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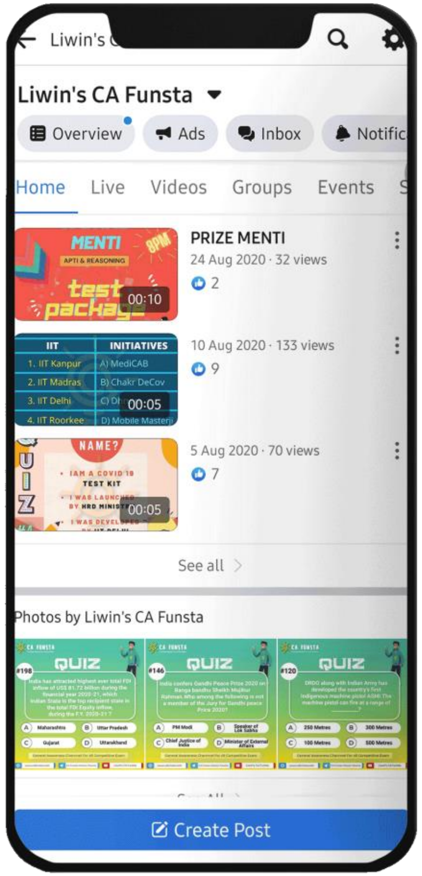

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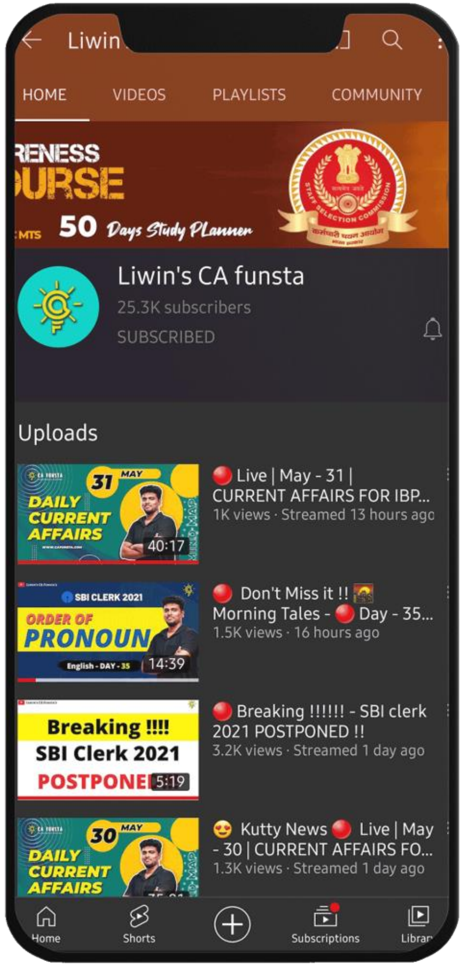

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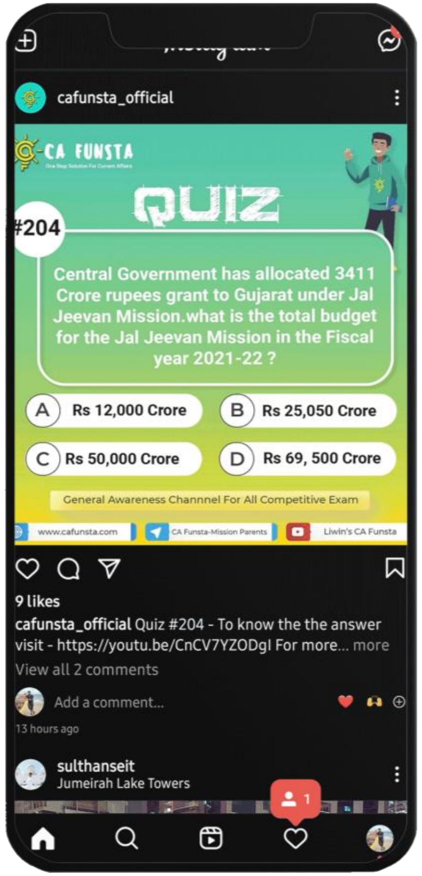

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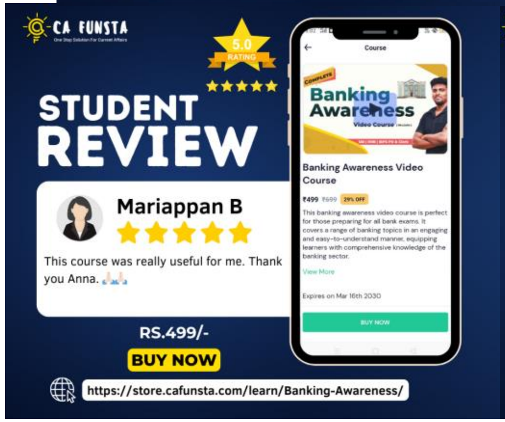
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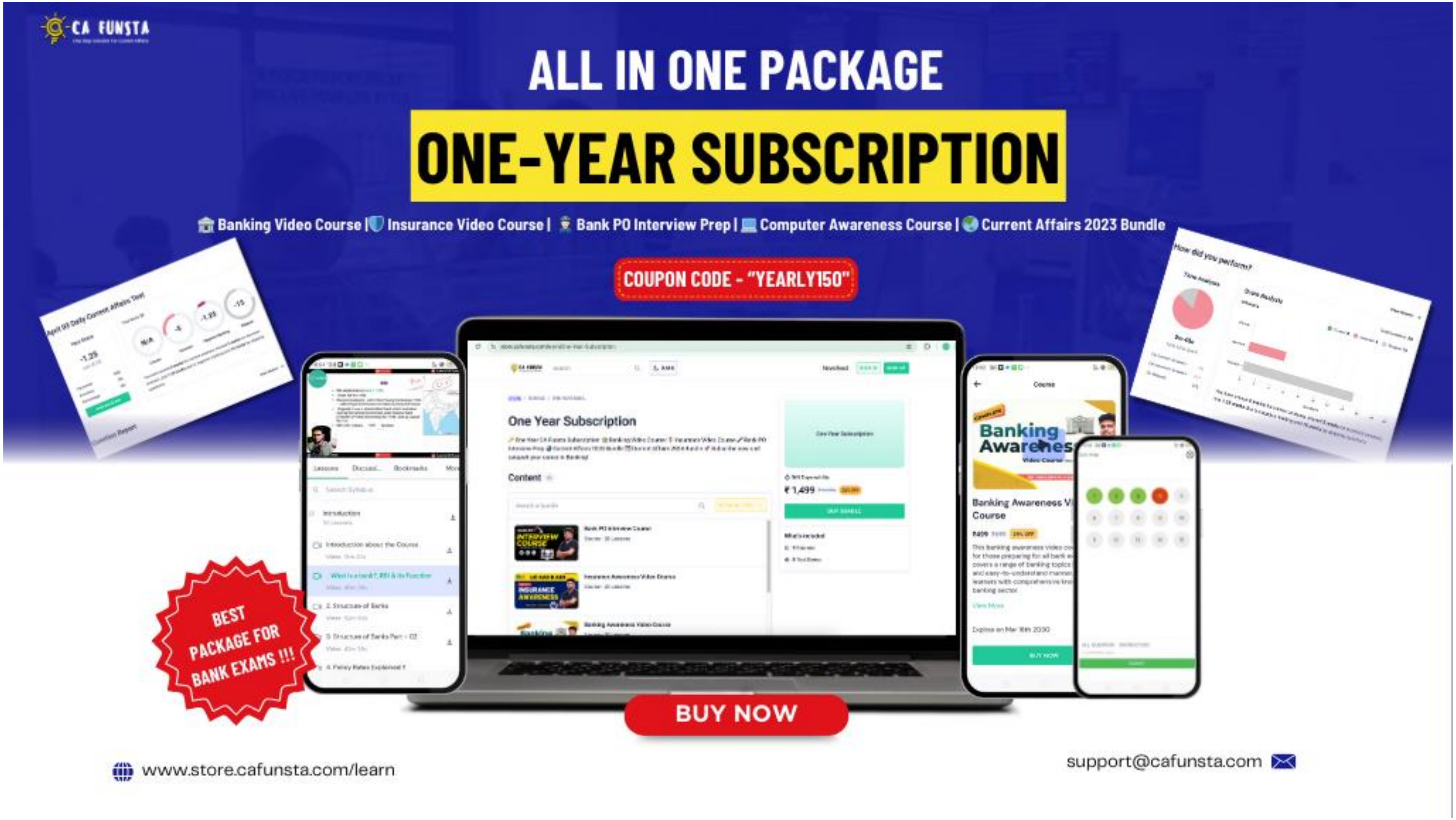

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- **What is the main agenda of the GST Council's two-day meeting scheduled for September 3–4, 2025?**

A) Introducing a new GST for e-commerce platforms
B) Launching a unified digital invoicing portal
C) Discussing the shift to a two-slab GST structure
D) Increasing GST rates across all slabs
E) Removing GST on petroleum products

Answer

C) Discussing the shift to a two-slab GST structure

Event and Location:

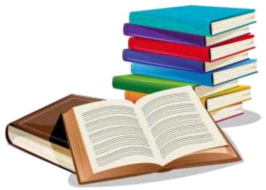
- **Event:** GST Council to conduct a two-day meeting to discuss key tax reforms
- **Location:** New Delhi, India
- **Date:** September 3–4, 2025 (upcoming meeting)

Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** GST Council, headed by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, will deliberate on recommendations from three Groups of Ministers (GoMs) concerning GST rate rationalisation, compensation cess, and taxation on health and life insurance
- **Objectives:** Transition from the current four-slab GST structure to a simplified two-slab structure, ensuring tax efficiency, compliance ease, and better categorization of goods as 'merit' or 'standard'

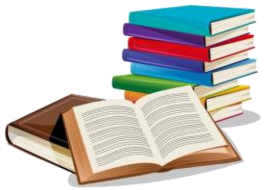
Important Terms Explained:

- **GST Council:** A constitutional body chaired by the Union Finance Minister and comprising state finance ministers, responsible for making recommendations on all matters related to GST.
- **Group of Ministers (GoMs):** A committee of state ministers formed to examine specific GST-related issues and submit reports or recommendations to the GST Council.
- **GST Rate Rationalisation:** A reform process to simplify the existing GST structure by reducing the number of tax slabs and addressing anomalies to improve efficiency and revenue neutrality.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Merit Goods:** Essential goods and services proposed to be taxed at a concessional 5% rate under the new GST regime due to their public benefit.
- **Sin Goods:** Items like tobacco, alcohol, or luxury products proposed to attract higher taxes (up to 40%) due to their negative social or environmental impact.



Tabular Summary:

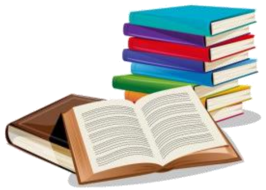
Parameter	Details
Event name	GST Council 2-Day Meeting on Tax Reforms
Announcement date	August 23, 2025
Location	New Delhi
Issuing authority	GST Council Secretariat
Policy/series name	GST Rate Rationalisation and Two-Slab Proposal
Key figures	Nirmala Sitharaman, State Finance Ministers
Purpose/reason	Discuss transition from 4-slab to 2-slab GST structure
Feature details	Proposal: 5% for merit goods, 18% standard rate, 40% for ultra-luxury/sin goods
Validity or status	Meeting scheduled for September 3–4, 2025
Strategic/significant value	Aims to simplify GST regime, reduce tax ambiguity, and boost compliance

- **What are the revised interest rates announced by Bank of Baroda in August 2025 for car loans and loans against property (LAP)?**

A) 7.15% for car loans and 8.15% for LAP
B) 8.15% for car loans and 9.15% for LAP
C) 8.65% for car loans and 10.15% for LAP
D) 9.15% for car loans and 8.15% for LAP
E) 7.75% for car loans and 9.65% for LAP

Answer

B) 8.15% for car loans and 9.15% for LAP

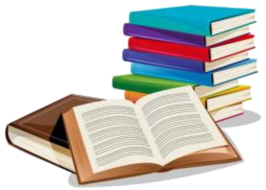


Event and Location:

- **Event:** Bank of Baroda reduces car loan and LAP interest rates ahead of festive season
- **Location:** Pan-India (**Headquarters**: Mumbai)
- **Date:** August 28, 2025

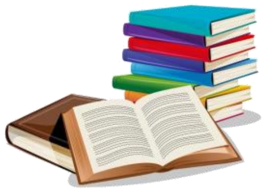
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** Interest rate cuts of 25 bps on car loans and 60 bps on Loan Against Property (LAP) under Baroda Mortgage Loan scheme, effective immediately
- **Objectives:** Encourage borrowing during the festive season, support auto and property-linked credit demand, and make car ownership and fund-raising against property more affordable



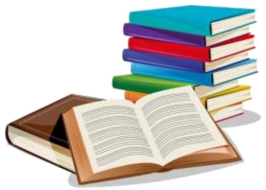
Important Terms Explained:

- **Loan Against Property (LAP):** A secured loan where borrowers mortgage their residential or commercial property to avail funds, typically used for business expansion, education, or emergencies.
- **Basis Points (bps):** A unit of measurement equal to 1/100th of a percent (0.01%). Used to denote changes in interest rates or yields.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Marginal Cost of Funds-based Lending Rate (MCLR):** A benchmark lending rate set by banks, reflecting the cost of funds. Car loans can be linked to six-month MCLR for fixed-rate offers.
- **CIBIL Score:** A three-digit credit score used to assess a borrower's creditworthiness. Better scores lead to better loan terms.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	BoB reduces interest rates on car loans and LAP
Announcement date	August 28, 2025
Location	India (Head Office: Mumbai)
Issuing authority	Bank of Baroda
Policy/series name	Festive Season Loan Rate Offer
Key figures	Sanjay Mudaliar (Executive Director, BoB), Debadatta Chand (MD & CEO)
Purpose/reason	Boost festive season credit demand and affordability
Feature details	Car loan reduced from 8.40% to 8.15%; LAP reduced from 9.85% to 9.15%
Validity or status	Effective immediately
Strategic/significant value	Helps borrowers access cheaper auto and mortgage-linked loans during peak buying period

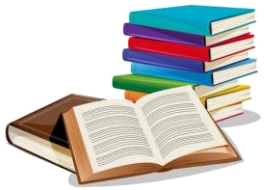
BANKING AND FINANCE

➢ **Which two organizations jointly launched India’s first EMI-driven credit card in August 2025?**

A) Paytm and ICICI Bank
B) BharatPe and HDFC Bank
C) Unity Bank and BharatPe
D) PhonePe and Axis Bank
E) Slice and SBM Bank

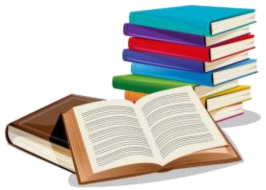
Answer

C) Unity Bank and BharatPe



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Launch of India’s first EMI-driven credit card by Unity Bank and BharatPe
- **Location:** New Delhi, India
- **Date:** August 28, 2025

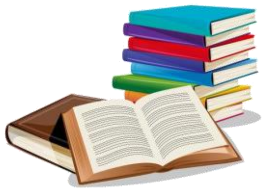


Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** Unity Small Finance Bank and BharatPe jointly launched the Unity Bank BharatPe Credit Card, the first EMI-driven credit card in India
- **Objectives:** Simplify credit access, provide zero-fee flexible EMI options, link RuPay Credit Card to UPI, and offer flat 2% rewards on EMI transactions across merchant categories

Important Terms Explained:

- **EMI-driven Credit Card:** A credit card that automatically converts eligible purchases into EMIs, allowing cardholders to manage big-ticket expenses without high revolving credit charges.
- **RuPay Network:** A domestic card payment network launched by NPCI, now widely accepted and capable of being linked to UPI for seamless digital transactions.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Zillion Coins:** The reward currency offered on the card; earned at a flat 2% rate on every EMI-converted spend, redeemable for vouchers, products, or bill payments via the BharatPe app.
- **Zero-Fee Structure:** The card comes with no joining fees, no annual charges, no processing fees, and no foreclosure penalties, making it a true lifetime free card.

Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	Launch of Unity Bank BharatPe Credit Card – India's first EMI-driven card
Announcement date	August 28, 2025
Location	New Delhi
Issuing authority	Unity Small Finance Bank and BharatPe
Policy/series name	Unity Bank BharatPe Credit Card (RuPay)
Key figures	Kohinoor Biswas (BharatPe), Aditya Harkauli (Unity Bank)
Purpose/reason	Offer transparent, flexible credit solutions with digital integration
Feature details	Zero-fee, linked to UPI, 2% flat rewards on EMI spends, lounge & health perks
Validity or status	Active and available for application via BharatPe
Strategic/significant value	Promotes credit inclusion, digital payments, and responsible credit behaviour

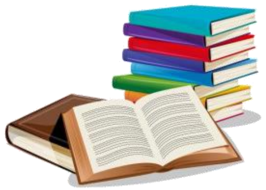
BUSINESS AND ECONOMY

- **In which two Tamil Nadu districts has Amazon recently opened new fulfilment centres in August 2025?**

A) Coimbatore and Erode
B) Chennai and Salem
C) Tiruvallur and Krishnagiri
D) Madurai and Trichy
E) Vellore and Tirunelveli

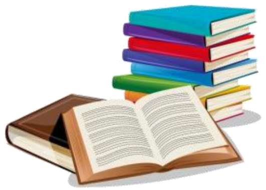
Answer

C) Tiruvallur and Krishnagiri



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Amazon India expands its fulfilment network with new centres in Tamil Nadu
- **Location:** Tiruvallur and Krishnagiri, Tamil Nadu
- **Date:** August 28, 2025

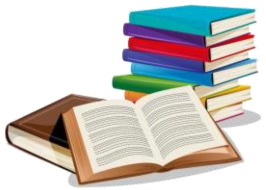


Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** Launch of two new fulfilment centres (FCs) in Tamil Nadu as part of Amazon's broader festive-season expansion strategy
- **Objectives:** Strengthen last-mile delivery, cater to increasing demand during festivals, support Amazon Fresh operations, and meet rising customer needs from tier-2 cities and rural areas

Important Terms Explained:

- **Fulfilment Centre (FC):** A large warehouse where products are stored, packed, and shipped directly to customers or delivery partners as part of an e-commerce logistics chain.
- **Sort Centre:** A logistics hub where packages are sorted by pin code or delivery route to ensure efficient and accurate distribution.

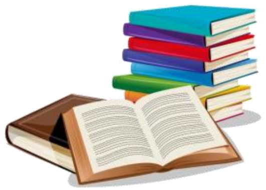


Important Terms Explained:

- **I Have Space Partner:** A last-mile delivery initiative by Amazon India that engages local small businesses and kirana stores to hold and deliver packages within their communities.
- **Amazon Fresh:** Amazon's dedicated grocery and fresh produce delivery service in India, offering fruits, vegetables, dairy, and other essentials with rapid delivery options.

Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	Amazon launches two new fulfilment centres in Tamil Nadu
Announcement date	August 28, 2025
Location	Tiruvallur and Krishnagiri, Tamil Nadu
Issuing authority	Amazon India
Policy/series name	Festive Season Fulfilment Network Expansion
Key figures	Srikant Sree Ram (Director, Amazon Fresh – India)
Purpose/reason	Handle festive demand, improve supply chain efficiency
Feature details	TN network: 4 FCs, 4 sort centres, 150+ delivery stations, 1,500 IHS partners
Validity or status	Active; centres now operational
Strategic/significant value	Boosts rural and urban delivery; supports Amazon Fresh and premium grocery demand



- **From which date will BSE implement pre-open trading for the derivatives segment?**

A) October 6, 2025
B) November 1, 2025
C) December 8, 2025
D) January 1, 2026
E) September 30, 2025

Answer

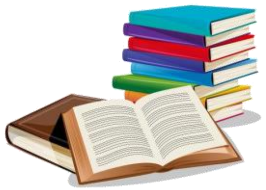
C) December 8, 2025

Event and Location:

- **Event:** BSE to introduce pre-open session in index and stock futures and options
- **Location:** Mumbai, India (BSE Headquarters)
- **Date:** Effective from December 8, 2025

Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** Following SEBI's directive, the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) will implement a pre-open trading session in the derivatives market, already in use in equity markets
- **Objectives:** Improve price discovery, manage volatility, and absorb overnight or price-sensitive news before the commencement of regular trading in futures and options (F&O)



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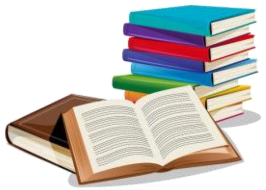
UNBOX THE NEW WAY OF LEARNING

Important Terms Explained:

- **Pre-open Trading Session:** A short period before normal trading hours where orders are collected, modified, and matched to help determine the opening price, minimizing volatility from overnight events.
- **Derivatives Market:** A financial market where instruments like futures and options are traded, whose value is derived from underlying assets such as stocks or indices.

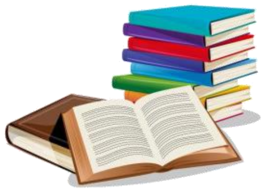


Important Terms Explained:

- **Futures and Options (F&O):** Financial contracts giving the buyer the right (option) or obligation (future) to buy/sell an asset at a predetermined future date and price.
- **ETI API:** Exchange Trading Interface Application Programming Interface, which enables brokers and trading members to connect electronically to the exchange for order placement and data retrieval.

Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	BSE to launch pre-open session for F&O trading
Announcement date	August 28, 2025
Location	Mumbai, India
Issuing authority	Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE)
Policy/series name	Extension of Pre-open Trading Mechanism to Derivatives
Key figures	SEBI, Sundararaman Ramamurthy (BSE CEO)
Purpose/reason	Absorb price-sensitive news, manage volatility in the derivatives market
Feature details	No API changes; same data/message structure as equity pre-open
Validity or status	Testing from October 6; rollout from December 8, 2025
Strategic/significant value	Aligns derivatives trading with equity mechanisms for better market efficiency



BUSINESS AND ECONOMY

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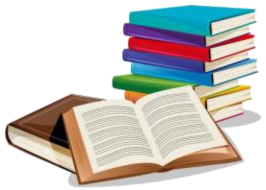
- Which company recently became the leading player in credit disbursal on the ONDC Network with over one million applications?

TATA DIGITAL

A) Paytm
B) PhonePe
C) Tata Digital
D) Amazon Pay
E) Google Pay

Answer
C) Tata Digital

ONDC
Open Network for Digital Commerce



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Tata Digital becomes leading credit disburser on ONDC Network
- **Location:** India (Nationwide impact via digital platforms)
- **Date:** August 28, 2025

Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** Tata Digital, through its Tata Neu platform, processed over 1 million personal loan applications within 3 months via the ONDC credit network, becoming the top player in terms of applications, users, and disbursals
- **Objectives**: Expand digital financial inclusion, enable paperless loan access, and provide competitive lending options through a multi-lender marketplace on a unified digital commerce network

Important Terms Explained:

- **ONDC (Open Network for Digital Commerce):** A government-backed open protocol aiming to democratize e-commerce and fintech access by enabling interoperability among platforms and providers.
- **Tata Digital:** A subsidiary of the Tata Group that operates the Tata Neu super app, providing digital services including commerce, finance, and lifestyle products.

Important Terms Explained:

- **Lending Service Provider (LSP):** A digital intermediary platform that connects borrowers with multiple lenders, facilitates digital loan processing, and ensures compliance and credit flow.
- **Gold Loans:** Secured loans where borrowers pledge gold assets to receive quick credit; particularly popular among self-employed and rural borrowers.

Tabular Summary:

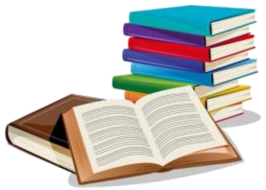
Parameter	Details
Event name	Tata Digital emerges as top credit provider on ONDC
Announcement date	August 28, 2025
Location	India (Digital Operations Nationwide)
Issuing authority	Tata Digital, ONDC Network
Policy/series name	ONDC Credit Marketplace
Key figures	Gaurav Hazrati (Tata Digital), Vibhor Jain (ONDC)
Purpose/reason	Expand digital lending access, empower borrowers via multi-lender ecosystem
Feature details	1 million+ applications in 3 months, 14 lending partners, 2 via ONDC
Validity or status	Active and operational
Strategic/significant value	Strengthens public-private partnership in digital credit and financial inclusion

- **What recent US policy action is expected to worsen India's solar panel glut, as per August 2025 reports?**

A) Banning Chinese solar imports
B) Subsidizing US solar production
C) Imposing 50% tariffs on Indian solar panel imports
D) Approving Indian solar panels without review
E) Eliminating all tariffs on solar components

Answer

C) Imposing 50% tariffs on Indian solar panel imports



Event and Location:

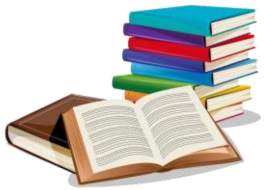
- **Event:** US imposes 50% tariff on solar panels from India, impacting exports
- **Location:** India (manufacturing impact), United States (policy origin)
- **Date:** August 28, 2025

Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** US President Donald Trump has imposed 50% tariffs on solar panel imports from India, with possible anti-dumping duties being evaluated following a petition by US solar firms
- **Objectives:** Protect the US domestic solar manufacturing industry, but the move also significantly affects India's solar export market, especially as project bidding slows domestically

Important Terms Explained:

- **Tariff:** A government-imposed tax on imported goods, aimed at making imported products less competitive than domestic ones.
- **Anti-Dumping Duty:** A protectionist tariff imposed to counter the sale of imported goods below market value, which harms domestic industries.
- **Solar Module:** A packaged, connected assembly of solar cells that converts sunlight into electricity; commonly used in solar power generation.

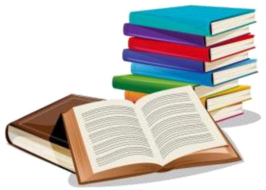


Important Terms Explained:

- **Overcapacity:** A situation in which a sector or industry produces more goods than there is demand for, leading to under-utilization of resources.
- **Domestic Content Mandate:** A government policy requiring the use of locally produced components in certain products or industries to boost domestic manufacturing.

Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	US imposes 50% tariff on Indian solar panel imports
Announcement date	August 28, 2025
Location	India (impact area), US (policy origin)
Issuing authority	US Government; monitored by Indian industry and analysts
Policy/series name	US Solar Tariff and Anti-Dumping Review
Key figures	Donald Trump, Raj Prabhu (Mercom), Yana Hryshko (Wood Mackenzie)
Purpose/reason	Protect US solar industry; impact Indian exports significantly
Feature details	50% tariff on Indian panels, possible anti-dumping duty, slowing Indian bids
Validity or status	Tariffs active; anti-dumping under review
Strategic/significant value	Major disruption to Indian solar exports and supply chain pressures; overcapacity by 2026 projected



BUSINESS AND ECONOMY

- What is the estimated per capita income of Delhi at current prices for 2024–25, as per the recent report?

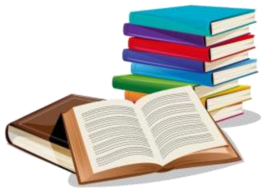
A) ₹2,83,093
B) ₹1,14,710
C) ₹4,93,024
D) ₹4,59,408
E) ₹3,79,000

Answer
C) ₹4,93,024

BUSINESS AND ECONOMY

Event and Location:

- **Event:** Delhi records decade-long growth in GSDP and per capita income
- **Location:** Delhi, India
- **Date:** August 27, 2025 (Report Release Date)



CA FUNSTA

Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** The Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Delhi Government, released a decade-long report analyzing Delhi's GSDP and per capita income growth
- **Objectives:** To highlight the capital's economic growth, measure income distribution trends, and evaluate recovery post-COVID-19

Important Terms Explained:

- **GSDP (Gross State Domestic Product):** Total value of goods and services produced within a state during a given period, used to measure economic performance
- **NSDP (Net State Domestic Product):** GSDP minus depreciation, also referred to as state income
- **Per Capita Income:** Average income earned per person in a specific area, calculated as NSDP divided by the total population

Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	Delhi’s GSDP & Per Capita Income Growth Report (2011–25)
Announcement date	August 27, 2025
Location	Delhi
Issuing authority	Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Delhi
Policy/series name	Annual Economic Survey/Report (2011–12 to 2024–25)
Key figures	CM Arvind Kejriwal, LG Vinai Kumar Saxena
Purpose/reason	Track long-term economic performance and recovery patterns
Feature details	GSDP grew at 5.86% annually (constant); 10.34% (current prices)
Validity or status	Latest estimates for FY 2024–25
Strategic value	Supports evidence-based planning, budget design, and reforms

- **As per JM Financial's 2025 report, what significant change occurred in India's direct tax composition for the first time?**

A) Corporate tax was abolished
B) GST collections crossed income tax collections
C) Personal income tax collections surpassed corporate tax
D) TDS was removed for salaried class
E) Advance tax became mandatory for all citizens

Answer

C) Personal income tax collections surpassed corporate tax

Event and Location:

- **Event:** Personal income tax collections surpass corporate tax collections
- **Location:** India
- **Date:** August 28, 2025

Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** JM Financial report revealed that personal income tax (PIT) collections exceeded corporate tax for the first time in India
- **Objectives:** To highlight the growing role of individuals in India’s direct tax base and assess the impact of formalisation, digitisation, and rising compliance

Important Terms Explained:

- **Personal Income Tax (PIT):** Tax paid by individuals on income earned from salaries, professions, or other personal sources
- **Corporate Tax:** Tax paid by companies on their profits or income
- **TDS (Tax Deducted at Source):** Tax collected at the point of income generation, ensuring advance tax collection and reducing evasion

Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	Personal income tax surpasses corporate tax in India
Announcement date	August 28, 2025
Location	India
Issuing authority	JM Financial Institutional Securities
Policy/series name	Direct Tax Report FY14–FY24
Key figures	PIT: 53.4%, Corporate Tax: 46.6% (Share of total direct taxes)
Purpose/reason	To assess changing tax trends driven by formalisation and digitisation
Feature details	Rise in TDS, GST-linked compliance, digital filings, salary disclosures
Validity or status	Applicable for FY24 and future tax planning
Strategic significance	Indicates India's shift towards a formal, individual-driven economy

APPOINTMENTS

➢ **Who has been appointed as India's new High Commissioner to Canada in August 2025?**

A) Sanjay Kumar Saxena
B) Taranjit Singh Sandhu
C) Dinesh K Patnaik
D) Harsh Vardhan Shringla
E) Arindam Bagchi

Answer

C) Dinesh K Patnaik

APPOINTMENTS

Event and Location:

- **Event:** Appointment of Dinesh K Patnaik as Indian High Commissioner to Canada
- **Location:** Ottawa, Canada (posting); New Delhi, India (announcement)
- **Date:** August 28, 2025

APPOINTMENTS

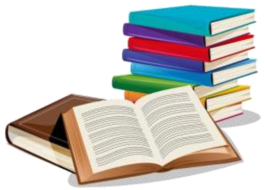
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has appointed senior diplomat Dinesh K Patnaik, currently serving as Ambassador to Spain, as India's new High Commissioner to Canada
- **Objectives:** Restore diplomatic representation in Canada and ease tensions between the two countries following the 2024 envoy withdrawal triggered by allegations related to the killing of Hardeep Singh Nijjar

APPOINTMENTS

Important Terms Explained:

- **Indian Foreign Service (IFS):** The diplomatic arm of the Government of India, responsible for managing India's external affairs, international relations, and representation abroad.
- **High Commissioner:** Equivalent to an Ambassador but between Commonwealth countries; represents India's highest diplomatic post in another Commonwealth nation.



APPOINTMENTS

Important Terms Explained:

- **Diplomatic Withdrawal:** A formal step by a nation to recall its ambassador or high commissioner in response to strained diplomatic relations.
- **Hardeep Singh Nijjar Case:** A major diplomatic flashpoint after Canadian PM Justin Trudeau alleged India's involvement in the June 2024 killing of Nijjar, a designated Khalistani terrorist, leading to a breakdown in diplomatic ties.

APPOINTMENTS

Tabular Summary:

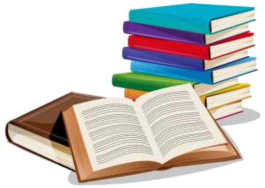
Parameter	Details
Event name	Appointment of new Indian High Commissioner to Canada
Announcement date	August 28, 2025
Location	India (New Delhi) and Canada (Ottawa)
Issuing authority	Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India
Policy/series name	Diplomatic Appointment – IFS Posting
Key figures	Dinesh K Patnaik, Justin Trudeau, Sanjay Kumar Saxena
Purpose/reason	Restore full diplomatic engagement with Canada after 9-month envoy gap
Feature details	New envoy appointed after ties strained over Nijjar assassination case
Validity or status	Appointment confirmed; Patnaik to assume office soon
Strategic/significant value	Marks diplomatic reset and potential thaw in India–Canada relations

APPOINTMENTS

- **Who has been appointed as the new Non-Executive Chairman of J&K Bank, subject to RBI approval?**

A) M Rajeshwar Rao
B) S Krishnan
C) T Rabi Sankar
D) A S Rajeev
E) Sanjeev Chadha

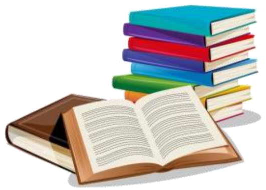
Answer
B) S Krishnan



APPOINTMENTS

Event and Location:

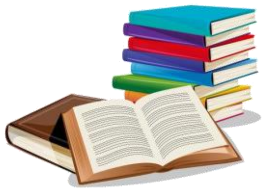
- **Event:** Appointment of S Krishnan as Non-Executive Chairman of J&K Bank
- **Location:** Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir
- **Date:** August 25, 2025 (Board Approval); Effective upon RBI approval



APPOINTMENTS

Mandates and Objectives:

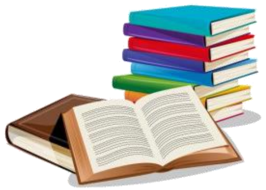
- **Mandates:** Appointment of S Krishnan as Non-Executive Chairman of J&K Bank till March 26, 2028
- **Objectives:** To strengthen corporate governance, compliance, and strategic oversight at J&K Bank through experienced leadership



APPOINTMENTS

Important Terms Explained:

- **Non-Executive Chairman:** A board-level leader who does not manage daily operations but provides strategic oversight and ensures governance compliance
- **J&K Bank:** A scheduled commercial bank headquartered in Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir, providing banking services across India
- **RBI Approval:** As per regulatory norms, top-level bank appointments in India require prior approval from the Reserve Bank of India



APPOINTMENTS

Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	Appointment of Non-Executive Chairman at J&K Bank
Announcement date	August 27, 2025
Location	Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir
Issuing authority	Board of Directors, J&K Bank
Policy/series name	Senior Management Appointment
Key figures	S Krishnan, Baldev Prakash
Purpose/reason	Strengthen governance and leadership at J&K Bank
Feature details	Term until March 26, 2028; appointment subject to RBI approval
Validity or status	Effective upon RBI’s approval
Strategic value	Enhances regulatory alignment, experience-led leadership

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

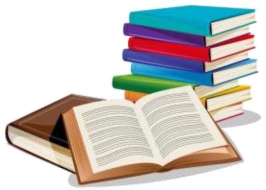
➢ **Which organization recently facilitated the transfer of five ISRO-developed technologies to Indian firms?**

A) NSIL
B) ISRO
C) IN-SPACe
D) DRDO
E) MeitY

Answer
C) IN-SPACe

Event and Location:

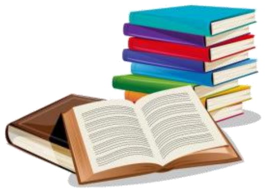
- **Event:** IN-SPACe facilitated the transfer of five ISRO-developed technologies to Indian firms
- **Location:** Ahmedabad, Gujarat
- **Date:** August 28, 2025



CA FUNSTA

Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** Signing of tripartite agreements involving IN-SPACe, NSIL, and recipient industries for the transfer of five ISRO technologies
- **Objectives:** Promote commercialization, reduce import dependence, boost indigenisation, and widen the application of space technologies in sectors such as automotive, biomedical, and industrial manufacturing



Important Terms Explained:

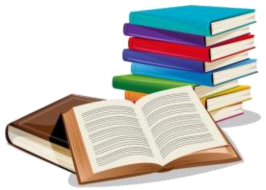
- **IN-SPACe (Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre):** An autonomous nodal agency under the Department of Space that promotes, authorizes, and monitors private sector activities in space.
- **Technology Transfer Agreement (TTA):** A formal arrangement that allows recipient firms to acquire and use patented or proprietary technologies developed by research institutions or government agencies.

Important Terms Explained:

- **Low Temperature Co-Fired Ceramic (LTCC) Multi-Chip Module:** A microelectronic packaging solution that integrates multiple semiconductor chips into a single compact module, improving performance and size efficiency.

Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	IN-SPACe facilitates transfer of five ISRO technologies
Announcement date	August 28, 2025
Location	Ahmedabad, Gujarat
Issuing authority	IN-SPACe, in coordination with ISRO and NSIL
Policy/series name	Technology Transfer Agreements (TTAs)
Key figures	Pawan Goenka (IN-SPACe), Rajeev Jyoti (IN-SPACe)
Purpose/reason	Boost self-reliance and reduce import dependence in high-tech applications
Feature details	5 technologies transferred, including LTCC module, adhesives, converters
Validity or status	Ongoing; total TTAs reached 98
Strategic/significant value	Enables industrial applications of space tech and promotes Make in India



- **Where is ISRO's new launch complex, set to be operational by December 2026, being constructed?**

A) Chandipur
B) Sriharikota
C) Kulasekarapattinam
D) Mahendragiri
E) Hassan

Answer

C) Kulasekarapattinam

Event and Location:

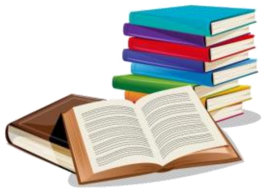
- **Event:** ISRO begins construction of its second space launch complex
- **Location:** Kulasekarapattinam, Tuticorin district, Tamil Nadu
- **Date:** August 28, 2025 (Bhumi Puja ceremony date)

Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** Construction of a new Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV) complex on 2300 acres to support satellite launches from southern India
- **Objectives:** Enhance India's satellite launch capabilities, reduce dependency on Sriharikota, and support up to 25 satellite launches per year, particularly for small payloads

Important Terms Explained:

- **Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV):** A compact, cost-efficient launch vehicle developed by ISRO designed to launch satellites weighing up to 500 kg into low Earth orbit (LEO), particularly useful for commercial and quick-response missions.
- **Bhumi Puja:** A traditional Indian ground-breaking ritual performed before starting construction, symbolizing auspicious beginnings.
- **Sriharikota Spaceport:** India's first and currently primary spaceport, located in Andhra Pradesh, used for major ISRO missions using PSLV and GSLV launch vehicles.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	Construction of second ISRO launch complex
Announcement date	August 28, 2025
Location	Kulasekarapattinam, Tuticorin district, Tamil Nadu
Issuing authority	Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
Policy/series name	Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV) Complex
Key figures	V. Narayanan (ISRO Chairman), A. Rajarajan (VSSC Director)
Purpose/reason	Support small satellite missions and increase launch frequency
Feature details	SSLVs for 500 kg payloads, 400 km orbit, 2300-acre facility
Validity or status	Targeted completion by December 2026
Strategic/significant value	Diversifies India's launch capabilities; enhances self-reliance in small-sat missions

- **Which Indian institution has partnered with LSU Health New Orleans to jointly develop healthcare technologies?**

A) AIIMS Delhi
B) NIT Trichy
C) IIT Bombay
D) IIT Madras
E) IISc Bangalore

Answer
D) IIT Madras

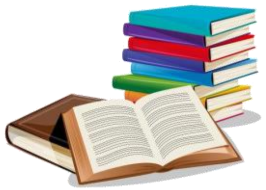
Event and Location:

- **Event:** IIT Madras partners with LSU Health New Orleans to advance healthcare technology innovation
- **Location:** Chennai (India) and New Orleans, Louisiana (USA)
- **Date:** August 28, 2025

CA FUNSTA

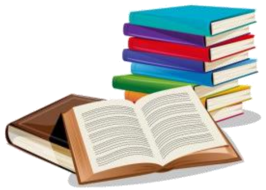
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** Launch of a collaborative international partnership between IIT Madras and LSU Health New Orleans to co-develop innovations in healthcare
- **Objectives:** Develop and scale AI-powered applications, affordable diagnostics, and smart medical devices to address healthcare gaps and improve global health outcomes



Important Terms Explained:

- **AI-powered Apps:** Digital applications that use Artificial Intelligence to process health data, assist diagnostics, and provide personalized healthcare solutions.
- **Genomic Studies:** Scientific research that involves mapping and analyzing the complete genetic makeup of organisms to understand diseases and personalize treatments.



Important Terms Explained:

- **NCI Designation (National Cancer Institute Designation):** A prestigious recognition for cancer centers in the U.S. that demonstrate leadership in cancer research, treatment, and education.
- **Bench to Bedside:** A translational research approach where scientific discoveries made in laboratories (bench) are directly applied to patient care (bedside).

Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	IIT Madras – LSU Health New Orleans Healthcare Collaboration
Announcement date	August 28, 2025
Location	Chennai (India) and New Orleans (USA)
Issuing authority	IIT Madras & LSU Health New Orleans
Policy/series name	International Research & Healthcare Innovation Collaboration
Key figures	Prof. V Kamakoti (IITM), Dr. Steve Nelson (LSU)
Purpose/reason	Address healthcare challenges through joint innovation and research
Feature details	Focus areas: AI apps, diagnostics, medical devices, genomic health studies
Validity or status	Active; exchange programs and joint projects underway
Strategic/significant value	Bridges tech innovation and clinical research; global impact on health equity

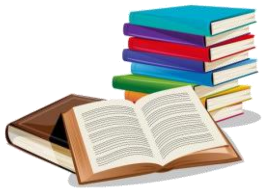
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

- **What is the next major milestone planned for SpaceX's Starship program after its successful 10th test flight?**

A) Launch of the first crewed lunar mission
B) Introduction of Starship Version 3 with orbital refueling tests
C) Permanent Moon base construction
D) NASA Artemis mission partnership completion
E) Commercial crewed flights to the ISS

Answer

B) Introduction of Starship Version 3 with orbital refueling tests



Event and Location:

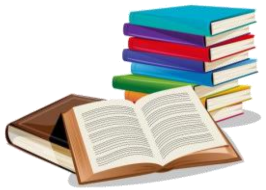
- **Event:** Successful 10th test flight of SpaceX's Starship and roadmap announcement for future Mars missions
- **Location:** Starbase, Texas (USA)
- **Date:** August 27, 2025

Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
  - Conduct suborbital and future orbital tests of Starship and Super Heavy booster
  - Begin preparations for orbital propellant transfer tests and Mars uncrewed missions by 2026
- **Objectives:**
  - Develop larger and more powerful Starship variants (V3 and V4)
  - Achieve uncrewed Mars landings by 2026 with minimalist systems
  - Support long-term Mars colonization efforts with infrastructure deliveries and robotic support by 2030s

Important Terms Explained:

- **Starship:**
  - A fully reusable two-stage launch system under development by SpaceX, consisting of the Super Heavy booster (first stage) and Starship spacecraft (second stage), intended for missions to low Earth orbit, the Moon, and Mars.
- **Version 3 (V3) and Version 4 (V4):**
  - Planned upgrades to the Starship system:
    - **V3**: Will stand 408 ft tall with 39 Raptor engines (already in production/testing by late 2025)
    - **V4**: Will rise to 466 ft with 42 Raptor engines, expected to debut around 2027



Important Terms Explained:

- **Orbital Propellant Transfer:**
  - A mission-critical maneuver that involves refueling Starship in Earth's orbit, enabling it to carry more cargo/fuel for long-distance missions like those to the Moon and Mars. This is yet to be demonstrated in spaceflight history.
- **Optimus Robot:**
  - A humanoid robot developed by Tesla, planned to accompany Mars cargo missions to assist with heavy lifting and early infrastructure setup on the Martian surface.

Important Terms Explained:

- **Red Planet Windows:**
  - Launch windows to Mars that occur approximately every 26 months due to planetary alignment. SpaceX is targeting:
    - 2026 for first uncrewed Mars landings
    - 2028–2029 to begin infrastructure delivery
    - 2030–2033 for heavier payloads and returning missions

CA FUNSTA

Tabular Summary:

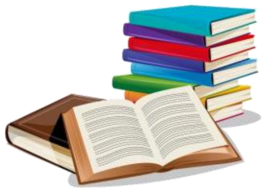
Parameter	Details
Event name	SpaceX Starship Flight 10 Success and Future Mars Plans
Announcement date	August 27, 2025
Location	Starbase, Texas
Issuing authority	SpaceX (Elon Musk)
Program name	Starship Mars Colonization Initiative
Key figures	Elon Musk (CEO), Dan Huot, Amanda Lee
Purpose/reason	Achieve interplanetary human settlement via reusable launch vehicles
Feature details	Starship V3 (408 ft), Starship V4 (466 ft), 42 Raptors, orbital refueling
Status/Timeline	V3 tests begin in 2025, V4 in 2027, Mars landings planned for 2026 onward
Strategic value	Lays foundation for future Mars colony and reusable interplanetary travel

- **What is the primary objective of the MoU recently signed between India and Bhutan in August 2025?**

A) Enhancing border infrastructure
B) Promoting textile exports
C) Cooperation in agriculture and allied sectors
D) Expanding energy trade
E) Tourism development

Answer

C) Cooperation in agriculture and allied sectors



Event and Location:

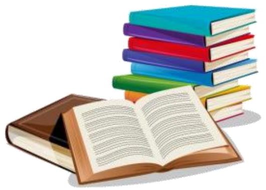
- **Event:** India and Bhutan signed an MoU to enhance cooperation in agriculture and allied sectors
- **Location:** Thimphu, Bhutan
- **Date:** August 28, 2025

Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** Signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Bhutan by their respective agriculture ministries to enhance cooperation in various agricultural and allied areas
- **Objectives:** To promote food security, sustainable farming, rural prosperity, technological exchange, and capacity building in sectors like livestock, post-harvest management, seed development, and agricultural research

Important Terms Explained:

- **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU):** A formal written agreement between two parties that expresses mutual intent to collaborate in specific areas without creating legal obligations.
- **Joint Technical Working Group (JTWG):** A bilateral technical team established to execute and oversee the terms of the MoU, including setting priorities and coordinating initiatives.
- **Post-Harvest Management:** Refers to the handling of crops after harvest to minimize losses, improve quality, and increase market value through proper storage, transportation, and processing techniques.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	India-Bhutan MoU on agricultural cooperation
Announcement date	August 28, 2025
Location	Thimphu, Bhutan
Issuing authority	Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (India), MoAL (Bhutan)
Policy/series name	Bilateral MoU on Agriculture and Allied Sectors
Key figures	Devesh Chaturvedi (India), Thinley Namgyel (Bhutan)
Purpose/reason	Enhance bilateral collaboration in agriculture and allied sectors
Feature details	Focus on R&D, livestock, value chains, post-harvest, seed sector, knowledge exchange
Validity or status	Active; implementation initiated through JTWG
Strategic/significant value	Strengthens regional food security, promotes sustainable rural development

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

- **Who did Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman meet in August 2025 to discuss enhancing bilateral trade and investment with Qatar?**

A) Mohammed bin Salman
B) Sheikh Tamim Al Thani
C) Ahmad bin Mohammed Al-Sayed
D) Khalid Al-Falih
E) Hamad bin Jassim Al Thani

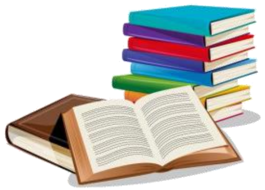
Answer

C) Ahmad bin Mohammed Al-Sayed

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Event and Location:

- **Event:** India and Qatar hold bilateral meetings to boost trade and investment ties
- **Location:** New Delhi, India
- **Date:** August 28, 2025

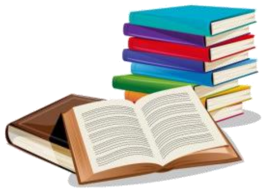


Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary held bilateral meetings with Qatar’s Minister of State for Foreign Trade Affairs, Ahmad bin Mohammed Al-Sayed
- **Objectives:** Reinforce the strategic partnership between India and Qatar, explore new avenues for trade, increase Qatari investments in India, and promote collaboration in emerging sectors

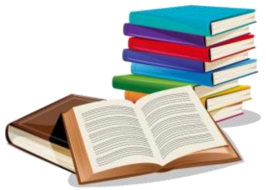
Important Terms Explained:

- **Strategic Partnership:** A long-term bilateral relationship that goes beyond routine diplomatic engagement and includes deeper economic, defense, or technological cooperation.
- **Foreign Direct Investment (FDI):** Investments made by a country or entity into the business interests of another country in the form of ownership, control, or partnership.
- **Emerging Sectors:** Fast-growing industries such as fintech, clean energy, digital infrastructure, biotech, and AI-based services, often prioritized for foreign investments.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	India–Qatar Bilateral Meeting on Trade and Investment
Announcement date	August 28, 2025
Location	New Delhi
Issuing authority	Ministry of Finance, Government of India
Policy/series name	India–Qatar Strategic Partnership
Key figures	Nirmala Sitharaman, Pankaj Chaudhary, Ahmad bin Mohammed Al-Sayed
Purpose/reason	Expand bilateral trade, attract Qatari investment into Indian sectors
Feature details	Focus on technology, economic reforms, emerging sectors, and investment climate
Validity or status	Ongoing bilateral cooperation
Strategic/significant value	Deepens India–Qatar strategic economic engagement and positions India as an investment hub



- **What are the two initiatives launched by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in August 2025 to promote global cooperation in AI governance?**

A) AI Rights Convention and Global Tech Ethics Board
B) International AI Watch and AI Peace Council
C) Scientific Panel on AI and Global Dialogue on AI Governance
D) UNGA AI Core and Ethics Leadership Council
E) Global AI Alliance and Digital Futures Forum

Answer

C) Scientific Panel on AI and Global Dialogue on AI Governance

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Event and Location:

- **Event:** Launch of two global AI governance mechanisms
- **Location:** United Nations General Assembly, Global
- **Date:** August 26, 2025

Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** Establishment of the United Nations Independent International Scientific Panel on AI and the Global Dialogue on AI Governance
- **Objectives:** To promote inclusive, scientific, and coordinated international governance of Artificial Intelligence; ensure AI technologies are aligned with ethical, equitable, and sustainable goals; and support implementation of the Global Digital Compact

Important Terms Explained:

- **Global Dialogue on AI Governance:** A UN-led platform bringing together member states, industry, academia, and civil society to deliberate AI-related challenges and policy directions.
- **United Nations Independent International Scientific Panel on AI:** A science-policy interface body tasked with providing evidence-based assessments on AI trends, risks, and impacts.
- **Global Digital Compact:** A digital cooperation framework under the Pact for the Future adopted by the UN in 2024, aimed at ensuring responsible, equitable access and use of digital technologies globally.

Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	Launch of AI governance mechanisms by UNGA
Announcement date	August 26, 2025
Location	Global (UN General Assembly Headquarters, New York)
Issuing authority	United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)
Policy/series name	Global Digital Compact under Pact for the Future
Key figures	António Guterres (UN Secretary-General)
Purpose/reason	Promote safe, ethical, and inclusive use of AI through multilateral dialogue
Feature details	Formation of a scientific panel and global forum for annual AI governance talks
Validity or status	Active; first global sessions planned in 2026 (Geneva) and 2027 (New York)
Strategic value	Fosters shared global standards and evidence-based policies on AI governance

SCHEMES

➢ **What is the name of the student entrepreneurship initiative launched by HCLTech in collaboration with Pearson and MeitY?**

A) Innovate India
B) Student Startup Sprint
C) Bharat Entrepreneurs Program
D) ARISE FOR YOU
E) Campus CEO

Answer
D) ARISE FOR YOU

SCHEMES

Event and Location:

- **Event:** Launch of a national entrepreneurship program for students by HCLTech, Pearson, and MeitY Startup Hub
- **Location:** Pan-India (targeting 3,000 campuses)
- **Date:** August 28, 2025

SCHEMES

Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** Launch of ARISE FOR YOU™, a student entrepreneurship initiative targeting over 150,000 students in collaboration with Pearson India and MeitY Startup Hub
- **Objectives:** Promote entrepreneurial mindset among youth, especially in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities, by providing industry mentorship, certification, funding, and national-level exposure through competitive platforms

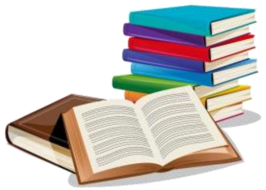
Important Terms Explained:

- **MeitY Startup Hub:** An initiative under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology to nurture and support tech-based innovation and entrepreneurship in India.
- **Pearson ESB Certification:** Entrepreneurship and Small Business certification offered by Pearson, providing foundational entrepreneurial skills and credentials.

SCHEMES

Important Terms Explained:

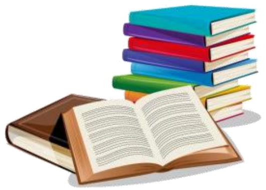
- **ARISE FOR YOU™:** A flagship student-centric entrepreneurship drive offering mentorship, funding, micro-credentials, and Shark Tank-style pitch opportunities, culminating in a national finale in March 2026.
- **Viksit Bharat Mission:** Government of India's vision aimed at building a developed India by 2047, focusing on innovation, infrastructure, and inclusive growth.



SCHEMES

Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	Launch of ARISE FOR YOU – National Student Entrepreneurship Drive
Announcement date	August 28, 2025
Location	Pan-India (3,000+ campuses targeted)
Issuing authority	HCLTech, in collaboration with Pearson India and MeitY Startup Hub
Policy/series name	ARISE FOR YOU™
Key figures	C. Vijayakumar (CEO, HCLTech), MeitY, Pearson India
Purpose/reason	Foster youth entrepreneurship and innovation, especially in Tier 2/3 cities
Feature details	Certification, mentorship, ₹10 lakh grants, Shark Tank-style pitching, Problem Solver Directory
Validity or status	Registrations active; Finale scheduled for March 12–13, 2026
Strategic/significant value	Aligns with Viksit Bharat Mission, enhances student innovation ecosystem



SCHEMES

- What is the increase in average deposit per Jan Dhan account between March 2015 and August 2025?

A) 2.5 times
B) 3.0 times
C) 3.7 times
D) 4.2 times
E) 5.0 times

Answer

C) 3.7 times

SCHEMES

Event and Location:

- **Event:** Surge in average deposits and account usage under Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY)
- **Location:** India (nationwide impact)
- **Date:** August 28, 2025

SCHEMES

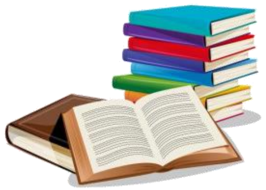
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** Completion of 11 years of PM Jan Dhan Yojana, with significant increase in average deposits, rural inclusion, and digital financial transactions
- **Objectives:** Promote financial inclusion, inculcate savings habits, deliver direct benefit transfers (DBT), and offer access to credit, insurance, and pension for underprivileged citizens

SCHEMES

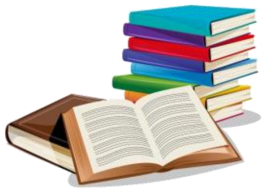
Important Terms Explained:

- **Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY):** A national financial inclusion scheme launched in 2014 to provide universal access to banking services, zero-balance savings accounts, and access to insurance, pension, and credit facilities.
- **Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT):** A government mechanism to transfer subsidies and benefits directly into the beneficiaries' bank accounts, reducing leakages and improving efficiency.



Important Terms Explained:

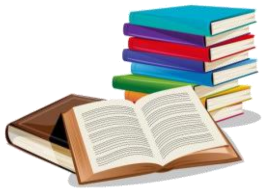
- **RuPay Debit Card:** India’s domestic card network developed by NPCI; issued under PMJDY to allow digital and ATM transactions.
- **PoS/mPoS Machines:** Point of Sale and mobile Point of Sale machines used for digital transactions via cards or UPI apps at merchant outlets.



SCHEMES

Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	11 Years of PM Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY)
Announcement date	August 28, 2025
Location	India (nationwide impact)
Issuing authority	Ministry of Finance, Government of India
Policy/series name	Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY)
Key figures	Nirmala Sitharaman, Pankaj Chaudhary, PM Narendra Modi
Purpose/reason	Measure progress in financial inclusion and account utilization
Feature details	Avg. deposit rose from ₹1,065 (2015) to ₹4,768 (2025); 56 crore accounts; 67% rural
Validity or status	Active; saturation campaign ongoing till September 30, 2025
Strategic/significant value	Strengthens DBT, promotes savings, empowers women and rural population via banking



- **What is the new extended lending period under the restructured PM SVANidhi Scheme as approved by the Union Cabinet in August 2025?**

A) December 2025
B) March 2026
C) March 2028
D) March 2030
E) December 2029

PM SVANidhi

Answer
D) March 2030

SCHEMES

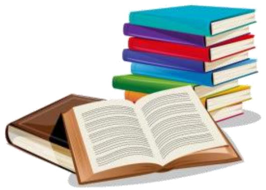
Event and Location:

- **Event:** Approval of restructuring and extension of lending period under PM SVANidhi Scheme
- **Location:** India (Pan-India coverage)
- **Date:** August 27, 2025

SCHEMES

Mandates and Objectives:

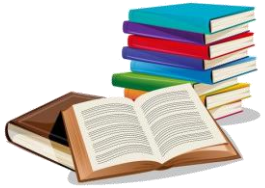
- **Mandates:**
  - Extend PM SVANidhi lending period until March 31, 2030
  - Enhance loan tranches and integrate UPI-linked RuPay Credit Cards
  - Broaden scheme coverage beyond statutory towns to peri-urban and census towns



SCHEMES

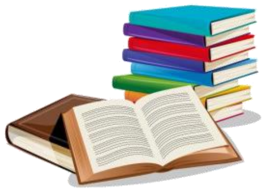
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:**
  - Support 1.15 crore street vendors, including 50 lakh new ones
  - Strengthen digital adoption, financial inclusion, entrepreneurship, and holistic family welfare
  - Empower vendors with identity, access to formal credit, and integration with welfare schemes



Important Terms Explained:

- **PM SVANidhi:**
  - A micro-credit scheme launched on June 1, 2020, to provide working capital loans to street vendors affected by COVID-19.
- **RuPay Credit Card (UPI-linked):**
  - A zero-cost, UPI-enabled credit card being introduced for eligible PM SVANidhi beneficiaries, offering instant access to credit and cashback incentives.



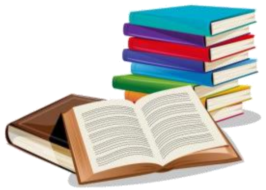
Important Terms Explained:

- **SVANidhi se Samriddhi:**
  - A component of the scheme aimed at saturation-based welfare delivery through Lok Kalyan Melas, helping vendors access multiple government schemes and benefits.

SCHEMES

Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	Restructuring & Extension of PM SVANidhi Scheme
Announcement date	August 27, 2025
Location	India
Issuing authority	Union Cabinet, MoHUA, DFS
Policy/series name	PM SVANidhi (2020–2030)
Key figures	PM Narendra Modi, FM Nirmala Sitharaman, MoHUA Officials
Purpose/reason	Empower street vendors, expand digital credit access
Feature details	Increased loan tranches, UPI RuPay Credit Card, cashback incentives
Validity or status	Extended until March 31, 2030
Strategic/significant value	Upliftment of urban poor, formal credit access, national digital integration

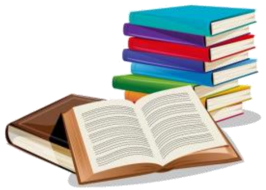


SCHEMES

- **As of August 2025, how many years has the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) completed since its launch?**

A) 10 years
B) 11 years
C) 9 years
D) 12 years
E) 13 years

Answer
B) 11 years



SCHEMES

Event and Location:

- **Event:** Completion of 11 years of Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY)
- **Location:** Nationwide (India)
- **Date:** August 28, 2025

SCHEMES

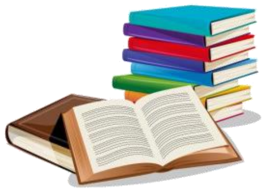
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** To provide universal access to banking services for every household in India, especially the financially excluded; to promote digital transactions, savings, insurance, and direct benefit transfers.
- **Objectives:** Financial inclusion, empowerment of marginalized populations, ensuring access to government schemes through banking channels, promoting JAM trinity (Jan-Dhan-Aadhaar-Mobile) for efficient subsidy delivery.

SCHEMES

Important Terms Explained:

- **Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY):** A flagship financial inclusion scheme launched in August 2014 to provide universal access to banking facilities, zero-balance accounts, and RuPay cards to every unbanked individual.
- **RuPay Card:** A domestic debit card issued under PMJDY offering free accident insurance cover and enabling digital transactions.
- **JAM Trinity:** A government initiative integrating Jan Dhan accounts, Aadhaar, and Mobile numbers to ensure direct, transparent, and leak-proof subsidy transfers.



SCHEMES

Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	11th Anniversary of PMJDY
Announcement date	August 28, 2025
Location	Pan-India
Issuing authority	Ministry of Finance, Government of India
Policy/series name	Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY)
Key figures	Nirmala Sitharaman, Pankaj Chaudhary, Narendra Modi
Purpose/reason	Financial inclusion, formal banking access, JAM integration
Feature details	Zero-balance accounts, RuPay cards, DBT enablement, micro-insurance
Validity or status	Ongoing; 11 years completed as of Aug 28, 2025
Strategic value	World's largest financial inclusion drive; empowers rural and women segment

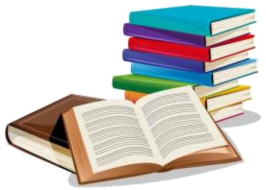
NATIONAL AFFAIRS

➢ **What is the name of India's first National Biofoundry Network initiative launched in August 2025?**

A) BioStart India
B) BioFuture Labs
C) BioE3 Challenge for Youth
D) BioConnect 2030
E) GreenBio Hackathon

Answer

C) BioE3 Challenge for Youth

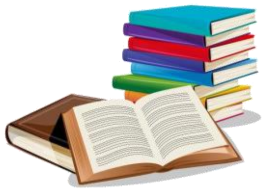


Event and Location:

- **Event:** Launch of India's first National Biofoundry Network under the BioE3 Challenge for Youth
- **Location:** New Delhi, India
- **Date:** August 27, 2025

Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** Launch of the BioE3 Challenge for Youth and the first National Biofoundry Network to commemorate one year of the BioE3 Policy
- **Objectives:** Foster innovation in biotechnology by inviting youth to design biological solutions for challenges in health, agriculture, environment, and industry, and grow India's bioeconomy to $300 billion by 2030



Important Terms Explained:

- **National Biofoundry Network:** A centralized ecosystem for bio-innovation, offering infrastructure, mentorship, and funding support to accelerate development of synthetic biology and biotech solutions.
- **BioE3 Policy:** Stands for Biotechnology for Economy, Environment, and Employment; a government initiative launched in 2024 to make biotechnology a major contributor to India’s economic and sustainable development.

Important Terms Explained:

- **BioE3 Challenge for Youth:** A monthly innovation contest inviting young students, researchers, and startups to create safe, sustainable, and impactful biological solutions aligned with national priorities.
- **DESIGN Framework:** A guiding model used in the BioE3 Challenge that includes:
  - **D**efine real needs
  - **E**vidence-first approach
  - **S**ustainability by design
  - **I**ntegration with policy/technology
  - **G**o-to-market strategy
  - **N**et-positive social and economic impact

Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	Launch of National Biofoundry Network and BioE3 Challenge
Announcement date	August 27, 2025
Location	New Delhi, India
Issuing authority	Ministry of Science and Technology, Department of Biotechnology
Policy/series name	BioE3 (Biotechnology for Economy, Environment and Employment) Policy
Key figures	Dr. Jitendra Singh, Dr. Rajesh Gokhale
Purpose/reason	Promote youth innovation and develop biological solutions for key challenges
Feature details	Monthly challenge, ₹1 lakh reward, ₹25 lakh funding, BRIC+ incubation support
Validity or status	Active from October 2025 onwards
Strategic/significant value	Supports bioeconomy growth, grassroots innovation, and sustainable development goals

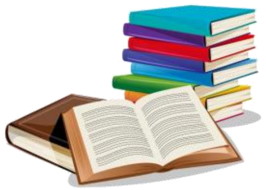
NATIONAL AFFAIRS

➢ **What is the primary objective of the Mizoram Prohibition of Beggary Bill, 2025?**

A) Criminalize all forms of street activity
B) Legalize regulated begging in Aizawl
C) Prohibit begging and rehabilitate beggars through livelihood options
D) Introduce taxation on public soliciting
E) Create housing projects for all urban poor

Answer

C) Prohibit begging and rehabilitate beggars through livelihood options



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Mizoram Assembly passes Prohibition of Beggary Bill, 2025
- **Location:** Mizoram, India
- **Date:** August 28, 2025

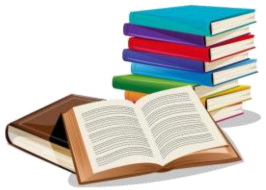
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
  - The Mizoram Legislative Assembly passed the Mizoram Prohibition of Beggary Bill, 2025 to prohibit beggary in the State.
- **Objectives:**
  - Prevent the increase of beggary in Mizoram
  - Address the anticipated influx of beggars due to the upcoming railway connectivity
  - Focus on assisting and rehabilitating beggars through sustainable livelihood options
  - Establish State-level relief board and receiving centres for temporary retention and repatriation

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Important Terms Explained:

- **Prohibition of Beggary Bill, 2025:**
  - A legislative act introduced by the Mizoram government aimed at banning begging within the State and offering structured rehabilitation and livelihood alternatives to beggars.
- **Relief Board:**
  - A State-level administrative body proposed under the bill to oversee the identification, holding, and rehabilitation of beggars.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Receiving Centres:**
  - Temporary holding facilities established to house beggars before they are repatriated to their native places, within 24 hours of identification.
- **Railhead at Sairang-Sihhmui:**
  - The newly constructed railway terminal in Mizoram, expected to be inaugurated on September 13, 2025, by PM Modi, potentially increasing migration, including by beggars, into the State.

Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	Mizoram Prohibition of Beggary Bill passed
Announcement date	August 28, 2025
Location	Mizoram, India
Issuing authority	Mizoram Legislative Assembly
Policy/series name	Mizoram Prohibition of Beggary Bill, 2025
Key figures	Lalrinpuii (Minister), Lalduhoma (CM), Lalchhandama Ralte (Opposition)
Purpose/reason	Prohibit beggary, prevent influx due to new rail link, enable rehabilitation
Feature details	State-level board, receiving centres, repatriation within 24 hours
Validity or status	Bill passed by Assembly, implementation expected soon
Strategic/significant value	Prepares for social changes post-railhead; strengthens social welfare & dignity

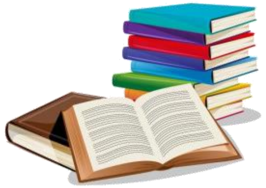
- **Which two entities recently signed an MoU to enhance welfare services for Indian veterans and their families?**

A) MoD and CAG
B) MoD and SEBI
C) MoD and QCI
D) DRDO and NITI Aayog
E) DESW and RBI

Answer
C) MoD and QCI

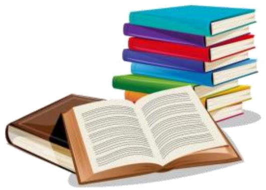
Event and Location:

- **Event:** MoU signed to enhance veteran welfare services
- **Location:** New Delhi, India
- **Date:** August 26, 2025



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
  - Department of Ex-Servicemen Welfare (DESW) and Quality Council of India (QCI) signed an MoU
  - DESW will provide access to data and coordinate with stakeholders
  - QCI will conduct digital evaluations, impact assessments, and recommend policy changes



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:**
  - Strengthen pension, healthcare, resettlement, and welfare services for over 63 lakh veterans and their dependents
  - Promote digital platforms and AI for service delivery
  - Expand opportunities for re-employment, entrepreneurship, and skilling of veterans
  - Build stronger frameworks for State and District Sainik Boards

Important Terms Explained:

- **Department of Ex-Servicemen Welfare (DESW):**
  - A department under the Ministry of Defence responsible for policies and welfare schemes for ex-servicemen and their families.
- **Quality Council of India (QCI):**
  - An autonomous body under the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), tasked with ensuring quality standards across sectors including governance, healthcare, and education.

Important Terms Explained:

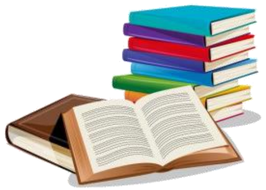
- **Zila Sainik Boards (ZSBs):**
  - Local-level bodies operating under State Sainik Boards that coordinate welfare activities and support services for veterans and their families.

Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	MoU signing between MoD (DESW) and QCI
Announcement date	August 26, 2025
Location	New Delhi, India
Issuing authority	Ministry of Defence (MoD), Quality Council of India (QCI)
Policy/series name	Veteran Welfare Services Modernisation Initiative
Key figures	Dr. Niten Chandra (Secretary, DESW), Chakravarthy Kannan (Secretary General, QCI)
Purpose/reason	Improve delivery of pension, healthcare, resettlement, and welfare services
Feature details	Digital evaluations, AI integration, entrepreneurship, reskilling programs
Validity or status	Effective from August 2025 onward
Strategic/significant value	Modernises veteran welfare services; supports 63 lakh veterans and dependents

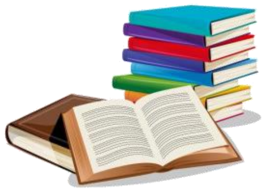
QUICK RECALL

- The GST Council will hold a two-day meeting on September 3–4, 2025, in New Delhi to discuss major tax reforms.
- Bank of Baroda has reduced car loan interest rates by 25 basis points to 8.15% ahead of the festive season.
- Unity Bank and BharatPe launched India's first EMI-focused credit card with zero joining and annual fees.
- Amazon India has launched two new fulfilment centres in Tamil Nadu's Tiruvallur and Krishnagiri districts.
- BSE will introduce a pre-open session for futures and options trading starting December 8, 2025.
- Tata Digital has processed over one million personal loan applications through the ONDC Network within just three months.
- The US has imposed a 50% tariff on solar panel imports from India, affecting 90% of India's module export market.
- Delhi recorded an average annual GSDP growth of 5.86% between 2011–12 and 2024–25 at constant prices.
- For the first time in India's fiscal history, personal income tax collections have surpassed corporate tax revenue, according to JM Financial's report.



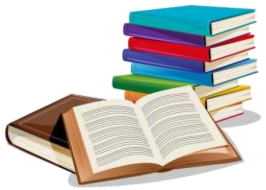
QUICK RECALL

- Dinesh K Patnaik has been appointed as India's new High Commissioner to Canada after a 9-month diplomatic gap.
- J&K Bank has appointed veteran banker S Krishnan as its new non-executive chairman, subject to RBI approval.
- IN-SPACe facilitated the transfer of five technologies developed by ISRO to Indian firms to promote indigenisation.
- ISRO has initiated construction of its second launch complex at Kulasekarapattinam in Tamil Nadu with a target completion by December 2026.
- IIT Madras and LSU Health New Orleans have partnered to develop AI-based healthcare tools and medical devices.
- SpaceX's Starship completed its 10th test flight, meeting all major objectives and setting the stage for Mars missions.
- India and Bhutan signed a Memorandum of Understanding in Thimphu to strengthen cooperation in agriculture and allied sectors.
- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman met Qatar's Foreign Trade Minister Ahmad bin Mohammed Al-Sayed to strengthen strategic economic ties.



QUICK RECALL

- The UN General Assembly launched two initiatives to strengthen international AI governance: a Scientific Panel and a Global Dialogue platform.
- HCLTech launched the ARISE FOR YOU initiative in partnership with Pearson and MeitY to support over 150,000 student entrepreneurs.
- The average deposit in Jan Dhan accounts rose 3.7 times in 10 years, reaching ₹4,768 in 2025.
- The Union Cabinet has extended the PM SVANidhi scheme’s lending period until March 31, 2030, with a ₹7,332 crore outlay.
- Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) has completed 11 years since its launch on August 28, 2014.
- India launched its first National Biofoundry Network on August 27, 2025, under the BioE3 Challenge for Youth initiative.
- The Mizoram Assembly passed a bill banning beggary while focusing on rehabilitation and livelihood solutions.
- The Ministry of Defence and Quality Council of India signed an MoU to modernize veteran welfare services.

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Awesome classes and clear cut explanations.... Percent worth
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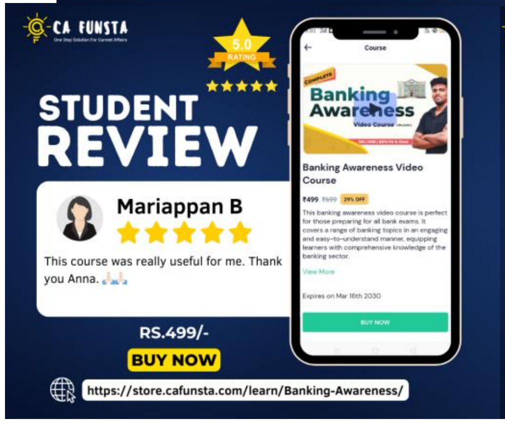
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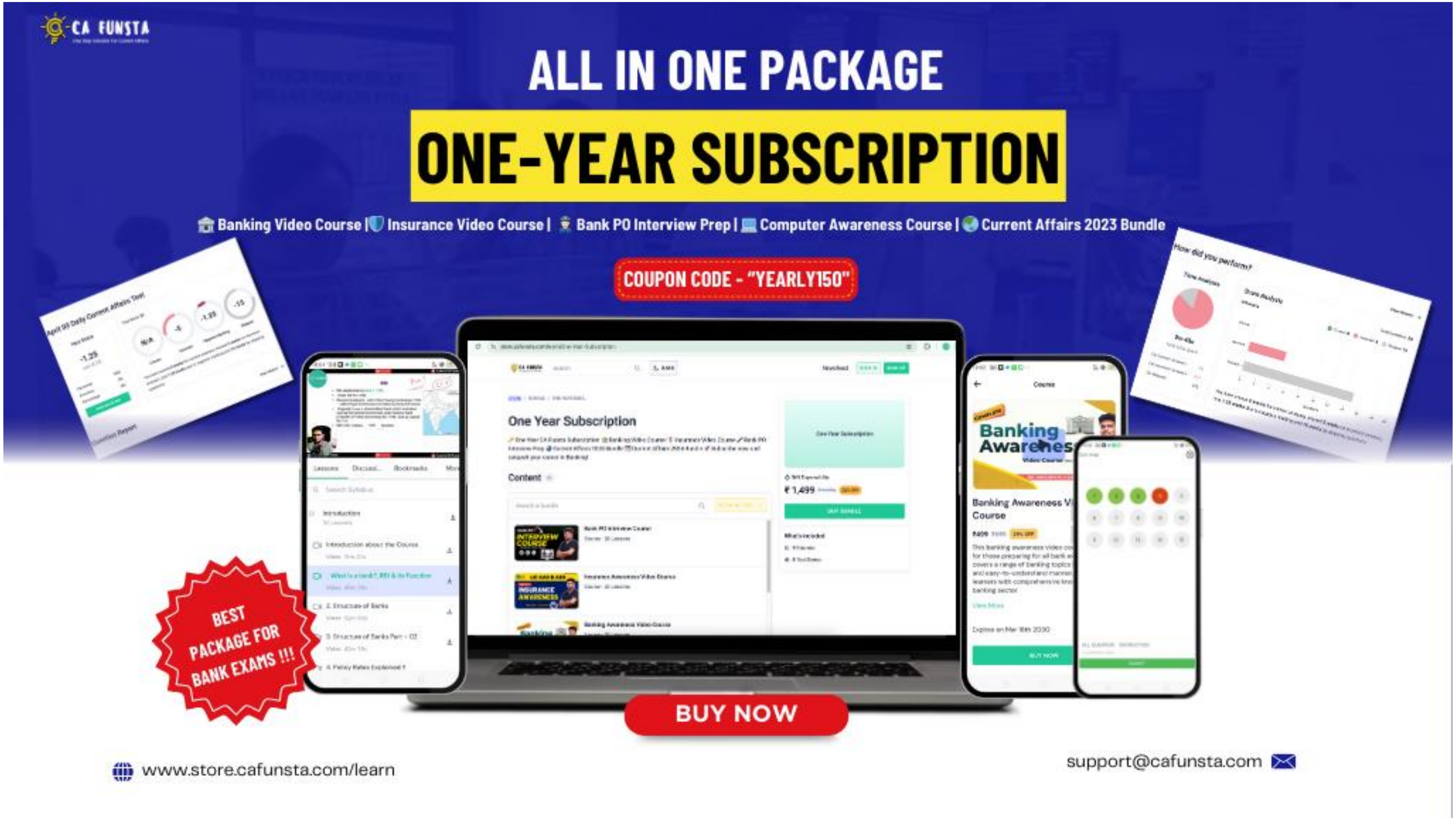

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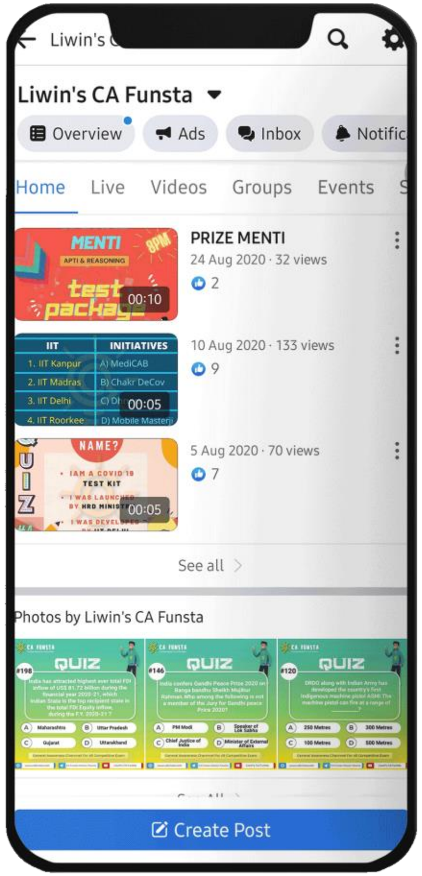

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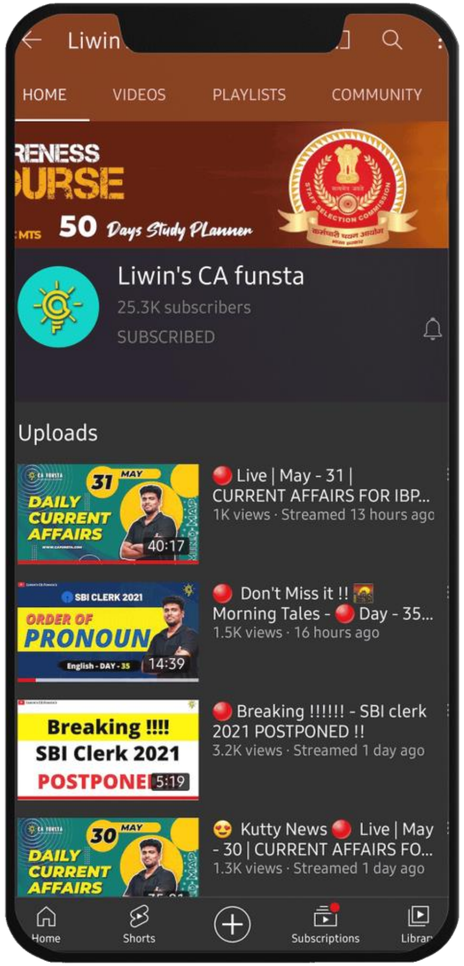

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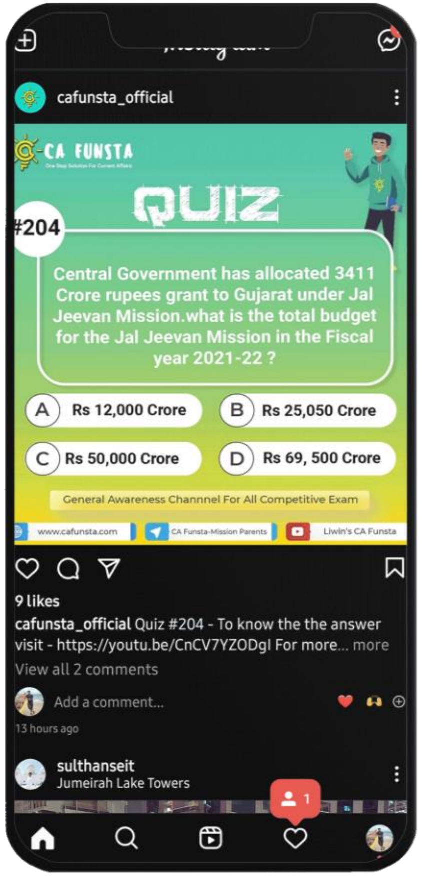

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