



The ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

LANGUAGE - ENGLISH

CURRENT AFFAIR BOOSTER

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Tuesday



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DAILY

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QUIZ



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1. 97.26% of ₹2000 notes returned to banks, RBI revealed



The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has achieved a significant milestone in its monetary policy as it has successfully withdrawn 97.26 per cent of ₹2,000 bank notes from circulation by May 19, 2023. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has achieved a significant milestone in its monetary policy as it has successfully withdrawn 97.26 per cent of ₹2,000 bank notes from circulation by May 19, 2023. This step was initiated to serve its purpose. These notes were to meet the currency requirements of the economy after the withdrawal of legal tender status of all ₹500 and ₹1,000 bank notes in circulation during the demonetization of November–December 2016. In November and December 2016, India witnessed a historic demonetization process when the government decided to invalidate all ₹500 and ₹1,000 bank notes in circulation. This bold step was aimed at curbing black money, fake currency and promoting digital transactions. To replace the void created by demonetization, RBI introduced ₹2,000 bank notes with advanced security features to ensure their authenticity. Fast forward to May 19, 2023, when the RBI announced the withdrawal of ₹2,000 bank notes. The total value of these notes in circulation at that time was Rs 3.56 lakh crore. The objective of introducing these notes was essentially accomplished as bank notes of other denominations became available in sufficient quantities. This marked the beginning of the withdrawal process. The withdrawal process, which lasted for several months, is nothing less than a remarkable success. As of November 30, 2023, the total value of ₹2,000 bank notes in circulation has declined to ₹9,760 crore, showing a significant decline from the initial ₹3.56 lakh crore.

2. Orissa's daughter Manisha Padhi becomes India's first Woman Aide-De-Camp



Air Force (IAF) woman officer Squadron Leader Manisha Padhi has been appointed as India's first woman Aide-de-Camp (ADC) in the Indian Armed Forces. With this, Manisha Padhi has become the first woman ADC of the country. Squadron Leader Manisha Padhi has been appointed Aide-de-Camp (ADC) by Mizoram Governor Dr Hari Babu Kambhampati. Manisha Padhi, a resident of Baharampur, Odisha, formally assumed her post on November 29 and first reported to the Governor of Mizoram. This unprecedented decision is not only an important milestone but also a powerful testament to the ability of women to break gender norms and excel in various fields. Mizoram Governor Dr Hari Babu Kambhampati has appointed 2015 batch Indian Air Force officer Manisha Padhi as India's first woman Aide-de-Camp (ADC). Speaking on the occasion, Mizoram Governor Dr Hari Babu Kambhampati said, her appointment is not just a milestone but serves as a testament to the remarkable capabilities of women who challenge gender norms and excel in various fields. The Governor stressed the importance of celebrating this remarkable achievement and encouraged continued support for women empowerment in every field. The appointment of Squadron Leader Manisha Padhi stands as a symbol of progress, inspiring others to challenge traditional gender roles and contribute to a more inclusive and diverse society. Squadron Leader Manisha Padhi formally assumed charge of her post and reported to the Governor, where she was introduced to the officers and staff of Raj Bhavan, Mizoram. Earlier, Squadron Leader Manisha Padhi has been posted at three Air Force Stations including Bidar, Air Force Station Pune and lastly Air Force Station Bhatinda.

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3. Cabinet approves terms of 16th Finance Commission



Recently, the Union Cabinet approved the terms of reference for the Sixteenth Finance Commission (SFC). At a press conference on Wednesday, Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Singh Thakur revealed that the chairman and members of the SFC will be appointed “as soon as possible”. The SFC is expected to submit its comprehensive report by October 31, 2025, covering the five-year period with effect from April 1, 2026. The terms of reference issued by the Cabinet mainly contain constitutionally mandated provisions. These include the distribution of the net proceeds of taxes between the Central Government and the States, the principles governing grants-in-aid of State revenues from the Consolidated Fund of India and measures to supplement resources for Panchayats and Municipalities in the States. Traditionally, Finance Commissions have been consulted on a number of matters beyond their constitutional mandates. For example, the Fifteenth Finance Commission (FFC) chaired by NK Singh considered the impact of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) on states, expenditure on performance-based incentives and populist measures. Additionally, an additional section was added to the agenda of the FFC, exploring the possibility of states contributing to the country's defense expenditure. The terms of reference also include a notable clause relating to the Disaster Management Fund. “The Commission may review the existing arrangements on financing of disaster management initiatives in terms of the Fund constituted under the Disaster Management Act, 2005 (53 of 2005) and make appropriate recommendations thereon,” it said. This signals a possible shift in the Commission's role towards addressing critical issues such as disaster preparedness and recovery.

4. India, Sweden announce launch of LeadIT 2 in Dubai



Prime Minister Narendra Modi along with his Swedish counterpart Ulf Christerson launched the Leadership Group for Industry Transformation Partnership during the COP28 World Climate Action Summit held in Dubai. India and Sweden announced the launch of the Leadership Group for Industry Transition 2.0 (LeadIT 2.0) in Dubai on December 1. The announcement was made during the Leadership Group for Industry Transition (LeadIT) event co-organized by India and Sweden. The event was led by PM Modi and his Swedish counterpart Ulf Christerson. LeadIT brings together countries, companies and industry experts to achieve net-zero emissions from heavy industries by 2050. The initiative promotes collaboration between decision makers in the public and private sectors to create policies and practices to accelerate industry transformation. Prime Minister Modi stressed the importance of inclusive industry transformation as the main objective of LeadIT 2.0. The initiative aims to bridge the technological gap by promoting cooperation among nations for the development and transfer of low-carbon technologies. The focus on inclusivity underlines the importance of ensuring that emerging economies have access to sustainable and environmentally friendly technologies. Founded in 2019, LeadIT has grown as a collaborative effort with 18 countries and 20 industry-leading companies. Emphasizing the shared commitment to global net zero, Prime Minister Modi underlined the important role of government-industry partnerships. Initially focusing on key sectors such as iron, steel, cement and aluminium, the LeadIT initiative prioritized industry transformation and knowledge exchange. This has been instrumental in

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accelerating the adoption of low-carbon technologies, in line with global environmental objectives.

5. Bharat Coking Coal Limited starts 5.0 MTPA Madhuband washery operations



Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL), under the Ministry of Coal, has announced the commencement of commercial operations of the state-of-the-art 5.0 million tonne per annum (MTPA) Madhuband Washery. This washery has started commercial operations on 29 November 2023 in the presence and guidance of Samiran Dutta, Chairman and Managing Director, Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL). The washery was formally inaugurated by Union Minister for Coal, Mines and Parliamentary Affairs Pralhad Joshi, marking an important occasion for the coal and steel sectors in India. This technologically advanced washery is strengthening its position as one of the largest coking coal washeries in India for its logistics efficiency and state-of-the-art technology. This coking coal washery will act as a catalyst for the vision of a self-reliant India by being able to supply more washed coking coal to the steel sector of the country. This will help in reducing the outflow of foreign exchange through import of coking coal. This technologically advanced washery is not just a coal processing unit; It symbolizes the catalyst for the vision of a self-reliant India. By enabling the country to supply more washed coking coal to the steel sector, washeries play an important role in reducing the outflow of foreign exchange through coking coal imports. The commencement of commercial production at this washery reflects BCCL's continued efforts towards import substitution of coking coal in India. This is a very important step in view of the current challenges faced by the steel industry due to rising prices of imported

coking coal. Further, this initiative is in line with achieving the goal of import substitution by increasing the supply of indigenous washed coking coal at competitive prices, which will lead to growth of the economy. This washery ensures consistent supply of quality washed coking coal to the steel sector. Which will help in efficient utilization of our limited coking coal reserves through advanced washing processes.

6. Arshia Sattar received French honor



Renowned writer and translator Arshia Sattar has added another feather to her cap by being honored with the Knight of the Order of Arts and Letters by the French government. This prestigious award was presented by Thierry Matthau, Ambassador of France to India, at a ceremony held at the Consulate General of France in Bengaluru on 28 November. Arshia Sattar, aged 63 and based in Bengaluru, has made significant contributions to Indian literature and mythology. Notable among his works are the translations of epics like Ramayana and Mahabharata as well as the stories of Kathasaritsagara. His literary ability extends to creating engaging books for children, with "The Mahabharata for Children" earning him the Sahitya Akademi Award for Children's Literature in 2022. Beyond translation and writing, Sattar also ventured into podcasting with the creation of a nine-part series titled 'The River Has No Fear of Memories'. The podcast, released earlier this year, pays tribute to the life and legacy of renowned playwright and actor Girish Karnad. In 2008, Arshia Sattar co-founded the literary residency, Sangam House, with David William Gibson. The aim of this initiative is to provide a nurturing space for writers in regional languages. Over the years,

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Sangam House has hosted over 200 writers from India and across the world. Notably, it is a proud member of the Villa Swagatam network of residences, an initiative launched by the French Institute in India in March 2023, comprising 16 Indian residences related to arts and crafts, performing arts and literature.

7. Foxconn announced to invest 1.5 billion dollars in India



Foxconn, a major manufacturing partner of iPhone maker Apple, plans to invest \$1.54 billion in India after boosting revenues in the South Asian market. Foxconn said in a filing to the stock exchange in Taiwan that this investment will help it meet its operating needs. The announcement of this investment comes two months after the Taiwanese company made public its plan to double its workforce and investment in India by next year. Foxconn works with many well-known tech giants including Apple for manufacturing. The company is working towards strengthening plants in India as many tech giants want to shift a part of their manufacturing to India. Experts consider this to be a part of the China Plus One policy. Foxconn, which is the largest EMS (Electronic Manufacturing Services) provider globally. The company invested extensively in China between 2001 and 2017, although this has slowed down since 2018 after increasing trade tensions between the US and China. Foxconn, which operates three manufacturing complexes in India, had earlier this year pulled out of its \$19.5 billion chipmaking joint venture with Vedanta. However, the company had said that it will continue its work in India and is confident about India's ambitions. The company has said, "Starting afresh in a new place is a challenge, but Foxconn is committed to investing in India. We have been working on challenges like this since the 1980s. Foxconn is a part of Government of India's 'Make in India' initiative. We

will continue to strongly support the ambitions and meet the needs of stakeholders." Last August, Foxconn had announced an investment of \$600 million in two projects in Karnataka to manufacture chip-tools and casing components for the iPhone.

8. IIT Guwahati advances defence, starts drone technology training for armed forces personnel



Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati (IITG) launched a three-month training program on drone technology specifically designed for junior commissioned officers and other ranks of personnel in the armed forces. According to an official statement from IITG, the program aims to enhance air defense capabilities while offering post-retirement career opportunities in the rapidly growing drone technology sector. The program implemented by IITG's Center for Educational Technology, Center for Intelligent Cyber Physical Systems, Center for Drone Technology (CDT) and Technology Innovation and Development Foundation is the first of its kind. Iyer said the customized curriculum will provide participants with the knowledge, perception and vision needed for success in the diverse drone industry or as technology entrepreneurs. Thirty officers from various armed forces are currently enrolled in the programme, which involves theoretical classroom sessions and practical drone handling. Training includes robotics, 3D printing, practical flying with instructors and solo flying. Brigadier Rajiv Kapoor stressed that the program not only expands the officers' understanding of drone technology and its applications in the global environment, but also provides insight into the civilian sector and acquaints them with the corporate working environment.

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QUIZ

1. Recently Manisha Padi of which state has become India's first Woman Aide De Camp?

A-Odissa

B-Chhattisgarh

C-Andhra Pradesh

D- all

Air Force (IAF) woman officer Squadron Leader Manisha Padhi has been appointed as India's first woman Aide-de-Camp (ADC) in the Indian Armed Forces. With this, Manisha Padhi has become the first woman ADC of the country. Squadron Leader Manisha Padhi has been appointed Aide-de-Camp (ADC) by Mizoram Governor Dr Hari Babu Kambhampati. Manisha Padhi, a resident of Baharampur, Odisha, formally assumed her post on November 29 and first reported to the Governor of Mizoram. This unprecedented decision is not only an important milestone but also a powerful testament to the ability of women to break gender norms and excel in various fields.

2. Who has recently been awarded the French literary honour?

A- Manoj Jain

B- Arshiya Sattar

C-Michael Douglas

D- all

Famous writer and translator Arshiya Sattar has added another feather to her cap by being honored with the Knight of the Order of Arts and Letters by the French government. This prestigious award was presented by Thierry Matthau, Ambassador of France to India, at a ceremony held at the Consulate General of France in Bengaluru on 28 November. Arshiya Sattar, aged 63 and based in Bengaluru, has made significant contributions to Indian literature and mythology. Notable among his works are the translations of epics like Ramayana and Mahabharata as well as the stories of Kathasaritsagara. His literary prowess extends to creating engaging books for children, with "The Mahabharata for Children" earning him the Sahitya Akademi Award for Children's Literature in 2022. Found.

3. Who has recently launched his new book 'Welcome to Paradise'?

A- Radhika Iyengar

B- Twinkle Khanna

C- Amrit Mathur

D- all Twinkle Khanna with a new book, 'Welcome to Paradise' is back with a collection of short stories named. The new book was recently launched in Mumbai in the presence of several B-Town celebrities. Twinkle's new book, her fourth, is titled 'Welcome to Paradise' is launched with Karan Johar at Taj Lands End, Mumbai. 'Welcome to Paradise' A collection of short stories centered around women who are at a crossroads. In their lives, dealing with themes of love, marriage, loneliness etc. The stories are written in Twinkle's trademark style of wit and humour. 'Welcome to Paradise' These stories, in some way or the other, pay homage to Twinkle's Ismaili grandmother and her world.

4. In which country has Foxconn recently announced an investment of 1.5 billion dollars?

A- India

B- Sri Lanka

C- Bangladesh

D- none

Foxconn, a major manufacturing partner of iPhone maker Apple, plans to invest \$1.54 billion in India after boosting revenues in the South Asian market. Foxconn said in a filing to the stock exchange in Taiwan that this investment will help it meet its operating needs. The announcement of this investment comes two months after the Taiwanese company made public its plan to double its workforce and investment in India by next year. Foxconn works with many well-known tech giants including Apple for manufacturing. The company is working towards strengthening plants in India as many tech giants want to shift a part of their manufacturing to India.

5. Which IIT recently started drone technology training for armed forces officers?

A- IIT Delhi

B- IIT Guwahati

C- IIT Kanpur

D- none

Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati (IITG) launched a three-month training program on drone technology specifically designed for junior

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commissioned officers and other ranks of personnel in the armed forces. According to an official statement from IITG, the program aims to enhance air defense capabilities while offering post-retirement career opportunities in the rapidly growing drone technology sector. The program implemented by IITG's Center for Educational Technology, Center for Intelligent Cyber Physical Systems, Center for Drone Technology (CDT) and Technology Innovation and Development Foundation is the first of its kind.

6. Where in UP will 'Dixon Technology's new factory be inaugurated recently?

- A- Agra
- B- Firozabad
- C- Noida
- D- all

Electronic manufacturing services company Dixon Technologies has announced to manufacture Xiaomi smartphones at its Noida facility in India. The new facility set up by Padet Electronics, a wholly owned subsidiary of Dixon, was inaugurated by Union IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnav. Padet Electronics has invested Rs 256 crore on this facility in India. The shares of Dictionary Technology India Limited closed at the level of Rs 5500 and it has given a return of about 10 percent to the investors in a day. With this, the shares of Dixon Technology India Limited, with a market cap of about Rs 35760 crore, have touched a 52-week high today.

7. Recently, which country's player Shane Dowrich has announced his retirement from international cricket?

- A- England
- B- Australia
- C- West Indies
- D- Sri Lanka

West Indies cricketer Shane Dowrich has announced his retirement from international cricket. Dowrich was selected in the Caribbean squad for the ODI series against England, but withdrew his name. Cricket West Indies announced the retirement of Shane Dowrich on 30 November. Shane Dowrich was included in the West Indies squad this month. 32-year-old Shane Dowrich has played 35 Tests and one ODI for West Indies. He last played a Test match for West Indies in December 2020. Dowrich made his Test debut

in 2015 against Australia. Dowrich played the only ODI in 2019.

8. Where has the Jal Shakti Ministry recently organized the Jal Itihas Utsav?

- A- Kochi
- B- Delhi
- C- Varanasi
- D- none

National Water Mission under the Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti has organized 'Jal Itihas Utsav' at Jahaz Mahal, Shamsi Talab in Mehrauli, Delhi on December 1, 2023. It aims to increase public awareness about the protection of water heritage sites, create a sense of ownership among the public, promote tourism and contribute to the restoration of these historical structures. The celebration marks the successful completion of the Water Heritage Fortnight held in various districts across the country from November 15 to November 30. It also marks the successful completion of Jal Shakti Abhiyan – Catch the Rain 2023 campaign. It aims to raise awareness about the protection of water heritage sites, create a sense of ownership among the public as well as promote tourism.

ONE LINER

Recently, Manisha Padi of which state has become India's first Woman Aide De Camp – **Odisha**

Where in UP 'Dixon Technology's new factory will be inaugurated - **Noida**

Which country's player Shane Dowrich has announced his retirement from international cricket - **West Indies**

Where has the Jal Shakti Ministry recently organized the Water History Festival - **Delhi**

Government of India and which state government has signed peace agreement with UNLF - **Manipur**

Which country has recently issued a record visa to 1.40 lakh Indian students - **America**

In which state preparations are being made to organize Sanskriti Utsav 2023 – **Uttar Pradesh**

Who has recently been awarded the French literary honor - **Arshiya Sattar**

Who has launched her new book 'Welcome to Paradise' - **Twinkle Khanna**

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Recently in which country Foxconn has announced to invest 1.5 billion dollars - **India**

Which IIT recently started drone technology training for armed forces officers - **IIT Guwahati**

