



The ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

LANGUAGE - ENGLISH

CURRENT AFFAIR BOOSTER

28 - 11 - 2023

Tuesday



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DAILY

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QUIZ



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1. Blue Dart partners with India Post for digital parcel locker service

BLUE DART



Courier company Blue Dart has launched digital parcel locker service in post offices in partnership with India Post. According to the statement issued by Blue Dart, with this service people will be able to collect their goods from digital parcel lockers in post offices. This eliminates the need for individual receipts or signatures for packages. The statement said that Blue Dart and India Post have entered into a strategic partnership for enhanced services. Under this, Blue Dart has installed automated digital parcel lockers in some selected post offices. This will offer customers another option to ship their items. Balfour Manuel, Managing Director, Blue Dart, said the partnership underlines the unwavering commitment to exceptional customer service, giving customers the option to avail packages at their convenience. Under this agreement, digital parcel locker service will be started in post offices. With this service, people will be able to collect their goods from digital parcel lockers in post offices. This eliminates the need for individual receipts or signatures for packages. This will offer customers another option to ship their items. Balfour Manuel, Managing Director, Blue Dart, said the partnership underlines the unwavering commitment to exceptional customer service, giving customers the option to avail packages at their convenience. One of the key features of digital parcel lockers is their 24/7 accessibility. Recipients can receive their deliveries at any time that suits them, adding a new level of flexibility to the logistics process. Additionally, the lockers are designed to be accessible only to authorized personnel, ensuring the security and integrity of the packages. +Balfour Manuel, Managing Director, Blue Dart emphasized the long-standing strategic business relationship between Blue Dart and India Post. This partnership underlines Blue Dart's

commitment to exceptional customer service and providing customers with convenient options for package collection.

2. Robert Shetkintong appointed as the High Commissioner of India to the Republic of Mozambique



Robert Shetkintong, current Ambassador of India to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, has been nominated as the next High Commissioner of India to the Republic of Mozambique. In a significant diplomatic move, Robert Shetkintong, current Ambassador of India to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, has been nominated as the next High Commissioner of India to the Republic of Mozambique. This strategic appointment marks a significant transition for Shetkyintong, a seasoned diplomat and 2001 batch Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer. Shetkintong's diplomatic career has been characterized by a commitment to promoting international relations and representing India on the global stage. Having served as Ambassador to Ethiopia, he has played an important role in strengthening bilateral relations between India and Ethiopia during his tenure. As Ambassador to Ethiopia, Shetkintong faced complex diplomatic challenges and contributed to deepening economic, political and cultural cooperation between the two countries. His efforts have not only strengthened India's presence in the Horn of Africa but also laid the groundwork for continued cooperation in various sectors. The decision to appoint Shetkintong as High Commissioner to Mozambique underlines the government's confidence in his diplomatic skills. Mozambique, with its growing importance in the Indian Ocean region, presents a unique set of opportunities and challenges. Shetkintong's rich experience enables

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him to understand the complexities of this new assignment. Belonging to the 2001 batch of the Indian Foreign Service, Shetkintong's career has been marked by dedication and excellence. His journey from an entry-level diplomat to High Commissioner reflects not only his individual achievements but also the strength and capability of India's diplomatic corps.

3. Pakistani all-rounder Imad Wasim retired



Pakistan's all-rounder Imad Wasim put a break on his eight-year long international cricket career. Wasim, who played a total of 121 matches for Pakistan including ODI and T-20, was out of the team for a long time. He was considered a vocal opponent of captain Babar Azam. Imad played his last match in T-20 format against New Zealand in Rawalpindi in April this year. Born on 18 December 1988 in the UK, Wasim made his international cricket debut in a T-20 match against Zimbabwe in Lahore in May 2015. Left-handed batsman Wasim scored 986 runs in 55 ODIs at an average of 42.86 and took 44 wickets with his left-arm spin. In 66 T20Is, Wasim scored 486 runs and took 65 wickets. However, Wasim said that now he wants to focus on franchise format cricket.' Imad has been a key member of the Pakistan team for many years and was part of the 2017 Champions Trophy-winning team. He also played in the 2016 T20 World Cup, 2019 World Cup and 2021 T20 World Cup.

4. Agreement between Integrated Defense Staff and CSIR for joint research in defense technology



Integrated Defense Staff and Council of Scientific and Industrial Research signed an MoU for joint research in defense technology. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was officially signed between Headquarters, Integrated Defense Staff (HQ IDS) and Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR). Focused on technical cooperation, joint research and development in the field of defense technology, this agreement is set to have a significant impact on India's defense capabilities. The MOU ceremony, which is a testament to the commitment of both the institutions. The MoU ceremony included the signatures of the following: Lieutenant General JP Mathew, Chief of Integrated Defense Staff to the Chairman Chiefs of Staff Committee (CISC), Ministry of Defense (MoD), and N. Kalaiselvi, Director General, CSIR and Secretary, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR), Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST). The MoU establishes a comprehensive framework to promote collaborative interaction between CSIR Labs, HQ IDS and the Indian Armed Forces including the Indian Army, Indian Navy and Indian Air Force. The primary goal is to enhance scientific understanding of defence-related technologies and to conduct joint research and development in the area of dual-use technologies. The Defense Ministry underlined the common interests shared by HQ IDS and CSIR in pursuing joint research and development in defense technologies. This collaboration is rooted in the shared vision of 'Scientific Cooperation in Support of the Indian Armed Forces'. The partnership is designed to achieve mutual benefits by leveraging the strengths and expertise of both entities. By pooling resources and knowledge, HQ IDS and CSIR aim to advance defense technologies for the collective benefit of the Armed Forces. This collaborative effort is aligned with the overarching national goal of achieving 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' – a self-reliant India. The strategic partnership is

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likely to accelerate indigenization efforts of the armed forces, promote autonomy and self-reliance in defense capabilities.

5. India announces launch of biogas blending for domestic use



India will start blending compressed biogas with natural gas to boost domestic demand and cut dependence on natural gas imports, the government said in a statement. A mandatory phase-out for use in automobiles and homes will begin at 1% from April 2025. The share of mandatory blending will be increased to about 5% by 2028. India is one of the world's largest importers of oil and gas, shipping almost half of its total gas consumption and is looking to cut its import costs. The government aims to have 1% sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) in aircraft turbine fuel by 2027, which will double to 2% in 2028. SAF targets will initially apply to international flights. These steps are aimed at helping India achieve net zero emissions target by 2070. India, a major global importer of oil and gas, currently sources about half of its total gas consumption from external suppliers. By implementing the biogas blending initiative, the government aims to reduce import costs and increase energy self-reliance.

6. Agreement between India and European Union to make semiconductors



An agreement for semiconductor manufacturing was signed between India and the European Union. This agreement was agreed after the virtual meeting of India and European Union Trade and Technology Council (TTC). In this meeting, India's External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, Railways, Communications, Information and Technology Minister Ashwani Vaishnav and Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal represented the Indian team. India is in talks with many strategic partner countries for cooperation in semiconductor manufacturing. This is also being discussed under the Quad organization but for the first time India has signed an agreement with a strategic partner with the European Union. India and EU will share their experiences on semiconductor ecosystem. The India and European Union Trade and Technology Council (TTC) was formed in the meeting between PM Narendra Modi and European Union President Ursula Bonne Leyen in April 2022. The first meeting of the India and EU Trade and Technology Council was held in Brussels in May 2023. Several working groups have been formed under the India and EU Trade and Technology Council (TTC). This working group has also prepared a roadmap for technology cooperation between India and the EU. After semiconductors, discussions are now going on for cooperation in cutting edge industries like high capacity computers, EV batteries etc. According to this agreement, both the parties will make a common strategy in the manufacturing of hundreds of different equipment related to it. The Trade and Technology Council is expected to meet in India in early 2024, the EU said in a statement. It is also expected to facilitate cooperation through talent, workforce development, workshops, organization of partnerships and promotion of direct investment for the semiconductor industry.

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The EU has said the agreement will ensure a level playing field in the semiconductor sector, including sharing information on public subsidies granted.

7. Afghanistan permanently closed its embassy in India



Afghanistan has recently announced the permanent closure of its Delhi-based embassy. At the same time, the heads of its Mumbai and Hyderabad missions have claimed to take over the leadership of the embassy. The embassy had announced on September 30 that it was closing its operations from October 1. The mission then cited lack of support from the Indian government, failure to serve Afghanistan's interests and meet expectations, and shortage of personnel and resources. Issuing a statement, the embassy said that it regrets to announce the permanent closure of its diplomatic mission in New Delhi with effect from November 23 due to continued challenges from the Government of India. The decision further follows the embassy's decision to cease operations on September 30, the statement further said. This step was taken in the hope that the attitude of the Government of India would change favorably to allow the mission to operate normally. The Afghan Embassy said, unfortunately, despite a wait of eight weeks, the objectives of extension of visas for diplomats and change in the conduct of the Indian government could not be achieved. Faced with continued pressure from both the Taliban and the Indian government to relinquish control, the embassy had to make a difficult choice. However, Zakia Wardak, Consul General of Afghanistan in Mumbai and Syed Mohammad Ibrahimkhil, Acting Consul General in Hyderabad, announced in a statement that in view of the friendly relations between India and Afghanistan, they reiterate that they have extended their support to

the Embassy in New Delhi. It has been decided to ensure continuous functioning. Both diplomats said they have taken over the leadership of the Afghanistan embassy in New Delhi. Wardak and Ibrahimkhil requested everyone to ignore and disregard the unprofessional and irresponsible communications issued by former Afghan diplomats, saying they have no right to interfere in the internal affairs of the Afghan Embassy in New Delhi .

8. Navy, Coast Guard will buy 15 C-295 aircraft for maritime surveillance



Acquisition of 15 C-295 transport aircraft is on the horizon for the Indian Coast Guard and Navy, with the Navy considering nine aircraft and the Indian Coast Guard keen to purchase six aircraft. Taking a significant step towards enhancing self-reliance in the defense sector, the Indian Coast Guard and Navy are set to acquire 15 C-295 transport aircraft. Acquisition proposals are currently in the advanced stage within the Defense Ministry, with the Navy eyeing nine aircraft and the Indian Coast Guard planning to buy six aircraft. The C-295 transport aircraft is being manufactured in India through a collaborative effort between Tata Advanced Systems and Airbus. This collaboration not only strengthens the country's defense capabilities but also promotes indigenous manufacturing and technological expertise. This aircraft will play an important role in maritime operations in line with the strategic objectives of the Indian Armed Forces. The acquired transport aircraft will be equipped with state-of-the-art radars and sensors, which will be converted into maritime patrol aircraft by the Center for Airborne Systems (CABS) of the Defense Research and Development Organisation. This upgrade will enhance the surveillance and reconnaissance capabilities of the Indian Armed

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Forces, especially in the maritime areas. Indian Coast Guard Chief Director General Rakesh Pal stressed on plans to acquire long-range maritime surveillance aircraft, with a contract set to be signed with Tata Advanced Systems Ltd for six C-295 transport aircraft. The support of the Ministry of Defense in expediting the acquisition processes reflects the government's dedication to enhancing national security. In addition to the C-295 transport aircraft, the Indian Coast Guard is set to sign contracts for nine advanced-light helicopters, notably the ALH Dhruv manufactured by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited. These acquisitions indicate a comprehensive modernization plan, encompassing a range of advanced and indigenous platforms to meet various operational requirements. If the proposed order of 15 C-295 aircraft is approved by the government, it will increase the Tata Airbus order book from the current 56 to a total of 71. It symbolizes the continued cooperation and trust between the two entities and underlines the success of the joint ventures in advancing the country's defense manufacturing capabilities.

QUIZ

1. National Milk Day 2023 has been celebrated?

- (a) 26 November
- (b) 24 November
- (c) 25 November
- (d) 22 November

National Milk Day is celebrated on 26 November in India. It was celebrated for the first time in the year 2014. Its main objective is to promote milk production and make people aware about health. As we all know that due to lack of calcium in the body, bones start becoming weak. To overcome calcium deficiency, doctors always recommend drinking milk. Calcium is found in abundance in milk. Essential nutrients including protein are also found. For this, milk should be consumed daily. Unlike many celebrations, National Milk Day 2023 does not follow any specific theme. Instead, it emphasizes the broader concept of emphasizing the general importance of milk consumption. The day remains flexible in its approach, reminding us of Dr. Kurien's determination and the prosperity of the Indian dairy industry.

2. Where has the second season of 'Ultimate Kho Kho League 2023' been organized recently?

- (a) Kochi
- (b) Hyderabad
- (c) Bhubaneswar
- (d) Patna

The player auction for the second season of Ultimate Kho Kho (UKK) was successfully conducted in Bhubaneswar. Players were selected from six franchises. In the A category, 30 players have been selected at a salary of Rs 6 lakh each, while in the B category, 36 players have been selected at a salary of Rs 6 lakh each. In Category C, 55 players will get Rs 3 lakh each, in Category D, 24 players will get Rs 1.5 lakh each and Rs 5 lakh each. Odisha Juggernauts, Chennai Quick Guns, Gujarat Giants, Mumbai Khiladi, Rajasthan Warriors and Telugu Warriors were the six teams that will participate in the tournament. The combination of minimum 20 and maximum 35 players, with a total allocated purse of Rs 3.90 crore. 6 teams retained 18 players.

3. Who has been announced as the President of the International Sugar Organization for the year 2024?

- (a) India
- (b) Brazil
- (c) China
- (d) America

India became the President of the International Sugar Organization. The International Sugar Organization, headquartered in London, has announced India's appointment as chair of the organization for 2024 in its 63rd council meeting. India has been the largest consumer and second largest producer of sugar in the world. With about 15% share in global sugar consumption and about 20% of sugar production, Indian sugar trends deeply influence global markets.

4. Which state has launched 'Hot Cooked Meal Scheme' for children in Anganwadi centres? started?

- (a) Andhra Pradesh
- (b) Uttar Pradesh
- (c) Gujarat
- (d) Rajasthan

UP launches 'Hot Cooked Meal Scheme' for children at Anganwadi centres. Started. CM Yogi Adityanath launches 'Hot Cooked Meal Scheme' in Uttar Pradesh

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Has been started, under which nutritious food will be provided to children aged 3 to 6 years in Anganwadis. The initiative aims to provide 70 grams of food grains per beneficiary per day in the form of hot cooked meals. He also laid the foundation stone of 3,401 Anganwadi centres. He said that this initiative will benefit 80 lakh children.

5. Which day has been named as World Sustainable Transport Day?

- (a) 25 November
- (b) 27 November
- (c) 26 November
- (d) 29 November

The United Nations General Assembly has designated 26 November as World Sustainable Transport Day, in a decisive step towards promoting sustainable and environment-friendly transport. The resolution underlines the vital role of transport in connectivity, trade, economic growth and employment, while acknowledging its significant contribution to greenhouse gas emissions. The pursuit of sustainable transport is not only an environmental imperative but also a key strategy for achieving the broader Sustainable Development Goals. Theme :- World Sustainable Transport Day 2023 focuses on the theme "Sustainable Transport, Sustainable Development".

6. _____ has been appointed as the High Commissioner of India to Mozambique in November 2023?

- (a) Santosh Jha
- (b) Taranjit Singh Sandhu
- (c) Robert Shetkintong
- (d) Vikram Doraiswamy

Robert Shetkintong, current Ambassador of India to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, has been nominated as the next High Commissioner of India to the Republic of Mozambique. In a significant diplomatic move, Robert Shetkintong, current Ambassador of India to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, has been nominated as the next High Commissioner of India to the Republic of Mozambique. This strategic appointment marks a significant transition for Shetkintong, a seasoned diplomat and 2001 batch Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer. Shetkintong's diplomatic career has been

characterized by a commitment to promoting international relations and representing India on the global stage. Having served as Ambassador to Ethiopia, he has played an important role in strengthening bilateral relations between India and Ethiopia during his tenure.

7. Where did Anish Bhanwala win the bronze medal in the men's 25 meter rapid fire pistol event?

- (a) Delhi
- (b) Doha
- (c) Beijing
- (d) Tokyo

Anish Bhanwala won bronze medal in men's rapid fire pistol event at ISSF WC. In shooting, Indian shooter Anish Bhanwala won a bronze medal in the men's 25m rapid fire pistol event at the ISSF World Cup Final 2023. It took place in Doha, Qatar. Competing at the Lusail Shooting Range, Anish Bhanwala scored 27 out of 35 in the final for third place. It was also the first medal for India in the men's 25m rapid fire pistol event in the history of the ISSF World Cup Finals.

8. What is the title of the short film which won the '75 Creative Minds of Tomorrow' award at IFFI? Won the Best Film Award in Film Challenge?

- (a) Odd
- (b) Breathe
- (c) Vaccine
- (d) AI

'75 Creative Minds of Tomorrow' at IFFI In 'Ode' Received the Best Film Award. In Goa, a fresh and thought provoking short film, 'Ode', set on the receding coastline of Goa. '75 Creative Minds of Tomorrow' organized at the 54th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) Won the Best Film Award in the Film Challenge. The initiative is in its third year, to be celebrated as 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' in 2021 to mark India's 75th year of independence. Was launched as part of the ceremony. As part of the Film Challenge, 75 contestants were divided into five teams who played 'Mission Life'. Made short films on the topic in 48 hours. The initiative is in its third year, to be celebrated as 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' in 2021 to mark India's 75th year of independence. Was launched as part of the ceremony.

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ONE LINER

Which state has launched 'Hot Cooked Meal Scheme' for children in Anganwadi centres Started - **Uttar Pradesh**

National Milk Day 2023 is celebrated on - **26 November**

Where did Anish Bhanwala win bronze medal in men's 25 meter rapid fire pistol event - **Doha**

What is the theme of International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, 2023 - **Unite! Invest to prevent violence against women and girls**

Which day has been named as World Sustainable Transport Day - **26 November**

Vijayawada Railway Station received Platinum certification from IGBC (Indian Green Building Council). In which state is Vijayawada Railway Station located - **Andhra Pradesh**

What is the title of the short film which won the '75 Creative Minds of Tomorrow' award at IFFI? Won Best Film Award in Film Challenge - **Ode**

Who appointed as High Commissioner of India to Mozambique - **Robert Shetkintong**

Who has been announced as the President of International Sugar Organization for the year 2024 - **India**

Where has the second season of 'Ultimate Kho Kho League 2023' been organized recently - **Bhubaneswar**