    - Rising tensions between junta leaders and dismissed Prime Minister Choguel Maiga.
    - Ongoing insurgency by Islamist groups and separatist Tuareg rebels.
- **Economic and Social Issues:**
  - Despite vast resources like gold and cotton, 45% of Mali’s population lives in poverty.



# APPOINTMENTS



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Junta:**
  - A government led by a committee of military leaders, typically established after a coup.
- **Tuareg Separatists:**
  - Ethnic group seeking autonomy in northern Mali, often clashing with the government.
- **COP29:**
  - United Nations Climate Change Conference held in Azerbaijan in 2024.





# APPOINTMENTS



## Static GK Information:

- **Mali**
  - **Capital:** Bamako
  - **Currency:** West African CFA Franc
  - **President (Junta Leader):** Assimi Goita
  - **Prime Minister:** Abdoulaye Maiga



# APPOINTMENTS



## Tabular Summary:

Key Detail	Information
Event	Appointment of Colonel Abdoulaye Maiga as Mali's Prime Minister
Reason	Dismissal of Choguel Maiga for criticizing the junta
Junta Leader	General Assimi Goita
Election Status	Presidential elections postponed indefinitely
Economic Challenges	45% of population in poverty; insurgencies and separatist conflicts ongoing
Key Cabinet Members	Defense Minister Sadio Camara, Foreign Minister Abdoulaye Diop



# AWARDS



➤ **Who will felicitate the winners of the National Gopal Ratna Awards 2024 on National Milk Day?**

- A) Shri Narendra Modi
- B) Shri Amit Shah
- C) Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh
- D) Shri Piyush Goyal
- E) Prof. S.P. Singh Baghel

**Answer**

**C) Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh**



# AWARDS



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Presentation of the National Gopal Ratna Awards 2024.
- **Location:** Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi, India.



# AWARDS



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **National Gopal Ratna Awards:**
  - Recognizes and encourages contributions in animal husbandry and dairying.
  - **Categories include:**
    - Best Dairy Farmer Rearing Indigenous Cattle/Buffalo Breeds.
    - Best Artificial Insemination Technician (AIT).
    - Best Dairy Cooperative/Milk Producer Company/Dairy Farmer Producer Organization.
  - **Special Awards for North Eastern Region (NER):**  
Introduced to boost dairy development in NER states.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Award Details:**
  - Cash prizes:
    - ₹5 lakh for 1st rank.
    - ₹3 lakh for 2nd rank.
    - ₹2 lakh for 3rd rank and Special NER Award.
  - Includes certificates of merit and mementos.
- **Significance:**
  - Promotes indigenous bovine breeds, improves farmers' income, and supports the Rashtriya Gokul Mission.





## Important Terms Explained:

- **Rashtriya Gokul Mission (RGM):**
  - Launched in December 2014 under the National Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development.
  - Aims to conserve and develop indigenous bovine breeds and improve their productivity.
- **National Milk Day:**
  - Celebrated annually on 26th November to honor the birth anniversary of Dr. Verghese Kurien, the architect of India's White Revolution.
- **Artificial Insemination Technician (AIT):**
  - A professional performing artificial insemination in cattle to improve breed quality and productivity.



# AWARDS



## Static GK Information:

- **Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD)**
  - **Ministry:** Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying
  - **Union Minister:** Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh
  - **Headquarters:** New Delhi



# AWARDS



## Tabular Summary:

Key Detail	Information
Event	National Gopal Ratna Awards 2024
Occasion	National Milk Day, 26th November 2024
Location	Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi
Chief Guest	Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh, Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying
Award Categories	Best Dairy Farmer, Best AIT, Best Dairy Cooperative/Producer Organization
Special Focus	Awards for North Eastern Region to promote dairy development
Significance	Encourages indigenous bovine breed conservation and promotes rural livelihoods



# AWARDS



➤ **Which award was conferred upon Prime Minister Narendra Modi in absentia during the launch of AIAM?**

- A) Mahatma Gandhi Peace Prize
- B) Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Global Peace Award for Minority Upliftment
- C) Nelson Mandela Human Rights Award
- D) Global Leadership in Diversity Award
- E) Unity and Secularism Award



**Answer**

**B) Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Global Peace Award for Minority Upliftment**



# AWARDS



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Launch of the Association of Indian American Minorities (AIAM).
- **Location:** Sligo Seventh-day Adventist Church, Maryland, USA.



# AWARDS



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **About AIAM:**
  - A newly formed NGO to unite and promote the welfare of minority communities within the Indian American diaspora.
  - Supported by a seven-member Board of Directors, representing diverse minority communities like Sikhs, Christians, Hindus, Muslims, and Jews.
- **Award to PM Narendra Modi:**
  - Honoured in absentia with the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Global Peace Award for Minority Upliftment.
  - Recognized for his efforts in inclusive development and minority welfare.





# AWARDS



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **AIAM's Vision and Alignment:**
  - Emphasizes PM Modi's vision of "Viksit Bharat" by 2047 and the principles of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas" (Together with All, Development for All).
  - Aims to create communal harmony and equal opportunities, reflecting India's commitment to secularism.



# AWARDS



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas:**
  - A slogan and principle introduced by PM Narendra Modi to promote inclusive development and communal harmony in India.
- **Viksit Bharat by 2047:**
  - A vision to transform India into a developed nation by the 100th anniversary of its independence.
- **Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Global Peace Award:**
  - An honor recognizing contributions toward peace, inclusivity, and minority upliftment, inspired by the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr.



# AWARDS



## Static GK Information:

- **Association of Indian American Minorities (AIAM)**
  - **Founder and Chairman:** Jasdip Singh
  - **Headquarters:** Maryland, USA
- **India**
  - **Prime Minister:** Narendra Modi
  - **Constitutional Vision:** Secularism and inclusivity



# AWARDS



## Tabular Summary:

Key Detail	Information
Event	Launch of the Association of Indian American Minorities (AIAM)
Location	Sligo Seventh-day Adventist Church, Maryland, USA
Date	November 23, 2024
Award to PM Modi	Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Global Peace Award for Minority Upliftment
AIAM Chairman	Jasdip Singh
Focus Areas	Minority welfare, inclusivity, and communal harmony
AIAM Alignment	Reflects "Viksit Bharat" vision and "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas"



➤ Which two organizations signed an Implementing Arrangement for the Gaganyaan mission?



- A) NASA and ISRO
- B) ISRO and European Space Agency
- C) ISRO and Australian Space Agency
- D) SpaceX and ISRO
- E) ISRO and Roscosmos

**Answer**

**C) ISRO and Australian Space Agency**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Signing of an Implementing Arrangement (IA) for the Gaganyaan mission.
- **Location:** Signed between Bengaluru (India) and Canberra (Australia).



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Purpose of the IA:**
  - Facilitates cooperation between ISRO and ASA in the areas of crew and crew module recovery for the Gaganyaan mission.
  - Provides contingency support for search and rescue operations near Australian waters during ascent phase aborts.
- **About the Gaganyaan Mission:**
  - India's first human spaceflight program led by ISRO.
  - Aims to send three crew members to Low Earth Orbit (LEO) for up to three days.
  - Ensures safe recovery of crew and module after the mission.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Significance of the Agreement:**
  - Strengthens India-Australia strategic partnership in space exploration.
  - Opens opportunities for future collaboration between the space agencies.





## Important Terms Explained:

- **ISRO (Indian Space Research Organisation):**
  - India's national space agency responsible for space research, satellite launches, and human spaceflight programs.
- **ASA (Australian Space Agency):**
  - Australia's national space organization, promoting space exploration and capabilities.
- **Gaganyaan:**
  - India's first human spaceflight program, aiming to establish India's capabilities in sending humans to space.



## Static GK Information:

- **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)**
  - **Headquarters:** Bengaluru, Karnataka
  - **Founded:** 15 August 1969
  - **Chairman:** S. Somanath
- **Australian Space Agency (ASA)**
  - **Headquarters:** Canberra, Australia
  - **Founded:** 1 July 2018
  - **General Manager (Space Capability Branch):** Jarrod Powell



# SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



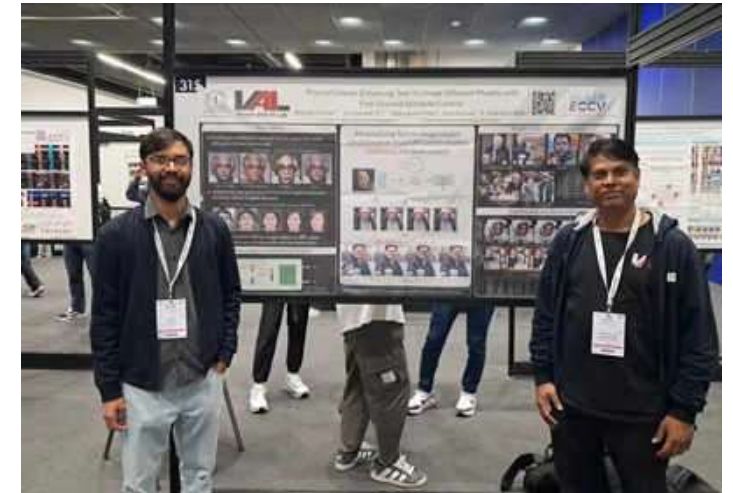
## Tabular Summary:

Key Detail	Information
Event	Signing of an Implementing Arrangement for Gaganyaan
Organizations Involved	ISRO (India) and ASA (Australia)
Date Signed	November 20, 2024
Purpose	Cooperation in crew and module recovery for Gaganyaan
Mission Focus	Human spaceflight to Low Earth Orbit with up to 3 crew members
Significance	Strengthens India-Australia strategic partnership in space exploration



➤ **What is the STRONG system developed by IISc designed to do?**

- A) Create new types of DNA sequencing methods
- B) Translate nanopore structures into character sequences for analysis
- C) Develop new materials for space exploration
- D) Simulate neural network algorithms for industrial applications
- E) Design graphene-based electronic devices



**Answer**

**B) Translate nanopore structures into character sequences for analysis**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Development of the STRONG system for nanoporous material analysis.
- **Location:** Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru, India.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Purpose of STRONG System:**
  - Converts complex nanopore structures into simple character sequences, similar to DNA coding.
  - Assigns specific letters to atomic configurations, enabling machine learning models to analyse nanoporous geometries.
- **Applications:**
  - Identifies promising nanoporous structures for CO<sub>2</sub> separation from flue gas, aiding in carbon capture efforts.
  - Accelerates the development of materials for gas separation, water desalination, and DNA sequencing.
  - Facilitates the creation of digital twins of 2D materials for performance prediction and application discovery.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Nanoporous Materials:**
  - Materials with extremely tiny pores at the nanoscale, used in filtration, separation, and environmental technologies.
- **2D Materials:**
  - Atomically thin materials like graphene, known for their unique physical and chemical properties.
- **Digital Twins:**
  - Virtual replicas of physical systems used to simulate performance and improve designs without physical testing.
- **Flue Gas:**
  - Gas emitted from industrial processes, often containing CO<sub>2</sub> and other pollutants.



## Static GK Information:

- **Indian Institute of Science (IISc)**
  - **Location:** Bengaluru, Karnataka
  - **Founded:** 1909
  - **Director:** Prof. Govindan Rangarajan





## Tabular Summary:

Key Detail	Information
Event	Development of STRONG system for nanoporous material analysis
Location	Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru
Lead Researchers	Ananth Govind Rajan (Assistant Professor), Piyush Sharma (Lead Author)
Applications	Carbon capture, water desalination, DNA sequencing, gas separation
Publication	Journal of the American Chemical Society
Unique Feature	STRONG translates nanopore geometries into character sequences like DNA coding



➤ Which barge was inducted at the Naval Dockyard, Mumbai, as part of the 'Make in India' initiative?

- A) LSAM 11
- B) LSAM 12
- C) LSAM 10
- D) Yard 81
- E) LSAM 13

**Answer**

**B) LSAM 12**



# DEFENCE



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Induction of the sixth Missile Cum Ammunition Barge (LSAM 12, Yard 80).
- **Location:** Naval Dockyard, Mumbai.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Induction Details:**
  - Sixth Missile Cum Ammunition (MCA) Barge, LSAM 12, was inducted on 22 November 2024.
  - Presided over by Cmde Abhirup Majumdar, Command Refit Officer, Headquarters Western Naval Command.
- **Construction Contract:**
  - Awarded to SECON Engineering Projects Pvt. Ltd., Visakhapatnam, on 19 February 2024.
  - Designed indigenously in collaboration with an Indian ship design firm and model-tested at the Naval Science and Technological Laboratory, Visakhapatnam.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Purpose and Impact:**
  - Built under 'Make in India' and 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' initiatives.
  - Aims to support the Indian Navy's operational commitments by transporting ammunition and articles to naval platforms both at jetties and outer harbours.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Missile Cum Ammunition Barge (MCA):**
  - A naval auxiliary vessel designed for the transport of ammunition and other critical supplies to naval ships.
- **Indian Register of Shipping (IRS):**
  - A classification society ensuring ships meet international safety, environmental, and construction standards.
- **Aatmanirbhar Bharat (Self-Reliant India):**
  - A flagship initiative of the Government of India to boost indigenous production and reduce dependency on imports.



## Static GK Information:

- **Indian Navy**
  - **Headquarters:** New Delhi
  - **Founded:** 26 January 1950
  - **Chief of the Naval Staff:** Admiral R. Hari Kumar
- **SECON Engineering Projects Pvt. Ltd.**
  - **Headquarters:** Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
  - **Specialization:** Shipbuilding and engineering



# DEFENCE



## Tabular Summary:

Key Detail	Information
Event	Induction of LSAM 12 (Yard 80)
Location	Naval Dockyard, Mumbai
Date	22 November 2024
Chief Guest	Cmde Abhirup Majumdar
Contract Awarded To	SECON Engineering Projects Pvt. Ltd., Visakhapatnam
Purpose	Transportation and loading of ammunition/articles to Indian Navy platforms
Alignment	Supports 'Make in India' and 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' initiatives
Number of Barges Contracted	8 (LSAM 12 is the sixth barge)





➤ **Where was the Annual Navy Education Society (NES) Conference 2024 hosted?**

- A) Mumbai
- B) New Delhi
- C) Vasco-da-Gama, Goa
- D) Chennai
- E) Kochi

**Answer**

**C) Vasco-da-Gama, Goa**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Annual Navy Education Society (NES) Conference 2024.
- **Location:** Headquarters Goa Naval Area, Vasco-da-Gama, Goa.
- **Date:** 20 to 22 November 2024.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- Discussed policy frameworks for **Naval Schools**, emphasizing implementation of **the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020**.
- Highlighted the importance of fostering **life skills** alongside academic and co-curricular excellence.
- Recognized schools excelling academically with **Rolling Trophies** for the previous year.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020:**
  - A transformative policy framework for Indian education.
  - Focuses on holistic education, life skills, and digital integration.
- **Navy Education Society (NES):**
  - Governs schools for the children of naval personnel, emphasizing high academic standards.



## Static GK Information:

- **Goa**
  - **Capital:** Panaji
  - **CM:** Pramod Sawant
  - **Governor:** P. S. Sreedharan Pillai
- **The Indian Navy**
  - **Headquarters:** New Delhi
  - **Founded:** 26 January 1950
  - **Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS):** Admiral R. Hari Kumar
  - **Vice Chief of the Naval Staff (VCNS):** Vice Admiral Sanjay Jasjit Singh



# DEFENCE



## Tabular Summary:

Detail	Information
Event	Annual Navy Education Society (NES) Conference 2024
Location	Headquarters Goa Naval Area, Vasco-da-Gama, Goa
Dates	20 to 22 November 2024
Chairperson	Vice Admiral Vineet McCarty
Focus	Implementation of NEP 2020 and enhancing Naval Schools
Significance	Promotion of holistic and quality education for naval personnel's children



➤ **What is the destination for the second leg of the Navika Sagar Parikrama-II expedition?**



- A) Fremantle, Australia
- B) Perth, Australia
- C) Tasmania, Australia
- D) Lyttelton, New Zealand
- E) Auckland, New Zealand

**Answer**

**D) Lyttelton, New Zealand**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Navika Sagar Parikrama-II (NSP-II), second leg of the expedition.
- **Departure Location:** Fremantle, Australia.
- **Destination:** Lyttelton, New Zealand.
- **Departure Date:** 24 November 2024.





## Mandates and Objectives:

- Promote **gender equality** and **global maritime cooperation**.
- Represent India's maritime progress and women empowerment through **dual-handed circumnavigation** by two Navy women officers.
- Foster cultural and historical ties between India and host nations.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Navika Sagar Parikrama (NSP):**
  - A unique expedition series by the Indian Navy focusing on women's participation in maritime exploration.
  - NSP-II features dual-handed circumnavigation by two women officers onboard INSV Tarini.
- **INSV Tarini:**
  - A 56-foot sailing vessel used by the Indian Navy for ocean exploration.
  - Named after the goddess Tara Tarini, revered as a guardian of sailors.



## Static GK Information:

- **New Zealand**
  - **Capital:** Wellington
  - **Currency:** New Zealand Dollar
  - **President:** Role does not exist (**Head of State: King Charles III**, represented by the Governor-General Cindy Kiro)
  - **Prime Minister:** Christopher Hipkins
- **Indian Navy**
  - **Headquarters:** New Delhi
  - **Founded:** 26 January 1950
  - **Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS):** Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi
- **Fremantle, Australia**
  - Famous as a historic port city located in Western Australia.



# DEFENCE



## Tabular Summary:

Detail	Information
Event	Navika Sagar Parikrama-II (NSP-II)
Second Leg Start	Fremantle, Australia
Destination	Lyttelton, New Zealand
Distance	3400 nautical miles (6300 km)
Duration	Approximately 20 days
Flagged Off By	Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi (CNS)
Crew Members	Lt Cdr Dilna K and Lt Cdr Roopa A



➤ **Who collaborated with the Indian Embassy in Brussels to host the 2<sup>nd</sup> Indian Seafood and Wine Tasting Event?**

- A) APEDA and MPEDA
- B) FSSAI and MPEDA
- C) APEDA and Ministry of Commerce
- D) Ministry of External Affairs and APEDA
- E) MPEDA and Indian Vineyards

**Answer**

**A) APEDA and MPEDA**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Indian Seafood and Wine Tasting Event.
- **Location:** Indian Embassy, Brussels, Belgium.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- The event showcased India's premium seafood and wines, aimed at fostering trade and cultural ties.
- Organized in collaboration with APEDA (New Delhi) and MPEDA (Kochi) to promote India's agri-food and marine exports.
- **Focus Areas:**
  - Promote seafood exports like Vannamei shrimp, Black Tiger shrimp, and squid.
  - Highlight India's wine industry, including bold reds, crisp whites, and sparkling wines.
- Participation included over 120 attendees, such as business leaders, trade bodies, government officials, and diplomats.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **APEDA (Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority):**
  - Promotes the export of agricultural and processed food products.
- **MPEDA (Marine Products Export Development Authority):**
  - Focuses on the promotion and development of marine product exports, ensuring quality standards.
- **Vannamei Shrimp:**
  - A high-demand species in global seafood trade, known for its quality and export potential.
- **Indian Wine Industry:**
  - An emerging global player, producing wines like Cabernet Sauvignon, Shiraz, and Sauvignon Blanc.
  - Driven by wine tourism and growing domestic consumption.





## Static GK Information:

- **Indian Embassy in Brussels**
  - **Location:** Brussels, Belgium
  - **Ambassador:** Shri Saurabh Kumar
- **APEDA**
  - **Headquarters:** New Delhi
  - **Chairman:** M. Angamuthu
  - **Founded:** 1985
- **MPEDA**
  - **Headquarters:** Kochi, Kerala
  - **Chairman:** D. V. Swamy
  - **Founded:** 1972



# INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Key Detail	Information
Event	2nd Indian Seafood and Wine Tasting Event
Location	Indian Embassy, Brussels, Belgium
Date	November 20, 2024
Collaborators	APEDA (New Delhi) and MPEDA (Kochi)
Key Guests	Shri Saurabh Kumar, Shri Sunil Barthwal, diplomats, and trade representatives
Key Focus	Promote Indian seafood and wine exports
Highlighted Products	Vannamei shrimp, Black Tiger shrimp, Kingfish, Tilapia, Squid
India's Seafood Export Stats	USD 7.36 billion (2023–2024); EU as the 2nd largest seafood market
India's Wine Industry	24+ prominent brands with increasing global recognition



# INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



➤ **Where was the 6<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA) Joint Committee meeting held?**

- A) Vientiane, Laos
- B) New Delhi, India
- C) Jakarta, Indonesia
- D) Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- E) Bangkok, Thailand

**Answer**  
**B) New Delhi, India**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** 6<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA) Joint Committee meeting.
- **Location:** Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi, India.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Purpose:** Review and expedite the AITIGA to strengthen trade relations between India and ASEAN.
- **Key Participants:**
  - Co-chaired by Shri Rajesh Agrawal, Additional Secretary, Department of Commerce, India, and Ms. Mastura Ahmad Mustafa, Deputy Secretary General (Trade), Ministry of Investment, Trade & Industry, Malaysia.
  - Delegates from all 10 ASEAN member states participated.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **8 Sub-Committees:**
  - Focused on market access, rules of origin, sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) measures, customs procedures, trade remedies, and others.
  - Physical meetings held for 5 Sub-Committees during the event.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **AITIGA (ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement):**
  - A trade pact aimed at reducing tariffs and promoting trade between India and ASEAN member countries.
- **ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations):**
  - A regional organization of 10 Southeast Asian countries working together on economic, political, and security issues.
- **Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures:**
  - Guidelines ensuring food safety and protecting plant and animal health in international trade.
- **Tariff Negotiations:**
  - Discussions aimed at reducing or revising tariffs on goods traded between member countries.



## Static GK Information:

- **ASEAN**
  - **Founded:** 8 August 1967
  - **Headquarters:** Jakarta, Indonesia
  - **Member Countries:** 10 (Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam)
  - **Secretary-General:** Dr. Kao Kim Hourn





# INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Key Detail	Information
Event	6th ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement Joint Committee meeting
Location	Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi, India
Date	21–22 November 2024
Participants	India and 10 ASEAN member countries
Focus Areas	Market access, SPS measures, trade remedies, and tariff negotiations
Bilateral Trade	USD 121 billion in 2023-24
Next Meeting	Scheduled for February 2025 in Jakarta, Indonesia



➤ **What is the purpose of the Balinese Hindu festival Ngusaba Goreng?**

- A) To celebrate the arrival of spring
- B) To honor ancestors
- C) To give thanks for a rich harvest
- D) To mark the beginning of the new year
- E) To celebrate marriages in the community

**Answer**

**C) To give thanks for a rich harvest**



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Ngusaba Goreng, a traditional Hindu thanksgiving festival.
- **Location:** Bali, Indonesia.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Purpose of Ngusaba Goreng:**
  - A thanksgiving festival celebrated over two weeks to honor a rich harvest.
  - The term 'Ngusaba' signifies the gathering of gods and goddesses.
- **Rituals and Performances:**
  - Sacred dances like Rejang Dewa and Rejang Pucuk are performed.
  - These dances are reserved exclusively for pre-pubertal girls on separate days.
  - Performed as a form of devotion and to symbolize purity.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Rejang Dewa:**
  - A sacred Balinese dance performed by young girls as part of religious offerings to gods.
- **Ngusaba Goreng:**
  - A traditional Balinese Hindu festival expressing gratitude for agricultural abundance.



## Static GK Information:

- **Indonesia**
  - **Capital:** Jakarta
  - **Currency:** Indonesian Rupiah
  - **President:** Joko Widodo



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Key Detail	Information
Event	Ngusaba Goreng Festival
Location	Bali, Indonesia
Purpose	Thanksgiving for a rich harvest
Key Rituals	Sacred dances (Rejang Dewa, Rejang Pucuk) performed by pre-pubertal girls
Duration	Two weeks



➤ Which ministry has given 'in-principle' approval for the consolidation of the IFCI Group, including the merger of its group entities?

- A) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- B) Ministry of Corporate Affairs
- C) Ministry of Finance
- D) Ministry of Home Affairs
- E) Ministry of Heavy Industries

**Answer**

**C) Ministry of Finance**





## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Approval for the consolidation of the IFCI Group by the Ministry of Finance and IFCI Board.
- **Location:** New Delhi, India.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- The Department of Financial Services (DFS) under the Finance Ministry has granted in-principle approval for the Consolidation of IFCI Group.
- The consolidation plan aims to enhance operational efficiency by merging IFCI Limited with its subsidiaries and group companies.
- IFCI Limited has been instructed to begin the process in compliance with legal frameworks.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **IFCI Limited:**
  - India's oldest financial institution providing long-term funding to industrial projects, established in 1948.
- **Stock Holding Corporation of India Limited (SHCIL):**
  - A key subsidiary of IFCI, offering depository, custodial, and financial services in India.
- **Department of Financial Services (DFS):**
  - A division of the Ministry of Finance, responsible for regulating banking, insurance, and financial institutions in India.
- **Consolidation:**
  - Refers to the process of merging smaller entities into a larger, unified structure to improve efficiency and reduce redundancies.



## Static GK Information:

- **IFCI Limited**
  - **Headquarters:** New Delhi
  - **Founded:** 1948
  - **Chairman & MD:** Manish Kumar
- **Stock Holding Corporation of India Limited (SHCIL)**
  - **Headquarters:** Navi Mumbai
  - **Founded:** 1986
  - **CEO:** Kailash K. Choudhary



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Key Detail	Information
Event	In-principle approval for consolidation of IFCI Group
Location	New Delhi
Date of Approval	November 22, 2024 (by IFCI Board)
Approving Authority	Ministry of Finance (Department of Financial Services)
Entities to Merge	StockHolding Corp., IFCI Factors, IFCI Infra Development, IIDL Realtors
Direct Subsidiaries Post-Merger	StockHolding Services, IFIN Credit, IFCI Venture Capital, MPCON
Government Investment	₹500 crore in April 2024 (₹40.33 per share)
IFCI Share Price	₹58.02 (November 22, 2024, on BSE)
Q2 FY2024 Profit	₹185 crore (7% YoY growth)



➤ **Who jointly organised the two-day agri-export training program for Rajasthan FPOs?**

- A) Spices Board and APEDA
- B) Nabard and Federation of Indian Spice Stakeholders
- C) Nabard, Spices Board, APEDA, and SABC
- D) APEDA, SABC, and FISS
- E) Nabard and APMC Unjha



**Answer**

**C) Nabard, Spices Board, APEDA, and SABC**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Two-day training programme for Rajasthan FPOs on agri-export.
- **Location:** Jodhpur, Rajasthan.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- Organized by Nabard AEFC, APEDA, Spices Board of India, FISS, and APMC Unjha, implemented by South Asia Biotechnology Centre (SABC).
- Aimed to train Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) in export readiness and agro-processing exposure.
- **Agreements were reached for:**
  - Producing pesticide residue-free IPM cumin and sustainably-produced isabgol.
  - On-farm sourcing of IPM spices and medicinal plants.





## Important Terms Explained:

- **Nabard (National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development):**
  - Focuses on rural development, agricultural financing, and support to FPOs.
- **APEDA (Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority):**
  - Develops export markets for Indian agricultural products.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **FPO (Farmer Producer Organization):**
  - A collective of farmers managing agriculture as a business entity for better market access.
- **IPM (Integrated Pest Management):**
  - A farming practice to control pests while minimizing pesticide use and promoting sustainability.
- **SPS Measures (Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures):**
  - Standards set to ensure food safety and prevent the spread of pests and diseases in trade.



## Static GK Information:

- **NABARD**
  - **Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra
  - **Chairman:** Shaji K. V.
  - **Founded:** 12 July 1982
- **Spices Board of India**
  - **Headquarters:** Kochi, Kerala
  - **Chairman:** D. Sathiyam
  - **Founded:** 1987
- **APEDA**
  - **Headquarters:** New Delhi
  - **Chairman:** M. Angamuthu
  - **Founded:** 1985
- **South Asia Biotechnology Centre (SABC)**
  - **Headquarters:** Jodhpur, Rajasthan
  - **Founder Director:** Bhagirath Choudhary



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Key Detail	Information
Event	Two-day agri-export training programme for Rajasthan FPOs
Location	Jodhpur, Rajasthan
Date	November 22, 2024
Organisers	Nabard AEFC, APEDA, Spices Board, FISS, APMC Unjha
Key Participants	50 representatives from 12 Rajasthan FPOs
Key Agreements	Pesticide residue-free IPM cumin and sustainably-produced isabgol
Program Highlights	Export compliance training, exposure visits to agro-processing units
Key Resource Released	Guidebook: "The Agri Exporters Roadmap: From Local to Global"



➤ **Who addressed the 91<sup>st</sup> General Council Meeting of the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) in New Delhi?**

- A) Prime Minister Narendra Modi
- B) Shri Amit Shah
- C) Shri Rajnath Singh
- D) Shri Nitin Gadkari
- E) Shri Piyush Goyal

**Answer**  
**B) Shri Amit Shah**



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** 91<sup>st</sup> General Council Meeting of the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC).
- **Location:** New Delhi, India.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the government is committed to enhancing the livelihoods of farmers and promoting self-reliance through the cooperative sector.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Proposed Initiatives and Plans:**
  - Special focus on promoting Milk Cooperative Unions in the Northeast with the collaboration of NDDB (National Dairy Development Board) and NCDC to empower tribal communities and women.
  - National Cooperative Database will play a vital role in integrating cooperative societies.
  - Introduction of an app-based Cab Cooperative Society Service to ensure direct profit-sharing with drivers.
  - Five-year plan to boost the financial capacity of sugar mills with increased funding of ₹25,000 crores.





## Important Terms Explained:

- **NCDC (National Cooperative Development Corporation):**
  - Apex institution supporting the cooperative movement in India, aiding cooperatives with financial and developmental assistance.
- **NDDB (National Dairy Development Board):**
  - Pioneered India's White Revolution, promoting sustainable and self-reliant dairy development.
- **Sahakar Se Samriddhi:**
  - A government vision focused on achieving prosperity through cooperative efforts.
- **Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS):**
  - Village-level cooperative institutions providing credit and services to farmers.



## Static GK Information:

- **NCDC**
  - **Headquarters:** New Delhi, India
  - **Founded:** 1963
  - **MD:** Sundeep Kumar Nayak
- **NDDB**
  - **Headquarters:** Anand, Gujarat
  - **Founded:** 1965
  - **Chairperson:** Meenesh Shah



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Key Detail	Information
Event	91st General Council Meeting of NCDC
Location	New Delhi, India
Date	November 23, 2024
Chief Guest	Shri Amit Shah, Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation
Focus Areas	Milk Cooperatives in Northeast, PACS strengthening, sugar mill funding
Proposed Initiatives	Cooperative University, Cab Cooperative Service, Cooperative Intern Scheme
Funding Target	₹25,000 crores for sugar mills



- **Where was NTPC's Green Hydrogen Mobility Project, including the fleet of hydrogen buses, launched?**

- A) New Delhi
- B) Ladakh
- C) Leh
- D) Srinagar
- E) Manali

**Answer**  
**C) Leh**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Launch of NTPC's Green Hydrogen Buses under the Green Hydrogen Mobility Project.
- **Location:** Leh, Ladakh.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Green Hydrogen Mobility Project at Leh:**
  - Includes a 1.7 MW solar plant, a green hydrogen filling station (80 kg/day capacity), and 5 intra-city hydrogen buses.
  - Hydrogen buses can cover 300 km per filling of 25 kg hydrogen.
- **Key Features:**
  - Operates at the world's highest altitude (3650m MSL).
  - Functions in sub-zero temperatures and low air density, with hydrogen filled at 350 bar pressure.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Environmental Impact:**
  - Mitigates 350 MT/year of carbon emissions.
  - Contributes 230 MT/year of pure oxygen, equivalent to planting 13,000 trees.
- **Potential in Ladakh:**
  - High solar irradiance and low temperatures make Ladakh ideal for green hydrogen production.
  - Reduces dependence on fossil fuels, ensuring energy self-sufficiency.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Green Hydrogen:**
  - Hydrogen produced using renewable energy sources like solar or wind, emitting zero carbon emissions.
- **Green Mobility Solutions:**
  - Adoption of eco-friendly transportation systems powered by green hydrogen or renewable energy.
- **NTPC (National Thermal Power Corporation):**
  - India's largest energy conglomerate, now diversifying into renewable energy and green hydrogen projects.





## Static GK Information:

- **NTPC (National Thermal Power Corporation)**
  - **Headquarters:** New Delhi
  - **Founded:** 1975
  - **Chairman & MD:** Gurdeep Singh



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Key Detail	Information
Event	Launch of NTPC Green Hydrogen Mobility Project
Location	Leh, Ladakh
Date	November 23, 2024
Chief Guest	Shri Manohar Lal, Union Minister of Power and Housing & Urban Affairs
Key Features of the Project	1.7 MW solar plant, 80 kg/day hydrogen station, 5 hydrogen intra-city buses
Environmental Impact	Reduces carbon emissions by 350 MT/year, contributes 230 MT/year of oxygen
Future Plans	NTPC to expand hydrogen mobility projects and set up a hydrogen hub in Andhra Pradesh



➤ **What is the focus of the Jobs at Your Doorstep report launched by the World Bank?**

- A) Increasing job opportunities for women in rural areas
- B) Aligning school trade education with local industry needs
- C) Promoting international education exchange programs
- D) Expanding work-from-home job prospects
- E) Developing agriculture-focused skills for rural youth



**Answer**

**B) Aligning school trade education with local industry needs**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Launch of the World Bank's Jobs at Your Doorstep report.
- **Location:** New Delhi, India.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Purpose of the Report:**
  - Conduct a skills gap analysis to align school trade education with the industry-specific needs of the districts.
  - Focus on preparing students in grades 9–12 for diverse career paths using a bottom-up approach.
- **Key Features:**
  - Targets the six STARS states: Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, and Rajasthan.
  - Aims to embed skill-based education into the school curriculum.
  - Aligns with the goals of NEP 2020, which emphasizes skilling students in schools.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Union Ministers Present:**
  - Shri Dharmendra Pradhan: Union Minister for Education.
  - Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya: Minister of Labour and Employment, and Youth Affairs and Sports.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **STARS (Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for States):**
  - A World Bank-supported initiative aiding six states to enhance educational outcomes and skill-based learning.
- **NEP 2020 (National Education Policy 2020):**
  - Advocates for mainstreaming skill-based education and fostering economic opportunities for students.
- **Skill-Based Education:**
  - A curriculum designed to provide practical skills and industry-relevant knowledge to students for career readiness.



## Static GK Information:

- **World Bank**
  - **Founded:** 1944
  - **Headquarters:** Washington, D.C., USA
  - **President:** Ajay Banga





# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Key Detail	Information
Event	Launch of the Jobs at Your Doorstep report
Location	New Delhi, India
Date	November 22, 2024
Chief Guests	Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya
Report Focus	Align school trade education with district-specific industry needs
Target States	Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan
Aligned with	NEP 2020 and STARS program



➤ **What is the primary purpose of the CBG plant inaugurated at Adarsh Gaushala in Gwalior?**

- A) To produce Bio-CNG from cattle dung
- B) To provide housing for stray cattle
- C) To convert fossil fuels into renewable energy
- D) To manufacture synthetic fertilizers
- E) To process only vegetable waste



**Answer**

**A) To produce Bio-CNG from cattle dung**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Inauguration of India's first modern, self-sufficient gaushala with a state-of-the-art Compressed Biogas (CBG) plant.
- **Location:** Adarsh Gaushala, Laltipara, Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Key Features of the CBG Plant:**
  - First-of-its-kind facility in India utilizing cattle dung and organic waste to produce Compressed Biogas (Bio-CNG) and organic manure.
  - Operated by the Gwalior Municipal Corporation with collaboration from the Indian Oil Corporation.
  - **Processes 100 tons of cattle dung daily to produce:**
    - 2–3 tons of Bio-CNG.
    - 10–15 tons of organic manure.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Environmental and Economic Benefits:**
  - Promotes "Waste to Wealth" and sustainable practices.
  - Reduces carbon emissions and contributes to climate change mitigation.
  - Encourages organic farming by providing affordable bio-manure to local farmers.
  - Creates local employment opportunities and supports skill development in green energy.
- **Additional Features:**
  - Incorporates windrow composting for processing additional organic waste.
  - Spans over 5 acres, developed with a project cost of ₹31 crores.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Compressed Biogas (CBG):**
  - Renewable energy produced by compressing biogas derived from organic waste, used as a cleaner alternative to fossil fuels.
- **Bio-Manure:**
  - Organic fertilizer obtained as a by-product of biogas production, enhancing soil health and supporting sustainable agriculture.
- **Waste to Wealth:**
  - A concept emphasizing the conversion of waste materials into valuable resources, promoting environmental sustainability.



## Static GK Information:

- **Indian Oil Corporation (IOC)**
  - **Headquarters:** New Delhi
  - **Founded:** 1964
  - **Chairman:** Shrikant Madhav Vaidya
- **Madhya Pradesh**
  - **Capital:** Bhopal
  - **Chief Minister:** Shivraj Singh Chouhan
  - **Governor:** Mangubhai C. Patel



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Key Detail	Information
Event	Inauguration of India's first self-sufficient gaushala with CBG plant
Location	Adarsh Gaushala, Laltipara, Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh
Inaugurated By	Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi
Date of Inauguration	October 2, 2024
Capacity of CBG Plant	100 tons of cattle dung processed daily
Output	2-3 tons of Bio-CNG and 10-15 tons of bio-manure daily
Cost of Project	₹31 crores
Environmental Impact	Reduces carbon emissions, promotes climate change mitigation





➤ **What new feature is being introduced under the NCH 2.0 initiative to enhance grievance filing?**

- A) AI-based Speech Recognition and Multilingual Chatbot
- B) Blockchain-based Grievance Tracking
- C) Automatic Call-back System
- D) Complaint Filing via QR Code
- E) Virtual Reality Assistance



**Answer**

**A) AI-based Speech Recognition and Multilingual Chatbot**



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Revamp of National Consumer Helpline (NCH) under the NCH 2.0 initiative.
- **Location:** Nationwide (Helpline accessible across India).



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objective of NCH:** Provide a central platform for grievance redressal at the pre-litigation stage.
- **Technological Upgrades:**
  - **AI-based Speech Recognition System:** Allows consumers to file complaints via voice input in local languages.
  - **Multilingual Chatbot:** Provides real-time assistance and reduces manual intervention in complaint processing.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Partner Companies:**
  - Expanded from 263 (2017) to 1009 (2024), covering sectors like e-commerce, FMCG, automobiles, and banking.
- **Consumer Empowerment:** Ensures transparency and accountability by enabling direct grievance redressal with partner companies.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **National Consumer Helpline (NCH):**
  - A toll-free helpline (1915) available in 17 languages.
  - Provides consumers with access to file grievances via various channels, such as WhatsApp, SMS, and the INGRAM portal.
- **NCH 2.0:**
  - A transformative upgrade to the helpline, incorporating AI-powered tools to make the grievance process faster and more inclusive.
- **Consumer Protection Act, 2019:**
  - Provides a framework for addressing consumer disputes and safeguarding consumer rights.
- **Convergence Programme:**
  - NCH initiative to partner with companies for online grievance resolution.



## Static GK Information:

- **Department of Consumer Affairs, Government of India**
  - **Founded:** 1974
  - **Headquarters:** New Delhi
  - **Minister:** Piyush Goyal
- **National Consumer Helpline (NCH)**
  - **Launch Year:** 2004
  - **Toll-Free Number:** 1915
  - **Available Languages:** 17



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Detail	Information
Event	National Consumer Helpline Revamp under NCH 2.0
New Features	AI-based Speech Recognition, Multilingual Chatbot
Toll-Free Number	1915
Convergence Partners	Over 1000 companies across various sectors
Technology Integration	Generative AI, Translation, INGRAM portal
Languages Supported	17, including Hindi, English, Tamil, Bengali, and more



➤ What is the primary aim of the UDAN 2.0 scheme?

- A) Reduce airfares for Tier I cities
- B) Develop and operate over 100 underutilized airstrips
- C) Establish international airports in Tier II cities
- D) Provide subsidies for private aviation
- E) Boost military operations at Advance Landing Grounds



**Answer**

**B) Develop and operate over 100 underutilized airstrips**





## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Formulation of UDAN 2.0 draft by the Government of India.
- **Location:** New Delhi.
- **Date:** November 24, 2024.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objective of UDAN 2.0:**
  - Enhance last-mile air connectivity by developing cost-effective airport infrastructure.
  - Operate over 100 underutilized airstrips, focusing on financial viability based on nearby population, industries, and tourism.
- **Operational Focus:**
  - Reduce costs for small regional airports and Advance Landing Grounds (ALGs).
  - Incorporate technological interventions to improve efficiency and lower operational expenses.
  - Ease regulatory barriers to encourage new airlines, helicopter operators, and seaplanes.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Incentive Mechanisms:**
  - Viability Gap Funding (VGF) to support airlines connecting underserved regions.
  - Concessions provided by central and state governments as well as airport operators.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik):**
  - A regional connectivity scheme launched in 2016 to make flying affordable and accessible.
  - Operates on a market-driven model, incentivizing airlines to connect underserved areas.
- **Advance Landing Grounds (ALGs):**
  - Small airstrips primarily used for military operations, now repurposed for civil aviation under UDAN.
- **Viability Gap Funding (VGF):**
  - Financial support provided to operators to bridge the gap between revenue and cost for underserved routes.



## Static GK Information:

- **Ministry of Civil Aviation**
  - **Founded:** 1947
  - **Minister:** Jyotiraditya Scindia
  - **Headquarters:** New Delhi
- **UDAN Scheme**
  - **Launch Year:** 2016
  - **Target Year:** 2026 (10-year term)
  - **Routes Operationalized:** 601



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Detail	Information
Event	Formulation of UDAN 2.0 Draft
Primary Goal	Develop and operate over 100 underutilized airstrips
Launched By	Ministry of Civil Aviation
Operational Focus	Cost reduction and ease of regulations for Tier III/IV
Support Mechanism	Viability Gap Funding (VGF) and concessions
Key Features	Technological interventions and eased entry barriers
Initial UDAN Impact	Facilitated 1.44 crore passengers across 2.8 lakh flights



# QUICK RECALL



- IPL 2025 season to run from March 14 to May 25, 2025.
- RBI raises UPI 123Pay limit to ₹10,000; Aadhaar OTP onboarding introduced.
- PNB becomes a PCAF signatory, emphasizing transparency in GHG emissions reporting.
- Mali's junta appoints Colonel Abdoulaye Maiga as new prime minister after dismissing Choguel Maiga.
- Winners of National Gopal Ratna Awards 2024 to be felicitated on National Milk Day.
- PM Modi received the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Global Peace Award for his efforts in minority welfare.
- ISRO and ASA signed an Implementing Arrangement for Gaganyaan crew recovery operations.
- IISc Bengaluru develops STRONG, a system for analysing nanoporous materials via character sequences.
- LSAM 12 (Yard 80) inducted at Naval Dockyard, Mumbai, on 22 November 2024.



# QUICK RECALL



- **NES Conference 2024 hosted in Vasco-da-Gama, Goa from 20-22 November.**
- **INSV Tarini started the second leg of NSP-II from Fremantle to Lyttelton.**
- **Indian Embassy hosted the 2nd Seafood and Wine Tasting Event in collaboration with APEDA and MPEDA.**
- **6th AITIGA Joint Committee meeting was held in New Delhi to review trade agreements.**
- **Ngusaba Goreng is a two-week Balinese Hindu thanksgiving festival for a rich harvest.**
- **Nabard, Spices Board, and APEDA organized Rajasthan FPOs training on agro-export readiness.**
- **Shri Amit Shah addressed the 91st NCDC General Council Meeting in New Delhi.**
- **NTPC Green Hydrogen Mobility Project launched at Leh with 5 intra-city hydrogen buses.**





# QUICK RECALL



- **World Bank's Jobs at Your Doorstep report launched to align education with industry needs.**
- **India's first Compressed Biogas plant inaugurated in Gwalior, utilizing cattle dung and organic waste.**
- **NCH partners with over 1000 companies to resolve grievances efficiently.**
- **UDAN 2.0 aims to develop 100+ underutilized airstrips for last-mile connectivity.**



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