

UPSC / BPSC

# ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

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# CURRENT AFFAIR BOOSTER

The

### THE ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

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ACHIEVERS

# **CURRENT AFFAIRS**

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### **1. GDP growth rate likely to be 6.3% in 2024: Goldman** Sachs



India's real gross domestic product (GDP) growth rate will decline marginally to 6.3% next year. American brokerage company Goldman Sachs has made this estimate in a report. He said that the next calendar year will be of two parts, with government spending being the main driver of growth before the upcoming general elections, while after the elections it will again accelerate investment growth, especially from the private sector. The brokerage firm said that in terms of financial year, the growth rate in the financial year 2024-25 is likely to increase from the estimated 6.2% in the current financial year to 6.5%. Goldman Sachs said, this sector has the best potential for structural growth in India. We believe that GDP growth rate is likely to remain strong at 6.3% in 2024. The report said that the country is less 'sensitive' to possible external shocks such as global interest rates, continued strengthening of the dollar and geo-political uncertainties. The firm has expressed the possibility that the key Consumer Price Index (CPI) based inflation ) will be 5.1% in 2024. However, the Reserve Bank (RBI) estimates that inflation will be 4.7%. However, this is lower than the projected inflation rate of 5.7% in 2023. It said India has the best potential for structural growth in Asia. The report further said that risks to the growth outlook are evenly balanced, but the main domestic risk is political uncertainty. The reason for this is that general elections will be held in the April-June 2024 quarter. Government's continued focus: While the government is expected to maintain its focus on capital expenditure, the report highlights the medium-term fiscal consolidation path. This path may lead to a decline in the growth rate of government capital expenditure in

the next financial year. Industrial production and infrastructure spending: Although industrial production numbers indicate an increase in infrastructure-related spending, there is a similar decline in other manufacturing industries. This underlines the need for a balanced and comprehensive approach to economic development.

### 2. Two-day global conference to be held to promote fisheries sector



The fisheries sector contributes extensively to India's economy and provides livelihood to more than 2.8 crore fishermen and fish farmers at the primary level. The Global Fisheries Conclave India 2023 was envisioned by the Department of Fisheries with the aim to chart a way forward for the Indian fisheries and aquaculture sector in collaboration with stakeholders across the fisheries value chain. Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Parshottam Rupala will inaugurate the Global Fisheries Conference India 2023 at Gujarat Science City, Ahmedabad. World Fisheries Day is being celebrated globally. The Global Fisheries Conclave India 2023 was envisioned by the Department of Fisheries with the aim to chart a way forward for the Indian fisheries and aquaculture sector in collaboration with stakeholders across the fisheries value chain. The fisheries sector contributes extensively to India's economy and provides livelihood to more than 2.8 crore fishermen and fish farmers at the primary level. The objective of this conference is to reach out to various domestic and global fisheries sector stakeholders to build partnerships, promote collaborative efforts and promote the Indian fisheries sector. It is also an opportunity to explore the R&D and opportunities that are shaping the fisheries landscape. The event will begin with the inauguration of the exhibition by Union Minister Parshottam Rupala and will be followed by the

inaugural session, press conference, international roundtable and parallel technical sessions, industry connect sessions and G2G/G2B and B2B bilateral conferences. The exhibition stalls and food fair will be available to all visitors and participants for two days after the inauguration ceremony.

## 3. Luke Frieden becomes the new Prime Minister of Luxembourg



Former Finance Minister Luc Frieden of the Christian Social People's Party has now become the new Prime Minister of Luxembourg. Former Prime Minister Xavier Bettel will take on the role of Foreign Affairs Minister. Luxembourg, a small but influential European country, is about to undergo a significant political transition as former Finance Minister Luke Frieden takes over the role of Prime Minister. The change comes after recent elections, where Frieden's Christian Social People's Party (CSV) emerged victorious, reshaping the country's last political dynamics. In month's election, Luxembourg's traditional center-right political force CSV won a decisive victory, breaking away from the coalition government that had previously united liberals, socialists and the Greens. The victory left the former coalition without a majority, paving the way for intense negotiations. After about six weeks of deliberations, a key moment came when the CSV, led by Frieden, signed a coalition agreement with the Democratic Party led by former Prime Minister Xavier Bettel. This cooperation solidifies a coalition government that combines the Christian democratic ideology of the CSV with the liberal stances of Bettel's party. After serving as Finance Minister, Luke Frieden will step into the position of Prime Minister and lead the country through the challenges and opportunities ahead. Notably, Xavier Bettel, who led Luxembourg for an influential decade,

will transition to the role of Minister of Foreign Affairs. CSV member Gilles Roth has been appointed as the new Finance Minister, tasked with steering economic policies critical to Luxembourg's continued prosperity. The coalition formed between the CSV and the Democratic Party has an overwhelming majority in the 60-seat Luxembourg parliament. With 35 seats, the government is well placed to implement legislative changes and policy initiatives. This majority mandate provides stability and a clear path forward for the new administration, allowing them to implement their vision for Luxembourg's future.

### 4. Veer Das won the International Emmy Award for Best Comedy



Famous stand up comedian Veer Das has created history by winning the trophy for Best Unique Comedy at the International Emmy Awards 2023. Vir Das is seen in the show 'Vir Das Landing' streaming on Netflix. Received Emmy International Award for. 'Vir Das Landing' With 'Derry Girls Season 3' Has also been awarded the Emmy International Awards for comedy. The competition between the two was equal and both of them won this prestigious award. It is worth noting that earlier in 2021 also, Veer Das was invited to host his comedy show 'To India'. He was nominated for the Emmy International Awards but could not win the award. This year 'Delhi Crime 2' Actress Shefali Shah and Rocket Boys 2' for (Netflix) (Sony Liv) Actor Jim Sarab was also nominated for the International Emmy Award.

5. Eko partners with R Madhavan as 'Voice of the Customer'



Eko, the insurtech company making insurance convenient, transparent and accessible for Indians, has partnered with renowned actor R Madhavan as its 'Voice of the Customer'. Eko, the insurtech company insurance convenient, making transparent and accessible for Indians, has partnered with renowned actor R Madhavan as its 'Voice of the Customer'. The collaboration aims to address common misconceptions about insurance and empower consumers to make informed decisions. This strategic partnership between Eko and R Madhavan is an important step towards bridging the trust gap in the Indian insurance industry. By leveraging Madhavan's influence and Eko's expertise, the collaboration aims to empower consumers with the knowledge and tools needed to make informed insurance decisions. In his role as the 'Voice of the Customer', Madhavan will work with the Eko team to create informative and relevant content that simplifies complex insurance terms and conditions. Their unique ability to connect with audiences will help bridge the gap between the company and consumers, ultimately fostering trust and understanding. Highlighting the nuances of insurance and empowering consumers to make informed decisions. Establishing N R Madhavan as a trusted advocate for insurance customers. Promote customer education and informed decision making. The partnership will move beyond statements and focus on creating valuable content that educates and strengthens trust. Madhavan will collaborate closely with the Eko team to develop content that simplifies various insurance products including motor, health and life insurance.

#### 6. Karnataka Bank partners with HDFC Life



Karnataka Bank has announced a strategic partnership with HDFC Life, one of India's leading life insurance providers. The collaboration aims to provide customers with a comprehensive suite of innovative and customercentric financial solutions. This strategic alliance between Karnataka Bank and HDFC Life is an important step towards providing value-added financial solutions to customers. By combining their strengths, both companies are committed to helping customers achieve their financial goals and secure a brighter future. This partnership brings together Karnataka Bank's extensive banking expertise and HDFC Life's proven track record in providing high quality life insurance products. Together, they will provide a range of benefits to customers. Both Karnataka Bank and HDFC Life are committed to putting their customers first. This partnership is a testament to their shared vision of providing holistic financial solutions that meet the needs of individuals and families. The partnership between Karnataka Bank and HDFC Life goes beyond traditional banking services. lt represents comprehensive approach to financial wellness, offering customers a variety of financial tools to secure their future.

#### 7. Draupadi Murmu will award AFMC with President's Colour



President Draupadi Murmu is all set to confer the prestigious President's Award on the Armed Forces Medical College (AFMC) on the occasion of its platinum jubilee year at a grand ceremony on December 1. On December 1, President Draupadi Murmu is set to confer the prestigious President's Honor on the Armed Forces Medical College (AFMC) at a grand ceremony, marking its platinum jubilee year. Given the reputation of AFMC as a premier establishment within the Armed Forces Medical Services (AFMS) and its position as one of the leading medical colleges in the country, the event assumes vital importance. The AFMC is positioned as an icon of medical education within the AFMS and is recognized globally for its ethos and unwavering commitment to the highest standards of medical training. The institution has played an important role in preparing medical professionals for the armed forces and contributing to the healthcare of the nation. A distinctive feature of AFMC is its role in appointing medical cadets to the Army, Navy and Air Force. Graduates from this prestigious institute not only receive top-notch medical education but also play important roles in the defense forces, further strengthening the link between medical expertise and military service. A special cover, postage stamp and commemorative coin will be released by President Draupadi Murmu at the ceremony. These symbolic elements enhance the historical significance of the occasion, providing tangible artifacts to commemorate AFMC's platinum jubilee celebration. The function is expected to be attended by representatives of the Armed Forces as well as senior dignitaries and officials from the Central and State Governments. The gathering will highlight the national importance of AFMC and its role in shaping not only military health care but also the larger medical landscape of the country. Underlines its role in contributing.

8. Bengaluru tops in women-led startups, Mumbai second



India's startup scene has seen remarkable growth, emerging as the third largest hub in the world after the United States and China. Karnataka capital Bengaluru tops the list of women-led startups with 1,783 womenleading to gender diversity led startups, in entrepreneurship. Despite the overall success of the startup ecosystem, the gender gap remains a significant challenge. According to Traxon data, Bengaluru leads the way in women-led startups with 1,783 ventures, followed by Mumbai (1,480) and Delhi (1,195). Noida, Kolkata and Ahmedabad also make notable contributions at eighth, ninth and tenth positions respectively, reflecting the geographical distribution of women entrepreneurs in India. Karnataka has taken pioneering steps to support women entrepreneurs. It became the first state in India to provide a grant-in-aid of Rs 50 lakh to incentivize innovators requiring earlystage funding without taking equity in return. The program particularly highlights women entrepreneurs, with 30% of winners being female founders. Prominent women-led startups in India include Zomato, Byju's, OffBusiness, Upstox, Lenskart and Open. These companies have not only made their mark in their respective industries but have also served as role models for aspiring women entrepreneurs. While the funding landscape for the growth of women-led startups from 2014 to 2022, with the number of funding rounds rising from 171 to 460, 2023 presents a different picture. The number of funding rounds is expected to reduce to 185. Funding for women-led startups has declined, with only seven startups receiving funding this year, down from 183 in 2014. This downturn highlights the challenges women face in accessing capital.



### **1.** When was Africa Industrialization Day celebrated recently?

- A-11 November
- **B-17 November**
- C-14 November
- **D-20 November**

Every year 20 November is celebrated as Africa Industrialization Day. This is a time when governments and other organizations in many African countries are assessing ways to encourage Africa's industrialization process. Also, it is an opportunity to draw worldwide media attention to the problems and challenges of industrialization in Africa. Within the framework of Africa's Second Industrial Development Decade (1991– 2000), the United Nations General Assembly observed 20 November as "Africa Industrialization Day" in 1989. Had announced his departure. Since then, various events are organized on this day around the world by the United Nations to raise awareness about the importance of industrializing Africa and the challenges faced by the continent.

2. Military Exercise 'Vajra Prahar' It is organized between India and which country?

- (a) France
- (b) Australia
- (c) USA

#### (d) Japan

The 14th edition of the special military exercise "Vajra Prahar" organized between India and USA is being organized in Umroi, Meghalaya. Exercise Vajra Prahar is a joint exercise conducted between the Indian Army and the US Army Special Forces. The first edition of this exercise was organized in India in the year 2010.

**3.** Who has recently become the new Prime Minister of the European country Luxembourg?

#### (a) Luke Frieden

- (b) Xavier Bettel
- (c) Ken Marsh
- (d) Giles Roth

Former Finance Minister Luc Frieden of the Christian Social People's Party has now become the new Prime Minister of Luxembourg. Former Prime Minister Xavier Bettel will take on the role of Foreign Affairs Minister. Luxembourg, a small but influential European country, is about to undergo a significant political transition as former Finance Minister Luke Frieden takes over the role of Prime Minister. The change comes after recent elections, where Frieden's Christian Social People's Party (CSV) emerged victorious, reshaping the country's political dynamics. In last month's election, Luxembourg's traditional center-right political force CSV won a decisive victory, breaking away from the coalition government that had previously united liberals, socialists and the Greens.

4. 'Atal Innovation Mission' With which country has it signed an agreement to promote circular economy startups?

- (a) Italy
- (b) Canada
- (c) Russia
- (d) Australia

Atal Innovation Mission' NITI Aayog has launched a new accelerator to advance Australian and Indian circular economy startups. Rapid Innovation and Startup Expansion (RISE) was launched as a new accelerator. 'Atal Innovation Mission' It is a major initiative of the Government of India to promote innovation and entrepreneurship in the country.

5. When is World Fisheries Day celebrated every year?

- (a) 19 November
- (b) 20 November
- (c) 21 November
- (d) 22 November

World Fisheries Day is celebrated every year on 21 November to raise awareness about the importance of fisheries and support the livelihoods of people dependent on fisheries. The theme of World Fisheries Day 2023 is 'Celebrating Fisheries and Aquaculture Wealth'. (Celebrating the Wealth of Fisheries and Aquaculture). In 1997, the "World Forum of Fish Harvesters and Fish Workers" A meeting was held in New Delhi, which led to the formation of the "World Fisheries Forum" Was established. Representatives from 18 countries signed a declaration advocating for the global adoption of sustainable fishing practices and policies.

6. 'Global Fisheries Conference India' Where is 2023 being held?(a) West Bengal

#### (b) Gujarat

#### (c) Tamil Nadu

#### (d) Maharashtra

Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Parshottam Rupala inaugurated the Global Fisheries Conference India 2023 at Gujarat Science City, Ahmedabad. 'Global Fisheries Conference India' It is being organized by the Fisheries Department. Its objective is to advance the country in fisheries and aquaculture sector. The Global Fisheries Conclave India 2023 was envisioned by the Department of Fisheries with the aim to chart a way forward for the Indian fisheries and aquaculture sector in collaboration with stakeholders across the fisheries value chain.

### 7. Who has become the first Indian to win the International Emmy Award?

(a) Arman Malik

- (b) R Madhavan
- (c) Vicky Kaushal
- (d) Veer Das

Actor-comic Vir Das in his Netflix stand-up special 'Vir Das: Landing' Won the International Emmy Award in the Best Comedy category for. He has become the first Indian artist to win this award. The 51st International Emmy Awards were held in New York City, America. This award show was organized by the International Academy of Television Arts and Sciences (IATAS). It is worth noting that earlier in 2021 also, Veer Das was invited to host his comedy show 'To India'. He was nominated for the Emmy International Awards but could not win the award. This year 'Delhi Crime 2' Actress Shefali Shah and Rocket Boys 2' for (Netflix) Actor Jim Sarab was also nominated for the International Emmy Award for (Sony Liv)

8. Eko has partnered with which actor as 'Voice of the Customer'?

- (a) R Madhavan
- (b) Armaan Malik
- (c) Vicky Kaushal
- (d) Veer Das

Acko, the insurtech company making insurance convenient, transparent and accessible for Indians, has roped in a renowned actor as its 'Voice of the Customer' Has partnered with R Madhavan. Acko, the insurtech company that makes insurance convenient, transparent and accessible for Indians, has partnered with renowned actor R Madhavan as its 'Voice of the Customer' Is of. The collaboration aims to address common misconceptions about insurance and empower consumers to make informed decisions. This strategic partnership between Eko and R Madhavan is an important step towards bridging the trust gap in the Indian insurance industry. By leveraging Madhavan's influence and Eko's expertise, the collaboration aims to empower consumers with the knowledge and tools needed to make informed insurance decisions.

#### ONE LINER

Which bank has announced a strategic partnership with HDFC Life, one of India's leading life insurance providers - Karnataka Bank

AFMC to be awarded President's Color - Draupadi Murmu

Who has recently become the new Prime Minister of the European country Luxembourg - Luke Frieden

Who has become the first Indian to win the International Emmy Award - Vir Das

When is World Fisheries Day celebrated every year – 21 November

Military Exercise 'Vajra Prahar' It is organized between India and which country – USA

'Atal Innovation Mission' With which country has an agreement been made to promote circular economy startups – Australia

When has Africa Industrialization Day been celebrated recently - 20 November

Eko has partnered with which actor as 'Voice of the Customer' - R Madhavan

'Global Fisheries Conference India' Where is the 2023 event being held – Gujarat