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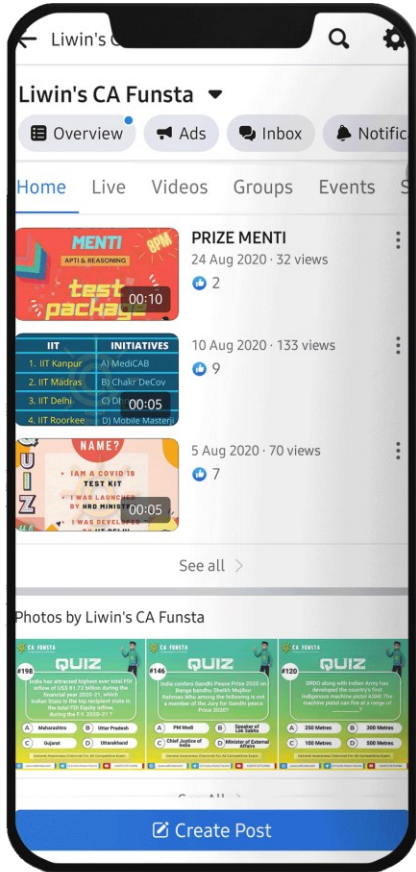


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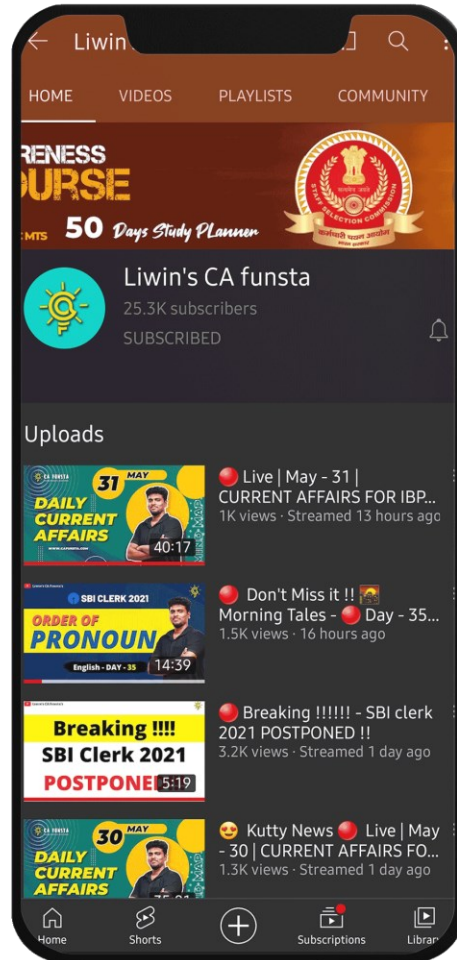
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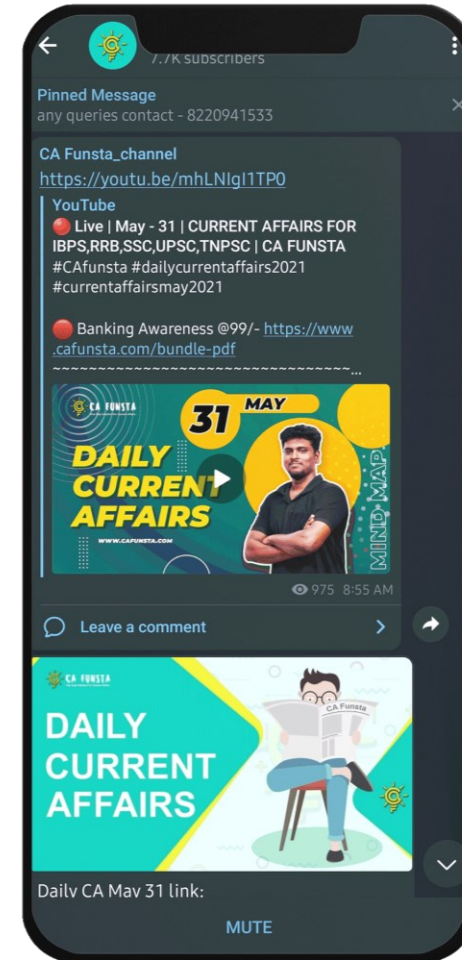
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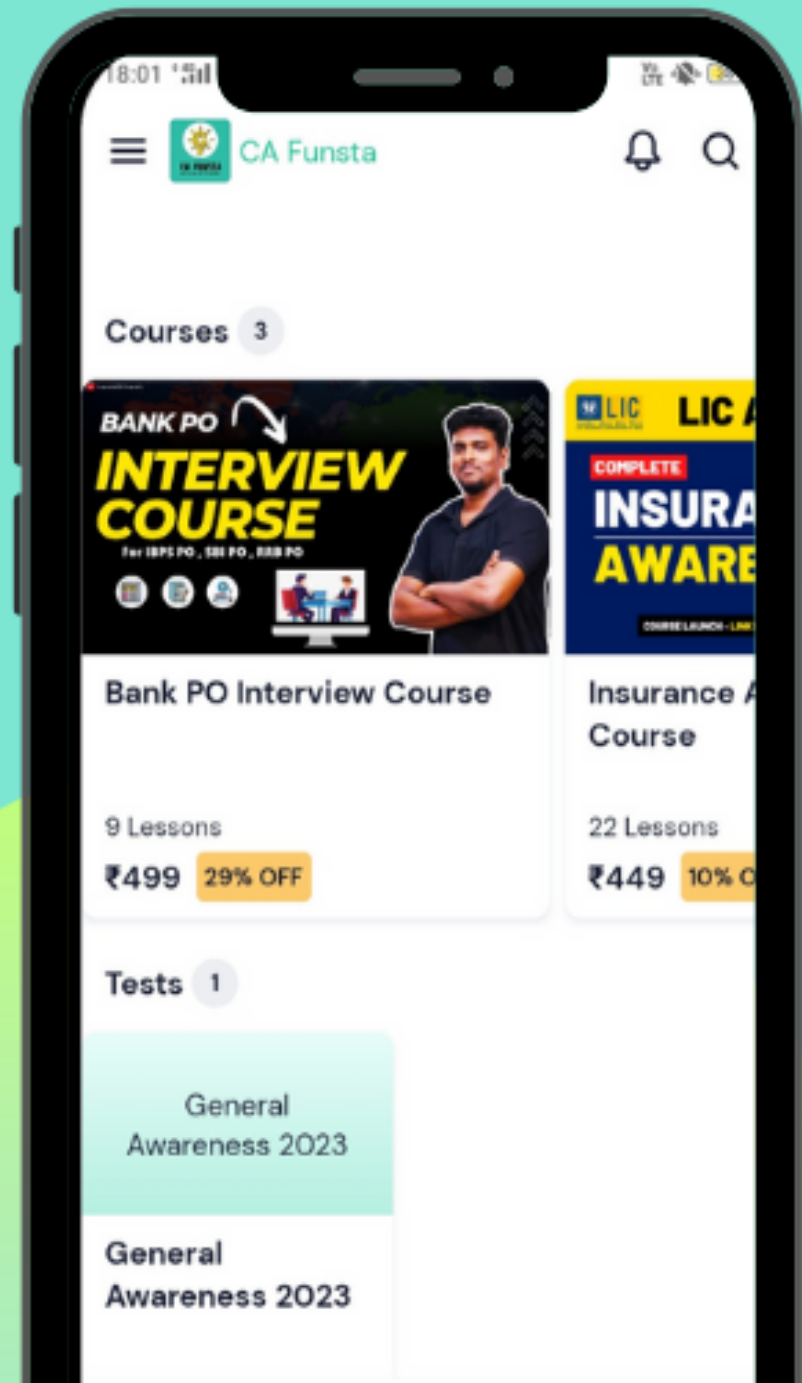
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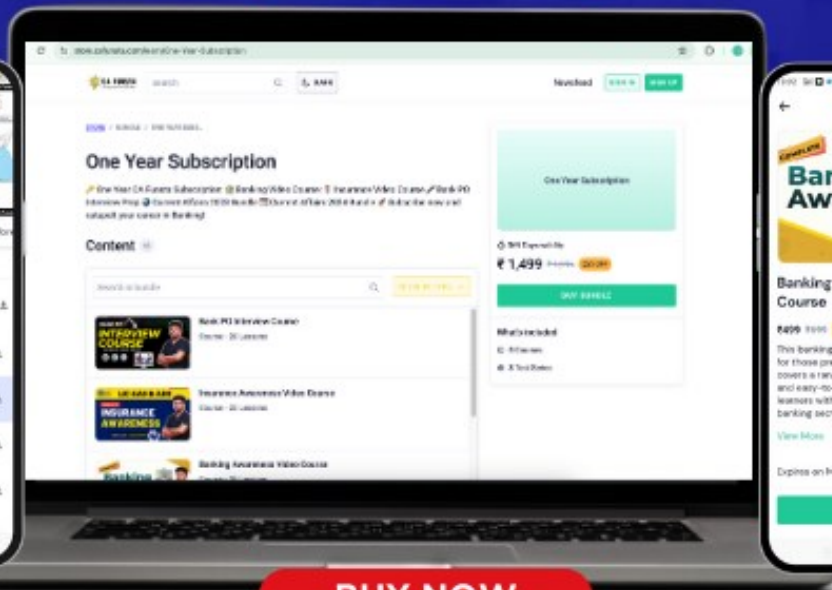
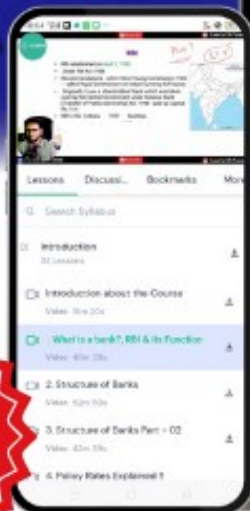
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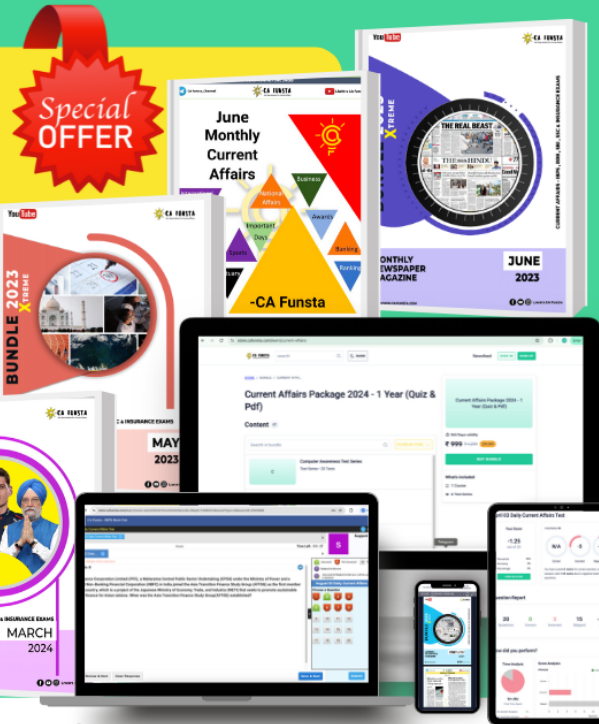


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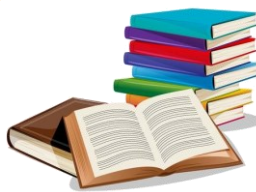


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► What was the year-on-year growth rate of India's Index of Eight Core Industries (ICI) in September 2026?

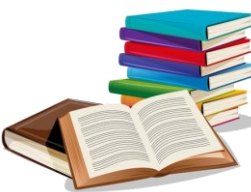
- A) 5.1%
- B) 5.9%
- C) 7.9%
- D) 8.4%
- E) 9.8%

Answer
C) 7.9%.



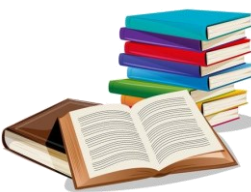
Event and Location:

- **Event:** India's **Index of Eight Core Industries (ICI)** recorded **7.9%** year-on-year (YoY) growth in September **2026**, compared with the revised growth of **5.9%** in August **2026**.
- **Location:** India.
- **Date:** **22 October 2026**.



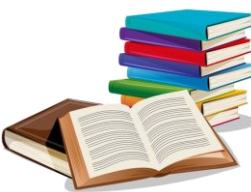
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** The Office of the Economic Adviser (OEA), under the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, compiles and releases the ICI to measure production performance in India's core industrial sectors.



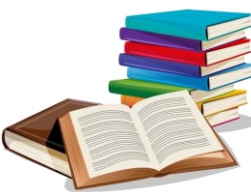
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** To monitor changes in industrial production, assess the performance of key infrastructure-related industries, and provide an early indication of overall industrial activity and economic growth.



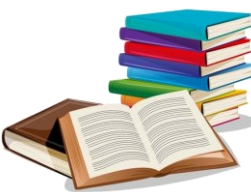
Important Terms Explained:

- **Index of Eight Core Industries (ICI):** An economic indicator that measures production changes in eight major industries: coal, crude oil, natural gas, refinery products, fertilizers, steel, cement, and electricity.



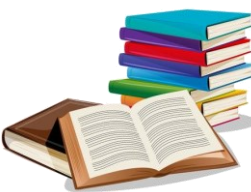
Important Terms Explained:

- Year-on-Year (YoY) Growth: A statistical measure comparing the performance of an economic indicator during a particular period with the corresponding period of the previous year.



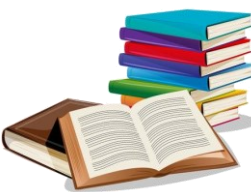
Important Terms Explained:

- **Index of Industrial Production (IIP):** An economic indicator that measures changes in industrial output across India's mining, manufacturing, and electricity sectors and is compiled by the **National Statistics Office (NSO)**.



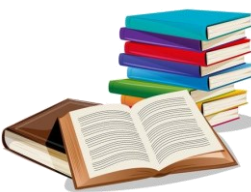
Important Terms Explained:

- **Cumulative Growth:** The overall increase in an economic indicator over a specified period compared with the corresponding period of the previous year.



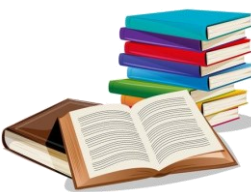
Important Terms Explained:

- **Sectoral Weightage:** The percentage importance assigned to an individual industry when calculating a composite index, determining its relative contribution to overall index movements.



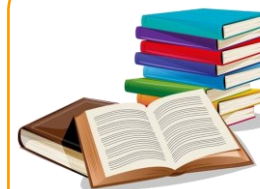
Important Terms Explained:

- **Base Year:** A reference period used to calculate changes in an economic index, with the supplied September **2026** figures identifying **2022–23** as the base year.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event	Index of Eight Core Industries growth in September 2026.
Date	22 October 2026.
Location	India.
Releasing authority	Office of the Economic Adviser, DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
September 2026 growth	7.9% YoY, compared with revised growth of 5.9% in August 2026.
Highest and lowest growth	Iron ore recorded the highest growth at 18.4%, while fertilizers contracted by 11.7%.
Cumulative growth	5.1% during April–September 2026, compared with 2.5% during April–September 2025.
Key sectoral performance	Electricity grew by 11.4%, coal by 10.7%, refinery products by 10.3%, and cement by 9.8%.



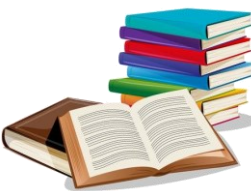
AWARDS



➤ Who presented the awards at the 65th National Exhibition of Art and 3rd Print Biennale India 2026 held in New Delhi?

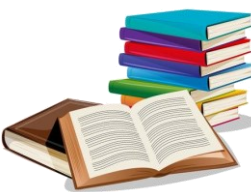
- A) Narendra Modi
- B) Droupadi Murmu
- C) Gajendra Singh Shekhawat
- D) Jagdeep Dhankhar
- E) Amit Shah

Answer
B) Droupadi Murmu.



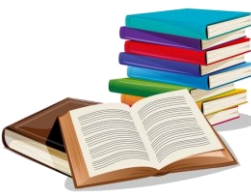
Event and Location:

- **Event:** President Droupadi Murmu presented awards to outstanding artists at the **65th National Exhibition of Art** and **3rd Print Biennale India 2026**, organised by the **Lalit Kala Akademi** under the **Ministry of Culture**.
- **Location:** Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi, India.
- **Date:** 21 October 2026.



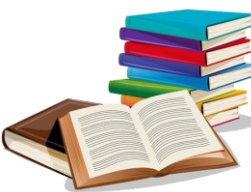
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** The **Lalit Kala Akademi** organised the **65th National Exhibition of Art** and **3rd Print Biennale India 2026**, featuring **6,175** artworks submitted by **2,495** artists from **27** states and **Union Territories**. A two-stage selection process shortlisted **270** artworks for exhibition and selected **20** artists for the **Lalit Kala Akademi Awards**, while **President Murmu** also felicitated the **Grand Prize and Honourable Mention** recipients of **Print Biennale India**.



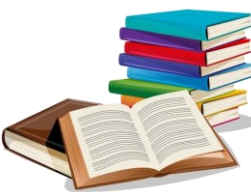
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** To promote Indian visual arts and printmaking, recognise artistic excellence, encourage emerging and rural artists, preserve traditional art forms, support creative innovation, and increase public participation in India's cultural and artistic heritage.



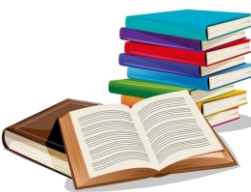
Important Terms Explained:

- **Lalit Kala Akademi:** India's **National Academy of Art**, established in **1954** under the **Ministry of Culture** to promote and develop visual arts, including painting, sculpture, graphics, and other artistic disciplines.



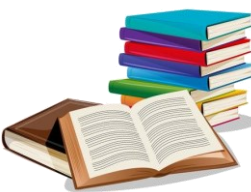
Important Terms Explained:

- **National Exhibition of Art:** A national-level visual arts exhibition organised by **Lalit Kala Akademi** since **1955**, with its first edition held at **Jaipur House, New Delhi**, displaying approximately **1,200** artworks.



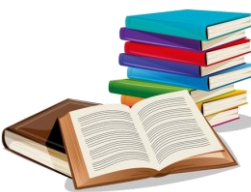
Important Terms Explained:

- **Lalit Kala Akademi Awards:** National-level awards presented to selected artists for outstanding artistic contributions across different visual art forms, including painting, sculpture, printmaking, and drawing.



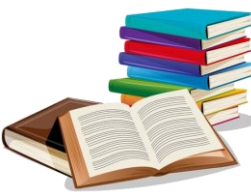
Important Terms Explained:

- **Print Biennale India:** A biennial international printmaking exhibition that provides a platform for Indian and international artists to display artworks, exchange techniques, and promote artistic collaboration.



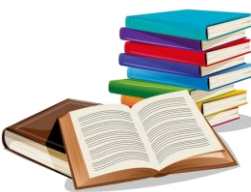
Important Terms Explained:

- **Printmaking:** A visual art technique involving the transfer of images from a prepared plate, block, stone, or screen onto paper or another surface through methods such as etching, woodcut, lithography, and screen-printing.



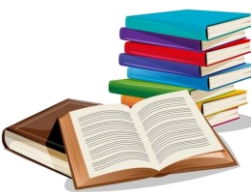
Important Terms Explained:

- **Biennale:** An exhibition or cultural event organised once every two years, commonly associated with international art exhibitions and contemporary artistic practices.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Gond Painting:** A traditional tribal art form associated with the Gond communities of central India, known for its intricate patterns, vibrant colours, and depictions of nature, animals, and cultural traditions.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event	65th National Exhibition of Art and 3rd Print Biennale India 2026.
Date	21 October 2026.
Venue	Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi.
Chief Guest	President Droupadi Murmu.
Organiser	Lalit Kala Akademi under the Ministry of Culture.
Participation	6,175 artworks submitted by 2,495 artists from 27 states and Union Territories.
Selection and Awards	270 artworks selected for exhibition and 20 artists chosen for Lalit Kala Akademi Awards.
Special Highlight	Union Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat presented a traditional Gond painting to President Murmu.

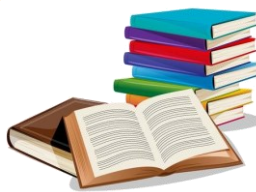


➤ Who was selected for the Karnataka Janapada Academy's 2026 annual honorary award for contributions to traditional folk arts?

- A) Vijay Kumar Sonare
- B) Devadas Chimakode
- C) Gopal Chandra Naskar
- D) Sanjib Kumar Gogoi
- E) Chandra Shekhar

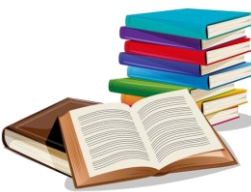
Answer

B) Devadas Chimakode.



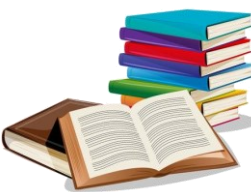
Event and Location:

- **Event:** Veteran folk artist **Devadas Chimakode** was selected for the **Karnataka Janapada Academy Annual Honorary Award 2026** in recognition of his **35** years of contributions to preserving and promoting traditional folk art forms.
- **Location:** Chimakod village, Bidar taluk, Bidar district, Karnataka.
- **Date:** **21 October 2026.**



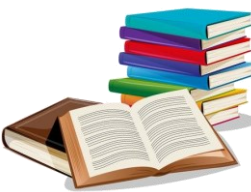
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** The Karnataka Janapada Academy announced its **2026** annual honorary award for **56**-year-old folk artist **Devadas Chimakode**, recognising his contributions to folk singing, instrumental music, **Suggi Kunitha**, and Halage traditions. The award includes a cash prize of **₹25,000** and a citation.



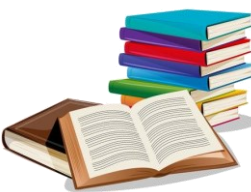
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** To recognise outstanding contributions to Karnataka's traditional folk arts, preserve regional cultural heritage, encourage rural folk artists, promote indigenous music and dance traditions, and support the transmission of traditional artistic knowledge to future generations.



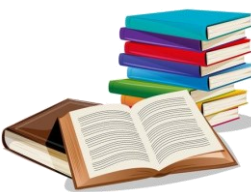
Important Terms Explained:

- **Karnataka Janapada Academy Award:** An annual recognition presented by the **Karnataka Janapada Academy** to honour individuals who have made significant contributions to preserving, practising, and promoting Karnataka's traditional folk arts.



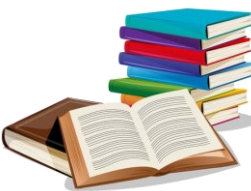
Important Terms Explained:

- **Karnataka Janapada Academy:** A Karnataka state-level cultural institution dedicated to preserving, developing, documenting, and promoting folk literature, music, dance, and traditional performing arts.



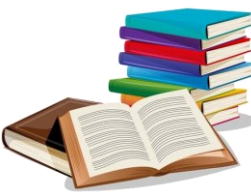
Important Terms Explained:

- **Folk Art:** Traditional forms of artistic expression developed within communities and passed down through generations, reflecting local customs, beliefs, history, and cultural identity.



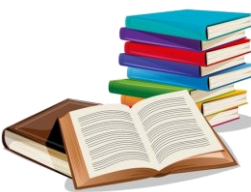
Important Terms Explained:

- **Folk Singing:** A traditional musical practice involving songs transmitted orally across generations, often associated with community celebrations, agricultural activities, rituals, and regional storytelling.



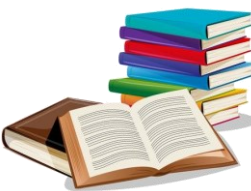
Important Terms Explained:

- **Suggi Kunita:** A traditional folk dance of Karnataka associated with harvest celebrations, particularly among agricultural communities, featuring rhythmic movements, colourful costumes, and traditional music.



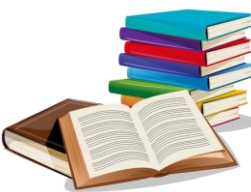
Important Terms Explained:

- **Halage:** A traditional percussion instrument and associated folk performance tradition of Karnataka, involving rhythmic drumming during cultural celebrations, processions, and community gatherings.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Instrumental Folk Music:** Traditional music performed using indigenous musical instruments, often accompanying regional dances, festivals, rituals, and other cultural performances.

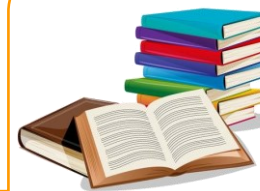


AWARDS



Tabular Summary:

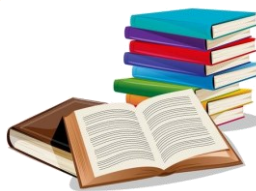
Parameter	Details
Award Name	Karnataka Janapada Academy Annual Honorary Award 2026.
Announcement Date	21 October 2026.
Award Recipient	Devadas Chimakode, a veteran folk artist aged 56 years.
Hometown	Chimakod village, Bidar taluk, Bidar district, Karnataka.
Awarding Institution	Karnataka Janapada Academy.
Award Components	Cash prize of ₹25,000 and a citation.
Experience and Contributions	35 years of service in preserving and promoting traditional folk arts.
Associated Folk Art Forms	Folk singing, instrumental music, Suggi Kunitha, and Halage.



➤ Which launch vehicle is scheduled to be used by ISRO to launch the NVS-03 navigation satellite on 30 October 2026?

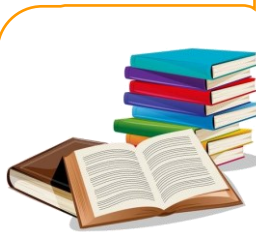
- A) PSLV-C62
- B) LVM3
- C) GSLV Mk II
- D) SSLV
- E) GSLV Mk III

Answer
C) GSLV Mk II.



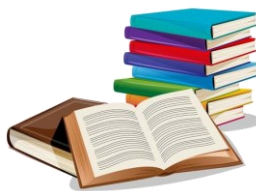
Event and Location:

- **Event: The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** is scheduled to launch the **NVS-03** navigation satellite aboard the **Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV)** Mk II to strengthen India's indigenous satellite navigation system, Navigation with **Indian Constellation** (NavIC).



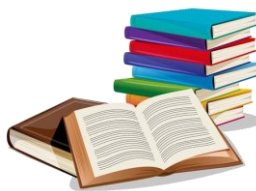
Event and Location:

- **Location:** Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh, India.
- **Date:** 30 October 2026 (scheduled launch).



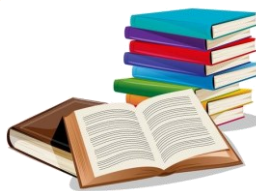
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** **ISRO** plans to launch **NVS-03** as part of its second-generation NavIC satellite programme, comprising five satellites designated **NVS-01** to **NVS-05**. The mission aims to address operational limitations caused by ageing satellites, satellite failures, and onboard atomic clock malfunctions. According to the **Department of Space's** parliamentary response on **29 July 2026**, only three satellites—**IRNSS-1B**, **IRNSS-1I**, and **NVS-01**—were providing positioning, navigation, and timing services.



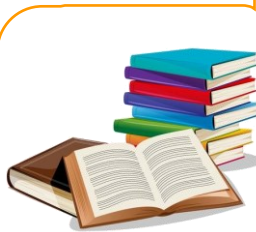
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** To improve the reliability, accuracy, and continuity of India's indigenous satellite navigation services, restore sufficient operational satellite availability for independent positioning, strengthen domestic navigation infrastructure, and support applications such as vehicle tracking, fleet management, disaster management, maritime navigation, aviation, and precise timing.



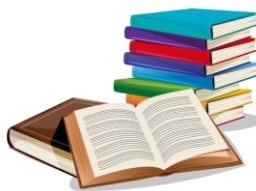
Important Terms Explained:

- **NVS-03**: A second-generation Indian navigation satellite belonging to **ISRO's NVS-01 to NVS-05** series, designed to improve the performance and service continuity of the NavIC satellite navigation system.



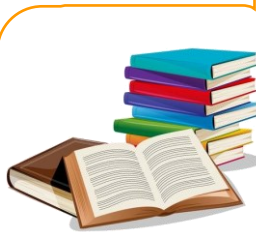
Important Terms Explained:

- **NavIC:** India's indigenous regional satellite navigation system that provides positioning, navigation, and timing services across India and approximately **1,500** kilometres beyond its borders.



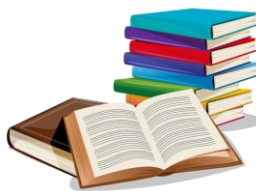
Important Terms Explained:

- **GSLV Mk II: An Indian** satellite launch vehicle equipped with a cryogenic upper stage, designed to place satellites into geosynchronous transfer orbits and support communication and navigation satellite missions.



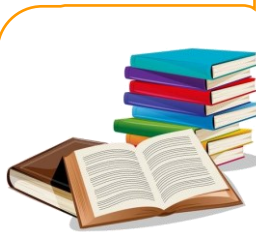
Important Terms Explained:

- **Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC):** India's primary spaceport located at **Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh**, used by **ISRO** for launching satellites aboard **PSLV**, **GSLV**, and other launch vehicles.



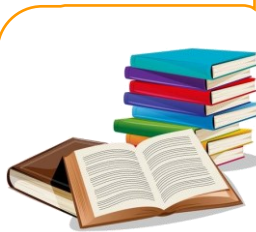
Important Terms Explained:

- Positioning, **Navigation and Timing (PNT)**: Satellite-based services that determine geographical location, support navigation and movement, and provide accurate time references for communication networks and other applications.



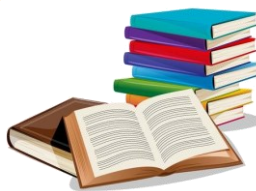
Important Terms Explained:

- **Standard Positioning Service (SPS):** The openly available NavIC service designed to provide positioning and navigation information to civilian and general users.



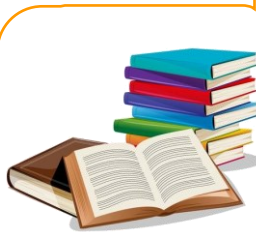
Important Terms Explained:

- **Restricted Service (RS):** An encrypted NavIC navigation service intended for authorised users requiring controlled access to positioning and timing information.



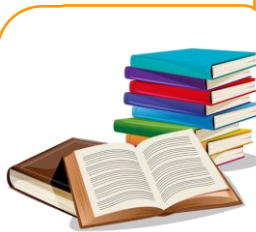
Important Terms Explained:

- **Atomic Clock:** A highly precise timekeeping device that uses atomic frequency standards to maintain accurate timing, enabling navigation receivers to calculate distances from satellites and determine geographical positions.



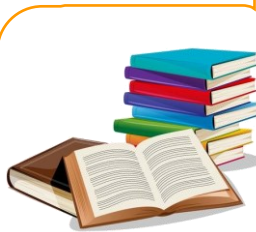
Important Terms Explained:

- **Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS):**
The original name of India's indigenous regional satellite navigation programme, subsequently renamed NavIC.



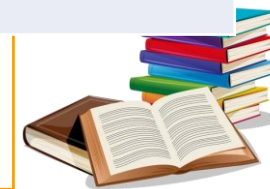
Important Terms Explained:

- **Space Applications Centre (SAC):** An **ISRO** centre involved in developing space-based applications and satellite payload technologies, including navigation-related timing and monitoring systems.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Mission Name	NVS-03 navigation satellite launch.
Scheduled Launch Date	30 October 2026.
Launching Organisation	Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).
Launch Vehicle	Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV) Mk II.
Launch Site	Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh.
Satellite Programme	Second-generation NavIC constellation comprising NVS-01 to NVS-05.
Operational Status	Three satellites—IRNSS-1B, IRNSS-1I, and NVS-01—were providing PNT services as reported on 29 July 2026.
Mission Objective	Strengthen NavIC's navigation accuracy, satellite availability, service continuity, and indigenous positioning capabilities.

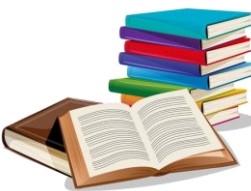


➤ Where was the 9th edition of the trilateral maritime exercise IBSAMAR IX 2026, involving India, Brazil, and South Africa, concluded?

- A) Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- B) Mumbai, India
- C) Simon's Town, South Africa
- D) Cape Town, South Africa
- E) Visakhapatnam, India

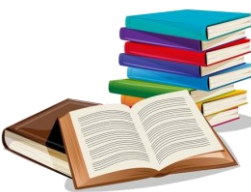
Answer

C) Simon's Town, South Africa.



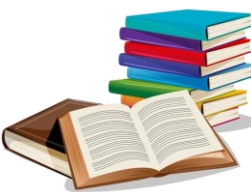
Event and Location:

- **Event:** The 9th edition of the India-Brazil-South Africa **Maritime Exercise (IBSAMAR IX 2026)** concluded successfully after ten days of joint naval activities involving the three countries.
- **Location:** Simon's Town, **South Africa**.



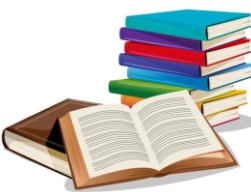
Event and Location:

- **Date:** 20 October 2026, with the completion announced by India's **Ministry of Defence** on 21 October 2026.



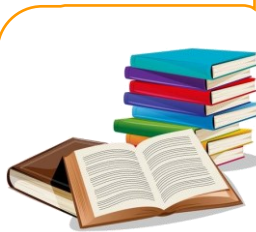
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** The Indian Navy, Brazilian Navy, and South African Navy conducted the trilateral maritime exercise **IBSAMAR IX 2026**, comprising harbour and sea phases, professional exchanges, and joint naval training activities to strengthen maritime cooperation.



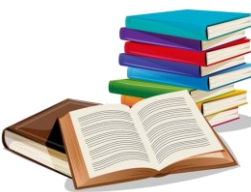
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** To enhance interoperability, improve operational coordination, strengthen mutual understanding, promote maritime security, and develop collective capabilities to address common maritime challenges.



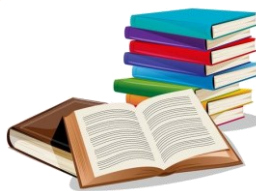
Important Terms Explained:

- **IBSAMAR:** A trilateral maritime exercise involving India, Brazil, and **South Africa**, conducted under the **IBSA** cooperation framework to enhance naval interoperability and maritime security, with its first edition held in **South Africa** in **2008**.



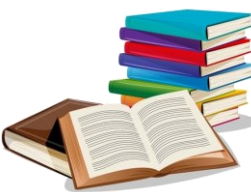
Important Terms Explained:

- **IBSA Dialogue Forum:** A trilateral cooperation platform established in **2003** involving India, Brazil, and **South Africa** to promote South-South cooperation, political dialogue, economic development, and collaboration in areas including maritime security.



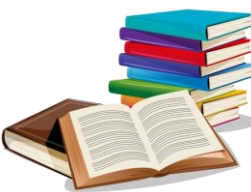
Important Terms Explained:

- **INS Tarkash:** A frontline guided-missile stealth frigate of the **Indian Navy** that participated in **IBSAMAR IX 2026** along with an integral Chetak helicopter.



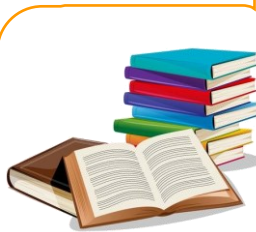
Important Terms Explained:

- **Harbour Phase:** The initial phase of a naval exercise involving professional exchanges, operational planning, coordination meetings, and training activities conducted while ships are in port.



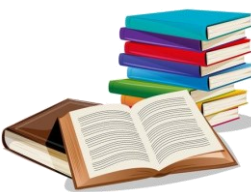
Important Terms Explained:

- **Sea Phase:** The operational phase of a naval exercise involving practical maritime manoeuvres, coordinated naval operations, and warfare training at sea.



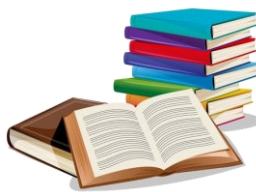
Important Terms Explained:

- **Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW):** Naval operations aimed at detecting, tracking, and countering hostile submarines to protect ships and maintain maritime security.



Important Terms Explained:

- Visit, Board, **Search and Seizure (VBSS)**: Maritime security procedures used by naval forces to approach, board, inspect, and, when legally authorised, seize vessels suspected of unlawful activities.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Exercise name	IBSAMAR IX 2026, the 9th edition of the India-Brazil-South Africa Maritime Exercise.
Location	Simon's Town, South Africa.
Concluding date	20 October 2026, with the official announcement on 21 October 2026.
Participating countries	India, Brazil, and South Africa, with South Africa serving as the host nation.
Duration and phases	Ten days, comprising harbour and sea phases.
Theme	"Stronger Together Towards a Shared Future in the Maritime Domain."
Naval participation	India deployed INS Tarkash with a Chetak helicopter; Brazil deployed BNS Barroso with a Lynx helicopter; South Africa deployed SAS Amatola, SAS King Sekhukhune I, SAS Adam Kok III, and submarine SAS Manthatisi.
Objectives	Strengthening naval interoperability, operational cooperation, maritime readiness, and collective maritime security.



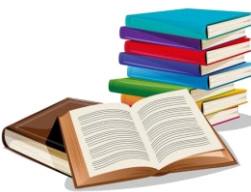
➤ **Where did the 33rd edition of the Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise (SIMBEX-2026) commence on 21 October 2026?**

- A) Kochi, Kerala
- B) Mumbai, Maharashtra
- C) Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
- D) Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- E) Port Blair, Andaman and Nicobar Islands



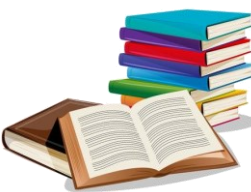
Answer

C) Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.



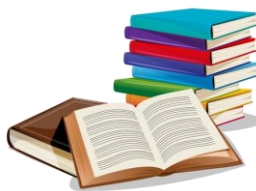
Event and Location:

- **Event:** The **33rd Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise (SIMBEX-2026)** commenced between the **Indian Navy** and the **Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN)** to strengthen bilateral naval cooperation and operational coordination.
- **Location:** Visakhapatnam, **Andhra Pradesh**, for the harbour phase and the **Bay of Bengal** for the sea phase.
- **Date:** **21–26 October 2026.**



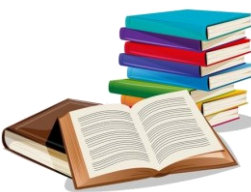
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** The bilateral maritime exercise is being conducted in two phases, with the **Harbour Phase** scheduled from **21–23 October 2026** and the **Sea Phase** from **24–26 October 2026**. The exercise involves professional exchanges, cross-deck visits, operational planning, and advanced naval warfare drills, including anti-submarine, anti-surface, and anti-air warfare operations. Singapore's **RSS Supreme and Indian** naval ships **INS Nilgiri** and **INS Kamorta** are associated with the exercise.



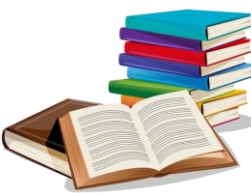
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** To enhance operational interoperability between the **Indian and Singapore** navies, strengthen maritime security cooperation, improve joint warfare capabilities, develop coordination in naval operations, and promote peace, stability, and a rules-based maritime order in the Indo-Pacific region.



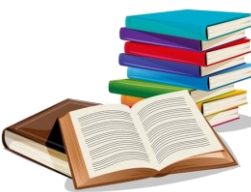
Important Terms Explained:

- **SIMBEX: The Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise** is an annual bilateral naval exercise between **India and Singapore**, initiated in **1994** as **Exercise Lion King** to strengthen maritime cooperation and operational compatibility.



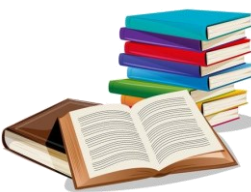
Important Terms Explained:

- **Harbour Phase:** The initial stage of a naval exercise conducted at a port, involving professional discussions, operational planning, subject matter expert exchanges, cross-deck visits, and interactions between participating naval personnel.



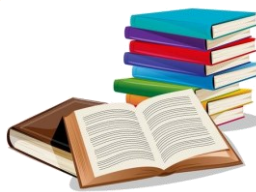
Important Terms Explained:

- **Sea Phase:** The operational stage of a maritime exercise conducted at sea, involving coordinated naval manoeuvres, warfare simulations, ship-handling drills, and tactical operations.



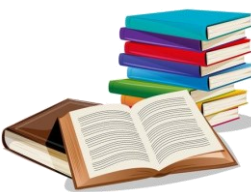
Important Terms Explained:

- **Subject Matter Expert Exchanges (SMEEs):**
Professional interactions between specialists from participating navies to share technical knowledge, operational experience, tactics, and best practices.



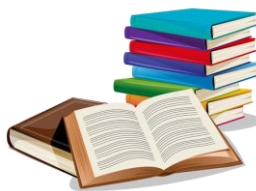
Important Terms Explained:

- **Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW):** Naval operations designed to detect, track, deter, and counter hostile submarines using warships, aircraft, sensors, and underwater detection systems.



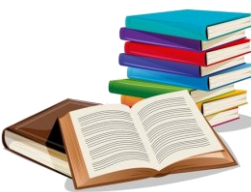
Important Terms Explained:

- **Anti-Surface Warfare (ASUW):** Naval operations focused on detecting, tracking, and engaging hostile surface vessels to protect maritime assets and maintain control of sea areas.



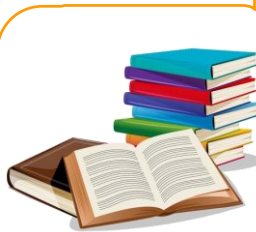
Important Terms Explained:

- **Anti-Air Warfare (AAW):** Naval defensive and offensive operations intended to detect, intercept, and counter airborne threats, including hostile aircraft, missiles, and unmanned aerial systems.



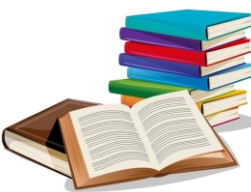
Important Terms Explained:

- **Seamanship Evolutions:** Practical naval exercises involving ship handling, navigation, coordinated manoeuvring, and operational procedures to improve maritime efficiency and crew coordination.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Indo-Pacific Region:** A strategically significant maritime region connecting the **Indian and Pacific Oceans**, important for international trade, naval security, regional cooperation, and freedom of navigation.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Exercise Name	Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise (SIMBEX-2026), 33rd edition.
Commencement Date	21 October 2026.
Participating Countries	India and Singapore.
Location	Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, and the Bay of Bengal.
Harbour Phase	21–23 October 2026, featuring professional exchanges, cross-deck visits, and operational planning.
Sea Phase	24–26 October 2026, involving anti-submarine, anti-surface, and anti-air warfare drills.
Participating Naval Ships	Singapore's RSS Supreme; India's INS Nilgiri and INS Kamorta were involved in the opening ceremony.
Historical Background	SIMBEX began in 1994 as Exercise Lion King and promotes bilateral maritime cooperation.



➤ Which ministry formed a special task force in October 2026 to investigate the leakage of private cryptographic keys associated with eMudhra's digital certificates?

- A) Ministry of Home Affairs
- B) Ministry of Communications
- C) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
- D) Ministry of Science and Technology
- E) Ministry of Corporate Affairs

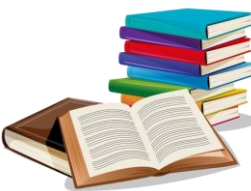


Government of India
**Ministry of Electronics and
Information Technology**



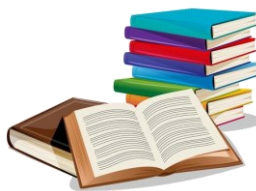
Answer

C) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.



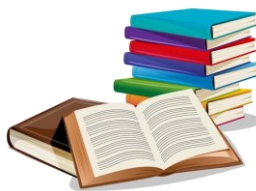
Event and Location:

- **Event:** The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) constituted a special task force to investigate the compromise of private cryptographic keys associated with eight eMudhra intermediate **Certificate Authority** (CA) certificates.
- **Location:** Bengaluru, Karnataka, India, where eMudhra is headquartered.
- **Date:** 22 October 2026.



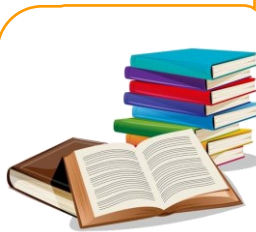
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** MeitY formed a dedicated task force to investigate the digital certificate security breach, while the **Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In)** issued a cybersecurity advisory on **21 October 2026** highlighting weaknesses in cryptographic key generation and potential security threats.



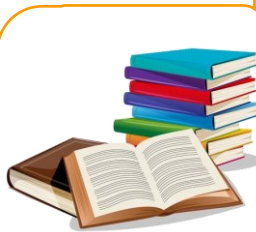
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** To investigate the compromised private keys, identify weaknesses in the key-generation process, coordinate cybersecurity responses, prevent fraudulent certificate issuance, and protect secure online communications from website impersonation and cyberattacks.



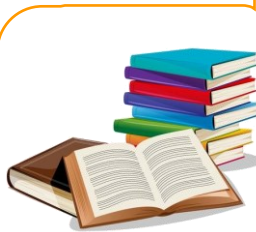
Important Terms Explained:

- **eMudhra:** A Bengaluru-based digital trust services company that provides digital certificates, digital signatures, and electronic authentication services.



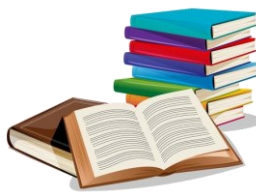
Important Terms Explained:

- **Digital Certificate:** An electronic credential that links a verified identity, such as a website domain, with a public cryptographic key to enable authentication and secure communication.



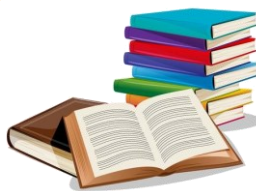
Important Terms Explained:

- **Certificate Authority (CA):** A trusted entity responsible for issuing and digitally signing certificates to verify the authenticity of websites and other digital identities.



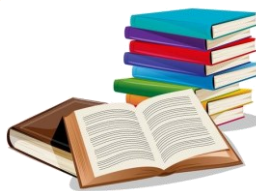
Important Terms Explained:

- **Intermediate Certificate Authority:** A certificate authority operating under a trusted root CA that can issue or sign certificates within an established chain of trust.



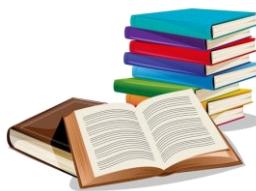
Important Terms Explained:

- **Cryptographic Entropy:** The randomness and unpredictability used in generating cryptographic keys, where insufficient entropy can make private keys vulnerable to recovery or prediction.



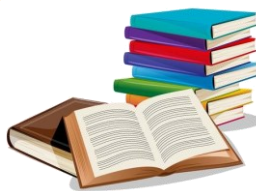
Important Terms Explained:

- **Transport Layer Security (TLS):** A cryptographic protocol that provides encryption, authentication, and data integrity for secure internet communications, including **HTTPS** connections.



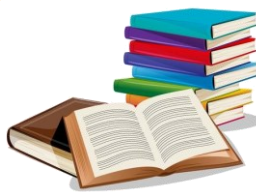
Important Terms Explained:

- **Web Public Key Infrastructure (WebPKI):** A system of trusted certificate authorities, certificates, and validation mechanisms used by web browsers and operating systems to authenticate websites.



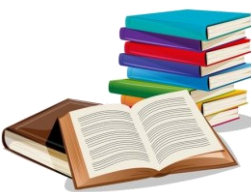
Important Terms Explained:

- Man-in-the-Middle (MitM) Attack: A cyberattack in which an attacker secretly intercepts or modifies communication between two parties, potentially using forged certificates to impersonate legitimate websites.



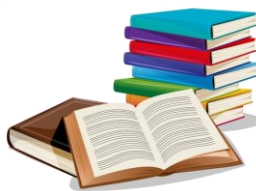
Important Terms Explained:

- **CERT-In:** India's national cybersecurity incident-response agency operating under MeitY, responsible for issuing security advisories, analyzing cyber threats, and coordinating incident responses.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Controller of Certifying Authorities (CCA):** A statutory authority under MeitY that regulates certifying authorities issuing digital signature certificates under the **Information Technology Act, 2000**.



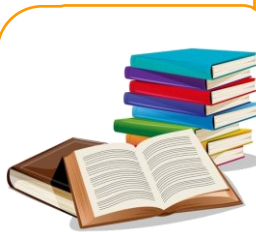
Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event	MeitY formed a special task force to investigate the eMudhra digital certificate key compromise.
Date	22 October 2026.
Location	Bengaluru, Karnataka, India.
Investigating Ministry	Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).
Affected Certificates	Eight eMudhra intermediate CA certificates associated with potentially compromised private keys.
Technical Vulnerability	Inadequate cryptographic entropy in keys generated during April 2025.
CERT-In Advisory	Issued on 21 October 2026, warning about forged TLS certificates and website impersonation risks.
Security Response	Mozilla restricted affected certificates in Firefox, while Google Chrome blocked affected certificate keys.

➤ What is the maximum initial testing period allowed under the Telecommunications (Regulatory Sandbox) Rules, 2026, notified by the Government of India?

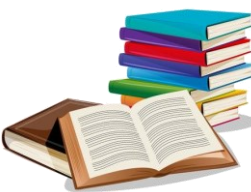
- A) 6 months
- B) 12 months
- C) 18 months
- D) 24 months
- E) 36 months

Answer
D) 24 months.



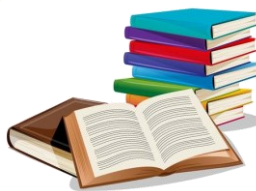
Event and Location:

- **Event:** The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) under the **Ministry of Communications** notified the Telecommunications (**Regulatory Sandbox**) Rules, **2026**, allowing controlled testing of emerging telecom technologies, services, products, processes, and business models with specified regulatory exemptions.
- **Location:** India.
- **Date:** 21 October 2026.



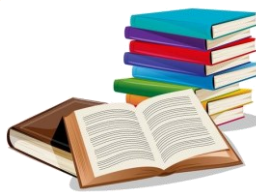
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates: The Central Government** introduced a regulatory framework under Section **27** of the **Telecommunications Act, 2023**, permitting eligible applicants to test innovative telecom solutions in controlled environments. The rules prescribe a non-refundable application fee of **₹10,000**, a maximum initial testing period of **24** months, extensions of up to **12** months at a time, and temporary exemptions from specified provisions of telecom regulations, subject to government approval and monitoring.



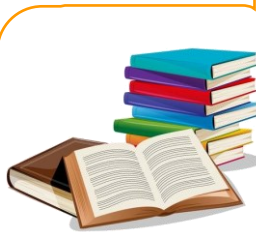
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** To encourage innovation and technological development in India's telecommunications sector, facilitate real-world testing before commercial deployment, reduce regulatory barriers for emerging technologies, ensure user safety and data protection, and maintain the security and integrity of telecommunications networks.



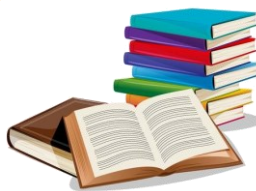
Important Terms Explained:

- **Regulatory Sandbox:** A controlled testing environment that allows eligible entities to experiment with innovative products, services, technologies, or business models under regulatory supervision and specified temporary exemptions.



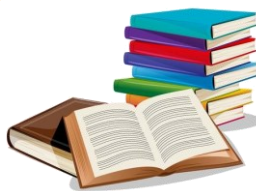
Important Terms Explained:

- **Telecommunications Act, 2023:** An Indian law governing telecommunications services, networks, spectrum, and related activities, with Section **27** enabling the **Central Government** to establish regulatory sandboxes for technological innovation.



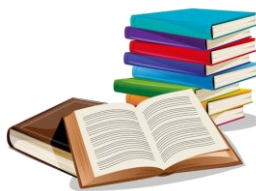
Important Terms Explained:

- Telecommunications (**Regulatory Sandbox**) Rules, **2026**: Rules establishing procedures for creating, approving, operating, monitoring, extending, and closing regulatory sandboxes for emerging telecommunications technologies and services.



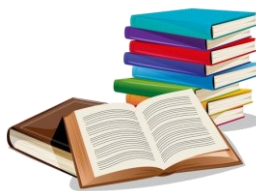
Important Terms Explained:

- **Regulatory Exemptions:** Temporary relaxations from specified legal or regulatory requirements granted to approved sandbox participants for controlled testing, subject to prescribed conditions and safeguards.



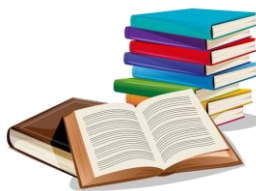
Important Terms Explained:

- **Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) Act, 1997:** The legislation establishing the **Telecom Regulatory Authority of India** and providing the framework for regulating telecommunications services and protecting consumer interests.



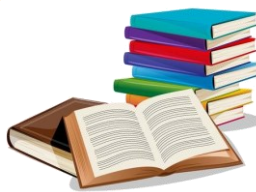
Important Terms Explained:

- **Informed Consent:** The voluntary agreement of a test participant after receiving sufficient information about the purpose, scope, conditions, and potential risks of the proposed testing activity.



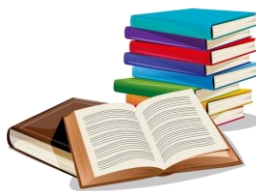
Important Terms Explained:

- **Data Protection:** Legal and technical measures designed to safeguard personal information against unauthorised access, misuse, disclosure, and security breaches during testing activities.



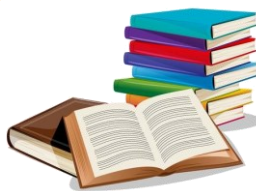
Important Terms Explained:

- **Research and Development (R&D) Institutions:**
Organisations engaged in scientific research and technological innovation, including institutions recognised by the **Department of Science and Technology** that are eligible to propose telecom regulatory sandboxes.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Commercial Deployment:** The introduction of a tested technology, product, or service into the market for regular public or business use after obtaining all necessary regulatory approvals and authorisations.



Tabular Summary:

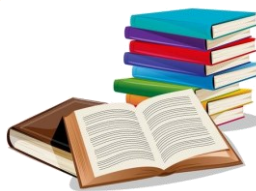
Parameter	Details
Rules Notified	Telecommunications (Regulatory Sandbox) Rules, 2026.
Notification Date	21 October 2026.
Issuing Authority	Department of Telecommunications under the Ministry of Communications.
Legal Framework	Section 27 of the Telecommunications Act, 2023.
Application Fee	Non-refundable processing fee of ₹10,000.
Testing Duration	Maximum initial period of 24 months, with possible extensions of up to 12 months at a time.
Eligible Applicants	Authorised entities, registered companies, societies, partnership firms, statutory bodies, Indian nationals, and recognised R&D institutions.
Key Safeguards	Prior user consent, free participation, data protection, restrictions on commercial availability, record retention, and government monitoring.



► From which month and year is India proposing to make Advanced Emergency Braking Systems (AEBS) mandatory in new car models?

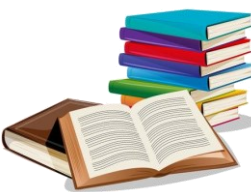
- A) October 2027
- B) October 2028
- C) October 2029
- D) October 2030
- E) October 2032

Answer
D) October 2030.



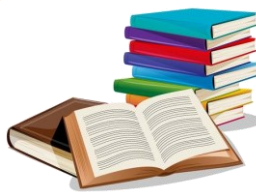
Event and Location:

- **Event:** The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) is considering making **Advanced Emergency Braking Systems (AEBS)** mandatory in new passenger car models from October **2030** and existing car models from October **2032** to improve road safety.
- **Location:** India.



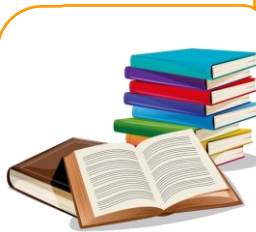
Event and Location:

- **Date: 22 October 2026** (reported proposal), with proposed implementation from October **2030** and October **2032**.



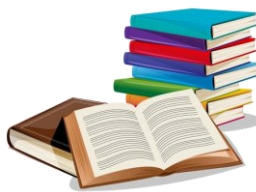
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, headed by Union Minister Nitin Gadkari, is considering a phased introduction of **AEBS** requirements under a broader vehicle safety initiative involving **Advanced Driver Assistance Systems (ADAS)**. The proposal covers new passenger car models from October **2030** and existing models under production from October **2032**. Additional safety technologies, including emergency lane keeping and driver fatigue monitoring, are also being considered for passenger transport vehicles. The proposed **AEBS** requirements for passenger cars have not yet been officially notified.



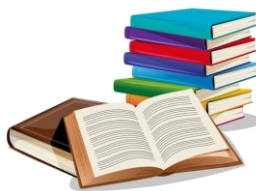
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** To reduce road accidents and collision-related injuries, improve vehicle safety through automatic braking and collision detection, enhance driver awareness, protect vulnerable road users, and provide automobile manufacturers sufficient time to integrate advanced safety technologies into passenger vehicles.



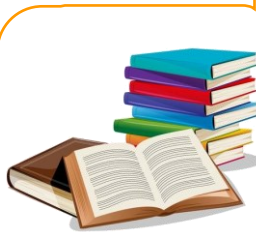
Important Terms Explained:

- **Advanced Emergency Braking System (AEBS):** An active vehicle safety technology that uses cameras, radar, or other sensors to detect potential collisions and automatically applies the brakes when the driver fails to respond adequately.



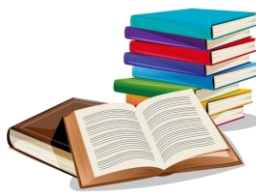
Important Terms Explained:

- **Advanced Driver Assistance Systems (ADAS):** A collection of electronic vehicle safety technologies that assist drivers through warnings, monitoring systems, and automated braking or steering interventions to reduce accident risks.



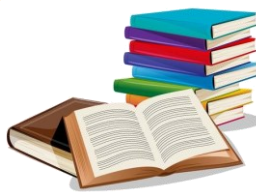
Important Terms Explained:

- **Automatic Emergency Braking (AEB):** A safety feature that automatically activates the vehicle's brakes when an imminent collision is detected, helping prevent accidents or reduce their severity.



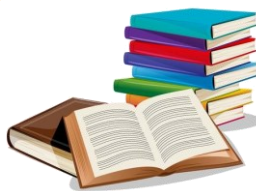
Important Terms Explained:

- **Lane Departure Warning System (LDWS):** A driver assistance feature that alerts the driver when a vehicle unintentionally moves outside its designated traffic lane.



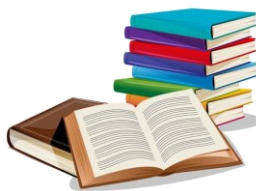
Important Terms Explained:

- **Emergency Lane Keeping System (ELKS):** An advanced safety system that helps prevent unintended lane departures by providing corrective steering assistance or other interventions.



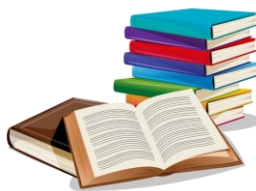
Important Terms Explained:

- **Blind Spot Information System (BSIS):** A vehicle safety system that detects and warns drivers about vehicles or vulnerable road users located in areas not easily visible through mirrors.



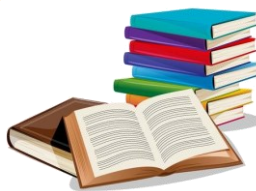
Important Terms Explained:

- **Driver Drowsiness and Attention Warning System (DDAWS):** A driver monitoring technology that identifies signs of fatigue or reduced attentiveness and provides warnings to help prevent accidents.



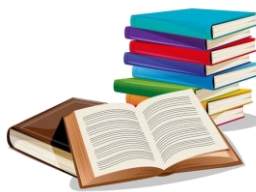
Important Terms Explained:

- **Moving Off Information System (MOIS):** A safety technology that detects pedestrians, cyclists, or other vulnerable road users near the front of a vehicle when it begins moving.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Active Vehicle Safety System:** A technology designed to prevent accidents by identifying hazards and assisting with braking, steering, or vehicle control before a collision occurs.



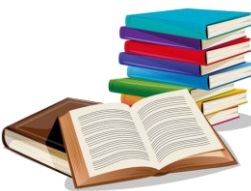
Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Proposed Regulation	Mandatory Advanced Emergency Braking Systems (AEBS) in passenger cars.
Reported Date	22 October 2026.
Regulating Ministry	Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, headed by Union Minister Nitin Gadkari.
New Car Models Deadline	October 2030, as proposed.
Existing Car Models Deadline	October 2032, as proposed.
Technology Framework	Advanced Driver Assistance Systems (ADAS), including automatic braking and collision detection.
Additional Safety Features	Emergency lane keeping and driver drowsiness and attention warning systems are being considered.
Regulatory Status	Passenger car requirements remain proposals, while AEBS standards for specified medium and heavy commercial vehicles are scheduled from 1 October 2027.

QUICK RECALL



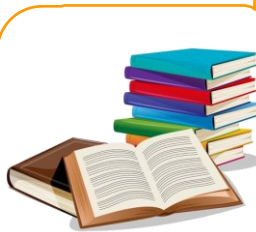
- India's Office of the Economic Adviser reported 7.9% year-on-year growth in the Index of Eight Core Industries for September 2026, indicating increased core industrial production.
- President Droupadi Murmu presented awards at the 65th National Exhibition of Art and 3rd Print Biennale India 2026 in New Delhi on 21 October 2026, recognising artistic excellence and promoting India's visual arts heritage.
- The Karnataka Janapada Academy selected veteran folk artist Devadas Chimakode for its 2026 annual honorary award on 21 October 2026, recognising his 35-year contribution to preserving Karnataka's traditional folk arts.
- ISRO is scheduled to launch the NVS-03 navigation satellite aboard GSLV Mk II from Sriharikota on 30 October 2026 to strengthen India's indigenous NavIC navigation system and improve service reliability.



QUICK RECALL



- The Indian, Brazilian, and South African navies successfully concluded the 9th IBSAMAR maritime exercise at Simon's Town, South Africa, on 20 October 2026, strengthening trilateral naval cooperation and interoperability.
- The Indian Navy and Republic of Singapore Navy commenced the 33rd SIMBEX-2026 maritime exercise in Visakhapatnam on 21 October 2026 to strengthen operational interoperability and bilateral maritime security cooperation.
- MeitY constituted a special task force on 22 October 2026 to investigate compromised cryptographic keys associated with eMudhra's digital certificates, aiming to address certificate forgery and website impersonation risks.
- The Ministry of Communications notified the Telecommunications (Regulatory Sandbox) Rules, 2026, on 21 October 2026 to enable controlled testing of emerging telecom technologies with temporary regulatory exemptions and user protection safeguards.
- The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways is considering mandatory AEBS installation in new passenger car models from October 2030 and existing models from October 2032 to reduce road accidents through automated collision prevention.



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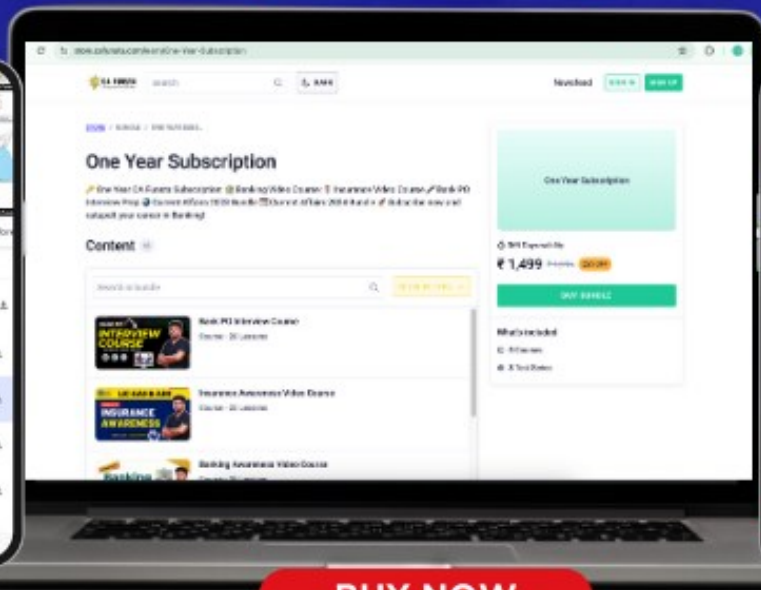
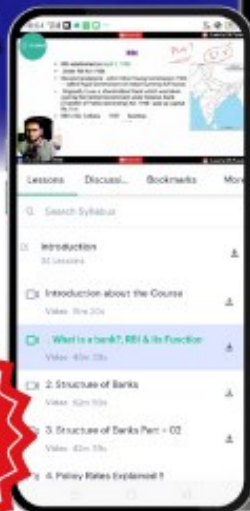
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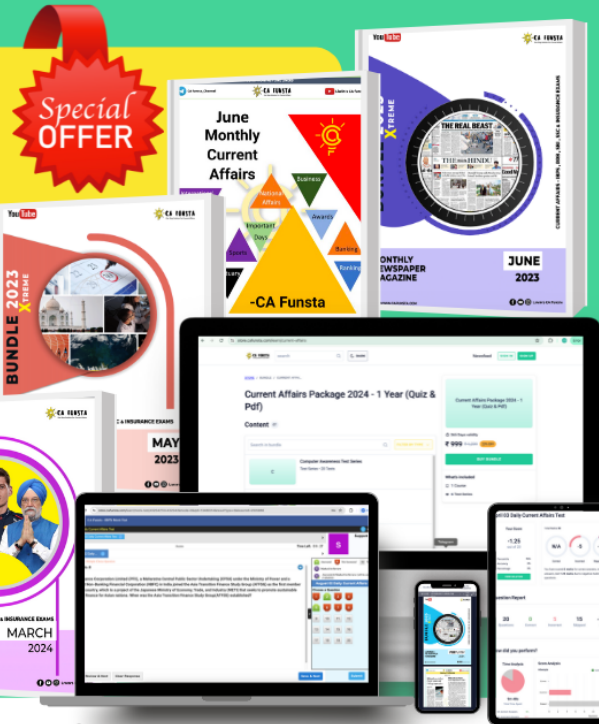


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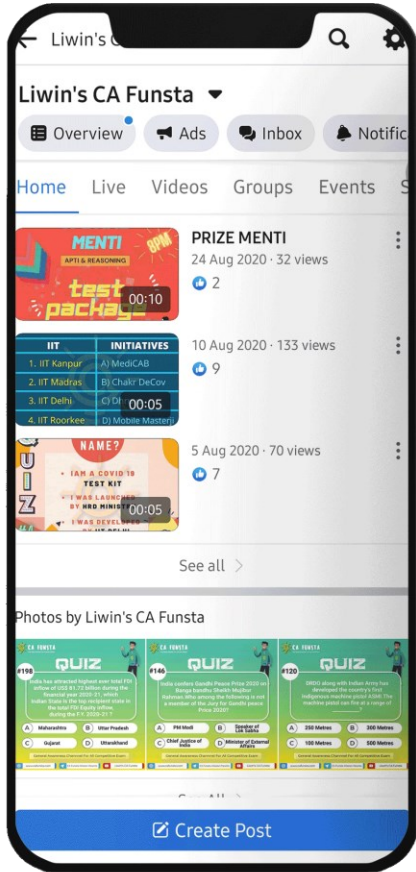
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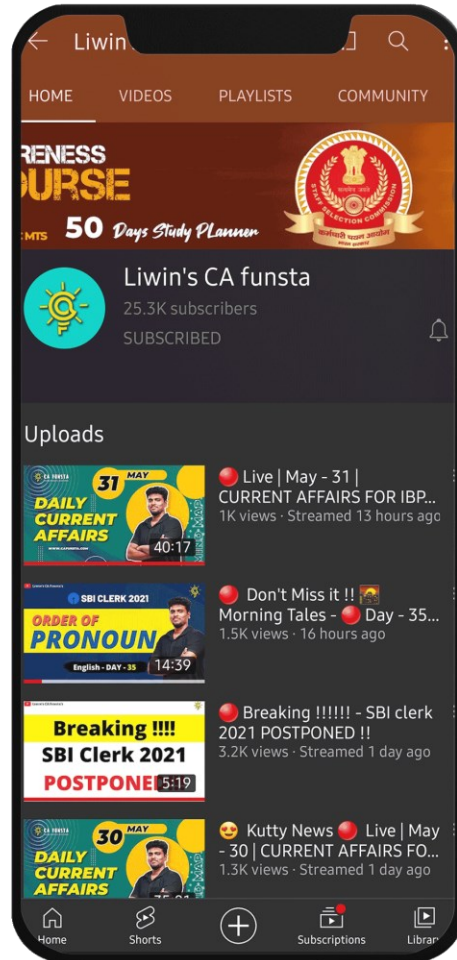


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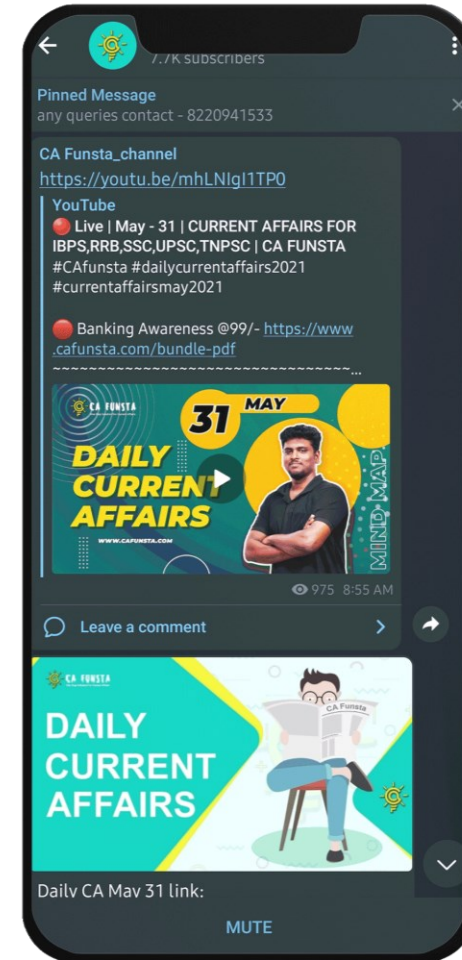
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