



# The ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

LANGUAGE - ENGLISH

## CURRENT AFFAIR BOOSTER

16 - 12 - 2023

Saturday



### THE ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

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THE ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY



# DAILY

# CURRENT AFFAIRS

# &

# QUIZ



UPSC / BPSC

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## 1. PM Modi unveils 7th edition of 'Pariksha Pe Charcha'



Prime Minister Narendra Modi said his 'Pariksha Pe Charcha' initiative aims to transform stress into success, so that students can take the exam with a smile. His comments came on a post by the Union Education Ministry on It has urged people to participate in 'Pariksha Pe Charcha' activities and win a chance to interact with Prime Minister Modi. PM Modi said the aim of Pariksha Pe Charcha is to transform stress into success, enabling exam warriors to take the exam with a smile. Who knows, the next big study suggestion may come straight from our interactive session. 'Pariksha Pe Charcha' is an annual event where Modi interacts with students appearing for the upcoming board exams. During the programme, they also answer students' questions related to exam stress and other issues. Responding to another post celebrating two years of the Kashi Vishwanath Corridor, Modi said Kashi is continuously prospering, with new developments in various sectors including infrastructure, culture, tourism, commerce, innovation and others. Touching the heights. In another post on Twitter, Modi said there is immense excitement as Kashi is once again ready to welcome people for Kashi Tamil Sangamam, a celebration of rich cultures. Around 2050 students, teachers and parents selected through competitions on MyGov will receive Special Pariksha Pe Charcha Kit from the Ministry of Education. This recognition serves as a symbol of appreciation for his active participation and contribution to academic discourse.

## 2. Manish Malhotra designed dresses for Air India crew members



Manish Malhotra has added his flair to the attire of Air India's cabin crew and pilots. Now the female cabin crew of the airline will wear ombre sarees with a modern touch, while the men will be seen wearing bandhgallas. Also for the cockpit crew, Manish has designed classic black suits. This new uniform of Air India cabin crew will be started with Airbus A350 service. The ombre sarees for Air India's senior female cabin crew will be purple-to-burgundy, paired with purple blazers, with the junior female cabin crew in red-to-violet sarees paired with red blazers. Are going to be visible. The cockpit crew livery is inspired by the Vista, featuring a classic black double-breasted suit with a Vista print. Manish Malhotra said that his aim was to design a dress that reflected the essence of India's diverse culture and traditions while also looking modern and sophisticated. These sarees are very comfortable and can be paired with pants also. The airline said in one of its press conferences that this step has been taken keeping in mind the preferences and comfort of the female cabin crew and its objective is to present a unique East-meets-West look to the people. Manish Malhotra said that his aim is to create a uniform that reflects the essence of India's culture and traditions while also giving a modern and unique look. He also said "I feel honored to get the opportunity to design the uniform for Air India. It is a matter of good fortune for me. He also said that he wanted to create a dress that would show the essence of India's culture and traditions as well as give a modern and unique look. During the interaction, Campbell Wilson, Chief Member and Managing Director, Air India, said, "The Air India crew uniform is one of the world's most iconic uniforms in history, and we believe that Manish Malhotra's creation of the Air India Will write a good and new chapter for the story of history. This dress beautifully reflects our new identity, service principal and our work. Not only this, the designer has also prepared shoes to wear with

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the uniform. While the women will be wearing dual-tone (black and burgundy) block heels, the male cabin crew will be seen wearing comfortable black brogues. The uniform also includes pearl earrings and sling bags for female cabin crew.

### 3. Fine of Rs 50,000 for overcharging for Aadhaar services



The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has taken strict action against operators found guilty of overcharging and has also imposed a fine of Rs 50,000 against them. In a significant move to ensure fair and affordable access to Aadhaar services, the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has taken strict action against operators found guilty of overcharging and also imposed a fine of Rs 50,000 against them. The move is aimed at ensuring fair and accessible services to all citizens, Minister of State for Electronics and IT Rajeev Chandrashekhkar said, detailing these measures in a written reply in the Lok Sabha. UIDAI, responsible for the implementation of the Aadhaar program, has established a comprehensive regulatory framework to govern the provision of Aadhaar services. This framework covers enrollment and update processes, aimed at maintaining transparency and preventing exploitation of citizens through unauthorized charges. Minister of State for Electronics and IT Rajeev Chandrashekhkar stressed that all Aadhaar operators are bound not to charge more for any service, including the crucial process of updating biometric and demographic details. The purpose of this prohibition is to ensure that Aadhaar services remain accessible and affordable to every citizen. To enforce compliance, UIDAI has implemented a strong penalty system for those overcharging for Aadhaar services. When reports of overcharging are received, the authority conducts a thorough investigation. If the violation is proven, a

significant financial penalty of Rs 50,000 is imposed on the person responsible for the enrollment register. Additionally, the operator concerned faces suspension as a result of his actions.

### 4. Mahendra Singh Dhoni's number 7 jersey retired



The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has decided to retire the iconic number 7 jersey of the Indian cricket team's legendary captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni (MS Dhoni). BCCI has taken this decision almost 3 years after the international retirement of MS Dhoni. However, before Dhoni, BCCI had retired the number-10 jersey of God of Cricket Sachin Tendulkar. After this decision of BCCI, now number 7 jersey will not be made available to any other Indian player. Let us tell you that BCCI has taken this decision to honor the contribution of Mahendra Singh Dhoni (MS Dhoni) in Indian cricket. According to a report published in Indian Express, BCCI has decided to retire Dhoni's T-shirt for his contribution to the game. MS Dhoni's iconic number 7 jersey will not be worn by any other Indian cricketer and number-10 was already out of the list of available numbers. NDTV has also received this information from other sources. According to sources, BCCI has told the players of the Indian team that they cannot wear the number 7 on their back while wearing the Indian jersey. Players are currently not allowed to wear number 10 jersey. Mahendra Singh Dhoni had decided to retire from the international format on 15 August 2020, whereas he had retired from the test format in the year 2014 itself.

### 5. SBI to sign EUR 70 million LOC with KfW for solar projects

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State Bank of India said it will sign a line of credit (LoC) worth 70 million euros (about Rs 630 crore) with German development bank KfW to promote the solar project. SBI said in a regulatory filing that the agreement will be signed on December 14 at the bank's IFSC GIFT City branch in Ahmedabad. The objective of the LOC is to support solar photovoltaics (PV) projects in India. The country's largest lender SBI reported a 9.13 per cent rise in consolidated net profit for the September quarter at Rs 16,099.58 crore from Rs 14,752 crore in the year-ago period. On a standalone basis, it made a net profit of Rs 14,330.02 crore, compared with Rs 13,264.52 crore in the year-ago period. The bank reported a total income of over Rs 1.12 lakh crore in the quarter under review, up from Rs 88,733 crore in the year-ago period.

## 6. Famous AIDS activist Dr. Gao Yaoji dies at the age of 95



Dr. Gao Yaoji, a leading Chinese doctor and activist, has died in the United States at the age of 95. She was known for her fearless exposure of the AIDS virus epidemic in rural China during the 1990s. Columbia University professor Andrew J. Nathan, who had legal

power of attorney for Gao, confirmed his death. Gao rose to prominence as China's most prominent AIDS activist, exposing blood-selling schemes that infected thousands of people with HIV. His unwavering commitment to tackling the crisis earned him international recognition and forced the Chinese government to confront the AIDS epidemic in the 2000s. In 2009, she made the bold move to the United States, where she continued her advocacy through public speaking and writing about her experiences. His move to America gave him a platform to share his experiences and insights, raising awareness of the AIDS crisis in rural China. Gao's work resonated beyond China's borders and received recognition from international organizations and authorities. Born on December 19, 1927, in Shandong province, Gao's life unfolded during a tumultuous period in China's history. They faced challenges such as the Japanese invasion and civil war which brought the Communist Party to power. Despite suffering beatings during the Cultural Revolution, he received medical education in Henan.

## 7. Asad Shafiq announces retirement from all forms of cricket



Pakistan's Asad Shafiq has said goodbye to all formats of cricket. Asad was out of Pakistan cricket team for a long time. Regarding retirement, he said that he no longer had that enthusiasm for cricket. Apart from this, he also said that his fitness to play international cricket is not testifying. Asad Shafiq, who played all three formats for Pakistan, was out of the team for the last three years. He mainly played Test and ODI cricket for the team. Asad played his last international match in August 2020, which was a Test against England. Since then, he continuously tried to make a place in the team but failed. He played his last ODI for the team in 2017

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against Australia. Lack of place in the team became a major reason for his retirement. Asad Shafiq, who entered international cricket in 2010, played 77 Tests, 60 ODIs and 10 T20 International matches in his career. In 128 Test innings, he scored 4660 runs at an average of 38.19, which included 12 centuries and 27 half-centuries. Batting in 58 innings of ODI, he scored 1336 runs at an average of 24.74, which included 9 half-centuries. Apart from this, 192 runs came from his bat in 10 innings of T20 International.

## 8. COP28 concludes with historic agreement on fossil fuels



The 28th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP28) concluded with an unprecedented decision – the “UAE Consensus” – marking a historic step towards addressing the climate crisis. However, the agreement has sparked debate due to alleged discrepancies between words and deeds and the lack of financial commitments. For the first time, participating parties agreed to confront the issue of fossil fuels, and recognize the imperative of a “fair and equitable” transition away from them. The appointment of Sultan Al Jaber, CEO of Abu Dhabi National Oil Company, as COP28 president raised concerns about potential industry impact, but the decision was widely praised as an important step forward in addressing fossil fuels. Extensive negotiations and several drafts were necessary to reach a final agreement, allowing the conference to extend beyond its scheduled completion date. The Presidency underlined the need for ambitious language to limit global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius, describing it as the “North Star”. Despite these efforts, the final decision left some developing countries dissatisfied. Several developing countries, including Bolivia, Cuba, China and members of the “G-77 and

China” group, expressed dissatisfaction with the final text on fossil fuels. He argued that this undermined the principles of equity and climate justice. Developing countries highlighted the lack of concrete financial commitments to transition away from fossil fuels, raising questions about the global commitment to climate action. Finance emerged as a key sticking point at COP28, with developing countries highlighting its essential role in climate action. Despite the UN Convention's mandate for developed countries to take the lead in financing climate efforts, specific financial commitments were conspicuously absent. The launch of the Loss and Damage Fund did not ease concerns, as developing countries questioned the lack of transparency in tracking and measuring finance flows.

## QUIZ

1. 'Gao Yaoji' passed away recently. Who was she?

- (a) writer
- (b) singer
- (c) poet
- (d) doctor

Dr. Gao Yaoji, a leading Chinese doctor and activist, has died in the United States at the age of 95. She was known for her fearless exposure of the AIDS virus epidemic in rural China during the 1990s. Columbia University professor Andrew J. Nathan, who had legal power of attorney for Gao, confirmed his death. Gao rose to prominence as China's most prominent AIDS activist, exposing blood-selling schemes that infected thousands of people with HIV.

2. Recently, which country's cricketer Asad Shafiq has retired from all formats?

- (a) Pakistan
- (b) Bangladesh
- (c) Afghanistan
- (d) none

Pakistan's Asad Shafiq has said goodbye to all formats of cricket. Asad was out of Pakistan cricket team for a long time. Regarding retirement, he said that he no longer had that enthusiasm for cricket. Apart from this, he also said that his fitness to play international cricket is not testifying. Asad Shafiq, who played all three formats for Pakistan, was out of the team for the last three years. He mainly played Test and ODI cricket

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for the team. Asad played his last international match in August 2020, which was a Test against England.

### 3. Who won the title of Miss India USA 2023?

- (a) Ayushi Kapoor
- (b) Riju Maini
- (c) Kirti Kamra
- (d) Saloni Rammohan

Riju Maini, a medical student from Michigan (US), won the title of Miss India USA 2023 in the annual competition held in New Jersey. Sneha Nambiar of Massachusetts was declared Mrs. India USA. Saloni Rammohan of Pennsylvania was given the title of Miss Teen India USA. This year marks the 41st anniversary of the competition which is the longest running Indian competition outside India.

### 4. BCCI has recently decided to retire the jersey of which former cricketer?

- (a) Saurabh Ganguly
- (b) Rahul Dravid
- (c) Yuvraj Singh
- (d) MS Dhoni

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has decided to retire the iconic number 7 jersey worn by former captain MS Dhoni. BCCI has taken this decision to honor Dhoni's achievements. Earlier, BCCI had retired the jersey number 10 of the great Sachin Tendulkar. Now Dhoni's name has also been added to this special club.

### 5. Who has been named as the United World Wrestling Rising Star of the Year 2023?

- (a) Sakshi Malik
- (b) Nisha Dahiya
- (c) Geetika Jakhar
- (d) Antim Panghal

Two-time U-20 world champion and senior world bronze medalist Anant Panghal (53kg) has been named as the United World Wrestling (UWW) Rising Star of the Year 2023 in the women's category. Last Panghal won a silver medal in his Senior Asian Championship debut. In view of his excellent performance, United World Wrestling has honored him with the Rising Star of the Year 2023.

### 6. With whom has the Defense Ministry signed an agreement for the purchase of electronic fuses?

- (a) Bharat Heavy Electronics Limited
- (b) Bharat Electronics Limited
- (c) Tata Power
- (d) none of these

The Defense Ministry signed a deal worth over Rs 5,300 crore with Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) for the procurement of electronic fuses for the Indian Army for a period of 10 years. This electronic fuse is used in heavy caliber guns. Bharat Electronics Limited is an Indian government-owned aerospace and defense electronics company.

### 7. Fast Attack Craft 'INS Tarmugli' was commissioned at which Naval Dockyard?

- (a) Visakhapatnam Dockyard
- (b) Cochin Shipyard Limited
- (c) Hindustan Shipyard
- (d) Goa Shipyard Limited

Fast Attack Craft INS Tarmugli was commissioned by the Indian Navy in a program organized at Naval Dockyard, Visakhapatnam. INS Tarmugli is a fast attack ship. Vice Admiral Sandeep Naithani, Chief of Material was the chief guest of the commissioning ceremony. It is named after an island in the Andaman group.

### 8. Which bank has signed 'Line of Credit' with German Development Bank for solar project?

- (a) State Bank of India
- (b) Bandhan Bank
- (c) Punjab National Bank
- (d) ICICI Bank

State Bank of India (SBI) has signed a Line of Credit (LOC) of Euro 70 million (about Rs 630 crore) with German development bank KfW to promote solar projects in the country. The objective of the LOC is to promote solar photovoltaics (PV) projects in India. The objective of the LOC is to support solar photovoltaics (PV) projects in India. The country's largest lender SBI reported a 9.13 per cent rise in consolidated net profit for the September quarter at Rs 16,099.58 crore from Rs 14,752 crore in the year-ago period. On a standalone basis, it made a net profit of Rs 14,330.02 crore, compared with Rs 13,264.52 crore in the year-ago period.

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## ONE LINER

Recently 'Gao Yaoji' passed away. Who was she -

**Doctor**

Recently, which country's cricketer Asad Shafiq has

retired from all formats - **Pakistan**

With whom has the Defense Ministry signed an agreement for the purchase of electronic fuses- **Bharat Electronics Limited**

Who was the senior Congress leader and former minister of Kerala who passed away recently- **KP Vishwanathan**

Who have taken oath as two new Deputy Chief Ministers in Rajasthan- **Diya Kumari and Prem Chand Bairwa**

Fast Attack Craft 'INS Tarmugali' was commissioned at which Naval Dockyard - **Visakhapatnam Dockyard**

Who has taken oath as the new Chief Minister of Rajasthan- **Bhajanlal Sharma**

Who won the title of Miss India USA 2023- **Rijul Maini**

Which bank has signed 'Line of Credit' with the German Development Bank for solar project - **State Bank of India**

BCCI has recently decided to retire the jersey of which former cricketer - **MS Dhoni**

Who has been named as the United World Wrestling Rising Star of the Year 2023- **Last Panghal**



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