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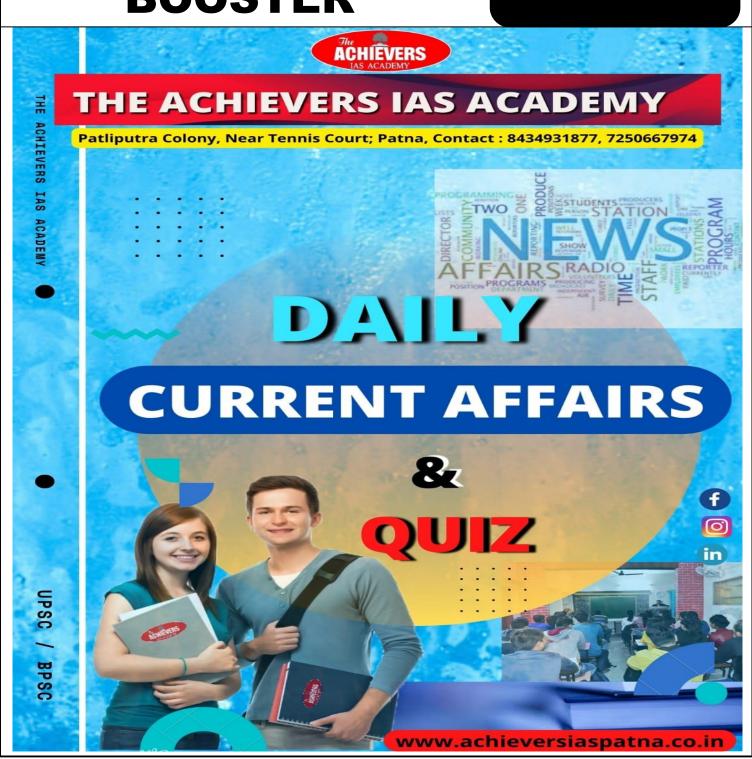
ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

LANGUAGE - ENGLISH

CURRENT AFFAIR BOOSTER

16 - 10 – 2023

Monday



1. Neeraj Chopra included in the elite list of Laureus Ambassadors



Reigning Olympic and world champion Neeraj Chopra of India was named Laureus Ambassador. Earlier, former cricketer Yuvraj Singh was honored with this honor in the year 2017. At the same time, now the 25-year-old javelin thrower has become the second Indian to be named Laureus Ambassador. Laureus is a global sportsbased charity that works to improve the lives of young people. The organization is popular for its Sport for Good initiative, Academy and Ambassador programs and World Sports Awards. Neeraj Chopra pledged his support to the Laureus Sport for Good initiative, which supports over 300 global programs to eliminate inequality and discrimination in society. Cricketers Kapil Dev, Rahul Dravid and Sachin Tendulkar are part of the World Sports Academy, which plays the key role of voting for the winners of the Laureus awards, chaired by former New Zealand rugby union captain Sean Fitzpatrick. Last year, Neeraj Chopra, the first Indian track and field athlete to win a gold medal at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics, was nominated for the Laureus World Breakthrough of the Year award for 2022, which was won by British tennis sensation Emma Raducanu. Neeraj Chopra was only the third Indian to be nominated for the Laureus Award after wrestler Vinesh Phogat and cricket legend Sachin Tendulkar.

2. India, China held 20th round of military talks



A day after the conclusion of two-day military talks between India and China, the External Affairs Ministry said the two countries had a frank and constructive exchange of views for a mutually acceptable resolution of the outstanding issues along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh. -be provided. He said that both sides agreed to maintain the momentum of dialogue and negotiations through relevant military and diplomatic channels. The first round of military talks between the two countries took place on 13 and 14 August. The 20th round of Corps Commander level talks were held near the Chushul-Moldo border on the Indian side of the LAC. The Ministry of External Affairs said that both sides exchanged views in a candid, frank and constructive manner for an early and mutually acceptable resolution of the outstanding issues along the LAC in the western sector. There has been a standoff between Indian and Chinese troops at some points in eastern Ladakh for more than three years, but both sides have withdrawn their troops from several locations after extensive diplomatic and military talks. Meanwhile, he also expressed his commitment to maintain peace on the ground in the border areas, the External Affairs Ministry said. The government calls eastern Ladakh as the western sector. This was the second such occasion when this conversation lasted for two days. To resolve matters between the two sides in the eastern Ladakh region after China tried to aggressively advance heavy weapons and large numbers of troops to change the status quo on the Line of Actual Control (LAC) during Corona in 2020. Corps Commander-level talks had started.

3. Government started 'Operation Ajay ' to evacuate Indians from Israel



evacuate Indians stranded in Israel. The first charter flight carrying 212 Indians from Israel's Tel Aviv airport reached India on Friday morning. The Ministry of External Affairs said that right now our priority is to bring back safely only those Indians who want to return. As requests for return continue to be received, flights will be scheduled accordingly. At present, charter planes are being used in this operation, but all options are open. The possibility of Indian Air Force's help if needed cannot be ruled out. Army's help has been taken in such situations earlier also. Foreign Minister S. Jaishankar reviewed the preparations for 'Operation Ajay' on Thursday. Foreign Ministry spokesperson said that about 18 thousand Indians are in Israel. They are appealed to register themselves with the Indian Embassy and heed the advisory. On the presence of Indian citizens in the Palestinian territories of West Bank and Gaza, the External Affairs Ministry spokesperson said that as per my knowledge, a few dozen people are in the West Bank, while 3-4 people are in Gaza. Right now we have received an appeal from Israel only to evacuate people. Till now there has been no news of death of any Indian from there. Some are injured and are in hospital. Operation Ajay (What is Operation Ajay) is a campaign launched to bring back Indian citizens from Israel, it is not a rescue operation. Special chartered flights have been deployed in this operation and navy ships can also be deployed if needed. In this campaign only those Indians who want to come back will be brought back. Not all Indians will be brought back in this. There are currently around 18,000 Indians living in Israel, including students, professionals and businessmen. Operation Ajay has been started for the return of Indian citizens who want to return from Israel.



RITES Limited, a premier Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) under the Ministry of Railways, has achieved the prestigious 'Navratna' status, becoming the 16th CPSE in India to achieve this distinction. RITES Limited is known for providing transportation infrastructure consultancy, railway inspection, rolling stock leasing and maintenance, and various related services. Attaining Navratna status acknowledges its contribution to the growth and development of the country. The Board of Directors of a CPSE with Navratna status gets the power to undertake mergers and acquisitions in India and abroad, thereby enhancing the growth prospects of RITES Limited. While they can invest abroad, these CPSEs require approval from the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) for foreign investment, which provides opportunities for global expansion. The Chief Executive of the PSU is empowered to approve business tours abroad for functional directors in emergency situations up to a period of five days (except study tours and seminars) with intimation to the Secretary of the Administrative Ministry. The Government of India classifies public sector undertakings (PSUs) into three categories: Maharatna, Navratna and Miniratna. To achieve Navratna status, a PSU must meet specific criteria including financial performance and operational excellence. The PSU should already be classified as Miniratna-1. It must be a Schedule 'A' company, reflecting its significant presence and operations.

5. Hockey India announces 20 - member Indian junior men 's squad for the Sultan of Johor Cup

4. 'Navratna' status given to RITES Limited



Hockey India announced the 20-member Indian junior men's team for the Sultan of Johor Cup to be held in Malaysia from October 27 to November 4. Whose command has been handed over to Uttam Singh. Rajinder Singh will be the vice captain of the team. Eight teams will participate in the 11th season of the tournament instead of six. India have been placed in Pool B along with Malaysia, Pakistan and New Zealand while Pool A includes Germany, Australia, South Africa and Great Britain. The selection committee has taken into account all previous tournaments to select a balanced team that can compete and succeed in the 11th Sultan of Johor Cup. This tournament will be an opportunity to assess and understand the six nations competing in the FIH Hockey Men's Junior World Cup 2023 and the conditions they will face in Kuala Lumpur in December. The role of goalkeeper has been handed over to the trusted duo of Mohit HS and Ranvijay Singh Yadav. Whereas Amandeep Lakra, Rohit, Sunil Jojo, Sukhwinder, Aamir Ali and Yongember Rawat will be seen in the defence. The Indian junior men's hockey team's participation in the 11th Sultan of Johor Cup promises exciting matches and tough competition. With Uttam Singh leading the team as captain and Rajinder Singh serving as vice-captain, the team is well prepared to face their international counterparts.

6. Udaipur will become India 's first wetland city



The Government of Rajasthan, in collaboration with the Department of Environment and Forests, is making concerted efforts to raise Udaipur, also known as the 'City of Lakes', to international prominence by aiming to become India's first wetland city. According to recent reports, the city has been selected as a potential Ramsar Convention Site of International Importance, a recognition coveted by wetland-rich areas around the world. The Ramsar Convention, officially known as the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, Particularly as Waterbird Habitat, is a global treaty designed to protect and sustainably utilize wetlands of international importance. According to the Ramsar Convention, a wetland must meet specific criteria to be of international importance. These criteria include being a rare, representative, or unique example of a natural or near-natural wetland type within the appropriate biogeographic region and supporting vulnerable, endangered, or critically endangered species or threatened ecological communities. Udaipur, with its amazing natural beauty and ecological importance, is set to meet all the requirements set by the Ramsar Convention. Covering an area of 37 square kilometres, the city is surrounded by five major lakes -Pichola, Fateh Sagar, Rang Sagar, Swaroop Sagar and Dudh Talai. Collectively known as the 'City of Lakes', these stunning bodies of water have long been an integral part of Udaipur's identity and culture. They are not only picturesque, but also essential to the ecology of the city, supporting a diverse range of species and contributing to the biodiversity of the area. Further strengthening Udaipur's quest to become a wetland city is its inclusion in the National Lake Conservation Plan (NLCP), a restoration project initiated by the central government of India. NLCP focuses on the rehabilitation and conservation of important lakes and wetlands

across the country, ensuring their ecological health and sustainability. Udaipur's lakes and wetlands, which are primarily managed by the tourism and local self-government departments, are important components of the scheme.

7. Anurag Thakur launches the trailer of the animated series ' Krrish , Trish and Baltiboy - Bharat Hain Hum '



Union Minister Shri Anurag Thakur has launched the trailer of "Krrish, Trish and Baltiboy - Bharat Hain Hum", an animated series consisting of two seasons produced by the Central Bureau of Communications, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and Graffiti Studio. The series consists of 52 episodes, 11 minutes each, covering stories of the Indian independence struggle from 1500 to 1947. The series is hosted by iconic animated characters Kris, Trish and Balti Boy. This series has been created by the creator duo of Munjal Shroff and Tilakraj Shetty of Graffiti Studio. The series is an effort to educate the youth about the lesser known but important contributors to the freedom struggle, contributors who were forgotten by the education system of the past. The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting decided to create a campaign to raise awareness among the children of India about our glorious freedom struggle and the many heroes across the country who made the supreme sacrifice for our country. Each episode will feature popular characters Kris, Trish and Bucketboy – previously made famous from the acclaimed KTB movie series, entering the stories of these unsung heroes. Embracing the diversity of India's struggle for independence, the series will travel through different regions, featuring freedom fighters from Himachal Pradesh, Bengal, Punjab, Kerala and beyond. The series, produced by Central Communications Bureau and Graffiti Studio, is also a tapestry of beliefs and unity that transcends religious

barriers, uniting the faiths and beliefs of the country. Countless heroic figures like Rani Abbakka, Tilka Manjhi, Tirot Singh, Peer Ali, Tatya Tope, Kotwal Dhan Singh, Kunwar Singh (80-year-old freedom fighter), Rani Chennamma, Tikendra Jeet Singh and others finally have their place in history through this animated masterpiece. Will take the right place. Created by the talented minds of Munjal Shroff and Tilak Shetty, the series will consist of 26 captivating episodes in Season 1, each with an 11-minute animated narrative.

8. RBI imposed fine of ₹5.4 crore on Paytm Payments Bank



The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a fine of ₹5.4 crore on Paytm Payments Bank. This penalty has been imposed under the provisions of Section 47A(1)(c) read with Section 46(4)(i) of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949. RBI probed Paytm Payments Bank's KYC procedures, finding that the bank did not take adequate precautions to verify the identity and address of customers in some cases. Moreover, the bank did not follow cyber security standards in some cases. The RBI said the penalty is for lapses in regulatory compliance, and is not intended to affect the validity of any transaction or agreement entered into by the bank with its customers. Paytm Payments Bank has agreed to pay the penalty amount. Paytm Payments Bank has apologized for the penalty and said it will take steps to ensure regulatory compliance in future. The bank has said that it has agreed to pay the penalty amount. This fine is the second fine imposed on Paytm Payments Bank. Earlier, in March 2022, RBI had banned the bank from adding new customers. This penalty is not expected to have any material impact on the financial position of Paytm Payments Bank. However, this may damage the image of the bank and reduce customer confidence. The amount of the fine is approximately

0.06% of the bank's total revenue. The fine is not a major financial hurdle for the bank, but it can damage the bank's reputation. The bank has suspended the officials responsible for the penalty and initiated further investigation. RBI has directed the bank to take steps to ensure regulatory compliance. Paytm Payments Bank is India's largest digital payments bank. The bank has more than 100 million customers. The bank is headquartered in Noida, India.

QUIZ

- 1. When has International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction been celebrated recently?
- (a) 11 October
- (b) 12 October
- (c) 13 October
- (d) 15 October

International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction, observed annually on 13 October, draws global attention to the critical issues of disasters and inequality. The day serves as a platform to create awareness, educate communities and promote resilience in the face of natural and man-made disasters. The theme of the United Nations International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction 2023 is "Fighting inequality for a resilient future". The International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction highlights both natural and man-made disasters and emphasizes the importance of preventive measures. Its primary objective is to educate people about disaster risks and encourage proactive measures for risk reduction.

- 2. S. Sachidananda Murthy has passed away, he was a famous personality of which field?
- (a) Journalism
- (b) science
- (c) politics
- (d) Agriculture

Senior journalist KS Sachchidananda Murthy, who worked as the former Delhi resident editor of 'The Week' magazine and daily newspaper 'Malayala Manorama', passed away. S. Satchidananda Murthy (68) had recently undergone lung transplant surgery and had been on life support for the past few days. In February 1989 he became the magazine's special correspondent in Bangalore, and subsequently in April

1990, the National Capital Bureau. He was sent to Delhi as chief. According to 'The Week', he was appointed resident editor in April 2000. Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah expressed grief over the demise of S Sachchidananda Murthy, calling him his dear friend and well-wisher.

- 3. Who has been nominated by World Athletics for this year 's Athlete of the Year?
- (a) Seema Punia
- (b) Neeraj Chopra
- (c) Hima Das
- (d) Murali Srishankar

This year has been great so far for India's star javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra. He has won medals in every major competition he has participated in in 2023. He has secured top position in most of the competitions. Meanwhile, he has been nominated for 'Men's World Athlete of the Year' by World Athletics. Recently Neeraj had won the gold medal in the Asian Games. He had secured the top position with a best throw of 88.88 metres. In the World Athletics Championship held in August this year, Neeraj had secured first place with a best throw of 88.17 metres. He became the first Indian player to win a gold medal in the 40-year history of this championship.

- 4. Who has set the new national record for 100 meters in the National Open Championship?
- (a) Aakriti Sinha
- (b) Dutee Chand
- (c) Manikanta H Hoblidhar
- (d) Ajay Kumar

The 62nd National Open Athletics Championships 2023 got off to a bang in Bengaluru as Services ' Manikant Hoblidhar etched his name in the record books by breaking a new national record in the men 's 100m category . The opening day of the championship witnessed an excellent performance from the young sprinter , who surprised the spectators with his lightning - fast speed . Army 's Manikant HH created a national record in men's 100m race on the first day of the National Open Athletics Championships . 21 - year - old Manikant topped the third heat (preliminary round) with a timing of 10.23 seconds and qualified for the final . He improved the record of 10.26 seconds set by Amiya Kumar Malik of Odisha in 2016 .

5. Who is the only Indian PSU company included in the Forbes 'World Best Employers 2023 list?

- (a) Bhel
- (b) NTPC
- (c) ONGC
- (d) HCI

NTPC has become the only Indian PSU to be included in Forbes' 'World's Best Employers 2023' list. NTPC is ranked 261st among the top 700 companies in the world ranking. Forbes releases this list every year to identify the top 700 companies. The list recognizes companies that provide exciting and positive working environments, training and career advancement opportunities, employee benefits, employee centricity and workplace diversity. Forbes partnered with market research firm Statista to create its seventh annual list of the World's Best Employers this year.

6. What is the name given to the campaign launched to bring back Indians stranded in Israel ?

- (a) 'Operation Vijay'
- (b) ' Operation Samrat'
- (c) ' Operation Ganga '
- (d) 'Operation Ajay '

The Indian government has started 'Operation Ajay' to evacuate Indians stranded in Israel. The first charter flight carrying 212 Indians from Israel's Tel Aviv airport reached India on Friday morning. The Ministry of External Affairs said that right now our priority is to bring back safely only those Indians who want to return. As requests for return continue to be received, flights will be scheduled accordingly. At present, charter planes are being used in this operation, but all options are open. The possibility of Indian Air Force's help if needed cannot be ruled out.

7. Recently, RBI has imposed a fine of Rs 5.4 crore on which payment bank?

- (a) Paytm Payment Bank
- (b) Fino Payments Bank
- (c) Airtel Payment Bank
- (d) none

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a fine of ₹5.4 crore on Paytm Payments Bank. This penalty has been imposed under the provisions of Section 47A(1)(c) read with Section 46(4)(i) of the Banking

Regulation Act, 1949. RBI probed Paytm Payments Bank's KYC procedures, finding that the bank did not take adequate precautions to verify the identity and address of customers in some cases. Moreover, the bank did not follow cyber security standards in some cases. The RBI said the penalty is for lapses in regulatory compliance, and is not intended to affect the validity of any transaction or agreement entered into by the bank with its customers.

8. Which will be India's first wetland city recently?

- (a) Jaipur
- (b) Bhubaneswar
- (c) Udaipur
- (d) all

The Government of Rajasthan, in collaboration with the Department of Environment and Forests, is making concerted efforts to raise Udaipur, also known as the 'City of Lakes', to international prominence by aiming to become India's first wetland city. According to recent reports, the city has been selected as a potential Ramsar Convention Site of International Importance, a recognition coveted by wetland-rich areas around the world. The Ramsar Convention, officially known as the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, Particularly as Waterbird Habitat, is a global treaty designed to protect and sustainably utilize wetlands of international importance.

ONE LINER

Which will become India's first wetland city recently – Udaipur

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Who launched the trailer of the animated series 'Krrish, Trish Aur Baltiboy- Bharat Hain Hum ' - Anurag Thakur

Where has Punit reached his first foreign trip after recently issuing ICC (International Criminal Court) arrest warrant – Kyrgyzstan.

