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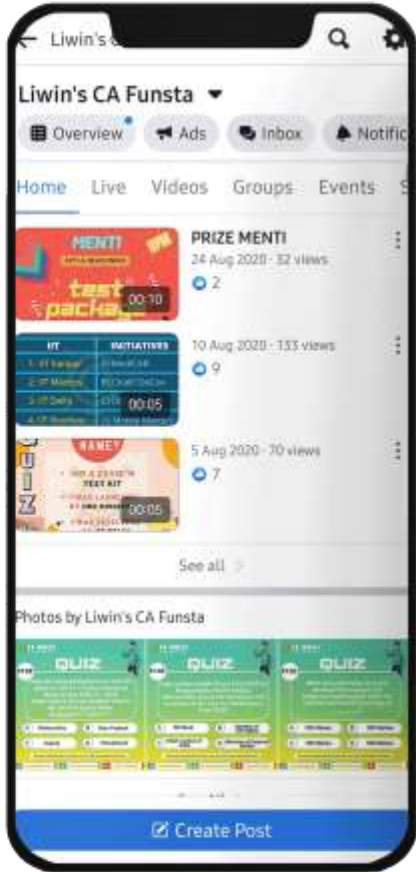


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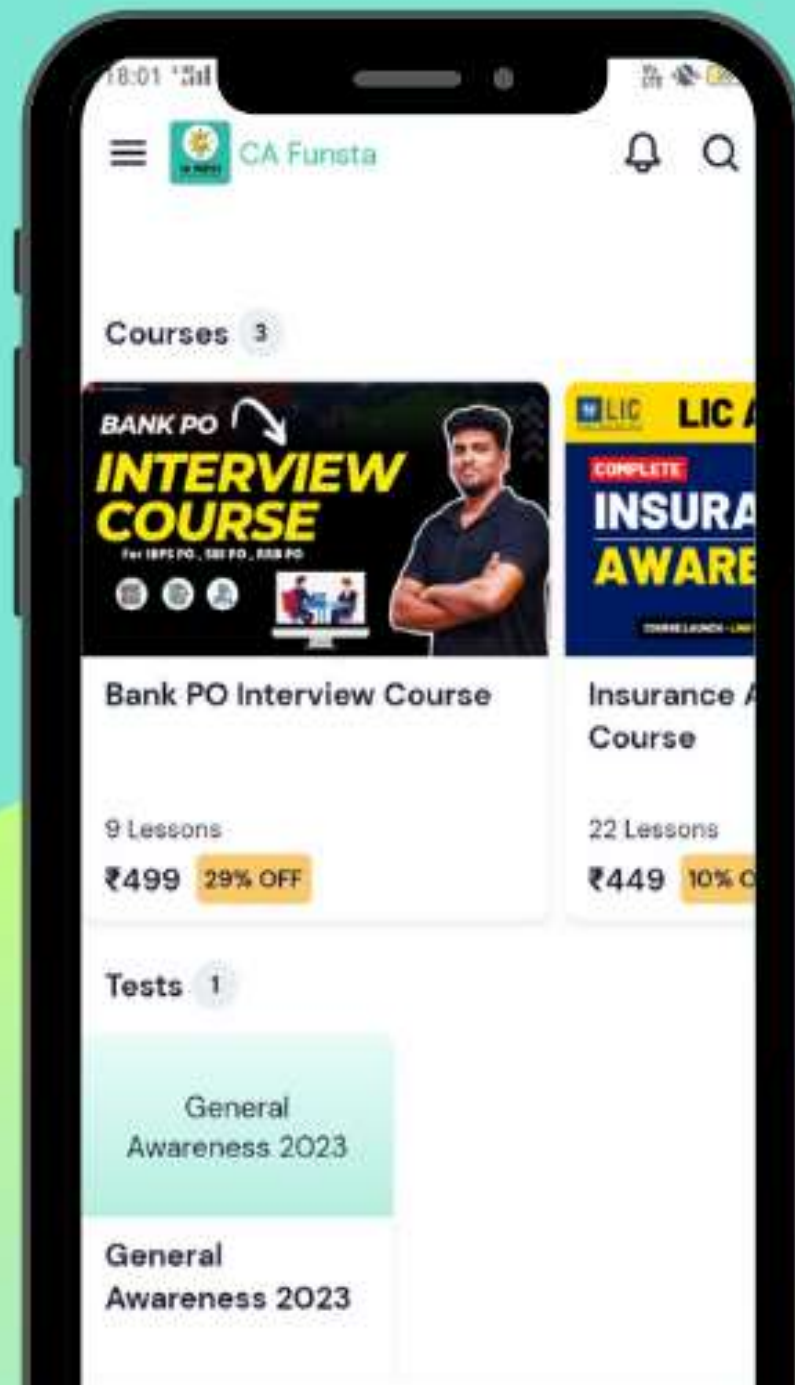
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Important Days



► On which date is Shaheed Udham Singh Martyrdom Day observed annually?

- A) January 23
- B) March 13
- C) April 13
- D) July 31
- E) December 26

Answer
D) July 31.



Important Days



Event and Location:

- **Event:** India observed **Shaheed Udham Singh Martyrdom Day** to honour the freedom fighter who assassinated Michael O'Dwyer in retaliation for the **Jallianwala Bagh** massacre.
- **Location:** India, with major commemorative significance in **Punjab and Haryana**.
- **Date:** July **31, 2026**.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** The observance commemorates the martyrdom of **Udham Singh**, who was executed at **Pentonville Prison in London** on July **31, 1940**.
- **Objectives:** The day aims to honour his contribution to India's freedom struggle and preserve the memory of his resistance against British colonial oppression.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Jallianwala Bagh Massacre:** It refers to the killing of unarmed **Indians at Jallianwala Bagh in Amritsar** on April **13, 1919**, when British troops opened fire under the orders of Brigadier-**General Reginald Dyer**.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Ghadar Party:** It was a revolutionary organisation formed by Indians abroad to end British rule and secure India's independence.
- **Ram Mohammad Singh Azad:** It was the name adopted by **Udham Singh** to symbolise religious unity and India's aspiration for freedom.



Important Days



Important Terms Explained:

- **Martyrdom Day:** It is a commemorative observance honouring a person who sacrificed their life for a national, social or political cause.



Important Days



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Observance	Shaheed Udham Singh Martyrdom Day is observed annually on July 31.
Birth details	Udham Singh was born on December 26, 1899, in Sunam, Punjab.
Defining incident	The Jallianwala Bagh massacre of April 13, 1919, profoundly influenced his revolutionary path.
Assassination	Udham Singh shot Michael O'Dwyer at Caxton Hall in London on March 13, 1940.
Reason for action	He stated that his act was intended to avenge the victims of the Jallianwala Bagh massacre.
Execution	He was executed at Pentonville Prison in London on July 31, 1940.
Repatriation	His mortal remains were brought back to India in 1974.
Legacy	Udham Singh Nagar district, a museum near Jallianwala Bagh and a statue erected in 2018 commemorate his sacrifice.



➤ Who defeated Lovepreet Singh by 1 kg to win the men's +110 kg weightlifting gold medal at the Commonwealth Games 2026?

- A) David Liti
- B) Andrew Griffiths
- C) Gurdeep Singh
- D) Samoan Tofaga
- E) Jack Oliver

Answer
A) David Liti.



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Lovepreet Singh won the silver medal in the men's +110 kg weightlifting event at the **Commonwealth Games 2026** after finishing 1 kg behind gold medallist **David Liti**.
- **Location:** **Commonwealth Games 2026**, with the specific venue not mentioned in the article.
- **Date:** July 31, 2026.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** Lovepreet Singh represented India in the men's +110 kg category and recorded a total lift of 388 kg, while New Zealand's David Liti secured gold with 389 kg.
- **Objectives:** The competition required weightlifters to achieve the highest combined total across the snatch and clean and jerk disciplines.



Ranking Table:

Rank	Entity
1	David Liti of New Zealand.
2	Lovepreet Singh of India.
3	Andrew Griffiths of England.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Snatch:** A weightlifting movement in which the athlete lifts the barbell from the floor to an overhead position in one continuous motion.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Clean and Jerk:** A two-stage weightlifting movement in which the barbell is first lifted to the shoulders and then raised overhead.
- **Total Lift:** The combined weight of an athlete's best successful snatch and best successful clean and jerk attempts.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Commonwealth Games Record:** The highest officially recorded performance achieved in a particular event during the **Commonwealth Games**.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	Men's +110 kg weightlifting competition at the Commonwealth Games 2026.
Date	The result was reported on July 31, 2026.
Indian medallist	Lovepreet Singh won the silver medal.
Gold medallist	David Liti of New Zealand won gold with a total lift of 389 kg.
Lovepreet's total	Lovepreet Singh recorded a combined lift of 388 kg.
Winning margin	David Liti defeated Lovepreet Singh by only 1 kg.
Record performance	Lovepreet Singh's 176 kg snatch was reported as a new Commonwealth Games record.
India's medal tally	India completed the weightlifting competition with eight medals.



➤ According to the Competere Foundation report, what was India's rank in the Market Distortions Performance Index in 2023?

- A) 47th
- B) 52nd
- C) 57th
- D) 62nd
- E) 82nd

Answer
C) 57th.



Event and Location:

- **Event:** India improved its position by **25** places, rising from **82nd** in **2010** to **57th** in **2023** in the global **Market Distortions Performance Index**.
- **Location:** The report was launched at the **India Habitat Centre in New Delhi**, India.
- **Date:** July **31, 2026**.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** The report assessed India's reform progress between **2010** and **2023** across ownership rights, domestic competition and international competition.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** The report aimed to evaluate how structural and pro-competitive reforms reduced market distortions, improved transparency and strengthened India's investment environment.



RANKING



Ranking Table:

Rank	Entity
57th.	India in 2023.
82nd.	India in 2010.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Goods and Services Tax (GST):** It is a unified indirect tax system that replaced several central and state-level taxes to simplify taxation and improve ease of doing business.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC):** It is a legal framework for the time-bound resolution of insolvency cases and the recovery of dues by creditors.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Market Distortion:** It refers to a condition in which regulations, subsidies, barriers or other interventions prevent markets from functioning competitively and efficiently.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Protection of Ownership Rights:** It measures the effectiveness of legal systems in protecting property, contracts and investments.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Trade Facilitation:** It refers to the simplification and modernisation of customs and trade procedures to reduce delays and improve cross-border commerce.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Report title	“India’s Next Growth Frontier: Enhancing India’s 2010–2023 Reforms through Competitive Market Reduction.”
India’s 2023 rank	India was ranked 57th in the Market Distortions Performance Index.
India’s 2010 rank	India was ranked 82nd in 2010.
Overall improvement	India advanced by 25 positions over the assessment period.
Assessment period	The report evaluated India’s reforms from 2010 to 2023.
Key reform drivers	GST, IBC, regulatory reforms and trade facilitation modernisation supported India’s progress.
Assessment pillars	Ownership rights, domestic competition and international competition were the three main pillars.
Organisers and venue	The event was jointly organised by the Centre for Trade and Investment Law (CTIL) of the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT) and the Competere Foundation at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi.

➤ Which country topped the Environmental Performance Index 2026?

- A) Finland
- B) Luxembourg
- C) Estonia
- D) United Kingdom
- E) Germany

Answer
C) Estonia.



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Estonia topped the **Environmental Performance Index 2026**, while India ranked **176th** among **177** countries.
- **Location:** Global, covering **177** countries.
- **Date:** July **31, 2026**.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** The index evaluated countries through **47** indicators across **12** environmental issue categories, including climate change, environmental health, biodiversity, air quality, water quality and ecosystem protection.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** The assessment aims to measure national environmental performance, enable international comparison and track progress toward global goals such as the UN **Sustainable Development Goals** and the **Paris Climate Agreement**.



RANKING



Ranking Table:

Rank	Entity
1	Estonia.
2	Luxembourg.
3	United Kingdom.
176	India.
177	Laos.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Environmental Performance Index (EPI):** It is a data-driven index that ranks countries according to their performance across major environmental health and ecosystem sustainability indicators.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):** These are **17** global goals adopted by the **United Nations** to promote sustainable economic, social and environmental development by **2030**.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Paris Climate Agreement:** It is an international climate accord aimed at limiting global temperature rise by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and strengthening climate action.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Biodiversity:** It refers to the variety of plant, animal and other living species within ecosystems and their role in maintaining ecological balance.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Tree Cover Loss:** It refers to the reduction of forested or tree-covered land due to deforestation, degradation, fires or land-use changes.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Index name	Environmental Performance Index 2026.
Top-ranked country	Estonia ranked first with a score of 74.79.
India's rank	India ranked 176th among 177 countries.
India's score	India received an overall score of 22.46.
Regional average	India's regional average was reported as 31.81.
Assessment framework	The index used 47 indicators across 12 environmental issue categories.
Developing institutions	The index was developed by centres associated with Yale University and Columbia University.
Key concern for India	India's low position reflected challenges relating to air quality, biodiversity, ecosystem protection and sustainability.



➤ Which payment systems have been integrated through the Favara-UPI Cross-Border Payment Corridor?

- A) Favara and UPI
- B) SWIFT and UPI
- C) Favara and RuPay
- D) NEFT and Favara
- E) UPI and RTGS

Answer

A) Favara and UPI.



Event and Location:

- **Event:** The Maldives Monetary Authority launched a real-time cross-border payment corridor linking the Maldives' Favara system with India's **Unified Payments Interface**.
- **Location:** Maldives and India.
- **Date:** July 30, 2026.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** The corridor enables customers in the Maldives to transfer money through participating mobile banking applications to **UPI**-compatible bank accounts in India, with automatic conversion from **Maldivian Rufiyaa to Indian Rupees**.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** The initiative aims to accelerate personal remittances, reduce dependence on slower conventional transfer channels and strengthen digital financial integration between India and the Maldives.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Favara:** It is the instant payment system of the Maldives that enables customers to make real-time digital transactions through participating financial institutions.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Unified Payments Interface (UPI):** It is India's real-time payment system that allows instant bank-to-bank transfers through mobile applications.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Cross-Border Remittance:** It is a transfer of money from a sender in one country to a recipient in another country.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Payment Interoperability:** It refers to the ability of different payment systems and financial institutions to connect and process transactions across platforms.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Currency Conversion:** It is the automatic exchange of the sender's **Maldivian Rufiyaa** into **Indian Rupees** for delivery to the recipient.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Payment corridor	The Favara-UPI corridor links the Maldives' instant payment system with India's UPI network.
Launch announcement	The Maldives Monetary Authority announced the operational service on July 30, 2026.
Transaction facility	Users in the Maldives can send money in real time to UPI-compatible bank accounts in India.
Currency settlement	Transfers are initiated in Maldivian Rufiyaa and automatically converted into Indian Rupees.
Participating banks	Bank of Maldives Plc and Maldives Islamic Bank Plc joined the initial phase.
Permitted transfers	The service initially supports eligible family-maintenance and gift remittances under foreign exchange regulations.
Key institutions	The initiative involved the Maldives Monetary Authority, Reserve Bank of India and NPCI International Payments Limited.
Earlier agreement	The integration agreement between NIPL and the Maldives Monetary Authority was signed in July 2025.

➤ How many butterfly and moth species are documented in India's first comprehensive Catalogue of Lepidoptera?

- A) 10,703
- B) 11,703
- C) 12,703
- D) 13,703
- E) 14,703

Answer
D) 13,703.



Event and Location:

- **Event:** The Zoological Survey of India completed the country's first comprehensive catalogue of butterflies and moths, documenting **13,703** species.
- **Location:** India.
- **Date:** July 30, 2026.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** The catalogue classifies India's butterfly and moth species using data collected through field surveys, museum studies, specimen audits and scientific literature reviews over **12** years.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** The project aims to establish an updated taxonomic reference for biodiversity conservation, ecological management, climate-change assessment and future scientific research.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Zoological Survey of India (ZSI):** It is a scientific organisation under the **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change** responsible for surveying, documenting and studying India's animal diversity.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Lepidoptera:** It is the order of insects that includes butterflies and moths, which are characterised by scales covering their wings and bodies.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Taxonomy:** It is the scientific process of identifying, naming and classifying living organisms according to their characteristics and relationships.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Geometroidea:** It is a major superfamily of moths represented in India by **2,205** documented species across four families.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Bioindicator:** It is an organism whose presence, absence or population changes provide information about environmental conditions and ecosystem health.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Scientific achievement	India's first comprehensive Catalogue of Lepidoptera was completed by the Zoological Survey of India.
Announcement date	The achievement was announced on July 30, 2026.
Total species documented	The catalogue records 13,703 butterfly and moth species found in India.
Classification coverage	The species are distributed across 3,705 genera, 240 subfamilies, 102 families and 31 superfamilies.
Project duration	ZSI scientists completed the catalogue after 12 years of research and documentation.
Project leadership	The work was supervised by Dr. Navneet Singh and Dr. Rahul Joshi.
Geometroidea diversity	India has 2,205 Geometroidea species belonging to 479 genera, 13 subfamilies and four families.
Scientific significance	The catalogue will support conservation planning, ecological monitoring, climate research and taxonomic studies.

➤ Which group reportedly agreed in principle to disarm under the Board of Peace plan?

- A) Hamas
- B) Hezbollah
- C) Houthis
- D) Islamic State
- E) Al-Qaeda

Answer
A) Hamas.



Event and Location:

- **Event:** According to the supplied report, Hamas agreed in principle to a US-backed plan providing for its complete disarmament and broader security arrangements in Gaza.
- **Location: Gaza Strip**, with mediation reportedly facilitated by Egypt, **Qatar and Turkey**.
- **Date:** July **31, 2026**.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** The proposed framework provides for the disarmament of militant groups, verified storage of heavy weapons, phased withdrawal of Israeli forces, creation of an **International Stabilization Force** and establishment of a new Palestinian police force.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** The plan aims to secure a long-term ceasefire, replace militant infrastructure with internationally supervised security arrangements and facilitate Gaza's governance, humanitarian recovery and reconstruction.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Disarmament:** It is the process of surrendering, removing or securely storing weapons and dismantling military infrastructure under an agreed framework.



Important Terms Explained:

- **International Stabilization Force:** It refers to a proposed multinational security mechanism intended to maintain order and support the transition after disarmament.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Zero-Trust Verification:** It is a compliance approach under which each obligation is independently verified before the parties proceed to the next stage.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Ceasefire Framework:** It is an agreed arrangement that sets conditions for stopping hostilities and advancing security, humanitarian and political measures.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Palestinian Police Force:** It refers to the proposed locally administered security body intended to maintain law and order under the new governance arrangement.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Proposed agreement	Hamas reportedly agreed in principle to complete disarmament under the US-backed peace framework.
Announcing authority	US President Donald Trump stated that the agreement had been developed through the Board of Peace initiative.
Key mediators	Egypt, Qatar and Turkey reportedly facilitated the negotiations.
Security provision	Heavy weapons would be accounted for, securely stored and subjected to international verification.
Israeli withdrawal	Israeli forces would begin a phased withdrawal after verified progress in the disarmament process.
Post-conflict mechanism	An International Stabilization Force and a new Palestinian police force would assume security responsibilities.
Israel's position	Israel had not formally accepted the proposed agreement at the time of the report.
Next stage	Implementation would depend on further negotiations, verification and fulfilment of obligations by all sides.

NATIONAL AFFAIRS



➤ Which House of Parliament approved the Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Amendment Bill, 2026 after its passage in the Lok Sabha?

- A) Rajya Sabha
- B) State Legislative Assembly
- C) Legislative Council
- D) Constituent Assembly
- E) Inter-State Council

Answer
A) Rajya Sabha.



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Parliament cleared the **Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Amendment Bill, 2026** after its approval by the **Rajya Sabha** and earlier passage in the **Lok Sabha**.
- **Location:** India.
- **Date:** July 31, 2026.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates: The Bill** proposes stricter punishments for examination malpractices, higher financial penalties, time-bound investigations, **Special Fast Track Courts** and enhanced action against organised examination rackets and technological cheating.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** The legislation aims to prevent paper leaks and organised cheating, protect deserving candidates, improve transparency and preserve the credibility of recruitment and entrance examinations in India.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Amendment Bill, 2026:** It is proposed legislation that strengthens the existing legal framework against paper leaks, organised cheating, examination fraud and technology-assisted malpractices in public examinations.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Special Fast Track Courts:** These are designated **Sessions Courts** proposed to conduct speedy trials in examination malpractice cases, with trials expected to conclude within three months from the filing of the charge-sheet.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Organised Examination Crime:** It refers to coordinated examination malpractice carried out by individuals, groups, syndicates or institutions for financial or other unlawful benefits.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Special Public Prosecutor:** It is a government-appointed legal professional responsible for conducting prosecution in cases heard by a designated **Special Fast Track Court**.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Service Provider:** It refers to a company or agency engaged in conducting, managing or supporting public examinations and liable for punishment if found involved in examination irregularities.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	Passage of the Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Amendment Bill, 2026 by Parliament.
Date	July 31, 2026.
Geographic coverage	The proposed legislation applies to public examinations in India.
Parliamentary status	The Bill was passed by both Houses of Parliament and was awaiting Presidential assent.
Punishment for offenders	The proposed imprisonment ranges from a minimum of five years to a maximum of ten years, along with enhanced fines.
Penalty for organised crime	The minimum imprisonment is proposed to rise to seven years, while the maximum fine may reach ₹10 crore.
Investigation and trial	Investigations are proposed to be completed within two months and trials within three months of filing the charge-sheet.
Institutional mechanism	Sessions Courts may be designated as Special Fast Track Courts, supported by Special Public Prosecutors and a central coordinating body.

➤ Which national symbol receives proposed legal protection under the Prevention of Insults to National Honour (Amendment) Bill, 2026?

- A) National Emblem
- B) National Song
- C) National Calendar
- D) National Animal
- E) National Currency

Answer
B) National Song.



Event and Location:

- **Event:** The Lok Sabha passed the **Prevention of Insults to National Honour (Amendment) Bill, 2026**, extending proposed legal protection to **Vande Mataram**.
- **Location:** Parliament of India, New Delhi.
- **Date:** July 31, 2026.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates: The Bill** seeks to criminalise deliberate insults to **Vande Mataram** and intentional obstruction of its singing or rendition by amending the **Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971**.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** The amendment aims to provide India's **National Song** with statutory protection similar to that already available to the **National Anthem**.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971:** It is the law protecting the **National Flag**, the **Constitution of India** and the **National Anthem** against intentional disrespect.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Vande Mataram:** It is India's **National Song**, written by **Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay** and included in his novel Anandamath.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Voice Vote:** It is a parliamentary voting method in which members verbally express support or opposition, and the presiding officer determines the result.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Presidential Assent:** It is the formal approval given by the **President of India** to a Bill passed by Parliament before it becomes an Act.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Bill name	Prevention of Insults to National Honour (Amendment) Bill, 2026.
Passed by	The Lok Sabha passed the Bill through a voice vote after its earlier approval by the Rajya Sabha.
Existing law amended	The Bill amends the Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971.
Protected national symbol	The amendment proposes statutory protection for India's National Song, Vande Mataram.
Proposed offence	Deliberate insult to the National Song or intentional obstruction of its rendition would become punishable.
Historical importance	Vande Mataram inspired freedom fighters during India's struggle against British rule.
Author and source	Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay wrote the song as part of his novel Anandamath.
Next step	The Bill requires Presidential assent before becoming an Act.



➤ From which date did Indian Railways launch the online personal luggage booking facility for passengers with reserved tickets?

- A) July 20, 2026
- B) July 25, 2026
- C) July 31, 2026
- D) August 1, 2026
- E) August 15, 2026

Answer
C) July 31, 2026.



Event and Location:

- **Event:** **Indian Railways** launched the online personal luggage booking facility for passengers holding confirmed tickets in reserved classes.
- **Location:** All railway zones across India.
- **Date:** July **31, 2026**.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates: The Railway Board** directed all railway zones to implement digital advance booking of personal luggage within prescribed class-wise weight and size limits.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** The initiative aims to reduce dependence on station luggage counters, simplify excess baggage booking, improve transparency regarding charges and provide a more convenient travel experience.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Free Luggage Allowance:** It is the maximum weight of personal baggage that a passenger may carry without paying additional charges, based on the reserved travel class.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Maximum Admissible Luggage Limit:** It is the highest total baggage weight permitted for a passenger in a particular class, including both free and chargeable luggage.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Brake Van:** It is a designated railway luggage compartment used for transporting oversized baggage that cannot be carried inside reserved passenger coaches.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Centre for Railway Information Systems (CRIS):** It is the organisation responsible for developing and testing the online application for digital luggage booking.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Service launch date	The online personal luggage booking facility became operational on July 31, 2026.
Eligible passengers	Only passengers with confirmed tickets in reserved classes can use the service.
Ineligible passengers	Passengers with waitlisted or unconfirmed tickets cannot book personal luggage online.
Free allowance range	The class-wise free luggage allowance ranges from 35 kg in Second Class to 70 kg in AC First Class.
Maximum permissible weight	The maximum limit ranges from 40 kg in specified air-conditioned classes to 150 kg in AC First Class.
Excess luggage charge	Additional baggage can be booked at 1.5 times the applicable luggage rate within the maximum class-wise limit.
Permitted dimensions	Luggage carried inside reserved coaches must not exceed 100 cm × 60 cm × 25 cm.
Oversized and commercial goods	Oversized luggage must be booked in the Brake Van, while commercial goods must use the railway parcel system.

➤ Which position did the Parliamentary Standing Committee on External Affairs recommend creating to strengthen India's engagement in the Arctic and Antarctic regions?

- A) Ocean Security Commissioner
- B) Polar Representative
- C) Climate Affairs Secretary
- D) Antarctic Research Governor
- E) Arctic Council Coordinator



Answer
B) Polar Representative.



Event and Location:

- **Event:** The **Parliamentary Standing Committee on External Affairs** recommended appointing a **Polar Representative** to strengthen India's engagement in **Arctic and Antarctic** affairs.
- **Location:** The report was presented in the **Parliament of India, New Delhi**.
- **Date:** July 30, 2026.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** The proposed representative would coordinate India's polar diplomacy, promote scientific collaboration, support sustainable practices and engage with international partners on climate, research and ocean-related matters.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** The recommendation aims to advance India's strategic interests, develop a long-term polar policy and strengthen the country's participation in **Arctic and Antarctic** governance.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Arctic Council:** It is an intergovernmental forum that promotes cooperation among Arctic states, indigenous communities and other participants on issues relating to sustainable development and environmental protection.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Antarctic Treaty System:** It is the international legal framework governing Antarctica and ensuring that the continent is used for peaceful purposes, scientific research and environmental protection.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Polar Diplomacy:** It refers to diplomatic engagement concerning governance, research, climate change, resources, navigation and environmental protection in the **Arctic and Antarctic** regions.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Maitri Station:** It is an Indian research station in Antarctica that has operated since **1989** and is located in the **Schirmacher Oasis**.
- **Bharati Station:** It is India's Antarctic research station established in **2012** in **Princess Elisabeth Land**.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Report title	"India's Role and Presence in the Arctic and Antarctic Regions."
Release date	The report was presented in Parliament on July 30, 2026.
Recommending body	The recommendation was made by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on External Affairs.
Committee chairman	The committee was chaired by Shashi Tharoor.
Major recommendation	The Central Government should appoint a Polar Representative for Arctic and Antarctic affairs.
Strategic purpose	The position would strengthen polar diplomacy, scientific cooperation and India's participation in international governance.
Existing Antarctic presence	India operates Maitri and Bharati research stations in Antarctica.
Additional recommendation	The committee called for the timely construction of a new Maitri research station.

QUICK RECALL



- **Udham Singh was raised at the Central Khalsa Orphanage in Amritsar after losing his parents at a young age.**
- **Lovepreet Singh secured silver in the men's +110 kg weightlifting event at the Commonwealth Games 2026.**
- **India improved from 82nd place in 2010 to 57th place in 2023.**
- **Estonia secured first place in the Environmental Performance Index 2026.**
- **The corridor allows customers to initiate India-bound transfers through mobile banking applications in the Maldives.**



QUICK RECALL



- The completed catalogue concludes a scientific publication series comprising 22 volumes.
- The proposed arrangement forms part of the second phase of the US-brokered Gaza ceasefire framework.
- Parliament cleared the anti-paper leak amendment legislation after its approval by the Rajya Sabha.
- The Bill seeks to place the National Song under the legal framework governing protection of national honour.
- The Railway Board issued implementation instructions to all railway zones on July 20, 2026.
- India's proposed Polar Representative would coordinate engagement with international partners on polar issues.



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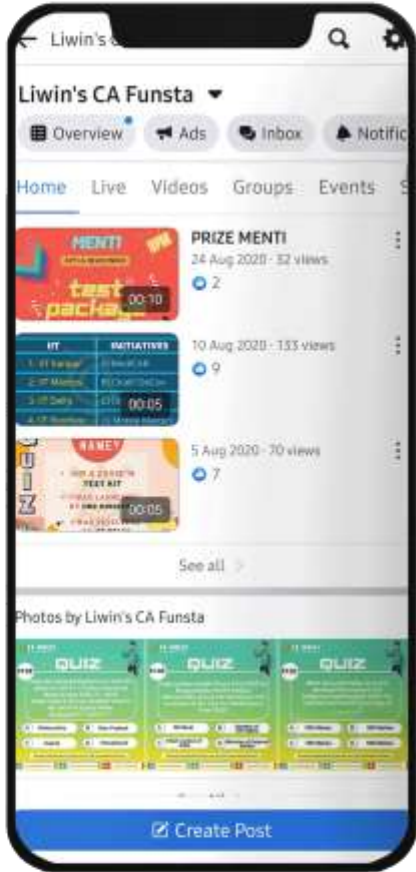
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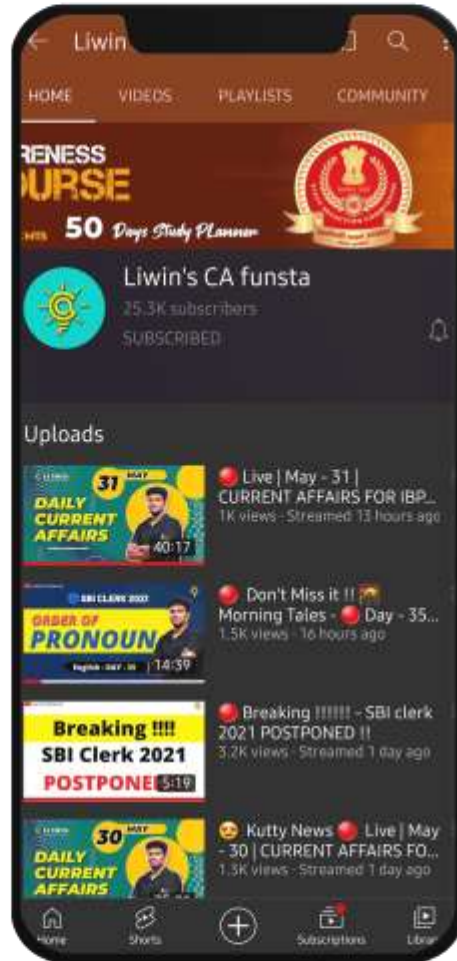


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