



# The ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

LANGUAGE - ENGLISH

## CURRENT AFFAIR BOOSTER

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Wednesday



### THE ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

Patliputra Colony, Near Tennis Court; Patna, Contact : 8434931877, 7250667974

THE ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY



# DAILY

# CURRENT AFFAIRS

# &

# QUIZ



UPSC / BPSC



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## 1. RBI released the list of 15 NBFCs in ' Upper Layer '



The Reserve Bank of India has released the list of 15 NBFC companies making a place in the upper layer for the financial year 2024. RBI has made regulation rules to prevent the expansion of NBFC companies and the impact of the risks associated with them from increasing on other sectors. These rules are applicable at different levels for NBFC companies included in different layers of RBI. The same rules as banks apply to NBFC companies included in the upper layer list of RBI. RBI has released the list of 15 NBFCs included in the upper layer under the Scale Based Regulation for Non-Banking Financial Corporations (NBFCs) for the financial year 2024. LIC Housing Finance Limited is at first place in the list. After that Bajaj Finance Limited is at second place and Shriram Finance Limited is at third place. TMF Business Services Limited (formerly Tata Motors Finance Limited) has not been included in the list despite qualifying due to its ongoing business restructuring. However, Tata Sons Private Limited has got the fourth place in the list. Similarly, L&T Finance Limited has got the fifth place. NBFCs falling outside the predefined categories, such as investment and credit companies (NBFC-ICC), micro finance institutions (NBFC-MFIs), NBFC-factors, and mortgage guarantee companies (NBFC-MGC), based on various parameters prescribed by the RBI. But regulations can be placed in any category of the structure. The introduction of the SBR framework by RBI has significant implications for the NBFC sector in India. This allows for a more nuanced and risk-based approach to regulation, ensuring that NBFCs are subject to appropriate levels of supervision depending on their size and activities.

## 2. 84 artists were honored with Sangeet Natak Akademi Amrit Award.



Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar presented the one-time Sangeet Natak Akademi Amrit Award to 84 artistes from various fields of performing arts. The award was instituted to honor Indian artists above the age of 75 who have not been awarded any national honor so far in their career. A total of 84 artists, including 70 men and 14 women, were honored with this prestigious award at the ceremony. The list also includes three artists from Andhra Pradesh, two from Arunachal Pradesh and six from Maharashtra. Additionally, three awardees each from Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat as well as two awardees each from Punjab and Delhi were also recognised. An equal number of four honorees were received from Bihar, Odisha, West Bengal, Manipur, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka for their extraordinary contribution. Moreover, five persons each from Assam and Rajasthan were awarded this prestigious honour. Some of the award winners include Raghubir Malik and Dina Nath Mishra for Hindustani singing, Gauri Kuppaswami and Anasuya Kulkarni for Carnatic singing, Lalitha Srinivasan and Vilasini Devi Krishnapillai for Bharatanatyam and Smita Shastri and Kumkum Lal for Kuchipudi and Odisha. The awardees also include folklorists like Jharkhand's Mahabir Nayak for music, Maharashtra's Harishchandra Prabhakar Borkar for theatre, and Assam's Dharmeshwar Nath for dance.

## 3. Imports and exports remained low in August, trade deficit was 24.16 billion dollars.



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According to the data released by the government, India's exports have decreased in August this year. India's exports declined by 6.86 per cent to US\$ 34.48 billion in August this year due to decline in shipments from key sectors like petroleum and gems and jewelry due to weak global demand. Exports in the same month a year ago were \$37.02 billion. Exports of iron ore, electronic goods, oil seeds, cashew nuts, carpets, engineering, pharma and marine products have increased in August. Apart from this, export of electronic goods increased by 26.29 percent to 2.17 billion dollars. In a period of five months it increased by 35.22 percent to \$ 11.18 billion. Services exports are estimated at US\$26.39 billion in August, up from US\$26.5 billion a year ago. The estimated value of services exported in April-August 2023 was US\$ 133.38 billion, while it was US\$ 126.85 billion in April-August 2022. Apart from exports, imports into the country have declined for the ninth consecutive month last month. Imports declined by 5.23 percent to US\$ 58.64 billion, compared to US\$ 61.88 billion in August 2022. Oil shipments declined 23.76 percent to US\$13.2 billion in August. During April-August 2023, it declined by 23.33 percent to US \$ 68.3 billion. However, gold imports increased by 38.75 percent to \$4.93 billion in August. During April-August 2023, it increased by 10.48 percent to \$ 18.13 billion. Talking about total imports, it was US \$ 13.86 billion as against US \$ 15.22 billion in August. The trade deficit (the difference between imports and exports) remained almost stable at US\$24.16 billion in August.

#### 4. Famous writer Geeta Mehta passes away



Famous writer-filmmaker Geeta Mehta passed away. She was 80 years old. Mehta had written books like Karma Cola, Snakes and Ladders, A River Sutra, Raj and Eternal Ganesh. He also produced and directed at least

14 television documentaries for UK, European and American networks. His film 'Dateline Bangladesh', based on the Bangladesh Liberation War of 1971, was shown in theaters both in India and abroad. Mehta's books have been translated into 21 languages and have been on bestseller lists in Europe, the United States and India. Geeta Mehta was the daughter of famous Odisha politician and former Chief Minister Biju Patnaik and elder sister of current CM Naveen Patnaik. Geeta Mehta was married to the famous American publisher, late Sunny Mehta. Geeta Mehta, daughter of Biju Patnaik and Gyan Patnaik, was born in 1943 in Delhi. Geeta Mehta was educated in India and Cambridge University, UK. Geeta Mehta had written five books named Karma Cola, Snakes and Ladders, A River Sutra, Raj and The Eternal Ganesh. Geeta Mehta came into limelight in the year 2019 when she refused to accept the prestigious Padma Shri award for literature and education. Geeta Mehta was very close to her younger brother Naveen Patnaik.

#### 5. Railway Ministry launches 'Swachhta Pakhwada-2023'



Under the Swachhta Pakhwada in Katihar Railway Division area, a huge Prabhat Pheri was organized with the aim of spreading awareness about cleanliness among the railway employees and railway customers. In this, all the railway officers, employees, officials of recognized trade unions and welfare organizations and members of Scott and Guide participated enthusiastically. The inauguration of Prabhat Pheri started from the Divisional Railway Manager's office and ended with the organization of street drama at Katihar Junction. It is noteworthy that Katihar Railway Ministry is celebrating Swachhta Pakhwada from 16th September to 02nd October. This year the activities of SHS have been integrated with the Swachhta Pakhwada program of Indian Railways. In this context, Senior DPO

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of Katihar Railway Division Atul Kumar Mishra said that for Swachhta Pakhwada 2023, dedicated days have been fixed for activities like clean trains, clean stations, clean food and clean tracks etc. during the fortnight. It is also planned to run a massive awareness campaign through digital media and public announcement through PA system to encourage people to use bio-toilets, avoid single-use plastic and adopt hygiene habits.

## 6. International Red Panda Day 2023: A call to protect the red panda



Every year, on the third Saturday of September, the world comes together to celebrate International Red Panda Day, dedicated to raising awareness about the plight of these loveable creatures. This year, on September 16, we once again unite in our efforts to protect the red panda, which stands at the brink of natural abundance. Launched in 2010 by the Red Panda Network, this annual observation has grown in importance over the years, especially as we face the problems posed by global warming and climate change. International Red Panda Day made its debut in September 2010, with the aim of highlighting the critical conservation needs of the red panda. These fascinating animals are native to the eastern Himalayas, which span areas of China, Nepal, and Bhutan. Unfortunately, they face imminent danger mainly due to human activities. Poaching has become another serious threat. Red panda fur is illegally trafficked to produce hats and clothing, reducing their population. To address these concerns, several countries, including India, Bhutan, China, Nepal, and Myanmar, have taken measures to legally protect the red panda. However, enforcement remains weak in many areas, contributing to the decline of the species. The Himalayan region, where red pandas primarily reside, faces challenges in maintaining law and

order, allowing poaching to persist. Complicating the issue, the Nepalese government lacks adequate funding for research and conservation efforts, leaving these animals in a precarious situation. This dire situation has led the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) to classify the red panda as 'endangered', emphasizing the urgent need for action.

## 7. Director of Dhanlaxmi Bank resigns from board membership.



Dhanlaxmi Bank Director Sridhar Kalyanasundaram has resigned, making several serious allegations against the board. He has accused the board of unethical conduct, one-sided arrogance of power, lack of understanding of the issues and factionalism. Let us tell you that Kalyanasundaram has taken this resignation before the Annual General Meeting of the bank which was to be held on September 30. Director Sridhar Kalyanasundaram, in his resignation letter, has accused the bank and said that there is a lot of internal dispute in the board. In his resignation letter, Kalyanasundaram has raised issues like factionalism in the board, their differences on the issue of rights and the alleged 'lack of in-depth banking knowledge' among other members. The former independent director also raised "lack of honesty and consensus" on various whistleblower issues as the reason for resignation. He said that he was dismissed despite the board receiving many complaints. This comes after RP Group chief Raveendran Pillai, who holds 9.99 per cent stake in the bank (the largest shareholder), issued a special notice to remove Kalyanasundaram. A resolution in this regard will be passed in the 96th Annual General Meeting (AGM) to be held on September 30. The bank had previously received complaints from other 'whistle-blowers', but Kalyanasundaram said the bank had ignored them all,

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calling them "a habit of this bank over time". The director also alleged that the bank is using the one-time settlement scheme without having any meaningful impact on its non-performing assets. The NPA ratio at the end of June was 5.2%. Now it will be interesting to see how RBI will address the alleged lack of governance in the bank.

## 8. India won Asia Cup for the 8th time, defeated Sri Lanka by 10 wickets



In the final match of Asia Cup 2023, India defeated Sri Lanka by 10 wickets. India has won this title for the 8th time. Sri Lanka had scored 50 runs while batting first. Sri Lanka won the toss and batted first in the title match played at R Premadasa Stadium in Colombo. However, the Indian bowlers wreaked havoc. In front of the stormy bowling of Mohammed Siraj, Hardik Pandya and Jasprit Bumrah, the Sri Lankan innings was reduced to 50 runs in 15.2 overs. Siraj took six wickets, while Hardik got three wickets. Bumrah took one wicket. In reply, India won the match in just 37 balls. Team India won the final by 10 wickets. Shubman Gill remained unbeaten on 27 runs in 19 balls and Ishan Kishan remained unbeaten on 23 runs in 18 balls. Shubman hit six fours and Ishaan hit three fours in his innings. India has defeated Sri Lanka by 10 wickets in the final of Asia Cup. Team India won this title for the eighth time. Earlier, India had won the title in 1984, 1988, 1990–91, 1995, 2010, 2016 and 2018. India has won this tournament seven times in ODIs and once in T20, while the Sri Lankan team has won this title six times. Sri Lanka has won the title five times in ODI and once in T20. Pakistan team has become champion twice. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has congratulated Team India on winning the Asia Cup title.

## QUIZ

### 1. When was World Bamboo Day celebrated recently?

- (a) 17 September
- (b) 18 September
- (c) 16 September
- (d) 14 September

World Bamboo Day, observed annually on 18 September, is a global initiative that highlights the incredible importance of bamboo. This remarkable plant, often referred to as "green gold", holds immense potential in sustainable development, poverty alleviation, environmental protection and cultural preservation. World Bamboo Day serves as a platform to raise awareness about the myriad benefits of bamboo and its role in addressing global challenges. Bamboo, a fast-growing type of grass, is renowned for its exceptional properties, including strength, flexibility and eco-friendliness. The day celebrates the incredible versatility and sustainability of bamboo as a valuable resource.

### 2. What name has Prime Minister Narendra Modi suggested for the old Parliament House?

- (a) Constitution Building
- (b) Constituent House
- (c) Rashtra Gaurav Sadan
- (d) Gandhi Bhawan

Prime Minister Narendra Modi gave his last speech in the Central Hall of the old Parliament House before going to the new Parliament House. On this occasion, he suggested the name 'Samvidhan Sadan' for the old Parliament House. The Old Parliament House was designed by British architects Sir Edwin Lutyens and Herbert Baker. It is noteworthy that India's new Parliament building was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 28 May.

### 3. Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency has signed an agreement with which bank for financing projects?

- (a) Bank of Maharashtra
- (b) State Bank of India
- (c) Punjab National Bank
- (d) Union Bank of India

Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Bank of Maharashtra. It aims to promote co-lending and loan syndication for a diverse spectrum

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of renewable energy projects across the country. Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency is a Mini Ratna Company under the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.

**4. With whom has Khadi and Village Industries Commission signed an agreement to promote Khadi products?**

- (a) Policy Commission
- (b) Prasar Bharati
- (c) Reliance Foundation
- (d) none of these

Khadi and Village Industries Commission has signed three MoUs to promote Khadi products. These include Prasar Bharti, NBCC (India) Limited and Digital India Corporation. According to the MoU signed with Prasar Bharati, soon the anchors of DD News and DD International channels will be seen in Khadi clothes. On this occasion, Khadi and Village Industries Commission Chairman Manoj Kumar also launched a dashboard and ATR portal.

**5. When is International Red Panda Day celebrated every year?**

- (a) 18 September
- (b) 19 September
- (c) On the second Saturday of September
- (d) on the third Saturday of September

Every year on the third Saturday of September, International Red Panda Day is celebrated across the world. This day is celebrated with the aim of making people aware about the conservation and protection of Red Panda. This year it was celebrated on 16 September (third Saturday of September). We will have to make united efforts to protect the Red Panda species which is once again on the verge of extinction. Celebrating this day was started in the year 2010.

**6. Who unveiled the e-book titled 'People's G-20' on India's G-20 chairmanship?**

- (a) Amit Shah
- (b) S Jaishankar
- (c) Apoorva Chandra
- (d) Anurag Thakur

Apoorva Chandra, Secretary in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, unveiled an e-book titled 'People's G20' on India's chairmanship of the G-

20 in New Delhi. This book is based on India's G-20 presidency. This book has three parts, the first part is related to the G-20 summit held during 9-10 September 2023 in New Delhi. It is noteworthy that the next G-20 summit will be held in 2024 under the chairmanship of Brazil.

**7. 'Hoysala group of sacred temples has been included in the UNESCO World Heritage Site list, in which state is it located?**

- (a) Karnataka
- (b) Tamil Nadu
- (c) Kerala
- (d) Bihar

Hoysala temples of Belur, Halebid and Somnathpura, 'Hoysala group of sacred temples' located in Karnataka, have been included in the UNESCO World Heritage List. Recently, Shantiniketan of West Bengal was included in this list. With this the number of UNESCO World Heritage Sites in India has increased to 42. The Hoysala temples were built in the 12th-13th century, which was the capital of the Hoysala dynasty, considered patron of arts and literature.

**8. Who has been appointed as the new Deputy Inspector General of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)?**

- (a) Kuldeep Dwivedi
- (b) Aman Sinha
- (c) Vijay Kohli
- (d) Angad Mishra

Senior IPS officer Kuldeep Dwivedi has been appointed Deputy Inspector General (DIG) in the Central Bureau of Investigation. The appointment of Kuldeep Dwivedi has been mentioned in an order issued by the Personnel Ministry. He is currently working as DIG in Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP). According to the order of the Ministry of Personnel, approval has been given to remove Kuldeep from the post of DIG of ITBP and transfer him to the post of DIG in CBI.

## ONE LINER

When has World Bamboo Day been celebrated recently – **18 September**

Who has been appointed as the new Deputy Inspector General of Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)- **Kuldeep Dwivedi**

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What name has Prime Minister Narendra Modi suggested for the old Parliament House – **Sanvidhan Sadan**

Kiss director Sridhar Kalyanasundaram has resigned, making several serious allegations against the board. - **Dhanlaxmi Bank**

Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency has signed an agreement with which bank for financing projects- **Bank of Maharashtra**

Who unveiled the e-book titled 'People's G-20' on India's G-20 chairmanship- **Apoorva Chandra**

Who presented the one - time Sangeet Natak Akademi Amrit Award to 84 artistes from various fields of performing arts – **Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar**

With whom has Khadi and Village Industries Commission signed an agreement to promote Khadi products- **Prasar Bharati**

When will the second edition of Indian Navy's Naval Innovation and Indigenization Seminar be organized - **04-05 October 2023**

India has recently expelled the diplomat of which country – **Canada**

When is International Red Panda Day celebrated every year – **on the third Saturday of September**

'The sacred temple group of Hoysala has been included in the list of UNESCO World Heritage Site, in which state is it - **Karnataka.**

