



The ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

LANGUAGE - ENGLISH

CURRENT AFFAIR BOOSTER

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Friday



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DAILY

CURRENT AFFAIRS

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QUIZ



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1. Amazon India to open its first floating store on Dal Lake in Srinagar .



As part of its last-mile delivery program "I Have Space", Amazon India on 27 July announced its first floating store on Dal Lake in Srinagar, Kashmir. The store will be opened on the houseboat and will provide delivery to its customers every day in Srinagar. Murtaza Khan Kashi, the owner of Houseboat Selek Town, will deliver packages to customers every day at the doorstep of their houseboats. It will provide faster and more reliable delivery to customers across Srinagar, provide opportunities for small businesses and strengthen Amazon's delivery network. The 'I Have Space' program was launched in 2015. The program has over 28,000 local and grocery partners across approximately 420 towns and cities in India. It partners with local shops and small businesses to deliver products within a 2 to 4 kilometer radius.

2. The government has set a new target of 63 lakh loans for street vendors.



The Union Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry has set a target of disbursing 63 lakh fresh loans to street vendors in less than six months by December 2023. Since the launch of the scheme, so far 50 lakh loans have been disbursed to 39 lakh beneficiaries. Prime Minister Street Vendors Self-Reliant Fund (PM

SVANidhi) was launched in 2020. Under this scheme, street vendors are provided with a small capital of Rs 10000. It was launched to provide assistance to street vendors with a small working capital loan of Rs 10,000 during the Covid pandemic. At the time of launch of the scheme, a target was set to cover 50 lakh people. As per the new target, 60,99,000 first term loans will be disbursed in larger states, 34 in smaller states and union territories, 990 loans will be given and 166200 loans will be distributed in Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand and North East. Union minister Manoj Joshi said the second term loan is targeted at 22.63 lakh beneficiaries, up to Rs 20,000 per person. This will be given to those who have repaid the first loan.

3. Banknotes with the star (*) mark are like any other legal tender: RBI



The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has clarified that a banknote bearing the star (*) symbol is like any other legal banknote except that a star (*) symbol is added between the prefix and the serial number in the number panel. The central bank said that the star (*) symbol on the number panel of the banknote is an identifier that it is a replaced/reprinted banknote. The clarification comes in the wake of the legality of banknotes bearing the star (*) symbol on the number panel recently becoming the subject of discussion on some social media platforms. RBI said, "In this connection, it is advised that the asterisk (*) symbol inserted in the number panel of the bank note to be used as replacement of defectively printed bank notes in a packet of 100 pieces of sequentially numbered bank notes." is done in

4. Death of famous Marathi writer Shirish Kanekar

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Marathi writer and columnist Shirish Kanekar passed away at the age of 80 in Mumbai, Maharashtra. He was born on June 6, 1943 in Pune, Maharashtra. He worked in Marathi and English language publications like Loksatta, Indian Express, Samana and Free Press Journal. He was popular for his newspaper columns on cinema, cricket and politics. His notable works include: comedies such as 'Kanehari', 'Philambaji', and 'Shirishasan'; Bollywood films such as "Nut Bolt Bolpat," "Kanakari," and "Cricket Vedh"; Books like Irsalaki; Surparambaya. His collection of stories 'Lagaon Batti' was recognized and awarded with Maharashtra Sahitya Parishad Award- Joshi Award for Best Humor. Shirish completed his LLB from Mumbai University. After that, he worked in Indian Express, Daily, Worked as a reporter with English news publications such as Free Press Journal and Syndicated Press News Agency. He has written columns for newspapers like Loksatta, Maharashtra Times, Lokmat, Saamana, Pudari, Weekly Manohar and Weekly Lokprabha. His collection of stories, Lagav Batti was awarded the Maharashtra Sahitya Parishad.

5. Jio Financial Services and Blackrock announce joint venture for asset management



Jio Financial Services Limited, the demerged financial lending arm of Reliance Industries Limited, and BlackRock, the world's largest asset manager, have

entered into a partnership to set up an asset management company. They are planning to invest a total of US\$ 300 million in this venture. BlackRock, the world's largest asset manager, is all set to collaborate with India's largest conglomerate Reliance Industries Limited (RIL). This marks Blackrock's return to the country after its 2018 exit. The US-based investment giant is forming a 50:50 joint venture with Jio Financial Services (JFS) to set up an asset management business, as announced by both the companies. Jio BlackRock invests in technology, operations, risk management, product excellence and markets around

6. Indian-American foreign policy expert Nisha Biswal appointed as Deputy CEO of US DFC



Nisha Biswal has been appointed as the Deputy Chief Executive Officer of the US International Development Finance Corporation (DFC). With more than 30 years of experience in US foreign policy and international development programs in the executive branch, Congress and the private sector, Biswal's nomination was put forward by President Joe Biden. Nisha Desai Biswal currently serves as the Senior Vice President for International Strategy and Global Initiatives at the United States Chamber of Commerce. In this capacity, she also oversees the South Asia programs, which reflects her expertise in the region. Prior to his current position, Biswal held the prestigious role of President of the US-India Business Council at the United States Chamber of Commerce. This role highlights his significant involvement in promoting trade relations between the United States and India.

7. Patna High Court orders resumption of caste based survey in Bihar

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The Patna High Court has ordered that the caste-based survey be restarted in Bihar, which was started by Patna District Magistrate Chandrashekhar himself in Ward 10, Phoolwarisharif, Patna. There are 13 lakh 69 thousand families in Patna out of which 9 lakh 35 thousand people have been surveyed and remaining families will be surveyed within a week. The Patna High Court had stayed the caste survey through an interim order on 4 May, saying the state government was not eligible to conduct the survey. On Wednesday, The Patna High Court upheld an earlier order allowing the survey to continue in Bihar and dismissed several petitions challenging the state government's decision. The Bihar government got the green signal to continue the survey. The survey was planned to be done in two phases which were to end in May. The first phase was completed in January in which the household counting exercise took place. The second phase was launched on 15 April and was scheduled to be completed in May. In this phase, data was being collected from people about caste and socio-economic status by state democrats.

8. England fast bowler Stuart Broad announces retirement after Ashes series



England pacer Stuart Broad has announced his retirement from cricket. He will retire from the game after the ongoing Ashes series. Broad announced the decision at the end of the third day of the fifth Ashes

Test at The Oval. The 37-year-old Broad has played 167 Test matches, taking 602 wickets. He has also played 121 ODIs and 56 T20s. Broad, who made his Test debut against Sri Lanka in 2007, will go on to be recognized as one of the great fast bowlers in the game – he is fifth in the all-time list of wicket-takers, and one behind long-time bowling partner Jimmy Anderson. He is also one of only two fast bowlers to have taken more than 600 wickets. He is the only English player to take two hat-tricks in Test cricket. His finest moment during his career came against arch-enemies Australia, when he went down in cricket history with a brilliant 8/15 at Trent Bridge in 2015. Broad, at 37, was still capable of producing excellent performances in all his fields, but he has decided to call an early end on his career, informing the captain last night.

QUIZ

1. When is World Wide Web Day celebrated every year?

- a) 1st August
- b) 2nd August
- c) 3rd August
- d) 4th August

World Wide Web Day is celebrated every year on 1 August. The day is celebrated to celebrate the World Wide Web (www) and its impact on the world. The World Wide Web was created by Sir Tim Berners-Lee in 1989. It was on this day, August 1, 1991, that Tim Berners-Lee posted a proposal for the World Wide Web on the alt.hypertext newsgroup.

2. In which of the following country the first Center for Species Survival in South Asia will be set up?

- a) India
- b) Malaysia
- c) Sri Lanka
- d) Indonesia

The first "Centre for Species Survival" in South Asia will be set up in India. It will be set up by the IUCN Species Survival Commission, the first "Centre for Species Survival" in South Asia in collaboration with the Wildlife Trust of India (WTI). This will be the 10th Center for Species Survival in the world and the first of its kind in South Asia. The main objective of this collaborative effort is to enhance conservation efforts

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by wildlife experts and expert groups and protect India's rich biodiversity.

3. Which state government has recently approved the Water Tourism and Adventure Sports Policy 2023?

- a) Punjab
- b) Haryana
- c) **Uttar Pradesh**
- d) Bihar

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has approved the Uttar Pradesh Water Tourism and Adventure Sports Policy 2023 in the cabinet meeting held at Lok Bhawan. The policy will be valid for 10 years and will cover all inland land-based, air-based and waterways dams, reservoirs, lakes, rivers, ponds and other works to be carried out on various water bodies and land parcels within the jurisdiction of the state in Uttar Pradesh. All adventure activities will be applicable in this. For action under this policy, the nodal agency will form adventure sports units at the divisional level.

4. Scientists have revived an insect frozen in Siberian permafrost how many years ago?

- a) 44,000 years
- b) **46,000 years**
- c) 47,000 years
- d) 48,000 years

Scientists have revived an insect frozen 46,000 years ago in Siberian permafrost. In 2018, scientists from Russia's Institute of Physicochemical and Biological Problems in Soil discovered two species of microscopic nematodes in Siberian permafrost. These insects have been frozen since the end of the Pleistocene epoch, that is, about 46,000 years ago. After analyzing the specimens, he claimed that at least one belonged to an entirely new species, which he named Panagrolymus colimanis.

5. Recently Indian women's hockey team has won the 100th Anniversary Spanish Hockey Federation International Tournament 2023 by defeating whom?

- a) **Spain**
- b) England
- c) Germany
- d) Belgium

The Indian women's hockey team has won the 100th Anniversary Spanish Hockey Federation International Tournament 2023 by defeating Spain 3-0. The tournament was organized to mark the 100th anniversary of the Spanish Hockey Federation. Vandana Katariya in the 22nd minute of the match, Monika in the 48th minute and Udita in the 58th minute scored goals to make the team invincible in the tournament.

6. For how many years did the rain in China break its record?

- a) 125 years
- b) **140 years**
- c) 160 years
- d) 135 years

Rain in China has broken the record of 140 years. In the last five days, 744.8 mm or 29.3 inches of rain has been recorded in Beijing. These rains are being caused by Typhoon Doksuri. Earlier in 1891, there was a record of 609 mm of rainfall in consecutive days. According to reports, 21 people have died, while 26 are missing. Roads have been damaged. Power supply has also been affected. The areas most affected by rainwater are Beijing and Hebei Province.

7. Where has Asia's highest ever land art group exhibition been started recently?

- a) Jammu
- b) Uttarakhand
- c) **Leh**
- d) Shimla

Asia's highest ever contemporary land art group exhibition titled "SA", at an astonishing altitude of 3600 meters - launched on 1st August in Leh, Ladakh, explores climate, culture and community in a high altitude environment. The focus was on interconnection. Raki Nikhetia, co-founder of Sa Ladakh, expressed his perspective.

8. Where has India's first beauty and lifestyle festival NYKAALAND started recently?

- a) **Mumbai**
- b) Goa
- c) Pune
- d) Kolkata

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The launch of Nayakaland, India's first beauty and lifestyle festival, marks a significant milestone for the country's beauty and fashion industry. Presented by Nykaa and BookMyShow, this extraordinary event aims to redefine our perception and encounter with beauty and fashion in a way that has never been seen before. Held at the Royal Western India Turf Club, Mahalaxmi Racecourse in Mumbai, the festival is set to push the boundaries of imagination and provide an unconventional experience on a grand scale.

ONE LINER

Where have 600 million year old river drops been found - **in the Himalayas**

ISRO launched seven satellites of which country with PSLV-C56 rocket - **Singapore**

Recently which state government has approved the establishment of the country's first hydrogen fuel related industry in Jamshedpur - **Jharkhand**

Recently the Chief Minister of which state has inaugurated 'Chief Minister Command Center' and 'CM Dashboard' - **Uttar Pradesh**

Which state's Jaderi 'Namkatti,' Kanyakumari matty banana, and Chedibutta saree have recently received Geographical Indication (GI) tag from the Geographical Indication Registry in Chennai - **Tamil Nadu**

Which union minister has recently launched the mobile app of 'Ullas: New India Literacy Program' - **Dharmendra Pradhan**

Recently, which Formula One player has won the Belgian Grand Prix title for the 8th time in a row - **Max Verstappen**

Recently which country's cricketer Moin Ali has announced his retirement - **England**

Scientists have revived an insect frozen in Siberian permafrost how many years ago - **46,000**

Achieved a remarkable feat by achieving the best ever result by an Indian golfer at The Open at the Royal Liverpool Golf Club in Merseyside, England. - **By Shubhankar Sharma**