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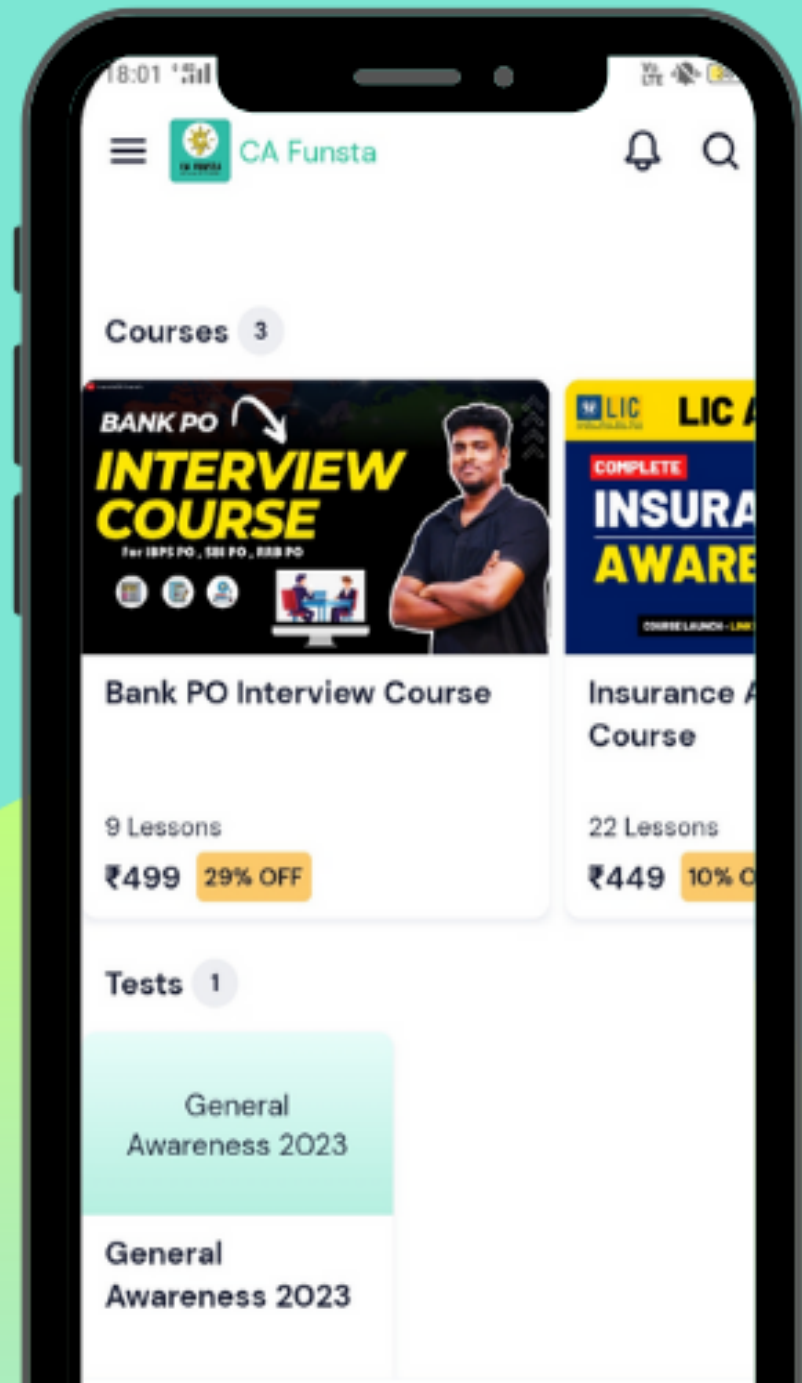
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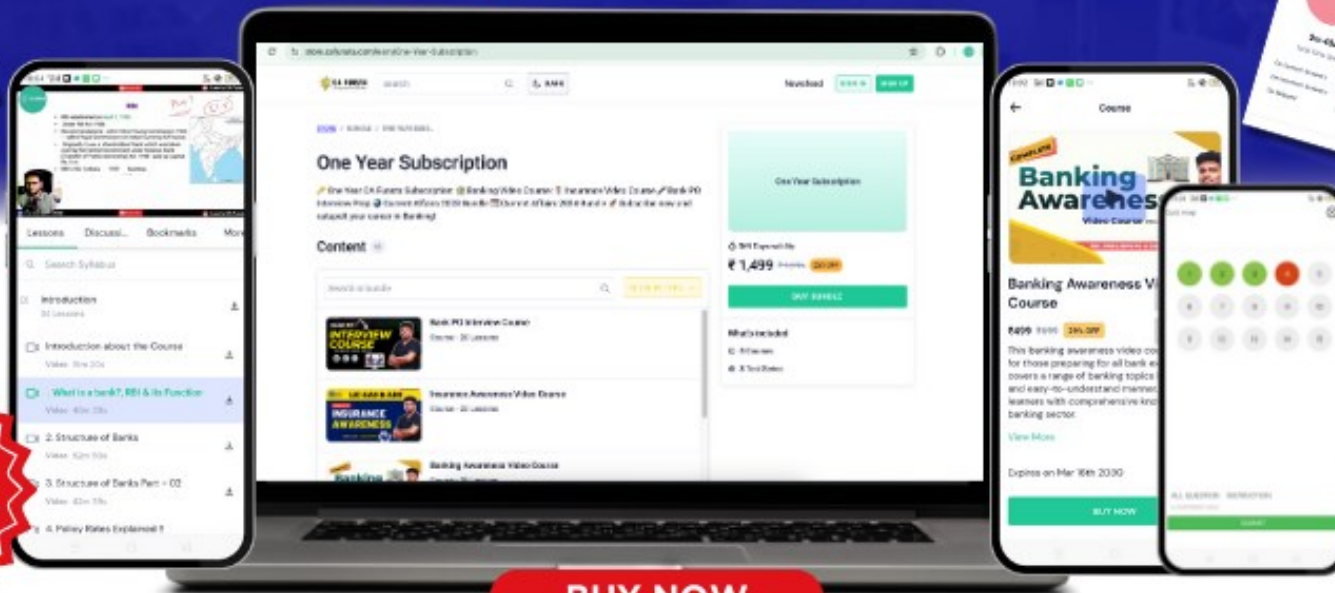
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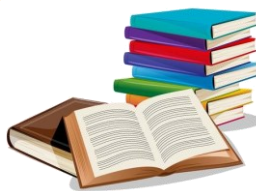


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➤ Which Indian cricketer won her first-ever ICC Women's Player of the Month award in November 2025?

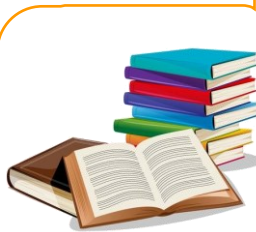
- A) Smriti Mandhana
- B) Deepti Sharma
- C) Shafali Verma
- D) Harmanpreet Kaur
- E) Jemimah Rodrigues

Answer
C) Shafali Verma



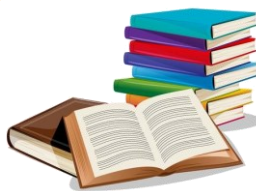
Event and Location:

- **Event:** Shafali Verma wins ICC Women's Player of the Month award for November 2025
- **Location:** Mumbai, India (ODI World Cup Final Venue)
- **Date:** December 15, 2025 (Award announced); Match date – November 2, 2025



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - The ICC awarded Shafali Verma the Women's Player of the Month (November 2025) for her match-winning performance of 87 runs off 78 balls in the ICC Women's ODI World Cup final against South Africa.
 - Simon Harmer of South Africa was awarded the Men's Player of the Month for his 17-wicket haul in the Test series against India.



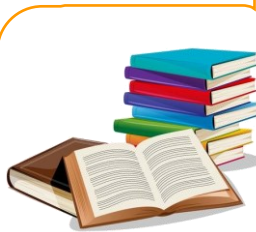
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:**
 - To recognize outstanding individual performances in international cricket
 - Encourage consistent excellence in women's and men's formats across ICC tournaments



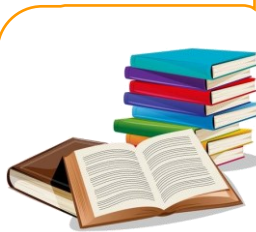
Important Terms Explained:

- **ICC Player of the Month Award:** A monthly recognition by the International Cricket Council (ICC) to honour outstanding performances by male and female cricketers across formats.
- **Shafali Verma:** A hard-hitting Indian opener who made a comeback to the ODI squad as a replacement during the World Cup knockout stage and played a crucial role in India's maiden World Cup win.



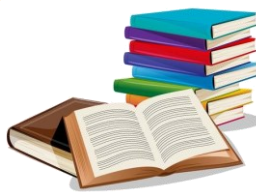
Important Terms Explained:

- **Simon Harmer:** A veteran South African spinner whose exceptional bowling led to South Africa's first Test series win in India in 25 years.
- **ODI World Cup Final (2025):** Held in Mumbai, India defeated South Africa by 52 runs with crucial contributions from Shafali Verma and Smriti Mandhana.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	ICC Player of the Month Awards – November 2025
Announcement date	December 15, 2025
Location	Mumbai (Shafali's match), ICC Headquarters – Dubai
Issuing authority	International Cricket Council (ICC)
Policy/series name	ICC Player of the Month Awards
Key figures	Shafali Verma (India), Simon Harmer (South Africa)
Purpose/reason	Recognize exceptional cricket performances
Feature details	Shafali: 87 (78) in World Cup Final; Harmer: 17 wickets in 2-Test series
Validity or status	Official awards conferred for November 2025
Strategic/significant value	Marks India's maiden Women's ODI World Cup win and Shafali's comeback performance



OBITUARY

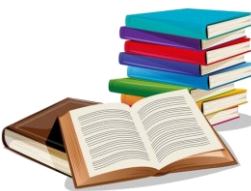


➤ **What was the cause of death of actor Anthony Geary, as confirmed in December 2025?**

- A) Heart attack during filming
- B) Accidental fall
- C) Surgical complications after a planned procedure
- D) Cancer-related illness
- E) Stroke while traveling

Answer

C) Surgical complications after a planned procedure

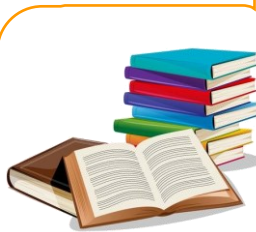


OBITUARY



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Death of actor Anthony Geary due to surgical complications
- **Location:** Amsterdam, Netherlands
- **Date:** December 14, 2025 (Death confirmed); News published December 16, 2025

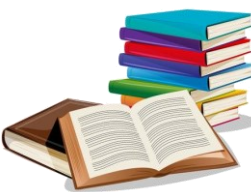


OBITUARY



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - Anthony Geary, best known for his role as Luke Spencer in General Hospital, passed away at age 78 following complications from a planned surgical procedure.
 - The death has sparked public discourse on surgical risks in older adults, especially in the context of non-emergency procedures.

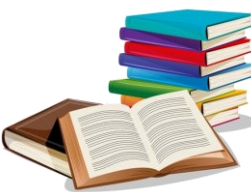


OBITUARY



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:**
 - Raise awareness about age-related surgical risks such as infections, cardiovascular complications, and slower recovery in elderly patients.
 - Emphasize the importance of informed consent, pre-surgery screening, and family engagement in surgical decisions for ageing individuals.

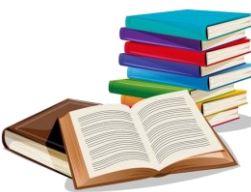


OBITUARY



Important Terms Explained:

- **Surgical Complications in Older Adults:** Even routine surgeries can be risky for elderly patients due to weakened immunity, cardiovascular stress, and reduced recovery capacity.
- **Elective Surgery:** A non-emergency medical procedure planned in advance. While often perceived as safe, these surgeries carry age-related risks that must be carefully considered.

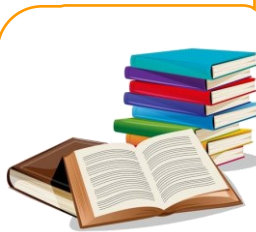


OBITUARY



Important Terms Explained:

- **Postoperative Infection:** A common complication in older adults due to weakened immune responses, which can escalate quickly into critical health issues.
- **General Anaesthesia in Elderly:** Can pose risks such as arrhythmias, hemodynamic instability, and cognitive confusion, especially in those over 70.

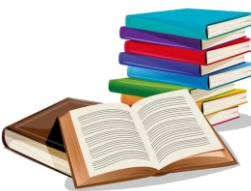


OBITUARY



Tabular Summary:

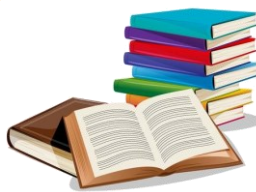
Parameter	Details
Event name	Anthony Geary's death due to post-surgery complications
Announcement date	December 16, 2025
Location	Amsterdam, Netherlands
Cause of death	Surgical complications following a planned procedure
Age at time of death	78
Role of significance	Luke Spencer in General Hospital
Medical context	Highlights risks of surgery in older adults (infection, cardiovascular stress)
Research cited	The Lancet (2019), JAGS (2021), Anesthesiology Clinics (2020)
Legacy details	8-time Emmy winner, TV legend, record-setting audience impact
Strategic/significant value	Raises global awareness on informed medical decision-making in ageing populations



- **What is the key objective of SBI's launch of Yono 2.0?**
- A) To replace all physical bank branches
 - B) To introduce a new loan scheme
 - C) To compete with digital payment platforms like Google Pay
 - D) To sell SBI shares through the app
 - E) To allow cryptocurrency transactions

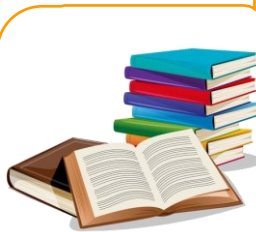
Answer

C) To compete with digital payment platforms like Google Pay



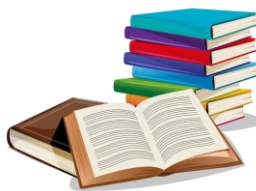
Event and Location:

- **Event:** SBI launched Yono 2.0 and announced plans to hire 10,000 staff for digital migration
- **Location:** Mumbai, India
- **Date:** December 15, 2025



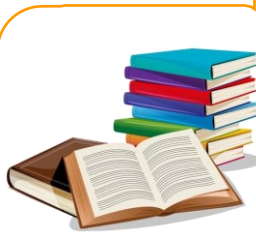
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** SBI launched Yono 2.0, a revamped version of its digital banking app, and initiated the hiring of 10,000 staff to assist branch customers in migrating to digital platforms.
- **Objectives:** To promote cost-efficient digital banking, increase adoption of the Yono platform, and position SBI as a competitor to major digital payment players like Google Pay and PhonePe.



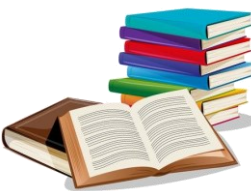
Important Terms Explained:

- **Yono 2.0:** The upgraded version of SBI's You Only Need One (YONO) app, redesigned to support mobile, tablet, and desktop platforms with enhanced functionality and cross-bank user support.
- **Digital Channel Migration:** A strategy adopted by banks to shift customers from branch-based services to online platforms for greater efficiency and cost savings.
- **Customer Acquisition Cost:** The cost incurred by a bank to onboard a new customer. SBI claims Yono 2.0 reduces this cost to one-tenth compared to physical onboarding.



Tabular Summary:

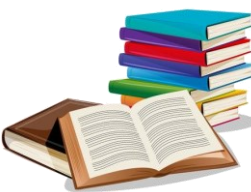
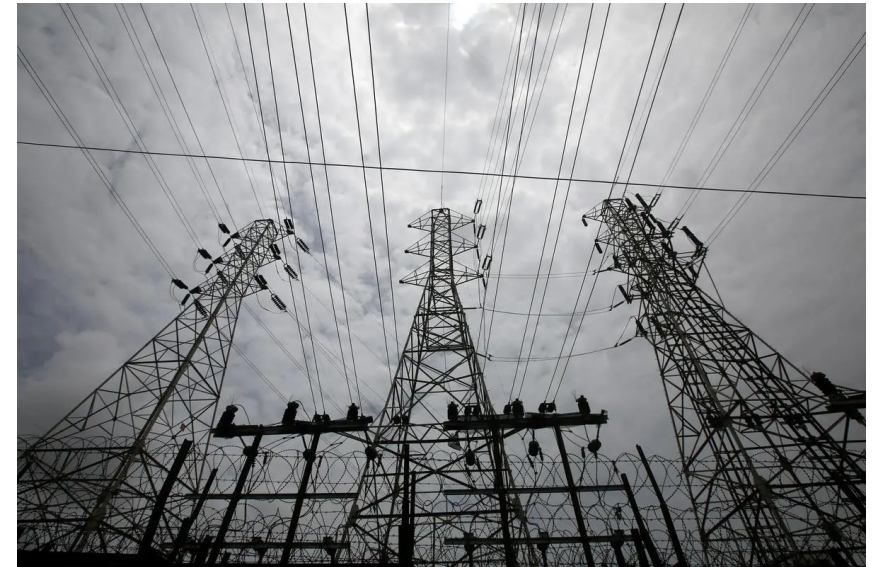
Parameter	Details
Event name	Launch of Yono 2.0 and SBI digital shift initiative
Announcement date	December 15, 2025
Location	Mumbai, India
Issuing authority	State Bank of India (SBI)
Policy/series name	Yono 2.0 (You Only Need One – upgraded version)
Key figures	C. S. Setty (SBI Chairman), K. Krithivasan (TCS CEO)
Purpose/reason	Shift customers to digital channels and reduce operational costs
Feature details	Works across mobile, tablet, desktop; cross-bank user access
Validity or status	Active rollout in progress; full migration by FY-end 2026
Strategic/significant value	Competes with Google Pay, PhonePe; cost-effective customer onboarding



➤ **What is Tata Power's planned investment towards five HVDC projects by FY30?**

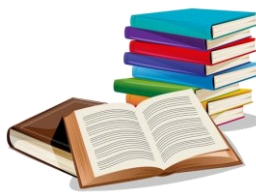
- A) ₹50,000 crore
- B) ₹75,000 crore
- C) ₹1 lakh crore
- D) ₹1.25 lakh crore
- E) ₹2 lakh crore

Answer
C) ₹1 lakh crore



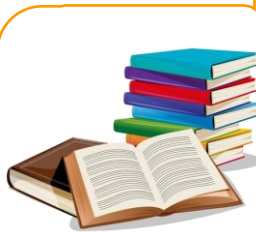
Event and Location:

- **Event:** Tata Power announces ₹1 lakh crore investment plan for five HVDC projects
- **Location:** Bhubaneswar (Corporate announcement); Nationwide implementation
- **Date:** December 15, 2025



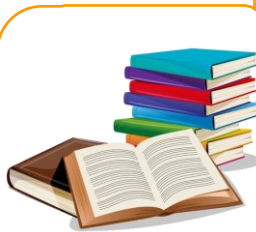
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** Tata Power has proposed a capex of ₹1.25 lakh crore for FY26–FY30, targeting five major HVDC projects, expansion of renewable energy capacity, increased transmission lines, and distribution reach.



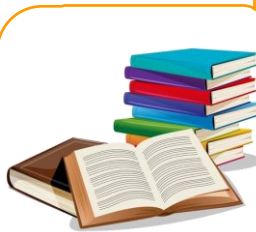
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:**
 - Increase total power generation capacity to over 30 GW, with 20 GW from clean and green sources
 - Expand transmission line network to 10,000 CKM
 - Reach 4 crore distribution customers by 2030
 - Participate in nuclear energy through small modular reactors
 - Align with regulatory shifts under the Draft Electricity (Amendment) Bill 2025



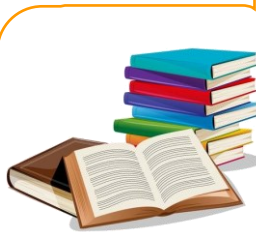
Important Terms Explained:

- **HVDC (High Voltage Direct Current):** A technology for long-distance power transmission that reduces losses and is efficient for connecting remote renewable sources to urban centers.
- **Small Modular Reactors (SMRs):** Next-generation compact nuclear reactors with reduced safety and infrastructure risks, being explored by private power firms.



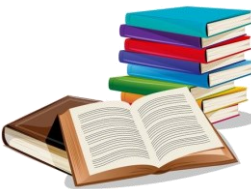
Important Terms Explained:

- **Draft Electricity (Amendment) Bill 2025:** A proposed legislative update allowing parallel licensing, cost-reflective tariffs, and greater participation of private players in distribution.
- **Clean and Green Energy:** Refers to power generated from renewable sources such as solar, wind, hydro, etc., contributing to carbon neutrality goals.



Tabular Summary:

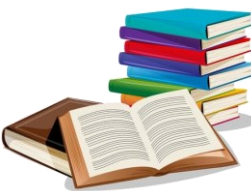
Parameter	Details
Event name	Tata Power targets ₹1 lakh crore for HVDC projects
Announcement date	December 15, 2025
Location	Bhubaneswar (announcement); pan-India projects
Issuing authority	Tata Power
Policy/series name	FY26–FY30 Strategic Capex Plan
Key figures	Pravir Sinha (MD & CEO, Tata Power)
Purpose/reason	Expand generation, transmission, and distribution; focus on clean energy
Feature details	5 HVDC projects, nuclear energy exploration, disinvestment from non-core assets
Validity or status	Investment plan announced; project bids between FY27–FY30
Strategic/significant value	Positions Tata Power as a major clean energy and grid player; aligns with draft power reforms



➤ By what percentage did India's trade deficit fall in November 2025 compared to the previous year?

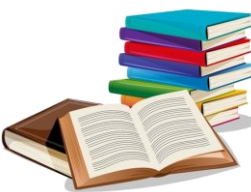
- A) 45%
- B) 52%
- C) 61%
- D) 66%
- E) 75%

Answer
C) 61%



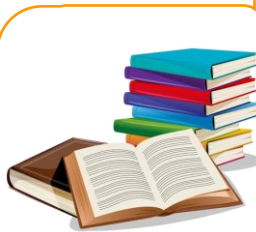
Event and Location:

- **Event:** India's trade deficit fell by over 61% in November 2025
- **Location:** India (International trade figures)
- **Date:** December 15, 2025 (Data for November 2025)



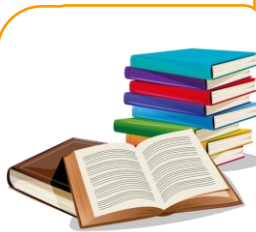
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - India recorded a 61% year-on-year decline in its trade deficit, bringing it down to \$6.6 billion in November 2025, driven by a surge in merchandise exports and a fall in merchandise imports.
- **Objectives:**
 - Improve India's external trade balance by boosting exports
 - Reduce dependence on imported goods to lower trade deficits
 - Expand trade with key partners like the United States



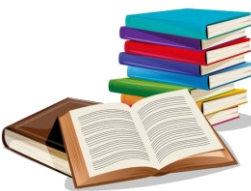
Important Terms Explained:

- **Trade Deficit:** Occurs when a country's imports exceed its exports, resulting in more money flowing out than coming in. A narrowing trade deficit indicates improved export performance or reduced import spending.
- **Merchandise Exports:** Refers to tangible goods (not services) sold to other countries. These include textiles, electronics, machinery, agricultural produce, etc.
- **Year-on-Year (YoY) Comparison:** A method of evaluating two or more measurable events on an annualized basis, often used to compare current data to the same period in the previous year.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	India's trade deficit drops 61% in November 2025
Announcement date	December 15, 2025
Location	India (Global trade data)
Issuing authority	Directorate General of Foreign Trade / Ministry of Commerce
Policy/series name	Monthly Trade Data (November 2025)
Key figures	T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan (reporting)
Purpose/reason	Strong merchandise export growth and lower imports reduced trade gap
Feature details	Exports to the U.S. grew 22.6% YoY to \$6.98 billion in Nov 2025
Validity or status	Official trade data for November 2025
Strategic/significant value	Indicates positive export momentum and trade resilience amid global shifts

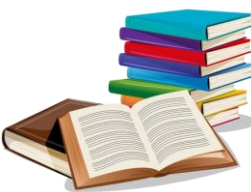


➤ **Which organization has received the LoA to develop a 110MW solar power project in Uttar Pradesh?**

- A) NTPC Limited
- B) NHPC Limited
- C) Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency
- D) NLC India Limited
- E) Solar Energy Corporation of India

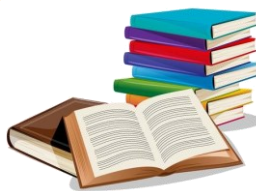
Answer

D) NLC India Limited



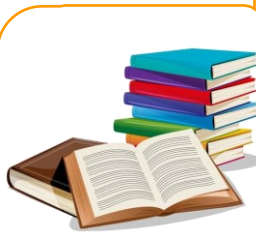
Event and Location:

- **Event:** NLCIL to develop a 110MW grid-connected solar power plant
- **Location:** Uttar Pradesh
- **Date:** December 15, 2025



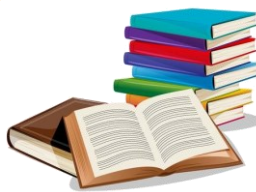
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - NLC India Limited (NLCIL) received the Letter of Acceptance (LoA) from NCRTC for establishing a 110MW solar photovoltaic power project in Uttar Pradesh.
 - The project will be set up, commissioned, operated, and maintained by NLCIL under a power purchase agreement (PPA).



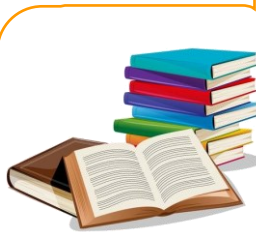
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:**
 - To support clean and sustainable energy adoption for large-scale infrastructure projects.
 - To fulfill the power requirements of the National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC) through renewable energy sources.



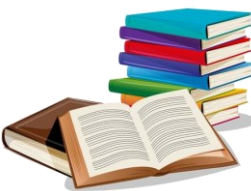
Important Terms Explained:

- **NLC India Limited (NLCIL):** A Navratna PSU under the Ministry of Coal engaged in lignite mining and power generation, now expanding into renewables.
- **NCRTC (National Capital Region Transport Corporation):** A joint venture between the Central Government and state governments of Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh, responsible for implementing regional rapid transit systems (RRTS) and infrastructure projects.
- **Letter of Acceptance (LoA):** A formal document issued to confirm that a bid or proposal has been accepted by the contracting authority, enabling the execution of the project.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	Development of 110MW solar power project
Announcement date	December 15, 2025
Location	Uttar Pradesh
Issuing authority	NCRTC (National Capital Region Transport Corporation)
Project executor	NLC India Limited (NLCIL)
Project capacity	110 MW
Purpose/reason	To support clean energy for NCRTC's infrastructure needs
Feature details	Grid-connected solar PV plant, 24-month completion timeline
Validity or status	Letter of Acceptance issued; project to begin soon
Strategic significance	Push towards renewable energy in public transport infrastructure



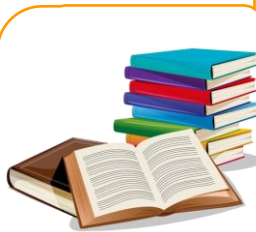
BOOKS AND AUTHORS



➤ Who authored the book "A Tale of Two States", launched by Andhra Pradesh CM Chandrababu Naidu in December 2025?

- A) K. Chandrahass
- B) N. Anuradha
- C) I. Venkata Rao
- D) I. Raghav
- E) Vamsi Vikas

Answer
C) I. Venkata Rao

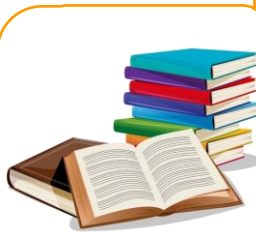


BOOKS AND AUTHORS



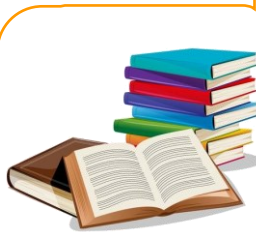
Event and Location:

- **Event:** Launch of English book A Tale of Two States on AP–TS bifurcation
- **Location:** Hyderabad (CM Chandrababu's residence)
- **Date:** December 14, 2025



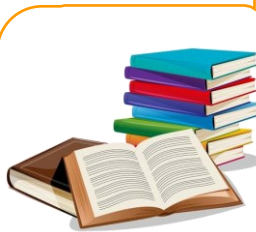
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu launched the English version of the book A Tale of Two States, originally written in Telugu as Vileenam Vibhajana by senior journalist I. Venkata Rao.
- **Objectives:**
 - To document and explain the political, economic, and social impacts of the bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, preserving the narrative for future researchers and generations.



Important Terms Explained:

- **A Tale of Two States:** The English translation of Vileenam Vibhajana, a political non-fiction book about the bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.
- **Vileenam Vibhajana:** The original Telugu book detailing the events, decisions, and leadership roles during the Andhra Pradesh–Telangana state division.
- **Bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh (2014):** The official separation of the erstwhile unified Andhra Pradesh into two states—Telangana and residuary Andhra Pradesh—under the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014.

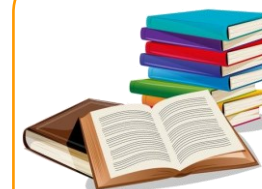


BOOKS AND AUTHORS



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	Book launch of A Tale of Two States
Announcement date	December 14, 2025
Location	Hyderabad, Telangana
Issuing authority	CM N. Chandrababu Naidu
Policy/series name	Political history documentation initiative
Key figures	I. Venkata Rao (Author), N. Anuradha (Translator), N. Chandrababu Naidu (CM)
Purpose/reason	To share the narrative of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana bifurcation
Feature details	English translation of the Telugu book Vileenam Vibhajana
Validity or status	Book released and available
Strategic/significant value	Preserves critical political history and promotes bilingual documentation



APPOINTMENTS

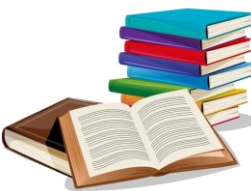


➤ Who has been appointed as the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of JioStar in December 2025?

- A) Sanjeev Mehta
- B) G R Arun Kumar
- C) T V Narendran
- D) Ritesh Tiwari
- E) Kunal Bahl

Answer

B) G R Arun Kumar

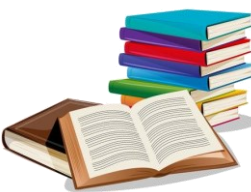


APPOINTMENTS



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Appointment of G R Arun Kumar as Chief Financial Officer of JioStar
- **Location:** Mumbai, India
- **Date:** December 15, 2025

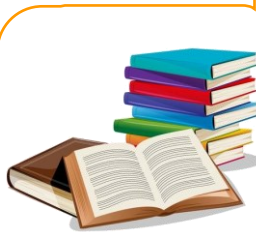


APPOINTMENTS



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** JioStar appointed G R Arun Kumar as its new Chief Financial Officer (CFO), with responsibility for leading the Finance and Commercial functions.
- **Objectives:**
 - Strengthen financial leadership and strategic planning
 - Drive growth, profitability, and financial resilience
 - Collaborate with Board, CEOs, and business leaders to support value creation
 - Build agile financial systems and enhance operational flexibility in a digital-first environment

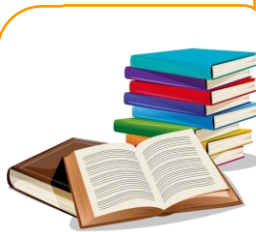


APPOINTMENTS



Important Terms Explained:

- **Chief Financial Officer (CFO):** A top executive responsible for managing a company's financial planning, risk management, record-keeping, and financial reporting.
- **Stakeholder Management:** The process of maintaining good relationships with individuals or groups who have an interest in a company's operations, such as investors, employees, or government bodies.
- **Digital-first Organisation:** A business model where digital tools and platforms are at the core of business operations, customer engagement, and decision-making processes.

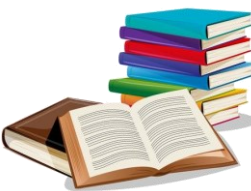


APPOINTMENTS



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	Appointment of G R Arun Kumar as CFO of JioStar
Announcement date	December 15, 2025
Location	Mumbai
Issuing authority	JioStar
Policy/series name	Executive Leadership Appointment
Key figures	G R Arun Kumar
Purpose/reason	Strengthen financial strategy, drive profitability and business growth
Feature details	Overseeing finance, commercial strategy, M&A, compliance, and stakeholder engagement
Validity or status	Officially appointed and active
Strategic/significant value	Key leadership addition to accelerate JioStar's digital-first transformation



APPOINTMENTS

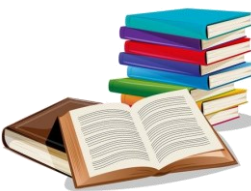


➤ **Who has been appointed as the Vice President of Corporate Development at OpenAI in December 2025?**

- A) Sarah Friar
- B) Mike Liberatore
- C) Albert Lee
- D) Torben Severson
- E) Sundar Pichai



Answer
C) Albert Lee

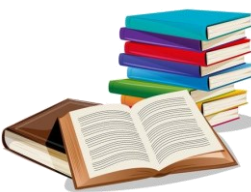


APPOINTMENTS



Event and Location:

- **Event:** OpenAI appoints Albert Lee as Vice President of Corporate Development
- **Location:** United States (Global headquarters: San Francisco)
- **Date:** December 15, 2025 (official confirmation); starts role on December 16, 2025

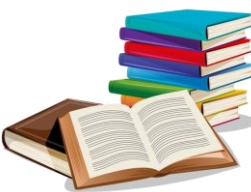


APPOINTMENTS



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - OpenAI has hired Albert Lee, former Senior Director of Corporate Development at Google, as its VP of Corporate Development, reporting to CFO Sarah Friar.
 - His role includes overseeing strategic growth initiatives, acquisitions, and investment partnerships across the company.

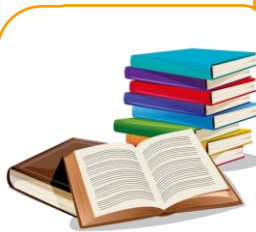


APPOINTMENTS



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:**
 - To bring experienced leadership with broad strategic visibility across teams
 - Accelerate business development, acquisitions, and strategic investments for OpenAI
 - Expand OpenAI's corporate and product ecosystem globally under Microsoft-backed leadership

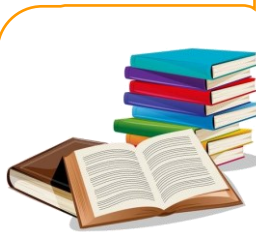


APPOINTMENTS



Important Terms Explained:

- **OpenAI:** A leading artificial intelligence research and deployment company, backed by Microsoft, known for products like ChatGPT and GPT-4/5 series.
- **Corporate Development:** A strategic division responsible for M&A (mergers and acquisitions), strategic investments, and partnership scouting to drive organizational growth.
- **CapitalG:** Alphabet's independent growth equity investment arm, where Lee serves as an advisory board member. The fund has invested in top tech firms like Airbnb and CrowdStrike.
- **Sarah Friar:** Chief Financial Officer (CFO) at OpenAI, overseeing finance and strategic expansion.

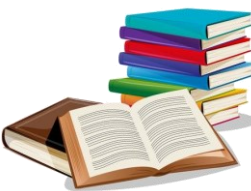


APPOINTMENTS



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	Appointment of Albert Lee as VP of Corporate Development at OpenAI
Announcement date	December 15, 2025
Location	United States (OpenAI HQ – San Francisco)
Issuing authority	OpenAI
Policy/series name	Corporate Development Appointments
Key figures	Albert Lee, Sarah Friar, Sam Altman
Purpose/reason	Strengthen strategic planning, M&A, and global partnerships
Feature details	Lee brings experience from Google Cloud, DeepMind, and CapitalG
Validity or status	Role effective from December 16, 2025
Strategic/significant value	Enhances OpenAI's leadership in corporate growth and AI partnerships



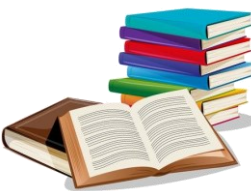
AWARDS



➤ Who presented the Muthamizh Peravai awards in December 2025?

- A) Kamal Haasan
- B) M. Karunanidhi
- C) M.K. Stalin
- D) Udhayanidhi Stalin
- E) R. N. Ravi

Answer
C) M.K. Stalin

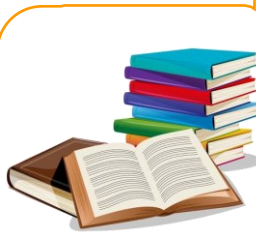


AWARDS



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Presentation of Muthamizh Peravai Awards to artistes
- **Location:** Muthamizh Peravai, Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- **Date:** December 16, 2025

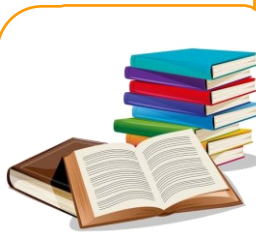


AWARDS



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin presented Muthamizh Peravai awards to select artistes and cultural contributors during a ceremony in Chennai.
- **Objectives:**
 - To honour and recognise outstanding talent in Tamil art and culture.
 - To continue the cultural legacy associated with Muthamizh Peravai, once nurtured by former CM M. Karunanidhi.

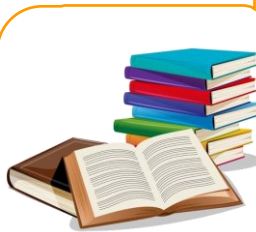


AWARDS



Important Terms Explained:

- **Muthamizh Peravai:** A cultural organisation in Tamil Nadu dedicated to promoting Tamil literature, music, and drama – the three pillars of “Muthamizh”.
- **Kalaimamani Awards:** Prestigious civilian awards given by the Tamil Nadu government to individuals for excellence in the field of art and literature.
- **M. Karunanidhi:** Former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu and a strong patron of Tamil arts and literature, closely associated with Muthamizh Peravai.

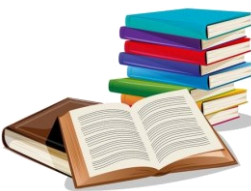


AWARDS



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	Muthamizh Peravai Awards Ceremony
Announcement date	December 16, 2025
Location	Chennai, Tamil Nadu
Issuing authority	Tamil Nadu State Government
Key figure	M.K. Stalin, Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Purpose/reason	To honour excellence in Tamil arts and cultural contribution
Feature details	Presentation of awards like Kalaimamani
Strategic significance	Preservation and promotion of Tamil cultural heritage



➤ What is the name of the first fully indigenous 1.0 GHz, 64-bit dual-core microprocessor launched by India in 2025?

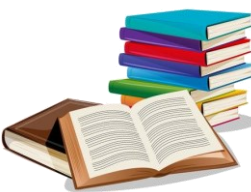
- A) SHAKTI
- B) AJIT
- C) DHRUV64
- D) THEJAS64
- E) VIKRAM

Answer
C) DHRUV64



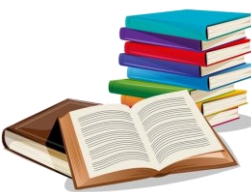
Event and Location:

- **Event:** India launches its first 1.0 GHz, 64-bit dual-core microprocessor, DHRUV64
- **Location:** New Delhi, India
- **Date:** December 15, 2025



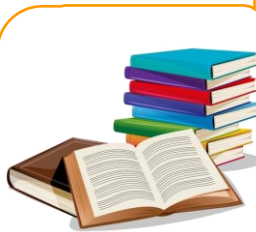
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** The Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) launched DHRUV64, India's first fully indigenous 1.0 GHz, 64-bit dual-core microprocessor under the Microprocessor Development Programme (MDP).



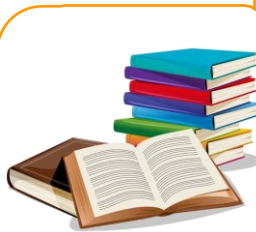
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:**
 - To provide an efficient, multitasking, and reliable indigenous processor platform
 - Support strategic and commercial sectors like 5G, IoT, automotive, industrial automation
 - Strengthen India's self-reliant semiconductor ecosystem
 - Offer a licence-free, open-source alternative to imported processors



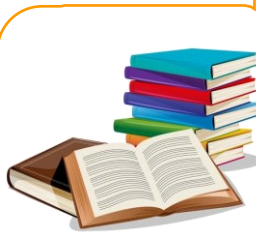
Important Terms Explained:

- **DHRUV64:** India's first 1.0 GHz, 64-bit, dual-core microprocessor, developed by C-DAC for use in strategic and commercial applications with open-source architecture and no licensing costs.
- **Microprocessor Development Programme (MDP):** A MeitY initiative to promote indigenous microprocessor design and development for strategic autonomy and economic growth in semiconductors.



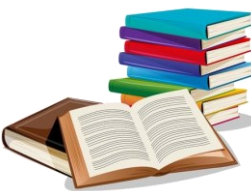
Important Terms Explained:

- **C-DAC (Centre for Development of Advanced Computing):** A premier R&D organisation under MeitY, focused on advanced computing and electronics.
- **Open-source Architecture:** A model where processor design specifications are made publicly available, enabling broader adoption and eliminating licence costs.



Tabular Summary:

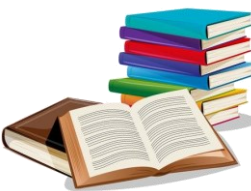
Parameter	Details
Event name	Launch of DHRUV64 – India's first 64-bit dual-core indigenous microprocessor
Announcement date	December 15, 2025
Location	New Delhi
Issuing authority	Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), C-DAC
Policy/series name	Microprocessor Development Programme (MDP)
Key figures	MeitY, C-DAC
Purpose/reason	Build indigenous processor capabilities and reduce reliance on imports
Feature details	1.0 GHz, 64-bit, dual-core, open-source, suitable for strategic/commercial use
Validity or status	Officially launched and active
Strategic/significant value	Boosts Atmanirbhar Bharat in semiconductors, supports 5G, IoT, automation



- **What is the primary objective of the MoU signed between the Indian Navy, Brazilian Navy, and MDL?**
- A) To build new aircraft carriers jointly
 - B) To explore underwater oil reserves
 - C) To exchange information on submarine maintenance
 - D) To conduct joint anti-piracy operations
 - E) To launch a trilateral naval exercise

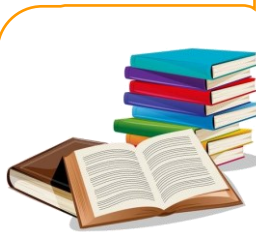
Answer

C) To exchange information on submarine maintenance



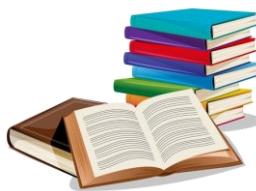
Event and Location:

- **Event:** India, Brazil, and Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd sign MoU on Scorpene submarine maintenance
- **Location:** Brazil
- **Date:** December 15, 2025 (MoU signed during visit from December 9–12)



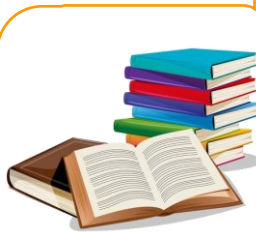
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** A tripartite MoU was signed between the Indian Navy, Brazilian Navy, and Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) for the exchange of information related to the maintenance of Scorpene-class submarines and other naval vessels.
- **Objectives:** To strengthen the India–Brazil maritime partnership by enhancing cooperation in life-cycle support, logistics, R&D, experience sharing, training, and industrial collaboration in the naval defence domain.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Scorpene-class Submarines:** A class of diesel-electric attack submarines developed by the French company Naval Group, built in India by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd under the Project-75 initiative of the Indian Navy.
- **Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL):** A leading public sector shipyard in India, responsible for constructing Scorpene-class submarines and other naval vessels.
- **Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA):** The effective understanding of anything associated with the maritime domain that could impact the security, safety, economy, or environment.

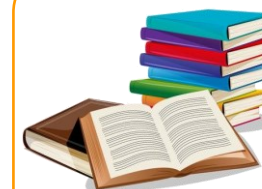


DEFENCE



Tabular Summary:

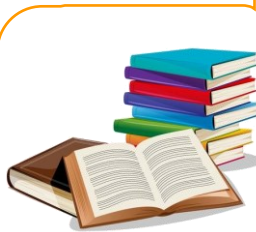
Parameter	Details
Event name	Signing of MoU on Scorpene submarine maintenance
Announcement date	December 15, 2025
Location	Brazil
Issuing authority	Indian Navy, Brazilian Navy, MDL
Policy/series name	India–Brazil Naval Maintenance Cooperation
Key figures	Admiral Dinesh K. Tripathi, Admiral Marcos Sampaio Olsen
Purpose/reason	Exchange maintenance knowledge and deepen naval cooperation
Feature details	Covers logistics, training, R&D, life-cycle support, and experience sharing
Validity or status	Signed and active
Strategic/significant value	Strengthens India–Brazil defence industry and maritime security ties



➤ **Where is India's first autonomous maritime shipyard being established?**

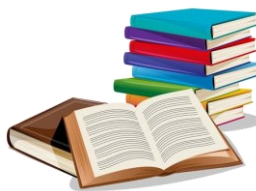
- A) Kakinada
- B) Paradip
- C) Juvvaladinne
- D) Vizhinjam
- E) Kochi

Answer
C) Juvvaladinne



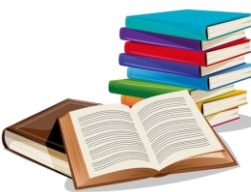
Event and Location:

- **Event:** Andhra Pradesh approves India's first autonomous maritime shipyard
- **Location:** Juvvaladinne Fishing Harbour, SPSR Nellore District, Andhra Pradesh
- **Date:** December 15, 2025



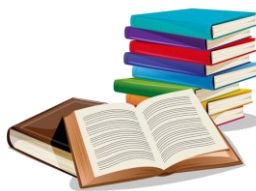
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - The Andhra Pradesh government approved Sagar Defence Engineering Pvt. Ltd.'s proposal to set up India's first dedicated autonomous maritime shipyard and systems development centre at Juvvaladinne.
 - The project will focus on autonomous and unmanned maritime platforms, including the construction, integration, testing, and support of surface and underwater autonomous vessels.



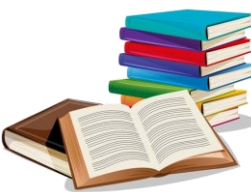
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:**
 - Strengthen defence-linked manufacturing and promote Atmanirbhar Bharat
 - Develop next-generation maritime systems and command-control technologies
 - Position Andhra Pradesh as a hub for autonomous maritime infrastructure
 - Generate 750 jobs (300 direct and 450 indirect), boosting coastal employment



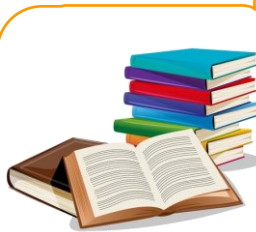
Important Terms Explained:

- **Autonomous Maritime Shipyard:** A high-tech industrial facility for the construction, integration, lifecycle support, and testing of unmanned and autonomous marine vessels, with minimal human intervention.
- **Sagar Defence Engineering Pvt Ltd:** A leading Indian defence technology firm specializing in autonomous maritime systems, with capabilities in underwater vehicles, mission-critical platforms, and advanced maritime defence technologies.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Juvvaladinne Fishing Harbour:** A coastal site in Bogole mandal, SPSR Nellore district in Andhra Pradesh, chosen for its strategic waterfront location for shipbuilding and maritime innovation.
- **Atmanirbhar Bharat:** A national initiative by the Government of India aimed at promoting self-reliance in defence and manufacturing sectors, including indigenous technology development.

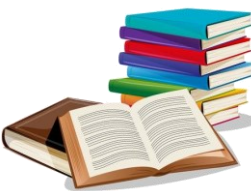


DEFENCE



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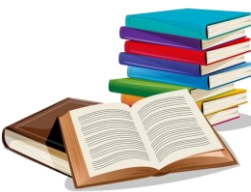
Parameter	Details
Event name	Approval for India's first autonomous maritime shipyard
Announcement date	December 15, 2025
Location	Juvvaladinne Fishing Harbour, SPSR Nellore, Andhra Pradesh
Issuing authority	Andhra Pradesh State Government, SIPB
Policy/series name	Defence & Maritime Infrastructure Initiative
Key figures	Sagar Defence Engineering Pvt Ltd, SIPB, Andhra Pradesh Maritime Board
Purpose/reason	Develop indigenous capacity in autonomous maritime systems
Feature details	29.58 acres (7.58 waterfront + 22 harbour), 750 jobs, focus on unmanned vessels
Validity or status	Approved and scheduled for construction from Dec 2025
Strategic/significant value	Aligns with Atmanirbhar Bharat and boosts India's maritime self-reliance



- What is the total investment Raghu Vamsi Aerospace Group plans to make in its new and upcoming defence facilities in Hyderabad?

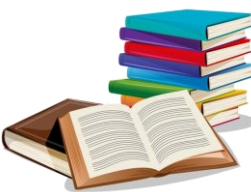
- A) ₹100 crore
- B) ₹200 crore
- C) ₹300 crore
- D) ₹400 crore
- E) ₹500 crore

Answer
D) ₹400 crore



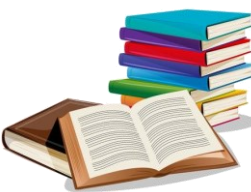
Event and Location:

- **Event:** Raghu Vamsi launches ₹100-crore facility and unveils six UAV and defence products
- **Location:** Hyderabad, Telangana
- **Date:** December 15, 2025



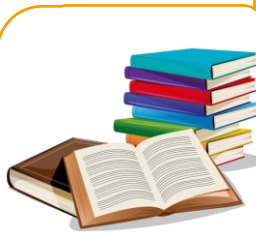
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - Raghu Vamsi Aerospace Group inaugurated a new deep-tech aerospace and defence production facility and launched six indigenous UAV and defence systems.
- **Objectives:**
 - To strengthen India's strategic defence capabilities, support Make in India in defence manufacturing, and enable high-scale production of UAVs, UGVs, and aerospace systems for domestic and global markets.



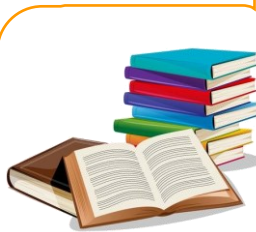
Important Terms Explained:

- **UAV (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle):** Aircraft systems operated without a human pilot onboard, used for surveillance, combat, and reconnaissance missions.
- **Loitering Munitions:** A hybrid between drones and missiles that can wait passively in the air before striking a target.
- **OEM (Original Equipment Manufacturer):** Companies that produce components or products that are used in another company's end product.



Important Terms Explained:

- **UGV (Unmanned Ground Vehicle):** Land-based robotic systems used for surveillance, combat support, or logistics in defence operations.
- **Micro Turbojet Engine:** A compact jet engine designed for powering small aircraft and drones, known for high-speed propulsion.

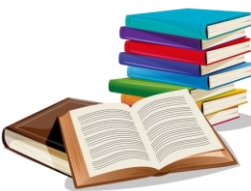


DEFENCE



Tabular Summary:

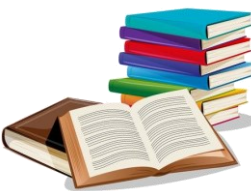
Parameter	Details
Event name	Launch of UAVs and new defence facility by Raghu Vamsi
Announcement date	December 15, 2025
Location	Hyderabad, Telangana
Issuing authority	Raghu Vamsi Aerospace Group
Policy/series name	Indigenous Defence Manufacturing Initiative
Key figures	Vamsi Vikas (Founder & MD)
Purpose/reason	To boost India's self-reliance in UAV and defence production
Feature details	₹100 crore facility launched; ₹300 crore investment planned
Validity or status	First facility operational; second planned for 2026
Strategic/significant value	Supports defence R&D, job creation, and export potential



- **What is the purpose of the Reciprocal Exchange of Logistics Support (RELOS) agreement signed between India and Russia?**
- A) Promote nuclear energy cooperation
 - B) Allow mutual military logistics access
 - C) Establish a free trade zone
 - D) Boost cultural exchange programs
 - E) Enhance space exploration research

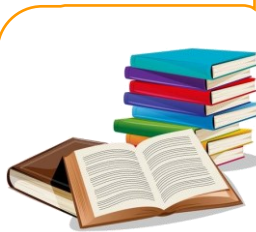
Answer

B) Allow mutual military logistics access



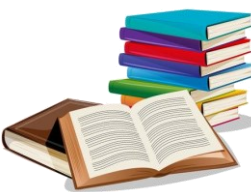
Event and Location:

- **Event:** President Putin signed RELOS agreement with India into federal law
- **Location:** India and Russia
- **Date:** December 16, 2025



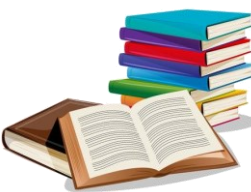
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** Russia and India agreed to a reciprocal logistics support arrangement enabling access to each other's military facilities and support systems.
- **Objectives:** To enhance interoperability during joint exercises, humanitarian missions, and other coordinated military operations by allowing mutual access to logistics infrastructure including bases, ports, and airspace.



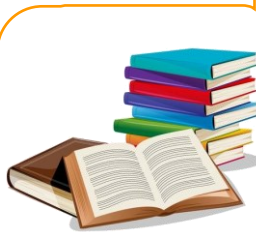
Important Terms Explained:

- **RELOS (Reciprocal Exchange of Logistics Support):** A bilateral logistics support agreement enabling armed forces of India and Russia to access each other's bases, fuel supplies, and port facilities for refueling and maintenance.
- **Ratification Process (Russia):** A legal legislative process requiring approval from both houses of the Russian Parliament—State Duma and Federation Council—followed by presidential assent to become federal law.



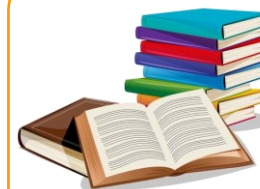
Important Terms Explained:

- **Logistical Support:** In military terms, this refers to the provision of transport, supplies, refueling, and repairs necessary to maintain operational capability during exercises or missions.



Tabular Summary:

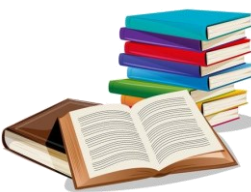
Parameter	Details
Event name	Signing of Reciprocal Exchange of Logistics Support (RELOS) Agreement
Announcement date	December 16, 2025
Location	India and Russia
Issuing authority	Kremlin Chancery, Russian Parliament, Indian Ministry of Defence
Policy/series name	RELOS – Reciprocal Exchange of Logistics Support
Key figures	Vladimir Putin, Narendra Modi
Purpose/reason	To enable mutual military logistical support and strengthen defence ties
Feature details	Allows mutual port calls, refueling, maintenance, and base access
Validity or status	Enacted as federal law after ratification by both Russian houses
Strategic/significant value	Enhances strategic military cooperation and readiness between the two nations



- What is the new limit set by Nepal for individuals carrying Indian ₹200 and ₹500 denomination notes?

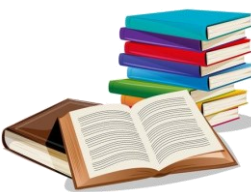
- A) ₹10,000
- B) ₹15,000
- C) ₹20,000
- D) ₹25,000
- E) ₹30,000

Answer
D) ₹25,000



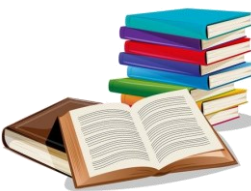
Event and Location:

- **Event:** Nepal lifts ban on high-denomination Indian currency, allows ₹500 notes up to ₹25,000
- **Location:** Nepal
- **Date:** December 16, 2025



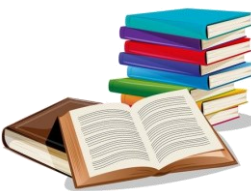
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** The Government of Nepal has permitted individuals to carry Indian currency notes of ₹200 and ₹500 denominations up to ₹25,000 per person, ending a ban on high-denomination Indian notes that lasted nearly a decade.
- **Objectives:** To facilitate travel and financial transactions for Nepali and Indian citizens, reduce legal issues linked to currency violations, and boost tourism and economic activity, especially in sectors reliant on Indian visitors such as hospitality and casinos.



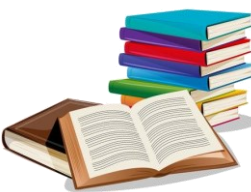
Important Terms Explained:

- **Foreign Exchange Management (Export and Import of Currency) Regulations, 2015:** A regulation under FEMA that governs the rules for carrying Indian currency across borders. Recent amendments now allow carrying of higher denomination notes between India, Nepal, and Bhutan.
- **Nepal Rastra Bank (NRB):** The central bank of Nepal, responsible for formulating and implementing monetary policy and managing foreign exchange and currency regulations.



Important Terms Explained:

- **High-Denomination Indian Currency Ban:** Nepal previously prohibited individuals from carrying ₹500 and ₹1,000 Indian notes, especially after India's demonetization move in 2016, leading to difficulties for travellers and economic losses in tourism sectors.

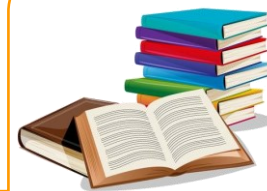


INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	Nepal lifts ban on ₹500 Indian notes, allows currency up to ₹25,000
Announcement date	December 16, 2025
Location	Nepal
Issuing authority	Government of Nepal, Nepal Rastra Bank, RBI
Policy/series name	Amendment to FEMA (Currency Export & Import Rules)
Key figures	Guru Prasad Paudel (NRB spokesperson)
Purpose/reason	Facilitate travel, business, and reduce arrests linked to currency carriage
Feature details	₹200 and ₹500 notes allowed up to ₹25,000 per person
Validity or status	To be enforced upon gazette notification and NRB circular
Strategic/significant value	Eases migrant worker travel, boosts tourism, casinos, and hospitality



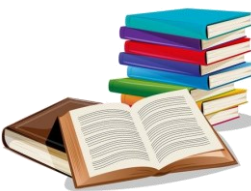
➤ Which of the following technology domains is part of the evolving India–U.S. collaboration as mentioned by U.S. Consul General Laura Williams?

- A) Renewable farming
- B) Textile innovation
- C) Quantum technologies
- D) Ceramic engineering
- E) Fisheries automation



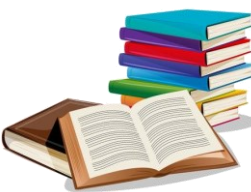
Answer

C) Quantum technologies



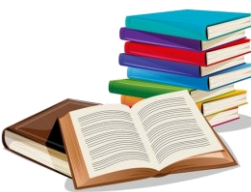
Event and Location:

- **Event:** India–U.S. collaboration expanding into frontier technology sectors
- **Location:** Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh
- **Date:** December 15, 2025



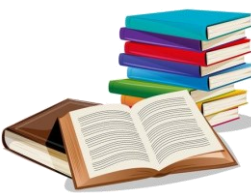
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - U.S. Consul General Laura Williams highlighted that India–U.S. partnerships are increasingly focused on advanced technology domains such as AI, quantum computing, cybersecurity, and responsible data governance.
- **Objectives:**
 - To foster inclusive, ethical, and real-world problem-solving innovations by deepening bilateral cooperation between India and the U.S. in frontier technologies, supporting entrepreneurship and innovation in regions like Andhra Pradesh.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Ratan Tata Innovation Hub (RTIH):** A platform in Andhra Pradesh aimed at nurturing innovation-led entrepreneurship, fostering startup culture and advanced tech development.
- **Frontier Technologies:** Cutting-edge fields like artificial intelligence (AI), quantum computing, and cybersecurity, which have transformative potential for global industries and societies.
- **Responsible Data Usage:** The ethical and secure use of data ensuring privacy, inclusivity, and transparency, especially critical in international tech partnerships.

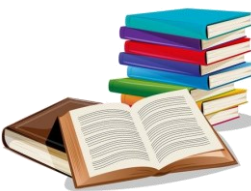


INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	India–U.S. technology collaboration focus
Announcement date	December 15, 2025
Location	Ratan Tata Innovation Hub, Amaravati
Issuing authority	U.S. Consulate General, Hyderabad
Policy/series name	India–U.S. Frontier Tech Partnership
Key figures	Laura Williams (U.S. Consul General)
Purpose/reason	Support ethical and inclusive tech innovation
Feature details	Collaboration in AI, quantum tech, cybersecurity, data ethics
Validity or status	Ongoing diplomatic and tech engagement
Strategic/significant value	Strengthens bilateral ties and promotes tech-driven entrepreneurship

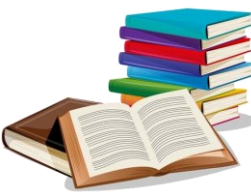


➤ **Which proposed bill seeks to replace MGNREGA with a supply-driven rural employment programme?**

- A) Bharat Rozgar Abhiyan Bill, 2025
- B) National Rural Employment Promotion Bill, 2025
- C) VB-G RAM G Bill, 2025
- D) Viksit Gramin Yojana Bill, 2025
- E) Samriddhi Bharat Rozgar Bill, 2025

Answer

C) VB-G RAM G Bill, 2025

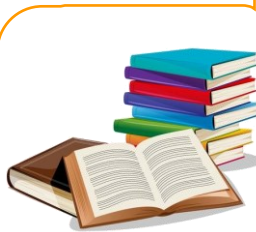


SCHEMES & INITIATIVES



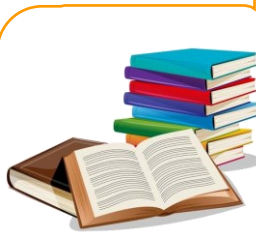
Event and Location:

- **Event:** Introduction of VB-G RAM G Bill to replace MGNREGA with a new rural wage programme
- **Location:** New Delhi, India
- **Date:** December 15, 2025



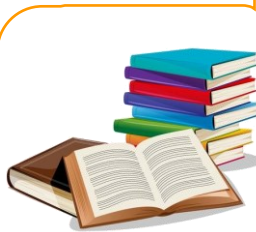
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - The government has proposed the Viksit Bharat-Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) Bill, 2025, intended to replace MGNREGA, India's existing demand-driven rural employment law.
 - The bill introduces a centrally notified, budget-capped employment scheme with a revised cost-sharing model and increased emphasis on technology-based monitoring.



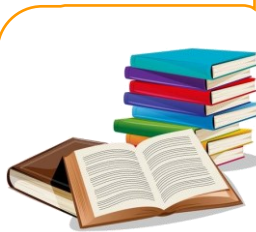
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:**
 - To increase employment guarantee from 100 to 125 days per household per year
 - Enhance transparency and accountability through mandatory biometric authentication and digital tools
 - Re-structure cost-sharing between Centre and states
 - Provide targeted wage employment based on central notifications and budget allocations



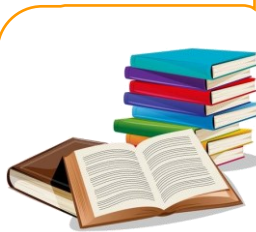
Important Terms Explained:

- **MGNREGA (Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005):** A demand-driven law that guarantees up to 100 days of unskilled manual work annually to rural households, with legal entitlements and unemployment allowance.
- **VB-G RAM G Bill, 2025:** A proposed bill that seeks to replace MGNREGA with a supply-driven scheme, where employment availability will be determined by the Central Government's budget and notifications, removing universal legal guarantees.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Biometric Authentication & Geospatial Tools:** Mandatory technologies proposed in the new bill for worker verification, site monitoring, and real-time tracking of work using mobile apps and satellite imagery.
- **73rd Constitutional Amendment:** Recognises Panchayati Raj institutions as units of self-government; critics argue the bill undermines decentralisation by centralising power over employment programmes.

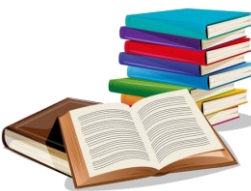


SCHEMES & INITIATIVES



Tabular Summary:

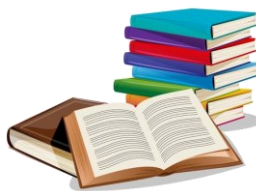
Parameter	Details
Event name	Introduction of VB-G RAM G Bill to replace MGNREGA
Announcement date	December 15, 2025
Location	New Delhi
Issuing authority	Government of India (expected tabling in Winter Session)
Policy/series name	VB-G RAM G Bill, 2025 (Viksit Bharat–Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajeevika Mission–Gramin)
Key figures	Purbayan Chakraborty, Carina Singh, Chakradhar Buddha
Purpose/reason	Replace rights-based rural employment with a centrally notified wage programme
Feature details	125 days cap, biometric & tech enforcement, Centre-controlled implementation
Validity or status	Proposed, not yet passed in Parliament
Strategic/significant value	Reduces state autonomy, shifts burden to states, ends demand-based job guarantee



- Which station has become the new terminal point after the extension of the Chennai-Vijayawada Vande Bharat Express?

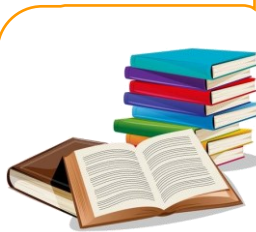
- A) Bhimavaram Town
- B) Guntur
- C) Gudivada Junction
- D) Narasapur
- E) Rajahmundry

Answer
D) Narasapur



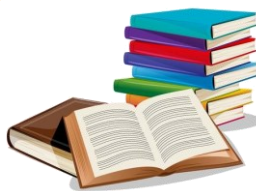
Event and Location:

- **Event:** Chennai-Vijayawada Vande Bharat Express extended to Narasapur
- **Location:** Andhra Pradesh (West Godavari District)
- **Date:** December 16, 2025



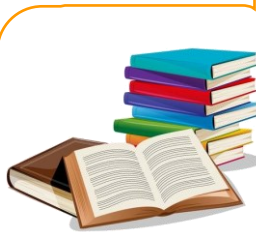
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** The Vande Bharat Express service (Train No. 20677/20678) running between MGR Chennai Central and Vijayawada has been extended to Narasapur, with new halts at Gudivada Junction and Bhimavaram Town.
- **Objectives:** To enhance regional rail connectivity, reduce travel time to Chennai, and provide modern high-speed rail services to underserved areas, especially on branch lines.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Vande Bharat Express:** India's semi-high-speed, fully air-conditioned train series designed for fast intercity connectivity with modern facilities.
- **Branch Line:** A secondary railway line branching off from a main line; typically serves less populated or remote areas.
- **Circar Express:** An existing express train running in the region, which the extended Vande Bharat is expected to complement and partly replace by offering faster services.

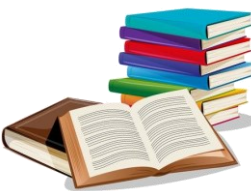


NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	Extension of Chennai-Vijayawada Vande Bharat Express to Narasapur
Announcement date	December 16, 2025
Location	Andhra Pradesh (West Godavari district)
Issuing authority	Indian Railways, Ministry of Railways
Policy/series name	Vande Bharat Express
Key figures	B. Srinivasa Varma (Union MoS for Heavy Industries and Steel)
Purpose/reason	Improve connectivity, reduce travel time, and offer faster alternatives
Feature details	New halts at Gudivada Junction and Bhimavaram Town; terminates at Narasapur
Validity or status	Operational from December 16, 2025
Strategic/significant value	First Vande Bharat service on a branch line; boosts regional rail access

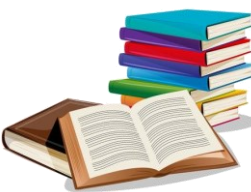


➤ **What key change does the Sustainable Harnessing and Advancement of Nuclear Energy for Transforming India Bill, 2025 propose?**

- A) Repeal of the Electricity Act, 2003
- B) Expansion of nuclear energy to the private sector
- C) Nationalisation of all nuclear installations
- D) Creation of a new uranium mining agency
- E) Promotion of nuclear energy only for defence purposes

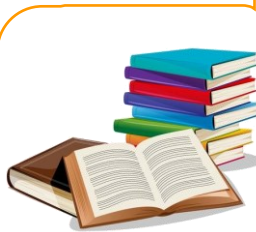
Answer

B) Expansion of nuclear energy to the private sector



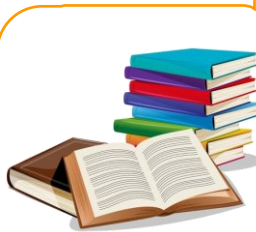
Event and Location:

- **Event:** Introduction of Bill to open civil nuclear sector to private entities
- **Location:** New Delhi, India
- **Date:** December 15, 2025



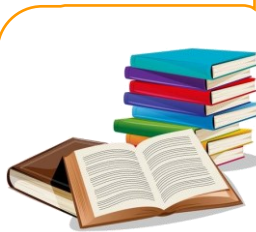
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** The Sustainable Harnessing and Advancement of Nuclear Energy for Transforming India Bill, 2025 was introduced to permit private sector participation in the civil nuclear energy sector and establish a new nuclear liability regime, replacing two older Acts.



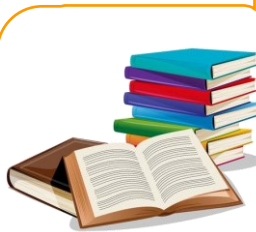
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:**
 - To increase the share of nuclear energy in India's energy mix
 - Facilitate private innovation and investment in nuclear power
 - Retain sovereign control over strategic nuclear assets and material
 - Establish a pragmatic civil liability framework
 - Expand use of nuclear energy to non-power applications
 - Provide statutory status to the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB)



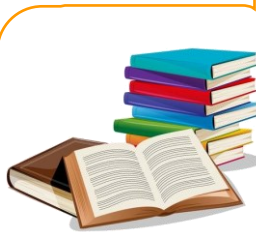
Important Terms Explained:

- **Sustainable Harnessing and Advancement of Nuclear Energy for Transforming India Bill, 2025:** A landmark legislative initiative to open India's civil nuclear energy sector to private players while maintaining government control over strategic aspects.
- **Atomic Energy Act, 1962:** The principal Act governing India's nuclear program, now proposed to be repealed by the new bill.
- **Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act, 2010:** Provides the legal framework for nuclear accident liability; this Act is also set to be repealed and replaced.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Special Drawing Rights (SDRs):** International monetary reserve currency defined by the IMF, used to calculate the maximum nuclear liability cap in this bill.
- **Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB):** India's nuclear regulatory authority, which will receive statutory status under the proposed legislation.
- **Nuclear Damage Claims Commission:** A proposed new body under the bill to adjudicate claims related to large-scale nuclear damage.

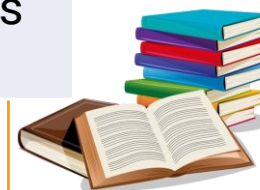


NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	Introduction of Nuclear Energy Bill, 2025
Announcement date	December 15, 2025
Location	New Delhi, India
Issuing authority	Ministry of PMO, introduced by MoS Jitendra Singh
Policy/series name	Sustainable Harnessing and Advancement of Nuclear Energy for Transforming India Bill, 2025
Key figures	Jitendra Singh (MoS, PMO), Government of India
Purpose/reason	Open civil nuclear sector to private players and reform liability norms
Feature details	Licensing for private operators, new compensation structure, statutory status for AERB
Validity or status	Introduced in Parliament, awaiting debate and passage
Strategic/significant value	Replaces 1962 & 2010 Acts, promotes private innovation, safeguards national control

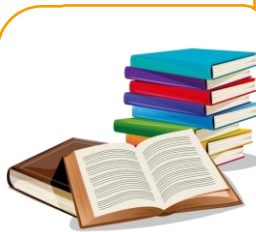


- Which traditional product from Tamil Nadu has been proposed for a GI tag due to its historic significance in pearl fishing?

- A) Kancheepuram Silk
- B) Madurai Malli
- C) Thoothukudi Pearls
- D) Erode Turmeric
- E) Salem Steel

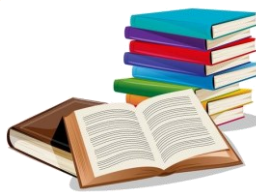
Answer

C) Thoothukudi Pearls



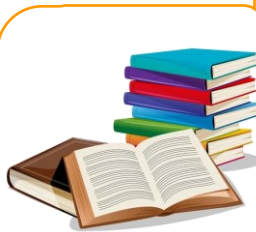
Event and Location:

- **Event:** Thoothukudi Muthu Urpathiyalargal Sangam seeks GI tag for pearls
- **Location:** Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu
- **Date:** December 16, 2025



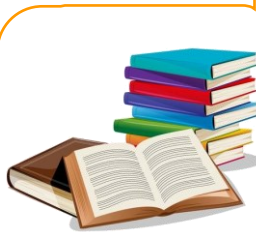
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - The Thoothukudi Muthu Urpathiyalargal Sangam has formally sought Geographical Indication (GI) status for Thoothukudi pearls.
- **Objectives:**
 - To preserve the heritage and identity of Thoothukudi's ancient pearl fishing tradition.
 - To ensure economic benefits and legal protection for traditional pearl fishers and artisans.
 - To highlight the cultural, symbolic, and historical significance of these pearls in Tamil traditions.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Geographical Indication (GI):** A sign used on products that have a specific geographical origin and possess qualities or a reputation due to that origin. GI tags offer legal protection and boost marketing value.
- **Thoothukudi Pearls:** Naturally harvested pearls from the Gulf of Mannar, known for over 2,000 years and traditionally associated with Tamil temple rituals, royal ornaments, and diplomacy.
- **Gulf of Mannar:** A marine region rich in biodiversity located between India and Sri Lanka, historically significant for pearl diving and marine trade.

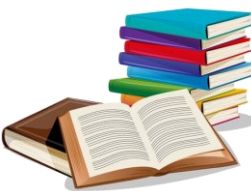


NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Tabular Summary:

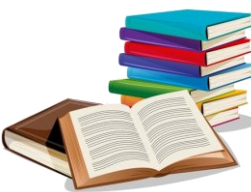
Parameter	Details
Event name	GI tag proposal for Thoothukudi pearls
Announcement date	December 16, 2025
Location	Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu
Issuing authority	Thoothukudi Muthu Urpathiyalargal Sangam
Policy/series name	Geographical Indications (GI) Act
Key figures	Traditional pearl fishers, artisans
Purpose/reason	To protect and promote ancient pearl heritage
Feature details	Pearls linked to purity, divinity, royal power in Tamil culture
Validity or status	Application for GI tag in progress
Strategic value	Economic upliftment, cultural recognition, export potential



➤ What is the proposed FDI limit in the insurance sector as per the Sabka Bima Sabki Raksha (Amendment of Insurance Laws) Act, 2025?

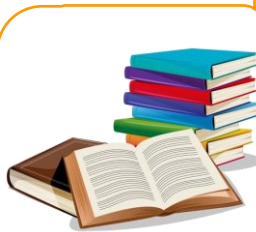
- A) 49%
- B) 74%
- C) 85%
- D) 100%
- E) 90%

Answer
D) 100%



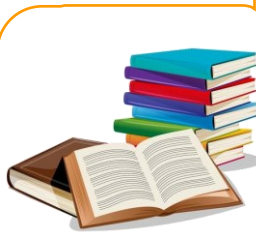
Event and Location:

- **Event:** Government introduces Bill to raise FDI in insurance sector to 100%
- **Location:** Indian Parliament
- **Date:** December 2025



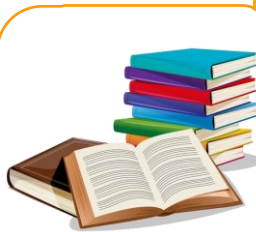
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - The Bill seeks to amend the Insurance Act, 1938, LIC Act, 1956, and IRDA Act, 1999 to increase the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) limit in the insurance sector from 74% to 100%. It also permits the merger of non-insurance companies with insurance companies, mandates at least one top official to be an Indian citizen, and proposes the Policyholders' Education and Protection Fund.



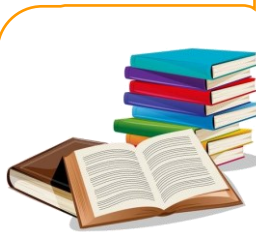
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:**
 - To accelerate insurance penetration and achieve universal insurance coverage by 2047, enhance policyholder protection, simplify operations for insurers, and attract more capital and innovation into the sector.



Important Terms Explained:

- **FDI (Foreign Direct Investment):** Investment by foreign entities in Indian companies; now proposed to be 100% in the insurance sector.
- **Policyholders' Education and Protection Fund:** A proposed fund to safeguard and educate insurance policyholders.
- **Sabka Bima Sabki Raksha Act, 2025:** A proposed amendment to existing insurance laws aimed at improving insurance coverage and ease of doing business.

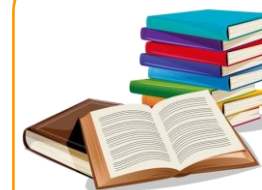


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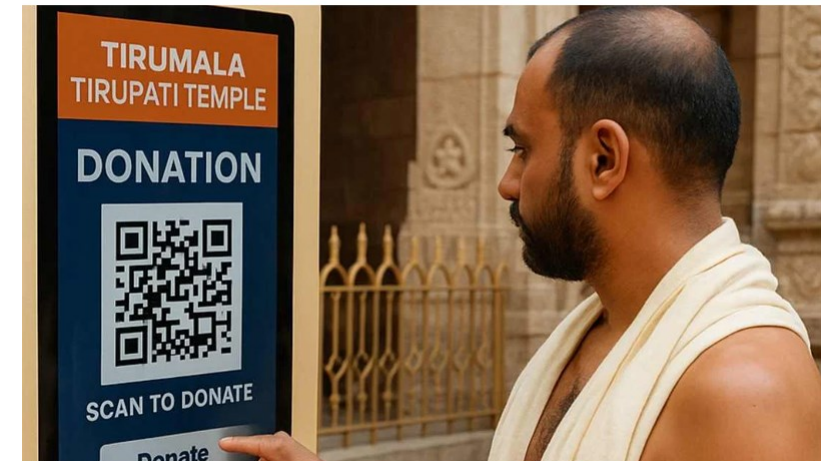
Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	Sabka Bima Sabki Raksha (Amendment of Insurance Laws) Act, 2025
Announcement date	December 2025
Location	India (Applicable Nationwide)
Issuing authority	Government of India / Ministry of Finance
Policy/series name	Insurance Sector Reforms
Key figures	Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman
Purpose/reason	To enhance FDI limits, improve policyholder protection, and simplify insurance business
Feature details	FDI hike to 100%, creation of Policyholders' Fund, and merger provisions
Validity or status	Bill introduced in Parliament (Pending Passage)
Strategic/significant value	Aims to achieve universal insurance by 2047 and attract global investment



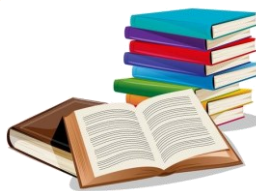
➤ **What digital facility is TTD introducing across its temples to enable seamless payments for devotees?**

- A) Biometric ATMs
- B) Smart Cards
- C) NFC Wristbands
- D) QR Codes and Kiosk Machines
- E) Crypto Wallets



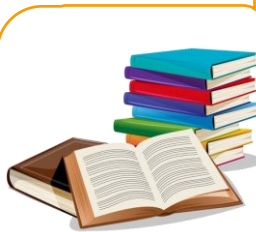
Answer

D) QR Codes and Kiosk Machines



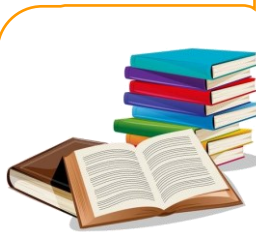
Event and Location:

- **Event:** TTD to implement UPI payment kiosks and QR codes at all temples
- **Location:** Across all 60 TTD temples in India
- **Date:** December 15, 2025



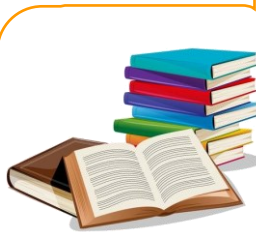
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - TTD has mandated the installation of kiosk machines and QR codes at all 60 of its temples across India to facilitate UPI-based digital payments for devotees.
- **Objectives:**
 - To enable hassle-free digital donations and transactions, promote cashless pilgrim services, and increase the efficiency and transparency of temple fund collection processes.



Important Terms Explained:

- **UPI (Unified Payments Interface):** A real-time digital payment system developed by NPCI that enables instant fund transfers between bank accounts using mobile devices.
- **QR Code (Quick Response Code):** A type of matrix barcode that allows users to scan and access payment or information platforms directly from their smartphones.
- **TTD (Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams):** The autonomous body managing the Sri Venkateswara Temple in Tirupati and other associated temples.

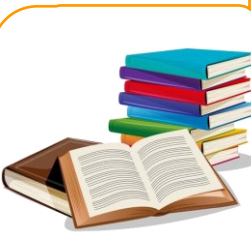


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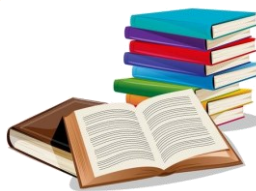
Parameter	Details
Event name	TTD launches digital payment facility at temples
Announcement date	December 15, 2025
Location	Across 60 TTD temples in India
Issuing authority	Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD)
Policy/series name	Digital Payments Integration in Temples
Key figures	Anil Kumar Singhal (Executive Officer, TTD)
Purpose/reason	To enable UPI-based payments for devotees
Feature details	Installation of QR codes and kiosk machines
Validity or status	Implementation underway
Strategic/significant value	Supports cashless economy and transparency in religious donations



➤ **Who will inaugurate the Mysuru Yoga Utsava 2025?**

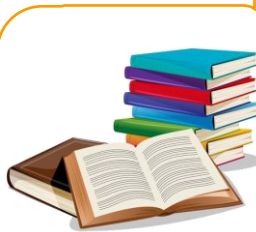
- A) Praveen Kumar
- B) M. Jagannath Shenoy
- C) Yaduveer Krishnadatta Chamaraja Wadiyar
- D) Ricky Kej
- E) S. Sridharan

Answer
D) Ricky Kej



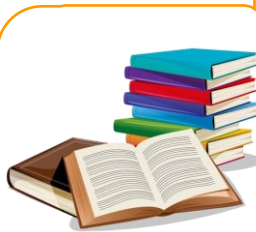
Event and Location:

- **Event:** Mysuru Yoga Utsava 2025 inauguration and global yoga gathering
- **Location:** Jagannatha Centre for Art & Culture (JCAC), Mysuru, Karnataka
- **Date:** December 18–21, 2025



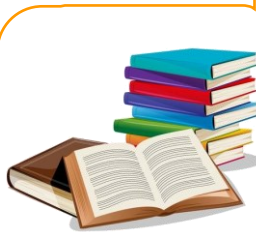
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - The third edition of Mysuru Yoga Utsava will be held over four days, featuring over 40 workshops and 50 instructors from more than 30 countries.
- **Objectives:**
 - To celebrate Mysuru's yoga heritage, promote Indian philosophy, Patanjali's teachings, and foster a global yoga community under the theme "Tapas – The Fire of Transformation."



Important Terms Explained:

- **Tapas:** In yogic philosophy, it refers to the disciplined effort or inner fire required for self-transformation.
- **Patanjali's teachings:** Refers to the Yoga Sutras written by the sage Patanjali, a foundational text in classical yoga outlining the eight limbs of yoga.
- **Mysuru Yoga Utsava:** An annual global yoga festival held in Mysuru, showcasing India's yoga traditions through practical sessions, workshops, and cultural performances.



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	Mysuru Yoga Utsava 2025
Announcement date	December 15, 2025
Location	JCAC, Mysuru, Karnataka
Issuing authority	Mysuru Yoga Utsava Organising Committee
Policy/series name	Annual Mysuru Yoga Festival
Key figures	Ricky Kej, M. Jagannath Shenoy, S. Sridharan, Praveen Kumar
Purpose/reason	To celebrate yoga heritage and connect global yoga community
Feature details	500+ participants, 40+ workshops, cultural events, yoga sessions
Validity or status	Scheduled for Dec 18–21, 2025
Strategic/significant value	Boosts wellness tourism and global cultural exchange through yoga

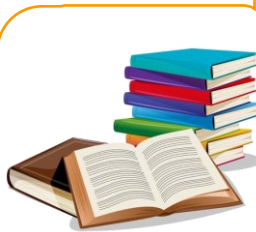


➤ **Why has India emerged as a preferred destination for data centres according to Piyush Goyal?**

- A) Low internet tariffs
- B) High employment rate
- C) Strong national power grid
- D) Fast environmental clearance
- E) Abundant land supply

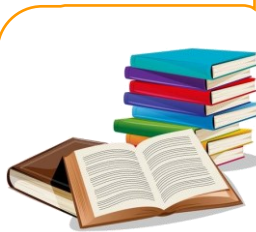
Answer

C) Strong national power grid



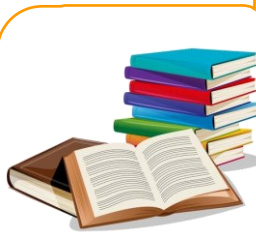
Event and Location:

- **Event:** India positioned as preferred hub for data centres due to strong electricity infrastructure
- **Location:** Nationwide (India-wide relevance)
- **Date:** December 15, 2025



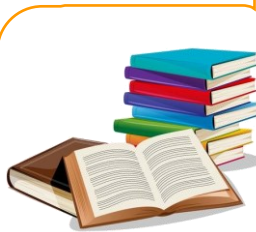
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - India is attracting large-scale data centre investments due to its 500GW national power grid, among the largest in the world, ensuring reliable power for growing digital infrastructure needs.
- **Objectives:**
 - To position India as a global leader in AI and data infrastructure by offering stable, scalable, and cost-effective power, while supporting the country's economic growth and job creation through major global investments.



Important Terms Explained:

- **National Power Grid:** A unified electricity transmission network across India capable of delivering 500 gigawatts of power, ensuring stable and widespread availability.
- **GCCs (Global Capability Centres):** Offshore support hubs established by multinational companies for functions like IT, finance, HR, and now increasingly AI/data services.
- **Viksit Bharat@2047:** Government vision to make India a fully developed country by 2047, marking 100 years of independence, emphasizing sectors like energy, infrastructure, and digital growth.

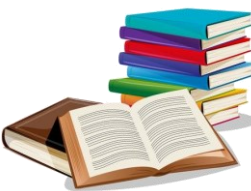


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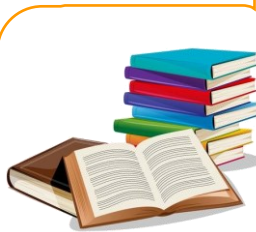
Parameter	Details
Event name	India emerging as global data centre hub
Announcement date	December 15, 2025
Location	Pan India
Issuing authority	Union Ministry of Power and Commerce
Policy/series name	Power Infrastructure for Digital Economy
Key figures	Piyush Goyal, Shripad Naik
Purpose/reason	Promote India as a preferred investment destination for data centres
Feature details	500GW national grid, power surplus, investor confidence from tech giants
Validity or status	Ongoing and expanding with multiple upcoming projects
Strategic/significant value	Enables AI/data growth, job creation, supports Viksit Bharat@2047 goals



QUICK RECALL



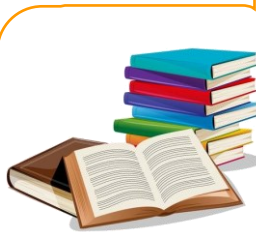
- **Shafali Verma won her first-ever ICC Women's Player of the Month award for November 2025 after scoring 87 runs in the ODI World Cup final against South Africa.**
- **Actor Anthony Geary, known for playing Luke Spencer in General Hospital, passed away at 78 in Amsterdam due to post-surgical complications.**
- **SBI launched Yono 2.0, a revamped digital banking app designed to compete with leading payment platforms like Google Pay and PhonePe.**
- **Tata Power has announced plans to invest ₹1.25 lakh crore over five years to expand its energy portfolio and infrastructure.**
- **India's trade deficit dropped by more than 61% in November 2025, reaching just \$6.6 billion.**
- **NLC India Limited has received the LoA to develop a 110MW solar power plant in Uttar Pradesh.**
- **Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu launched the English book A Tale of Two States on December 14, 2025.**
- **JioStar has appointed G R Arun Kumar as its new Chief Financial Officer to lead its Finance and Commercial functions.**
- **OpenAI has appointed former Google executive Albert Lee as its new Vice President of Corporate Development.**



QUICK RECALL



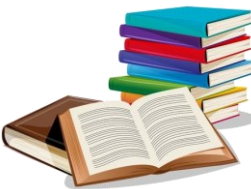
- Chief Minister M.K. Stalin presented the Muthamizh Peravai awards to prominent artistes in Chennai.
- India launched DHRUV64, its first homegrown 1.0 GHz, 64-bit dual-core microprocessor developed by C-DAC under the MDP initiative.
- India, Brazil, and Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd signed a tripartite MoU to share information on Scorpene-class submarine maintenance.
- Andhra Pradesh has approved India's first autonomous maritime shipyard to be built at Juvvaladinne in Nellore district.
- Raghu Vamsi Aerospace Group inaugurated a ₹100 crore deep-tech defence manufacturing facility in Hyderabad on December 15, 2025.
- President Vladimir Putin signed the RELOS agreement into Russian federal law after approval by both houses of Parliament.
- Nepal has officially allowed individuals to carry Indian ₹200 and ₹500 notes up to ₹25,000, ending a decade-old restriction.
- U.S. Consul General Laura Williams stated that India–U.S. tech collaboration is now focused on frontier domains like AI, quantum tech, and cybersecurity.
- The government has proposed the VB-G RAM G Bill, 2025 to replace the MGNREGA scheme with a centrally controlled rural wage programme.



QUICK RECALL



- The Chennai-Vijayawada Vande Bharat Express has been extended to Narasapur, enhancing rail connectivity in coastal Andhra Pradesh.
- The Indian government has introduced a bill to allow private entities to participate in civil nuclear energy projects under strict licensing.
- Thoothukudi Muthu Urpathiyalargal Sangam has applied for a GI tag for Thoothukudi pearls.
- The Government has introduced a Bill to increase foreign direct investment in the insurance sector from 74% to 100%.
- TTD has announced the implementation of kiosk machines and QR codes across all its temples to support UPI payments for devotees.
- Mysuru Yoga Utsava 2025 will be held from December 18 to 21 at the Jagannatha Centre for Art & Culture in Mysuru.
- Union Minister Piyush Goyal said India's 500GW national grid gives it a global edge as a preferred hub for data centres.



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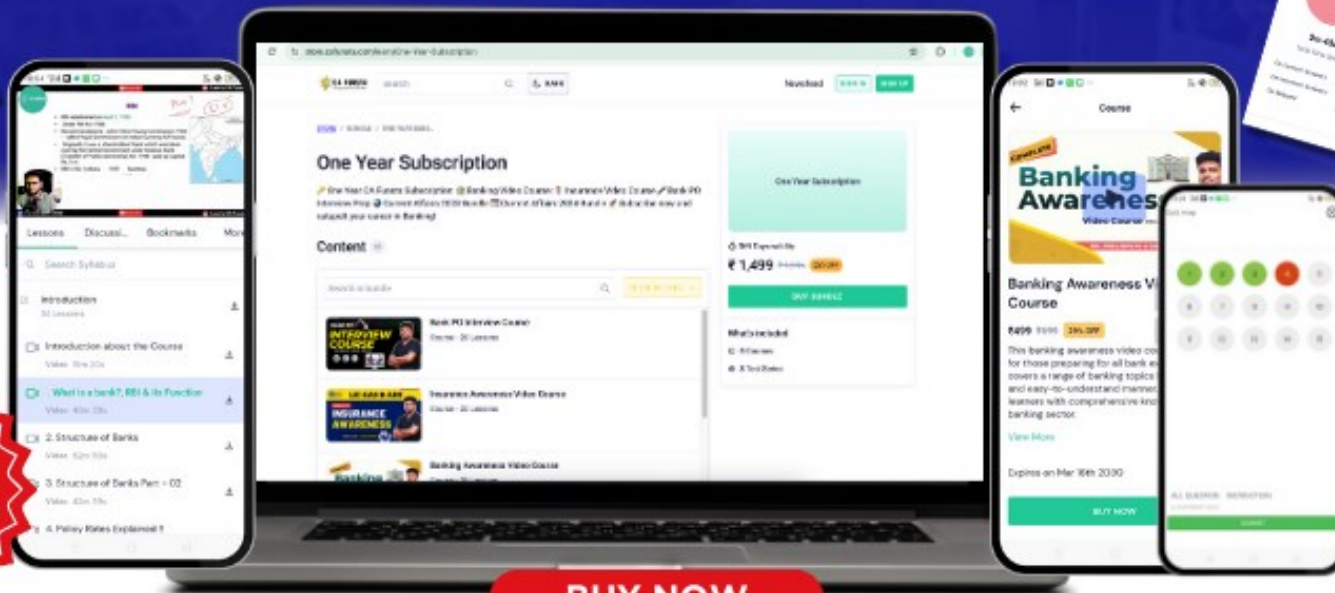
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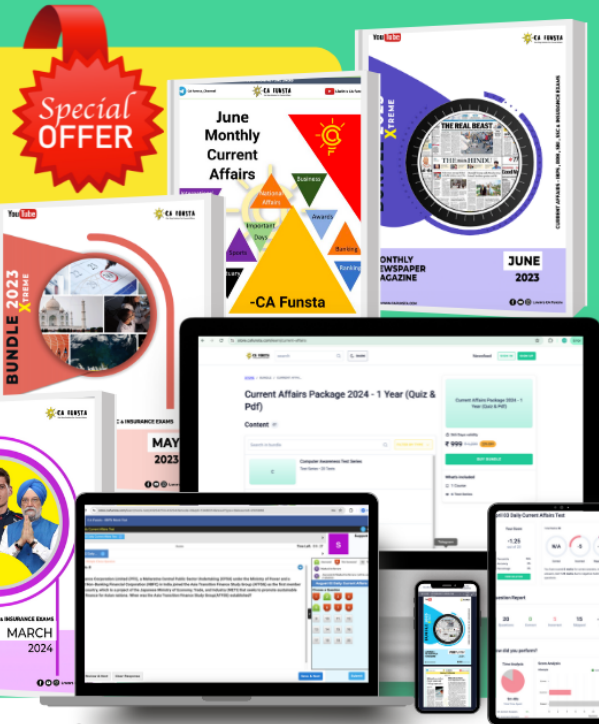


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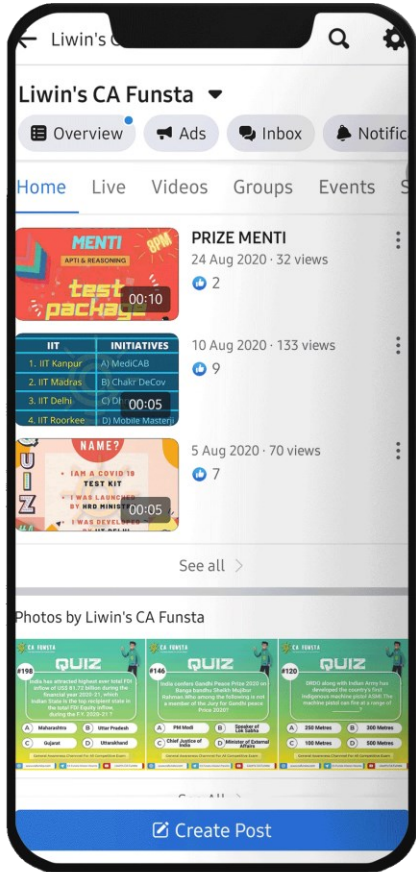
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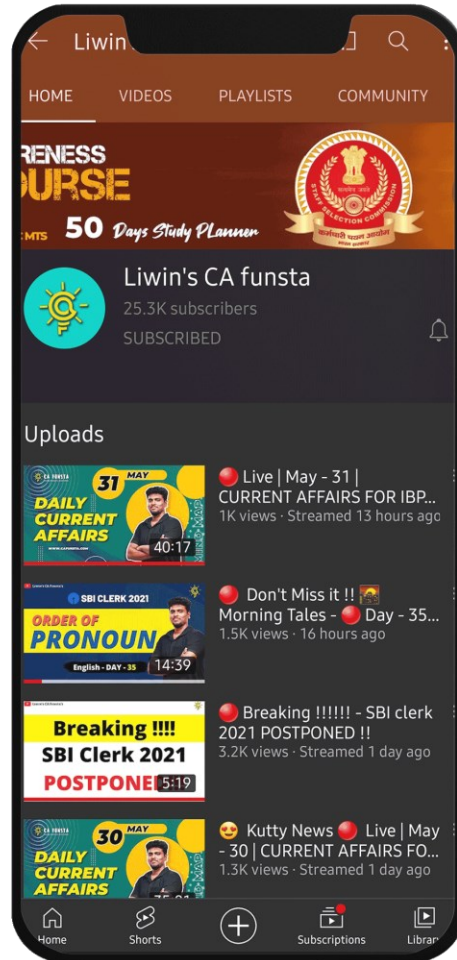


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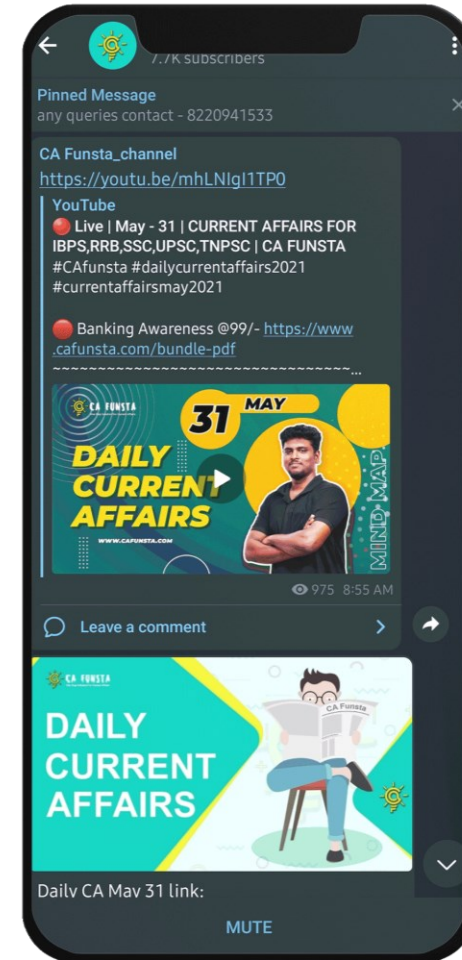
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