



The ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

LANGUAGE - ENGLISH

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LANGUAGE - ENGLISH



WORKSHOP ON... GEOGRAPHY FOR 68th BPSC PT



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1. World Bicycle Day 2022 observed on 3rd June



World Bicycle Day is marked on 3rd June every year to recognise bicycling as a way to get a sustainable form of travelling that also ensures one's physical well being. The day celebrates the tradition of cycling and its significant role in keeping our health fit. Cycling is a multidimensional exercise with numerous health benefits.

World Bicycle Day 2022: Significance

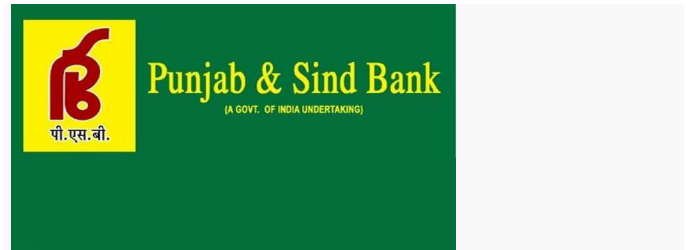
World Bicycle Day becomes all the more significant with the growing concerns around the lack of physical activities among people and its health hazards. A cycle is a clean, affordable, and environment-friendly mode of transportation and promoting its use contributes to the conservation of nature and achieving cleaner air and environment.

Moreover, encouraging the poorest section of the society to use a cycle might also help reduce cases of heart disease and diabetes.

World Bicycle Day: History

World Bicycle Day was first marked on June 3, 2018, when the United Nations first adopted a resolution during the 72nd Regular Session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York City in April. The declaration was adopted by more than 193 member states that encouraged them to include bicycles in regional, international, and subnational development programmes and policies.

2. Punjab & Sind Bank MD & CEO S Krishnan retires



Punjab & Sind Bank Limited, an Indian nationalised bank, announced that its MD & CEO, S Krishnan to retire from the role, with effect from May 31, 2022. He was appointed as Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer of Punjab & Sind Bank from the date of assumption of office till the date of his superannuation, i.e. 31.05.2022 or until further orders, whichever is earlier. It is now informed that Shri S Krishnan has retired upon his superannuation on 31.05.2022.

S Krishnan, a postgraduate in Commerce (M.Com) and qualified Cost Accountant (ICMA), took charge as Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer (MD & CEO) of Punjab & Sind Bank on 4th September 2020. Prior to joining Punjab & Sind Bank as MD & CEO, Krishnan was Executive Director of Syndicate Bank and Canara Bank. He started his carrier in Indian Bank in January 1983. He has a long and varied field of banking and administrative experience of nearly 38 years.

3. Union Minister Anurag Thakur Launches Nationwide Fit India Freedom Rider Cycle Rally



Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports, Anurag Thakur has launched a nationwide 'Fit India Freedom Rider Cycle rally' on World Bicycle Day. Thakur said that by riding a bicycle we can accomplish the goal of the Fit India Movement, the Khelo India movement, the Clean India movement & Healthy India movement. Fit India Movement,

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Khelo India movement, Clean India movement & Healthy India movement all can be accomplished by riding a bicycle. It'll also cut down the pollution level.

Notably, World Bicycle Day is observed on June 3 every year to promote the use of bicycles and their benefits. The World Health Organization (WHO) is of the opinion that providing bicycles to the world's poorest people and communities will help in the prevention of 1.5 million premature deaths and 5 billion pounds of greenhouse gas emissions each year.

4. Punjab Government To Start e-Stamp Instead Of Paper Stamp



The Punjab government has decided to abolish the physical stamp papers in an attempt to bring efficiency and check the pilferage of State revenue. Punjab Revenue Minister Bram Shanker Jimpa launched the 'e-stamp facility' here. Following this, stamp paper of any denomination can now be obtained via 'e-stamp', which includes computerised print-out from any stamp vendor or from banks authorised by the State government.

Why has this step has taken?

The Punjab government will pay a commission of 2% to the stamp vendors on e-stamps ranging from Rs 1 to Rs 19,999, while the general public would get stamp paper at the actual rate. For instance, they will have to pay only Rs 100 for a stamp paper of Rs 100 and no extra commission will be levied. This step will also help in curbing the stamp paper-linked fraud.

5. Former SBI MD Ashwani Bhatia takes charge as whole-time member at SEBI



Ashwani Bhatia has taken charge as a whole-time member (WTM) at the market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi). Bhatia was previously the managing director of the state-owned State Bank of India (SBI). After Bhatia's joining, Sebi now has three WTMs. The government is yet to appoint the fourth member. The market regulator functioned with just two WTMs for the past seven months after Sebi's current chairperson Madhabi Puri Buch's tenure as WTM ended on October 4, 2021, and G. Mahalingam demitted office on November 8, 2021.

Key points:

- For the appointment of the WTM post at Sebi, the candidates are shortlisted by the Financial Sector Regulatory Appointments Search Committee (FSRASC), headed by the Cabinet Secretary.
- Bhatia has been appointed for an initial period of three years from the date of assuming charge. In August 2020, he was elevated as MD of SBI, where he joined as a probationary officer in 1985. Before that, he was working as the MD and chief executive officer of SBI Mutual Fund.

In the past, the government has had problems appointing IAS officers for the WTM post. This is because the government has made it mandatory for IAS officers to resign from service before they take up the WTM job at Sebi. Most young IAS officers are only willing to take up the job on deputation so that they can again go back to public service after their WTM tenure ends, which is typically for three or five years.

6. Javier Olivan Taking Over As The Meta New Chief Operating Officer

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Javier Olivan, the current chief growth officer at Meta Platforms, will take over as the company's chief operating officer after Sheryl Sandberg stepped down from the post. Olivan has been with Meta, formerly known as Facebook, for several years, contributing to its explosive expansion. Olivan will be responsible for the advertising and business products while continuing to head infrastructure and corporate development.

Who is Javier Olivan?

- Olivan grew up in a small town in the Pyrenees Mountains of northern Spain but now lives in Palo Alto, California, with his family.
- He studied electrical and industrial engineering at the University of Navarra and also holds a Master's degree in business administration from Stanford University, Facebook revealed.
- Prior to joining Facebook, he worked with Siemens AG where he is said to have led a cross-functional team responsible for the development and market launch of handset devices. He also worked for Japan's NTT Data, his LinkedIn account revealed.

7. Santoor maestro Bhajan Sopori passes away



Santoor maestro and Padma Shri awardee, Bhajan Sopori has passed away at the age of 73. The santoor player was born in Sopore in Kashmir Valley in 1948 and belonged to the Sufiana Gharana of Indian classical music. He was the great-grandson of Pandit Shankar Pandit, who had

developed the style popularly known as the 'Sufi Baa'j' (style), based on Sufiana Qalam and Hindustani Classical music.

Hailed as 'Saint of the Santoor' and the 'King of Strings', Sopori won the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award in 1992 and the Padma Shri in 2004. In 2009 he was honoured with the Baba Allaudin Khan Award and M N Mathur award in 2011 for his contribution to Indian classical music.

Work of Bhajan Sopori:

Sopori composed music for over 6000 songs in various languages and dialects like Hindi, Kashmiri, Dogri, Sindhi, Urdu, Sanskrit, Bhojpuri, Punjabi, Himachali, Rajasthani, Telegu, Tamil, etc. and also foreign languages like Persian, Arabic, etc and his work was part of films, commercials, documentaries, serials, operas and choirs among others.

8. Instagram's new feature to help find missing children



Instagram has launched an 'alert' feature to help find missing children. The photo-sharing app has partnered with various organisations globally to set up the feature. The feature will display details about missing children on users' Instagram feed if they are in a specific area where an active search is taking place.

Key points of the new feature:

- The alerts on the Meta-owned platform will include details such as a child's photo, description, and location of the abduction. Instagram will show users alerts based on information like their IP address and location services (if it is turned on), it noted.

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•The social media platform said it has developed the child emergency alert feature in collaboration with organisations like the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) in the U.S., the International Centre for Missing & Exploited Children, the National Crime Agency in the U.K., the Attorney General's Office in Mexico, the Australian Federal Police, among others. In addition to the photo and video sharing platform, Amber Alerts are available on Facebook since 2015. Instagram has started rolling out the alerts feature, and it will be available in 25 countries in the coming weeks, it said, adding that it is working to bring them to more countries.

9. Indian American Harini Logan Wins 2022 Scripps National Spelling Bee



Harini Logan was eliminated from the Scripps National Spelling Bee once, then reinstated. She missed four words in a gruelling standoff against Vikram Raju, including one that would have given her the title. In the first-ever lightning-round tiebreaker, Harini finally claimed the trophy. The 13-year-old eighth-grader from San Antonio, Texas, who competed in the last fully in-person bee three years ago and endured the pandemic to make it back, spelt 21 words correctly during a 90-second spell-off, beating Vikram by six.

Harini, one of the best-known spellers entering the bee and a crowd favourite for her poise and positivity, wins more than \$50,000 in cash and prizes. She is the fifth Scripps champion to be coached by Grace Walters, a former speller, fellow Texan and student at Rice University who is considering bowing out of the coaching business. If so, she will depart on top.

10. ISRO chairman inaugurates new spacecraft manufacturing facility



Dr S Somanath, the chairman of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), inaugurated ANANTH Technologies' spacecraft manufacturing unit at Karnataka Industrial Area Development Board (KIADB) Aerospace Park. The new state-of-the-art spacecraft manufacturing facility can conduct assembly integration and testing of four large spacecraft simultaneously.

This is a first of its kind facility in India, adding that since its establishment in 1992, Ananth Technologies has contributed to the manufacturing of 89 satellites and 69 launch vehicles built/launched by ISRO.

Key highlights:

- The 15,000 sqm facility is capable of conducting the assembly, integration and testing of four large spacecraft at the same time, with four separate units present within the facility.
- Over the years, ANANTH Technologies has successfully contributed to major launches of ISRO. Our technology acumen is such that none of the sub-systems supplied by ANANTH Technologies has ever failed in orbit.

ONE LINER

- Punjab & Sind Bank Limited Headquarters: **New Delhi;**
- Punjab & Sind Bank Limited Founder: **Vir Singh;**
- Punjab & Sind Bank Limited Founded: **24 June 1908.**
- Punjab Governor: **Banwarilal Purohit;**
- Punjab Speaker: **Kuldar Singh Sandhwan;**
- Punjab Chief Justice: **Ravi Shankar Jha.**
- SEBI Founded: **12 April 1992;**

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- SEBI Headquarters: **Mumbai**;
- SEBI Agency executive: **Madhabi Puri Buch (Chairperson)**.
- Meta CEO: **Mark Zuckerberg**;
- Meta Founded: **February 2004, Cambridge, Massachusetts, United States**.
- ISRO Founded: **15 August 1969**;
- ISRO Headquarters: **Bengaluru**;
- ISRO Chairman: **S Somanath**.

QUIZ

1. Who among the following has been appointed as a Director General of National Informatics Centre?

- (a) Keshri Kumar Asthana
- (b) Neeta Verma
- (c) Prashant Mittal
- (d) **Rajesh Gera**

2. After the Finance ministry nod, what is the revised premium rates of Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY) with effect from June 1, 2022?

- (a) **436** (b) 350
- (c) 427 (d) 330

3. After defeating Japan in Asia Cup men's hockey 2022 in Jakarta, Indonesia, the Indian hockey team has won the bronze. Which of the following team has won the gold in the Asia Cup men's hockey 2022?

- (a) Malaysia (b) Japan
- (c) **South Korea** (d) China

4. According to a recent study, Bangladesh is the top recipient of Covid vaccines under which of the following vaccine initiative?

- (a) Maitri (b) Global VAX
- (c) **COVAX** (d) JHVI

5. Former skipper, Darren Sammy has been awarded the Sitara-e-Pakistan award, the third-highest civil award conferred by Pakistan. He belongs to which of the following cricket team?

- (a) Bangladesh (b) Australia
- (c) **West Indies** (d) South Africa

6. Who among the following has been appointed as the first Indian-origin woman as an external member of the Bank of England's interest rate-setting committee?

- (a) Dr. Neeti Chellani
- (b) Shruti Sharma
- (c) Geetha Suganya
- (d) **Dr Swati Dhingra**

7. Who among the following has been appointed as the new directors general of the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS)?

- (a) **Zulfiquar Hasan** (b) Nasir Kamal
- (c) Sanjay Arora (d) S L Thaosen

8. Who among the following has become the first-ever Indian to win a medal at the 2022 ICF Paracanoe World Cup held in Poznan, Poland?

- (a) **Prachi Yadav** (b) Seema Rao
- (c) Abhilasha Singh (d) Deepa Malik

9. Which of the following state has signed an MoU with the India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) for life certificates from pensioners through doorstep services of the Postal Department?

- (a) Andhra Pradesh (b) **Tamil Nadu**
- (c) Telangana (d) Kerala

10. Anjalai Ponnusamy, has passed away and was a _____.

- (a) Politician
- (b) Human Rights Activist
- (c) **Freedom Fighter**
- (d) Journalist