



The ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

LANGUAGE - ENGLISH

CURRENT AFFAIR BOOSTER

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THE ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

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UPSC / BPSC

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1. India extends \$40 million facility for sports infrastructure in Maldives



Foreign Minister S. Jaishankar said India has extended a \$40 million concessional line of credit for the development of sports infrastructure in the Maldives. The facility has been provided as part of India's effort to bring Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led government's flagship initiatives like "Fit India" and "Khelo India" under the ambit of its "neighbourhood first" policy. External Affairs Minister Jaishankar inaugurated a community project at Shaviani Fokaidhu. He was accompanied by Maldivian Foreign Minister Abdulla Shahid. Jaishankar was on a visit to the Maldives to further expand bilateral ties with India's key maritime neighbour. Jaishankar said sports infrastructure would be developed in the islands through a dedicated \$40 million concessional line of credit.

2. IIT Madras develops indigenously self-sustaining mobile OS 'BharOS'



The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras incubated firm has developed an indigenous mobile operating system 'BharOS'. This operating system provides hi-tech security and privacy to the users. The new operating system 'BharOS' is said to benefit India's 100 crore mobile phone users. The software, called 'Bharosa', can be installed on commercial off-the-shelf devices. It provides a secure environment for the users and can prove to be an important tool towards 'Atmanirbhar Bharat'. IIT Madras director V. Kamakoti

has given information about this indigenous self-sufficient mobile operating system. V. Kamakoti said that more freedom to Bharosa users to choose and use the app according to their needs, Focuses on providing control and flexibility. At present, the services of the indigenous mobile operating system Bharos are being provided to organizations that are in dire need of security and privacy. In fact, users of these organizations handle sensitive information and this requires private communication on restricted apps on mobile. Such users need access to a private cloud service through a private 5G network. In such a situation, this indigenous mobile operating system is being considered more reliable. Users of these organizations handle sensitive information and this requires private communication on restricted apps on mobile. Such users need access to a private cloud service through a private 5G network. In such a situation, this indigenous mobile operating system is being considered more reliable. Users of these organizations handle sensitive information and this requires private communication on restricted apps on mobile. Such users need access to a private cloud service through a private 5G network. In such a situation, this indigenous mobile operating system is being considered more reliable.

3. Tata Boeing delivers first fuselage of AH-64 Apache to Indian Army



Tata Boeing Aerospace Limited (TBAL) delivered the first fuselages from its state-of-the-art facility here for the six AH-64 Apache attack helicopters ordered by the Indian Army. Boeing India President Salil Gupte called it a proud milestone and testimony to their commitment to a self-reliant India and world-class manufacturing capabilities at Tata Boeing Aerospace Ltd, their joint venture in Hyderabad. He added that the Apache will provide a significant increase in capability for the Indian Army, just as the AH-64 has for the Indian Air Force.

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Boeing completed the delivery of all 22 H-64A Apache helicopters to the Indian Air Force in 2020. Besides being the global sole source supplier for the Apache fuselage, TBAL's 14, 000 square meter facility manufactures complex aero-structures for Boeing 737 and 777 models. The joint venture between Boeing and Tata Advanced Systems Ltd (TASL) employs more than 900 engineers and technicians and uses state-of-the-art robotics, automation and advanced aerospace concepts in its manufacturing processes.

4. Ramachandran became the first black gay woman to become a member of the American city council



Indian-American attorney Janani Ramachandran has emerged as the youngest and first black lesbian woman to be sworn in as a member of the Oakland City Council in the US state of California. Ramachandran was formally sworn in as a sari-clad member of the Oakland City Council for District 4 at a ceremony held on January 10. He tweeted, 'We win! Honored to be the next City Council member for Oakland District 4. I will officially become the youngest council member in Oakland history, the first lesbian woman of color and the first South Asian to serve on the Oakland City Council.'

5. Vietnam President Nguyen Xuan Phuc resigns



Vietnamese President Nguyen Xuan Phuc has resigned from his post. For the past several days there was speculation that Phuc could be sacked. A few weeks ago

there was speculation that Phuc would step down following the sacking of two deputy prime ministers in January. According to the news agency Reuters, before becoming the President, Nguyen Xuan Phuc was also the Prime Minister of the country from 2016 to 2021. "He submitted his resignation letter after being fully aware of his responsibilities before the party and the people," a Vietnamese news agency quoted the party's central committee as saying. Significantly, Phuc's resignation will be approved only after approval from the National Assembly.

6. PM Modi inaugurates development projects worth Rs 38,000 crore in Mumbai



Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated and laid foundation stones of development projects worth over Rs 38,000 crore in various sectors in Mumbai. This will greatly benefit the infrastructure, urban transport and medical sectors in Mumbai. This is Prime Minister Modi's first visit to Mumbai after Eknath Shinde became the chief minister last year. At the inauguration and foundation stone laying ceremony of development projects at Bandra Kurla Complex (BKC), Chief Minister Shinde, Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis targeted the Uddhav Thackeray faction's Shiv Sena and the erstwhile Mahavikas Aghadi (MVA) government. Municipal elections can be held in Mumbai, Pune, Thane and Nagpur this year. The Shinde faction of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and Shiv Sena wants to take control of the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) from the Thackeray faction. In the program organized at MMRDM Maidan, Modi has inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of projects worth more than 38,000 crores. Due to which infrastructural development, urban traffic will be simplified and the medical sector will be strengthened in the economic capital of the country. He laid the foundation stone for seven sewage treatment plants, concrete road project

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and redevelopment of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus. The Prime Minister inaugurated the 2A and 7 lines of the Mumbai Metro built at a cost of Rs 12,600 crore. These include a 35-km corridor from Andheri to Dahisar in Mumbai suburbs. Modi also inaugurated 20 Aapla Dawakhana named after Shiv Sena founder Bal Thackeray. Inaugurated the 2A and 7 lines of the Mumbai Metro built at a cost of Rs 600 crore. These include a 35-km corridor from Andheri to Dahisar in Mumbai suburbs. Modi also inaugurated 20 Aapla Dawakhana named after Shiv Sena founder Bal Thackeray. Inaugurated the 2A and 7 lines of the Mumbai Metro built at a cost of Rs 600 crore. These include a 35-km corridor from Andheri to Dahisar in Mumbai suburbs. Modi also inaugurated 20 Aapla Dawakhana named after Shiv Sena founder Bal Thackeray.

7. NCERT launches India's first National Assessment Regulator "PARAKH"



The National Council for Education Research and Training (NCERT) has released PARAKH, India's first national assessment regulator, which will work on setting norms, standards and guidelines for student assessment and evaluation for all recognized school boards in the country. The Parakh regulator aims to establish assessment guidelines for all boards to help address disparities in scores of students enrolled with different state boards. PARAK stands for Performance Appraisal, Review and Knowledge Analysis for Holistic Development. It has been set up within the Education Survey Division of NCERT.

8. PNB launches credit card in lieu of fixed deposit



Punjab National Bank has issued another new offer for its customers. Where Punjab National Bank has won the hearts of people with its fixed deposit interest rates, the same bank has also presented new options for the people by providing new credit card facility from today. The scheme of PNB Credit Card on Fixed Deposit has been launched. Punjab National Bank is providing its customers an interest rate of 6.8% for ordinary citizens on account of 666 days deposit, while an interest rate of 7.80% has been made available for busy citizens. The same interest rate has been kept at 8.10% for very senior citizens. Even if you are not eligible to get a credit card, you can still enjoy the credit card facility from Punjab National Bank. For this, you will have to make a fixed deposit through Punjab National Bank and in lieu of that fixed deposit, the bank will provide you a credit card.

QUIZ

1. Recently who has been chosen as the winner of 'Miss Universe 2022'?

- a. Ivak Svetiga
- b. R' Boney Gabriel
- c. Elena Williams
- d. Harnaaz Sindhu

Ans. Miss Universe 2022 Winner: The name of the winner of Miss Universe 2022 has been announced. USA's R'Bonney Gabriel has won the 71st Miss Universe title held in New Orleans city of America.

2. Recently which state government has gone completely digital by ending all offline services?

- a. Assam
- b. Gujarat
- c. Jammu and Kashmir
- d. Jharkhand

Ans. Rapid development is becoming the new identity of Jammu and Kashmir. In this series, it has now been

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decided to completely digitize Jammu and Kashmir. All offline services have now been terminated in the state.

3. Recently which country will issue a postage stamp with Jawaharlal Nehru's picture on its 75th Independence Day?

- a. Bangladesh
- b. Sri Lanka
- c. Indonesia
- d. India

Ans. As part of its 75th National Independence Day celebrations, Sri Lanka has decided to issue a commemorative postage stamp which includes the portrait of India's first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, according to a press release issued by the Media Division of the President of Sri Lanka. The government has decided to proudly celebrate the 75th National Independence Day with a new reformist program for the next 25 years.

4. Who has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to Armenia recently?

- a. Uday Prakash Jha
- b. Amitabh Kant
- c. Neelakshi Saha Sinha
- d. Parameswaran Iyer

Ans. Neelakshi Saha Sinha, the official translator of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has been appointed as the Ambassador of India to Armenia. Neelakshi Saha Sinha has often been seen with PM Narendra Modi. Neelakshi Saha has a good hold on Hindi, English, Bengali and French languages. Neelakshi has knowledge of 15 languages and has accompanied the Prime Minister on 14 foreign tours.

5. Where will 'Business 20' India Inception Meeting be held recently?

- a. Amritsar
- b. Gandhinagar
- c. Lucknow
- d. Bangalore

Ans. First in the list of 15 events is the Business 20 Inception Meeting, which will be held in Gandhinagar from January 22 to 24. The inaugural session on January 23, 2023 will be attended by Union Ministers Piyush Goyal and Ashwini Vaishnav, Chief Ministers Bhupendra Patel and Amitabh Kant and G20 Sherpas of India. Chandrasekaran, Chairman B20 and Chairman, Tata Sons, along with Union Ministers and Ministers of State, and over 150 policy makers, business executives, CEOs

and senior officials representing G20 countries will participate in the inaugural meeting.

6. Gina Lollobrigida passed away recently. Who was she?

- a. Actress
- b. Author
- c. Singer
- d. Sitar player

Ans. Italian actress Gina Lollobrigida, who shot to stardom in European cinema in the 50s and 60s, has died at the age of 95. Jeena was given the title of the most beautiful woman in the world because of one of her films.

7. Where is 'Maghi Mela festival' being organized recently?

- a. Goa
- b. Rajasthan
- c. Punjab
- d. Uttar Pradesh

Ans. The Maghi Mela has been celebrated in the city of Sri Muktsar Sahib in Punjab for centuries in memory of the 40 Sikh warriors who died fighting the Mughals in the Battle of Khidrana in 1705. It was only after this war that Khidrana was named Muktsar or Mukti Kund. Maghi Mela is held every year in the holy city of Sri Muktsar Sahib in January or in the month of Magh as per Nanakshahi calendar. It is one of the most important festivals of Sikhs. The festival marks the martyrdom of 40 Sikh soldiers fighting against the Mughals. In the 1700s, the Mughals and the Sikhs were at constant war with each other. The Khidrana War began when in 1704, during the siege of Anandpur Sahib by the Mughals, 40 Sikh soldiers deserted their posts.

8. Recently which bank has signed MoU with Warehousing and Regulatory Authority?

- a. SBI
- b. Canara Bank
- c. Yes Bank
- d. HDFC

Ans. Warehousing Development Regulatory Authority signs MoU with SBI The Warehousing Development Regulatory Authority (WDRA) has signed an MoU with State Bank of India to help farmers get loans at lower interest rate on 16 January .

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ONE LINER

Which country became the first creditor country to give assurance towards Sri Lanka's debt restructuring - **India**

Which of the following Kalvari class submarines will be commissioned on 23 January 2023 – **INS Vagir**

The 8th India International Science Festival (IISF) will be held in Bhopal. Since which year it is being organized annually - **2015**

In which state the National AIDS Control Organization created the largest human red ribbon chain - **Odisha**

Where was the India Cold Chain Conclave organized on 19 January 2023 – **New Delhi**

David Crosby passed away. He belonged to which country – **United States of America**

Aruna Miller has become the first Indian-American politician to be sworn in as the lieutenant governor of which state of the United States of America on 19 January 2023 – **Maryland**

Which city has been selected by the World Economic Forum (WEF) to set up its Center for the Fourth Industrial Revolution focused on health and life sciences – **Hyderabad**

A 'rare orange colored bat' known as the 'painted bat' has been spotted at Parali Bodal village in Kanger Ghati National Park in January 2023. Kanger Valley National Park is located in which state - **Chhattisgarh**

Hashim Amla announced his retirement from all forms of cricket on 18 January 2022. He belongs to which of the following country – **South Africa**