



# The ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

LANGUAGE - ENGLISH

## CURRENT AFFAIR BOOSTER

11 - 12 - 2023

Monday



### THE ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

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THE ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY



# DAILY

# CURRENT AFFAIRS

# &

# QUIZ



UPSC / BPSC

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## 1. Launch of 'Green Rising' initiative to empower youth in environmental initiatives



UNICEF's Generation Unlimited with India's Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change launches 'Green Rising' to engage youth in impactful grassroots environmental action. On December 8, at COP-28, UNICEF's Generation Unlimited, in collaboration with India's Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, unveiled the "Green Rising" initiative. This ground-breaking initiative through India's Yuva Abhiyaan, taking inspiration from the Mission Life movement, places special emphasis on engaging youth in impactful environmental action at the grassroots level. Expressing gratitude for the opportunity, Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Bhupendra Yadav stressed the importance of youth in achieving a sustainable world. The Minister recognized their sensitivity to climate change and stressed their valuable role in climate action. He highlighted the need to equip them with the right knowledge and skills while emphasizing on the fusion of technical skills and environmental consciousness. Union Minister Bhupendra Yadav underlined India's commitment under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to a sustainable world. They called for joint initiatives to build youth capacity as future climate leaders and stressed the importance of green jobs. The Minister outlined India's communication and outreach programs designed to reconcile traditional and modern climate-friendly values.

## 2. List of Dadasaheb Phalke Award Winners (1969 - 2023)



Dadasaheb Phalke Award is known as the pinnacle of recognition in the Indian film industry. Here is the list of Dadasaheb Phalke Award winners from 1969 to 2023. The Dadasaheb Phalke Award stands as the pinnacle of recognition in the Indian film industry, honoring individuals for their extraordinary contribution to the growth and development of Indian cinema. Instituted in 1969 by the Government of India, the award is given in memory of the great Dadasaheb Phalke, known as the "Father of Indian Cinema". Dadasaheb Phalke's groundbreaking work includes directing India's first full-length feature film, "Raja Harishchandra" in 1913. The inaugural presentation of the Dadasaheb Phalke Award took place in 1969, with actress Devika Rani as the first recipient. Devika Rani, renowned for her contribution to Indian cinema, was honored at the 17th National Film Awards, setting a tradition of recognizing outstanding achievers in the film fraternity. The Dadasaheb Phalke Award is presented annually at the National Film Awards ceremony, organized by the Directorate of Film Festivals, an organization under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. This prestigious honor includes a Swarna Kamal (Golden Lotus) medallion, a shawl and a cash prize of ₹1,000,000 (US\$13,000). The recipients are selected through a meticulous process under the supervision of a committee composed of eminent personalities from the Indian film industry.

## 3. Google introduces AI model 'Gemini'

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Google took its next leap into artificial intelligence with the launch of Project Gemini, an AI model trained to behave human-like, which is likely to stoke debate about the potential promise and dangers of the technology. The rollout will unfold in phases, including Gemini's "Nano" and "Pro". Less sophisticated versions called Bard will immediately be included in Google's AI-powered chatbot and its Pixel 8 Pro smartphone. With the help of Gemini, Google promises that Bard will become more intuitive and better at tasks that involve planning. According to Google, on the Pixel 8 Pro, Gemini will be able to instantly summarize recordings made on the device and provide automatic replies on messaging services starting with WhatsApp. Gemini's biggest advancements won't come until early 2024 when its Ultra model will be used as "Bard Advanced". What will be launched is a juiced-up version of the chatbot that will initially be offered only to a test audience. The AI, at first, will only work in English around the world, although Google executives assured reporters during a briefing that the technology would have no problem eventually diversifying into other languages. Based on a demonstration of Gemini to a group of journalists, Google's "Bard Advanced" Unprecedented AI could be capable of multitasking by simultaneously recognizing and understanding presentations consisting of text, photos, and video. Gemini will also eventually be incorporated into Google's flagship search engine, although the timing of that change has not yet been made clear.

#### 4. Tata Motors opens its fourth scrapping plant in Punjab



Tata Motors inaugurated its fourth Registered Vehicle Scrapping Facility (RVSF) in Chandigarh, developed and operated by its partner Dada Trading Company. Domestic auto major Tata Motors has taken a significant step towards promoting environmental sustainability with the inauguration of its fourth Registered Vehicle Scrapping Facility (RVSF) in Chandigarh. This state-of-the-art facility, developed and operated by Tata Motors' partner, Dada Trading Company, underlines the company's commitment towards responsible manufacturing and eco-friendly practices. In a press statement, Tata Motors revealed that the Chandigarh RVSF is equipped with state-of-the-art technology, employing eco-friendly processes to safely and sustainably segregate 12,000 end-of-life vehicles annually. The facility is designed to scrap both passenger and commercial vehicles, irrespective of their brand, further enhancing Tata Motors' reach in the sustainable scrapping domain. Tata Motors already boasts of three RVSFs in Jaipur, Bhubaneswar and Surat, reflecting the company's strategic vision of setting up a comprehensive network of scrapping facilities across the country. This expansion is indicative of Tata Motors' dedication to reducing carbon emissions, promoting a circular economy and fostering a culture of recycling. Shailesh Chandra, managing director, Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles and Tata Passenger Electric Mobility, highlighted the role of the facility in encouraging vehicle owners to retire older, more polluting commercial and passenger vehicles. The initiative aims to lead to a more sustainable future by promoting the adoption of new, safer and fuel-efficient vehicles.

#### 5. Wax statue of Baba Ambedkar installed in Jaipur Wax Museum

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In a significant tribute to the chief architect of the Indian Constitution, Dr. BR Ambedkar, a wax statue has been unveiled at the Jaipur Wax Museum, Nahargarh Fort. The museum's founding director, Anoop Srivastava, shared the inspiration behind the addition, citing demand from tourists and visitors. The wax statue was inaugurated on 6 December on the occasion of Mahaparinirvan Diwas to commemorate the demise of Baba Saheb Ambedkar. Anoop Srivastava highlighted that the decision to create the wax statue was influenced by the many tourists from across India who visited the museum expressing their desire to see a representation of Baba Saheb. The statue stands as a testament to the enduring popularity of Dr. BR Ambedkar's legacy and a recognition of his vital role in shaping the constitutional framework of India. The wax statue finds its place within the grandeur of the Rashtrapati Bhavan, sharing space with the likeness of another iconic figure, Bharat Ratna Dr. Abdul Kalam, the Missile Man of India. This symbolic placement aims to capture the essence of two great personalities who have played a vital role in shaping the destiny of the country. Crafted with meticulous detail, the wax statue stands at an impressive height of 5 feet 11 inches, weighing approximately 38 kg. The statue faithfully replicates the iconic image of Baba Saheb, showing him holding the Constitution book in his hand and dressed in his distinctive blue suit. This faithful representation serves to highlight the image deeply embedded in people's minds. Anoop Srivastava emphasized that Baba Saheb's life is an enduring source of inspiration for future generations. By immortalizing his image in wax, the Jaipur Wax Museum aims to contribute to the preservation and celebration of the legacy of Dr BR Ambedkar, ensuring that his contributions to Indian society are remembered and honoured.

## 6. ZPM leader Lalduhoma becomes the new Chief Minister of Mizoram, takes oath of office and secrecy



Zoram People's Movement leader Lalduhoma took oath as the Chief Minister of Mizoram. Lalduhoma took oath as CM during a ceremony held at the Raj Bhavan complex in Aizawl. Along with this, Zoram People's Movement (ZPM) leader Vanlalhalana, C. Lalsavivunga took oath as cabinet minister. Officials said that some other ZPM leaders will also take oath as ministers today. He told that Governor Hari Babu will administer the oath of office and secrecy to Kambhampati Lalduhoma and other ministers. The swearing-in ceremony was held in the Raj Bhavan complex in Aizawl. During this time, Lalduhoma was the CM and Vanlalhalana, C. Lalsavivunga took oath as cabinet minister. Mizoram has a 40-member assembly and the state can have 12 ministers including the Chief Minister. ZPM won 27 out of 40 seats in the state assembly elections. ZPM legislature party made Lalduhoma its leader and K. Sapdanga was chosen as the deputy leader. ZPM media cell general secretary Eddy Josangliyana said the party's advisory body Val Upa Council met Lalduhoma on Wednesday to decide the composition of the Council of Ministers. Mizoram, which has a 40-member assembly, can have 12 ministers including the Chief Minister. ZPM was registered as a political party in 2019. ZPM ousted the Mizo National Front (MNF) led by outgoing Chief Minister Zoramthanga from power. MNF, which won 26 seats in the 2018 elections in the state, won only 10 seats.

## 7. Arjun Munda got the responsibility of Agriculture Ministry in place of Narendra Singh Tomar.

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President Draupadi Murmu accepted the resignations of Union Agriculture Ministers Narendra Singh Tomar, Prahlad Singh Patel and Renuka Singh Saruta. Now Union Minister Arjun Munda has been given additional charge of Agriculture Ministry in place of Narendra Singh Tomar. Minister of State Shobha Karandlaje was given additional charge of Minister of State in the Ministry of Food Processing Industries. Minister of State Rajiv Chandrashekar was given the additional charge of Minister of State in the Ministry of Jal Shakti. Apart from this, Minister of State Bharati Praveen Pawar has been given additional charge as Minister of State in the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. Arjun Munda already has the Minister of Tribal Affairs while Shobha Karandlaje is the Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare. Besides, Rajeev Chandrashekar is also the Minister of State in the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology. Apart from this, Bharti Praveen is already holding the post of Minister of State in the Union Health and Family Welfare Department. After the resignation of Narendra Singh Tomar and Prahlad Singh Patel from the post of ministers, it is believed that both the leaders are in the race to become the CM of Madhya Pradesh. This is also because there is discussion in the political circles that BJP wants to give a chance to a new face. Although the party has not said anything regarding this. Saruta, Lok Sabha MP from Chhattisgarh, had recently contested the state assembly elections and won from Bharatpur-Sonhat seat. Let us tell you that BJP has achieved a big victory in both the states.

## 8. Nirmala Sitharaman and three other Indians included in "World's 100 Most Powerful Women"



In the latest release of Forbes' annual list of "The World's Most Powerful Women", four notable Indian celebrities have made it. Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, HCL Corporation Chairperson Roshni Nadar Malhotra, Steel Authority of India Chairperson Soma Mandal and Biocon Executive Chairperson Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw have earned a place in this prestigious list. Nirmala Sitharaman, who served as India's first full-time female Finance Minister, achieved her best ranking at number 32, her fifth consecutive appearance on the list. Forbes highlighted his groundbreaking role and emphasized his prior experiences at the UK-based Association of Agricultural Engineers and the BBC World Service before entering politics. Roshni Nadar Malhotra, ranked 60, who took over as chairperson of HCL in July 2020, is an MBA from Kellogg School of Management. According to his official website, apart from his corporate success, his passion for wildlife and conservation is notable. She is married to Shikhar Malhotra and has two sons. Steel Authority of India Chairperson Soma Mandal is at 70th position. She created history as the first woman to lead SAIL in January 2021. A graduate in electrical engineering, Mandal's leadership is credited with propelling the state-run company to record financial growth, tripling profits to Rs 120 billion in his inaugural year. Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw, founder of biopharmaceutical firm Biocon in 1978, is ranked 76th. She was also among the richest people in India, according to a Forbes profile, after successfully leading Biocon into the lucrative US market. The top positions on the list are dominated by politicians, with European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen taking the No. 1 spot. He is followed by European Central Bank President Christine Lagarde, US Vice President Kamala Harris and Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni.

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## QUIZ

1. When has Armed Forces Flag Day been celebrated recently?

- (a) 5th December
- (b) 6th December
- (c) 7th December
- (d) all

Armed Forces Flag Day, celebrated every year on 7th December, holds a special place in our hearts as we pay tribute to the indomitable spirit and sacrifice of the soldiers, sailors and airmen who guard our borders. The day reminds us of the unwavering dedication of our armed forces and provides an opportunity to citizens to contribute to their welfare. Established on August 28, 1949 by the Ministry of Defence, the Armed Forces Flag Day was named to honor the brave men and women in uniform. For this tribute, December 7 was chosen as the annual day to recognize the selfless service and sacrifice of our armed forces personnel. Soldiers are one of the biggest assets of any country. They are the protectors of the nation and protect its citizens at all costs.

2. Who has recently released 1000 qubit quantum chip for the first time?

- (a) Wipro
- (b) Infosys
- (c) IBM
- (d) all

IBM has unveiled the first quantum computer with more than 1,000 qubits. The qubit equivalent of digital bits in a normal computer was unveiled in a chip called Condor, which features 1,121 superconducting qubits arranged in a honeycomb pattern. Quantum computers promise to perform some calculations that are beyond the reach of classical computers. They do this by taking advantage of specific quantum phenomena such as entanglement and superposition. Superposition is the ability of a quantum system to be in multiple states at the same time as long as it is not measured. But these quantum states are also extremely unstable, and prone to error.

3. Which advanced AI model has been launched by Google's parent company Alphabet?

- (a) Aqua
- (b) Gemini

- (c) Neo
- (d) gossip

Google took its next leap into artificial intelligence with the launch of Project Gemini, an AI model trained to behave human-like, which is likely to stoke debate about the potential promise and dangers of the technology. The rollout will unfold in phases, including Gemini's "Nano" and "Pro". Less sophisticated versions called Bard will immediately be included in Google's AI-powered chatbot and its Pixel 8 Pro smartphone. With the help of Gemini, Google promises that Bard will become more intuitive and better at tasks that involve planning. According to Google, on the Pixel 8 Pro, Gemini will be able to instantly summarize recordings made on the device and provide automatic replies on messaging services starting with WhatsApp.

4. At what rate has RBI maintained the repo rate for the 5th consecutive time?

- (a) 6.00%
- (b) 6.25%
- (c) 6.50%
- (d) 6.75%

RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das has announced the monetary policy. For the fifth consecutive time, RBI has kept the repo rate at 6.50% without making any changes. Along with this, Governor Shaktikanta Das has also released the GDP growth estimate which has been increased from 6.5 percent to 7 percent. The Monetary Policy Committee is chaired by the RBI Governor.

5. 'Jaipur Wax Museum' Whose statue was unveiled recently?

- (a) Dr. B.R. Ambedkar
- (b) Lata Mangeshkar
- (c) Narendra Modi
- (d) Sachin Tendulkar

The chief architect of the Indian Constitution, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's statue was unveiled at the Jaipur Wax Museum, Nahargarh Fort. The height of this wax statue is 5 feet 11 inches and weight is 38 kilograms. This museum was established in 2016 with the cooperation of the Department of Archeology and Museums of the Government of Rajasthan. The statue faithfully replicates the iconic image of Baba Saheb, showing him holding the Constitution book in his hand

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and dressed in his distinctive blue suit. This faithful representation serves to highlight the image deeply embedded in people's minds.

**6. Which Union Minister has been given additional charge of the Agriculture Ministry by President Draupadi Murmu?**

- (a) Renuka Singh Saruta
- (b) Arjun Munda
- (c) Rajiv Chandrashekhar
- (d) Shobha Karandlaje

After the assembly elections, President Draupadi Murmu has accepted the resignations of Union ministers Narendra Singh Tomar, Prahlad Singh Patel and Renuka Singh Saruta. Union Tribal Affairs Minister Arjun Munda has been given additional charge of Agriculture Ministry. Whereas Union Minister Rajiv Chandrashekhar has been given additional charge of Jal Shakti Ministry as Minister of State.

**7. Who has taken oath as the new Chief Minister of Mizoram?**

- (a) Vanlalruata
- (b) Lalduhoma
- (c) Zoramthanga
- (d) Kambhampati Hari Babu

Zoram People's Movement (ZPM) leader Lalduhoma took oath as the Chief Minister of Mizoram. Party leader Vanlalruata also took oath as a cabinet minister at the Raj Bhavan. Mizo National Front leader and outgoing Chief Minister Zoramthanga was also present on the occasion. Lalduhoma has taken oath as the sixth Chief Minister of the state.

**8. Who inaugurated the Uttarakhand Global Investors Summit?**

- (a) Narendra Modi
- (b) Pushkar Singh Dhama
- (c) Amit Shah
- (d) Rajnath Singh

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the two-day Uttarakhand Global Investors Summit at the Forest Research Institute, FRI, in Dehradun. The main objective of this summit is to establish Uttarakhand as a new center of investment. On this occasion, the PM also launched the House of Himalaya brand of women self-help groups of the state.

## ONE LINER

Who has recently been appointed as Youth Voter Awareness Ambassador for Jammu and Kashmir - **Suresh Raina**

Where has Tata Motors recently opened its fourth scrapping plant - **Chandigarh**

When has Armed Forces Flag Day been celebrated recently - **7 December**

Who has released 1000 qubit quantum chip for the first time - **IBM**

Which advanced AI model has been launched by Google's parent company Alphabet - **Gemini**

At what rate has RBI maintained the repo rate for the 5th consecutive time - **6.50%**

'Jaipur Wax Museum' Whose statue was unveiled recently in - **Dr. B.R. Ambedkar**

Which Union Minister has been given additional charge of Agriculture Ministry by President Draupadi Murmu - **Arjun Munda**

Who has taken oath as the new Chief Minister of Mizoram - **Lalduhoma**

Who inaugurated the Uttarakhand Global Investors Summit - **Narendra Modi**