



# The ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

LANGUAGE - ENGLISH

## CURRENT AFFAIR BOOSTER

31 - 10 - 2023

Tuesday



### THE ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

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

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# DAILY

# CURRENT AFFAIRS

# &

# QUIZ



UPSC / BPSC

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## 1. China's former PM Li Keqiang has died at the age of 68.



China's former Prime Minister Li Keqiang has died of a heart attack at the age of 68. Former Chinese Prime Minister Li Keqiang was a person with reformist ideology. He was seen as the future leader of the country. Li Keqiang worked under Xi Jinping for 10 years. Li Keqiang built his image as a more modern man than his strict colleagues during his tenure as prime minister. He spoke English fluently. He had raised his voice in support of economic reforms during his tenure. Li Keqiang worked according to the Party and followed the rules for decades. When he was the party chief in Henan province, the disease due to HIV Aids spread during a blood campaign. Because of this his reputation was greatly damaged. After this case, instead of handing over the responsibility to the concerned authorities, the local authorities reacted harshly on the activists and the media and an investigation into the medical scam was handed over at the national level. Li Keqiang was the son of a small party official in Anhui province of eastern China. He obtained a law degree from Peking University. Li Keqiang became a top party official in Henan and Liaoning province in the north-east in the 80s. During this period, economic development also took place in both the provinces. The condition of the Chinese economy was bad when Li Keqiang left the post of Prime Minister in the year 2023. The main reason behind this was the Covid-induced recession. He was China's No. 2 leader from 2013-23 and was a supporter of private business. However, during this period, President Xi Jinping tried to make himself the most powerful Chinese leader in 10 years. He established tight control over the economy and society, due to which Li Keqiang was left with very little authority.

## 2. Hornbill Festival 2023: 1 to 10 December



Hornbill Festival is celebrated in Nagaland between 1 and 10 December. In which the culture of Nagaland can be seen. Various types of Naga dishes, folk dances and stories are a special part of this festival. The most special thing about the Hornbill Festival is that tourists from all over the country and abroad come to participate in this festival. The Hornbill festival is named after the hornbill bird. This bird is highly revered and its importance is reflected in tribal folklore, songs and dances. To encourage inter-tribal interaction and promote the cultural heritage of Nagaland, the Government of Nagaland organizes the Hornbill Festival in the first week of December every year. Organized by the Directorate of Tourism, Nagaland, the Hornbill Festival showcases a medley of cultural performances under one roof. This festival usually takes place between the first week of December in Kohima. The Hornbill Festival is held at the Naga Heritage Village, Kisama which is about 12 km from Kohima. The Hornbill Festival is a week long festival. Which unites everyone. People enjoy colorful displays, crafts, games, food fairs, sports and religious ceremonies. An exhibition of the hottest chillies is also organized in the festival. Traditional art including paintings, wood carvings and sculptures is also displayed. Highlights of the festival include traditional Naga Morangs exhibition and art and crafts, food stalls, herbal medicine stalls, flower show and sale, cultural medley-songs and dances, fashion show, beauty pageant, traditional archery, Naga wrestling, indigenous games and music. Sales included. This festival is named after the Hornbill bird. The feathers of this bird are part of the headgear worn by the people of the Naga community. The festival consists of dance performances, crafts, parades, games, food fairs and many religious rituals.

## 3. India ranks third among fintech unicorns, United



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## States on top



According to global research firm Statista, India is ranked third with 17 fintech unicorns, while the United States is at the top with 134 fintech unicorns, and the United Kingdom is at the second position with 27 fintech unicorns. According to global research firm Statista, India has ranked third worldwide in the number of financial technology (Fintech) unicorns. The United States and the United Kingdom continue to hold their position in the region, ranking first and second in terms of both quantity and overall value, respectively. In 2023, India has secured the third position in the global fintech landscape with 17 fintech unicorns. This significant achievement underlines the country's growing influence in the world of finance and technology. Top profitable companies in India include Zerodha, BillDesk, Paytm and others. Fintech giants like Paytm have displayed impressive financial growth, with Paytm reporting 32 percent growth in revenue during the second quarter of financial year 2023-24. In the world of fintech, the United States and the United Kingdom maintain their dominance in terms of both volume and value. The US is home to an impressive 134 fintech unicorns, generating the most value in the industry. Visa, PayPal and MasterCard are among the major players, collectively contributing to a market capitalization of \$1.2 trillion. Meanwhile, the UK ranks second with 27 fintech unicorns that have made quite a mark on the global fintech platform. China has secured the fourth position despite having only eight fintech unicorns. Giants like Tencent and Ant Financial have played a key role in increasing China's overall financial market capitalization to \$338.92 billion. These companies have introduced innovative financial solutions, contributing to China's impressive fintech market presence.

## 4. BigBasket tops Fairwork Index for gig workers



Ola and Porter got the lowest marks among digital labor platforms in terms of workers' working conditions. Tata-owned Bigbasket has topped this rating. Fairwork India Ratings 2023 evaluated 12 digital labor platforms in India. These platforms provide services in sectors such as home and individual healthcare, logistics, food distribution and transportation. This ranking has been given in terms of the status of gig workers. Gig workers are called contract or temporary employees. These include Amazon Flex, BigBasket, BluSmart, Dunzo, Flipkart, Ola, Porter, Swiggy, Uber, Urban Company, Zepto. And Zomato are included. The report released in this regard states that this year, no platform has scored more than six points out of a maximum of 10. BigBasket has got the maximum six points. After this, BlueSmart, Swiggy, Urban Company and Zomato have got 5 points each. Zepto got four out of 10, Flipkart three, Amazon Flex two and Dunzo and Uber one each. Ola and Porter have got zero points.

## 5. Rajasthan government launches 'iStart Talent Connect Portal'



Rajasthan government unveiled 'iStart Talent Connect Portal' in the techno hub of Jaipur. This new portal is an important addition to the state's flagship initiative,

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iStart Rajasthan, and is a collaborative effort with Jaipur-based startup, HairFox. 'iStart Talent Connect Portal' has been developed as a user-friendly platform to meet the needs of both job providers and job seekers. It not only facilitates talent discovery but also allows companies to post job vacancies and connect with potential employees. 'iStart Talent Connect Portal' is an initiative in line with the government's efforts to strengthen the job market in Rajasthan. The portal is designed to address the challenges faced by both corporates and startups in finding the right candidates for their organizations. One of the primary value propositions of this portal is the ability to find talent efficiently. The absence of portal usage costs also makes it a cost-effective recruitment solution for businesses, especially startups. The platform will maintain a comprehensive user database, making it easier to find the right employees or companies. 'iStart Talent Connect Portal' is one of the many initiatives taken by iStart Rajasthan to support and empower the startup ecosystem of the state. Since its launch in 2017, iStart has played a vital role in nurturing local talent and supporting various new-age sectors and enterprises. The iStart initiative of the Government of Rajasthan provides vast opportunities for startups in the region. These opportunities include incubation centres, mentorship programmes, networking events and access to essential business support services. Its objective is to create a conducive environment for startups to flourish.

## 6. Indian Navy launches 25T bollard pull tug 'Mahabali' off Gujarat



The Indian Navy has reached another milestone with the launch of 25T bollard pull tug 'Mahabali' off Gujarat. This significant increase in naval fleet not only symbolizes the Navy's commitment towards

modernization but also enhances its operational capabilities. 'Mahabali' is a testament to the Navy's dedication to protecting the maritime interests of the country. Efforts to expand and modernize the Indian Navy are necessary to maintain its superiority in the Indian Ocean region. The induction of 'Mahabali' is a testament to the Navy's continuous pursuit of advanced technology and capabilities to secure the country's vast maritime borders. With a bollard pulling capacity of 25 tonnes, 'Mahabali' is well equipped to handle various tasks including towing warships, berthing operations and rescue missions. The tugboat significantly enhances the Navy's operational capabilities and strengthens its presence in critical maritime areas. The launch of 'Mahabali' reflects the Indian Navy's continued commitment towards modernization and technological advancement. In recent years, the Navy has made significant progress in enhancing its fleet and capabilities to effectively respond to emerging security challenges in the maritime domain. The beginning of 'Mahabali' is based on this legacy of development and modernization.

## 7. JioSpaceFiber: India's first satellite-based gigabit broadband service



Reliance Jio has introduced 'JioSpaceFiber', India's first satellite-based gigabit broadband service to extend high-speed internet access to remote areas of India for nationwide coverage. India's leading telecom provider Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited has launched 'JioSpaceFiber' satellite broadband service. This unprecedented initiative was officially unveiled at the India Mobile Congress and represents the country's first satellite-powered GigaFiber service. The primary goal of this satellite broadband service is to extend high-speed Internet access to previously underserved and remote areas in India. To showcase the wide reach of

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JioSpaceFiber, the Mukesh Ambani-backed telecom giant successfully connected four remote and diverse locations, which are: Gir in Gujarat, Korba in Chhattisgarh, Nabarangpur in Odisha and ONGC in Jorhat in Assam. By enabling this connectivity, Jio aims to bring millions of homes and businesses online in India, many of which are availing broadband internet for the first time. Akash Ambani, Chairman, Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited, said that JioSpaceFiber aspires to provide every Indian the opportunity to fully participate in an increasingly digital society. The service provides gigabit-level access to a wide range of online government, educational, health and entertainment services. In an effort to increase the availability of Jio True5G even in remote areas, the satellite network is set to add mobile backhaul capability. Jio has collaborated with global satellite operator SES to leverage the latest Medium Earth Orbit (MEO) satellite technology. This partnership gives Jio access to SES's O3b and O3b mPOWER satellites, uniquely positioning the company to offer reliable and scalable broadband at competitive rates across India.

## 8. PM Modi will start 'Vikas Bharat Sankalp Yatra' on November 15, will reach all the gram panchayats of the country



Prime Minister Narendra Modi will launch the Vikas Bharat Sankalp Yatra across the country on November 15. The Yatra will start from the tribal area of Khunti in Jharkhand on Birsa Munda Jayanti i.e. Tribal Pride Day. This journey, which will run till January 25, 2024, will start from tribal villages. According to sources, this visit is only official and not political. This yatra will not be taken out in election states. This journey will go to all the gram panchayats of the country. There are a total of 2.55 lakh gram panchayats in the country. To reach all these, 2500 vans will be deployed in rural areas. Youth will be involved in villages for the program of Dharti

Kahe Pukar. The special thing is that all these mobile vans will be equipped with WI FI. 14000 places of 3700 local urban bodies will also be covered. 250 vans will also be deployed in urban areas. Nodal officers will also be appointed. Many programs will be run to connect with people virtually. According to sources, PM Modi will also participate on some such occasions. PM Modi has already been connecting with the common people in many of his programs Mann Ki Baat and programs of government schemes. Feedback of the schemes will be taken from the people. People will be told what are the benefits of government schemes. The main objective of these mobile vans will be to increase awareness about government schemes. Besides, work will also be done to register those who have not been able to get the benefits of the schemes. Help will be provided like changing people's Aadhaar addresses, help for Ujjwal scheme and making people participate in My Bharat volunteer youth program. This will be a completely government program in which the Central Government is preparing to make it successful with the help of the State Governments and public participation.

## QUIZ

1. Which state government has recently launched 'iStart Talent Connect' portal?

- A- Gujarat
- B- Odisha
- C- Kerala
- D- Rajasthan

Rajasthan government unveiled 'iStart Talent Connect Portal' at Techno Hub, Jaipur. This new portal is an important addition to the state's flagship initiative, iStart Rajasthan, and is a collaborative effort with Jaipur-based startup, HairFox. 'iStart Talent Connect Portal' has been developed as a user-friendly platform to meet the needs of both job providers and job seekers. It not only facilitates talent discovery but also allows companies to post job vacancies and connect with potential employees.

2. Climate change expert Professor Salimul Haq has passed away, he was a resident of which country?

- A- Pakistan
- B- Japan
- C- India
- D- Bangladesh



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Famous climate change expert Professor Saleemul Huq has passed away in Dhaka, Bangladesh. He was the director of the International Center for Climate Change and Development. He was a resident of Bangladesh. Salimul Haq was a professor at Independent University Bangladesh (IUB). He was an associate of the United Kingdom's International Institute on Environment and Development (IIED).

### 3. Who will be honored with the title of 'Consul General' of France?

A- Richa Chadha

B- Kareena Kapoor

C- Katrina Kaif

D- Kriti Sanon

Actress Richa Chadha will be honored with the title of 'Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres' by the French government for her significant contribution in the field of arts. The actor's 2015 critically acclaimed film, "Masaan", an Indo-French co-production, was screened in the "Un Certain Regard" section at the Cannes Film Festival in the same year and won two awards. For her first home production film, "Girls Will Be Girls", she has received both the French grant 'Aide aux Cinemas du Monde' (ACM) as well as new incentives offered by the Indian authorities.

### 4. Who has recently become the global brand ambassador of watch manufacturer RADO?

A- Alia Bhatt

B- Katrina Kaif

C- Kriti Sanon

D- Deepika Padukone

Swiss watch maker Rado, known for its innovation in materials for making designs, appointed Bollywood superstar Katrina Kaif as its global brand ambassador. The brand is known for its pioneering approach in creating innovative and sustainable designs. Known for her beauty and fashion-forward style, Katrina Kaif blends seamlessly with Rado's blend of fashion and innovation. This partnership reflects the growing influence of Bollywood stars on a global scale. Katarina's international fan base increases Rado's visibility in diverse markets.

### 5. Where has the Indian Army recently organized 'Chanakya Raksha Samvad 2023'?

A- Bengaluru

B- Mumbai

C- New Delhi

D- Odisha

The 'Chanakya Raksha Samvad 2023' program is being organized by the Indian Army in partnership with the Center for Land Warfare Studies (CLAWS). The first edition of Chanakya Raksha Samvad will be organized on 3 and 4 November 2023 at Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi. This is the first conference of its kind to be organized by the Indian Army. This dialogue program will provide a comprehensive analysis of security challenges in South Asia and the Indo-Pacific. The talks will focus on laying out a roadmap for collaborative security measures in the region with the aim of strengthening India's position as a ready, emerging and relevant stakeholder among countries in the region.

### 6. Where was the fourth annual conference of the Indian Association for Economics and Allied Sciences held?

A- Jaipur

B- Srinagar

C- Varanasi

D- Patna

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha inaugurated the fourth annual conference of the Indian Economics & Allied Sciences Association at the University of Kashmir, Srinagar. Indian Economics and Allied Sciences Association (IEASA) President Professor Sudhakar Panda and IEASA Secretary Dr. Alok Kumar also participated in the event.

### 7. Which city will host Beautyworld Middle East 2023?

A- Muscat

B- Dubai

C- Abu Dhabi

D- Kuwait City

Beautyworld Middle East 2023 will be held from October 30 to November 1, 2023 at the Dubai World Trade Centre. This is a major international trade show. 1,750 exhibitors from 57 countries are expected to participate in this event.

### 8. How many total medals did India win in the 4th Asian Para Games?

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A- 99

B- 105

C- 121

D- 111

Indian para-athletes performed brilliantly and won a total of 111 medals in the fourth Asian Para Games held in Hangzhou, China. India ended the campaign with 29 gold, 31 silver and 51 bronze. This is India's best performance so far in the Asian Para Games.

## ONE LINER

Climate change expert Professor Salimul Haq has passed away, he was a resident of which country - **Bangladesh**

Who was the American-Canadian actor, who has passed away recently - **Matthew Perry**

Which state government recently 'iStart Talent Connect' portal has been launched - **Rajasthan**

Who has recently received the Global Teacher Award 2023 - **Deep Narayan Nayak**

Who will be honored with the title of 'Consul General' of France - **Richa Chadha**

Who has recently become the global brand ambassador of watch manufacturer RADO - **Katrina Kaif**

Where has the Indian Army recently organized 'Chanakya Raksha Samvad 2023' - **New Delhi**

Where has the fourth annual conference of the Indian Association of Economics and Allied Sciences been organized - **Srinagar**

Which city will host Beautyworld Middle East 2023 - **Dubai**

How many medals did India win in Dubai 4th Asian Para Games - **111**