



The ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

LANGUAGE - ENGLISH

CURRENT AFFAIR BOOSTER

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Saturday



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

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DAILY

CURRENT AFFAIRS

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QUIZ



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1. Mike Johnson was elected the new Speaker of the US House of Representatives



Republican Party MP from Louisiana Mike Johnson has been elected Speaker of the House of Representatives, ending three weeks of uncertainty in American politics. The post of Speaker of the House of Representatives is one of the most powerful political positions in the country and is considered third in the line of succession after the President of the United States. For the first time in American history, on Wednesday, three weeks after Kevin McCarthy was removed from the post of Speaker, Johnson was elected in Congress by 220 votes against 209 in a very tough contest. In the 435-member House, the Republican Party has a slight majority with 221 seats against the Democratic Party's 212 seats. Johnson (51), the 56th Speaker of the House of Representatives, is a lawyer by profession and has been a four-time MP from Louisiana's 4th Congressional District. In his first address to Congress, Johnson said his first legislative agenda would be to introduce a resolution in support of Israel, a country that suffered a terrorist attack by Hamas earlier this month. Former President Donald Trump supported Mike Johnson's candidacy for the post of Speaker of the House. Trump expressed confidence that Johnson would be a great speaker. Speaker Johnson stressed the urgency of addressing critical issues. He pledged to provide strength, perseverance, and hope to the American people and indicated an aggressive legislative program. President Joe Biden congratulated Speaker Johnson and expressed his desire to work together. Biden highlighted the need for mutual efforts to find common ground on important issues despite disagreements.

2. Richard Roundtree, the first black action hero, dies at 81



Actor Richard Roundtree, famous as 'Black Action Hero', died at the age of 81. The cause of his death is said to be pancreatic cancer. This information has come to light from Hollywood publication Deadline. He was known for the film 'Shaft' released in 1971. With this movie he became an overnight star at a young age. It was the first blaxploitation film in American history. He played the role of a private detective in this film. Along with the screenplay of the film, Richard's powerpack performance won the hearts of people. After the success of this movie, some sequels and television spinoffs were made. Richard's manager Patrick McMinnon said that his work and career were a turning point for the African and American film industries. His contribution to the film industry cannot be forgotten. Richard Roundtree was called America's first black action hero. After his success, the way into the glamor world opened for other black artists too. After the super success of 'Shaft', he worked in many films like 'Shaft in Africa', 'Steel', 'Moving On', 'Man Friday'. Roundtree attended New Rochelle High School, where he played on an undefeated football team. He graduated in 1961 and began attending Southern Illinois University on a football scholarship. However, her life took a different turn when she spent the summer as a model at the Ebony Fashion Fair, sponsored by a leading Black news and culture magazine. This experience took him to New York, where he began a successful theater career by joining the Negro Ensemble Company. In 2011, he garnered an African-American Film Critics Association award, while in 1994, he claimed an MTV Movie + TV Award for his role in "Shaft." Additionally, she earned a nomination for the Golden Globe Awards in 1972 and was recognized at the Soap Opera Digest Awards, among other accolades.

3. India and Malaysia launched bilateral exercise "Abhyas Harimau Shakti 2023".

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Indian and Malaysian armies have launched “Exercise Harimau Shakti 2023”. This joint bilateral training exercise, conducted at Umroi Cantonment in India, aims to strengthen military capabilities. In the ongoing defense cooperation, the Indian and Malaysian armies have initiated “Exercise Harimau Shakti 2023”. This joint bilateral training exercise, held at Umroi Cantonment in India, aims to strengthen military capabilities and enhance coordination between the two countries. “Exercise Harimau Shakti 2023” not only advances military capabilities but also symbolizes the enduring friendship between India and Malaysia, strengthening their commitment towards regional security and stability. The Malaysian Army's participation in “Exercise Harimau Shakti 2023” was marked by soldiers of the 5th Royal Battalion of the Malaysian Army. Their inclusion underlines Malaysia's commitment in fostering international military relations and promoting cooperative exercises. The Indian contingent, which will be actively involved in the exercise, is being represented by a battalion of the Rajput Regiment. The presence of this accomplished regiment highlights the important role of the Indian Army in strengthening defense partnerships with friendly countries. The last edition of “Exercise Harimau Shakti” took place in Pulai, Kluang, Malaysia in November 2022. This ongoing exercise aims to build on the successes and knowledge learned from previous collaborations. “Exercise Harimau Shakti 2023”, scheduled for November 5, 2023, will involve around 120 military personnel from both sides. The primary goal is to enhance military capabilities to conduct multi-domain operations within the sub-conventional scenario.

4. Edtech startup appoints Chetan Bhagat as brand ambassador



Edtech startup Henry Harwin Education (HHE) has named author and speaker Chetan Bhagat as its brand ambassador. This partnership holds important implications not only for the edtech industry but also for candidates preparing for various government exams including teaching, police, banking, railways, defence, and civil services from PSCS to IAS. The edtech sector is constantly changing the way education is delivered and consumed. Bhagat's association with Chetan Henry Harwin Education reflects the growing influence and credibility of edtech platforms in providing quality learning resources and tools to students preparing for government exams. This underlines the importance of EdTech in bridging the gap between traditional education and the needs of modern-day candidates. Chetan Bhagat, a famous writer and motivational speaker, enjoys immense popularity across the country. Her involvement as a brand ambassador not only increases the visibility of Henry Harwin Education, but also attracts students from diverse backgrounds, making quality test preparation resources accessible to a broader audience. To understand the significance of this collaboration, it is necessary to consider the historical context of the development of edtech. In recent years, edtech platforms have gained considerable momentum, especially in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. The shift to online learning and increasing demand for digital educational resources has reshaped the education landscape. Henry Harwin Education, as an emerging player in the EdTech sector, is continuously working towards providing a comprehensive platform for skill development, professional courses and government exam preparation. Bhagat's appointment as Chetan brand ambassador is in line with the emerging trends of online education, where notable personalities play a key role in shaping the sector.

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5. Kerala government to set up graphene production facility worth Rs 237 crore



Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan announced the setting up of a graphene production facility with an estimated investment of Rs 237 crore which will function on a public-private partnership model. The Government of Kerala has announced a pioneering project to set up a graphene production facility, marking a significant leap in material technology. Graphene, often referred to as the “wonder material” for its extraordinary electrical and electronic properties, is set to become the cornerstone of Kerala’s innovation landscape. Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan took the decision to set up this innovative graphene production facility in a cabinet meeting recently. The facility is designed to operate on a public-private partnership model and will require an estimated investment of Rs 237 crore. Kerala Digital University will be the implementing agency, while Kerala Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation (KINFRA) has been assigned the role of a special purpose vehicle for the development of the infrastructure. To undertake this ambitious project, Kerala Digital University has been given the green signal to prepare a preliminary proposal. The proposal aims to secure loans from the Kerala Infrastructure Investment Fund Board (KIIFB) and seek private partners through global expressions of interest. By utilizing both public and private resources, the state government aims to ensure the success of this unprecedented initiative. Graphene, often touted as the world’s thinnest and strongest material, offers a wealth of remarkable properties. It has exceptional chemical stability, high electrical conductivity and a wide surface area with transparent and light weight. These properties make it a material with wide potential for applications in various industries. A management

committee will be formed to ensure smooth implementation of this project. The committee will include representatives from industry and IT departments and key persons from Kerala Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation (KINFRA). This multi-stakeholder approach is expected to streamline decision making and project oversight.

6. External Affairs Minister Jaishankar left on a two-day visit to Kyrgyzstan



Indian External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar recently visited Kyrgyzstan for a two-day visit. During his visit, he discussed various areas of cooperation with Kyrgyz President Sadyr Zhaparov. The visit also includes Jaishankar’s participation in the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) meeting. Jaishankar held discussions with President Sadyr Zhaparov to explore opportunities to enhance cooperation in banking, defense and energy sectors. They discussed wide-ranging sectors like banking, energy, health, pharmaceuticals, defence, agriculture and investments. Jaishankar will attend the SCO Council of Heads of Government (CHG) meeting hosted by Kyrgyzstan. Prominent personalities like Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi will attend this meeting. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) confirmed Jaishankar’s visit and his role in leading the Indian delegation to the SCO meeting. The External Affairs Ministry said Jaishankar will also meet his counterparts from other SCO member states and call on the top leadership of Kyrgyzstan. The visit reflects India’s commitment to maintaining and strengthening diplomatic relations within the SCO framework. Its objective is to promote regional cooperation and meaningful dialogue among member countries. The SCO plays an important role in addressing regional and global challenges, encouraging economic cooperation

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and facilitating discussion on political and security matters among its member states.

7. Election Commission to appoint actor Rajkumar Rao as its 'national icon'



This time the Election Commission of India has decided to make actor Rajkumar Rao its national icon. The Commission will appoint Rajkumar Rao as icon. National icons make people aware about voting. Their effort is to increase the voting percentage. Although actor Rajkumar Rao has worked in many films and many of his films have been hits, but 'Newton' is a film which gave him a different identity. Rajkumar Rao received the National Award for Best Actor for this film released in 2017. In this film, Rajkumar Rao was seen in the role of a government clerk named Nutan Kumar. Nutan Kumar was a clerk who was committed to conducting fair and free elections. Capitalizing on his character, the Election Commission wants to generate enthusiasm among the people for voting. Earlier in August this year, the Election Commission had made former Indian cricketer Sachin Tendulkar its national icon. Actually, Lok Sabha elections are to be held in India next year. The Election Commission wants to make more and more people participate in voting. His focus is mostly on the youth, that is why he has first chosen celebrities like Sachin and then Rajkumar Rao for this. When the Election Commission makes someone its national icon, then that celebrity has to sign a memorandum of understanding with the Election Commission. This memorandum is for the next 3 years. After this, he makes people aware about voting through celebrity advertisements, through his social media platforms or through other programs. Even before this, the Election Commission has made many players and actors its national icons.

8. FPI sold Indian shares worth Rs 7702 crore in the biggest one - day selloff of the year



Foreign institutional investors (FIIs) continued their selling in the Indian stock market, while domestic institutional investors (DIIs) emerged as net buyers. The trend occurred on the day of monthly futures and options (F&O) expiry, with domestic markets closing lower for the sixth consecutive day. According to National Stock Exchange (NSE) data, FIIs collectively bought Indian equities worth ₹10,239.05 crore, but they also sold ₹17,941.58 crore. This resulted in a net outflow of ₹7,702.53 crore. FIIs are selling Indian equities due to factors like rising US bond yields and strengthening dollar index, which has negatively impacted market sentiment. In contrast, DIIs were net buyers on the day, investing ₹13,600.71 crore in Indian stocks and selling ₹7,042.26 crore. This resulted in a net inflow of ₹6,558.45 crore. Weak global cues played a key role in the market performance. Investors turned away from local equities, triggering selling, as the benchmark Nifty closed below 19,000 points. Frontline banking, automobile and IT stocks experienced selling as investors were concerned about various factors including the ongoing conflict in West Asia, economic uncertainty and concerns about possible interest rate hikes. Commenting on the situation, Shrikant Chauhan, Head of Equity Research (Retail), Kotak Securities, said investors continued to be bearish for the sixth consecutive session. Factors contributing to this sentiment include weak global cues, concerns about the West Asia conflict, Concerns include economic uncertainty and rising interest rates.

QUIZ

1. When is World Polio Day 2023 observed ?

- (a) 24 October
- (b) 25 October
- (c) 23 October

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(d) 26 October

World Polio Day is celebrated every year on 24 October. On this day, efforts are made to make people aware about the importance of polio vaccination. On this day, campaigns against polio are run all over the world to eradicate polio. Polio is a terrible disease, which if infected can even lead to paralysis. This mostly happens to children below 5 years of age, hence it is very important to give all the vaccines to children on time. On this day, parents who get their children vaccinated on time and all health care workers are appreciated. India became a polio-free country in 2014.

2. Which player has made the record of fastest century in ODI World Cup history?

- (a) Rohit Sharma
- (b) Glenn Maxwell
- (c) Aiden Markram
- (d) Babar Azam

Australia's star all-rounder Glenn Maxwell has scored the fastest century in ICC Cricket World Cup history. Maxwell achieved this feat against Netherlands in the 24th match of ICC Cricket World Cup 2023. Right-handed batsman Maxwell scored a century in just 40 balls. During this time, he broke the world record of South Africa's Aiden Markram, who had scored a record-breaking century in 49 balls in the same World Cup. Aiden Markram had earlier scored a century in 49 balls against Sri Lanka in the ongoing World Cup. Earlier, former Ireland batsman Kevin O'Brien had scored a century in the World Cup in 50 balls against England in 2011. In 2015, Maxwell completed a century in 51 balls against Sri Lanka. In the 2015 World Cup, former South African batsman AB de Villiers has also scored a century in the World Cup in 52 balls.

3. Who has been appointed by the Election Commission of India as its national icon ?

- (a) Kapil Dev
- (b) Mahendra Singh Dhoni
- (c) Anushka Sharma
- (d) Rajkumar Rao

The Election Commission of India (EC) is set to appoint actor Rajkumar Rao as its 'National Icon' in preparation for the upcoming assembly elections in five states and the 2024 general elections. Actor

Rajkumar Rao, best known for playing the role of a principled government clerk in the Hindi film "Newton", who has been tasked with conducting elections in Naxal-hit areas of Chhattisgarh, has been hailed as a national icon by the Election Commission (EC). It is certain to be included in. The national icon is selected with the aim of motivating voters to engage in the electoral process. The Election Commission of India has a tradition of appointing prominent individuals as National Icons, whose exemplary contributions inspire and encourage citizens to engage in the democratic process. These national icons act as role models, demonstrating the importance of voting, upholding democratic values and promoting a sense of duty towards the nation.

4. Airbus has tied up with which IIT to boost talent development in the Indian aerospace sector?

- (a) IIT Mumbai
- (b) IIT Delhi
- (c) IIT Kharagpur
- (d) IIT Kanpur

Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur (IITK) and Airbus have formalized their partnership through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). This historic agreement signed aims to significantly increase the talent pool of the aerospace sector in India through research and education initiatives. According to a press release from IITK, the collaboration between these two prestigious institutes will revolve around promoting research in advanced aerospace technologies. The partnership will also include development of programs and activities towards enhancing the technical capabilities of aerospace students in India. Additionally, both organizations are committed to exploring collaboration opportunities with global institutions to provide students with real-world, sector-relevant projects.

5. ' Black Action Hero ' Ke Naam Se Fames Rahe Actor Richard Roundtree Ka Kantye Varsha Ki Ayu Mein Nadya Ho Gaya?

- (a) 79 years
- (b) 80 years
- (c) 81 years
- (d) 85 years

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African American actor Richard Roundtree, best known as one of the early black action heroes for his iconic portrayal of the title character in 'Shaft,' has died at the age of 81. Richard Roundtree, the iconic actor who redefined African American masculinity in films with his groundbreaking portrayal of the title role in "Shaft," has died at his Los Angeles home at the age of 81 of pancreatic cancer. He is also recognized as the "first black action hero". "Shaft," released in 1971, was a groundbreaking film, one of the first entries in the blaxploitation genre (a sub-genre of exploitation cinema characterized by modest budgets and departure from mainstream production).

6. India broke the record of most medals in the Asian Para Games, in which country the Asian Para Games is being organized?

- (a) China
- (b) Indonesia
- (c) Malaysia
- (d) Thailand

Indian para players created history and made a record of winning the most medals in the Asian Para Games. He took his total medal tally to 82 which includes 18 gold. India thus surpassed its previous best performance of winning 72 medals in Indonesia in 2018. India won a total of 18 medals including three gold medals. Indian players have so far won a total of 82 medals including 18 gold, 23 silver and 41 bronze. The Asian Para Games are being organized in Hangzhou, China from 22 to 28 October.

7. Which country is hosting the UN Forum on 'Forest Fire and Certification'?

- (a) France
- (b) Brazil
- (c) South Africa
- (d) India

A two-day Country Led Initiative (CLI) program is being organized by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change in Uttarakhand at the Forest Research Institute (FRI), Dehradun. In this, about 55 representatives from 30 countries and 41 representatives from 20 organizations will discuss the topic of Forest Fire and Certification. This program is a part of the United Nations Forum on Forests.

8. Who has been made the new head coach of the Indian women's cricket team?

- (a) Amol Mujumdar
- (b) Ramesh Powar
- (c) Nikhil Chopra
- (d) Ajay Jadeja

The Board of Control for Cricket in India has announced the new head coach of the Indian women's cricket team. BCCI confirmed the appointment of Amol Majumdar as the new head coach of Team India (Senior Women). Muzumdar has previously worked as the batting coach for Rajasthan Royals (RR) in the Indian Premier League (IPL). Domestic legend Amol Majumdar scored over 11,000 first-class runs, including 30 centuries, in 171 matches during his impressive 21-year career. He also participated in more than 100 List A matches and 14 T20 matches. Majumdar won several Ranji Trophy titles with Mumbai and later represented Assam and Andhra Pradesh.

ONE LINER

- When is World Polio Day 2023 celebrated – **24 October**
- At what age did actor Richard Roundtree, famous as 'Black Action Hero', die - **81 years**
- Who has been elected as the new Speaker of the US House- **Mike Johnson**
- Who has been appointed by the Election Commission of India as its national icon- **Rajkumar Rao**
- Airbus has tied up with which IIT to promote talent development in the Indian aerospace sector - **IIT Kanpur**
- Which country is hosting the UN Forum on 'Forest Fire and Certification' - **India**
- India broke the record of most medals in the Asian Para Games, in which country the Asian Para Games is being organized - **China**
- Which player has made the record of fastest century in ODI World Cup history- **Glenn Maxwell**
- Where is the national level 'Saras Livelihood Fair' 2023 being organized - **Gurugram**
- Who has been made the new head coach of the Indian women's cricket team- **Amol Muzumdar**