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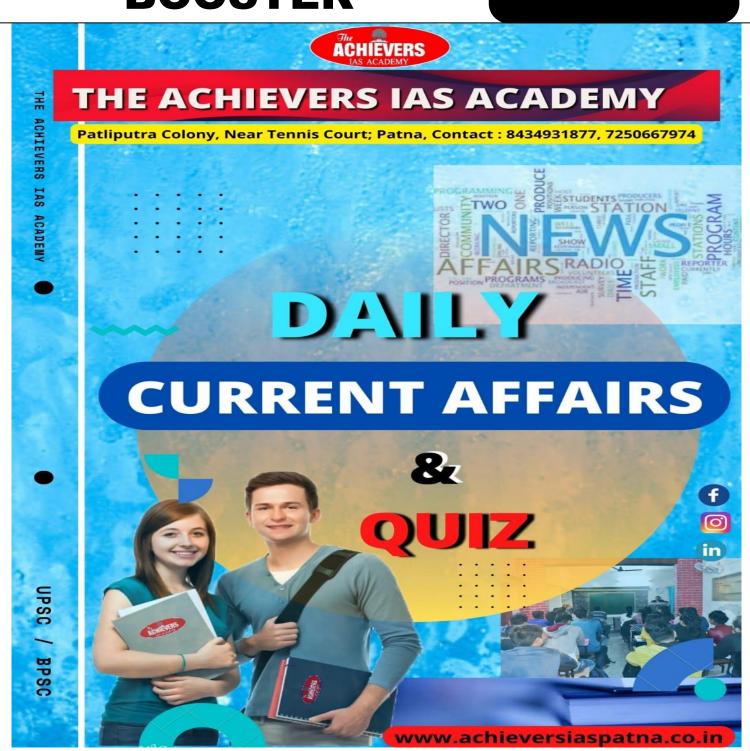
ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

LANGUAGE - ENGLISH

CURRENT AFFAIR BOOSTER

23 - 09 - 2023

Saturday



1. Indonesia launches ASEAN joint military exercise amid tensions in South China Sea



Units from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries began their inaugural joint military exercise in the Natuna Sea south of Indonesia. These exercises are taking place at a time when geopolitical tensions between major global powers are rising and concerns are rising over China's activities in the South China Sea. The five-day military operation taking place in the South Natuna Sea mainly focuses on enhancing military skills. These skills include areas such as maritime security, patrolling, and delivery of humanitarian aid and disaster relief. According to the Indonesian military, the exercise aims to promote regional stability and cooperation among ASEAN members. All ten ASEAN member states, including prospective member East Timor, are participating in these joint military exercises. The decision to conduct this collaborative exercise underlines the commitment of ASEAN countries to maintain regional stability and enhance our collective security. It also sends a strong signal of unity among member states in the face of rising geopolitical tensions. Indonesia's military chief of staff, Udo Margono, clarified that these exercises are non-combat operations, highlighting ASEAN's primary focus on economic cooperation rather than military confrontation. The exercises are structured to emphasize the social and humanitarian aspects of military cooperation, intending to boost regional resilience and readiness in times of crisis.

2. 3 Idiots actor Akhil Mishra passes away



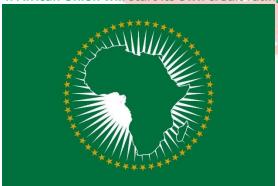
Actor Akhil Mishra, who became famous by playing the role of Librarian Dubey in Aamir Khan's film 3 Idiots, has sadly passed away. Akhil had worked in many TV shows and films. Akhil Mishra's career was marked by versatility and ability to play character roles skillfully. Akhil Mishra played the role of librarian Dubey in 3 Idiots and had some comedy scenes in the film. He had done shows like Bhanwar, Uttaran, Udaan, CID, Shriman Shrimati, Bharat Ek Khoj, Rajini. The actor had worked in the films Don Abba, Hazaaron Khwaishein Aisi, 3 Idiots. Akhil worked in the industry for years but he got recognition from the role of Librarian Dubey in 3 Idiots. He was also liked a lot in the role of Umed Singh Budela in the serial Uttaran. Akhil's wife Suzanne Burnett is also an actress by profession. Akhil's first wife was Manju Mishra. After marriage in 1983, both of them got divorced in 1997. Husband and wife also did projects together. He shared the stage in the film Karma, TV show 'Mera Dil Deewana', short film 'Majnu Ki Juliet'. Sussanne works in films and shows in many languages. She has appeared in the serials Kasauti Zindagi Ki, Savdhaan India, Ek Hazaaron Mein Meri Behna Hai, Chakraborty Ashok Samrat, Yeh Rishta Kya Kehlata Hai. Sussanne has played the role of Congress leader Sonia Gandhi many times on screen.

3. Mysterious rare disease spreading from dogs to humans in Britain



These days, a virus is gradually becoming active in Britain, which till now was limited only to dogs. There has been a stir among people after three cases of dogrelated bacterial infection called Brucella canis have been reported in the UK. Britain's health department is also worried due to cases of bacterial infection in humans. This disease usually causes pain, lameness and infertility in dogs. It is generally seen that this disease is incurable in dogs and it also poses a threat to their life. At the same time, despite the spread of this disease among humans, its effect has been seen to be quite mild. It was reported that as a result people may suffer from meningitis and septicemia. In another case of infection, the victim used to work at a veterinarian. He had no symptoms and through routine testing, his infection with the virus was identified. Since the summer of 2020, the number of cases of Brucella canis infection in dogs has been increasing. It was told that most of these cases are related to dogs imported to Britain from Eastern Europe. In the case of dogs, Brucella canis is not curable, and government guidelines recommend euthanasia as the necessary course of action. Even after antimicrobial treatment, infected dogs are considered life-long carriers, posing a threat to other dogs and humans.

4. African Union will start its own credit rating agency



The African Union is set to launch its own credit rating agency in the coming year, in what it sees as a direct response to concerns about biased credit assessments given to African countries. The move aims to provide a more balanced assessment of the debt risks associated with African countries and promote investment in the continent. The African Credit Rating Agency will operate primarily within the African continent and be financially self-reliant. According to the African Union, its main objective is to provide a complementary perspective for

investors when making decisions about African bonds or private loans to African countries. The African Union, along with the leaders of its member states, has long been critical of the "big three" credit rating agencies -Moody's, Fitch and S&P Global Ratings – for what they see as unfair assessments of the debt risks associated with African countries. Let's see. He argues that these agencies are often too quick to downgrade African countries, especially during crises such as global health pandemics. A study conducted by the United Nations before this initiative showed that subjective biases in credit ratings cost African countries a total of \$74.5 billion. This significant financial loss resulted from missed funding opportunities and the payment of additional interest on the public debt. Credit ratings fundamentally assess a borrower's likelihood of defaulting on his obligations and significantly influence the terms under which banks and other financial institutions provide loans. Despite the growing criticism, Moody's, Fitch and S&P Global Ratings have maintained their stance, saying that their rating methods remain consistent and fair around the world.

5. Three-day festival 'Nadi Utsav ' started in Delhi from 22 to 24 September.



The fourth 'Nadi Utsav' will be organized on the banks of Yamuna river in Delhi from 22 to 24 September. The river festival will be organized by Indira Gandhi National Center for the Arts (IGNCA). IGNCA, functioning under the Ministry of Culture, has been organizing 'Nadi Utsav' for the last few years. Indira Gandhi National Center for the Arts (IGNCA), an institution dedicated to promoting art and culture under the Ministry of Culture, has been organizing 'Nadi Utsav' ' has been the driving force behind. This noble initiative was conceived by Dr. Sachchidanand Joshi to raise awareness and sensitize people about the ecological and environmental

importance of rivers. 'Nadi Utsav' is an effort to document the river culture, its traditions, rituals and water knowledge. This national seminar will have five academic sessions in which senior scholars will participate in round table conferences. This event is an initiative to remember the connection with rivers. A book fair will also be organized during the three-day event, in which various publishing houses will bring their books related to rivers and environment. There are also plans to award awards to five of the 18 documentaries to be shown in the programme. Filmmakers from almost all the states of India had sent films for the Documentary Film Festival, out of which 12 were selected for screening. They were selected by a five-member jury. These include films from North-East India, South India, Kashmir, Uttarakhand, Rajasthan etc. A discussion session will also be organized after every film, in which the film's director will also participate.

6. Chacha Chaudhary and Sabu: A unique step to educate and encourage young voters



The Election Commission has included the comic book 'Chacha Chaudhary and Election Dangal' in its campaign to sensitize voters, especially young voters, and motivate them to participate in the voting process. In view of the immense popularity of Chacha Choudhary comics, a unique initiative a comic book titled 'Chacha Choudhary and Election Dangal' was released by Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Rajeev Kumar and Election Commissioners Anup Chandra Pandey and Arun Goyal at Nirvachan Sadan. Rajiv Kumar said that the comic will help children visualize the election process and it will also help the older generation relive their earlier days. The comic book is a joint initiative of ECI and Pran Comics designed to motivate the youth to enroll themselves and participate in the festival of democracy.

It features the iconic cartoon characters Chacha Chaudhary, Sabu, Billu presented by renowned cartoonist late Pran Kumar Sharma. The Commission said that this is a joint initiative of the Election Commission of India and Pran Comics. The Chief Election Commissioner said that even in this age of digital media, comics as an outreach medium are relevant and unique. These comic characters, with their universal appeal and emphasis on values like honesty, kindness and compassion, provide an engaging platform to creatively convey election-related information.

7. Volvo will stop production of diesel cars by 2024, will become a fully electric car manufacturer



Volvo Cars, a leading name in the automotive industry, has made an unprecedented announcement. The Swedish carmaker has announced its intention to stop producing diesel-powered vehicles by the beginning of 2024, a significant step towards its goal of becoming an all-electric carmaker. The decision is in line with Volvo's commitment to transition entirely to electric vehicles by 2030. Volvo's bold move to discontinue diesel vehicle production is a proactive response to the evolving landscape of the automotive industry. According to the company's official statement, the last diesel-powered Volvo car will roll off the assembly line in a few months. This decisive action positions Volvo as one of the leaders in the automotive world, Which is one of the first legacy carmakers to completely eliminate diesel from its lineup. Volvo's decision to phase out diesel is part of a broader approach that aims to transform the company into a fully electric carmaker. This vision includes an ambitious goal of making all Volvo cars electric by the end of this decade, specifically 2030. By taking this bold step, Volvo is sending a clear message about its commitment to sustainability, environmental responsibility and being at the forefront.

8. ICC Player of the Month winner August



The International Cricket Council (ICC) has revealed the latest set of international stars to be named ICC Player of the Month for August 2023. Ireland's Arlene Kelly and Pakistan captain Babar Azam have been honored as the International Cricket Council (ICC) players of the month for August 2023. Pakistan captain Babar Azam has become the first player to win the ICC Men's Player of the Month award in August. Pakistan captain Babar Azam won the ICC Men's Player of the Month award for August 2023 for his exceptional performances in the ODI matches against Afghanistan and Nepal. Babar won the honor for the third time in his career as the world No. 1 batsman continued his dominance in the 50-over format of the game. Overall, Babar averaged 66 and scored 92 in the month. Scored 264 runs at a strike rate of 30. Ireland's Arlene Kelly was named Women's Player of the Month for her impressive bowling in the T20 International win against the Netherlands. Kelly defeated Netherlands' young player Iris Zwilling and Malaysian all-rounder Anna Hamijah Hashim to win the prestigious monthly award. The right-arm fast bowler performed brilliantly during Ireland's three-match T20 series against the Netherlands, taking 10 wickets at an average of just 4.30, helping her team clean sweep the series 3-0.

OUIZ

1. Where has the rare metal vanadium been found recently?

A-Chhattisgarh

B-Guiarat

C- Kerala

D-Rajasthan

Extremely rare vanadium, used as an important raw material in many industries, has been found in Gujarat. It has been found in sediment samples collected from the Gulf of Khambhat, which opens into the Arabian Sea near Alang in Gujarat. The special thing is that this precious mineral is used to strengthen steel and make batteries. It is extremely rare in India. Rarely found naturally in its pure form, vanadium exists in over 55 different minerals, making it extremely expensive to produce. In the Gulf of Khambhat it has been found in a mineral called titanomagnetite, which is formed when molten lava cools rapidly. GSI scientists said the vanadiferous titanomagnetite in the Gulf of Khambhat probably originates from Deccan basalt, mainly from the Narmada and Tapi rivers. Scientists had collected 69 samples from sediments in the Gulf of Khambhat.

2. Where will Prime Minister Modi lay the foundation stone of Lord Shiva themed stadium?

A- Varanasi

B- Ayodhya

C- New Delhi

D-Gujarat

India is going to get another international cricket stadium which will be built in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh. The stadium will be based on Lord Shiva theme. The latest render of the cricket stadium has surfaced on social media, which shows that the dome of the stadium will be in the shape of Lord Shiva's 'Damru'. The flood lights of the stadium will be in the shape of Lord Shiva's trident while the design of the entrance gate will be like Bilva Patra. The roof of the stadium will be made in the shape of a crescent moon. The stands inside the stadium will have seating arrangements inspired by the Ganga Ghats. PM Modi will also participate in the bhoomi pujan of the stadium, which will be built in the Ganjri area of the holy city.

3. Recently, the government of which country has declared emergency in 544 districts?

A- Russia

B-Ukraine

C-Peru

D-none

The government of the South American country Peru declared a state of emergency for 60 days in 544 districts in view of the 'imminent danger ' of water shortage arising from the possible arrival of El Nino (cyclical climate) between 2023-24., "This will allow

the execution of immediate and necessary emergency measures and actions to reduce the existing extremely high risk. " With technical coordination of the National Civil Defense Institute (Indesse) and other state institutions, regional and local governments will adopt relevant measures, which will be 'modified as required'

4. Which state government has banned hookah tobacco products for people below 21 years of age?

A-Karnataka

B- Haryana

C-Maharashtra

D-Gujarat

Karnataka government has started an exercise to save young people from tobacco. Preparations are being made to make the rules more stringent. It has been seen that in today's time many youth are falling prey to it. People of 14-15 years of age are also seen smoking cigarettes heavily. Beedi is also used extensively. In such a situation, the government is working on tightening the rules to keep these people away from tobacco. Apart from schools, now these products will not be sold near hospitals and temples also. 21 years of age will also be required to sell these substances.

5. Recently which state government has declared June 29 as 'Businessman Welfare Day '?

A-Gujarat

B-Uttar Pradesh

C- Madhya Pradesh

D- Haryana

To remember the sacrifice of 'Danveer Bhamashah' who rejected the slavery of the Mughals, the Yogi government is preparing to celebrate Bhamashah Jayanti on June 29 with great pomp in the entire Uttar Pradesh as Traders Welfare Day. "The culture department has prepared a detailed action plan and started raising awareness about the importance of the event among the people." The government is also preparing to honor businessmen and industrialists of Uttar Pradesh on this occasion. This year, demands and suggestions were presented to Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath regarding celebrating Bhamashah Jayanti in the state, which CM Yogi happily accepted and now

an action plan is ready to celebrate this event on a grand scale.

6. Which state government has launched the Mukhyamantri Atma Nirbhar Abhiyan?

A-Chhattisgarh

B- Madhya Pradesh

C-Assam

D-Odissa

The Government of Assam is all set to usher in a new era of empowerment and self-reliance for its youth with the launch of "Mukhyamantri Atmanirbhar Assam Abhiyaan". This ambitious scheme aims to provide financial assistance of Rs 2 lakh to two lakh eligible young individuals, paving the way for a brighter and more self-reliant future for the youth of the state. "Chief Minister Self-reliant Assam Campaign" is a testament to the commitment of the Government of Assam to empower its youth. By providing financial assistance to two lakh young individuals, the scheme intends to enable them to pursue their dreams and aspirations, thereby reducing unemployment and promoting self-reliance among the youth of the state.

7. Who will host the International Congress on Cement Chemicals in 2027?

A- India

B- Germany

C- Sri Lanka

D-none

International Congress on Chemistry of Cement (ICCC) will be organized in India in 2027. India's leading research and educational institution, National Council of Cement and Building Materials, in collaboration with IIT Delhi, presented India's claim to host the conference during the ongoing 16th ICCC in Bangkok to the Steering Committee members and received the necessary support. Apart from India, Switzerland and United Arab Emirates (UAE) had also submitted their claim to host the conference. The International Congress on Chemistry of Cement is the largest and prestigious event of its kind, which reviews the research progress in the field of cement and concrete.

8. Recently, which car company has decided to stop the production of diesel cars by 2024?

A- Audi

B- Ford C-BMW

D-Volvo

Volvo Cars, a leading name in the automotive industry, has made an unprecedented announcement. The Swedish carmaker has announced its intention to stop producing diesel-powered vehicles by the beginning of 2024, a significant step towards its goal of becoming an all-electric carmaker. The decision is in line with Volvo's commitment to transition entirely to electric vehicles by 2030. Volvo's bold move to discontinue diesel vehicle production is a proactive response to the evolving landscape of the automotive industry.

ONE LINER

When is International Peace Day celebrated every year – 21 September

Recently ICMR has approved the ToNat test for detection of Nipah virus - Kerala.

Pramila Malik has been nominated as the first woman speaker of which state assembly - Odisha

Recently, India Ratings has estimated India's growth rate to be what percent in the financial year 2024 - 6.2%.

Which state government has recently issued orders for the implementation of 'Adopt a School ' scheme -Maharashtra

Where NHAI has signed agreement to develop MMLP - Bengaluru

Which minister has recently launched the 'PM Vishwakarma ' scheme for traditional artisans and craftsmen on the occasion of Vishwakarma Jayanti - Narendra Modi

Who has been chosen by the Board of Control for Cricket in India as the official partner for the domestic and international seasons – SBI Life

In which state has 'Nuakhai Juhar Festival ' been celebrated recently - Odisha

Which country has started ASEAN joint military exercise in China Sea – Indonesia

Recently, Thierry Matho has taken charge as the ambassador of which country to India – France

Which state government has recently declared June 29 as 'Businessman Welfare Day ' - Uttar Pradesh

