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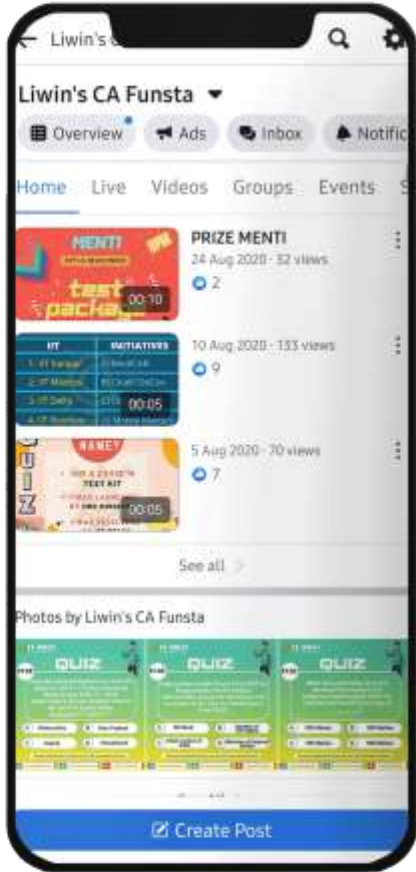


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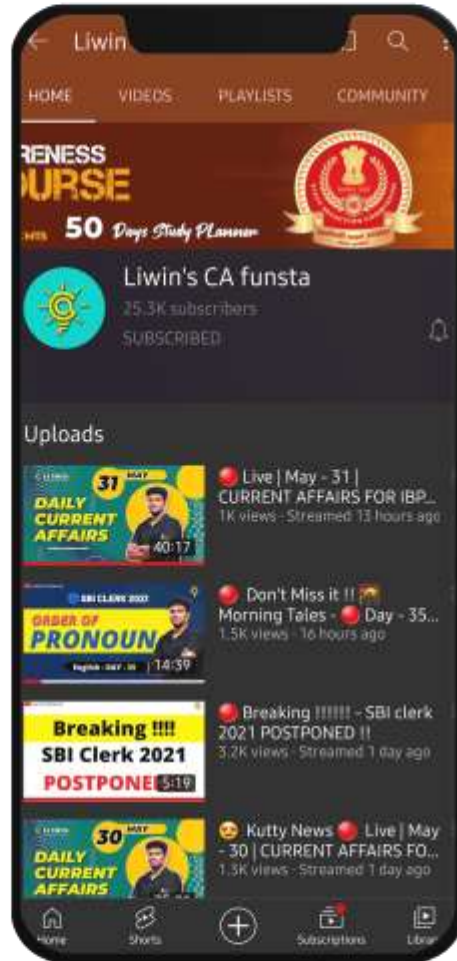
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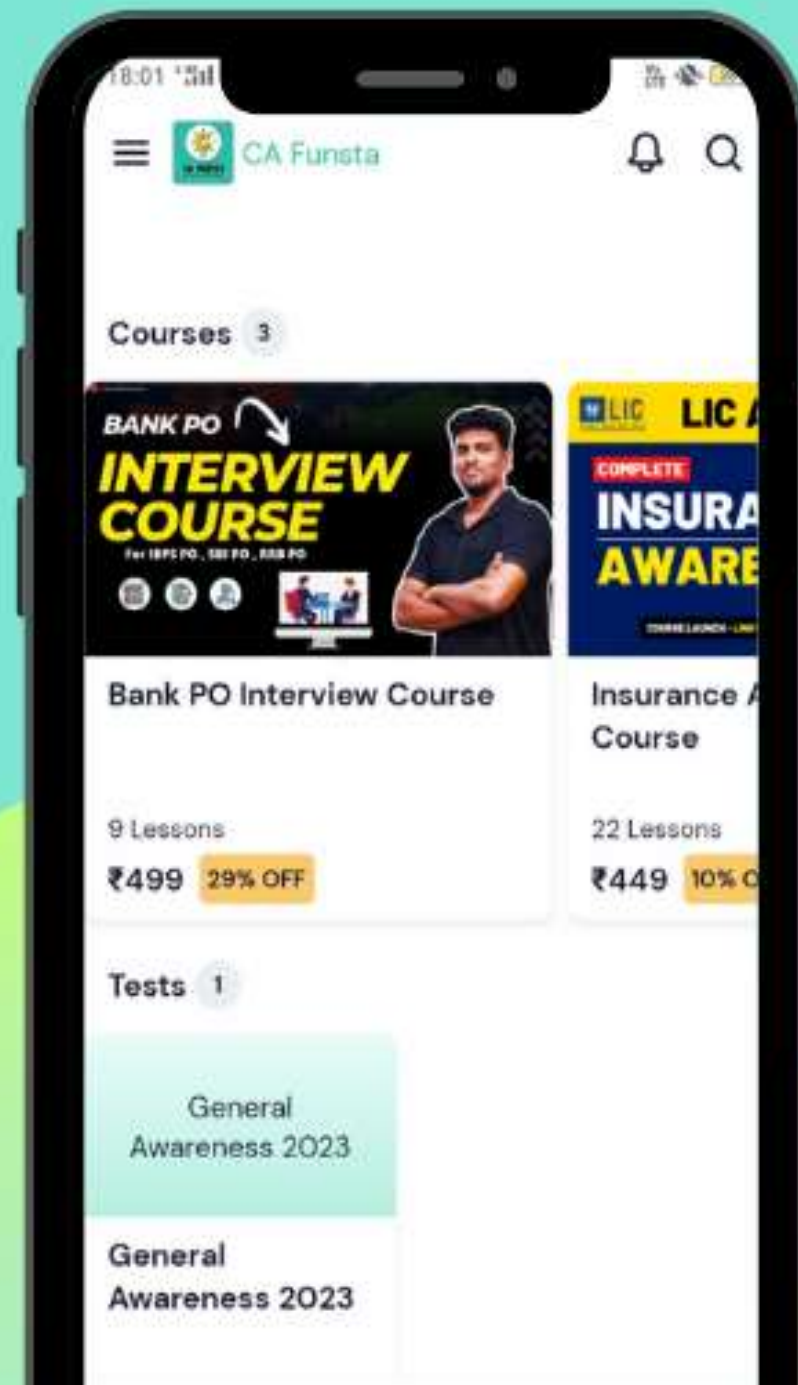
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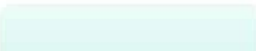
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➤ Who became the first Indian athlete to win a Commonwealth Games medal in the men's 10,000-metre event?

- A) Avinash Sable
- B) Gulveer Singh
- C) Murali Sreeshankar
- D) Tejaswin Shankar
- E) Abdulla Aboobacker

Answer
B) Gulveer Singh.



Event and Location:

- **Event:** **Gulveer Singh** won silver in the Men's **10,000-Metre Race**, while **Harjinder Kaur** secured silver in the women's **69kg** weightlifting event at the **Commonwealth Games 2026**.
- **Location:** The events were held in Glasgow, Scotland, with the men's **10,000-metre** race conducted at **Scotstoun Stadium**.
- **Date:** The achievements were reported on July **29, 2026**.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** **Gulveer Singh** recorded **27:49.78** to finish second, while **Harjinder Kaur** lifted a combined total of **227kg** to secure her second consecutive **Commonwealth Games** medal.
- **Objectives:** The performances aimed to strengthen India's medal tally in athletics and weightlifting and improve the country's representation across multiple sporting disciplines.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Long-Distance Running:** It refers to track or road races that test an athlete's endurance, pacing, and stamina over extended distances.
- **Combined Total:** It is the sum of a weightlifter's best successful snatch lift and best successful clean and jerk lift.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Assured Medal:** It refers to a guaranteed medal position achieved by reaching the semifinal stage in sports where losing semifinalists receive bronze medals.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Competition	Commonwealth Games 2026.
Host city	Glasgow, Scotland.
Gulveer Singh's medal	Silver in the men's 10,000-metre race.
Gulveer Singh's time	He completed the race in 27:49.78.
Historical significance	He became the first Indian to win a Commonwealth Games medal in the men's 10,000 metres.
Harjinder Kaur's medal	Silver in the women's 69kg weightlifting event.
Harjinder Kaur's total	She lifted a combined 227kg and secured her second consecutive Games medal.
India's medal tally	India reached 12 medals, comprising two gold, seven silver, and three bronze medals.



► According to the BIMCO-ICS Seafarer Workforce Report 2026, what is India's global rank among seafarer-supplying countries?

- A) First
- B) Second
- C) Third
- D) Fourth
- E) Fifth

Answer
B) Second.



Event and Location:

- **Event:** India became the world's second-largest supplier of seafarers in the **BIMCO-ICS Seafarer Workforce Report 2026**.
- **Location:** The ranking covers the global maritime workforce.
- **Date:** The achievement was reported on July 29, 2026.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** The report assessed the availability, demand, distribution, and contribution of seafarers across major maritime nations.
- **Objectives:** The report aims to support workforce planning and provide governments and the shipping industry with reliable maritime labour data.



RANKING



Ranking Table:

Rank	Country
1	Philippines
2	India
3	China
4	Russian Federation
5	Indonesia



Important Terms Explained:

- **Seafarer:** A seafarer is a trained maritime professional who works aboard merchant ships and supports the transportation of goods and passengers.



Important Terms Explained:

- **BIMCO: The Baltic and International Maritime Council** is a major international shipping association representing shipowners and maritime stakeholders.



Important Terms Explained:

- **International Chamber of Shipping:** It is a global trade association representing national shipowners' associations and the international shipping industry.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Report name	BIMCO-ICS Seafarer Workforce Report 2026.
India's rank	India became the world's second-largest supplier of seafarers.
Number of Indian seafarers	India contributed 311,936 maritime professionals.
Global workforce share	Indian seafarers accounted for 12.16% of the global total.
Top-ranked country	The Philippines remained the largest supplier of seafarers.
Previous position	India ranked fifth globally in both 2015 and 2021.
Growth trend	India's global share increased from 5.2% in 2015 to 12.16% in 2026.
Strategic significance	The achievement reflects progress in maritime education, certification, skills, and global employment.



► What was India's reported tiger population on Global Tiger Day 2026?

- A) 3,167
- B) 3,368
- C) 3,682
- D) 3,925
- E) 4,012

Answer
C) 3,682.



Event and Location:

- **Event: Global Tiger Day 2026** celebrations highlighted India's tiger population of **3,682** and the expansion of its tiger reserve network to **58**.
- **Location:** The national event was organised by the **National Tiger Conservation Authority in New Delhi**.
- **Date: Global Tiger Day** was observed on **July 29, 2026**.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** The event reviewed India's tiger conservation progress, launched an integrated eco-tourism webpage, presented conservation awards, and released five wildlife publications.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** The programme aimed to strengthen tiger protection, promote responsible eco-tourism, expand public awareness, and encourage scientific and community-based conservation.



Important Terms Explained:

- **National Tiger Conservation Authority:** It is a statutory body responsible for strengthening tiger conservation, monitoring tiger reserves, and supporting scientific wildlife management in India.



Important Terms Explained:

- **International Big Cat Alliance:** It is an international initiative promoting cooperation, knowledge exchange, and coordinated conservation of major big cat species.



Important Terms Explained:

- **TX2 Goal:** It was a global commitment adopted at the **2010 St. Petersburg Tiger Summit** to double the wild tiger population by **2022**.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Occasion	Global Tiger Day 2026 celebrations.
India's tiger population	India's reported tiger population increased to 3,682.
Tiger reserves	India's tiger reserve network expanded to 58.
Chief speaker	Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav addressed the event.
Digital initiative	NTCA launched an integrated eco-tourism webpage for tiger reserves.
Campaign focus	Eco-Clubs conducted nationwide awareness activities under the theme "Save Tiger."
Publications released	Five publications on tiger conservation, security, habitats, and scientific management were released.
Major threats	Tigers continue to face poaching, habitat loss, fragmentation, illegal trade, and climate change.



➤ **What is the name of the digital credit decision platform launched by Axis Finance Limited?**

- A) Axis Finance Disha
- B) Axis Finance Drishti
- C) Axis Finance Pragati
- D) Axis Finance Lakshya
- E) Axis Finance Shakti

Answer

B) Axis Finance Drishti.



Event and Location:

- **Event:** **Axis Finance Limited** launched **Axis Finance Drishti**, an in-house digital credit decision platform for retail and **MSME** lending.
- **Location:** The platform was launched in India by the Mumbai-headquartered financial services company.
- **Date:** The platform was launched in July **2026**.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** The platform automates and standardises loan assessment using advanced analytics, statistical scorecards, underwriting workflows, and multiple data sources.
- **Objectives:** The initiative aims to accelerate loan processing, improve risk assessment, ensure consistent credit decisions, and enhance customer experience.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Business Rules Engine:** It is a software system that applies predefined lending policies and eligibility rules to automate credit decisions.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Straight-Through Processing:** It is an automated process in which loan applications are evaluated and processed with minimal manual intervention.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Non-Banking Financial Company:** It is a financial institution that provides lending and related services without holding a full commercial banking licence.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Platform name	Axis Finance Drishti.
Launching institution	Axis Finance Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of Axis Bank.
Platform type	An in-house and configurable digital credit decision platform.
Target segments	The platform supports retail and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise lending.
Core technology	It uses analytics, statistical scorecards, underwriting workflows, and multiple data sources.
Phase-I products	Personal loans, business loans, loans against property, and Disha Home Loans.
Operational benefit	It enables faster, standardised, scalable, and real-time credit decisions.
Institution profile	Axis Finance is a non-deposit-taking NBFC incorporated in 1995 and headquartered in Mumbai.



► How much does SBI plan to raise through Basel III-compliant AT-1 Perpetual Bonds in 2026?

- A) ₹3,500 crore
- B) ₹4,000 crore
- C) ₹5,000 crore
- D) ₹10,000 crore
- E) ₹60,000 crore

Answer
C) ₹5,000 crore.



Event and Location:

- **Event:** **State Bank of India** is set to become the first Indian bank in **2026** to issue Basel III-compliant **AT-1 Perpetual Bonds** worth **₹5,000 crore**.
- **Location:** The bond issuance will be undertaken in India as part of **SBI's** capital-raising programme.
- **Date:** The proposed issuance was reported on July **29, 2026**.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** The bonds will carry a five-year call option and may be redeemed after that period with approval from the **Reserve Bank of India** and other regulators.
- **Objectives:** The issuance aims to strengthen **SBI's** capital base, improve its capital adequacy, support credit growth, and meet **Basel III** requirements.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Additional Tier-I Bonds:** These are capital instruments issued by banks to strengthen their loss-absorbing capacity and meet regulatory capital requirements.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Perpetual Bonds:** These are bonds without a fixed maturity date, although the issuer may redeem them through a call option after a specified period.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Capital Adequacy Ratio:** It measures a bank's available capital in relation to its risk-weighted assets and indicates its ability to absorb financial losses.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Issuing bank	State Bank of India.
Bond type	Basel III-compliant AT-1 Perpetual Bonds.
Proposed amount	SBI plans to raise ₹5,000 crore.
Call option	The bonds will include a five-year call option.
Regulatory condition	Redemption will require approval from RBI and other authorities.
Broader fundraising plan	SBI's Board approved raising up to ₹60,000 crore in FY 2026–27.
Approved instruments	The plan includes infrastructure bonds, AT-1 bonds, and Tier-II bonds.
Primary significance	The issue will strengthen capital adequacy, resilience, and future lending capacity.



► How much did Indian banks collect as minimum balance penalties during FY 2025–26?

- A) ₹4,948.71 crore
- B) ₹5,101.40 crore
- C) ₹7,086.63 crore
- D) ₹7,500 crore
- E) ₹8,137.92 crore

Answer
C) ₹7,086.63 crore.



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Indian banks collected **₹7,086.63 crore** as penalties for non-maintenance of the **Minimum Average Balance** during FY **2025–26**.
- **Location:** The figures cover public and private sector banks operating across India.
- **Date:** The information was reported in the **Rajya Sabha** on July **29, 2026**.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** Banks may impose minimum balance charges under board-approved policies, provided the charges are transparent, reasonable, and communicated to customers in advance.
- **Objectives:** The regulatory framework aims to ensure fair banking charges while giving customers sufficient time to restore the prescribed account balance.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Basic Savings Bank Deposit Account:** It is a zero-balance savings account offering essential banking services without minimum balance requirements or related penalties.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana:** It is a financial inclusion programme providing eligible individuals with access to basic bank accounts, debit cards, remittances, and other banking services.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme 5.0:** It is a government-backed credit support programme launched in May **2026** for businesses affected by the **West Asia** crisis.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Total penalties collected	Banks collected ₹7,086.63 crore during FY 2025–26.
Private bank collection	Private sector banks collected ₹4,948.71 crore, nearly 70% of the total.
Public bank collection	Public sector banks collected ₹2,137.92 crore.
Highest private bank collection	HDFC Bank collected ₹1,798.14 crore.
Highest public bank collection	SBI collected ₹477.27 crore from current accounts.
Savings account relief	Ten of the twelve public sector banks discontinued minimum balance penalties on savings accounts.
Exempt accounts	Around 730 million BSBDAs, including Jan Dhan accounts, remained exempt from such charges.
Regulatory requirement	RBI requires banks to notify customers and allow time to restore the minimum balance before imposing penalties.

APPOINTMENTS



➤ Who has been appointed as the Official Liquidator of Paytm Payments Bank Limited?

- A) Girikumar Nair
- B) Shaktikanta Das
- C) Rajnish Kumar
- D) Dinesh Kumar Khara
- E) T. Rabi Sankar

Answer
A) Girikumar Nair.



Event and Location:

- **Event:** The Reserve Bank of India announced the winding-up of **Paytm Payments Bank Limited** and appointed **Girikumar Nair** as its **Official Liquidator**.
- **Location:** The winding-up process will proceed in India following approval from the **Delhi High Court**.
- **Date:** The development was reported on July 29, 2026.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** The **Official Liquidator** will supervise the liquidation, settle liabilities, ensure legal compliance, and protect the interests of depositors and stakeholders.
- **Objectives:** The regulatory action aims to address serious compliance violations, safeguard depositors, and uphold stability and discipline in the banking system.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Official Liquidator: An Official Liquidator** is an authorised person responsible for managing the closure of an institution, settling liabilities, and distributing available assets according to law.



Important Terms Explained:

- Winding-Up: Winding-up is the legal process of closing an organisation, settling its debts, and completing its remaining financial and administrative obligations.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Payments Bank:** A **Payments Bank** is a specialised bank that accepts limited deposits and provides payment services but cannot issue loans or credit cards.



APPOINTMENTS



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Institution	Paytm Payments Bank Limited.
Regulatory authority	The Reserve Bank of India announced the winding-up process.
Official Liquidator	Girikumar Nair, former Chief General Manager of the State Bank of India.
Court approval	The process follows an order of the Delhi High Court.
Reason for action	The licence was cancelled over serious regulatory violations and concerns regarding the bank's affairs.
Legal framework	The process will operate under the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, and the Companies Act, 2013.
Depositor position	The RBI stated that the bank has sufficient liquidity to repay its deposit liabilities.
Primary significance	The action reinforces regulatory compliance and depositor protection in the banking sector.



➤ **Which four mathematicians received the Fields Medal 2026?**

- A) Hong Wang, Yu Deng, John Pardon and Jacob Tsimerman
- B) Terence Tao, Peter Scholze, Maryam Mirzakhani and Akshay Venkatesh
- C) Hong Wang, Terence Tao, John Pardon and Peter Scholze
- D) Yu Deng, Akshay Venkatesh, Jacob Tsimerman and Manjul Bhargava
- E) John Pardon, Maryam Mirzakhani, Hong Wang and June Huh

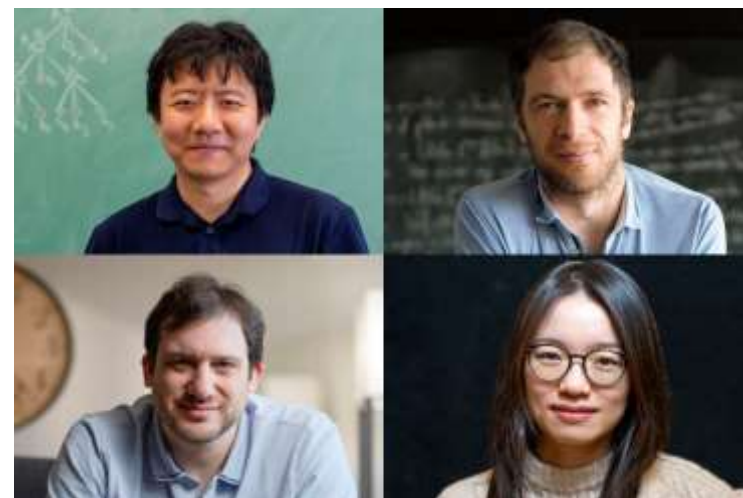
Answer

A) Hong Wang, Yu Deng, John Pardon and Jacob Tsimerman.



Event and Location:

- **Event:** The Fields Medal 2026 was awarded to **Hong Wang, Yu Deng, John Pardon and Jacob Tsimerman** for outstanding contributions to mathematics.
- **Location:** The awards were presented at the **International Congress of Mathematicians 2026**, while the article did not specify the exact venue.
- **Date:** The announcement was reported on July 29, 2026.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** The International Mathematical Union honoured four mathematicians below the age of **40** for influential research across several branches of mathematics.
- **Objectives:** The award recognises exceptional mathematical achievements and encourages recipients with strong potential for future discoveries.



Important Terms Explained:

- **International Mathematical Union:** It is an international organisation that promotes cooperation in mathematics and presents the **Fields Medal** every four years.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Harmonic Analysis:** It is a branch of mathematics that studies functions and signals by representing them through waves and frequencies.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Partial Differential Equations:** These are equations involving rates of change with respect to multiple variables and are widely used to model physical systems.



AWARDS



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Award name	Fields Medal 2026.
Awarding body	International Mathematical Union.
Presentation platform	International Congress of Mathematicians 2026.
Recipients	Hong Wang, Yu Deng, John Pardon and Jacob Tsimerman.
Eligibility	The medal is awarded to mathematicians below 40 years of age.
Award frequency	The Fields Medal is presented once every four years.
Research areas recognised	Harmonic analysis, differential equations, geometry, topology and arithmetic geometry were among the recognised fields.
Historical significance	Hong Wang and Yu Deng were both honoured in the same edition, marking a notable achievement for Chinese mathematics.



➤ **What major officer induction reform was introduced for the Indian Coast Guard in July 2026?**

- A) Women-only permanent appointments
- B) Gender-neutral officer induction framework
- C) Compulsory naval service for officers
- D) Removal of short service appointments
- E) Separate promotion rules for women

Answer

B) Gender-neutral officer induction framework.



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** unveiled two major **Indian Coast Guard** reforms covering gender-neutral officer induction and faster ex gratia benefits.
- **Location:** The reforms were announced at **Kartavya Bhavan-2** in **New Delhi**.
- **Date:** The policy reforms were unveiled on July **29, 2026**.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** Women and men will receive equal access to **Short Service and Permanent Appointments**, while the **Coast Guard** can declare missing personnel presumed dead for compensation purposes.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** The reforms aim to promote gender equality, improve career progression, reduce administrative delays, and provide timely financial relief to affected families.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Short Service Appointment:** It is a fixed-tenure officer appointment that allows personnel to serve for a specified period.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Permanent Appointment:** It is a long-term service arrangement that allows eligible officers to continue their careers until retirement, subject to service rules.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Ex Gratia Compensation:** It is financial assistance provided by the government without requiring a legal admission of liability.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Reforms announced	Gender-neutral officer induction and faster ex gratia settlement for missing personnel.
Announced by	Defence Minister Rajnath Singh.
Announcement date	July 29, 2026.
Venue	Kartavya Bhavan-2, New Delhi.
Officer policy change	Women and men will be eligible for Short Service and Permanent Appointments on equal terms.
Career progression	Eligible women officers may convert to permanent service and seek promotion to higher ranks.
Welfare reform	Missing personnel may be declared presumed dead for releasing compensation and terminal benefits.
Significance	The reforms strengthen inclusion, morale, welfare support, and operational effectiveness.

- How much financial assistance is provided for total permanent disability under the Bihar Shatabdi Unorganized Sector Worker Scheme?

- A) ₹25,000
- B) ₹50,000
- C) ₹75,000
- D) ₹1 lakh
- E) ₹1.5 lakh

Answer
C) ₹75,000.



Event and Location:

- **Event:** The Bihar Shatabdi Asangathit Karyakshetra Kamagaar Evan Shilpakar Samajik Suraksha Yojana provides ₹75,000 to eligible unorganised-sector workers and artisans suffering total permanent disability due to an accident.
- **Location:** The scheme applies to eligible residents working in the unorganised sector in Bihar.
- **Date:** The scheme details were reported on July 29, 2026.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** The Labour Resources Department of Bihar provides financial assistance to eligible workers aged between **18** and **65** years after certification of accident-related permanent disability.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** The scheme aims to reduce the financial burden on disabled workers and their dependants by providing timely social security assistance.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Total Permanent Disability:** It refers to an accident-related irreversible disability involving the loss of sight, limbs, paralysis, or permanent damage to brain function, as certified by a competent authority.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Unorganised Sector:** It consists of workers and economic activities that generally lack formal employment contracts, regular wages, and comprehensive social security benefits.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Competent Authority:** It is an authorised medical or government body empowered to examine and certify an applicant's disability for scheme benefits.



SCHEMES & INITIATIVES



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Scheme name	Bihar Shatabdi Unorganized Sector Worker and Artisan Social Security Scheme.
Implementing department	Labour Resources Department, Government of Bihar.
Financial assistance	Eligible applicants receive ₹75,000 for total permanent disability caused by an accident.
Target beneficiaries	Workers and artisans employed in Bihar's unorganised sector.
Age requirement	Applicants must be between 18 and 65 years of age as of July 1 of the concerned year.
Application mode	Applications must be submitted offline to the concerned District Officer or Labour Welfare Committee.
Essential documents	Applicants require residence proof, age proof, disability certificate, accident-related documents, Aadhaar, and bank details.
Head office	Bihar State Labour Welfare Committee, Niyojan Bhawan, Patna-800007.



➤ How much monthly financial assistance will eligible women receive under the Delhi Lakshmi Yojana?

- A) ₹1,000
- B) ₹1,500
- C) ₹2,000
- D) ₹2,500
- E) ₹3,000

Answer
D) ₹2,500.



Event and Location:

- **Event:** The **Delhi Government** approved the **Delhi Lakshmi Yojana** to provide monthly financial assistance to eligible women.
- **Location:** The scheme will be implemented across the **National Capital Territory of Delhi**.
- **Date:** The scheme was reported on July **29, 2026**, while online registration is scheduled to begin on August **1, 2026**.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** Eligible women aged **21** to **60** years with an annual family income of up to **₹2.5 lakh** will receive **₹2,500** per month through **Direct Benefit Transfer**.
- **Objectives:** The scheme aims to promote women's economic empowerment, social security, financial inclusion, education, healthcare access, skill development, and self-reliance.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Direct Benefit Transfer:** It is a system through which government benefits are transferred directly into the bank accounts of eligible beneficiaries.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Financial Inclusion:** It refers to ensuring affordable access to banking, savings, credit, insurance, and other financial services.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Economic Empowerment:** It means strengthening an individual's ability to earn, save, make financial decisions, and participate independently in economic activities.



SCHEMES & INITIATIVES



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Scheme name	Delhi Lakshmi Yojana.
Monthly assistance	Eligible women will receive ₹2,500 per month.
Budget allocation	The Delhi Government allocated ₹5,110 crore for 2026–27.
Expected beneficiaries	The scheme is expected to benefit more than 17 lakh women.
Age eligibility	Applicants must be between 21 and 60 years of age.
Income limit	Annual family income must not exceed ₹2.5 lakh.
Registration date	The online registration portal is scheduled to open on August 1, 2026.
Approving authority	The scheme was approved by the Delhi Cabinet chaired by Chief Minister Rekha Gupta.



➤ How many days of guaranteed wage employment are provided under the VB-G RAM G Act, 2025?

- A) 90 days
- B) 100 days
- C) 110 days
- D) 125 days
- E) 150 days

Answer
D) 125 days.



Event and Location:

- **Event:** The Government of India allocated a record **₹95,692 crore** under the **Viksit Bharat – Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajeevika Mission** (Gramin) Act, **2025** for rural employment.
- **Location:** The programme will be implemented across rural India.
- **Date:** The allocation applies to the **Financial Year 2026–27** and was reported on July **29, 2026**.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates: The Act** guarantees **125** days of wage employment per financial year to every willing rural household demanding work and expands permissible activities across infrastructure, water conservation, livelihoods, and climate resilience.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** The programme aims to strengthen rural income security, create durable community assets, improve infrastructure, and protect rural communities against climate-related challenges.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Budget Estimate:** It is the amount proposed by the government for expenditure on a programme or sector during an upcoming financial year.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Wage Employment Guarantee:** It is a statutory assurance that eligible rural households demanding work will receive paid employment for a specified number of days.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Scheme Convergence:** It refers to coordinating different **Central and State Government** programmes to improve public spending and achieve integrated development outcomes.



SCHEMES & INITIATIVES



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Programme name	Viksit Bharat – Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajeevika Mission (Gramin) Act, 2025.
Budget allocation	The Government allocated ₹95,692 crore.
Financial year	The allocation applies to 2026–27.
Employment guarantee	Eligible rural households can receive up to 125 days of wage employment annually.
Previous guarantee	The earlier MGNREGS framework provided 100 days of guaranteed employment.
Announcement authority	Union Rural Development Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan shared the information.
Announcement forum	The details were provided through a written reply in the Lok Sabha.
Priority areas	The Act focuses on water security, rural infrastructure, livelihood assets, and climate resilience.



► What is the maximum education loan available under the Bihar Student Credit Card Scheme?

- A) ₹2 lakh
- B) ₹3 lakh
- C) ₹4 lakh
- D) ₹5 lakh
- E) ₹6 lakh

Answer
C) ₹4 lakh.



Event and Location:

- **Event: The Bihar Student Credit Card Scheme** provides education loans of up to **₹4 lakh** to eligible students pursuing higher studies.
- **Location:** The scheme is available to eligible residents of Bihar studying at recognised educational institutions.
- **Date:** The scheme details were reported on July **29, 2026**.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** Eligible students who have passed Class **12** can apply online for financial assistance covering tuition fees, books, laptops, equipment, and other educational expenses.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** The scheme aims to remove financial barriers to higher education and help students pursue recognised degree, technical, vocational, professional, and polytechnic courses.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Education Loan:** It is financial assistance provided to students for covering tuition fees and other expenses related to higher education.



Important Terms Explained:

- **District Registration and Counselling Centre:** It is the district-level centre responsible for document verification, applicant counselling, and processing applications under Bihar's youth schemes.



Important Terms Explained:

- **7 Nischay Yuva Mission:** It is a **Bihar Government** initiative covering programmes related to higher education finance, skill development, and youth assistance.



SCHEMES & INITIATIVES



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Scheme name	Bihar Student Credit Card Scheme.
Implementing authority	Department of Education, Government of Bihar.
Maximum loan amount	Eligible students can receive an education loan of up to ₹4 lakh.
Basic eligibility	Applicants must be Bihar residents, have passed Class 12, and ordinarily be no more than 25 years old.
Covered courses	The scheme covers recognised degree, technical, professional, vocational, and polytechnic programmes.
Covered expenses	The loan may cover tuition, examination fees, books, laptops, instruments, and related educational costs.
Concessional rate	Women, persons with disabilities, and transgender applicants may receive loans at a 1% interest rate.
Application process	Students apply online and complete document verification at the concerned DRCC before loan sanction.

➤ Which system will enable financial institutions to access centrally stored and verified customer KYC records?

- A) DigiLocker 2.0
- B) CKYC 2.0
- C) Aadhaar Vault
- D) e-KYC Plus
- E) Bharat KYC Grid

Answer
B) CKYC 2.0.



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Five major changes relating to **LPG** prices, railway Tatkal booking, banking services, income tax returns, and customer verification will take effect from August **1, 2026**.
- **Location:** The changes will apply across India.
- **Date:** The new rules and service updates will take effect from August **1, 2026**.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** The changes include a possible **LPG** price revision, updated Tatkal token distribution, bank-specific fee and reward revisions, late-filing consequences for income tax returns, and the introduction of **CKYC 2.0**.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** The measures aim to simplify public services, improve customer verification, streamline railway bookings, and encourage timely financial compliance.



Important Terms Explained:

- **CKYC 2.0:** It is an upgraded centralised customer verification framework that allows financial institutions to access verified **KYC** information from a common database.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Tatkal Booking:** It is an **Indian Railways** facility that allows passengers to book tickets at short notice before the date of journey.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Belated Income Tax Return:** It is an income tax return filed after the original deadline and may attract a late fee, interest, or other consequences under tax laws.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Effective date	The five major changes will take effect from August 1, 2026.
LPG prices	Oil Marketing Companies may revise domestic and commercial LPG cylinder prices.
Tatkal booking	Token distribution will be aligned with the official opening time of Tatkal reservations.
Banking rules	Certain banks and card issuers may revise fees, annual charges, rewards, and transaction conditions.
ITR deadline	The original filing deadline for eligible non-audit taxpayers is July 31, 2026.
Late filing impact	Returns filed from August 1 may attract fees, interest, and processing consequences.
CKYC reform	CKYC 2.0 will support faster digital verification and reduce repeated document submissions.
Overall significance	The changes may affect household expenses, travel bookings, banking costs, and tax compliance.



➤ What commodity was carried by India's first direct commercial container freight train to Nepal?

- A) Wheat
- B) Rice
- C) Canola
- D) Tea
- E) Cotton

Answer
C) Canola.



Event and Location:

- **Event:** India's first direct commercial container freight train reached Nepal carrying canola under the **Revised India–Nepal Rail Transit Protocol**.
- **Location:** The **40**-wagon freight train travelled directly from **Kolkata Port in India to Biratnagar in Nepal**.
- **Date:** The development was reported on July **29, 2026**.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** The revised protocol permits containerised cargo to move directly from Indian ports to inland destinations in Nepal without transshipment at the border.
- **Objectives:** The service aims to reduce transit time, logistics costs, cargo handling, and supply-chain delays while strengthening bilateral trade.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Containerised Cargo:** It refers to goods transported in standard containers that can be moved efficiently between ships, trains, and trucks.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Transshipment:** It is the transfer of cargo from one vehicle or mode of transport to another during its journey to the final destination.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Rail Transit Protocol:** It is a bilateral arrangement governing the movement of goods by rail between two countries.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Milestone	India operated its first direct commercial container freight train to Nepal.
Cargo carried	The train transported a consignment of canola.
Route	The service connected Kolkata Port in India with Biratnagar in Nepal.
Train composition	The freight train consisted of 40 wagons.
Operational framework	The movement was conducted under the revised India–Nepal Rail Transit Protocol.
Key improvement	The service eliminated the need for border transshipment.
Major benefits	It is expected to reduce transit time, handling costs, delays, and cargo damage risks.
Strategic significance	The initiative strengthens India–Nepal trade, regional connectivity, and sustainable freight transport.



➤ What is the proposed gross storage capacity of the Kalpasar Project reservoir?

- A) 9,460 MCM
- B) 10,000 MCM
- C) 11,500 MCM
- D) 13,000 MCM
- E) 15,000 MCM

Answer
D) 13,000 MCM.



Event and Location:

- **Event: The Kalpasar Project**, officially known as the **Gulf of Khambhat Development Project**, proposes a **64-kilometre** dam to create a large coastal freshwater reservoir.
- **Location:** The project is planned across the **Gulf of Khambhat in Gujarat**, with major benefits expected for the Saurashtra region.



Event and Location:

- **Date:** The project update was reported on July **29, 2026**, with its **Detailed Project Report** at an advanced stage of finalisation.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** The project proposes storing freshwater from the Sabarmati, Mahi, Dhadhar, and Narmada rivers in a **13,000 MCM** reservoir covering approximately **2,000** square kilometres.
- **Objectives:** It aims to improve irrigation, drinking water supply, transport connectivity, renewable energy generation, and regional economic development in Gujarat.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Detailed Project Report:** It is a comprehensive document containing a project's technical design, estimated cost, feasibility, implementation plan, and expected benefits.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Coastal Freshwater Reservoir:** It is a water-storage system created near a coastline to conserve river water before it flows into the sea.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Hybrid Renewable Energy:** It refers to electricity generated through a combination of renewable sources, such as solar and wind energy, for more reliable power supply.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Official name	Gulf of Khambhat Development Project.
Project location	Gulf of Khambhat, Gujarat.
Proposed dam length	The project includes a 64-kilometre-long dam or dyke.
Reservoir capacity	The proposed gross storage capacity is 13,000 MCM.
Reservoir area	The freshwater reservoir will cover approximately 2,000 square kilometres.
Irrigation benefit	The project may irrigate nearly 10 lakh hectares across nine Saurashtra districts.
Transport benefit	The Bhavnagar–Surat distance may reduce from 356 kilometres to about 177 kilometres.
Energy component	The project proposes approximately 2,470 MW of hybrid renewable energy capacity.



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- **Five Major Changes Covering LPG, Tatkal Booking, Banking, ITR Filing, and CKYC 2.0 Begin from August 1, 2026.**
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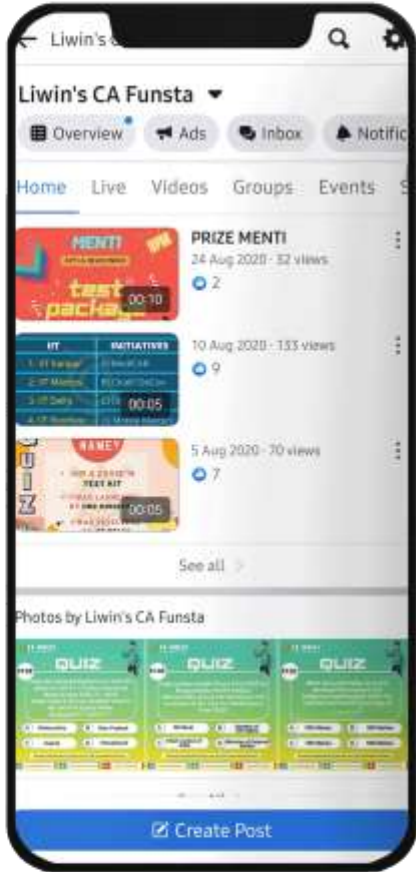
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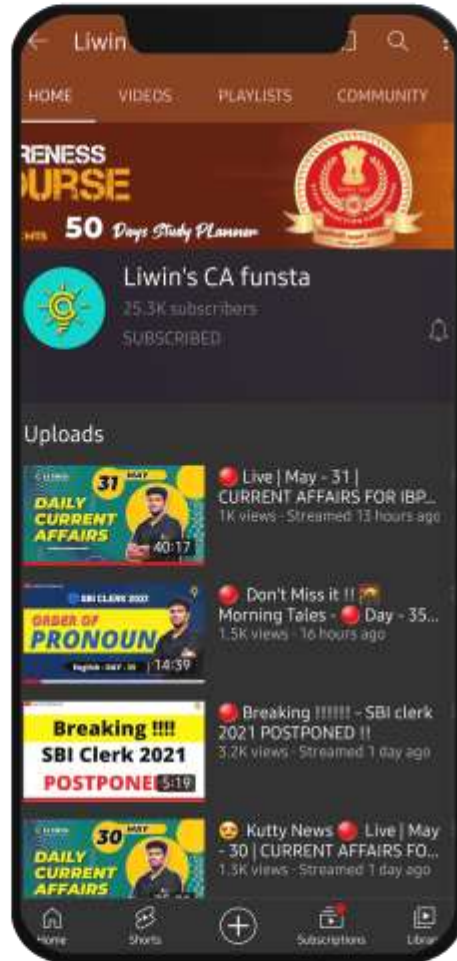


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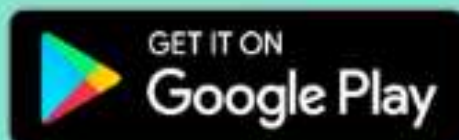
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