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JANUARY 30

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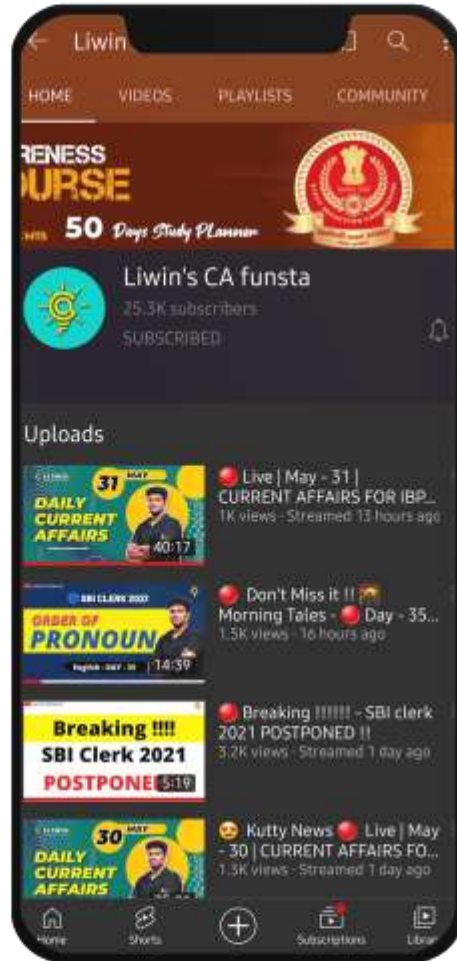
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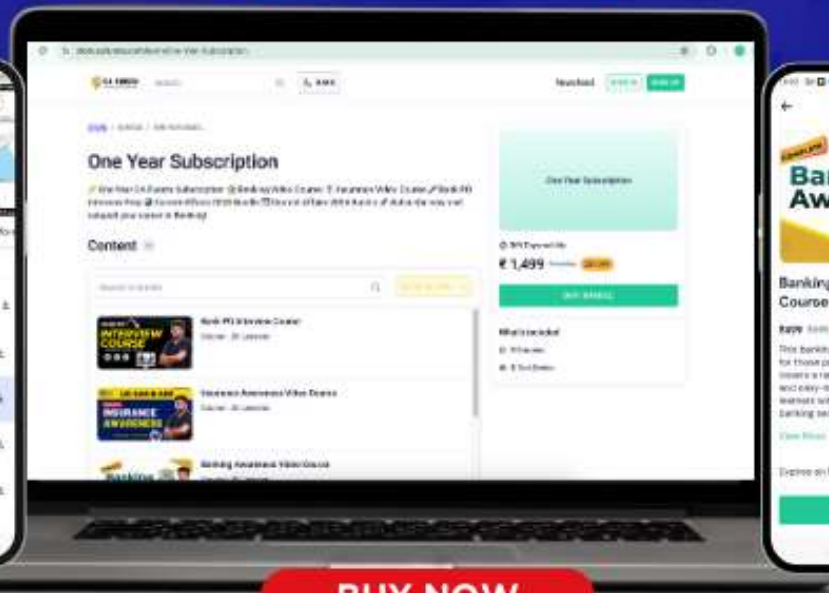
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Important Days



➤ **On which date is Martyrs' Day (Shaheed Diwas) observed in India to honor Mahatma Gandhi?**

- A) August 15
- B) October 2
- C) January 26
- D) January 30
- E) November 14

Answer
D) January 30



Important Days



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Martyrs' Day 2025 – Remembering Mahatma Gandhi on His Death Anniversary
- **Date:** January 30, 2025
- **Location:** India



Important Days



History of Martyrs' Day:

- **Assassination of Mahatma Gandhi:** On January 30, 1948, Nathuram Godse assassinated Mahatma Gandhi while he was on his way to a prayer meeting at Birla Bhawan, Delhi.
- **Official Observance:** Since then, January 30 has been observed as Martyrs' Day (Shaheed Diwas) to honor Gandhi and all freedom fighters who sacrificed their lives for India's independence.



Important Days



Significance of Martyrs' Day 2025:

- **Honoring Freedom Fighters:** This day is not only a tribute to Mahatma Gandhi but also to all martyrs who contributed to India's freedom struggle.
- **Reflection on Patriotism:** Reminds citizens of the values of sacrifice, non-violence, and freedom.



Important Days



Observance Across India:

- **Raj Ghat Ceremony:**
 - Leaders, officials, and citizens gather at Raj Ghat, Delhi, where Mahatma Gandhi was cremated.
 - Special prayer meetings and tributes are conducted.
- **Educational Programs:**
 - Schools and colleges organize essay competitions, speeches, and cultural programs to educate students about Gandhi's legacy.



Important Days



Important Terms Explained:

- **Martyrs' Day (Shaheed Diwas):** A day dedicated to remembering Mahatma Gandhi and other freedom fighters who sacrificed their lives for India.
- **Raj Ghat:** The memorial site of Mahatma Gandhi's cremation in Delhi, where annual tributes take place.
- **Non-Violent Freedom Struggle:** Gandhi led India's independence movement through non-violent resistance against British rule.



Important Days



Tabular Summary:

Detail	Information
Event	Martyrs' Day 2025 – Remembering Mahatma Gandhi
Date	January 30, 2025
Location	India
Significance	Honoring Mahatma Gandhi and other freedom fighters
Observance	Prayer meetings at Raj Ghat, educational events, cultural programs



➤ Who recently became the 15th player in history and the fourth Australian to score 10,000 runs in Test cricket?

- A) Ricky Ponting
- B) Joe Root
- C) Steve Smith
- D) Kumar Sangakkara
- E) Younis Khan

Answer
C) Steve Smith



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Steve Smith reaching 10,000 Test runs milestone
- **Date:** January 29, 2025
- **Location:** Galle, Sri Lanka



Milestone Achievement:

- **Elite Club:** Steve Smith became the 15th player in history and 4th Australian to score 10,000 runs in Test cricket.
- **Match Details:** He achieved this feat during the first Test against Sri Lanka in Galle.
- **Active Players:** Among active cricketers, only Joe Root has more Test runs than Smith.



Smith's Journey to 10,000 Runs:

- **Missed Milestone:** In the previous Test against India at the SCG, Smith was dismissed at 9,999 runs.
- **Fastest to 10,000 Runs:** He reached the milestone in 205 innings, making him the third-fastest to do so.
- **Comparison with Legends:**
 - **Brian Lara, Sachin Tendulkar, Kumar Sangakkara** – 195 innings
 - **Ricky Ponting** – 196 innings



Players with 10,000+ Test Runs:

Player	Country	Runs Scored
Sachin Tendulkar	India	15,921
Ricky Ponting	Australia	13,378
Jacques Kallis	South Africa	13,289
Rahul Dravid	India	13,288
Alastair Cook	England	12,472
Kumar Sangakkara	Sri Lanka	12,400
Joe Root (Active)	England	12,972+
Brian Lara	West Indies	11,953
Shivnarine Chanderpaul	West Indies	11,867
Mahela Jayawardene	Sri Lanka	11,814
Allan Border	Australia	11,174
Steve Waugh	Australia	10,927
Sunil Gavaskar	India	10,122
Younis Khan	Pakistan	10,099
Steve Smith (Active)	Australia	10,000+



Important Terms Explained:

- **Test Cricket:** The longest and most prestigious format of international cricket, played over five days.
- **Fastest to 10,000 Runs:** A record highlighting players who achieved 10,000 Test runs in the fewest innings.
- **Captain's Milestone:** Steve Smith is among the six players to reach 10,000 runs while captaining their teams.



SPORTS



Tabular Summary:

Detail	Information
Event	Steve Smith reaching 10,000 Test runs
Date	January 29, 2025
Location	Galle, Sri Lanka
Significance	15th player & 4th Australian to reach 10,000+ Test runs
Fastest to 10,000 Runs	Smith is the 3rd fastest (205 innings)



➤ **Who recently became India's highest run-scoring wicket-keeper in T20 cricket, surpassing MS Dhoni?**

- A) Rishabh Pant
- B) KL Rahul
- C) Dinesh Karthik
- D) Sanju Samson
- E) Wriddhiman Saha

Answer

C) Dinesh Karthik



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Dinesh Karthik becoming India's top wicket-keeper run-scorer in T20s
- **Date:** January 30, 2025



Milestone Achievement:

- **Record Breaker:** Dinesh Karthik surpassed MS Dhoni to become India's highest run-scoring wicket-keeper in T20 cricket.
- **Total Runs:** With his 21-run innings, Karthik's overall T20 tally reached 7,451 runs in 361 innings.
- **Previous Record:** MS Dhoni had held the record with 7,432 runs in 342 innings.



Karthik's T20 Career in Numbers:

- **Total Runs:** 7,451
- **Innings Played:** 361
- **Matches Played:** 409
- **Average:** 26.99
- **Strike Rate:** 136.84



Comparison of Indian Wicket-Keeper Batters in T20 Cricket:

Player	Total Runs	Innings Played
Dinesh Karthik	7,451	361
MS Dhoni	7,432	342
Sanju Samson	7,327	280



Important Terms Explained:

- **Wicket-Keeper Batter:** A player who takes on both wicket-keeping and batting responsibilities in a team.
- **Strike Rate:** A measure of a batter's scoring speed, calculated as $(\text{Runs Scored} / \text{Balls Faced}) \times 100$.
- **T20 Cricket:** The shortest international cricket format, consisting of 20 overs per innings, favoring aggressive play.



Tabular Summary:

Detail	Information
Event	Dinesh Karthik becoming India's top wicket-keeper run-scorer in T20s
Date	January 30, 2025
Location	Recent T20 match (venue not mentioned)
Significance	Surpassed MS Dhoni's record of 7,432 runs



➤ **What is the name of the new SEBI portal introduced to streamline the reporting of technical glitches?**

- A) SEBI TechFix
- B) iSPOT
- C) SEBI SmartConnect
- D) MII Glitch Tracker
- E) SEBI TechMonitor

Answer
B) iSPOT



Event and Location:

- **Event:** SEBI introduces iSPOT Portal for reporting technical glitches
- **Date:** February 3, 2025 (Implementation Date)
- **Location:** India



About iSPOT Portal:

- **Objective:** SEBI launched the Integrated SEBI Portal for Technical Glitches (iSPOT) to centralize and streamline reporting by Market Infrastructure Institutions (MIIs) such as stock exchanges, clearing corporations, and depositories.
- **Replacement of Old System:** iSPOT replaces the manual email-based reporting system with a more structured, transparent, and efficient portal.
- **Reporting Process:** MIIs can submit both preliminary and final Root Cause Analysis (RCA) reports on the portal, ensuring faster resolution of issues.



Key Features of iSPOT:

- **Centralized Reporting:** A unified system to record and track technical glitches affecting MIs.
- **Integration with SEBI's SI Portal:** MIs can use their existing credentials to log in, ensuring a seamless transition.
- **Automated Compliance Monitoring:** The portal generates reminders for compliance deadlines, reducing manual errors and ensuring timely reporting.



Transition and Implementation:

- **Launch Date:** SEBI has set February 3, 2025, as the official go-live date for iSPOT.
- **Transition Period:** MIs must update their bye-laws, rules, and regulations to align with the new system.



How iSPOT Improves Market Transparency and Efficiency:

- **Increased Transparency:** A centralized database allows better access to information, improving market trust.
- **Faster Resolutions:** A structured approach leads to quicker identification and resolution of technical glitches.
- **Strengthened Market Operations:** Ensures a resilient securities market with minimal disruptions.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Market Infrastructure Institutions (MIIs):** Entities such as stock exchanges, clearing corporations, and depositories that play a crucial role in the financial markets.
- **Root Cause Analysis (RCA):** A detailed investigation conducted to identify the reason behind a technical glitch and prevent recurrence.
- **SEBI SI Portal:** An existing online platform for SEBI-registered intermediaries, now integrated with iSPOT for seamless operations.



Tabular Summary:

Detail	Information
Event	SEBI introduces iSPOT Portal for reporting technical glitches
Date	February 3, 2025 (Implementation Date)
Location	India
Significance	Replaces email-based reporting, improving efficiency and transparency
Key Features	Centralized reporting, SI portal integration, automated compliance monitoring



➤ **What measure has the RBI announced to inject liquidity into the banking system?**

- A) Reducing the repo rate
- B) Conducting a USD/INR swap auction and bond purchases
- C) Increasing the Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR)
- D) Introducing new banking regulations
- E) Raising interest rates on fixed deposits



Answer

B) Conducting a USD/INR swap auction and bond purchases



Event and Location:

- **Event:** RBI announces measures to inject liquidity into the banking system
- **Date:** January 27, 2025
- **Location:** India



Key Measures Announced by RBI:

- **Government Bond Purchases:** RBI will buy Rs 60,000 crore worth of government bonds in three tranches.
- **Variable Rate Repo Auction:** A 56-day variable rate repo auction worth Rs 50,000 crore is scheduled for February 7, 2025.
- **USD/INR Swap Auction:** RBI will conduct a USD/INR buy/sell swap auction worth \$5 billion for six months on January 31, 2025.
- **Monitoring Liquidity:** RBI will continue to observe market conditions and take further measures if needed.



Reason for RBI's Liquidity Injection:

- **Banking System Liquidity Deficit:** The liquidity deficit reached a one-year peak in the previous fortnight.
- **Average Deficit Levels:** The daily average banking system liquidity deficit rose to Rs 2.39 trillion by January 24, 2025.
- **Ensuring Market Stability:** RBI's intervention aims to maintain orderly liquidity conditions and support economic activity.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Liquidity Deficit:** A situation where banks face a shortfall of funds, affecting their ability to lend.
- **Variable Rate Repo Auction:** A tool used by RBI to provide short-term funds to banks at an interest rate determined by auction bidding.
- **USD/INR Swap Auction:** A process where RBI buys or sells US dollars to control liquidity and stabilize the currency.
- **Government Bond Purchases:** RBI buys government securities from banks to inject liquidity into the financial system.



Tabular Summary:

Detail	Information
Event	RBI announces measures to inject liquidity
Date	January 27, 2025
Location	India
Government Bond Purchase	Rs 60,000 crore in three tranches
Variable Rate Repo Auction	Rs 50,000 crore on February 7, 2025
USD/INR Swap Auction	\$5 billion for six months on January 31, 2025
Reason for Action	Banking liquidity deficit reached Rs 2.39 trillion



➤ **What recent RBI action has increased expectations of a February interest rate cut?**

- A) Increasing the repo rate
- B) Conducting a bond purchase and repo auctions
- C) Raising the Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR)
- D) Imposing new lending restrictions on banks
- E) Reducing fiscal deficit targets



Answer

B) Conducting a bond purchase and repo auctions



Event and Location:

- **Event:** RBI's bond purchases raise expectations of a February rate cut
- **Date:** January 27, 2025
- **Location:** India



Key Highlights of RBI's Actions:

- **Bond Purchases:** RBI net bought Rs 101.75 billion (\$1.18 billion) worth of government bonds in the week ending January 17, 2025.
- **Repo Auctions:** RBI conducted overnight repo auctions to inject liquidity into the banking system.
- **Market Impact:**
 - The 10-year bond yield dropped to 6.67%, its lowest in nearly three years.
 - The yield is now just 17 basis points above the repo rate of 6.50%, indicating rate cut expectations.



Key Highlights of RBI's Actions:

- **Growth Concerns:**
 - India's GDP growth is projected to slow to a four-year low in 2024-25.
 - Market analysts believe RBI will shift to an accommodative stance to support economic activity.



Why This Could Lead to a Rate Cut:

- **Easing Liquidity:** RBI's bond purchases and repo operations indicate an attempt to ease liquidity stress, making a rate cut more feasible.
- **Lower Inflation Expectations:** Analysts predict lower inflation in the coming months, reducing the need for tight monetary policy.



Why This Could Lead to a Rate Cut:

- **Policy Shift Expected:**
 - RBI may change its stance to "accommodative" to address liquidity deficits.
 - Possible repo rate cut of 25 basis points (bp) to 6.25% in February's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meeting.
 - Additional liquidity measures could include a 50bp CRR cut or further bond purchases.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Repo Rate:** The rate at which RBI lends money to commercial banks; a cut in this rate makes borrowing cheaper.
- **Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR):** The percentage of bank deposits that must be kept with the RBI; a reduction increases liquidity in the banking system.
- **Bond Yield:** The return investors earn on government bonds; lower yields indicate expectations of lower interest rates.
- **Accommodative Stance:** A monetary policy approach that supports economic growth by keeping interest rates low.



Tabular Summary:

Detail	Information
Event	RBI bond purchases raise expectations of a February rate cut
Date	January 27, 2025
Location	India
Bond Purchase	Rs 101.75 billion (\$1.18 billion) worth of government bonds
Repo Auctions	Overnight repo operations to increase liquidity
Impact on Market	10-year bond yield dropped to 6.67%
Expected Rate Cut	Repo rate may be cut by 25 basis points to 6.25% in February
Possible Additional Measures	50bp CRR cut or more bond purchases



➤ **What is the maximum collateral-free education loan amount offered by Tata Capital?**

- A) Rs 50 lakh
- B) Rs 75 lakh
- C) Rs 85 lakh
- D) Rs 1 crore
- E) Rs 2 crore



Answer
C) Rs 85 lakh



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Tata Capital launches education loans with collateral-free options up to Rs 85 lakh
- **Date:** January 27, 2025
- **Location:** India



Key Features of Tata Capital's Education Loan:

- **Collateral-Free Loans:** Up to Rs 85 lakh for students pursuing higher education in India and abroad.
- **Secured Loans:** Up to Rs 2 crore, covering the total cost of education.
- **Flexible Coverage:** Loans cover tuition fees, living expenses, study materials, and miscellaneous costs.
- **Pre-Admission Financing:** Students can apply before receiving an admission letter, helping with pre-visa financial requirements.
- **Digital Processing:** Quick and seamless digital application process for fast approvals.



Loan Demand and Popular Study Destinations:

- **Top Indian Cities for Study Abroad Loans:**
 - Hyderabad, Visakhapatnam, Bangalore, Chennai, Mumbai, Pune, Delhi, Vadodara, Ahmedabad, Surat, Mysore, and Coimbatore.
- **Top International Study Destinations:**
 - USA, UK, Germany, Ireland, and Australia (accounting for nearly two-thirds of applicants).
- **Popular Courses:**
 - STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) programs dominate postgraduate loan applications.
 - Other in-demand courses include Management, Engineering, Aviation, Medicine, and Upskilling Programs.



Market Impact and Tata Capital's Growth:

- **High Demand:** Since its launch in December 2023, Tata Capital's education loans have received over 6,000 applications.
- **Strong Branch Network:** Tata Capital operates 900+ branches nationwide, ensuring widespread access to education financing.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Collateral-Free Loan:** A loan provided without requiring assets (property, gold, etc.) as security.
- **Secured Loan:** A loan that requires collateral (such as property or fixed deposits) as a guarantee.
- **Pre-Visa Financial Requirements:** Proof of sufficient funds before obtaining a student visa for international education.



Tabular Summary:

Detail	Information
Event	Tata Capital offers Rs 85 lakh collateral-free education loans
Date	January 27, 2025
Location	India
Collateral-Free Loan Limit	Up to Rs 85 lakh
Secured Loan Limit	Up to Rs 2 crore
Loan Coverage	Tuition fees, living costs, study materials, miscellaneous expenses
Pre-Admission Loan	Available even before admission confirmation
Popular Study Destinations	USA, UK, Germany, Ireland, Australia
Total Applications Since Launch (Dec 2023)	Over 6,000 applications
Branch Network	900+ branches across India



➤ **Which two fintech companies have launched India's first non-banking e-Rupee (₹) wallets?**

- A) Paytm & PhonePe
- B) Google Pay & Amazon Pay
- C) MobiKwik & CRED
- D) Razorpay & BharatPe
- E) ICICI Bank & HDFC Bank



Answer

C) MobiKwik & CRED



Event and Location:

- **Event:** MobiKwik and CRED become the first fintechs to launch India's e₹ wallets
- **Date:** January 30, 2025
- **Location:** India



Key Highlights of MobiKwik & CRED's e₹ Wallet Launch:

1. India's First Non-Banking Fintechs to Offer e₹ Wallets

- MobiKwik and CRED are the first fintech firms (non-banking entities) to launch CBDC (e₹) wallets.
- Developed in partnership with: Reserve Bank of India (RBI) & Yes Bank (acting as the sponsor bank for CBDC issuance).



Key Highlights of MobiKwik & CRED's e₹ Wallet Launch:

2. e₹ Wallet Features & Transaction Limits

- Functions like physical cash: Users can store, send, and receive e₹ for payments.
- **Supports:**
 - Peer-to-Peer (P2P) and Peer-to-Merchant (P2M) transactions.
 - Integration with UPI, allowing payments via UPI QR codes.
- **Transaction Limits:**
 - ₹10,000 per transfer
 - ₹50,000 daily limit
- **Denominations Available:**
 - 50 paise, ₹1, ₹2, ₹5, ₹10, ₹20, ₹50, ₹100, ₹200, ₹500



Key Highlights of MobiKwik & CRED's e₹ Wallet Launch:

3. User Access and KYC Requirements

- **MobiKwik:**
 - 167 million full KYC users can instantly open an e₹ wallet and load funds from their bank account.
 - New users require video KYC before accessing the service.
- **CRED:**
 - The e₹ wallet is in beta testing, with plans to expand availability soon.



Key Highlights of MobiKwik & CRED's e₹ Wallet Launch:

4. CRED's Future e₹ Features

- Programmable Merchant Payments
- CRED Pay Integration
- PIN-less transactions for amounts below ₹500

5. RBI's Role in Expanding e₹ Access

- In April 2024, RBI allowed payment firms (not just banks) to facilitate e₹ transactions.
- CBDC (Central Bank Digital Currency): A sovereign digital currency issued by RBI as a digital alternative to cash.
- India's CBDC Pilot: Began in December 2022 before expanding to fintech platforms.



Key Highlights of MobiKwik & CRED's e₹ Wallet Launch:

6. Statements from MobiKwik & CRED Leadership

- **Kunal Shah (Founder, CRED):**
 - "With RBI's support, we aim to make e₹ transactions frictionless and drive adoption among creditworthy Indians."
- **Bipin Preet Singh (Co-founder & MD, MobiKwik):**
 - "CBDC will digitize the Indian rupee and expand the digital economy. Our goal is a less-cash economy."



Important Terms Explained:

- **CBDC (Central Bank Digital Currency):** A digital version of a country's official currency, issued by the central bank.
- **UPI (Unified Payments Interface):** A real-time digital payment system in India.
- **P2P Transactions:** Peer-to-peer transfers between individuals.
- **P2M Transactions:** Peer-to-merchant payments for goods and services.
- **KYC (Know Your Customer):** A process where financial institutions verify customer identity before providing services.



Tabular Summary:

Detail	Information
Event	MobiKwik & CRED launch India's first non-banking e₹ wallets
Date	January 30, 2025
Location	India
Partners	RBI & Yes Bank
Supported Transactions	P2P & P2M (peer-to-peer and peer-to-merchant)
UPI Compatibility	Can send e₹ to UPI IDs & scan UPI QR codes
Transaction Limits	₹10,000 per transfer, ₹50,000 daily
Denominations Available	50 paise to ₹500
MobiKwik User Base	167 million full KYC users
CRED Wallet Status	Currently in beta testing
MobiKwik's Goal	Promote e₹ adoption & move towards a less-cash economy



➤ **What is the name of the digital repository launched by SEBI to showcase India's securities market history?**

- A) SEBI Archives
- B) Market Heritage
- C) Dharohar
- D) Financial Legacy
- E) Indian Securities Vault



Answer
C) Dharohar



Event and Location:

- **Event:** SEBI launches 'Dharohar' – A digital repository of India's securities market history
- **Date:** January 26, 2025
- **Location:** India



About 'Dharohar' and Its Significance:

- **What is 'Dharohar'?** A digital repository showcasing 150+ years of India's securities market history.
- **Launch Occasion:** Unveiled on India's 76th Republic Day.
- **Content Collection:** Over 3,000 assets, including articles, regulations, historic newspaper clippings, interviews, share certificates, and committee reports.
- **Objective:** To preserve and present India's financial market evolution in an accessible format.



Key Features of 'Dharohar':

- **Interactive Timeline:** Highlights major milestones in the Indian securities market.
- **3D Galleries:** Allows users to visually explore historic market developments.
- **Public Access:** Available free of cost at www.mism.org.



Who Can Benefit from 'Dharohar'?

- **Students & Researchers:** Gain insights into India's financial history.
- **Investors & Market Participants:** Understand past market trends and regulations.
- **Journalists & Industry Professionals:** Explore a comprehensive archive of market evolution.



Development and Future Growth:

- **Collaborative Effort:** SEBI developed the repository with input from former SEBI officials, experts, scripophilists (stock certificate collectors), and institutions.
- **Ongoing Updates:** SEBI will regularly add new content, keeping the repository dynamic.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Securities Market:** A financial market where stocks, bonds, and derivatives are bought and sold.
- **Scripophilist:** A person who collects historic stock and bond certificates as memorabilia.
- **Interactive Timeline:** A digital tool that visually maps historical events in a structured manner.



Tabular Summary:

Detail	Information
Event	SEBI launches 'Dharohar' – A digital securities market archive
Date	January 26, 2025
Location	India
Significance	Preserves 150+ years of India's securities market history
Features	Interactive timeline, 3D galleries, 3,000+ digital assets
Access	Free to the public via www.mism.org



➤ Which lender became the first to join GeM Sahay 2.0, built on the OCEN framework?

- A) Bajaj Finserv
- B) SBI Capital Markets
- C) 121 Finance
- D) Muthoot Finance
- E) Tata Capital



Answer

C) 121 Finance



Event and Location:

- **Event:** 121 Finance becomes the first lender on GeM Sahay 2.0 under the OCEN framework
- **Date:** January 27, 2025
- **Location:** India



About GeM Sahay 2.0 and 121 Finance's Role:

- **First Lender on GeM Sahay 2.0:** 121 Finance, an RBI-registered NBFC-Factor, became the first lender on the enhanced version of GeM Sahay.
- **Partnership:** 121 Finance collaborated with GeM, Perfios, and Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) to roll out the upgraded platform.
- **Objective:** To enhance digital lending for MSMEs, ensuring faster and more accessible finance for government suppliers.



Key Features of GeM Sahay 2.0:

- Built on OCEN (Open Credit Enablement Network) Framework to streamline digital lending.
- **Real-Time Loan Offers:** Allows MSMEs to access transaction-based financing instantly.
- **Scalability & Financial Inclusion:** Supports small-ticket invoice financing, with the smallest financed invoice recorded at just INR 160.



Impact on MSMEs and Digital Lending:

- **Boosts MSME Growth:** Addresses the credit gap by simplifying trade finance solutions.
- **Encourages Digital Lending:** Promotes tech-driven financial solutions through real-time credit assessments.
- **Supports 'Digital India' Initiative:** Strengthens paperless and seamless lending processes for small businesses.



Important Terms Explained:

- **GeM Sahay:** A digital lending platform under the Government e-Marketplace (GeM), designed to help MSMEs secure credit based on government orders.
- **OCEN Framework:** A tech-driven credit infrastructure that enables seamless digital lending and credit disbursement.
- **Factoring Finance:** A financial solution where businesses receive immediate funds by selling unpaid invoices to a financing company.



Tabular Summary:

Detail	Information
Event	121 Finance becomes the first lender on GeM Sahay 2.0
Date	January 27, 2025
Location	India
Technology Used	OCEN Framework for seamless digital lending
Collaborators	GeM, Perfios, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)
Key Benefit	MSMEs can access real-time, small-ticket financing
Smallest Invoice Financed	INR 160, highlighting financial inclusion
CEO of 121 Finance	Dr. Ravi Modani



➤ **Why did the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) supersede the board of Aviom India Housing Finance Pvt Ltd?**

- A) Violation of foreign exchange laws
- B) Non-compliance with RBI's monetary policies
- C) Governance issues and payment defaults
- D) High-profit declaration despite financial losses
- E) Merger with another financial institution



Answer

C) Governance issues and payment defaults



Event and Location:

- **Event:** RBI supersedes the board of Aviom India Housing Finance due to governance issues and defaults
- **Date:** January 27, 2025
- **Location:** New Delhi, India



Key Reasons for RBI's Action:

- **Governance Concerns:** RBI identified serious lapses in corporate governance at Aviom India Housing Finance.
- **Payment Defaults:** The company failed to meet various financial obligations, prompting regulatory intervention.
- **Regulatory Powers Used:** RBI acted under Section 45-IE(1) of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934.
- **Recommendation from NHB:** The National Housing Bank (NHB) recommended RBI's intervention in the case.



Steps Taken by RBI:

- **Board Supersession:** The existing board of Aviom India Housing Finance has been removed.
- **Appointment of Administrator:** Ram Kumar, ex-CGM of Punjab National Bank, appointed as Administrator.
- **Resolution Process Initiation:** RBI intends to start insolvency proceedings under:
 - Insolvency and Bankruptcy (Insolvency and Liquidation Proceedings of Financial Service Providers) Rules, 2019.
 - Application to National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT), New Delhi, for resolution.



Potential Consequences for Aviom India Housing Finance:

- **Possible Liquidation:** If no viable restructuring plan is found, the company may face liquidation.
- **Impact on Borrowers:** Borrowers may face disruptions in loan services, but RBI's intervention ensures an orderly resolution.
- **Market Confidence:** RBI's move aims to restore financial discipline and protect stakeholders.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Section 45-IE(1) of the RBI Act, 1934:** Grants RBI the power to remove the board of an NBFC/HFC due to governance concerns.
- **National Housing Bank (NHB):** A regulatory body overseeing housing finance companies in India.
- **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC), 2019 Rules for Financial Service Providers:** Governs the resolution of failing financial institutions through NCLT.
- **National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT):** A judicial body that handles insolvency cases of companies in India.



Tabular Summary:

Detail	Information
Event	RBI supersedes the board of Aviom India Housing Finance
Date	January 27, 2025
Location	New Delhi, India
Reason for Action	Governance issues and payment defaults
Administrator Appointed	Ram Kumar (Ex-CGM, Punjab National Bank)
Legal Basis	Section 45-IE(1) of the RBI Act, 1934
Next Steps	Insolvency resolution under IBC 2019, application to NCLT



➤ Which institute has launched the blockchain-based digital currency BIMCOIN?

- A) IIM Ahmedabad
- B) IIT Bombay
- C) BIMTECH
- D) ISB Hyderabad
- E) XLRI Jamshedpur



BIMTECH
BIRLA INSTITUTE
OF MANAGEMENT TECHNOLOGY

Answer
C) BIMTECH



Event and Location:

- **Event:** BIMTECH launches blockchain-based digital currency BIMCOIN
- **Date:** January 24, 2025
- **Location:** Hyderabad, India



Key Highlights of BIMCOIN – BIMTECH’s Blockchain-Based Digital Currency:

1. Purpose and Functionality

- BIMCOIN is a blockchain-based digital currency designed exclusively for the BIMTECH ecosystem.
- Facilitates secure, instant, and transparent transactions between students, vendors, and administrators.
- Promotes decentralization by eliminating the need for intermediaries.



Key Highlights of BIMCOIN – BIMTECH’s Blockchain-Based Digital Currency:

2. Educational Benefits of BIMCOIN

- **Hands-on Experience for Students:** Helps students learn about blockchain technology, digital currencies, and financial systems.
- **Smart Contracts Integration:** Enables automation of transactions while ensuring security and fraud prevention.
- **Transparency & Security:** Reduces fraud risks and ensures ethical financial practices within the campus.



Key Highlights of BIMCOIN – BIMTECH’s Blockchain-Based Digital Currency:

3. Statements from BIMTECH Leadership

- **Prabina Rajib, Director, BIMTECH:**
 - "BIMCOIN is more than just a payment solution—it serves as an educational tool that provides real-world experience in digital finance."



Important Terms Explained:

- **Blockchain Technology:** A decentralized and secure digital ledger used for recording transactions.
- **Smart Contracts:** Self-executing contracts with terms directly written into code, ensuring automatic execution without intermediaries.
- **Digital Currency:** A form of currency that exists only in electronic form, often using blockchain for security and transparency.



Tabular Summary:

Detail	Information
Event	BIMTECH launches blockchain-based digital currency BIMCOIN
Date	January 24, 2025
Location	Hyderabad, India
Developed By	Birla Institute of Management Technology (BIMTECH)
Purpose	Secure, decentralized transactions for BIMTECH ecosystem
Key Features	Blockchain-powered, Smart Contracts, Transparency & Security
Educational Use	Hands-on experience in blockchain & digital finance
Director's Statement	"BIMCOIN is more than a payment tool; it's an educational resource."



APPOINTMENTS



➤ **Who has been re-appointed as the MD and CEO of Maruti Suzuki India Limited?**

- A) Kenichi Ayukawa
- B) Toshihiro Suzuki
- C) Hisashi Takeuchi
- D) Maheswar Sahu
- E) Osamu Suzuki



Answer

C) Hisashi Takeuchi



APPOINTMENTS



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Hisashi Takeuchi re-appointed as MD and CEO of Maruti Suzuki
- **Date:** Term extended from April 1, 2025, to March 31, 2028
- **Location:** India



APPOINTMENTS



Key Highlights of Hisashi Takeuchi's Re-Appointment:

- **Leadership Continuity:** Maruti Suzuki has extended Hisashi Takeuchi's tenure as MD and CEO for three years.
- **Effective Date:** The new term will run from April 1, 2025, to March 31, 2028.
- **Company's Confidence:** His re-appointment reflects Maruti Suzuki's trust in his leadership and strategic vision.



APPOINTMENTS



Takeuchi's Career Journey:

- **1986:** Joined Suzuki Motor Corporation (SMC), beginning in overseas marketing (Europe).
- **March 2009:** Became Managing Director of Magyar Suzuki Corporation, Hungary.
- **June 2019:** Held senior roles at SMC Japan, managing Asian and Indian automobile markets.
- **April 2021:** Joined Maruti Suzuki India as Joint Managing Director (Commercial).
- **April 2022:** Appointed as MD and CEO, succeeding Kenichi Ayukawa.



APPOINTMENTS



Strategic Vision and Achievements:

- **Market Leadership:** Continued Maruti Suzuki's dominance in the Indian automobile market.
- **Electric Vehicle (EV) Expansion:** Plans to launch Maruti Suzuki's first EV in India by 2025.
- **Sustainability Focus:** Aligned the company with eco-friendly mobility and carbon neutrality goals.



APPOINTMENTS



Re-Appointment of Maheswar Sahu as Independent Director:

- **Extended Term:** May 14, 2025 – May 13, 2030 (five years).
- **Expertise:** Public administration and corporate governance.
- **Board Stability:** Strengthening corporate governance and strategic oversight at Maruti Suzuki.



APPOINTMENTS



Important Terms Explained:

- **Managing Director (MD) & CEO:** The highest executive responsible for a company's overall operations and strategy.
- **Electric Vehicles (EVs):** Battery-powered automobiles aimed at reducing carbon emissions.
- **Independent Director:** A non-executive board member providing impartial guidance and oversight.



APPOINTMENTS



Tabular Summary:

Detail	Information
Event	Hisashi Takeuchi re-appointed as MD & CEO of Maruti Suzuki
Date	April 1, 2025 – March 31, 2028
Location	India
Significance	Ensures leadership continuity, EV expansion, and market dominance



APPOINTMENTS



➤ **Who has been appointed as the new CEO of Sony Group Corporation, effective April 1, 2025?**

- A) Kenichiro Yoshida
- B) Hideaki Nishino
- C) Hiroki Totoki
- D) Lin Tao
- E) Jim Ryan

Answer
C) Hiroki Totoki



APPOINTMENTS



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Hiroki Totoki appointed as CEO of Sony Group Corporation
- **Date:** Effective April 1, 2025
- **Location:** Japan



APPOINTMENTS



Key Leadership Changes at Sony:

- **New CEO:** Hiroki Totoki replaces Kenichiro Yoshida as CEO, effective April 1, 2025.
- **Chairman Role:** Kenichiro Yoshida will continue as Chairman of Sony.
- **New CFO:** Lin Tao becomes Sony's first female Chief Financial Officer (CFO).
- **Gaming Division:** Hideaki Nishino will lead Sony's gaming division, including PlayStation operations.
- **Imaging & Sensors:** Shinji Sashida appointed as head of Sony's imaging and sensors division.
- **Game Studios:** Hermen Hulst will continue leading Sony's game studios.



APPOINTMENTS



About Hiroki Totoki:

- **Joined Sony:** 1987
- **Previous Roles:** Held key positions, including Executive Deputy President, COO, and CFO.
- **Strategic Expertise:** Led Sony's growth in content intellectual property (IP) and semiconductors.
- **Future Vision:** Expected to expand Sony's global entertainment reach and strengthen its gaming, film, and music businesses.



APPOINTMENTS



Sony's Performance Under Kenichiro Yoshida:

- **\$10 Billion Investment:** Sony invested \$10 billion in gaming, music, and film over six years.
- **Revenue Share:** Entertainment now contributes 60% of Sony's annual revenue.
- **Successful Titles:** Notable successes include "The Last of Us" TV series and the "Uncharted" film.



APPOINTMENTS



Market Reaction & Future Plans:

- **Stock Surge:** Sony's share price rose 3.4% following the announcement of Totoki's appointment.
- **Upcoming Releases:** Highly anticipated titles like "Ghost of Yotei" and "Grand Theft Auto VI" are expected to drive growth.
- **Global Expansion:** Sony aims to capture a larger share of the \$3 trillion global entertainment market.



APPOINTMENTS



Important Terms Explained:

- **Sony PlayStation Division:** Sony's gaming business, responsible for PlayStation consoles and first-party game development.
- **Intellectual Property (IP):** Valuable content assets such as games, films, and music that Sony monetizes globally.
- **Stock Market Impact:** A 3.4% rise in Sony's share price reflects investor confidence in the leadership transition.



APPOINTMENTS



Tabular Summary:

Detail	Information
Event	Hiroki Totoki appointed as CEO of Sony
Date	April 1, 2025
Location	Japan
Outgoing CEO	Kenichiro Yoshida (continues as Chairman)
New CFO	Lin Tao (first female CFO of Sony)
Gaming Head	Hideaki Nishino (leads PlayStation division)
Market Impact	Sony's share price rose 3.4% after the announcement
Upcoming Titles	Ghost of Yotei, Grand Theft Auto VI
Revenue Contribution	Games, films, and music now make up 60% of Sony's revenue



➤ **Which Chinese AI startup has recently challenged ChatGPT, Nvidia, and the global AI industry?**

- A) Baidu AI
- B) DeepSeek
- C) Tencent AI Labs
- D) SenseTime
- E) Huawei AI



Answer
B) DeepSeek



Event and Location:

- **Event:** DeepSeek, a Chinese AI startup, challenges global AI leaders
- **Date:** January 28, 2025
- **Location:** China



What is DeepSeek?

- **Company Origin:** DeepSeek is a Hangzhou-based AI research lab founded in 2023 by Liang Wenfeng, an AI and quantitative finance expert.
- **Latest AI Model:** DeepSeek R1, an advanced open-source AI system, competes with ChatGPT, Google Gemini, and Claude AI.
- **Rapid Growth:** It became the top-rated free app on Apple's App Store in multiple countries, including the US, UK, and China.



Key Reasons DeepSeek is Disrupting the AI Industry:

- **Cost-Efficient Development:**
 - Developed for under \$6 million, significantly cheaper than OpenAI, Google, and Meta models, which require billions.
- **Free Access & Open-Source Model:**
 - Unlike OpenAI's ChatGPT and Anthropic's Claude, DeepSeek is completely free for users, making AI more accessible.
- **Unique AI Capabilities:**
 - DeepSeek R1 mimics human thinking and provides reasoning behind its answers, a feature not seen in other AI models.



Impact of DeepSeek on the Global Tech Market:

- **Stock Market Shock:**
 - DeepSeek's rise caused a tech selloff, with Nvidia, Microsoft, and Meta's stock prices dropping.
 - Nvidia lost nearly \$600 billion in market value after DeepSeek's launch.
- **Challenges US AI Dominance:**
 - The US has restricted high-power AI chip exports to China to curb AI advancements.
 - DeepSeek has bypassed this limitation by developing models requiring fewer computing resources.



Impact of DeepSeek on the Global Tech Market:

- **AI Industry Disruption:**
 - Analysts believe low-cost Chinese AI alternatives could force US firms to rethink their AI investment strategies.



Why DeepSeek Matters for AI's Future:

- **Transparency & Open AI Development:**
 - Promotes AI accessibility through open-source innovation.
- **Threat to Established AI Models:**
 - Could disrupt the paid AI subscription model, making AI services more affordable worldwide.
- **Encourages New AI Investments in China:**
 - Inspires more funding for domestic AI development, reducing China's dependency on Western technology.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Open-Source AI:** AI models whose code and data are publicly available, allowing developers to customize and improve them.
- **AI Chatbots:** AI-driven conversational agents, like ChatGPT, Gemini, and DeepSeek R1, that generate human-like responses.
- **Stock Market Impact:** A large-scale selloff in AI stocks like Nvidia, Meta, and Microsoft due to DeepSeek's rapid rise.



Tabular Summary:

Detail	Information
Event	DeepSeek AI disrupts the global AI industry
Date	January 28, 2025
Location	China
Founder	Liang Wenfeng
AI Model	DeepSeek R1
Key Advantage	Developed for less than \$6 million (low-cost AI alternative)
Market Impact	Nvidia, Meta, Microsoft stocks fell sharply
AI Competition	Challenges ChatGPT, Google Gemini, Claude AI
Business Model	Completely free & open-source



➤ **When will India and China resume the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra?**

- A) April 2024
- B) January 2025
- C) Summer 2025
- D) October 2025
- E) December 2026

Answer
C) Summer 2025



Event and Location:

- **Event:** India and China to resume the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra
- **Date:** Summer 2025
- **Location:** Tibet (China)



Key Agreements Between India and China:

1. Resumption of Kailash Mansarovar Yatra:

- **Yatra Restart:** India and China agreed to resume the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra in Summer 2025.
- **Significance:** The pilgrimage to Mount Kailash and Mansarovar Lake in Tibet is of great religious importance to Hindus, Buddhists, Jains, and Bon followers.
- **Discussions:** India-China Expert Level Mechanism will finalize modalities and logistics for the pilgrimage.



Key Agreements Between India and China:

2. Hydrological Data Sharing & River Cooperation:

- **Early Meeting Scheduled:** India and China will discuss sharing hydrological data for trans-border rivers.
- **Water Security:** Ensures timely flood forecasts and water management in shared river basins.

3. Strengthening People-to-People Exchanges:

- **Reopening Direct Flights:** India and China aim to resume direct air services between both nations.
- **Media & Think-Tank Engagements:** Plans to enhance diplomatic and cultural exchanges.



Key Agreements Between India and China:

4. Public Diplomacy & 75th Anniversary of India-China Diplomatic Relations:

- **2025 Celebrations:** Commemorative activities planned to mark 75 years of diplomatic ties.
- **Goal:** To build trust and enhance mutual cooperation.

5. Economic & Trade Cooperation:

- **Addressing Trade Imbalances:** Focus on policy transparency and predictability in economic exchanges.
- **Future Growth:** Discussion on expanding economic ties to ensure a balanced trade relationship.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Kailash Mansarovar Yatra:** A pilgrimage to Mount Kailash and Mansarovar Lake in Tibet, considered sacred by Hindus, Buddhists, and Jains.
- **Trans-Border River Cooperation:** Agreements between neighboring countries to share water data for managing river resources and flood forecasting.
- **People-to-People Exchanges:** Diplomatic initiatives promoting cultural, academic, and tourism-based interactions.



Tabular Summary:

Detail	Information
Event	India and China to resume Kailash Mansarovar Yatra
Date	Summer 2025
Location	Tibet, China
Hydrological Data Sharing	Discussion on trans-border river cooperation
People-to-People Exchanges	Plans to resume direct air services and diplomatic engagements
Diplomatic Milestone	75th anniversary of India-China diplomatic relations in 2025
Economic Focus	Addressing trade imbalances and boosting economic cooperation



➤ Which country has recently achieved WHO malaria-free certification?

- A) Turkey
- B) Georgia
- C) Ukraine
- D) Armenia
- E) Kazakhstan

Answer
B) Georgia



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Georgia receives WHO malaria-free certification
- **Date:** January 27, 2025
- **Location:** Georgia



Key Highlights of Georgia's Malaria-Free Certification:

1. WHO Certification Process

- **Criteria:** A country must prove that indigenous malaria transmission has been interrupted for at least three consecutive years.
- **Global Recognition:** With this achievement, Georgia joins 45 other countries and one territory certified as malaria-free.
- **Last Country in Europe:** Turkey is now the only country in the WHO European Region yet to be certified malaria-free.



Key Highlights of Georgia's Malaria-Free Certification:

2. Historical Burden of Malaria in Georgia

- Before the 20th century: Malaria was endemic, with three parasite species present:
 - **Plasmodium falciparum**
 - **Plasmodium malariae**
 - **Plasmodium vivax** (most prevalent)
- **1920s:** Nearly 30% of Georgia's population suffered from malaria.
- **1940s:** Large-scale mosquito control programs significantly reduced cases.



Key Highlights of Georgia's Malaria-Free Certification:

3. Major Milestones in Malaria Eradication

- **1953:** Transmission of *Plasmodium falciparum* interrupted.
- **1960:** *Plasmodium malariae* eradicated.
- **1970:** *Plasmodium vivax* eliminated; Georgia remained malaria-free for 25 years.
- **2002:** Malaria re-emerged with 474 reported cases, leading to renewed control efforts.
- **2005:** Georgia signed the Tashkent Declaration, committing to malaria elimination.
- **2009:** Georgia reported zero indigenous cases of malaria.



Key Highlights of Georgia's Malaria-Free Certification:

3. Major Milestones in Malaria Eradication

- **2017:** Georgia signed the Ashgabat Statement to maintain a malaria-free status.
- **2024:** WHO confirmed sustained elimination efforts, leading to malaria-free certification in 2025.

4. Key Factors Behind Georgia's Success

- Sustained investment in healthcare and vector control.
- Strong public-private collaboration and government commitment.
- Effective malaria surveillance, prevention, and treatment programs.



Key Highlights of Georgia's Malaria-Free Certification:

5. Global Significance of Georgia's Certification

- **WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus:**
 - "Georgia's success gives us hope that a malaria-free world is possible."
- **WHO Europe Regional Director Hans Henri P. Kluge:**
 - "This achievement brings us closer to making Europe the first malaria-free region globally."



Important Terms Explained:

- **Malaria-Free Certification (WHO):** Official recognition that a country has eliminated indigenous malaria transmission for at least three years.
- **Tashkent Declaration (2005):** A WHO European Region commitment to eliminate malaria.
- **Ashgabat Statement (2017):** Agreement among malaria-free countries to maintain their status and prevent reintroduction.
- **Indigenous Malaria Cases:** Cases where malaria is transmitted within the country, rather than imported from another region.



INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



Tabular Summary:

Detail	Information
Event	WHO certifies Georgia as malaria-free
Date	January 27, 2025
Location	Georgia
WHO Requirement	No indigenous malaria transmission for 3+ years
Last Indigenous Case in Georgia	2009
Key Agreements Signed	Tashkent Declaration (2005), Ashgabat Statement (2017)
Regional Impact	Turkey is the only remaining country in WHO Europe without malaria-free status
WHO's Goal	Make Europe the first malaria-free region globally



➤ **What is the name of the ₹100 crore credit guarantee scheme launched by the Indian government for MSMEs?**

- A) MSME Growth Fund
- B) Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme
- C) Mutual Credit Guarantee Scheme (MCGS-MSME)
- D) Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme
- E) Startup India Credit Scheme



Answer

C) Mutual Credit Guarantee Scheme (MCGS-MSME)



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Indian government launches ₹100 crore Mutual Credit Guarantee Scheme (MCGS-MSME) for MSMEs
- **Date:** January 30, 2025
- **Location:** India



Key Features of the MCGS-MSME Scheme:

- **Objective:** To ease access to credit for MSMEs, enabling them to purchase equipment and machinery without collateral.
- **Guarantee Coverage:** 60% guarantee provided by the National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company Limited (NCGTC).
- **Maximum Loan Amount:** ₹100 crore per MSME.
- **Eligibility:** MSMEs must have a valid Udyam Registration Number.



Key Features of the MCGS-MSME Scheme:

- **Fund Utilization:** At least 75% of the loan amount must be used for purchasing equipment and machinery.
- **Repayment Period:**
 - **Loans up to ₹50 crore:** Up to 8 years, including a 2-year moratorium.
 - **Loans above ₹50 crore:** Extended repayment and moratorium periods may apply.
- **Upfront Fee:** 5% of the loan amount to be paid upon application.



Alignment with 'Make in India' Initiative:

- **Objective:** Supports modernization of MSMEs to enhance productivity and competitiveness.
- **Economic Growth Target:** Aims to increase the manufacturing sector's GDP contribution from 17% to 25%.
- **Encourages Domestic Production:** Helps MSMEs invest in advanced machinery to reduce import dependence.



Impact on the MSME Sector:

- **Employment Generation:** Strengthens MSME operations, leading to job creation.
- **Financial Inclusion:** Provides affordable credit to small businesses struggling with funding.
- **Competitive Edge:** Helps MSMEs compete globally by improving efficiency and innovation.



Important Terms Explained:

- **MSMEs (Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises):** Businesses categorized based on their investment and turnover.
- **National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company Limited (NCGTC):** Provides credit guarantee support to lending institutions for MSME loans.
- **Make in India:** A government initiative launched to boost domestic manufacturing and reduce imports.
- **Udyam Registration Number:** A unique identification number for MSMEs, required to avail government benefits.



Tabular Summary:

Detail	Information
Event	Launch of ₹100 crore Mutual Credit Guarantee Scheme (MCGS-MSME)
Date	January 30, 2025
Location	India
Objective	Eases MSMEs' access to credit for equipment and machinery
Guarantee Provider	NCGTC (60% guarantee coverage)
Maximum Loan Amount	₹100 crore
Eligibility	Valid Udyam Registration Number required
Repayment Period	Up to 8 years (for loans up to ₹50 crore)
Moratorium Period	2 years (for loans up to ₹50 crore)
Linkage to Initiatives	Aligned with 'Make in India' to boost manufacturing



- **What is the name of the mobile app and portal launched by the DoT to combat spoofed calls and telecom fraud?**

- A) Digital Suraksha
- B) Sanchar Saathi
- C) Telecom Guardian
- D) Cyber Shield
- E) Call Defender

Answer

B) Sanchar Saathi



Event and Location:

- **Event:** DoT launches Sanchar Saathi mobile app and portal to counter spoofed calls and telecom fraud
- **Date:** January 24, 2025
- **Location:** India



Key Highlights of the DoT's Anti-Spoofing Measures:

1. Launch of Sanchar Saathi Portal and Mobile App

- **Purpose:** Enables citizens to report fraud communications and spoofed calls easily.
- **Accessibility:** Available on Google Play Store, Apple App Store, and www.sancharsaathi.gov.in.
- **Real-time Reporting:** Citizens can report suspicious numbers directly from their call logs.



Key Highlights of the DoT's Anti-Spoofing Measures:

2. International Spoofed Calls Prevention System

- **Blocking Spoofed Calls:** A newly developed system blocks 90% of spoofed international calls.
- **Impact:** 1.35 crore spoofed calls were blocked in 24 hours after implementation.
- **Daily Spoofed Calls Reduced:** From crores per day to just 4 lakh calls daily.



Key Highlights of the DoT's Anti-Spoofing Measures:

3. Action Against Fraudulent International Call Carriers

- **Identification & Blocking:** Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) like Airtel, BSNL, and Jio have blocked 20+ international carriers that were routing fraudulent calls.
- **Mandatory Caller Identification:**
 - International calls must now display “International Call” on user screens.
 - Helps citizens differentiate genuine vs. fraudulent calls from government bodies like DoT, TRAI, RBI, UIDAI, and police.



Key Highlights of the DoT's Anti-Spoofing Measures:

4. Citizen Participation & Public Awareness

- **Advisory:** DoT urges citizens to be cautious of unfamiliar international calls pretending to be government authorities.
- **Encouraging Proactive Reporting:**
 - Citizens can report fraud calls through Sanchar Saathi.
 - Helps DoT take action against carriers and aggregators involved in telecom fraud.



Key Highlights of the DoT's Anti-Spoofing Measures:

5. Strengthening Telecom Security

- DoT's Commitment: Working closely with stakeholders to prevent telecom misuse.
- **Target:** Ensure a secure and safe telecom ecosystem for Indian users.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Spoofer Calls:** Calls that appear to be from a local number (+91-XXXXX) but actually originate from foreign countries using manipulated caller IDs.
- **Calling Line Identity (CLI):** A system that displays the caller's number, which scammers manipulate to deceive users.
- **Telecom Service Providers (TSPs):** Companies like Airtel, BSNL, Jio, and Vodafone that provide telecommunication services in India.



Tabular Summary:

Detail	Information
Event	DoT launches Sanchar Saathi app and portal to combat telecom fraud
Date	January 24, 2025
Location	India
Developed By	Department of Telecommunications (DoT)
Key Initiative	Blocking international spoofed calls & fraudulent carriers
Calls Blocked	1.35 crore spoofed calls in 24 hours
App & Portal	Sanchar Saathi (www.sancharsaathi.gov.in)
Public Advisory	Beware of fake international calls claiming to be government officials



➤ Which private firm has signed an MoU with DPIIT to promote the startup ecosystem in the manufacturing sector?

- A) Reliance Industries
- B) Tata Advanced Systems
- C) Bhaane Group
- D) Infosys Foundation
- E) Mahindra & Mahindra

Answer
C) Bhaane Group



Event and Location:

- **Event:** DPIIT signs an MoU with Bhaane Group to support manufacturing startups
- **Date:** January 24, 2025
- **Location:** India



Key Highlights of the MoU Between DPIIT and Bhaane Group:

1. Objective of the Collaboration

- **Promoting Startup Ecosystem:** The MoU aims to boost manufacturing startups in India.
- **Incubation Programs:** DPIIT and Bhaane Group will launch programs to support manufacturing-focused startups.
- **International Exposure:** The initiative will help Indian startups connect with global startup ecosystems.



Key Highlights of the MoU Between DPIIT and Bhaane Group:

2. Role of Bhaane Group in the Partnership

- **Market Insights:** The company will provide startups with insights into foreign markets and global business strategies.
- **Operational Guidance:** Startups will receive end-to-end mentorship on manufacturing operations and business growth.



Key Highlights of the MoU Between DPIIT and Bhaane Group:

3. Government's Vision for Manufacturing Startups

- **Support for Innovation:** DPIIT aims to encourage entrepreneurship in production and manufacturing sectors.
- **Strengthening Global Presence:** The initiative aligns with Startup India's goal of making Indian startups globally competitive.



Key Highlights of the MoU Between DPIIT and Bhaane Group:

4. Key Statements from DPIIT and Bhaane Group Executives

- **Shri Sanjiv (Joint Secretary, DPIIT):**
 - “This collaboration nurtures the entrepreneurial spirit and strengthens India’s manufacturing landscape.”
- **Anand Ahuja (CEO & Co-Founder, Bhaane Group):**
 - “Global brands are keen to invest in Indian startups, making India a key player in South Asia.”



Important Terms Explained:

- **DPIIT (Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade):** Government body responsible for promoting industrial growth and startups in India.
- **Startup India:** A government initiative launched in 2016 to encourage innovation and entrepreneurship.
- **Incubation Program:** A program that provides startups with mentorship, funding, and industry support.



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Tabular Summary:

Detail	Information
Event	DPIIT signs MoU with Bhaane Group to promote manufacturing startups
Date	January 24, 2025
Location	India
Government Body Involved	DPIIT (Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade)
Private Firm Partnered	Bhaane Group (subsidiary of Shahi Exports Pvt Ltd)
Objective	Boost startup ecosystem in the manufacturing sector
Support Offered	Incubation programs, mentorship, market insights
Significance	Encourages global competitiveness among Indian startups



QUICK RECALL



- **Martyrs' Day is observed on January 30 to honor Mahatma Gandhi's death anniversary.**
- **Steve Smith became the 15th cricketer to score 10,000 Test runs.**
- **Dinesh Karthik became India's top T20 wicket-keeper run-scorer, surpassing MS Dhoni.**
- **SEBI launches iSPOT, a centralized portal for MIIIs to report technical glitches.**
- **RBI to buy Rs 60,000 crore worth of government bonds in three phases.**
- **RBI bought Rs 101.75 billion in bonds, increasing expectations of a February rate cut.**
- **Tata Capital offers collateral-free education loans up to Rs 85 lakh.**
- **MobiKwik & CRED are the first fintech firms to launch e₹ wallets in India.**
- **SEBI launched 'Dharohar' on January 26, 2025, as a digital archive of India's securities market.**



QUICK RECALL



- **121 Finance becomes the first lender on GeM Sahay 2.0, enhancing MSME digital lending.**
- **RBI removed the board of Aviom India Housing Finance due to governance and default issues.**
- **BIMTECH has launched BIMCOIN, a blockchain-based digital currency for its ecosystem.**
- **Hisashi Takeuchi re-appointed as MD & CEO of Maruti Suzuki for three years (2025-2028).**
- **Hiroki Totoki appointed as Sony's new CEO, effective April 1, 2025.**
- **DeepSeek, a Chinese AI startup, has overtaken ChatGPT as the top free AI app.**
- **India and China will resume the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra in Summer 2025.**
- **Georgia has officially been certified malaria-free by WHO in January 2025.**



QUICK RECALL



- **India launches ₹100 crore MCGS-MSME scheme to boost MSME credit access.**
- **DoT launched the Sanchar Saathi app and portal to combat spoofed calls and telecom fraud.**
- **DPIIT signed an MoU with Bhaane Group to support manufacturing startups in India.**

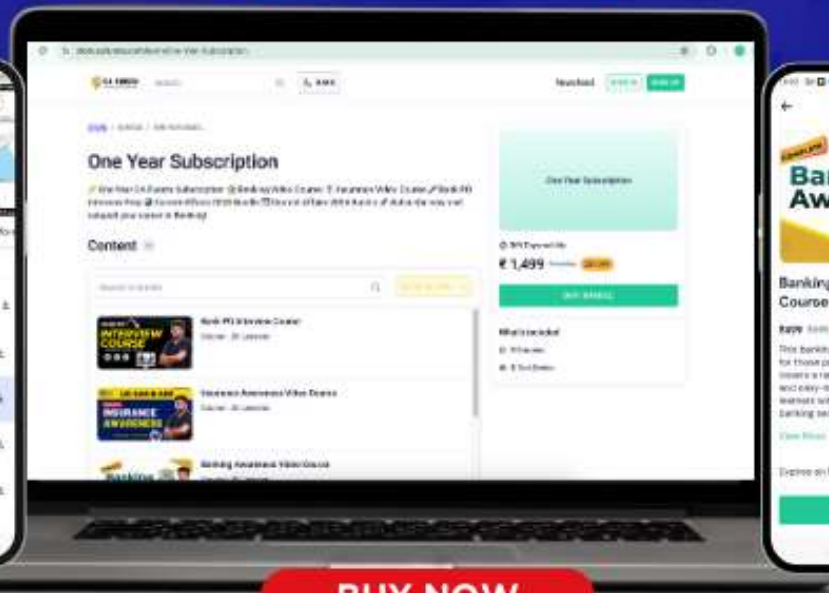


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