



# The ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

LANGUAGE - ENGLISH

## CURRENT AFFAIR BOOSTER

12 - 09 - 2023

Tuesday



### THE ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

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# DAILY

# CURRENT AFFAIRS

# &

# QUIZ



UPSC / BPSC

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## 1. African Union becomes permanent member of G20 under the chairmanship of India



The African Union became a permanent member of the G20, the group of countries with the world's largest economies, on 09 September 2023. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, while addressing the inaugural session of the two-day G20 summit, announced the inclusion of the 55-nation African Union as a new member. At present the great brainstorming of G-20 leaders is going on in India. The G-20 Summit 2023 has started in the capital Delhi. With this, the African Union (AU) has been included as a new member in this group. After the announcement of inclusion of African Union as a permanent member in G20, PM Modi hugged and congratulated African Union President Azali Assoumani. After PM Modi's announcement, India's Foreign Minister S Jaishankar had brought along African Union President Azali Assoumani. Shortly after the announcement, Azali Assoumani, President of the Union of Comoros and Chair of the African Union (AU), addressed the G20. Took seat as a permanent member. Prime Minister Modi had raised the issue of AU membership prominently in the G20. In June, Modi had written a letter to G20 leaders advocating full membership of the AU during the summit in New Delhi. The proposal was formally included in the draft communiqué for the summit during the third G20 Sherpa meeting held in Hampi, Karnataka in July.

## 2. Indian archer Prathamesh Javkar gets silver in World Cup final



India's archer Prathamesh Javkar missed the gold medal by a narrow margin and had to settle for a silver medal in the Archery-World-Cup-Final-2023" Archery World Cup Final 2023. World number 14 Javkar finished 10th in the gold medal match. He was facing a big challenge against the ranked Denmark's Mathias Fullerton. The game ended in a 148-148 draw after five sets. While both the archers scored 10 in the shoot-off, Fullerton was declared the winner. Javkar started the day with an impressive 149-141 win against world number five Italian Miguel Becerra in the quarter-finals, according to Olympics.com. The Indian then defeated world no. The number one seed shot a perfect 150 against Netherlands' Mike Schlosser to book his place in the final by defeating the second seeded archer by one point, Abhishek Verma, the first Indian to win silver in the Archery World Cup final in 2015 in men's compound He was an archer and missed out on a medal after losing the bronze medal match. Verma defeated Sawyer Sullivan in the quarter-final tie-breaker after the score was tied at 146. In the semi-finals, the Indians lost 150–147 to eventual gold medalist Fullerton. Verma produced her best performance of the day in the bronze medal match against American Schlosser, scoring 149 points in five sets. However, Schloesser emerged victorious after shooting a perfect 150. On the other hand, in the women's compound event, defending world champion Aditi Gopichand Swami lost against Dane Tanja Gelenthien in the quarterfinals.

## 3. Goa Governor launches the torch for the 37th National Games



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Governor of Goa Shri. P.S. Sreedharan Pillai officially launched the torch (torch) to mark the beginning of the 37th National Games. The spectacular event was organized by the Sports Authority of Goa in collaboration with the Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs, Goa, and took place at the Durbar Hall of Raj Bhawan, Donapaula. The 'Mashal' will travel through Goa and other states for four days, It will promote enthusiasm and participation especially in rural areas. Sports Minister Govind Goude encouraged all Goans to participate and support for the success of the Games. Governor Pillai presented the National Games anthem, sung by legendary actor Amitabh Bachchan. The anthem featured the traditional Goan instrument, the Ghumat, and featured a collaboration between Goan singers and other talented artists. In this digital age, A specially designed website was launched during the ceremony. Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant did the honor by unveiling this digital gateway for all things related to the upcoming National Games. The website is a comprehensive resource, providing information and updates about the event. It promises to be an invaluable tool for participants, spectators and enthusiasts alike.

#### 4. The world's highest fighter airport will be built in Nyoma, Ladakh.



The Border Roads Organization (BRO) is set to achieve a remarkable feat with the construction of the world's highest combat airfield at Nyoma in Ladakh. Defense Minister Rajnath Singh is going to lay the foundation stone of this ambitious project on September 12, 2023 at Devak Bridge in Jammu. This effort reflects BRO's dedication to strengthening India's defense capabilities in areas of strategic importance. Nyoma is situated as a major village situated in the southern region of Ladakh, India. It hosts an Indian Air Force base within the Leh district. Nyoma is notably home to an Advanced Landing Ground (ALG), established in 1962. The altitude of Nyoma reaches an impressive 4,180 meters (13,710 ft) above sea level, making it one of the highest altitudes in the region. Highlighting the financial commitment of the Central Government, Lieutenant General Choudhary revealed that the budget of BRO used to be around Rs 3,000 crore in 2008. This increased to Rs 5,000-6,000 crore in 2017. In 2019, it increased to Rs 8,000 crore and increased thereafter. And last year, around Rs 12,340 crore was spent. This significant budget allocation underlines the government's dedication to strengthening India's infrastructure in the border areas. Lieutenant General Rajeev Chaudhary, who heads the BRO, expressed hope that India is making substantial progress towards overtaking China in the field of infrastructure development along the 3,488 km long Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the coming two to three years . Rs 340 crore was spent. This significant budget allocation underlines the government's dedication to strengthening India's infrastructure in the border areas. Lieutenant General Rajeev Chaudhary, who heads the BRO, expressed hope that India is making substantial progress towards overtaking China in the field of infrastructure development along the 3,488 km long Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the coming two to three years . Rs 340 crore was spent.

#### 5. India launches 'Hello UPI ' and 'Bharat BillPay Connect ' for interactive payments

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National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) launched two conversational payments initiatives: 'Hello UPI' and 'Bharat BillPay Connect.' These initiatives were unveiled at the Global Fintech Fest with the goal of increasing user convenience and accessibility in digital transactions. 'Hello UPI' enables users to make payments through interactive interactions using their smartphones. It simplifies various payment tasks, including splitting restaurant bills, including sending money to friends and settling utility bills. NPCI's 'Hello UPI' supports voice-enabled UPI payments in both Hindi and English. There are plans to expand language support to include other regional languages, ensuring inclusivity for a wider user base. NPCI collaborated with Bhashini Program at IIT Madras and AI4India to jointly develop a payment language model in Hindi and English. This collaboration promotes the advancement of indigenous technology and contributes to the success of these interactive payment initiatives.

**Streamlining Bill Payments:** BillPay Connect aims to streamline the bill payment process by enabling users to easily pay their bills using natural interactions with popular voice assistants like Alexa.

**Accessibility for all users:** This initiative is designed to cater to a wide range of users with different levels of technical proficiency. Whether individuals have access to a feature phone, smartphone, or merchant sandbox, digital bill payment has become accessible to all.

**Instant Voice Confirmation:** Users can easily retrieve and settle their bills through voice commands on smart home devices and receive instant voice confirmation. Additionally, this facility extends to bill payments made at physical collection centers through Payment Soundbox devices.

## 6. State Bank launches 'One Nation-One Card'



State Bank of India (SBI), the largest public sector bank, has launched 'Nation First Transit Card'. This card provides a lot of convenience to the customer. With this you can make easy digital ticketing payment for metro, bus and parking etc. through a single medium. On launching the card, SBI said that continuous efforts are being made to make banking and everyday life easier for customers. State Bank of India Chairman Dinesh Kumar Khara said, 'The Nation First Transit Card, powered by RuPay and National Common Mobility Card (NCMC) technology, "It is set to revolutionize the commuting experience and is aligned with the national vision of One Nation One Card." The card was launched at the Global Fintech Fest 2023. India's largest lender said it is also going to implement NCMC based ticketing solution in MMRC Metro Line 3 and Agra Metro, which will be available to the public very soon. State Bank of India is the largest lender in the country. The home loan portfolio of the bank has crossed ₹6.53 lakh crore. As of June 2023, the bank's deposit base is over ₹45.31 lakh crore, with a CASA ratio of 42.88 per cent and advances of over ₹33 lakh crore.

## 7. Bank of Baroda has started a new facility, you can withdraw money using UPI.



बैंक ऑफ़ बड़ौदा  
Bank of Baroda



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Bank of Baroda, for the first time in the country, has started the facility of withdrawing money from ATM without card for its customers. In the first phase, this system has been started in six thousand ATMs across the country. Customers can avail this facility using their UPI. The new UPI ATM has been launched by Hitachi Payment Services in collaboration with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI). Many products have been launched by NPCI at the Global Fintech Fest 2023 to promote digital transactions. After the launch of this service, customers will no longer need to carry their ATM card with them. According to the statement issued by BOB, it is the first public sector bank in the country to launch UPI ATM operated by NCR Corporation in coordination with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI). The bank said that customers of its and other banks can withdraw cash from Bank of Baroda UPI ATMs without using their debit cards through the UPI-enabled mobile app. According to the statement, UPI ATM enables QR-based seamless cash withdrawal through Interoperable Cardless Cash Withdrawal (ICCW) technology, which does not require a card to withdraw cash. A major advantage of UPI ATM facility is that customers can withdraw cash from various accounts linked to UPI.

## 8. RBI may launch digital rupee pilot for interbank transactions by October



The Reserve Bank of India can start the pilot project of Central Bank Digital Currency i.e. CBDC in Interbank Borrowing and Call Money Market in October. This information has been given by RBI Executive Director Ajay Kumar Chaudhary. Wholesale CBDC, also known as Digital Rupee-Wholesale (eW). It was launched on November 1, 2022. At present it is being used in the secondary market for transactions in government securities. State Bank of India, Bank of Baroda, Union Bank of India, HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank, Kotak Mahindra

Bank, Yes Bank, IDFC First Bank and HSBC have been selected by RBI for the wholesale pilot project. The pilot project of retail incarnation of CBDC by the Central Bank on December 1, Was started in 2022. CBDC is the digital incarnation of India's paper currency. It is recognized by RBI as paper currency. India's digital revolution has been showcased by RBI at the G20 Summit. These include Public Tech Platform (PTP), CBDC, UPI One World, RuPay on-the-go and Bharat Bill Payment System for frictionless credit. Digital Rupee is the digital or electronic form of notes and coins. It is based on blockchain technology. With its arrival you will no longer need to keep notes or coins. You will be able to use this e-rupee for transactions. Notes and coins have digital or electronic form. It is based on blockchain technology. With its arrival you will no longer need to keep notes or coins. You will be able to use this e-rupee for transactions. Notes and coins have digital or electronic form. It is based on blockchain technology. With its arrival you will no longer need to keep notes or coins. You will be able to use this e-rupee for transactions.

## QUIZ

1. When has 'World Suicide Prevention Day' been celebrated recently?

A- 3 September

B- 4th September

C- 5th September

D- 10 September

The International Association for Suicide Prevention (IASP) started celebrating World Suicide Prevention Day on 10 September for the first time in the year 2003. This event was sponsored by the World Federation for Mental Health and World Organization. This initiative was highly appreciated on the global stage. After which, next year in 2004, the World Health Organization (WHO) formally sponsored World Suicide Prevention Day. Since then, World Suicide Prevention Day is celebrated every year on 10 September. The theme of World Suicide Prevention Day 2023 has been 'Creating Hope Through Action'. Which means 'creating hope through action'. The programs organized on this day in the country and the world will be based on this theme.

2. Who won the US Open 2023 women's singles title?

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A- Arina Sabalenka

B- Erin Routliff

C-Coco Gauff

D-Gabriela Dabrowski

America's 19-year-old tennis player Coca Gauff won the final of the US Open 2023 Women's Championship. She defeated Aryna Sabalenka of Belarus 2-6, 6-3, 6-2 in the final. Coca became the youngest champion since Serena Williams in 1999 at Flushing Meadows. This was Coca's first major title in the US Open. Coca became the 28th woman in the singles champion at Flushing Meadows after the Open Era (168). Talking about the match, Coca Gauff made a comeback after facing defeat in the first set and won the next two sets to win the title match. In the first set, Koka took the lead by defeating her opponent Aryna Sabalenka 6-2.

**3. How many scientists have been selected for the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award for the year 2022?**

A- 12

B- 11

C- 10

D- 13

12 scientists have been selected for the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award for the year 2022. Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar is the top annual award in the field of science. 12 scientists will be awarded awards in seven categories. Dr.N. CSIR Director General Kalaiselvi announced the awards for the year 2022 in the presence of Union Science and Technology Minister Dr Jitendra Singh. Named after Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar, the first director of CSIR, the awards are given in seven scientific disciplines – Physics, Biology, Engineering, Mathematics, Medicine, Chemistry and Earth Sciences.

**4. Which country recently announced the launch of a global biofuel alliance at the G20 summit?**

A- UAE

B- India

C- Australia

D-none

India announced the launch of the Global Biofuels Alliance to increase the use of clean fuels. Also, with an appeal to increase ethanol blending with petrol to 20 percent at the global level, G-20 countries were urged to join this initiative. PM Modi also proposed a G-20 satellite mission for the environment in the 'One

Earth ' session. Also urged G-20 leaders to start work on the Green Credit Initiative.

**5. Which bank recently enabled UPI ATM facility on more than 6000 of its ATMs?**

A- Bank of Baroda

B- State Bank of India

C- Punjab National Bank

D- all

Public sector Bank of Baroda has provided a special facility to its customers. Actually, Bank of Baroda (BoB) has started UPI ATM facility at about 6,000 of its ATMs across the country. The bank announced this. You can withdraw cash from ATM by scanning the UPI QR code with your mobile. According to the statement issued by Bank of Baroda, it is the first public sector bank in the country to launch UPI ATM operated by NCR Corporation in coordination with National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI). The bank said that customers of its and other banks can withdraw cash from Bank of Baroda UPI ATMs without using their debit cards through the UPI-enabled mobile app.

**6. Which association has been inducted as a permanent member during the New Delhi G20 summit?**

A-ASEAN

B- African Union

C-SAARC

D-OPEC

The African Union has been included as a new permanent member in the G20 summit held in New Delhi under the chairmanship of India. With this, now there are 19 countries and two unions (European Union and African Union) in this group. President of the African Union Azali Assoumani attended the conference and took membership. The African Union is a continental union which includes 55 countries of the African continent. It was established in 1999.

**7. Recently which country will develop a theme park in 'Kartarpur Corridor' ?**

A-Nepal

B-China

C- Pakistan

D-none

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Pakistan has started construction of a cultural theme park in the Kartarpur Corridor (Gurudwara Darbar Sahib) in Punjab province to attract more pilgrims to the revered Sikh site. The foundation stone of this project was laid by the country's acting federal religious minister, Aneeq Ahmed, during his visit to Kartarpur Sahib. He also met Sikh pilgrims from India and asked them about the facilities at the Gurudwara. The theme park was launched by the Project Management Unit (PMU) Kartarpur Corridor in collaboration with a private company.

**8. Recently, the Chief Minister of which state has flagged off 181 mobile veterinary vehicles?**

A- Chhattisgarh

B- Goa

C-Assam

D-Odisha

Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik flagged off 181 mobile unit vehicles at a program organized at Kalinga Stadium in the city. These new vehicles will be used to provide health services to livestock animals under the Mukhyamantri Bhramyaman Pranichikita Seva in the state. Mobile veterinary units are working to provide door-to-door veterinary services to pastoralists and farmers in villages located far from veterinary institutions. The state government is making continuous efforts to make the lives of cattle farmers more comfortable, increase their income and bring smiles on their faces. The animal resources development sector has been identified as the next level of development for farmers, women self-help groups and entrepreneurs.

## ONE LINER

Which team won the title of SAFF U-16 Championship 2023 – **India**

Where was the meeting of heads of Asian coast guard agencies held – **Istanbul**

Recently NPCI has signed an agreement with which bank for digital payments – **Bangladesh**

Who won the US Open 2023 women's singles title - **Coco Gauff**

How many scientists have been selected for the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award for the year 2022 - **12**

How many writers are included in the long list of JCB Literary Award 2023 - **10**

Which union has been included as a permanent member during the New Delhi G20 summit – **African Union**

To which country has India handed over the presidency of G20 during the New Delhi G20 Summit - **Brazil**

Novak Djokovic, who won the men's singles title of US Open 2023, is the player from which country - **Serbia**

Which state government has recently formed a committee to implement Nand Baba Milk Mission - **Uttar Pradesh**

Which country has recently launched Hello UPI for interactive payments - **India**

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