



The ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

LANGUAGE - ENGLISH

CURRENT AFFAIRS BOOSTER

17 - 08 - 2022

WEDNESDAY

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1. Durand Cup Football Tournament's 131st Season Begins



The 131st edition of the Durand Cup, Asia's oldest football tournament, will begin on August 16, 2022. Apart from Kolkata and Imphal, Guwahati will also host the 131st edition of the Durand Cup.

The Indira Gandhi Athletic Stadium in Guwahati will host a total of ten matches between August 17 and September 4. The inaugural match will be played between FC Goa and Mohammed SC at Vivekananda Yuva Bharati Kreerangan, Kolkata at 7 PM. Initially Emami East Bengal and ATK Mohun Bagan were to open the tournament. But their match was rescheduled after the request of the former club. The Durand Cup, which started in 1888, is the oldest football tournament in Asia.

The tournament is named after its founder, Sir Henry Mortimer Durand. Who served as the Foreign Secretary of British India from 1884 to 1894. It first began as a football tournament for various departments and regiments of the armed forces (of British India and native India). A total of 20 teams will participate in the 131st edition of the Durand Cup. All 11 Indian Super League clubs will participate in this edition of Durand Cup. This will include five teams from the I-League and four teams from the Armed Forces. West Bengal, Assam and Manipur will host the Durand Cup 2022. Its single-location format will be converted to a multi-city format for the first time.

2. India handed over the first Dornier aircraft to Sri Lanka



Further strengthening the relations between India and Sri Lanka, India has handed over the Dornier maritime surveillance aircraft to Sri Lanka. Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe was also present along with Vice Admiral SN Ghormade, Vice Chief of the Indian Navy, at the ceremony organized in this regard. Vice Admiral SN Ghormade along with India's High Commissioner to Colombo Gopal Baglay handed over the maritime surveillance aircraft to the Sri Lankan Navy at a ceremony held at the Sri Lanka Air Force airport in Katunayake, adjacent to Colombo's International Airport. Vice Admiral Ghormade is on a two-day visit to Sri Lanka. Sri Lankan Air Force spokesman Captain Dushan Vijayasinghe confirmed President Wickremesinghe's presence at the event.

Sri Lankan officials said during the 2018 Defense Dialogue between India and Sri Lanka in New Delhi, Sri Lanka had discussed the possibility of acquiring two Dornier reconnaissance aircraft from India to enhance its maritime surveillance capabilities.

Only 15 members of the Sri Lankan Air Force will be able to fly this aircraft, who have been specially trained in India for four months. The team consists of pilots, supervisors, engineering officers and technicians. It will be monitored by a technical team of the Government of India attached to the Air Force of Sri Lanka. Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe thanked India for this initiative and termed it as the beginning of new relations between the naval forces of the two countries.

3. Jammu and Kashmir launches Village Defense Guard Scheme

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The Village Defense Guard Scheme 2022 has been approved for Jammu and Kashmir. This scheme has been made effective officially from August 15. Home Department Jammu and Kashmir gave this information in its order on Monday.

After the permission of the Union Home Ministry to deal with terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir, the Home Department of Jammu and Kashmir has approved the creation of Village Defense Guard Scheme 2022. In one of its orders, the Home Department, Jammu and Kashmir, while approving the Village Defense Guard, has said that officially this scheme will become effective. Members of the Village Defense Guard will work in the villages of Jammu and Kashmir to combat terrorism and help the army. They will also be given honorarium.

A few months ago, BJP leaders from Jammu and Kashmir met Home Minister Amit Shah and demanded the reorganization of the Village Defense Group. After this the Union Home Ministry named it as Village Defense Guard. Now after getting the official approval from the government, the members in the Village Defense Guard will be nominated as Village Defense Guard.

J&K leader and Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh has thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah for the Village Defense Guard scheme in a tweet.

It is noteworthy that in the 90s, when terrorism was at its peak in Jammu and Kashmir, the Village Defense Group was established. Its members play an important role in assisting the army in counter-terrorist operations, keeping an eye on anti-social

elements and maintaining peace in the region. Now it has been reorganized and renamed as Village Defense Guard i.e. Village Defense Guard.

4. Ranveer Singh and Shefali Shah received the Best Actor and Actress Award at the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne 2022



The winners of the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne (IFFM) Awards 2022 have been announced. Held every year in Australia, this awards ceremony celebrates the Indian film industry by screening some of India's most prominent and acclaimed films, TV shows and web series.

In this festival, Ranveer Singh and Shefali Shah were given the award for Best Actor and Actress. An important attraction of this festival is the Awards Night, where the best artists of Indian Cinema and OTT of the past year are honored with awards.

The 13th edition of IFFM began on August 12 and the award ceremony will end on August 30. At the same time, the in-person event will end on August 20, after which the festival will continue for about 10 days. Festival Awards Night was organized at Palais Theatre. The event, hosted by Rithvik Dhanjani, saw big wins for Kabir Khan's sports drama '83' and its star Ranveer Singh as well as the Prime Video web series 'Mumbai Diaries 26' and the film 'Jaisa'. 'Jai Bhim' and 'Gangubai Kathiawadi' - the two films that got the most nominations, failed to win a single award.

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5. Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India launches Manthan



The Office of the Principal Scientific Advisor (PSA) to the Government of India, with the vision to enable and empower all areas of Science and Technology within the country, has announced the launch of Manthan Manch.

It aims to promote large-scale collaboration between industry and the scientific research and development ecosystem to achieve India's sustainable goals in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Charter as defined by the United Nations.

6. FIFA suspends the Football Federation of India for the first time in 85 years



World football governing body FIFA has suspended the Indian Football Federation (AIFF) with immediate effect due to third party interference. This decision has been taken due to serious violation of FIFA rules. The Football Federation of India has faced a suspension from FIFA for the first time in its 85-year history. AIFF The suspension means that the Under-17 Women's Football World Cup tournament, which was scheduled to be held

in the country from October 11 to 30, will no longer take place on schedule.

Its hosting can also be snatched from India. Earlier this month, FIFA, the world football governing body, threatened to suspend the Football Federation of India for interference by a third party (Committee of Administrators/COA). Along with this, FIFA also threatened to take away its rights to host the Women's Under-17 World Cup to be held in October. AIFF The elections were to be held by December 2020 under the leadership of FIFA Council member Praful Patel, but were delayed due to a deadlock over amendments to its constitution.

Subsequently, on August 3, the Supreme Court had ordered immediate elections and said that the Elected Committee (CoA) would be an interim body for a period of 3 months. On August 5, FIFA threatened to suspend the Football Federation of India for third-party interference. According to FIFA rules, member associations must be free from legal and political interference in their respective countries.

7. UK becomes first country to approve Omicron vaccine



The UK has approved the vaccine for the Omicron variant. With this, Britain has become the first country to make a vaccine for the UK Omicron variant. The UK Drug Regulator (MHRA) has approved a 'bivalent' vaccine made by Moderna as a booster for adults. The vaccine was based on clinical trial data showing that the booster

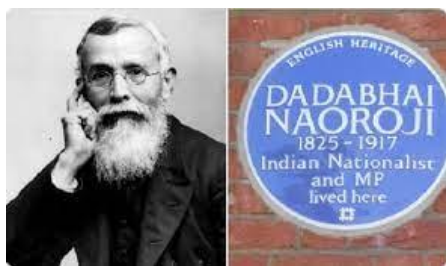
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triggered a "strong immune response" against both Omicron (BA.1) and the original 2020 virus.

Britain's drug regulator told the media about this that it has approved an updated modern vaccine against the Omicron variant of the corona virus. It has proved effective on the Omicron variant as well as the original form of the corona virus. In this way the UK became the first country to approve the Moderna vaccine targeting the Omicron variant. The Medicines and Healthcare products regulatory agency said in a statement that it had approved the vaccine for its booster dose for adults.

Moderna Vaccine has met all UK regulatory standards for its safety, quality and effectiveness. Along with this, this vaccine has shown excellent indications of strong immune response against the Omicron variant as well as the original form of the virus. Moderna's CEO Jun also said that trial data showed that this vaccine was found to be effective against two Omicron subvariants, ba.4 and ba.5. Due to these new variants of corona, there was a rapid increase in new cases of corona in Europe and America.

8. 'Blue Plaque' awarded to Dadabhai Naoroji's house in London



An eminent member of the Indian freedom struggle and Britain's first Indian parliamentarian, Dadabhai Naoroji has been honored with the 'Blue Plaque' in the South London house where he lived for nearly eight years. The 'Blue Plaque', a scheme of the 'English Heritage' charity, is an honor given to buildings of historical importance in London. Naoroji was given this honor on Wednesday and it

has been given at a time when India is celebrating the 75th anniversary of its independence.

Naoroji lived in this London house for nearly eight years in the late 19th century. Known as the "Grand Old Man of India", Naoroji went to live at Washington House, 72 Enerley Park, Penge, Bromley at a time when he was becoming ideologically supportive of India's complete independence in 1897. The red brick house now has a plaque outside it, which reads, "Dadabhai Naoroji 1825-1917 Indian nationalist and parliamentarian stayed here".

English Heritage said in a statement, "Naoroji has been to England seven times and has spent more than three decades of his life in London. In August 1897 he went to Washington House. Here he spent most of his time working as a member of the Welby Commission. This commission was constituted by the British Government to investigate wasteful expenditure in India.

While living here, his theory was published under the title 'Poverty and Un-British Rule in India' (1901).

According to documents, Washington House was an important center for the Indian community in London, where many Indians were invited. English Heritage said, "Naoroji left this house in 1904 or 1905. With this it became his house in London where he lived for the longest time." Born in Mumbai to a Parsi family, Naoroji was an influential and intellectual leader in both India and Britain.

9. Government of India appoints 11 new High Court judges in Punjab and Haryana

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Eleven advocates were promoted to the rank of judges in the Punjab and Haryana High Court and with this, a total of 138 judges have been appointed in various high courts this year. This information was given by the Ministry of Law. The names of the judges appointed in the Punjab and Haryana High Court are as follows- Nidhi Gupta, Sanjay Vashisht, Tribhuvan Dahiya, Namit Kumar, Harkesh Manuja, Aman Choudhary, Naresh Singh, Harsh Bangar, Jagmohan Bansal, Deepak Manchanda and Alok Jain.

The names of 13 advocates were recommended by the Supreme Court Collegium, out of which 11 were approved by the government. The Justice Department of the Law Ministry said in a statement that 26 judges were appointed to the High Courts of Allahabad, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Guwahati, Orissa and Himachal Pradesh. With the new appointments, the government has made 138 appointments in various High Courts so far this year.

10. William Ruto Wins Kenya's Presidential Election



In Kenya, the election commission chairman declared Vice President William Ruto the winner

over five-time contender Raila Odinga amid an uproar. The Speaker said that Ruto got 71 lakh or 50.49 per cent votes, while Odinga got 69 lakh or 48.85 per cent votes in the peaceful elections held last Tuesday. Ruto was the Vice President of Kenya for the last 9 years. Significantly, President Uhuru Kenyatta remained in power for a decade.

He completed his term. Let us tell you that more than 20 million people had registered for the presidential election in Kenya. Economic issues such as rising food and fuel prices, government debt, unemployment and widespread corruption were central to the election in the country. People here were more worried about fuel prices after the Russia-Ukraine war. Unemployment is a big problem in the country. The condition of the economy is not good.

ONE LINER

Recently, Omicron has become the first country to authorize a COVID-19 vaccine compliant with the variant – **United Kingdom (UK)**

The African country has won the recently concluded presidential election in Kenya - **William Ruto**

India has recently gifted a Dornier maritime reconnaissance aircraft to which country's navy, to strengthen its maritime security - **Sri Lanka**

The states to host the Durand Cup 2022 (131st edition) - the oldest football tournament in Asia - **West Bengal, Assam and Manipur**

Recently, on the occasion of Independence Day, about 30 km above the earth, the Indian National Flag has been unfurled - **Space Kidz India**

Former Secretary of BCCI, and former President of Jharkhand State Cricket Association, who passed away in Ranchi (Jharkhand) - **Amitabh Choudhary**

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Which country's football federation has recently been banned by the International Federation of Association Football (FIFA) - India, (All India Football Federation-AIFF)

Agasthyamalai Elephant Reserve, in Tirunelveli district of Tamil Nadu, has been designated as the fifth elephant reserve of the state by the Union Environment Minister Bhupendra Yadav.

QUIZ

1. Which country has become the first country in the world to approve the Omicron vaccine?

- a) Russia b) United States
c) United Kingdom d) China

2. Which of the following organization has hoisted the Indian National Flag 30 km above the earth, on the occasion of Independence Day 2022?

- a) Space Kids India
b) Space Zone India
c) Spectra Academy
d) Periyar Center for Science and Technology

3. Which state's Agasthyamalai region has been designated by the Union Government as the fifth elephant reserve of the state?

- a) Karnataka b) Andhra Pradesh
c) Kerala d) Tamil Nadu

4. Who has recently been given the highest civilian honor of France 'Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur'?

- a) Prime Minister Narendra Modi
b) External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar

c) Shashi Tharoor

d) Mukesh Ambani

5. How many teams are participating in the 2022 edition of the Durand Cup, the oldest football tournament in Asia?

- a) 10 b) 16
c) 18 d) 20

6. Bilateral exercise 'Udarshakti' is being organized between India and which other country?

- a) Russia b) Japan
c) Singapore d) Malaysia

7. Who has been elected as the President of Kenya?

- a) William Ruto b) Raila Odinga
c) Uhuru Kenyatta d) Kalonzo Musyoka