



# The ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

LANGUAGE - ENGLISH

## CURRENT AFFAIR BOOSTER

29 - 06 - 2023

Thursday



### THE ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

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# DAILY

# CURRENT AFFAIRS

# &

# QUIZ



UPSC / BPSC

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## 1. These institutes of India found place in top 500 in QS World University Rankings



The results of Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings 2024 are out. In which many IITs, IISc and universities of India are also included. However, this year IISc Bangalore has gone a long way back from its place. Last year IISc Bangalore had secured 155th rank. While the institute has slipped a lot in the rankings this year, IISc Bangalore has got the 225th rank. At the same time, IIT Bombay was ranked 172 last time, which has improved this time and IIT Bombay has been at number 149. According to the NIRF ranking of the Ministry of Education, IISc Bangalore is the best university in the country and the second best institute for providing higher education. Delhi University and Anna University are among the top 500 universities in the world according to the QS World University Rankings. DU has got 407th rank this time. While Anna University has got 427th rank. Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay is now ranked first in the country and 149th globally, up from 172nd last year. IIT Delhi moved up to 197th this year. It was ranked 174 in the previous ranking. Three other IITs figure in the list of top 300 globally.

## 2. Exhibition of UNESCO World Heritage Sites: The Greatness and Cultural Heritage of Banknotes



Indira Gandhi National Center for the Arts (IGNCA) is all set to host an extraordinary exhibition titled "Banking on World Heritage". Curated by Ms. Rukmini Dahanukar, an independent scholar and founder of 'Money Talks', this unique exhibition will showcase banknotes featuring UNESCO listed World Heritage Sites. The exhibition aims to provide a fresh perspective on these cultural treasures and will be held at IGNCA from June 30 to July 9, 2023. The event is significant as it is India's presidency of the G-20 summit, Aligned with the 75th year of India's independence and the 50th year of the UNESCO World Heritage Convention. The exhibition will be inaugurated by the Minister of State for External Affairs and Culture Smt. Meenakshi Lekhi. High commissioners and ambassadors of G-20 countries will be present at the opening ceremony. The theme of the exhibition "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" or "One Earth One Family One Future" perfectly encapsulates the outstanding universal values of the World Heritage.

## 3. India has the second largest network of roads after the United States of America



Recently, India had achieved the title of the most populous country in the world, leaving China behind. However, there is no opinion among scholars regarding that achievement whether to take it positively or negatively. There have been mixed reactions to the issue of population, but this achievement is definitely something to be proud of. India is now the second largest country in the world in terms of road network and has achieved this position by leaving behind China. In this matter ahead of India, only the United States is now. In terms of area, India ranks seventh in the world and first in terms of population. The development here is also not the same in every state and hence people have to move from one place to another for work to tourism. People always need better connectivity for traffic. Although people in India travel by rail, air and

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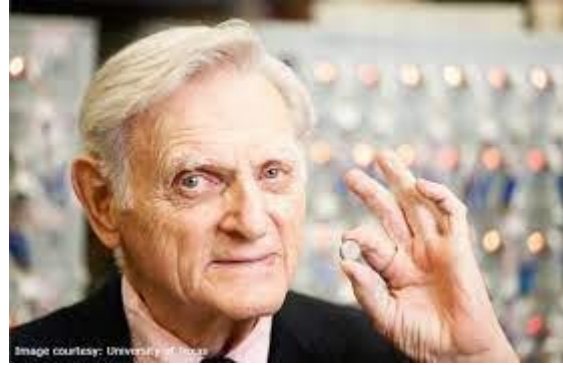
road, Use all these three routes. It is essential to have a good network of roads for good and smooth traffic. Till a few decades ago, the condition of roads in India was very bad and there were many jokes about it, but now the road network in India has increased very fast.

#### 4. Diksha Dagar won the second title in Czech Ladies Open



22-year-old talented golfer Diksha Dagar from Jhajjar, Haryana claimed her second Ladies European Tour (LET) title at the Czech Ladies Open. Diksha, who won her maiden LET title in 2019 and was part of the winning team at the Aramco Team Series in London in 2021, performed brilliantly throughout the tournament. The win is his second individual victory on the LET, and he now has nine top-10 finishes, four of which he has achieved this season. Diksha displayed composure and consistency as he started the final day with a five-shot lead. He shot a final round 69, which included four birdies and just one bogey, to take a four-shot victory. Diksha's solid performance throughout the week included a score of 65 in the second round, where he displayed his exceptional skills with 13 birdies and an eagle in three rounds. Diksha's road to victory was marked by steady progress and a series of impressive performances. With an overall score of 9-under, she kept her composure in the challenging conditions and ended the tournament as a well-deserved champion. Thailand's Trichat Changlaib shot a 64 on the final day, but early-round struggles prevented her from closing the gap on Diksha.

#### 5. American co-inventor of the lithium-ion battery, John Bannister, passes away



John Bannister Goodenough was an American co-inventor of lithium ion batteries who also won the 2019 Nobel Prize in Chemistry. He was about to turn 101 this July 25 but she passed away almost a month ago. He was the world's oldest Nobel laureate. Stan Whittingham who won the Nobel Prize with John, He initially discovered that lithium could be stored inside a sheet of titanium sulphide. John refined it with Cobalt based cathode to create a product which now has a significant impact on everyone's life and is now the most demanded and needed thing. Along with this, he also made a big contribution in making Random Access Memory i.e. RAM. John was born in Germany and his parents were from America. He did his mathematics studies from Yale University and worked as a meteorologist in the US Army during World War II. He had a wonderful life full of discoveries and he contributed a lot in making many inventions, due to which man became simple today.

#### 6. UP government started 'Operation Conviction' against criminals



In UP, the police has started 'Operation Conviction' to punish the criminals within 30 days. Under this, crimes related to POCSO Act, rape, murder, robbery, dacoity, conversion and cow slaughter have been included in 75 cities. Efforts will be made to hold hearings in fast track courts every day so that criminals are punished in less

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time. DGP Vijay Kumar said that since 2017, on the instructions of CM Yogi, the police is taking continuous action against criminals and mafia under the policy of zero tolerance. Now every month there will be a review regarding the prosecution. On the basis of this there will be ranking of Police Commissioner and SP. He told that robbery, murder, rape, cow slaughter, Separate lists will now be prepared for cases like religious conversion and POCSO. In Operation Conviction, the charge will frame after three days in such cases. There is a plan to start the trial in 30 days. A file of 20-20 cases will be prepared for this work in all the districts. He said that the gazetted officers would monitor the entire matter. Along with this, a wing will also be formed at the headquarters. who will review it.

## 7. India's first hydrogen powered train: New hope for pollution free and sustainable transport



In a significant step towards adopting sustainable transport, India is set to launch its first hydrogen powered train. Hydrogen trains, which rely on fuel cells to convert hydrogen and oxygen into electricity, provide a clean and environmentally friendly alternative to conventional diesel trains. This groundbreaking initiative marks a promising progress in India's efforts to reduce carbon emissions and combat pollution. The first hydrogen fueled train in India is about to operate on the Jind-Sonipat route. This strategic choice for the opening route highlights the commitment of the Indian authorities to transform the regional transport network with sustainable alternatives. By launching a hydrogen train in this corridor, India aims to demonstrate the feasibility and benefits of hydrogen technology in a real-world setting. The initial prototype of the hydrogen train in India is expected to have eight bogies. These well-designed coaches will provide comfortable and efficient transport for the passengers. While the first model shows the potential of hydrogen powered trains,

future iterations may see advancements in terms of speed, capacity and additional features.

## 8. Self Reliance Initiative in Indian Defense Sector by DRDO: Drive for Indigenous Technologies



Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO) recently unveiled a comprehensive list of 75 technology priority sectors with an aim to boost indigenous defense manufacturing sector in India. This strategic move is expected to encourage innovation, indigenization and self-reliance, thereby putting the country on a trajectory towards advanced military technology design and development. The unveiling of these priority areas, along with the DRDO Technology Vision 2023 document, is a significant milestone in fostering engagement between industry, academia and the defense research establishment. The 'Research Chintan Shivir' organized by DRDO under the guidance of Chief of Defense Staff emphasized on the vital role of indigenous defense technologies for the armed forces. Recognizing the need to reduce dependence on foreign imports, The event highlighted the importance of promoting innovation and self-reliance in defense manufacturing. The DRDO Technology Vision 2023 document serves as a comprehensive guide, listing various technology areas that DRDO laboratories are currently working on. It not only identifies the ongoing technology development activities, but also outlines future areas of focus required for development of state-of-the-art defense systems and strengthening of national security.

## QUIZ

1. Who has been appointed as the Managing Director of DBS Bank India recently ?

a) Rajat Verma

b) Neeraj Kaushik

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- c) Mukesh Kumar
- d) Ravindra Sharma

Ans : - Former HSBC chief Rajat Verma has been appointed as the new Managing Director of DBS Bank . Rajat Verma will succeed Neeraj Mittal , who was recently appointed country head of DBS Bank . It is a Singaporean multinational banking corporation . It is one of the largest foreign banks in India .

**2. Who has recently become the first bowler to play 100 consecutive Tests in world cricket ?**

- a) Ben Stocks
- b) Nathan Lyon
- c) Josh Hazlehood
- d) Ravichandran Ashwin

Ans : - Australia 's spinner Nathan Lyon has become the first bowler in the world to play 100 consecutive Tests for the national team in world cricket . Nathan Lyon achieved this feat with his inclusion in the playing 11 for the second Ashes Test against England . Till now no player had managed to play 100 Tests in a row among the bowlers .

**3. Recently by whom the foundation stone of the new premises of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court was laid ?**

- a) Draupadi Murmu
- b) Geeta Mittal
- c) Dr. DY Chandrachud
- d) Narendra Modi

Ans: - CJI Dr. DY Chandrachud laid the foundation stone for the new campus of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court . This complex is located in Raika area of Jammu city . The cost of building this complex is estimated to be more than Rs 800 crore . Jammu and Kashmir And the Ladakh High Court will for the first time host a two -day All India Legal Services Authority meeting in Srinagar on June 30 and July 1 .

**4. Which state government has recently launched Odisha Quality Resolutions in collaboration with QCI ?**

- a) Goa
- b) Assam
- c) Jharkhand
- d) Odisha

Ans :- Odisha Quality Resolution ( Odisha Quality Mission ) has been started by the Government of Odisha in collaboration with QCI , ASSOCHAM , FICCI , EEPCC , OASME , PHDCCI , CIPET , FHRAI . It has been inaugurated by Shri Pradeep Kumar Jena , Chief Secretary of Odisha . This The main objective of the mission is to promote and prioritize quality in various sectors in the state of Odisha .

**5. Recently which state 's police has launched a comprehensive program called ' Operation Conviction ' to combat criminals and organized crime in the state ?**

- a) Punjab
- b) Uttar Pradesh
- c) Haryana
- d) Madhya Pradesh

Ans : - Uttar Pradesh Police has launched a comprehensive program called ' Operation Conviction ' to combat criminals and organized crime in the state . The Operation Conviction initiative aims specifically at heinous crimes like rape , murder , cow slaughter , conversion and POXO The process of conviction in cases registered under the Act is to be expedited. The government has launched ' Operation Conviction ' campaign to identify and prioritize 20 cases in each district .

**6. Who has been appointed as the new Director of Outer Space Affairs of the United Nations recently ?**

- a) Meenakshi Goyal
- b) Aarti Hola - Maini
- c) Supriya Patel
- d) Raman Kumar

Ans :- United Nations Secretary - General Antonio Guterres has appointed Indian - origin satellite industry expert Aarti Hola - Maini as the Director of the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) in Vienna . Aarti Hola - Mani from United Kingdom , Simonetta Di from Italy Will take the place of Pippo . The United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs is an office of the UN that promotes peaceful international cooperation in outer space .

**7. Who has recently signed a \$ 454 million deal with Danske Bank to promote digital transformation ?**

- a) Infosys
- b) Wipro

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c) TCS

d) IBM

Ans : - India 's second largest IT services firm Infosys signed a \$ 454 million deal with Denmark - based Danske Bank to accelerate the lender 's digital transformation . This is supported by significant investments in digitization and technology , wherein customers - Plans include modernization of technology infrastructure to further develop leading - edge digital solutions and enable better customer experience .

**8. Recently on the occasion of MSME Day , ' Champions 2.0 Portal ' was launched by which Union Minister ?**

a) Piyush Goyal

b) Anurag Thakur

c) Kiran Rijju

d) Narayan Rane

Ans :- ' Champions 2.0 Portal ' was launched by Union Minister Narayan Rane on the occasion of MSME Day . This ' Champions 2.0 Portal ' will help provide support to Micro , Small and Medium Enterprises ( MSMEs ) in a more inclusive and user - friendly manner . This The portal will be available in 11 languages and will provide real - time feedback facility to the users .

## ONE LINER

Who has recently been appointed as the new Chief Secretary of Punjab - **Anurag Verma**

When is International Pineapple Day celebrated every year - **27 June**

becomes the first PSB to allow credit card based UPI payments - **Canara Bank**

Rupa Pai released her new book - ' **The Yoga Sutras for Children** '

Two- day Startup 20 Summit to begin in Gurugram from July 3 – **India**

IIT Bombay reached the top ..... in the QS world ranking – **150**

When is the evaluation of Urban Cleanliness Survey 2023 being started - **July 1**

Who has been appointed as the MD & CEO of Hindustan Unilever – **Rohit Jawa**

From when to when the ICC Men's ODI World Cup 2023 is being organized in India - **27 June – 14 July**

How much penalty has been imposed by the Reserve Bank on Standard Chartered Bank and Credit Bureau - **Rs 30 lakh**