



# The ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

LANGUAGE - ENGLISH

## CURRENT AFFAIR BOOSTER

17 - 07 - 2023

MONDAY



### THE ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

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# DAILY

## CURRENT AFFAIRS

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## QUIZ



UPSC / BPSC

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## 1. 21 % informal workers left PM Pension Scheme



The Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan - Dhan ( PM - SYM ) scheme , a pension scheme for unorganized workers in India , has seen a large number of subscribers leave the program in less than six months . This trend raised doubts about the viability and sustainability of the scheme . have raised concerns . The number of subscribers to the PM - SYM scheme has come down to 4.43 million as of July 11 , which is 1.19 million less than the all-time high of 5.62 million recorded on January 31 . The main reasons for this decline are said to be high Inflation and rising cost of living have made it challenging for unorganized workers to continue contributing to the voluntary pension programme . Experts suggest that the persistently high prices have substantially increased the cost of living , leading to the PM - SYM scheme for unorganized workers . It has become difficult to bear the burden of monthly contributions under the scheme . Labor economist KR Shyam Sundar highlighted that these exits could be permanent , with workers returning both their contributions and interest earned on them due to ongoing financial stress caused by high prices are taking

## 2. Marathi actor Ravindra Mahajan passes away



Veteran Marathi actor Ravindra Mahajani , who played the role of a policeman in the film Saat Hindustani opposite Amitabh Bachchan , has died . Ravindra Mahajan was called the Vinod Khanna of Marathi cinema . He breathed his last at the age of 77 years . The body of the actor Found at his residence in Dabhade , Talegaon , Pune . Ravindra Mahajani was living in Talegaon Dabhade for the past few days . The Marathi film industry is mourning the death of the actor . Ravindra Mahajani was living in a rented flat in Ambi village of Pune . That's it Found dead in the flat . He often used to come to stay in this flat . Neighbors informed the police after foul smell emanated from their flat . After this the police had reached the spot . When the police broke open the door of the flat , they saw that Ravindra was lying dead . police guess That Ravindra must have died two to three days ago . The family members of Mahajani have been informed about his death .

## 3. Harshvardhan Bansal appointed President of NAREDCO Delhi Chapter



National Real Estate Development Council (NAREDCO) has announced the setting up of its Delhi Chapter. Harshvardhan Bansal, Director, Unity Group, has been appointed as the President of NAREDCO Delhi Chapter. NAREDCO is a leading national organization representing the real estate sector, working under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs. The National Real Estate Development Council (NAREDCO) has

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appointed NBCC's current CMD PK Gupta as chairman, while DLF Group Executive Director Vineet Kanwar has been appointed as vice-chairman. Additionally, Gaurav Jain, CEO of India Infracorp Bahrain, has been selected as the President-elect. NAREDCO Delhi Chapter aims at creating a conducive environment in the real estate sector which will promote sustainable growth and the Government, Close association with industry professionals and other key participants will encourage investment. Presently, NAREDCO has established state chapters in Maharashtra, Telangana, Karnataka, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir and Rajasthan. After the successful launch of the Delhi Chapter, NAREDCO is actively engaged in the process of setting up a chapter in Uttarakhand.

#### 4. South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol visits Ukraine



South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol made a surprise visit to Ukraine. His visit is being seen as a show of solidarity with Ukraine facing Russian aggression. According to the office, the President will also visit Poland. This is Yol's first visit to Kiev since Russia invaded Ukraine 17 months ago. Yol also visited the small towns of Bucha and Irpin near Kiev, where civilian bodies were found in the streets and in mass graves after Russian troops were pushed back. He also paid floral tributes at the memorial built in the memory of those who lost their lives in the war. Kim Eun-hye, Yeol's senior media adviser, issued a statement saying the president is also scheduled to hold talks with his Ukrainian counterpart Volodymyr Zelensky later in the day. South Korea is a major US partner and has supported US sanctions against Russia.

#### 5. Gajah Kotha Project launched in Assam



In an effort to reduce the growing Human-Elephant Conflict (HEC) issue, Assam has launched "Gajahkotha" campaign, involving over 1,200 individuals and promoting coexistence. The campaign focuses on HEC-affected villages in eastern Assam, where it aims to educate residents about the behaviour, ecology and cultural significance of elephants in the region, emphasizing the importance of conservation. Led by Aaranyak, a leading wildlife NGO based in Guwahati, in collaboration with the British Asian Trust and the Assam Forest Department and supported by the Darwin Initiative, this initiative reflects their dedication to promoting harmonious coexistence between humans and elephants. So far, the campaign has been organized at various places like Haladhibari, Jaborchuk Kathoni, Gajera, Gajera High School, Ujani Majuli Kherkatiya High School, Pub Majuli Kherkatiya High School, Jaborchuk has taken place in Basa and Jopanchuk in Majuli. Aranyak has collaborated with various local organizations to actively engage community members and nurture future advocates in each area affected by Human-Elephant Conflict (HEC). Through these partnerships, organizations and community members have the opportunity to engage with experts at Aaranyak to exchange ideas on innovative approaches that promote harmonious coexistence between humans and wildlife.

#### 6. Tamil Nadu's Aathur betel leaves get GI tag

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Athur areca nut from Thoothukudi district of Tamil Nadu has recently received the Geographical Indication (GI) certificate. GI tag awarded by Tamil Nadu State Agricultural Marketing Board and NABARD Madurai Agribusiness Incubation Forum, author registered in the name of Vattara Vetrilai Vivasaijal Sangam. Betel leaves, commonly known as 'vetrilai', are mentioned in Marco Polo's 13th century book 'The Venetian'. Thoothukudi district officials told IANS that several ancient stone inscriptions reveal the ancient prosperity and importance of Athur Vettrilai in Tamil culture. Sources in the Thoothukudi district administration told IANS that steps are being taken to market the GI tag of Athur betel nut across the country as well as in international markets. GI certificate will soon be awarded to writer Vattarai Vetrilai Viabarigal Sangam.

## 7. Adani Group launches India's first international power project



Ultra super critical power plant in Godda, Jharkhand has started with full load. This will supply electricity to Bangladesh. Adani Group Chairman Gautam Adani met Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in this regard. Adani Power has set up a 1,600 MW thermal power plant at Godda in Jharkhand to supply the generated power to Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB) through a dedicated transmission

line. Adani Power Jharkhand Limited (APJL), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Adani Power Limited, on 26 June conducted the commercial operation of the second unit of its 2 X 800 MW Godda Ultra-Super Critical Thermal Power Plant (Godda USCTPP) in Godda district of Jharkhand. The target is achieved in the stipulated date.

## 8. Vande Bharat Express: First semi-high speed train of Indian Railways



Vande Bharat Express is a semi-high speed train service operated by the Indian Railways. It is India's first train to be completely indigenously manufactured, and is a symbol of India's growing technological prowess. The train was first introduced in 2019, and currently operates on several routes across India. It is known for its sleek design, comfortable interior and high speed. The Vande Bharat Express can reach speeds of up to 160 kmph, making it one of the fastest trains in India. The train is also equipped with several modern amenities, such as a GPS-based passenger information system, bio-toilets and LED lighting. It also has a pantry car that serves a variety of hot and cold beverages and snacks. Vande Bharat Express has been well received by the passengers, And it has been praised for its convenience and comfort. It is seen as a symbol of India's growing technological prowess, and is a testament to the country's ability to build world-class infrastructure. So far 25 Vande Bharat have been flagged off.

## QUIZ

1. Who has recently launched his new AI firm 'KAT'?

- (a) Mark Zuckerberg
- (b) Elon Musk
- (c) Larry Page
- (d) Mukesh Ambani

Elon Musk, the world's richest man and owner of Tesla, after several successes one after the other, is

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now trying to beat everyone in the world of Artificial Intelligence. Recently Elon Musk has launched xAI, an artificial intelligence company of his own. Musk says that he is going to keep his new company separate from all other businesses. Its main goal is to understand the nature of this universe. So let's know about it in detail.

**2. According to the Global Firepower report, what is the rank of India in the world's most powerful armies?**

- (a) second
- (b) third
- (c) fourth
- (d) fifth

According to the latest ranking of 2023 by Global Firepower, a data website containing information related to the defense of the countries of the world, India is the fourth most powerful army country in the world. USA is on top in this list. In this ranking, after the US, Russia and China are in second and third place respectively. Countries with weak military forces have also been included in this list, which includes countries like Bhutan and Iceland. India ranks above European countries like UK and Italy.

**3. Who has become the first Indian to be named the 'Best Asian Under-20 Male Athlete of the Year'?**

- (a) Murali Sri Shankar
- (b) Eldoz Paul
- (c) Selva Prabhu Thirumaran
- (d) Avinash Sable

Indian triple-jumper Selva Prabhu Thirumaran became the first Indian to be named the "Asian Under-20 Male Athlete of the Year" by the Asian Athletics Association. Selva won a silver medal at the World U20 Athletics Championships in Colombia last year. Selva was given the award during the 50th anniversary celebrations of the Asian Athletics Association in Bangkok.

**4. Recently Japan has offered medical scholarship for the students of which country?**

- (a) Bhutan
- (b) Indonesia
- (c) Russia
- (d) Bangladesh

In a major collaboration, Japan has offered medical scholarships for Bhutanese students, which will provide them an opportunity to pursue their dreams of becoming medical professionals, the Royal Civil Service Commission has entered into an agreement with the prestigious International University of Health Welfare of Japan. The MoU has been signed, which is a milestone for Bhutan's education and healthcare sectors. Under this collaboration, the Health Welfare University will offer two scholarships to Bhutanese students for the prestigious Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) courses.

**5. Recently which state's Aathur betel leaves have got GI tag?**

- (a) Tamil Nadu
- (b) Jharkhand
- (c) Uttar Pradesh
- (d) Himachal Pradesh

Aathur areca nut from Thoothukudi district of Tamil Nadu has recently received the Geographical Indication (GI) certificate. GI tag awarded by Tamil Nadu State Agricultural Marketing Board and NABARD Madurai Agribusiness Incubation Forum, author registered in the name of Vattara Vetrilai Vivasaijal Sangam. Betel leaves, commonly known as 'vetrilai', are mentioned in Marco Polo's 13th century book 'The Venetian'.

**6. Recently EIB (European Investment Bank) will provide one billion euro for green hydrogen mission in which country?**

- (a) Japan
- (b) India
- (c) China
- (d) none

The European Investment Bank (EIB) has announced its support for India's National Green Hydrogen Mission by offering a loan facility of up to €1 billion. The loan is aimed at helping India develop its nascent green hydrogen ecosystem and renewable energy projects. EIB Vice President Chris Peters will confirm the lender's interest in providing the loan during his visit to India this week to attend the G-20 events.

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**7. Recently who has won the bronze medal in the 10000 meters event in the Asian Athletics Championships.**

- (a) Murli Shankar
- (b) Gautam Bhanot
- (c) **Abhishek Pal**
- (d) Avinash Sable

India's long distance runner Abhishek Pal won the bronze medal in the men's 10,000 meters event at the Asian Athletics Championships 2023 in Bangkok, Thailand. This is Abhishek's first medal in any major competition. Competing at the Suphachalasai National Stadium, Abhishek Pal clocked 29:33.26 to mark India's gold medal debut at the Bangkok event, according to Olympic.com. Ren Tazawa of Japan took the first place in the 10,000 meters event with a record of 29:18.44.

**8. Which bank has recently been named as the World's Best Bank for Corporate Responsibility by Euromoney?**

- (a) ICICI Bank
- (b) HDFC Bank
- (c) BOB
- (d) **DBS Bank**

Asia's leading financial services group DBS has been named the World's Best Bank for Corporate Responsibility at the prestigious Euromoney Awards for Excellence 2023. DBS was also recognized as Asia's Best Bank for Wealth Management for the second consecutive year.

## ONE LINER

Celebrated on 17th July - **World International Day of Justice**

Recently Razorpay has launched the first International Payment Gateway in which country – **Malaysia**

Who has recently won the 'Gold Medal' in the Asian Athletics Championship 2023 - **Jyoti Yaraji**

The veteran actor of Marathi cinema, who was seen in the role of a policeman in the film Saat Hindustani with Amitabh Bachchan, has passed away - **Ravindra Mahajani** .

Ultra super critical power plant has started with full load - **at Godda, Jharkhand**

Who has recently participated in 'Operation Sardan Readiness 2023' - **INS Sunaina**

Who has recently started his new AI firm 'KAT' - **Elon Musk**

Recently which country has won the '34th International Biology Olympiad' - **India**

What has Abhinav Shaw and Gautam Bhanot won in the ISSF Junior World Cup – **Gold**

In an effort to reduce the Human-Elephant Conflict (HEC) issue, "Gajahkotha" campaign has been launched by – **Assam**