



# The ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

LANGUAGE - ENGLISH

## CURRENT AFFAIRS BOOSTER

06 – 05 – 22

FRIDAY



LANGUAGE - ENGLISH



### WORKSHOP ON... GEOGRAPHY FOR 68th BPSC PT



1ST APRIL, 2022  
( 12:00PM )



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## 1. NATO exercise 'Defender Europe 2022 and Swift Response 2022' has begun



The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) exercises, Defender Europe 2022 (DE22) and Swift Response 2022 (Swift Response 2022 - SR22) have started on May 01, 2022. The aim of this combat exercise is to build preparedness and interactivity between the United States (US) and allies and partners of NATO. This war exercise is scheduled from May 01 to May 27, 2022.

The Swift Response Yudh exercise is an annual US Army, Europe and Africa multinational training exercise that takes place this year in Eastern Europe, the Arctic High North, the Baltics and the Balkans. The exercise started in Poland and will be conducted in 8 other countries. The 5th Corps of the US Armed Forces is responsible for commanding this combat exercise. Around 18,000 participants from over 20 countries will train together in both the exercises. There will be about 7,000 soldiers and 3,000 equipment in the war exercise being held on Polish soil.

### **Defender Europe 2022:**

Defender-Europe 22 demonstrates the United States' unwavering commitment to NATO and is a prime example of our collective capabilities. It shows that NATO allies and partners are strong together.

### **Swift Response 2022**

In the Swift Response Warfare exercise, the 6th Airborne Brigade will form the core of the forces conducting an aerial operation. Some 550 Polish troops will be stationed in Lithuania and Latvia, along with troops from the Czech Republic and German-Dutch forces.

## 2. IRDAI allows insurance companies to invest up to 30% of assets in the BFSI sector



Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has assigned 25% to 30% of their assets to insurance companies in banking, financial services and insurance (BFSI) companies. The maximum limit for investment has been increased to Rs. As per the latest changes in Irdai's Investment Regulations, 2016, the exposure limit for financial and insurance activities will now be 30% of investment assets for all insurance companies. Housing financing companies and infrastructure financing companies will be part of the investment.

### **Key Points (KEY POINTS):**

- Experts believe that the increase in regulators will help insurers to bring their investments in financial and insurance activities closer to the broader Indian market index.
- Financial services firms, which include financial services companies including large banks, non-banking financial institutions (NBFCs) and insurance companies, currently account for about 35%.
- According to Sampath Reddy, Chief Investment Officer, Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance Company Limited, the weight of financial and insurance companies in the major Indian market indices has steadily increased over the years.
- According to Reddy, insurance companies will be able to own a wide range of different stocks as a result of IRDAI's approach.
- According to Mayank Gupta, co-founder and chief operating officer of Zopper, an insurtech company, increasing the investment assets limit from 25% to 30% is a good move for insurance companies.

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## 3. The first indigenous aircraft carrier 'INS Vikrant' to be handed over to the Indian Navy



India's first indigenous aircraft carrier INS Vikrant on Sunday began another test run for complex deep sea maneuvers before inducting into the fleet in August. The 40,000-tonne aircraft carrier successfully completed a five-day maiden voyage in August last year and conducted a 10-day sea trial in October last year. This is the largest and most complex warship to be built in India.

### Key Points (KEY POINTS):

- The Navy said that after the first sea trials, the performance of the major systems of the warship was found to be satisfactory.
- The warship was built at a cost of around Rs 23,000 crore, which pushed India into a restricted group of countries with the capability to develop state-of-the-art aircraft carriers.
- MiG-29K fighter jets, Kamov-31 helicopters and MH-60R multi-role helicopters will be used in the warship.
- It has about 2,300 coaches with special quarters for women officers, and is for a crew of about 1,700 people.
- According to officials, Vikrant has a top speed of about 28 knots and cruising speed of 18 knots, with a range of about 7,500 knots.
- The IAC is 262 meters long, 62 meters wide and 59 meters high. It is under construction since the year 2009.
- Cochin Shipyard Limited has built the warship.
- INS Vikramaditya is India's only aircraft carrier at present.
- In the light of China's growing military presence in the Indian Ocean region, the Indian Navy is working on enhancing its overall capabilities.

- The Indian Navy considers the Indian Ocean as its backyard, and it is vital to the country's strategic interests.

## 4. The name of 'Mian Ka Bada' railway station in Rajasthan has been changed to 'Mahesh Nagar Halt'



The name of 'Mian Ka Bada' railway station in Balotra area of Barmer district of Rajasthan was changed to "Mahesh Nagar Halt". Since independence, people of Rajasthan have been demanding to change the name of Mian Ka Bada village. They claim that the original name of the village was 'Mahesh Ro Bado'.

In the year 2018, the Rajasthan government changed the name of the village from Mian Ka Bada to Mahesh Nagar. For which the government had to make necessary amendments in the revenue records. On changing the name of the village, a proposal to change the name of the station was sent to the Ministry of Railways. The name of the railway station was changed from Mian Ka Bada to Mahesh Nagar Halt in 2021 after following proper procedures, but the inauguration was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The designated station was finally inaugurated on 30 April 2022.

## 5. Cochin Shipyard to Build India's First Domestic Hydrogen-Fuel Electric Ship





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Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal said on Saturday that Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL) will develop and build the first indigenous electric vessel based on hydrogen-fuel, in a move towards green shipping. The country's efforts towards shipping will gain momentum.

- Inaugurating the workshop on Green Shipping, Sonowal said that CSL will undertake this project in collaboration with Indian partners. He revealed the government's plan to build an electric ship based on hydrogen fuel in a step-by-step manner with 'Global Maritime Green Transitions'.

## **Key Points (KEY POINTS):**

- In a session titled Green Shipping in India - 2022, organized by the Ministry in collaboration with the shipyard and The Energy and Resources Institute, he shared the government's plan to build an electric vessel based on hydrogen fuel in step with 'Global Maritime Green Transitions'. disclosed.

- Fuel cells powered by hydrogen are an efficient, eco-friendly, zero-emissions direct current (DC) power source already used in heavy-duty bus, truck and train applications and are now being used for marine applications. is being developed.

- Sonowal said that the project will be executed by Cochin Shipyard in partnership with Indian partners.

- The shipyard has partnered with the Indian Register of Shipping (IRS) to draft laws and regulations for such ships along with KPIT Technologies and Indian developers for hydrogen fuel cells and power trains. In partnership, the ground work has started in this area.

The Fuel Cell Electric Vessel (FCEV), Hydrogen Fuel Cell Vessel based on Low Temperature Proton Exchange Membrane Technology (LT-PEM) is expected to cost around ₹17.50 crore, with the Center funding 75 percent of the cost. is seen as a springboard for the country to take advantage of the tremendous potential available in the coastal and inland-ship segments, both domestically and internationally.

## **6. Sangeeta Singh appointed as the chairman of CBDT**



Sangeeta Singh, a 1986 batch Indian Revenue Service (IRS) officer has been given the additional charge of chairperson of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT). JB Mohapatra has retired as CBDT chief on April 30, following which Sangeeta Singh has been given additional charge. At present, the board has four members including Sangeeta Singh.

Singh is currently holding the charge of Audit and Judicial. She is also holding additional charge of Income Tax and Revenue and Taxpayers Services. Her husband, Arvind Singh is an IAS of Maharashtra cadre and is currently working as the Tourism Secretary, Government of India.

## **Other appointments:**

Anuja Sarangi, a 1985 batch officer, has been appointed as Member (in charge of Administration and Faceless Scheme) of the Central Board of Direct Taxes, Nitin Gupta is in charge of the investigation and Pragya Sahay Saxena is in charge of the Central Board of Direct Taxes. Member (Law and System - in charge of legislation and systems).

## **What is CBDT?**

CBDT i.e. Central Board of Direct Taxes is a part of the Department of Revenue in the Ministry of Finance. All matters relating to direct taxes in India were handed over to the Central Board of Direct Taxes with effect from 1 January 1964. CBDT is empowered by the Board of Revenue Act 1963. CBDT provides necessary inputs for the policies and schemes of direct tax in India. Also it is responsible for the administration of direct tax laws through

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the Income Tax Department. The CBDT consists of six members. The chairman and members of the CBDT are selected from the Indian Revenue Service and the premier civil service of India.

## 7. International No Diet Day 2022 observed on 6th May



'International No Diet Day 2022' is celebrated all over the world on 6 May. On this day, people are made aware of body acceptance, leaving aside behaviour like body shaming, which includes people of all shapes and sizes. Forgetting problems like obesity, increasing weight, weakness, and belly fat, people express their love towards themselves on this day.

History of International No Diet Day:

In the year 1992, International No Diet Day was celebrated for the first time in the UK by British lady Mary Evans. Mary's purpose was to convince people that they should accept themselves as they looked. Mary wanted people to become aware of the harm caused by dieting.

## 8. ISRO plans mission to Venus by Dec 2024



The Indian Space Research Organisation will send a spacecraft to orbit Venus to study what lies below its surface, the space body's Chairperson S Somnath announced. ISRO is expecting to launch the mission by December 2024 with an orbital manoeuvre planned for a year after that. The orbital manoeuvre is the use of propulsion systems to

change the orbit of a spacecraft. It enables a spacecraft to enter a planet's orbit.

## 9. World Hand Hygiene Day 2022



World Hand Hygiene Day (WHHD) is annually observed across the globe on the 5th of May to maintain global promotion, visibility, and sustainability of hand hygiene in health care. This year, WHO is marking the day with the theme – 'Unite for safety: clean your hands, with a focus on encouraging people to clean their hands at the right times with the right products that will help lead to high quality safer care everywhere.'

### History of the day:

WHO launched the "Save Lives: Clean Your Hands" global annual campaign in 2009, which is celebrated as World Hand Hygiene Day on 5th May to further the goal of maintaining a global profile on the importance of hand hygiene in health care.

### ONE LINER

- Poland Capital: **Warsaw;**
- Poland Currency: **Polish Zloty;**
- President of Poland: **Andrzej Duda.**
- Chief Investment Officer, Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance Company Limited: **Sampath Reddy**
- Co-Founder and Chief Operating Officer of Zooper: **Mayank Gupta**
- Central Board of Direct Taxes Constitution: **1964;**
- Central Board of Direct Taxes Headquarters: **New Delhi.**
- Establishment of ISRO: **15 August 1969;**
- ISRO Headquarters: **Bengaluru;**
- ISRO Chairman: **S. Somnath.**

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- The country which topped the ICC T20I rankings - **India**
- The cricket stadium which will host the Tata IPL final 2022- **Narendra Modi Stadium**
- Who has become the first player to score most fifties in T20 cricket - **David Warner**
- Recently the Prime Minister of India held several bilateral meetings with his counterparts in Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Iceland and the country - **Finland**
- The number of seats proposed by the Jammu and Kashmir Delimitation Commission in the Jammu region - **43**
- The state whose Chief Minister announced that from October 1, only those people who will demand it will get subsidy on electricity bill- **Delhi**
- The month in which India's GST collection touched an all-time high of Rs 1.68 lakh crore this year - **April**
- The country which hosted the India-Nordic Summit 2022 – **Denmark**

