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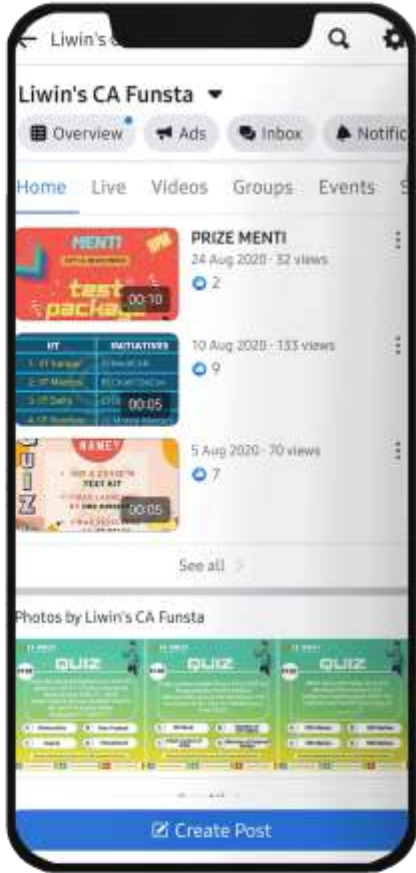
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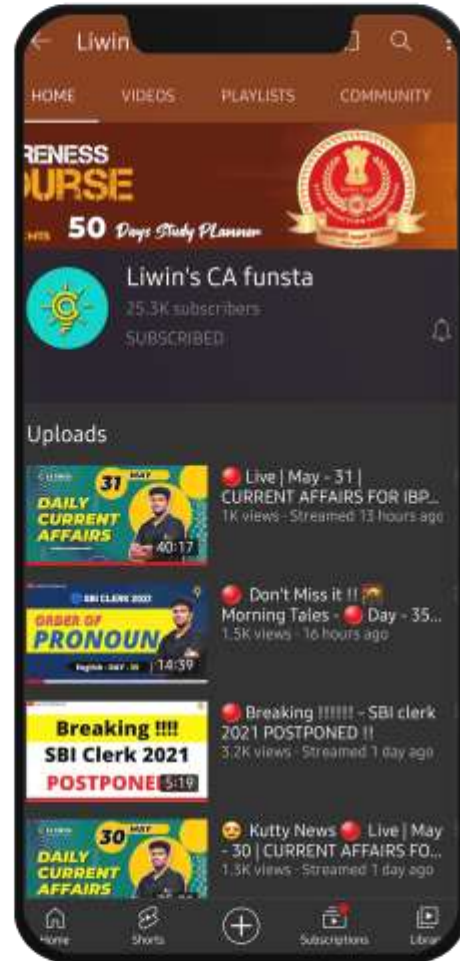
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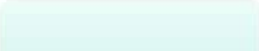
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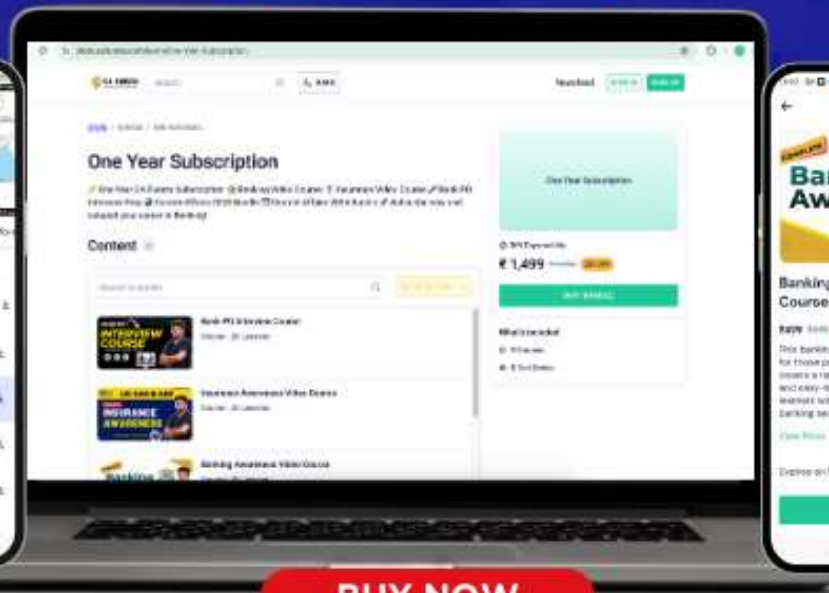


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# Important Days



➤ **What is the theme for International Women's Day 2025?**

- A) Women in Leadership
- B) Gender Equality Now
- C) Accelerate Action
- D) Break the Bias
- E) Empower and Inspire

**Answer**

**C) Accelerate Action**



# Important Days



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** International Women's Day 2025 celebrated globally to honor women's achievements and promote gender equality.
- **Date:** March 8, 2025
- **Location:** Worldwide



# Important Days



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objective:** Recognize women's contributions across different fields, raise awareness about gender equality, and encourage action toward women's rights and empowerment.
- **Theme for 2025:** "Accelerate Action" – Calls for faster progress in improving women's lives, ensuring equal opportunities, and eliminating discrimination.



# Important Days



## Historical Background:

- **Origins (1908):** Around 15,000 women marched in New York City demanding better working conditions and voting rights.
- **First Official Celebration (1911):** Observed in several countries after Clara Zetkin proposed the idea.
- **Recognition by the United Nations (1975):** The UN formally acknowledged International Women's Day, making it a global event.



# Important Days



## Significance of International Women's Day:

- **Celebrates Women's Achievements:** Honors women's success in education, business, politics, and science.
- **Raises Awareness on Gender Equality:** Highlights challenges women face and the need for equal rights.
- **Encourages Action:** Urges governments, organizations, and individuals to take steps for women's empowerment.



# Important Days



## Ways International Women's Day is Celebrated:

- **Seminars & Workshops:** Discussions on women's rights and gender equality.
- **Recognition & Awards:** Honoring inspirational women for their contributions.
- **Social Media Campaigns:** Sharing inspiring messages and success stories.
- **Rallies & Protests:** Advocating for equal rights and opportunities.



# Important Days



## Tabular Summary:

Category	Details
Why in News?	International Women's Day 2025 is observed on March 8 with the theme "Accelerate Action".
Theme for 2025	"Accelerate Action" – Calls for faster efforts toward gender equality and empowerment.
Historical Background	Originated in 1908, first celebrated in 1911, recognized by the UN in 1975.
Significance	Honors women's achievements, raises awareness on gender equality, and encourages action.
Celebration Methods	Workshops, awards, social media campaigns, and protests advocating women's rights.





➤ **Who was the highest wicket-taker in the ICC Champions Trophy 2025?**

- A) Mohammed Shami
- B) Varun Chakaravathy
- C) Matt Henry
- D) Mitchell Santner
- E) Michael Bracewell

**Answer**  
**C) Matt Henry**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** India won the ICC Champions Trophy 2025, securing its third title.
- **Date:** March 9, 2025
- **Location:** Dubai International Cricket Stadium, UAE



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objective:** Recognizing India's historic ICC Champions Trophy win and key player records in the tournament.



## Key Highlights of the ICC Champions Trophy 2025:

- **India's Victory in the Final:**
  - India defeated New Zealand in the final to win its third ICC Champions Trophy.
  - India chased down 252 and finished at 252/6, winning comfortably.
  - Rohit Sharma was named Player of the Match for his 76-run innings.



## Key Highlights of the ICC Champions Trophy 2025:

### India's ICC Champions Trophy Titles:

Year	Winner	Opponent	Result
2002	India & Sri Lanka	Shared title	Rain-affected final
2013	India	England	India won by 5 runs
2025	India	New Zealand	India won by 4 wickets



## Most ICC Final Appearances – Kohli & Rohit's Record:

- **Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma** played their 9th ICC final, surpassing Yuvraj Singh's record of 8 final appearances.
- **Ravindra Jadeja** equaled Yuvraj's record with 8 ICC finals.



## Players with the Most ICC Final Appearances:

Rank	Player	Finals Played
1	Virat Kohli & Rohit Sharma	9
2	Yuvraj Singh & Ravindra Jadeja	8
3	Mahela Jayawardene & Kumar Sangakkara	7
4	Muttiah Muralitharan & Ricky Ponting	6



## Most Runs in ICC Champions Trophy 2025:

Player	Matches	Runs	Average	Strike Rate	Best Score	100s/50s
Rachin Ravindra (NZ)	4	263	68.75	106.47	122	2/0
Shreyas Iyer (IND)	5	243	48.60	79.41	99	0/2
Ben Duckett (ENG)	3	227	75.66	108.61	165	1/0
Joe Root (ENG)	3	225	75.00	96.56	120	1/1
Virat Kohli (IND)	5	218	54.50	82.88	100*	1/1





## Most Wickets in ICC Champions Trophy 2025:

Player	Matches	Wickets	Average	Economy	Best Bowling
Matt Henry (NZ)	4	10	16.70	5.32	5/42
Varun Chakaravathy (IND)	3	9	15.11	4.53	5/42
Mohammed Shami (IND)	5	9	25.88	5.68	5/53
Mitchell Santner (NZ)	5	9	26.33	4.80	3/43
Michael Bracewell (NZ)	5	8	25.12	4.10	4/26



## Tabular Summary:

Category	Details
Why in News?	India won the ICC Champions Trophy 2025, securing its third title.
Final Match Result	India defeated New Zealand by 4 wickets in the final.
Most ICC Final Appearances	Virat Kohli & Rohit Sharma (9 finals), surpassing Yuvraj Singh (8 finals).
Most Runs (Tournament)	Rachin Ravindra (263 runs) was the highest run-scorer.
Most Wickets (Tournament)	Matt Henry (10 wickets) was the highest wicket-taker.
Player of the Match (Final)	Rohit Sharma
Player of the Tournament	Rachin Ravindra (263 runs, 2 centuries)



# RANKING



➤ According to the latest OAG report, which airline has been ranked as the world's second fastest-growing airline in terms of seat capacity in 2024?

- A) Emirates
- B) IndiGo
- C) Qatar Airways
- D) Singapore Airlines
- E) British Airways

**Answer**  
**B) IndiGo**



# RANKING



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** IndiGo ranked as the world's second fastest-growing airline in seat capacity.
- **Date:** March 8, 2025
- **Location:** India



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Seat Capacity Growth:** IndiGo recorded a 10.1% year-on-year growth, reaching 134.9 million seats in 2024. It ranked second after Qatar Airways, which grew by 10.4%.
- **Flight Frequency Growth:** IndiGo secured the top position globally in flight frequency growth with a 9.7% year-on-year increase, operating 749,156 flights in 2024.



## Aircraft Orders and Fleet Expansion:

- **Aircraft Orders:** IndiGo has over 900 aircraft on order, positioning it among the largest airline fleets in the world.
- **Aircraft Deliveries:** IndiGo received 58 new Airbus aircraft in 2024, making it the largest recipient of Airbus deliveries that year.



## Challenges in Fleet Utilization:

- **MRO Supply Chain Issues:** IndiGo is facing supply chain disruptions in Maintenance, Repair, and Overhaul (MRO), leading to 80 aircraft remaining inactive.

## International Expansion Plans:

- **Current International Share:** While 88% of IndiGo's capacity is domestic, the airline is expanding operations in the Middle East and Thailand.
- **Future Long-Haul Strategy:** IndiGo plans to introduce long-haul, low-cost services in 2025 using wet lease aircraft to cater to growing global travel demands.



## Financial Performance (Oct-Dec 2024):

- **Net Profit:** IndiGo reported a net profit of ₹2,449 crore, marking an 18% decline year-on-year.
- **Revenue Growth:** Revenue from operations increased by 14%, reaching ₹22,111 crore.
- **Total Income:** IndiGo's total income rose by 14.6%, reaching ₹22,992.8 crore.
- **Expense Increase:** IndiGo's total expenses increased by 19.9%, reaching ₹20,465.7 crore, impacting its net profitability.





## Operational Performance:

- **EBITDA Growth:** IndiGo's Earnings Before Interest, Tax, Depreciation, and Amortization (EBITDA) saw a 0.7% year-on-year increase, reaching ₹5,178.6 crore.
- **Load Factor:** IndiGo's load factor improved to 86.9%, up from 85.8% in the previous year, reflecting strong passenger demand and seat utilization.



# RANKING



## Tabular Summary:

Category	Details
Why in News?	IndiGo ranked as the second fastest-growing airline in seat capacity and fastest-growing in flight frequency, per the OAG report.
Seat Capacity Growth	10.1% YoY increase, reaching 134.9 million seats in 2024. Ranked second after Qatar Airways (10.4%).
Flight Frequency Growth	9.7% YoY increase, with 749,156 flights in 2024 (highest growth worldwide).
Aircraft Orders & Fleet Expansion	900+ aircraft on order, received 58 new Airbus aircraft in 2024 (highest among airlines globally).
Fleet Challenges	80 aircraft inactive due to MRO supply chain issues.
International Expansion	88% of IndiGo's capacity is domestic, but the airline is expanding in the Middle East and Thailand.



# RANKING



## Tabular Summary:

Category	Details
Future Plans	Plans to launch long-haul, low-cost services in 2025 using wet lease aircraft.
Financial Performance (Oct-Dec 2024)	<b>Net Profit:</b> ₹2,449 crore (18% decline YoY). <b>Revenue from Operations:</b> ₹22,111 crore (14% increase YoY). <b>Total Income:</b> ₹22,992.8 crore (14.6% increase YoY). <b>Total Expenses:</b> ₹20,465.7 crore (19.9% increase YoY). <b>EBITDA:</b> ₹5,178.6 crore (0.7% increase YoY).
Load Factor	86.9% (up from 85.8% in the previous year), indicating high passenger demand.



# RANKING



➤ **Who is the richest woman in India in 2025?**

- A) Rekha Jhunjunwala
- B) Falguni Nayar
- C) Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw
- D) Savitri Jindal
- E) Renuka Jagtiani

**Answer**  
**D) Savitri Jindal**



# RANKING



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Savitri Jindal is named India's richest woman in 2025.
- **Date:** March 8, 2025
- **Location:** India



## India's Richest Woman 2025:

- **Name:** Savitri Jindal
- **Net Worth:** \$34.3 billion
- **Company:** Jindal Group (Steel and Power Industry)
- **Role:** Chairperson Emeritus of O.P. Jindal Group.



## Savitri Jindal's Business and Political Influence:

- **Business Leadership:** Took over the Jindal Group after her husband O.P. Jindal passed away in 2005 and expanded it further.
- **Political Role:** Won the Haryana Vidhan Sabha seat in 2005, re-elected in 2009, and served as Cabinet Minister in 2013.
- **Industry Contribution:** Jindal Group is a leading player in steel, power, and infrastructure industries.



# RANKING



## Top-10 Richest Women in India by 2025:

Rank	Name	Net Worth	Company
1	Savitri Jindal	\$34.3 billion	Jindal Group
2	Rekha Jhunjhunwala	\$8 billion	Titan Company Limited, and others
3	Renuka Jagtiani	\$5.6 billion	Landmark Group
4	Vinod Gupta	\$4.7 billion	Havells
5	Smita Crishna-Godrej	\$3.5 billion	Godrej
6	Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw	\$3.4 billion	Biocon
7	Radha Vembu	\$3.2 billion	Zoho Corporation
8	Anu Aga	\$3.1 billion	Thermax
9	Leena Tewari	\$3.0 billion	USV Pharma
10	Falguni Nayar	\$2.9 billion	Nykaa





# RANKING



➤ **Which country ranked first in The Economist's 2025 Glass-Ceiling Index?**

- A) Sweden
- B) Iceland
- C) Australia
- D) France
- E) Spain

**Answer**  
**D) France**



# RANKING



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** France ranked first in The Economist's 2025 Glass-Ceiling Index for best countries for working women.
- **Date:** March 8, 2025
- **Location:** Global



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objective:** Assess gender equality in workplaces, including women's workforce participation, boardroom representation, leadership roles, and wage equality.
- **Published By:** The Economist
- **Significance:** Highlights global progress and challenges in women's workforce inclusion.



# RANKING



## Key Findings of the 2025 Glass-Ceiling Index: Top 10 Best Countries for Working Women in 2025:

Rank	Country	Region
1	France	Europe
2	Spain	Europe
3	Australia	Oceania
4	Sweden	Europe
5	Portugal	Europe
6	Norway	Europe
7	Finland	Europe
8	Denmark	Europe
9	New Zealand	Oceania
10	Iceland	Europe



# RANKING



## Key Highlights:

- **France** ranked **first** due to progressive workplace policies, strong parental leave regulations, and increased boardroom representation.
- **Spain and Australia** followed closely, showing significant improvements in equal pay and leadership roles.
- **New Zealand** climbed eight places to enter the top five.
- **Nordic nations (Sweden, Norway, Finland, and Denmark)** maintained high rankings due to strong work-life balance policies.



## Significant Shifts in the 2025 Rankings:

- **Sweden Reclaims Top Spot Over Iceland**
  - Sweden surpassed Iceland, securing a top position due to:
    - Comprehensive parental leave policies.
    - High female representation in leadership.
    - Strong workplace anti-discrimination laws.
- **South Korea Shows Improvement**
  - Moved up to 28th place after 11 years of stagnation.
  - Implemented wage gap reduction policies and workforce inclusion reforms.



## Significant Shifts in the 2025 Rankings:

- **Countries at the Bottom:**
  - Turkey ranked lowest, struggling with:
    - Low female management participation (below 17%).
    - Limited female parliamentary representation (less than 20%).
    - Underrepresentation on corporate boards (below 21%).
  - Japan and South Korea continue to face gender inequality in workplaces.



## Significant Shifts in the 2025 Rankings:

- **Global Workforce Trends:**
  - Women's parliamentary representation increased to 34% worldwide.
  - Women on corporate boards reached 33%.
  - Labour-force participation rate for women rose to 66.6% (compared to 81% for men).
  - Countries like Japan and the U.S. saw mixed progress in gender equality.





# RANKING



## Tabular Summary:

Category	Details
Why in News?	France ranked first in The Economist's 2025 Glass-Ceiling Index.
Published By	The Economist
Objective	Analyze gender equality, workplace inclusion, leadership roles, and wage equality.
Top 3 Countries	1. France, 2. Spain, 3. Australia.
Best Performing Region	Europe dominated rankings with seven countries in the top 10.
Countries with Challenges	Japan, Turkey, and South Korea face workplace gender inequality issues.
Global Trends	Women's parliamentary representation (34%), women in corporate boards (33%), workforce participation (66.6%).



➤ **Which company is the largest employer of women in India in 2025?**

- A) Wipro
- B) HDFC Bank
- C) Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)
- D) Infosys
- E) Shahi Exports



**Answer**

**C) Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)**



# RANKING



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) ranked as the largest employer of women in India in 2025.
- **Date:** March 8, 2025
- **Location:** India



# RANKING



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objective:** Recognize companies that employ the highest number of women and promote workplace gender diversity in India.



## Women in the Indian Workforce (2025 Overview):

- Women now hold **17% of board positions** in Indian companies.
- **742 women** appointed as directors across various industries.
- **1.4 million new jobs** were created in India, with an **8.4 million total workforce** in top companies.



# RANKING



## Top-10 Women Employers in India (2025):

Rank	Company	Total Employees	Women Employees (%)	Company Value (Rs. Crore)
1	Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)	2,14,098	34%	₹16,10,800 crore
2	Infosys	1,24,569	37%	₹7,99,400 crore
3	Qess Corp	95,725	17%	₹10,360 crore
4	Wipro	82,595	35%	₹3,18,270 crore
5	Reliance Industries	74,317	21%	₹17,52,650 crore
6	Shahi Exports	70,000	70% (Highest)	₹24,330 crore
7	HCL Technologies	66,268	28%	₹5,18,170 crore
8	HDFC Bank	55,610	26%	₹14,22,570 crore
9	ICICI Bank	43,233	31%	₹9,30,720 crore
10	Samvardhana Motherson Intl.	40,288	36%	₹1,17,370 crore



# RANKING



## Key Highlights:

- **TCS ranked as the No.1 employer for women with 2,14,098 employees (34% women).**
- **Infosys (37%) and Wipro (35%) have a high percentage of women employees.**
- **Shahi Exports has the highest women workforce at 70%.**
- **HDFC Bank & ICICI Bank are among the top financial institutions with women representation.**



# RANKING



## Tabular Summary:

Category	Details
Why in News?	TCS ranked as India's largest women employer in 2025, followed by Infosys & Wipro.
Largest Women Employer	Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) with 2,14,098 employees (34% women).
Highest Women Workforce (%)	Shahi Exports with 70% women employees.
Women in the Workforce	17% of board positions held by women in top Indian companies.
Financial & IT Sectors	HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank, TCS, Infosys, Wipro lead in women employment.
Overall Job Creation	1.4 million new jobs, with 8.4 million total employees in top companies.





- **What is the purpose of IIFL Finance's newly launched 'Shakti' branches?**
- A) To provide business loans exclusively to women
  - B) To offer gold loans and financial literacy programs, focusing on women's empowerment
  - C) To support only rural women entrepreneurs with microfinance loans
  - D) To offer insurance products specifically for women
  - E) To provide free gold loans for women borrowers



**Answer**

**B) To offer gold loans and financial literacy programs, focusing on women's empowerment**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** IIFL Finance launched 7 'Shakti' branches on International Women's Day.
- **Date:** March 8, 2025
- **Location:** National Capital Region (NCR) & Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR), India



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objective:** Enhance women's financial inclusion by providing gold loans, financial literacy programs, and employment opportunities through women-run branches.



## Key Features of the 'Shakti' Branches:

- **Gold-Loan Services:** Open to all borrowers, with special benefits for female entrepreneurs.
- **Women-Only Staffing:** Each branch is fully operated by women employees.
- **Employment Generation:** Each branch provides jobs for up to 40 women professionals.
- **Financial Literacy Programs:** Designed to educate women on financial independence and entrepreneurship.
- **Focus on Women's Empowerment:** Supports female borrowers to achieve economic self-sufficiency.



## Significance of the Initiative:

- Encourages **women's participation in the workforce.**
- Expands **financial access to women entrepreneurs.**
- Aligns with **government initiatives promoting women's economic empowerment.**



## Tabular Summary:

Category	Details
Why in News?	IIFL Finance launched 7 'Shakti' branches on Women's Day to promote financial inclusion and women's empowerment.
Branch Locations	National Capital Region (NCR) & Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR)
Objective	Offer gold loans, financial literacy programs, and special benefits for female entrepreneurs.
Employment Impact	Each branch provides jobs for up to 40 women.
Target Beneficiaries	All borrowers, with a focus on women entrepreneurs.
Financial Literacy Focus	Educating women on financial independence and entrepreneurship.



# APPOINTMENTS



➤ **Who replaced Jay Shah as the BCCI representative on the Asian Cricket Council (ACC) Board?**

- A) Sourav Ganguly
- B) Shammi Silva
- C) Rajeev Shukla
- D) Ashish Shelar
- E) Roger Binny

**Answer**

**C) Rajeev Shukla**



# APPOINTMENTS



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Rajeev Shukla replaces Jay Shah as the BCCI representative on the ACC Board.
- **Date:** December 2024
- **Location:** Asian Cricket Council (ACC)





# APPOINTMENTS



## Jay Shah's Exit from ACC:

- Served three consecutive terms as ACC President.
- Elected unopposed as ICC Chairman in December 2024.
- Officially took charge as ICC Chairman on December 1, 2024.



# APPOINTMENTS



## New Leadership in ACC:

- **Shammi Silva** (Sri Lanka Cricket Board Chief) appointed as ACC President.
- **Rajeev Shukla** appointed as BCCI's Representative on the ACC Board.
- **Ashish Shelar** also given a key role in the ACC.



# APPOINTMENTS



## Rajeev Shukla's Role in ACC:

- Expected to play a significant role in **ACC's decision-making process.**
- Attended the **Champions Trophy semi-final in Lahore** as **BCCI's representative.**



## India-Pakistan Bilateral Cricket Relations:

- **Rajeev Shukla** stated that resuming bilateral cricket depends on the Indian Government's decision.
- **BCCI's stance:** Matches should be played on home soil, not neutral venues.



# APPOINTMENTS



## Upcoming Asia Cup 2025:

- Scheduled for **September 2025** in the UAE.
- To be played in **T20 format**, serving as preparation for the 2026 ICC T20 World Cup.



# APPOINTMENTS



## Tabular Summary:

Category	Details
Why in News?	Rajeev Shukla replaces Jay Shah as the BCCI representative on the ACC Board.
Jay Shah's Role	Stepped down as ACC President; elected ICC Chairman on Dec 1, 2024.
New ACC Leadership	Shammi Silva (President), Rajeev Shukla (BCCI Representative).
Rajeev Shukla's Role	Expected to be influential in ACC's decision-making, attended Champions Trophy in Lahore.
India-Pakistan Series	Decision depends on Indian Government; BCCI prefers matches on home soil.
Asia Cup 2025	T20 format, to be played in UAE in September 2025.



➤ Which of the following countries is NOT participating in the Sea Dragon 2025 naval exercise?

- A) India
- B) Japan
- C) Australia
- D) Canada
- E) South Korea

**Answer**  
**D) Canada**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** The Sea Dragon 2025 naval exercise commenced, focusing on anti-submarine warfare (ASW).
- **Date:** March 4 – March 19, 2025
- **Location:** Guam, Western Pacific Ocean





## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Host Country:** The exercise is hosted by the United States Navy's 7<sup>th</sup> Fleet.
- **Objective:** To enhance tactical coordination, maritime security, and ASW capabilities among allied nations.
- **Key Training Activities:** Submarine tracking, reconnaissance, intelligence sharing, and simulated submarine hunting.



## Participating Countries:

- Indian Navy
- Japan Maritime Self-Defence Force (JMSDF)
- Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF)
- Republic of Korea Navy (ROKN)
- United States Navy



## Indian Navy's Role in Sea Dragon 2025:

- **Aircraft Deployment:** India has deployed the P-8I Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Aircraft, manufactured by Boeing (U.S.), for ASW drills.
- **Training Focus:** Mock ASW drills, submarine detection tactics, and real-time surveillance coordination with allied forces.



## Historical Evolution of the Sea Dragon Exercise:

- **2019:** Started as a bilateral exercise between the U.S. and Australia.
- **2020:** Expanded to include Japan, South Korea, and New Zealand.
- **2021-2023:** Quad nations (India, U.S., Japan, and Australia) joined, along with Canada and South Korea.
- **2024:** Canada was not invited, making it a Quad + South Korea exercise.
- **2025:** India, Japan, Australia, South Korea, and the U.S. are participating.



## Grading System and Dragon Belt Award:

- **Performance Assessment:** Participating nations are graded on their submarine detection and tracking efficiency.
- **Dragon Belt Award:** The nation with the highest points wins the award.
- **Previous Winner:** Japan Maritime Self-Defence Force (JMSDF) has won the Dragon Belt Award since 2022.



## Strategic Importance of Sea Dragon 2025:

- **For India:**
  - Enhances ASW capabilities of the Indian Navy.
  - Strengthens defense ties with Quad nations and South Korea.
  - Prepares for future joint naval operations in the Indo-Pacific region.
- **For the Indo-Pacific Region:**
  - Ensures maritime stability and freedom of navigation.
  - Strengthens deterrence against potential threats.
  - Enhances international defense collaboration.



# DEFENCE



## Tabular Summary:

Category	Details
Why in News?	The Sea Dragon 2025 naval exercise commenced off Guam, Western Pacific Ocean.
Host Country	United States Navy (7th Fleet)
Participating Countries	India, Japan, Australia, South Korea, U.S.
Objective	Strengthen anti-submarine warfare capabilities, enhance maritime security, and improve naval interoperability.
Indian Navy's Role	Deployed P-8I Maritime Patrol Aircraft for submarine tracking and surveillance.
Grading System	Dragon Belt Award for the best submarine detection performance.
Past Winner	Japan Maritime Self-Defence Force (JMSDF) since 2022.
Historical Evolution	Started as U.S.-Australia bilateral exercise in 2019; expanded over the years.
Significance for India	Improves ASW skills, strengthens Quad partnerships, enhances Indo-Pacific security.



# INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



➤ **Which of the following countries is NOT targeted under Trump's reciprocal tariff policy announced in March 2025?**

- A) India
- B) China
- C) Japan
- D) Canada
- E) Brazil

**Answer**  
**C) Japan**





## Event and Location:

- **Event:** U.S. President Donald Trump announced reciprocal tariffs on nations imposing high tariffs on American goods.
- **Date:** March 4, 2025
- **Location:** United States



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Reciprocal Tariff Policy:** The U.S. will impose tariffs equivalent to those levied by other nations on American goods.
- **Targeted Countries:** India, China, the European Union, Brazil, Mexico, and Canada.
- **Objective:** To create a level playing field for American businesses and counter what Trump called "very unfair" trade practices.



## India's Tariff Issues:

- **High Tariffs on U.S. Goods:** Trump criticized India for auto tariffs exceeding 100% and tariffs ranging from 30% to 70% on U.S. goods.
- **Trade Deficit:** The U.S. trade deficit with India stands at \$100 billion.
- **Previous Engagements:** During PM Modi's recent visit, Trump urged reducing India's high tariffs, and both nations agreed to begin trade negotiations.



## New U.S. Tariffs:

- **Tariff on Canada and Mexico:** 25% on imports.
- **Tariff on China:** 10% on imports.
- **Retaliation:** Canada imposed a 25% tariff on U.S. goods, and China announced up to 15% tariffs on U.S. imports.



## Trump's Stance on Trade:

- **Policy Justification:** Trump stated that the U.S. has been “ripped off for decades” and that “whatever they tariff us, we will tariff them back”.
- **Economic Impact:** Claimed the policy will generate “trillions of dollars” and create jobs in the U.S.



## India's Response and Trade Impact:

- **No Official Response Yet:** India's Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal is in Washington for trade discussions.

## U.S.-India Trade in 2024:

- **Total trade:** \$129.2 billion
- **U.S. exports to India:** \$41.8 billion
- **India's exports to the U.S.:** \$87.4 billion



# INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Category	Details
Why in News?	Trump announced reciprocal tariffs on India and other nations.
Effective Date	April 2, 2025
Targeted Countries	India, China, EU, Brazil, Mexico, Canada
Trump's Justification	Unfair trade practices, high tariffs on U.S. goods
India's Tariff Issue	Auto tariffs over 100%, trade barriers on U.S. goods
New U.S. Tariffs	25% on Canada/Mexico, 10% on China
Retaliation	Canada: 25% tariff on U.S. goods, China: Up to 15% tariffs
India-U.S. Trade (2024)	Total trade: \$129.2 billion U.S. exports: \$41.8 billion India's exports: \$87.4 billion
Next Steps	Trade negotiations expected between India and the U.S.



➤ **Where was the Australia-India Sports Excellence Forum 2025 inaugurated?**

- A) Mumbai, Maharashtra
- B) Sydney, Australia
- C) GIFT City, Gujarat
- D) New Delhi, India
- E) Canberra, Australia

**Answer**

**C) GIFT City, Gujarat**





# INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Australia-India Sports Excellence Forum 2025 inaugurated to enhance sports collaboration.
- **Date:** March 6, 2025
- **Location:** GIFT City, Gujarat, India



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objective:** Strengthen sports cooperation between India and Australia by leveraging Australian expertise in sports development and training.
- **Key Focus Areas:** Athlete development, sports science, sports event management, and investment in sports industries.



## Key Attendees:

- **Raksha Khadse** (Minister of State for Sports, India)
- **Philip Green** (Australian High Commissioner to India)
- **Harsh Sanghavi** (Gujarat Sports Minister)
- **Sports Industry Experts and Business Leaders**



## Key Discussion Areas:

- **Talent Development & Sports Science:**
  - Enhancing coaching programs and athlete performance.
  - Implementing Australian sports science and training methodologies.
- **Major Sporting Event Management:**
  - Learning from Australia's experience in hosting events like the Commonwealth Games and Cricket World Cup.
  - Supporting India's bid for the 2036 Olympics.
- **Diversity & Inclusion in Sports:**
  - Promoting women's participation in sports.
  - Ensuring equal opportunities for all athletes.



## Key Discussion Areas:

- **Investment & Trade in Sports Industries:**
  - Encouraging Australian investments in Indian sports infrastructure.
  - Developing India as a hub for sports startups and innovation.
- **India's Olympic Ambition:**
  - **Vision for 2036 Olympics:** India aims to host the 2036 Olympic Games and establish world-class training and coaching facilities with Australian expertise.



## Future Roadmap for Indo-Australian Sports Collaboration:

- Expanding training exchange programs between Indian and Australian athletes.
- Establishing joint sports research centers.
- Encouraging Australian investment in India's sports sector.
- Developing a roadmap for India's Olympic and Paralympic aspirations.



# INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Category	Details
Why in News?	The Australia-India Sports Excellence Forum was inaugurated at GIFT City, Gujarat, on March 6, 2025.
Objective	Enhance sports collaboration by integrating Australian expertise into Indian sports development.
Key Attendees	Raksha Khadse, Philip Green, Harsh Sanghavi, and industry experts.
Key Focus Areas	Talent Development, Sports Science, Event Management, Gender Inclusion, Investment & Trade.
India's Olympic Ambition	India aims to host the 2036 Olympics, with Australian support in training and infrastructure.
Future Roadmap	Athlete exchange programs, joint research centers, Australian investments, Olympic preparation.



➤ Which state has decided to name its upcoming Electronics City after Ratan Tata?

- A) Maharashtra
- B) Tamil Nadu
- C) Assam
- D) Karnataka
- E) Gujarat

**Answer**  
**C) Assam**





## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Assam government names Electronics City in Jagiroad as Ratan Tata Electronic City.
- **Date:** March 8, 2025
- **Location:** Jagiroad, Assam



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Recognition of Ratan Tata:** Assam government honored Ratan Tata for his contributions to industrial and economic development in the state.
- **Government Announcement:** Assam State Cabinet officially approved the renaming decision.



## Tata Group's Investment in Assam:

- **Semiconductor Industry Vision:** In March 2024, Ratan Tata outlined a plan to make Assam a semiconductor hub.
- **Investment Amount:** ₹27,000 crore to establish India's first indigenous semiconductor assembly and test facility in Assam.
- **Chip Production:** The plant will produce 48 million chips per day.
- **Job Creation:** Expected to generate 30,000 jobs in the semiconductor sector and 30,000 jobs in mobile technology manufacturing.



## Tata Group's Presence in Assam:

- **Employment:** Over 55,000 people are employed by Tata Group in Assam.
- **Healthcare Projects:** Tata Trusts partnered with the Assam government to build 17 cancer hospitals.
- **Tea Industry Contribution:** Tata Consumer Company operates 21 assets and 20 manufacturing & packaging units in Assam.



## Economic and Industrial Impact:

- **Global Investments:** The project will attract global companies and top talent to Assam.
- **Urban Development:** Enhances Assam's infrastructure and mobile technology sector.
- **Strengthening Semiconductor Industry:** Positions Assam as a key player in the global semiconductor and electronics supply chain.



## Government's Acknowledgment:

- **Official Announcement:** Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma made the renaming decision official.
- **Union Minister's Endorsement:** The Union Minister for Railways, Electronics & IT reaffirmed Assam's role in India's semiconductor ecosystem.



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Category	Details
Why in News?	Assam names Electronics City in Jagiroad after Ratan Tata.
Project Name	Ratan Tata Electronic City, Jagiroad
Location	Jagiroad, Assam
Announced By	Assam State Cabinet
Reason for Naming	Recognition of Ratan Tata's contributions to Assam's industrial development.
Tata Electronics Investment	₹27,000 crore for semiconductor assembly and test facility.
Chip Production Capacity	48 million chips per day.
Job Creation	30,000 jobs in the semiconductor sector + 30,000 jobs in mobile technology manufacturing.
Tata's Presence in Assam	55,000+ employees, 17 cancer hospitals, 21 assets in the tea industry.
Economic Impact	Attracts global investors, strengthens India's semiconductor sector, boosts employment.
Government's Vision	Establish Assam as a leading hub for electronics and semiconductor manufacturing.



➤ **What will be the new name of Bangalore City University?**

- A) Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Bengaluru University
- B) Dr. Manmohan Singh Bengaluru University
- C) Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Bengaluru University
- D) Jawaharlal Nehru Bengaluru University
- E) Visvesvaraya Bengaluru University



**Answer**

**B) Dr. Manmohan Singh Bengaluru University**





## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Bangalore City University will be renamed as Dr. Manmohan Singh Bengaluru University.
- **Date:** March 8, 2025
- **Location:** Bengaluru, Karnataka, India



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objective:** Honor former PM Dr. Manmohan Singh and develop the university into a model higher education institution.
- **Government's Vision:** Integrate Government Arts College and Government RC College as constituent institutions.



## Higher Education Reforms in Karnataka:

- **University Renaming & Expansion:**
  - Bangalore City University to be renamed Dr. Manmohan Singh Bengaluru University.
  - Government Arts College and Government RC College will be integrated into the university.
- **Recruitment & Faculty Development:**
  - 2,000 vacant teaching posts in first-grade colleges and engineering polytechnics will be filled.
  - Professors of Practice to be appointed in 16 government engineering colleges to enhance practical learning.



## Higher Education Reforms in Karnataka:

- **Infrastructure Development:**
  - ₹275 crore allocated to upgrade infrastructure in government polytechnics and degree colleges.
  - ₹10 crore to provide furniture, equipment, computers, and books for newly established polytechnics and engineering colleges.
- **Expansion of Technical Education:**
  - ₹150 crore allocated for a Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU) constituent college in Chintamani, Chikkaballapur.
  - Mysuru University to establish a Prof. Nanjundaswamy Research Chair.



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Category	Details
Why in News?	Bangalore City University to be renamed as Dr. Manmohan Singh Bengaluru University.
Constituent Colleges	Government Arts College & Government RC College to be integrated.
Faculty Recruitment	2,000 vacant teaching posts to be filled in first-grade colleges & polytechnics.
Professors of Practice	Appointed in 16 engineering colleges to enhance practical knowledge.
Infrastructure Development	₹275 crore allocated for upgrading government colleges & polytechnics.
Technical Education Expansion	₹150 crore for a VTU constituent college in Chintamani, Chikkaballapur.
Mysuru University Initiative	Prof. Nanjundaswamy Research Chair to be established.



➤ **Which state has introduced the RISE app to digitally monitor and enhance its routine child vaccination program?**

- A) Maharashtra
- B) Uttar Pradesh
- C) Karnataka
- D) Rajasthan
- E) West Bengal

**Answer**

**B) Uttar Pradesh**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Uttar Pradesh adopts digital monitoring for routine child vaccination through the RISE app.
- **Date:** March 8, 2025
- **Location:** Uttar Pradesh, India



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objective:** Enhance immunization coverage by digitalizing the vaccination process.
- **Key Aims:** Provide real-time updates on vaccination schedules, vaccine safety protocols, cold chain management, and adverse effect monitoring.
- **Target:** Track and counsel families reluctant to vaccinate their children and ensure timely interventions.





## Training and Implementation:

- **Pilot and Rollout:** Initially piloted in 181 districts across India; now implemented in all 75 districts of Uttar Pradesh.
- **Training Status:** District-level training completed and block-level training underway.
- **Beneficiaries:** Approximately 52,175 vaccinators will be trained to use the app effectively.



## Key Features of the RISE App:

- **Real-Time Monitoring:** Provides instant updates on vaccination sessions and immunization guidelines.
- **Digital Training:** Equips staff nurses, ANMs, and health workers with the latest immunization protocols.
- **Vaccine Safety:** Offers guidance on cold chain management to maintain vaccine efficacy.



## Challenges and Future Prospects:

- **Digital Literacy:** Some healthcare workers may need additional training to use the digital platform effectively.
- **Technical Infrastructure:** Internet connectivity issues in remote areas may affect real-time updates.
- **Future Expansion:** Plans to integrate additional healthcare initiatives and enhance the app's functionality.



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Category	Details
Why in News?	Uttar Pradesh launches the RISE app for digital monitoring of child vaccination.
What is the RISE App?	A digital platform for training and real-time monitoring of immunization programs.
Objectives of the App	Improve vaccination coverage, ensure vaccine safety, track vaccine-hesitant families, and reduce training delays.
Implementation	Pilot in 181 districts; now active in all 75 districts of Uttar Pradesh.
Training	District-level training completed; block-level training underway; benefits 52,175 vaccinators.
Key Features	Real-time updates, vaccination schedule tracking, vaccine safety protocols, cold chain management.
Challenges	Digital literacy among healthcare workers and connectivity issues in remote areas.



➤ **What is the primary purpose of the IndiaAI Compute Portal launched under the IndiaAI Mission?**

- A) To provide cloud storage for personal data
- B) To offer affordable high-performance AI computing resources
- C) To regulate AI-based social media platforms
- D) To train government officials on cybersecurity
- E) To monitor AI ethics and regulations



**Answer**

**B) To offer affordable high-performance AI computing resources**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Union IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw launched the IndiaAI Compute Portal and AIKosha Dataset Platform under the IndiaAI Mission.
- **Date:** March 8, 2025
- **Location:** India



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objective:** Enhance AI accessibility, innovation, and research capabilities in India.
- **Key Initiatives:** IndiaAI Compute Portal, AIKosha Dataset Platform, AI Competency Framework, and AI Fellowship Programme.
- **Strategic Vision:** Develop India's own foundational AI model at a lower cost.



## IndiaAI Compute Portal:

- **Purpose:** Provides access to 18,000+ GPUs, cloud storage, and AI-related services.
- **Target Beneficiaries:** Students, startups, researchers, academia, and government departments.
- **Cost Efficiency:** GPU usage expected to cost less than ₹100 per hour, making AI computing more affordable.
- **Global AI Competition:** India aims to develop its own GPUs within 3-4 years to compete globally.





## AIKosha Dataset Platform:

- **Objective:** A centralized dataset repository for AI innovation.
- **Features:** Provides high-quality, non-personal datasets for AI training and model development.
- **Users:** AI startups, academia, researchers, and government bodies.
- **Impact:** Enables India-specific AI models and promotes data-driven AI research.



## India's Foundational AI Model Development:

- **Definition:** A large-scale AI model trained on vast datasets, similar to ChatGPT, Gemini, and Llama.
- **Applications:** Supports AI-driven healthcare, governance, education, and agriculture solutions.
- **Progress:** 67 applications received for AI model development under the initiative.



## Additional Initiatives Under IndiaAI Mission:

- **AI Competency Framework:** Trains public sector officials to integrate AI into governance.
- **India AI Startups Global Acceleration Programme:** Supports AI startups in scaling operations globally.
- **India AI Fellowship Programme:** Encourages AI research and recognized 30 AI applications for innovation.



## Budget and Implementation:

- **Financial Allocation:** ₹10,371.92 crore, approved by the Union Cabinet in March 2023.
- **Implementing Body:** IndiaAI Independent Business Division (IBD) under Digital India Corporation (DIC).
- **Public-Private Collaboration:** Strengthens AI research, infrastructure, and enterprise adoption.



## Strategic Importance of the Mission:

- **Boosts AI research and development** to position India as a global AI hub.
- **Provides affordable AI computing** resources to startups and researchers.
- **Encourages AI-driven solutions** in key sectors such as healthcare, agriculture, and governance.
- **Develops India's AI capabilities** to compete with global technology leaders.



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Category	Details
Why in News?	Union IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw launched the IndiaAI Compute Portal and AIKosha Dataset Platform under the IndiaAI Mission.
IndiaAI Compute Portal	Provides 18,000+ GPUs, cloud storage, and AI services at affordable costs.
AIKosha Dataset Platform	Centralized platform offering high-quality, non-personal datasets for AI training and model development.
India's Own Foundational AI Model	67 applications received for AI model development. The goal is to develop India's AI model at a low cost.
Additional Initiatives	AI Competency Framework for public officials, AI Startups Global Acceleration Programme, India AI Fellowship Programme.
Budget & Implementation	₹10,371.92 crore, led by IndiaAI Independent Business Division (IBD) under Digital India Corporation (DIC).
Strategic Importance	Strengthens AI research, boosts AI infrastructure, promotes AI-driven solutions across multiple sectors.



➤ **What is the primary objective of Punjab's 'Project Hifazat'?**

- A) To promote women's entrepreneurship
- B) To provide immediate assistance to women and children facing violence
- C) To improve school education for girls
- D) To offer free legal aid to all citizens
- E) To increase job opportunities for women



**Answer**

**B) To provide immediate assistance to women and children facing violence**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Punjab government launched 'Project Hifazat' to enhance women and child safety.
- **Date:** March 7, 2025
- **Location:** Punjab, India





## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objective:** Ensure immediate support for women and children facing violence and abuse through a 24×7 helpline, rescue operations, and interdepartmental coordination.
- **Target Beneficiaries:** Women and children affected by domestic violence, harassment, and abuse.



## Key Features of 'Project Hifazat'

- **24×7 Women and Child Helplines:**
  - **Women Helpline (181):** For cases of domestic violence, harassment, and abuse.
  - **Child Helpline (1098):** To assist children facing violence, exploitation, and neglect.
  - **Emergency Response:** Cases requiring immediate police action will be transferred to ERSS-112.



## Key Features of 'Project Hifazat'

- **Multi-Departmental Coordination:**
  - **Punjab Police:** Law enforcement and rescue operations.
  - **Social Security, Women & Child Development Department:** Rehabilitation and financial assistance.
  - **Health & Family Welfare Department:** Medical aid and psychological counseling.
  - **Legal Aid Authorities:** Support in filing cases and obtaining protection orders.



## Key Features of 'Project Hifazat'

- **Deployment of Rescue Vehicles:**
  - Dedicated vehicles in every district for emergency medical aid and transport to shelters.
  - Trained personnel to assist victims on-site.



## Key Features of 'Project Hifazat'

- **Monitoring & Supervision:**
  - **State-Level Control Room (Chandigarh):** Tracks distress calls and case resolutions.
  - **Deputy Commissioners (DCs):** Oversee implementation.
  - **District Program Officers (DPOs):** Coordinate ground-level responses.



## Key Features of 'Project Hifazat'

- **Government's Vision:**
  - Encourage reporting of crimes against women and children.
  - Provide legal, medical, and psychological support without delays.
  - Strengthen police response through interdepartmental coordination.
  - Create a safer environment for women and children in Punjab.



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Category	Details
Why in News?	Punjab launched 'Project Hifazat' on March 7, 2025, to enhance women and child safety.
Objective	Provide 24x7 helpline support, emergency response, and interdepartmental coordination for victims.
Helpline Numbers	181 (Women Helpline), 1098 (Child Helpline)
Emergency Response	ERSS-112 for immediate police intervention.
Key Departments Involved	Punjab Police, Social Security Department, Health & Family Welfare, Legal Aid Authorities.
Rescue Vehicles	Deployed in every district for on-ground support and medical assistance.
Monitoring System	State control room in Chandigarh, supervised by Deputy Commissioners (DCs) and District Program Officers (DPOs).
Government's Vision	Encourage reporting of crimes, ensure fast-track legal and medical aid, and create a safer Punjab.



➤ **What is the primary objective of the MoU signed between DPIIT and Mercedes-Benz India?**

- A) To promote electric vehicles in India
- B) To enhance manufacturing, road safety, and sustainability
- C) To establish new Mercedes-Benz factories in India
- D) To provide financial aid to automobile companies
- E) To develop a new transport infrastructure policy



**Answer**

**B) To enhance manufacturing, road safety, and sustainability**





## Event and Location:

- **Event:** DPIIT and Mercedes-Benz India signed an MoU to enhance manufacturing, road safety, and sustainability.
- **Date:** March 8, 2025
- **Location:** India



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objective:** Foster technological advancements and sustainability in India's automotive sector while supporting startups and industry-academia collaborations.



## Key Highlights of the MoU:

- **Focus Areas:**
  - Strengthening manufacturing capabilities in India.
  - Promoting road safety initiatives through technology and innovation.
  - Advancing sustainability by supporting green automotive solutions.
  - Enhancing industry-academia partnerships for impactful research and innovations.
  - Facilitating international collaborations and knowledge exchange.



## Key Highlights of the MoU:

- **Role of DPIIT:**
  - Providing a structured framework to support startups in manufacturing, sustainability, and road safety.
  - Offering mentorship, funding, and market linkages to emerging businesses.
  - Encouraging global partnerships to accelerate technological advancements in the automotive sector.



## Key Highlights of the MoU:

- **Role of Mercedes-Benz India:**
  - Leveraging expertise in automotive innovation to support Indian startups.
  - Engaging in CSR initiatives to drive social impact.
  - Collaborating with incubators and research institutions to develop advanced manufacturing solutions.



## Expected Impact:

- Strengthening India's automotive and manufacturing sectors.
- Boosting innovation in road safety and sustainability.
- Providing support to startups to help them scale and develop cutting-edge solutions.



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Category	Details
Why in News?	DPIIT and Mercedes-Benz India signed an MoU to boost manufacturing, road safety, and sustainability.
Objective	Enhance manufacturing capabilities, road safety measures, and sustainable innovations.
Support for Startups	Infrastructure, mentorship, funding, and market linkages.
International Collaboration	Facilitating knowledge exchange and global partnerships.
DPIIT's Role	Supporting startups, industry-academia linkages, and funding opportunities.
Mercedes-Benz's Role	CSR initiatives, incubator support, and advanced manufacturing solutions.
Key Officials' Statements	DPIIT: Strengthening manufacturing and innovation.



# QUICK RECALL



- **International Women's Day 2025 will be celebrated globally on March 8.**
- **India won the ICC Champions Trophy 2025, its third title after 2002 and 2013.**
- **IndiGo ranked as the world's second fastest-growing airline in seat capacity.**
- **Savitri Jindal is the richest woman in India with a net worth of \$34.3 billion.**
- **France ranked first in The Economist's 2025 Glass-Ceiling Index for working women.**
- **TCS is the largest employer of women in India, with 2,14,098 employees (34% women).**
- **IIFL Finance launched 7 'Shakti' branches run entirely by women in NCR and MMR.**
- **Rajeev Shukla replaced Jay Shah as BCCI's representative on the ACC Board.**
- **The Sea Dragon 2025 naval exercise is hosted by the U.S. Navy's 7th Fleet.**





# QUICK RECALL



- **Trump announced reciprocal tariffs on nations imposing high duties on American goods.**
- **The Australia-India Sports Excellence Forum was inaugurated at GIFT City, Gujarat.**
- **Assam named its upcoming Electronics City as Ratan Tata Electronic City.**
- **Bangalore City University will be renamed as Dr. Manmohan Singh Bengaluru University.**
- **Uttar Pradesh adopted the RISE app for digital monitoring of routine child vaccination.**
- **India launched the IndiaAI Compute Portal and AIKosha Dataset Platform under the IndiaAI Mission.**
- **Punjab launched 'Project Hifazat' to enhance women and child safety.**
- **DPIIT and Mercedes-Benz India signed an MoU to enhance manufacturing, road safety, and sustainability.**



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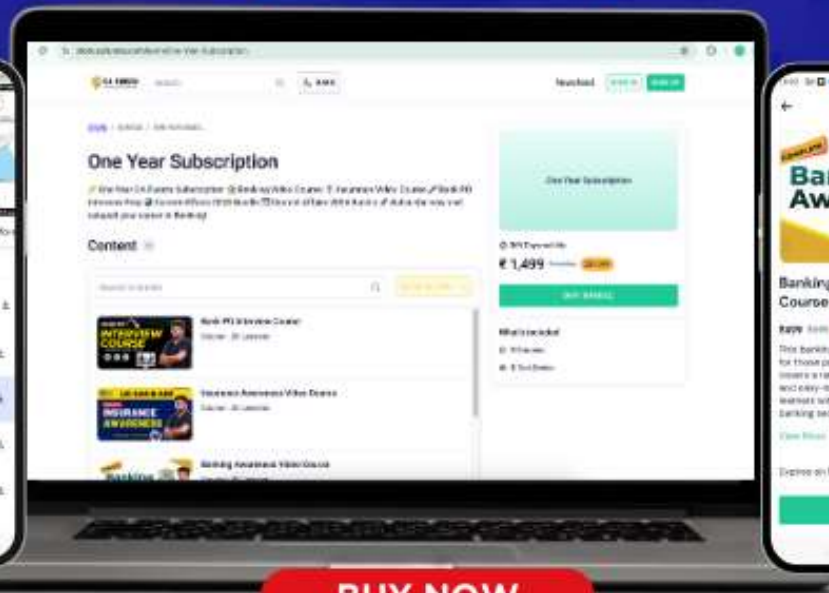
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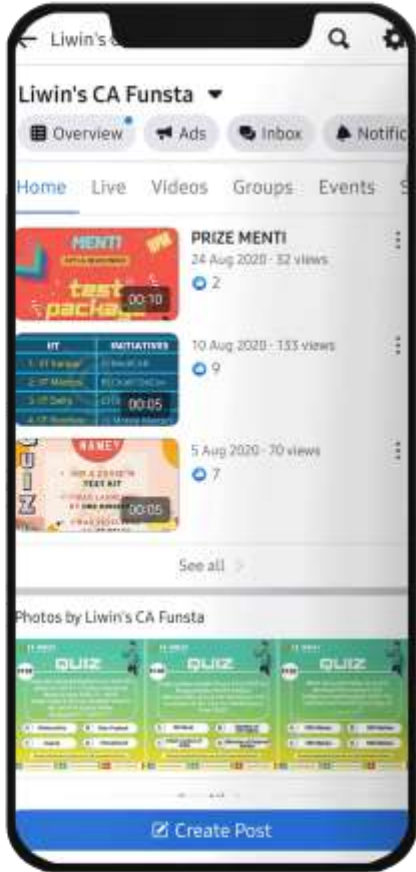
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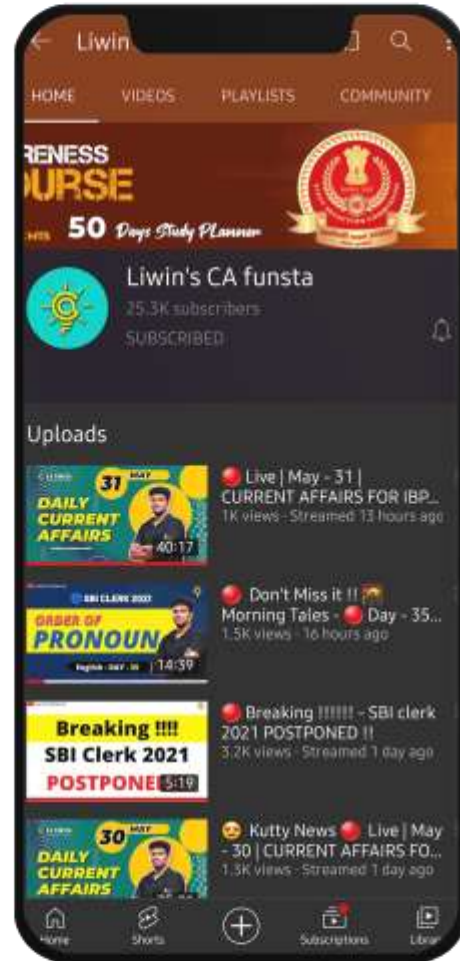


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