



# The ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

LANGUAGE - ENGLISH

## CURRENT AFFAIR BOOSTER

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Friday



### THE ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

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# DAILY

# CURRENT AFFAIRS

# &

# QUIZ



UPSC / BPSC

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## 1. Oscar-winning director William Friedkin passes away at 87



William Friedkin, the generation-defining director who brought a dark realism to 1970s hits "The French Connection" and "The Exorcist" and was appointed one of Hollywood's top directors when he was only 30 was done, he has passed away. He was 87 years old. Friedkin, who won the best director Oscar for "The French Connection," died Monday in Los Angeles, surrounded by his family and wife, Marcia Franklin, his executive assistant for 24 years, told The Associated Press on behalf of former studio head Sherry Lansing. His son, Cedric Friedkin, told the AP that he died after a long illness. William Friedkin began his career in documentary films in the early 1960s and made his feature directorial debut in 1967 with the film "Good Times". His 1971 film "The French Connection", a crime thriller, won 5 Oscars at the 44th Oscars (1972), including Best Picture, and Best Director for Friedkin.

## 2. Names of more than 5 crore MNREGA workers were removed in the year 2022-23



More than five crore job cards were canceled under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA) in the financial year 2022-23, which is 247 percent more than in 2021-22. Union Rural Development Minister Giriraj Singh gave this information in the Lok Sabha in a written reply. Rural

Development Minister Giriraj Singh said names have been removed for reasons such as forgery, duplicate job cards, unwillingness to work, permanent relocation of the family from the gram panchayat or death. MNREGA job cards of 1,49,51,247 workers were canceled in the financial year 2021-22, while the number was 5,18,91,168 in 2022-23. The maximum number of cards were canceled from West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. According to government data, 1,57,309 MNREGA job cards were canceled in West Bengal in 2021-22, while 83,36,115 job cards were canceled in the year 2022-23. Whereas, in Andhra Pradesh 6 in 2021-22, 25,514 job cards and 78,05,569 MNREGA cards were canceled in 2022-23. Similarly, in Telangana, 61,278 job cards were canceled in 2021-22, while 17,32,936 cards were deleted in 2022-23. Gujarat canceled 1,43,202 MNREGA job cards in 2021-22 and 4,30,404 job cards in 2022-23.

## 3. Government of India will investigate 'Havana Syndrome'



Havana syndrome, a term that has attracted worldwide attention, refers to a collection of psychological and physical symptoms primarily encountered by United States intelligence and embassy personnel stationed in various countries. These symptoms include auditory sensations in the absence of external noise, dizziness, nausea, headache, memory loss, and balance problems. Havana Syndrome is going to be investigated in India. A person living in Bangalore had filed a petition in the Karnataka High Court demanding an inquiry regarding its prevention in the country. The investigation will find out about the spread of this mysterious disease. After this, the court has directed the central government to investigate the possibility of the syndrome in the country within three months. Actually, Havana syndrome is a group of several diseases, which include

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dizziness, Problems such as nausea or blindness in one eye are included. Cases of this disease have been seen many times before India in 130 countries including other countries such as Tajikistan, Washington DC, Colombia and Austria. A good number of people are also affected by this problem.

#### 4. PM Modi honored with Lokmanya Tilak Award, announced to give the award amount to Namami Gange scheme



Prime Minister Narendra Modi was honored with the Lokmanya Tilak National Award on behalf of the Tilak Memorial Trust in Pune. Sharad Pawar also became a part of this program amid the exercise of opposition unity and split in NCP and shared the stage with PM Modi. During this, both the leaders also inquired about each other's health. However, the award was given by the Chief Trustee of the Trust, Deepak Tilak. During this, PM Modi announced to give the amount of the award to the Namami Gange scheme. Ignoring the appeal of allies, Sharad Pawar shared the stage with PM Modi. Actually, Congress is unhappy after the announcement of this award of Tilak Memorial. Despite this, Sharad Pawar was seen moving away from the agenda of opposition unity. After two meetings of the opposition parties where one name INDIA has been decided and all have come under its banner, then Sharad Pawar became a part of that ceremony, going beyond the basic spirit of this freshly formed organization.

#### 5. Rajiv Gauba: Longest serving cabinet secretary in the history of Indian bureaucracy



Cabinet Secretary Rajiv Gauba has been officially granted a one-year extension by the Central Government, making him the longest serving Cabinet Secretary in India's history. The decision has been taken by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet Committee (ACC). The extension comes as a result of an important rule allowing them to continue in office beyond August 30, 2023. The Central Government is empowered to extend the service of the Cabinet Secretary in public interest. However, this extension cannot exceed four years. The extension to Rajeev Gauba has been made possible under the All India Services (Death-cum-Retirement Benefits) Rules, 1958, and Rule 56(d) of the Principal Rules. Rajiv Gauba is a 1982 batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer, who took over as the Cabinet Secretary in 2019. With this latest extension, his tenure will surpass that of BD Pandey,

#### 6. Center sets up expert panel to revise anti-discrimination norms in higher universities



The Union Education Ministry has now constituted an expert committee to re-look at its rules and guidelines on anti-discrimination in respect of SCs, STs, OBCs, persons with disabilities and other minorities in higher educational institutions, the government told Parliament. Responding to a question in Rajya Sabha, Minister of State for Education Subhash Sarkar said that the University Grants Commission

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(UGC) has taken this step in pursuance of the Supreme Court's direction on July 6, where the apex court had sought clarification from the government. Positive steps were taken to make campuses free from caste discrimination. Incidents of discrimination, harassment and favoritism have been observed in many institutions. These actions not only undermine the learning experience, Rather, the impact of these events on mental and emotional health is deep and long-lasting. By revising the anti-discrimination guidelines, the government is trying to meet these challenges and ensure that colleges and universities adhere to the principles of fairness, respect and understanding. The government's decision to set up an expert panel significantly reflects a progressive and committed approach towards promoting equity and inclusiveness in education. This will bring a big change in the education system.

## 7. Death of famous Marathi poet Namdev Dhondo Mahanore



Renowned Marathi poet and lyricist Namdev Dhondo Mahanore passed away at a hospital in Pune due to age-related ailments. He was 81 years old. Mahnore was best known for his poems and songs for Marathi films. Namdev Dhondo Mahnore, born in 1942, was awarded the Padma Shri in 1991. He has also been a member of the State Legislative Council. He was also known as Na Dho Mahanor. He was born in 1942 and was awarded the Padma Shri, the country's fourth highest civilian award. He has also been a member of the State Legislative Council. He wrote many famous poems and songs including 'Jagala Prem Arpawe', 'Ganga Wahoo De Nirmal' and 'Divelaganichi Vel' and also wrote 'Ek Hota Vidushak', 'Jait Re Jait', Also wrote songs for 'Sarja' and other Marathi films. Namdev Dhondo Mahnore was born in a small village which is now known as 'Sambhajinagar'. One of Sri Mahanore's

earliest works, the novel Ajintha (1984), tells a 19th-century love story about the English soldier-antiquarian Major Robert Gill (who copied the Ajanta Caves frescoes) and a tribal girl. which was later made into a film by acclaimed art director Nitin Chandrakant Desai.

## 8. Services PMI at 13-year high in July



The core service industry in India saw a significant improvement in demand conditions in July, resulting in the highest level of new business and output for the sector in more than 13 years. The key figure of the Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) survey conducted by credit rating agency S&P Global saw a significant increase in July, rising to 62.3 from 58.5 in June. The survey polled nearly 400 companies from sectors such as non-retail consumer services, transportation, information, communications, finance, insurance, real estate and business services. "The increase in total new orders was driven by an increase in international sales. Service providers reported the second-fastest increase in new export orders since the chain's launch in September 2014. July saw a significant recovery in demand for Indian services, which reached its highest level. The survey said, "Nearly 29 percent of survey participants reported higher intake of new business than in more than 13 years." According to Ms. Pollyanna De Lima, Associate Director of Economics at S&P Global Market Intelligence, India's economy is largely driven by the service industry. depends on. As per the PMI data for July, the industry contributed significantly to the total GDP of the second fiscal quarter.

## QUIZ

1. When has World Tribal Day been celebrated recently?
  - a. 5 august
  - b. August 6

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c. 7 august

d. August 9

Not only in India, people of tribal communities live in all parts of the world, whose lifestyle, food habits, customs, etc. are different from the common people. They have lagged behind because of being cut off from the mainstream of the society. For this reason, many programs are run in all the countries including India for their upliftment, to promote them and to attract attention towards their rights. In this episode, the United Nations General Assembly declared 1994 as the International Year of the Tribals for the first time. Since then, every year this day is celebrated on 9th August.

**2. Recently, a new species of plant-eating dinosaur has been found in the fossils of?**

- a. Bhopal
- b. Hyderabad
- c. Jaisalmer
- d. nobody

In Jaisalmer, Rajasthan, scientists have made a big discovery regarding vegetarian dinosaurs. IIT Roorkee and the Geological Survey of India (GSI) have found the fossil of the world's oldest herbivore dinosaur, 16.7 million years old, in the Jethwai area, about 20 km from Jaisalmer district headquarters. From this it has been confirmed that herbivorous dinosaurs lived 167 million years ago in this region adjacent to the Kutch basin. This fossil found in the Thar desert of Jaisalmer has been named 'Tharosaurus indicus' i.e. dinosaur of Thar of India. Even before this, in 2014 and 2016, dinosaur fossils were found millions of years ago in the same Jethwai and Thaiyat villages of Jaisalmer.

**3. Which state government will launch Griha Laxmi Yojana recently?**

- a. Assam
- b. Kerala
- c. Telangana
- d. nobody

In 2023, the Telangana government is going to launch the Griha Lakshmi Yojana, a financial assistance program for women from SC, ST and BC communities to help them construct or improve their homes. Under this scheme, Rs 3 lakh will be provided to each beneficiary as a one-time assistance amount. Those

women who are interested in applying for Griha Laxmi Yojana can apply online or in the nearest district collectorate office. The application process will take place in early 2023.

**4. Which country's government has taken a big and tough decision and banned the word 'homosexuality' ?**

- a. Singapore
- b. Australia
- c. America
- d. Iraq

The government of Iraq has taken a big and tough decision regarding 'homosexuality'. The country's media regulator has banned the use of the word 'homosexuality'. Please tell that orders have been issued to all the media and social media companies there. It has been said in the order that all the companies should use the term 'Sexual Deviance' instead of 'Homosexuality'.

**5. Recently Siddiq Ismail has passed away at the age of 63, he is related to which field?**

- a. malayalam director
- b. telugu director
- c. tamil director
- d. None

Renowned Malayalam director and screenwriter Siddiqui Ismail has passed away at the age of 63. He was known for making films like "Friends" released in 2001, "Angle Anna" in 2004, "Sadhu Miranda" in 2008, "Kalaavan" in 2011, and "Bhaskar Oru Rascal" in 2018. He was 63 years old. Salman Khan's 'Bodyguard' was directed by Siddiqui Ismail. The film industry has suffered a major setback due to the death of Siddiqui Ismail. Siddiqui Ismail was admitted to Amrita Hospital in Kochi last month due to liver ailment. He was then put on Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO) support. During this he suffered a heart attack and despite the best efforts of the doctors, he died.

**6. Recently APEDA has exported the first trial shipment of fresh pomegranate to which country via US route?**

- a. Japan
- b. America
- c. Australia

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d. nobody

In a bid to boost the export potential of the fruit, the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, has conducted a trial export of the first batch of fresh pomegranates to the US by air. APEDA exports its first batch of Pomegranates to the US, in collaboration with the National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) of India and the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (US-APHIS) of the United States, Maharashtra State Agricultural Marketing Board (MSAMB), ICAR-Pomegranate National Research Centre, Solapur (NRC-Solapur) and others.

**7. Recently who launched the digital portal of the Central Registrar of Cooperative Societies (CRCS) in Pune?**

- a. Amit Shah
- b. Narendra Modi
- c. Piyush Goyal
- d. nirmala sitharaman

Union Cooperative Minister Amit Shah launched the digital portal of Central Registrar Cooperative Societies (CRCS) office in Pune, Maharashtra. The main objective of the digital portal is to implement completely paperless applications, ensure automatic compliance of Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act and Rules through software and ensure digital communication. It will give a boost to the cooperative movement in India and also support the vision of 'Prosperity from Cooperation'.

**8. Recently who has been appointed as the chairman of QETCI?**

- a. Vijay Kumar Saraswat
- b. Jayant Jain
- c. Jayesh Saini
- d. none

The Quantum Ecosystem Technology Council of India (QETCI) has announced the appointment of Dr. Vijay Kumar Saraswat as the Chairman of the Governing Board. The purpose of this senior appointment is to bring strategic direction and support to fulfill the organization's mission and allow QETCI to act as a catalyst that drives research, innovation,

implementation and design of strategic interventions in the quantum ecosystem for impact. and executes.

## ONE LINER

Recently which state is starting Griha Lakshmi Yojana – **Telangana**

When is World Tribal Day celebrated - **9 August**

Recently, the Union Cabinet has approved ..... for broadband connectivity in villages under the BharatNet project - **Rs 1.39 lakh crore**

When and how long the Malabar Exercise, the annual exercise of QUAD countries, will be organized - **11 to 21 August**

Justice Subhasish Talapatra has been appointed as the Chief Justice of which country – **Odisha**

Recently Union Home Minister Amit Shah has launched which portal of CRCS office - **Digital Portal**

Recently the Lok Sabha Secretariat has restored the Lok Sabha membership of which leader - **Rahul Gandhi**

Who has become the CEO of the highest earning bank - **Shashidhar Jagdishan**

Micron is going to set up India's first semiconductor plant in which state - **Gujarat state**

Who has approved the Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (Absorption of Employees in Government Service) Bill, 2023 - **Governor of Telangana**

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