

UPSC / BPSC

# ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

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# CURRENT AFFAIR BOOSTER

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### **THE ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY**

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DALL

ACHIEVERS

# **CURRENT AFFAIRS**

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### **1. DAC officially approves indigenous Dhruvastra** missile



The Defense Acquisition Council (DAC) has granted Approval of Requirement (AoN) for nine capital acquisition proposals worth approximately Rs 45,000 crore. For this, a DAC meeting was held on September 15, 2023 under the chairmanship of Defense Minister Shri Rajnath Singh. All these purchases will be made under the Buy (Indian) category (Indian-Indigenously Designed, Developed and Manufactured - IDMM) from Indian vendors which will provide a substantial boost to the Indian defense industry towards achieving the goal of 'Atmanirbhar Bharat'. To enhance protection, mobility, attack capability and increased survivability of modern mechanized forces, DAC approved AON for procurement of Light Armored Multi-role Vehicles (LAMVs) and Integrated Surveillance and Targeting Systems (ISAT-S). The DAC also approved the AON for procurement of High Mobility Vehicle (HMV) gun towing vehicles for rapid deployment and deployment of artillery guns and radars. The DAC also approved the procurement of next generation survey ships for the Indian Navy, which will significantly enhance its capabilities in conducting hydrographic operations. DAC also approved AON for Indian Air Force proposals, including avionic upgradation of Dornier aircraft to improve accuracy and reliability for operations. Dhruvastra short range air-to-surface missile as a powerful indigenous precision guided weapon for indigenously developed ALH Mk-IV helicopters, DAC has approved the purchase. AON granted for procurement of 12 Su-30 MKI aircraft with associated equipment from Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).

**2.** India created history, became number-1 in all three formats of ICC



With the 5-wicket victory in the first ODI against Australia, the Indian team has achieved its dominance in world cricket. Indian team has now become the number one team in Test, ODI and T-20. In the history of world cricket, the Indian team has become only the second team to do such a feat. Before this, only South Africa had achieved such a feat. Let us tell you that in recent times, India has shown amazing performance in all three formats, due to which Team India was successful in reaching the first position in ICC rankings in all three formats. Apart from the number one ranking in ODI, the Indian team is at the number one position in Tests with 118 rating points and in the T20 format, India has 264 rating points. Whereas, if we talk about the first ODI against Australia, Australia batted first and scored 276 runs in 50 overs. After which the Indian team achieved the target in the 49th over after losing 5 wickets. For India, Mohammed Shami took 5 wickets in bowling, while on the other hand, Surya played an inning of 50 runs in batting, while KL Rahul remained unbeaten after scoring 58 runs. Shami was awarded the title of Player of the Match for his excellent bowling. Now the Indian team is ahead of Australia by 1-0 in the 3-match ODI series.





In the 19th Asian Games going on in Hangzhou, China, Indian players performed brilliantly and won three silver and two bronze medals. In the rowing event, the Indian

men's lightweight double sculls team of Olympians Arjun Lal Jat and Arvind Singh and the men's cox 8 team won silver medals. The Indian men's coxless pair of Babu Lal Yadav and Lekh Ram also won the bronze medal, taking India's medal tally in rowing at the Asian Games to three. The Xi'i Games 2023 are still going on, the last day of competition is October 8, 2023. Therefore there may be changes in the medal tally. The Asian Games is a major international multi-sport event held every four years to promote sports and friendship among Asian countries. Athletes from across Asia competed in athletics, aquatics, archery, badminton, baseball, basketball, boxing, canoeing, cycling, horse riding, fencing, football, golf, gymnastics, handball, hockey, Compete in a variety of sports including judo, kabaddi, karate, modern pentathlon, rowing, rugby sevens, sailing, shooting, softball, squash, table tennis, taekwondo, tennis, triathlon, volleyball, weightlifting, wrestling and wushu. The Asian Games is the world's second largest multi-sport event after the Olympic Games. The 2023 Asian Games are the first Asian Games to be held in China since the 2010 Asian Games in Guangzhou.

4. Meeting of foreign ministers of Quad countries on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly



Foreign ministers of Quad group countries India, Australia, Japan and America met on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly session in New York. The meeting was attended by External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken, Australian Foreign Minister Penny Wong and Japanese Foreign Minister Yoko Kamikawa. External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar met Japan's Foreign Minister Yoko Kamikawa during the United Nations General Assembly session in New York. The Quad reiterates its firm commitment to a free and open Indo-Pacific that is inclusive and resilient, the Quad foreign ministers said in a joint statement. We the Quad leaders recommit to carrying forward the vision expressed in Hiroshima on 20 May 2023. Regarding the Indo-Pacific region, the statement said, it is peaceful and prosperous, stable and secure, free from threats and coercion. The statement We strongly support the said, principles of independence, rule of law, sovereignty and territorial integrity, and peaceful resolution of disputes; And oppose unilateral efforts to change the status quo. We seek to maintain and strengthen stability in the Indo-Pacific region, where competition is managed responsibly. The Quad leaders also expressed deep concern over the war in Ukraine and lamented its terrible and tragic humanitarian consequences. He underlined the need for a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in Ukraine. The joint statement expressed concern about the global food security situation.

5. Apple will increase production in India 5 times to US\$ 40 billion in 5 years



iPhone maker Apple plans to increase production in India by more than five times to about USD 40 billion (about Rs 3.32 lakh crore) in the next 4-5 years. Apple makes iPhones in India and plans to start manufacturing Airpods from next year. They have no plans to participate in the IT Hardware PLI. They may come in at a later stage but right now their focus is on increasing the current production levels. Apple is also planning to make AirPods in India from next year. Currently, the company is manufacturing iPhone 15 and iPhone 15 Plus in India. The new series is being produced at Apple's plant near Chennai. In the financial year ending September 25, 2022, the company sold iPhones and wearables worth \$191 billion globally while the home

and accessories segment sold \$38. The company sold products worth \$36 billion. Apple has reported a nearly 4 percent decline in iPhone sales to \$156.77 billion in the first nine months of the current fiscal year while the wearables, home and accessories segment witnessed a marginal decline to \$30.52 billion. Apple has become India's number one company in terms of smartphone exports. Leaving the Korean company behind, Apple shipped 49% of the total smartphone exports in the June 2023 guarter while Samsung was at 45%. Between April and June, India sent a total of 12 million smartphones abroad, which is less than the previous quarter, but Apple has won this time. The reason for this achievement of the company is the promotion given to local manufacturing. Recently, news was also revealed that on the day of launch on Friday, there has been a 100 percent increase in the sales of Apple's iPhone 15 series as compared to the iPhone 14 series.

6. Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya National Welfare Fund for Sportspersons (PDUNWFS)



Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports felicitated the players under the Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay National Sports Welfare Fund (PDUNWFS) in New Delhi. It was established in March 1982 with the aim of helping players who play well but are from poor and needy families. To provide financial assistance to outstanding sportspersons, coaches and their family members living in poor conditions for various purposes such as improvement of condition, medical treatment, treatment of injuries, purchase of sports equipment and participation in national and international sports events, etc.

Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS): It was launched in 2014 under the aegis of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (MYAS), Government of India, as a professional setup to provide holistic support to all athletes. The scheme provides athletes with personal coaching support from the best global trainers, international training sessions, visa facilitation assistance as well as top-level research support to track opponent's performance.

Khelo India Programme: It is one of the most important schemes of the Government of India for sports which aims to identify and nurture talent at the grassroots level. The scheme seeks to provide financial assistance and infrastructure support to selected athletes to help them develop their skills and achieve their potential in their chosen sport.

National Sports Talent Search Scheme: It is a scheme that aims to identify and nurture sports talent in the country. The scheme provides financial assistance and infrastructure support to selected athletes to help them develop their skills and achieve their potential in their chosen sport.

### 7. Booker Prize 2023: Writer Chetna Maru's first novel 'Western Lane '



The jury of the Booker Prize 2023 has unveiled the final list of six novels, carefully curated from the "Booker Dozen" longlist of 13 titles. These novels were selected from a pool of 163 books, which were published between October of the previous year and September of the current year. The award is to be announced on November 26. London-based Indian-origin writer Chetna Maru's first novel 'Western Lane' has been shortlisted for the prestigious Booker Prize. The novel tells the touching story of an 11-year-old British Gujarati girl named Gopi and her deep relationship with her family. At its core, 'Western Lane' explores the challenges faced by an immigrant father attempting to raise his family as a single parent. What sets this novel apart is its unique use of the game of squash as a metaphor for complex human emotions, a choice

celebrated by the Booker judges.'Prophet Song' by Paul Lynch (Ireland)Lynch's novel is a Promises a literary journey that will surely charm readers with its Irish charm and storytelling finesse. The Booker Prize is open to works of fiction written in English by authors anywhere in the world, as long as the books are published in the UK or Ireland. The diversity in this year's shortlist is remarkable, including writers of Indian, Jamaican, Canadian and Irish origin, as well as acclaimed writers who have achieved recognition in various literary circles. The Booker Prize is a platform that celebrates extraordinary talents and the vastly diverse styles of writers, attracting readers from all walks of life.

### 8. NMC of India awarded 10 years recognition by WFME



The National Medical Commission (NMC) of India has achieved a remarkable milestone by receiving the prestigious 10-year accreditation status from the World Federation for Medical Education (WFME). This recognition marks a significant achievement for NMC and the medical education sector of India, highlighting their commitment to maintaining the highest standards of medical education and accreditation. WFME accreditation is testament to the fact that Indian medical colleges have successfully met international standards in medical education. This recognition not only reflects positively on the quality of medical education in India, But it also aligns it with global benchmarks. This alignment has the potential to enhance the credibility and reputation of Indian medical institutions on the world stage. One of the most notable benefits of this accreditation is that it provides increased access to Indian medical graduates seeking postgraduate training and medical practice abroad. Many countries, including the United States, Canada, Australia and New Zealand, require WFME accreditation for foreign medical qualifications. As a result, Indian medical professionals can now more easily explore international opportunities while furthering their careers and experiences. With WFME accreditation, Indian medical colleges are ready to engage in academic collaboration and exchanges with institutions across the world. This collaborative environment provides knowledge in medical education and health care, Promotes research and sharing of best practices. Such international collaboration plays a vital role in fostering innovation and improving healthcare globally.

#### QUIZ

- 1. When is World Pharmacist Day celebrated?
- (a) 24 September
- (b) 26 September
- (c) 27 September
- (d) 25 September

World Pharmacists Day, celebrated every year on 25 September, was celebrated for the first time in the year 2009. The demand to celebrate this day was made by the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) in a conference held in Istanbul in the year 2000. This day was recognized during the conference. However, for the first time, Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences were celebrated by FIP at the World Congress in Istanbul, Turkey in 2009. There is a special reason behind celebrating Pharmacist Dav on 25th September. The International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) was founded on this day in 1912. This federation promotes the role of pharmacists in improving health. It was decided to celebrate Pharmacists Day to commemorate the anniversary of the Federation.

2. In which city will the G20 University Connect Finale be organized?

- (a) Ahmedabad
- (b) New Delhi
- (c) Jaipur
- (d) Varanasi

PM Modi will also address students as well as Vice-Chancellors, Principals and faculty of various higher education institutions located in the National Capital Territory of Delhi during the final round of the

University Grants Commission (UGC)'s G20 University Connect Programme. This program will be organized by UGC at Bharat Mandapam located at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. Let us tell you that this is the same place where the global level G20 summit was organized just a few days ago.

### **3.** Which country's women's cricket team won the gold medal in the Asian Games **2023**?

- (a) Sri Lanka
- (b) Pakistan
- (c) China
- (d) India

In the 19th Asian Games, the Indian women's cricket team faced Sri Lanka in the final. By winning this match, Team India has won the gold medal for the first time. India had defeated Bangladesh by eight wickets in the first semi-final, while Sri Lanka had booked the ticket to the final by defeating defending champions Pakistan by six wickets in the second semi-final. Bangladesh team defeated Pakistan in the bronze medal match. In the gold medal match, Indian captain Harmanpreet Kaur won the toss and decided to bat first. In response to the target of 117 runs, the Sri Lankan team could score only 97 runs for eight wickets.

4. Which of the following sports has made an official return to the Asian Games after 13 years?

(a) Golf

- (b) Rugby
- (c) Chess

#### (d) Polo

Chess is returning to the Asian Games after 13 years. Rapid and standard chess matches will start in men's and women's categories in the 19th Asian Games in Hongchoan, China. Rapid competitions will be held for single medals and standard competitions for team championship. In chess, everyone's eyes will be on India's Rameshbabu Praggnananda, who was the of the Chess World Cup runner-up 2023. Praggnananda's brilliant performance in the Chess World Cup has boosted India's hopes in the Asian Games. In the men's team chess competition, Praggnananda has been paired with Gukesh D, Vidit Gujarati, Pantala Harikrishna and Arjun Erigaysi.

5. How many Vande Bharat trains was recently flagged off by Prime Minister Narendra Modi?

- (a) 07
- (b) 08
- (c) 09
- (d) 10

PM Narendra Modi has created history by flagging off nine Vande Bharat trains simultaneously. Prime Minister Narendra Modi flagged off nine Vande Bharat trains through video conferencing. With this, the total number of Vande Bharat trains in the country has now become 34. These 9 trains will boost connectivity in 11 states Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Odisha, Jharkhand, Gujarat, Karnataka, Bihar, West Bengal. The first Vande Bharat train in India was operated in 2019. 'Till now, people of different states and union territories of the country had got the facility of 25 Vande Bharat trains. Now nine more Vande Bharat Expresses have been added to it. The day is not far when Vande Bharat will connect every part of the country. It is unfortunate that earlier not much attention was paid to modernizing Indian Railways. But, our government is busy in rejuvenating the Indian Railways.

6. India's first green hydrogen fuel cell bus was launched in which state/UT?

- (a) Himachal Pradesh
- (b) Delhi
- (c) Jammu and Kashmir

#### (d) Assam

Union Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri flagged off the country's first green hydrogen fuel cell bus on the duty route in Delhi. The government is planning to run 15 more fuel cell buses in the Delhi NCR region. He said that hydrogen is considered the fuel of the future, which has immense potential to help India meet the decarbonization target and the global demand for hydrogen is expected to increase four to seven times to 500-800 million tonnes by 2050. Domestic demand is expected to increase four times from the current 6 million tonnes to 25-28 metric tonnes by 2050. PSUs under the Petroleum Ministry will be able to produce about 1 MMTPA of green hydrogen by 2030.

7. Recently, the Central Government has decided to hold the 76th Army Day parade to be held on 15

January in the year 2024 in which of the following cities?

### (a) Agra

- (b) Prayagraj
- (c) Lucknow

### (d) Kanpur

Continuing the trend of moving its annual parade out of the capital Delhi, the Army has decided to hold next year's Army Day parade in Lucknow, the capital of the country's largest state Uttar Pradesh. Lucknow-based Central Command of the Army will host this annual parade in January 2024. Traditionally, the Indian Army Day parade was held in Delhi, but this long-standing practice got its first change in January this year and the parade was organized in Bengaluru, the capital of Karnataka. According to military sources, taking an important decision to continue the process of taking the Army Day Parade out of the capital Delhi to other cities of the country, it has been decided to hold the parade on January 15, 2024 in Lucknow.

8. Who inaugurated the 'Bharat Drone Shakti-2023' show?

- (a) Rajnath Singh
- (b) Amit Shah
- (c) S Jaishankar
- (d) Anurag Thakur

Defense Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated the Bharat Drone Shakti-2023 exhibition at Hindon Air Base in Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh. This mega drone show is being hosted by the Indian Air Force and Drone Federation of India. On this occasion, the first C-295 MW transport aircraft was also inducted into the Indian Air Force. The Indian Air Force recently received its first C-295 aircraft, marking a significant milestone. The acquisition follows the Rs 21,935 crore deal between New Delhi and Airbus Defense and Space, which was signed two years ago. Airbus is responsible for delivering the initial 16 aircraft in 'fly-away' condition from its final assembly line in Seville , with completion expected by 2025.

### **ONE LINER**

"When is World Pharmacist Day celebrated - 25 September

Which country's women's cricket team won the gold medal in the Asian Games 2023 – India

In September 2023, who has climbed the world's 8th highest mountain peak - Sunil Kumar

Which of the following games has made an official comeback in the Asian Games after 13 years – Chess

Which country defeated Pakistan and won the bronze medal in women's cricket in the Asian Games 2023 - Bangladesh

In which sport did India win its first gold medal in the Asian Games 2023 - Shooting

How many Vande Bharat trains has been flagged off by Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently - 09

In which city will the G20 University Connect Finale be organized – New Delhi

Recently, the Central Government has decided to hold the 76th Army Day parade to be held on 15 January in the year 2024 in which of the following cities -Lucknow

Who has become the Indian to hit most sixes in an over against Australia - Suryakumar Yadav

Which transport aircraft was recently inducted into the Indian Air Force - C-295 MW aircraft

India's first green hydrogen fuel cell bus was launched in which state/union territory - Delhi

Who inaugurated the 'Bharat Drone Shakti-2023' show- Rajnath Singh

Recently Adani Group has got the contract to install smart meters in which state - Maharashtra

