



The ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

LANGUAGE - ENGLISH

CURRENT AFFAIR BOOSTER

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Wednesday



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DAILY

CURRENT AFFAIRS

&

QUIZ



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1. PR Seshadri has been appointed as the new MD & CEO of South Indian Bank



The Reserve Bank of India has approved the appointment of PR Seshadri as Managing Director and CEO of Thrissur-based South Indian Bank. PR Seshadri is an accomplished banker with experience spread across multiple businesses, functional lines and geographies. He has significant experience in enterprise level management and across all major commercial banking business lines and has substantial experience in successfully managing investor, board and regulatory relations across multiple geographies. PR Seshadri is a respected business leader. They demonstrated their ability to create new businesses as well as problem solvers. He is successful in growing both existing and new businesses by taking advantage of new technologies and new market opportunities. Seshadri is an accomplished banker who has several businesses, Experience across functional areas and geographies. He has significant experience in enterprise level management and across all major commercial banking business lines and has substantial experience in successfully managing investor, board and regulatory relations across multiple geographies," the bank said in a stock exchange filing .

2. Indian Air Force's Latest 'Heron Mark-II' Drone: New Power to Keep an Eye on Borders



India's skies have become more secure and powerful with the induction of the state-of-the-art Heron Mark 2 drone in the Indian Air Force. These state-of-the-art drones have created a stir in the military landscape as they have ushered in a new era of surveillance and strike capability. Equipped with a formidable array of long-range missiles and state-of-the-art weapon systems, these drones are set to patrol our northern borders with unwavering vigilance. The Heron Mark 2 drones boast the incredible ability to conduct intensive surveillance and strike in a single offensive strike, making them a formidable asset to our national security. The Heron Mark-2 is an upgraded version of the Heron Mark-1, which is in service with the Indian Air Force since 2009. The new drone has a longer range and stability, and is equipped with more advanced sensors. The Heron Mark-2 is a medium-altitude long-endurance (MALE) drone with a maximum range of 3,000 kms and the durability is 24 hours. It carries a variety of sensors, including synthetic aperture radar (SAR), electro-optical/infrared (EO/IR) cameras, and laser designators. The SAR can be used to image targets in all weather conditions, day or night, while the EO/IR camera can be used to identify and track targets. The laser designator can be used to specify targets for precise strikes. While the EO/IR camera can be used for identification and tracking of targets.

3. Sri Lankan all-rounder Wanindu Hasaranga has retired from Test cricket



Sri Lankan all-rounder Wanindu Hasaranga has announced his retirement from Test cricket as he looks to prolong his career in the limited over format of the game. Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) said it has accepted 26-year-old Hasaranga's decision. Hasaranga made his Test debut against South Africa at Centurion in 2020 and went on to play three more Tests thereafter. In four

THE ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

Tests, he took four wickets with his leg-spin. His last Test was in 2021 against Bangladesh at Pallekele. Hasaranga remains a key figure for Sri Lanka in the white-ball formats as a spin leader and a useful lower-order batsman. In 48 ODIs, Hasaranga took 67 wickets and scored 832 runs with four fifties. Hasaranga has taken 91 wickets in 58 T20Is and scored 533 runs with one fifty. The Lankan player is also a very popular player in various T20 leagues around the world. Apart from playing with Royal Challengers Bangalore in IPL, Hasaranga has also played for St Kitts & Nevis Patriots (CPL), Quetta Gladiators (PSL), Kandy Falcons and Jaffna Kings (LPL), Desert Vipers (IL T20) and IPL.

4. India accounts for 35% of cargo handled by Murmansk port this year



India's cooperation with Russia's Arctic region is on the rise, as evidenced by its significant contribution to cargo movement at the port of Murmansk. The strategic port, about 2,000 km northwest of Moscow, serves as a major northern gateway for Russia, and handled a total of eight million tonnes of cargo in the first seven months of 2023. Notably, India's share in this cargo was 35%, which consisted mainly of coal sent to India's east coast. India has emerged as a significant player in the cargo handling of Murmansk port, accounting for 35% of the cargo handled. This impressive figure underlines India's economic and trade ties with the Arctic region. India's participation extends to the Northern Sea Route (NSR), which is an important shipping route connecting the Asia-Pacific region and western Eurasia. NSR offers a shorter route than conventional alternatives, increasing the efficiency and safety of sea transport. Navigating the NSR comes with challenges, including Arctic seas covered with ice for a large part of the year. An important icebreaking role in maintaining a

functional route is that of Rosatom's subsidiary FSUE Atomflot, which operates nuclear-powered icebreakers.

5. INS Vagir sets new record for longest Scorpene submarine deployment



Indian Navy submarine, INS Vagir has achieved a remarkable feat by setting a new record for the longest ever deployment by any Scorpene class submarine by sailing a distance of 7,000 kms to reach Australia for a joint military exercise. This marks the first deployment of any Indian Scorpene submarine to Australia, intended to participate in underwater exercises with the Royal Australian Navy. The exercise will see the participation of Australian submarines as well as P-8I Maritime Patrol Aircraft of both the Indian and Australian navies along with INS Vagir. Notably, the Indian Navy with its destroyer, INS Kolkata and frigate, INS Sahyadri and one P-8I is already present in Australia, and is participating in the Malabar 23 series of joint naval exercises with the other three quad-nation navies. Has been United States of America, Japan and Australia from 11 to 21 August, off the east coast of Australia. Following this, another biennial joint naval exercise, AUSINDEX 23, is scheduled to take place between the Indian Navy and the Royal Australian Navy from 22 to 24 August.

6. India's Anahat Singh wins gold in Asian Junior Squash



THE ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

India's Anahat Singh won the gold medal in the Under-17 category of the Asian Junior Squash Individual Championship held here from August 16 to 20. At the age of fifteen, Anahat won the gold medal by defeating Hong Kong's Anna Kwong 3-1 in the final. Anahat defeated Malaysian players Deuce Lee and Witney Isabelle in the quarter-finals and semi-finals respectively. Last year in Thailand, Delhi's Anahat had won her first gold medal in this competition. Anahat had also won a bronze medal in the U-13 category in Macau in 2019. Anahat has also represented India in the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games. She was the youngest Indian player to participate in this competition at the age of 14. Earlier this year, Anahat won the British Junior Open squash under-15 category by defeating Sohaila Hazem of Egypt in the final.

7. Government launches 'Floodwatch' app for real-time flood updates



The Government of India has launched a 'Floodwatch' app, which aims to provide real-time information on the flood situation in the affected areas of 23 states and union territories of the country. The app will use advanced technologies such as satellite data analysis, mathematical modeling and real-time monitoring. Amidst the increase in flood related incidents involving loss of life and property in the country, The government on Thursday launched an app to disseminate real-time information on the flood situation in affected areas. Central Water Commission (CWC) chairman Kushwinder Vohra said the 'Floodwatch' app will collect data from 338 stations to send real-time flood updates across 23 states and union territories. Launching 'Floodwatch', Vohra said the app aims to use mobile phones to spread flood-related information and even provide forecast up to 7 days

ahead. One of the key features that sets the "Floodwatch" app apart is its flood forecasting capabilities. Users can access flood information for their nearest locations, which will help them stay informed about potential flood threats. The home page of the app provides easy access to flood advisories at the station closest to the user,

8. Wahab Riaz retired from international cricket



Pakistan fast bowler Wahab Riaz has announced his retirement from international cricket, bringing an end to his 15-year career. The 38-year-old Wahab made his international debut in 2008 and went on to play 27 Test matches, 91 ODIs and 36 T20Is, taking a total of 237 wickets. Riaz was a key member of the Pakistan team that reached the semi-finals in the 2011 Cricket World Cup, where he took a five-wicket haul against India. He played regularly in the ODI and T20 teams and was known for his fiery bowling and instinctive approach. However, Riaz's Test career was less successful. He could not find consistency in the alignment of his line and length, and his bowling was often blamed for over-delivering dust. He retired from Test cricket in 2019. Despite his shaky Test record, Riaz was a popular figure among fans and colleagues. He was known for his passion for the game and his desire to contribute to the best of his ability for Pakistan. Now Riaz will be felt on franchise cricket across the globe. They will be sought after players in T20 leagues, where their experience and skills will be valuable assets.

QUIZ

1. Who has recently become the first Indian wrestler to win consecutive under-20 world titles?

- A- Savita
- B- Priya Malik
- C- Antim Panghal
- D- none of these

THE ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

Last Paghal has become the first Indian wrestler to win two under-20 world titles. The Indian Under-20 women's team created history by securing the number one position in the overall medal tally at the Under-20 World Wrestling Championships in Amman, Jordan. Indian wrestlers have won a total of 10 medals. The special thing is that seven out of these 10 medals have been won by women wrestlers. Women wrestlers have captured three gold medals, one silver medal and three bronze medals. During this, India has won the maximum number of medals by defeating the wrestlers of America and Japan.

2. Who has been appointed as the next Indian Ambassador to Bolivia recently?

A- Atul Karwal

B- Vishwas Sapkal

C- KN Raghavan

D- none

India's Ambassador to Peru Vishwas Vidu Sapkal has been appointed as the next Ambassador to Bolivia. Vishwas Veedu Sapkal is a 1998 batch Indian Foreign Service officer. He is expected to take charge soon. In his previous assignments, Vishwas Vidu Sapkal served as High Commissioner of India to Fiji, Cook Islands, Kiribati, Nauru, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu and Consul General of India in Petersburg, Russia. According to his profile mentioned on the Indian Embassy in Peru website, he has also served in various positions in Russia, Armenia, Egypt and the US.

3. When is the 'International Day of Remembrance and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism ' observed recently ?

A- 19 August

B- 20 August

C- 21 August

D- none

The International Day of Remembrance and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism is observed annually on 21 August. It is the sixth commemoration of the International Day of Remembrance and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism on 21 August 2023. The International Day of Remembrance and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism was established by the United Nations General Assembly in its resolution 72/165 of 20 December 2017. The resolution was adopted by

consensus, reflecting the strong international commitment to combat terrorism and support its victims. The day was chosen in memory of the August 21, 2003 bombing of the United Nations Headquarters in Baghdad, Iraq, which killed 22 people, including Sergio Vieira de Mello, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

4. Recently, to which country India has fixed its first crude oil payment in local currency?

A- UAE

B- Russia

C- Saudi Arabia

D- none

For the first time on August 14, 2023, India has paid the United Arab Emirates in rupees as the price of crude oil. Prior to this all payments were made in dollars. This is the first payment after the agreement signed during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's UAE visit last month. In this agreement, it was decided that with the intention of reducing the dependence on the dollar, both the countries would transact their currency in rupees and dirhams respectively. The first payment has been made against the purchase of 10 lakh barrels of oil. According to media reports, this transaction has happened between Abu Dhabi National Oil Company and Indian Oil Corporation. This agreement between India and UAE took place on July 15, 2023. PM Narendra Modi and UAE President Zayed Al Nahyan were present on this occasion. After this, the central banks of both the countries had opened accounts to simplify the further process.

5. Recently which app has been launched by Indian National Center for Ocean Information for seafarers?

A- sagar

B- mahasagar

C- samudra

D- none

Recently, the Indian National Center for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) has launched a new mobile application named Samudra (SAMUDRA) for the boaters and fishing community. It is a state-of-the-art app that helps users navigate the marine area for their safety and fishing operations. The Indian National Center for Ocean Information Services was established in 1999 as an autonomous body under the Ministry of

THE ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

Earth Sciences (MoES). Smart access to ocean users for ocean data resources and advisories (Samudra) application provides comprehensive information on all ocean related services.

6. Which airport has recently become the first airport in Northeast to get Digi Yatra?

- A- Rupsi Airport
- B- Shillong Airport
- C- Guwahati Airport
- D- none

Assam Industries and Commerce Minister Chandra Mohan Patowary said that such a facility has been started for the first time in the Northeast. "Earlier, people had to wait in long queues at the Guwahati airport. It will be a thing of the past from now on," he said while inaugurating the service. 'Digi Yatra' is a new initiative in air travel in the country and will progress further in the future. Passengers will be able to register their documents on the Digi Yatra app and enter the airport by scanning their face. As soon as the face is recognized in the camera, the gate will open.

7. Recently which private bank has partnered with RBI to launch Kisan Credit Card?

- A- HDFC Bank
- B- ICICI Bank
- C- Axis Bank
- D- none

Axis Bank, one of the largest private sector banks in India, today announced the launch of two lending products powered by the Public Tech Platform for Frictionless Credit (PTPFC) introduced by the Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH). Innovation Hub is a wholly owned subsidiary of RBI. RBI had earlier in the week announced the launch of Public Tech Platform for Frictionless Credit. Axis Bank will offer Kisan Credit Card (KCC) and unsecured MSME loans to small business owners through this platform. Both the products will be offered completely digitally and customers will not be required to submit any documents.

8. Which medal has been won by Rana Pratap in the 49th Junior Aquatic Championship recently?

- A- Gold Medal
- B- Silver Medal

C- Bronze Medal

D- none

Jharkhand's Rana Pratap created a national record by winning the gold medal in the 200m breaststroke at the Sub-Junior and Junior National Swimming Championships being held in Bhubaneswar. Let us tell you that on the first day of this competition, Rana had won the silver medal in 50 meter breast stroke junior boys group one. This is the first time that Jharkhand has won the national title. Rana Pratap's grandparents and father were international swimmers. Coaches Sapan Pradhan and Firoz Khan train Rana Pratap. Karnataka took a significant lead with 32 gold, 28 silver and 17 bronze medals at the swanky new aquatics centre. Tamil Nadu stood second with 7 gold, 5 silver and 10 bronze, and Maharashtra with 6 gold, 15 silver and 13 bronze.

ONE LINER

Recently in which country 'World Athletics Championship' 2023 has started - **Hungary**

Which state's Ninna Lego has won the Entrepreneur Challenge 2022-23 - **Arunachal Pradesh**

Pakistan fast bowler has announced his retirement from international cricket - **Wahab Riaz**

Recently which airport has become the first airport in Northeast to get Digi Yatra - **Guwahati Airport**

Which state has been declared as natural disaster affected area - **Himachal Pradesh**

Which country's Anahat Singh won the gold medal in the under-17 category of the Asian Junior Squash Individual Championship held here from August 16 to 20? - **India**

Which prominent scientist who played an important role in India's nuclear program passed away at the age of 87 - **V.S. Arunachalam**

Who has recently become the first Indian wrestler to win consecutive under-20 world titles - **Antim Panghal**

Who has given his assent to the Central Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2023 and the Integrated Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2023 - **President Draupadi Murmu**

Recently Reliance Jio has completed the work related to connecting which country with high speed optical fiber cable - **Maldives**

THE ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

