

UPSC / BPSC

# ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

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# CURRENT AFFAIR BOOSTER

The

### **THE ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY**

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DALL

ACHIEVERS

# **CURRENT AFFAIRS**

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#### **1**.United States re-joins UNESCO



That the United States would rejoin the agency in July, four years after leaving because of allegations of bias against Israel. The move to rejoin would require a vote by member states, UNESCO promotes educational, scientific and cultural causes, and designates World Heritage sites globally. The US stopped funding millions of dollars to UNESCO in 2011 after Palestine became a member of the agency. The decision was made by then-President Barack Obama, who withheld funding because of Palestine's status as a non-sovereign state recognized by the United Nations. Palestine was admitted as a non-member observer state in 2012,

### 2. Dream11 becomes the new main jersey sponsor of the Indian cricket team



Dream 11 company will now be the main sponsor of Team Team India. That the Dream11 logo will be able to go on Team India's jersey from the Test series against the West Indies. In this way, BYJU'S will now be discharged. Till now the BYJU'S logo was visible on Team India's jersey. The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has made a big announcement regarding the sponsor of Team India. Now fantasy sports gaming platform company Dream11 will be the main sponsor of Team India for a period of three years. The Dream 11 logo will now be seen on Team India's jersey starting with the Test series against the West Indies. Which is the first Test series assignment of Team India in the period of ICC World Test Championship 2023-25. The deal was struck between the BCCI and Adidas before the World Test Championship 2023 final (WTC Final 2023) match to be held in England.

### **3.** India's Neeraj Chopra won gold medal in Lausanne Diamond League



India's star javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra won the gold medal in the Lausanne Diamond League with a throw of 87.66 metres. Neeraj won this gold medal in his fifth attempt. Neeraj's debut in this competition was nothing special. His first throw was fouled but after that Neeraj came back strong to take the first place leaving behind Julian Weber of Germany and Jakub Vadleiche of Czech Republic. This is Neeraj Chopra's 8th international gold. Prior to this, he has won gold medals in competitions like Asian Games, South Asian Games and Olympics. Whereas this year, this second gold medal has come in Neeraj Chopra's account. Earlier, Neeraj had also won the gold medal in the Doha Diamond League. He threw 83.52 meters in his second attempt, while his third throw was 85.04 meters, but based on the score of these three attempts, Germany's Julian Weber finished 86.

4. Commercial operation of India's first indigenously built nuclear reactor begins in Gujarat



India's first indigenously developed 700 MW nuclear power reactor started commercial operation at the Kakrapar Atomic Power Project (KAPP) in Gujarat. A senior officer gave this information. That our first indigenous 700 MW unit at KAPP-3 is commissioned on 30 June 2023. Presently, the unit is operating at 90 per cent of its total power. Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) is building two 700 MW Pressurized Heavy Water Reactors (PHWR) at Kakrapar, There are also two power plants of 220 MW each. NPCIL has planned to build sixteen 700 MW PHWRs across the country and has accorded financial and administrative approval for the same. 700 MW nuclear power plants are under construction at Rawatbhata (RAPS 7 & 8) in Rajasthan and Gorakhpur (GHAVP 1 & 2) in Haryana. The government has approved construction of 10 indigenously developed PHWRs in fleet mode at four other locations - Gorakhpur in Haryana, Chutka in Madhya Pradesh, Mahi Banswara in Rajasthan and Kaiga in Karnataka.

## 5. Canada launches 'Digital Nomad Strategy' to attract foreign workers



Canada has taken a proactive approach to address the shortage of skilled workers, particularly in the technology industry. During Collision's tech conference in Toronto, the country's immigration minister announced the launch of a digital nomad strategy aimed at attracting talented individuals from around the world. Under the Digital Nomad Strategy, foreign workers are allowed to stay in Canada for up to six months. If they receive job offers during their stay, they have the opportunity to extend their time in the country. This initiative is designed to address the shortage of skilled professionals in the Canadian tech sector. Canada aims to create a balance between the demand for and supply of labor by allowing skilled workers to reside in the country, contributing to its growth, and investing within economic local communities. Apart from bridging the existing shortage, The government is focusing on long-term solutions, such as expanding visa permits for international workers in Canada. To address the shortage of skilled workers from the United States, the Canadian Immigration Minister announced a special initiative.

#### 6. US Supreme Court rejects President Biden's 'student loan forgiveness' proposal



US President Joe Biden has promised to present an alternative plan for student relief after the Supreme Court rejected his plan to forgive billions of dollars in student loans. But he will work on introducing a new program under the Higher Education Act designed to reduce the risk of defaulting on student loan payments. Hours after the Supreme Court's decision, Biden's remarks from the White House are being seen as an attempt to strengthen his political ground in view of next year's presidential election. The Biden administration proposed a US\$400 billion plan to cancel or reduce millions of federal student loans. However, the Supreme Court rejected the plan. Responding to a question about giving borrowers 'false hope', Biden said, 'I haven't given any false hope. The ray of hope that was there has been taken away by the members of the Republican Party.

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#### 7. YS Jagan Mohan Reddy launches 'Jagananna Amma Vodi' scheme



Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy launched the 'Jagananna Amma Vodi' scheme for the fourth year under which financial assistance of Rs 6,393 crore will be deposited in the bank accounts of 43 lakh beneficiaries at Kurupam in Parvathipuram Manyam district. For 10 days, Amma Vodi will be distributed in all mandals, benefitting over 83 lakh students studying in classes 1 to 12 across the state. As part of this objective, I am executing this Amma Vodi scheme from here," Reddy said. Under the Amma Vodi scheme, eligible mothers who send their children to school will get financial assistance of Rs 15,000 to meet educational expenses. The state has collected a total of Rs 26,067 crore under the Jagananna Amma Vodi scheme, including disbursement of Rs 6,393 crore today. With a host of schemes promoting education,

## 8. IDFC First Bank to merge with IDFC Ltd in 155:100 share exchange ratio



The Board of Directors of IDFC First Bank has approved the merger of IDFC Limited with itself. For this, the share exchange ratio has also been fixed. Shareholders of IDFC Limited will be allotted 155 shares in the bank for every 100 shares held. After the merger, the value of shares of IDFC First Bank will jump by 4.9 per cent. That this is being done with a view to simplify the corporate structure of IDFC FHCL, IDFC Limited and IDFC First Bank. If we look at the price of shares of both the companies till the market closes on Monday, then the valuation of this deal will be around Rs 71767 crore. Right now this merger is yet to be approved by Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Competition Commission of India (CCI), SEBI, NCLT and all other regulatory institutions including stock markets. Apart from this, it is yet to be approved by the shareholders of both the companies.

QUIZ

1 Where is the 'Startup 20 Summit 'summit being organized under India 's G20 presidency ?

- (a) Jaipur
- (b) Patna
- (c) Varanasi
- (d) Gurugram

EXPLANATION -: Under the G20 chairmanship of India, the 'Startup 20 Summit' summit is being organized in Gurugram, Haryana. Startup20 Engagement Group is organizing this two-day Startup20 Summit. On this occasion, G20 Sherpa Amitabh Kant said that the total investment in start-ups in India has increased 19 times. Minister of State for Commerce and Industry Som Prakash also addressed the conference.

#### 2. Who won the title of Austrian Grand Prix Formula One Championship 2023 ?

- (a) Fernando Alonso
- (b) Lewis Hamilton
- (c) Max Verstappen
- (d) Pierre Gasly

EXPLANATION -: The current Formula One champion Max Verstappen has won the Austrian Grand Prix 2023 title. This is his third consecutive Grand Prix title. Max Verstappen competes in Formula One for the Red Bull team. Max Emilian Verstappen is a Dutch-Belgian racing driver and the 2021 and 2022 Formula One World Champion.

3. Where has India 's first indigenously developed nuclear power reactor commenced commercial operation ?(a) Gujarat

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(b) Maharashtra

(c) Tamil Nadu

(d) Karnataka

EXPLANATION -: India's first indigenously developed 700 MW nuclear power reactor has been commissioned for commercial operation at the Kakrapar Atomic Power Project (KAPP) in Gujarat. Presently this unit is working at 90 percent of the total production. It has been developed by Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL). NPCIL is an Indian public sector undertaking based in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

### 4. Who has taken oath as the new Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra ?

- (a) Sharad Pawar
- (b) Ajit Pawar
- (c) Sanjay Raut
- (d) Aditya Thackeray

EXPLANATION -: NCP leader Ajit Pawar has been sworn in as the new Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra. This is the third time in the last 5years that Ajit Pawar has taken oath as the Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra. With this, he has become a part of Chief Minister Eknath Shinde's government. Pawar was sworn in as Deputy Chief Minister in November 2019 during the tenure of the then Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis.

5. Who has been re - appointed as the Solicitor General of India ?

- (a) Alok Sinha
- (b) Kapil Sibal
- (c) Anurag Puri
- (d) Tushar Mehta

EXPLANATION -: The Modi government at the Center has re-appointed Tushar Mehta as the Solicitor General of India for a 3-year term. Tushar was appointed Solicitor General in October 2018. Mehta's tenure has been extended earlier also. Along with this, the tenure of 6 Additional Solicitors General for the Supreme Court has also been extended for a period of 3-years. Solicitor General and Additional Solicitor General are only statutory posts in India. The Attorney General is the country's top law enforcement officer.

### 6. Which is the first country in the world to ban thin plastic bags ?

- (a) India
- (b) USA
- (c) New Zealand
- (d) Australia

EXPLANATION -: New Zealand has become the first country in the world to ban thin plastic bags. In New Zealand these plastic bags were used for fruits and vegetables in supermarkets. The government is expanding the campaign against single-use plastic, which was launched in 2019.

### 7. In which city was India 's first ' Police Drone Unit ' launched recently ?

- a) Mumbai
- b) Chennai
- c) New Delhi
- d) Hyderabad

EXPLANATION -: India's first 'Police Drone Unit' has been launched by the Greater Chennai City Police (GCP) for aerial surveillance over vast areas and quick detection of criminal activities. This newly created special unit has been inaugurated by Director General of Police and Chief of the Police Force C Silendra Babu at Besant Avenue, Adyar. In this Drone Police Unit, a total of nine drones are included under three categories namely Quick Response Surveillance Drone, Heavy Lift Multirotor Drone and Long Range Survey Wing Aircraft.

8. Which company has recently become the main sponsor of India's national cricket team?a) CRED

- b) Dream11
- c) Bharat Pe
- d) FATHER

**EXPLANATION** -: Fantasy gaming company Dream11 has become the main sponsor of India's

national cricket team for three years. Dream11 replaced BYJU's as the main sponsor of the Indian team. BCCI had invited applications for new sponsorship after the contract with BYJUs expires in March 2023. Dream11 is an Indian fantasy sports company. It was founded in 2008 by Harsh Jain and Bhavit Sheth.

#### ONE LINER

When has International Plastic Bag Free Day been celebrated recently -: 3rd July

Recently Akshar river cruise of Ahmedabad has been launched -: Amit Shah

Recently who has taken oath as the new Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra -: Ajit Pawar (NCP leader)

Who has recently won the 6th Youth National Women's National Championship - : Haryana Where has the world famous 'Shravani fair ' been

inaugurated recently -: Deodhar

Who has recently won the Australian Grand Prix 2023 – : Max Verstappen

Recently France and which country have collaborated to accelerate the transition towards clean energy -: UAE

Recently who has topped the Global Peace Index 2023 released by IEP- : Afghanistan

Who has recently taken over as the Additional Secretary, Department of Military Affairs - Atul Anand

HDFC has been merged with-: HDFC Bank