

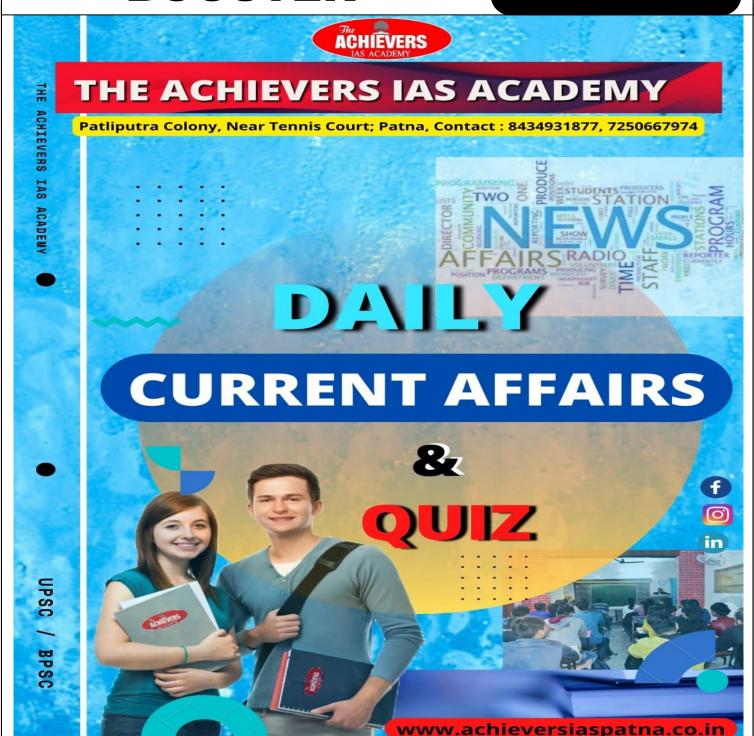
## The

### **ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY**

**LANGUAGE - ENGLISH** 

# CURRENT AFFAIR BOOSTER

31 - 08 - 2023 THURSDAY



1. Indian Air Force to participate in Bright Star-23 exercise



The Indian Air Force (IAF) has sent a contingent to participate in the biennial multilateral tri-services exercise Bright Star-23 held in Egypt. This is the first time that the Indian Air Force is participating in this exercise. The aim of the exercise is to practice planning and implementation of joint operations, foster strategic ties and encourage ties across borders. The IAF contingent includes aircraft, Garuda special forces and personnel from several squadrons, as well as airlift support for approximately 150 Indian Army personnel. The Indian Air Force has fielded five of its MiG-29 fighter jets for the 21-day multilateral exercise that began in Egypt. Apart from six transport aircraft, a squad of Special Forces has also been sent. This is the first time that the Indian Army has become a part of this exercise held every two years in Egypt. This maneuver of the three forces, called Brightstar, is being held at the Cairo Airbase. Apart from the host nation and India, it also includes forces from the US, Saudi Arabia, Greece and Qatar. The participation of the Indian Air Force (IAF) in Exercise Bright Star-23 is significant as it is the first time that the Indian Air Force is participating in this biennial multilateral exercise. It reflects India's commitment to strengthen its strategic ties with Egypt and other participating countries. The move is also in line with the recent elevation of India-Egypt relations to a "strategic partnership", emphasizing the importance of cooperation in the defense and security sectors. The armies of Greece and Qatar are also involved. The participation of the Indian Air Force (IAF) in Exercise Bright Star-23 is significant as it is the first time that the Indian Air Force is participating in this biennial multilateral exercise.

2. ISRO to complete next moon mission in collaboration with Japanese space agency



ISRO's next potential Moon mission is in partnership with its Japanese counterpart, a venture that is gaining momentum. The Lunar Polar Exploration Mission (LUPEX) is a joint venture between the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) and the Indian Space Agency headquartered in Bengaluru. JAXA and ISRO are developing the rover and lander respectively. The rover will carry instruments not only from ISRO and JAXA but also from the US space agency NASA and the European Space Agency (ESA). Vice Chairman of Japan's Cabinet Committee on National Space Policy and Director General of the National Astronomical Observatory of Japan, Saku Tsuneta visited the ISRO headquarters here earlier this month and held a meeting with the space agency's Chairman Somnath S. They discussed the progress of LUPEX. Objective. An ISRO official said, "Among other things, the development of a small lander for the LUPEX mission was also discussed. According to JAXA, the objectives of the LUPEX mission are to explore the suitability of the lunar polar region for establishing a base on the Moon for sustainable activities; to gain knowledge regarding the availability of lunar water-ice resources; and to provide vehicular transport and overnight To demonstrate survivable lunar and planetary surface exploration technologies.

3. All India Radio organizes a program on Know India Program under the aegis of Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi



All India Radio organized a program on Know India Program-KIP under the aegis of Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi. About 55 students of Indian origin participated in the programme. The Know India Program-KIP is an important initiative of the Ministry of External Affairs to reach out to the Indian Diaspora. Through this programme, youth of Indian origin are introduced to their Indian values. The objective of the event is to promote India's progress in various fields and awareness on various aspects of life. A question and answer session on G-20 and Indian history has also been organized during the event. The students participated in it with full enthusiasm. The 67th edition of the event, organized by the Ministry of External Affairs, will conclude on Friday. The event held in New Delhi on 28 August marks the 67th edition of the Know India Program (KIP), Which is a testimony to the continued commitment of the Ministry of External Affairs to engage with the youth of the Indian diaspora. Guyanese student Chandrani Sukhdev expressed her heartfelt appreciation for the initiative of the Government of India, which has provided her with a wonderful opportunity to trace the land of her ancestors. He shared his excitement about the opportunity to visit the historical sites of India and experience firsthand the vibrant cultural heritage of the country.

4. Maharashtra government signs MoU with professional association football league of Germany



Taking a significant step towards raising the status of football in Maharashtra, the state government has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Bundesliga, the famous German professional football league. The signing ceremony took place in the presence of notable personalities. The Government of Maharashtra was represented by Ranjit Singh Deol, Principal Secretary, School Education and Sports Department, along with Suhas Diwas, Commissioner, Sports and Youth Services. On the other hand, the delegation from Bundesliga included Mrs. Julia Farr, Peter Lieble and Kaushik Maulik. Football enjoys significant popularity in several districts of Maharashtra, emphasizing the need for collaborative efforts to establish a conducive sporting environment within the state. This partnership is set to usher in a new phase of sports advancement in Maharashtra. Specially focusing on developing grass root level talent. Bundesliga stands as the premier professional football league of Germany, which is famous for its rich history and spectacular football matches. As one of the foremost football leagues in Europe, it boasts the participation of top class players and teams, which epitomize excellence on the field. Since its inception in 1963, the Bundesliga has been a competitive platform for 18 clubs to compete for the coveted championship each season.

5. Education Ministry launches Smart India Hackathon



The Innovation Cell of the Ministry of Education and the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has launched the 6th edition of Smart India Hackathon (SIH). Under this, innovative ideas can be submitted till 30th September to participate in Senior SIH and 30th October for Junior SIH. AICTE's Innovation Cell announced the launch of Smart India Hackathon 2023 which is its 6th edition. On this occasion, Higher Education Secretary K. Sanjay Murthy said that during India's presidency of the G20 group this year, we hosted the UNESCO India-Africa Hackathon in which 22 African countries participated and Indian students teamed up with them to work on issues related to African countries. Got a chance to do Innovative ideas can be submitted till 30th September for Senior SIH and 30th October for Junior SIH to participate under Smart India Hackathon. It contains 239 topics related to problems in which 182 are software related and 57 are hardware related. SIH has 26 central ministries, six state ministries and four industry partners.

6. Shivraj Singh and Anurag Thakur released books based on PM Modi's speeches



Union Minister for Information Broadcasting, Youth Affairs and Sports Anurag Singh Thakur and Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched the series "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas" based on the speeches of Prime Minister Narendra Modi from June 2020 to May 2022 at Kushabhau Thackeray International Convention Center in Bhopal Released the second and third volumes of the books titled "Sabka Vishwas". The book release function saw the presence of many dignitaries. Vikram Sahai, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and Anupama Bhatnagar, Director General, Publications Division were also present on the occasion. The books released have been compiled by the Publications Division of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. The books

contain 86 speeches in one volume and 80 speeches in another volume, including Startup India, Topics range from good governance and women empowerment to self-reliant India and Jai Vigyan-Jai Kisan. Union Minister Anurag Thakur highlighted the importance of books for young persons and researchers alike. He encouraged the youth to be actively involved in India's progress and development, urging them to take advantage of the opportunities presented during the Amrit Kaal (period of change and growth).

7. Zepto became the first Indian unicorn this year, valued at \$1.4 billion



Indian grocery startup Zepto said on 25 August 2023 that it has raised \$200 million in fresh funding. With a valuation of \$1.4 billion, the startup has become the first unicorn in the country to achieve this milestone within a year. Regarding this, Zepto said that despite the slowdown in the capital market for more than a decade, it has secured this much funding. According to the company, existing Nexus Venture Partners, Backers including Glad Brook Capital and Lachey Groom also participated in the deal. Let Zepto promise to deliver groceries to your home in 10 minutes. It was started in 2021 by two 19-year-old Stanford dropouts. The startup competes with SoftBank-funded Swiggy and Blinkit. The biggest competition among them is who will be able to deliver quickly. Zepto CEO Adit Palicha said the company's fastest average delivery time is 13 minutes. Zepto is currently present in Delhi-NCR including metros like Mumbai and Bengaluru. With this funding, she is planning to move towards smaller cities of the country. Zepto earns 50 to 60 million dollars every month.

8. Swamitva Yojana of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj won the National Award for e - Governance 2023



The SVAMITVA (Survey of Village Population and Mapping with Improved Technology in Village Areas) scheme launched by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj has been awarded the prestigious National e-Governance Award (Gold) in 2023, with the main objective of empowering citizens by using innovative technologies. To provide focused services. The award was presented during the 26th National e-Governance Conference (NCG) at Indore, Madhya Pradesh, organized by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG), Government of India. The two-day e-Governance Conference (NCG) was National organized by the Department of Operational Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) and Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (Meity) in association with the Government of Madhya Pradesh. The theme of the event was "Viksit Bharat, Empowering" Citizens," and it was aimed at showcasing the highest level of technologies, Effective e-governance strategies and knowledge sharing among various stakeholders. Held at the Brilliant Convention Center in Indore, Madhya Pradesh, the conference served as an important platform to critique innovative technologies and advance e-governance aspects.

#### **OUIZ**

- 1. When is National Sports Day celebrated every year in India?
- (a) 27th August
- (b) 28 August
- (c) 29 August
- (d) 30 August

National Sports Day is celebrated every year on 29 August in India. National Sports Day in India is celebrated in the memory of the great hockey player Major Dhyanchand. On this day India's great hockey player Major Dhyanchand was born in Prayagraj in the year 1905. Major Dhyanchand had given gold medals

to India in the Olympics in the years 1928, 1932 and 1936.

- 2. Which country has hosted the first 'Karnataka Cultural Festival'?
- (a) Maldives
- (b) Sri Lanka
- (c) Thailand
- (d) Bhutan

Sri Lanka hosted its first Karnataka cultural festival. It was organized by International Cultural Council of India, Swami Vivekananda Cultural Center and M.E. Done in collaboration with the Global Peace Foundation. The event marked an important moment in the cultural diversity shared cultural heritage of India and Sri Lanka.

- 3. Who signed an MoU with Germany's professional association football league?
- (a) Government of Maharashtra
- (b) Government of Delhi
- (c) Government of Punjab
- (d) Government of Karnataka

Taking a significant step towards raising the status of football in Maharashtra, the state government has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Bundesliga, the famous German professional football league. The signing ceremony took place in presence of notable personalities. Government of Maharashtra was represented by Ranjit Singh Deol, Principal Secretary, School Education and Sports Department, along with Suhas Diwas, Commissioner, Sports and Youth Services. On the other hand, the delegation from Bundesliga included Mrs. Julia Farr, Peter Lieble and Kaushik Maulik. Football enjoys significant popularity in several districts of Maharashtra, emphasizing the need for collaborative efforts to establish a conducive sporting environment within the state.

- 4. In which country Joint Military Exercise Bright Star-23 will be organized?
- (a) France
- (b) Turkiye
- (c) Qatar
- (d) Egypt

Joint Military Exercise Bright Star-23 (BRIGHT STAR-23) will be organized in Egypt. In this, armies of 34 countries of the world including India and America are participating. This military exercise will be conducted from August 31 to the 14th of next month at the Mohamed Naguib military base in Egypt. Bright Star-23 is a multinational tri-services joint military exercise that will be led by US CENTCOM and the Egyptian Army.

#### 5. Who is the President of Zimbabwe who has been reelected for a second five-year term?

- (a) Emmerson Mnangagwa
- (b) Robert Pereiro
- (c) Jacob Zuma
- (d) none of these

Zimbabwe's President Emmerson Mnangagwa has been re-elected for a second and final five-year term after the declared results of Zimbabwe's presidential election. By the way, there has been a history of irregularities in elections in Zimbabwe, with the help of which former President Robert Mugabe remained in power for almost four decades. Zimbabwe is a South African country whose capital is Harare.

## 6. FIFA has lifted the ban from which country's football federation with immediate effect?

- (a) Sri Lanka
- (b) Pakistan
- (c) Japan
- (d) Canada

FIFA has lifted its ban on the Sri Lankan Football Federation with immediate effect. FIFA had banned the Football Federation of Sri Lanka on 21 January this year. This ban was imposed due to violation of FIFA rules by FSL in administration. Due to these restrictions, the Sri Lankan football team could not take part in the SAFF Championship 2023 held in July.

- 7. Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar has nominated whom as a member of the Standing Committee on Home Affairs?
- (a) Rahul Gandhi
- (b) Varun Gandhi
- (c) P Chidambaram
- (d) Sanjay Raut

Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar has nominated Congress MP P Chidambaram as a member of the Standing Committee on Home Affairs. The news of his appointment has been given through the bulletin of the Rajya Sabha Secretariat. He will replace P. Bhattacharya who retired from the membership of Rajya Sabha on 18 August 2023.

## 8. 'Shell India' has appointed whom as its new chairperson?

- (a) Mansi Madan Tripathi
- (b) Meenakshi Sinha
- (c) Vivek Agnihotri
- (d) Ajay Kapoor

Shell India has recently announced the appointment of Mansi Madan Tripathi as the new country chairperson of the company with effect from 1 October. He will succeed Nitin Prasad who has been the chairman of Shell India since 2016. She joined the company in 2012 from Procter & Gamble, where she held several regional and global director-level positions. Shell is a British multinational oil and gas company headquartered in London, England.

#### ONE LINER

Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar has nominated whom as a member of the Standing Committee on Home Affairs - P Chidambaram

Recently Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been honored with which award by the President of Greece, Katrina N. Sakellaropoulou - 'The Grand Cross of the Order of Honor'

Recently which Telugu star has been honored with the Best Actor Award at the 69th National Film Awards - 'Allu Arjun'

When is National Sports Day celebrated annually in India - 29 August

Who is the President of Zimbabwe who has been reelected for a second five-year term - Emmerson Mnangagwa

Which country has hosted the first 'Karnataka Cultural Festival' - Sri Lanka

In which country Joint Military Exercise Bright Star-23 will be organized – Egypt

'Shell India' has appointed whom as its new chairperson - Mansi Madan Tripathi

Recently, the first Hindu temple has been built in - Taiwan's capital 'Taipei '

Recently Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced which day to be celebrated on 23rd August – National Space Day

With whom India will set up a climate change and health center in Delhi – Asian Development Bank

