



# The ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

LANGUAGE - ENGLISH

## CURRENT AFFAIR BOOSTER

15 - 02 - 2023

WEDNESDAY



**THE ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY**

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THE ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

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## 1. Smriti Mandhana became the costliest player of WPL



Indian batsman Smriti Mandhana became the most expensive player in the first Women's Premier League auction in Mumbai. Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) bought Mandhana for Rs 3.4 crore. Mandhana has now become twice the highest earning player in Pakistan Super League (PSL). In the auction, 10 Indian players were successful in getting more than one crore rupees, but captain Harmanpreet Kaur was included in their team by Mumbai Indians for a much cheaper Mandhana in half the amount for Rs 1.80 crore. He is not even Mumbai's costliest player as the team bought England's Nat Sciver Brunt for the highest amount of Rs 3.20 crore. In fact, Harmanpreet is not even among the top six Indian players bought at the auction as the country's second highest selling player is all-rounder Deepti Sharma, who was bought by UP Warriors for Rs.

## 2. Country's first AC electric double decker bus will run in Mumbai



The first AC double decker electric bus has also started in India. It was inaugurated by Union Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari in Mumbai. Actually, many double decker buses have been operating in Mumbai before, but India's first AC double decker electric bus (India's 1st AC Double Decker Bus) has been inaugurated. This bus was inaugurated by Union Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari. This bus has been started keeping in mind the goal of zero carbon emission in the country. The electric

double decker bus is equipped with live tracking device, CCTV cameras and a panic button for women safety. These buses will be 100 percent digital with tap-in and tap-out facility. Whereas during the time when a bus has a maximum seating capacity of 65 passengers, The double decker AC bus will carry 90 passengers. This electric double decker bus will reduce air pollution. The route of these buses will be South Mumbai, BKC Kurla and Andheri and it is believed that there will be less rush of passengers with normal fares.

## 3. Russian arms supply to India \$13 billion in last 5 years



Russia's official news agencies reported that India has received weapons worth about \$ 13 billion from Russia in the last five years. In addition, New Delhi has placed orders worth more than \$10 billion for arms and military equipment with Moscow. India accounts for about 20 per cent of Moscow's current order book and is the world's largest buyer of Russian arms. While New Delhi has not openly condemned Russia's invasion of Ukraine, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi has called for dialogue and diplomacy to resolve the conflict. Dmitry Shugayev, head of Russia's Federal Service for Military-Technical Cooperation, told agencies that India, China and some Southeast Asian countries have continued to show interest in buying Russian weapons. The agency reported that annual arms exports have been around \$14-15 billion, While the order book is stable at around \$50 billion. Shugayev said Russia's S-400 Triumf missile defense system, short-range surface-to-air missile systems such as the Osa, Pechora or Strela, as well as Sukhoi Su-30 fighter jets, MiG-29 helicopters and drones will be used in Asia. countries of particular interest.

## 4. "Former German Chancellor Angela Merkel UNESCO" awarded Peace Prize



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Former German Chancellor Angela Merkel has been awarded the 2022 UNESCO Peace Prize for her efforts to welcome refugees. Jury President and 2018 Nobel Peace Prize winner Denis Mukwege said all jury members were impressed by their courageous decision to welcome more than 1.2 million refugees from Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan and Eritrea in 2015. This is the legacy he has left. Additionally, the jury awarded an honorable mention to Julien Lusan for her commitment to victims of sexual violence. She is best known for her work in North Kivu in the Democratic Republic of Congo, where he condemned rape as a "weapon of war". The honor is named after a former President of Ivory Coast. Officially called the Felix Houphouet-Boigny-UNESCO Peace Prize. It has been awarded each year since 1989 to individuals, organizations or institutions who have made special efforts to promote, research or secure peace. It has not yet been decided when the award will be presented to Merkel, who quit politics last year after serving four terms as chancellor. Angela Merkel (full name- Angela Dorothea Kasner) was born on 17 July 1954 in Hamburg, West Germany. He is trained as a physicist and entered politics after the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989. In the 2005 national elections, Merkel became the first female Chancellor of Germany.

## 5. Hyundai Motors India appoints two more women cricketers as ambassadors



Hyundai Motor India Limited has signed two more women cricketers to its roster of brand ambassadors,

**Yastika Bhatia and Renuka Singh Thakur** . Bhatia and Thakur will be joined by **Smriti Mandhana, Shefali Verma** and **Jemimah Rodrigues** . The company recognizes these women as rising sporting stars and they will be the catalysts in this 2023 women's cricket calendar. **For this she shared her 'The Drive Within'** with five women cricketers. The next edition of the campaign has been announced. The campaign marks a celebration of these world-renowned women cricketers and is a testimony to the years of hard training and hardships they put in. Five personal stories will showcase their inspiration and serve as a platform to encourage budding sporting talents in the country to win more accolades for India at the global level, making our great country proud.

## 6. Jean-Eric Vergne wins Formula E-Prix Hyderabad, India



Experienced driver Jean-Eric Vergne of DS Penske won the Hyderabad E-Prix. The Formula E race marked the successful return of top-level motorsport competition to India. The 33-lap electrifying race saw Vergne put up a tough challenge from Envision Racing's Nick Cassidy but managed to hold him off in the end. When Vergne approached the finishing line, his car had only 0.5% energy left. The winner's trophy was presented by the Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports, Anurag Thakur. Nick Cassidy (Envision Racing) and Antonio Félix da Costa (TAG Heuer Porsche Formula E Team) finished second and third respectively. He benefited from a 17-second penalty on Sébastien Biemi. Mahindra Racing, competing in their first home race, got a point from Olivier Rolland. He finished in tenth place. It was Vergne's 11th win in Formula E but his first in two years and the double champion needed an energy-saving defensive tackle to hold off New Zealand's Cassidy at Lake Hussain Sagar.

## 7. Nicos Christodoulides becomes the new President of Cyprus

# THE ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY



Former Foreign Minister Nikos Christodoulides was elected President of Cyprus on 13 February after a second and final round of voting. Christodoulides, 49, won 51.9% of the vote, while his opponent Andreas Mavroyanis, 66, took 48.1%. Significantly, this time in Cyprus, 72.4% i.e. more than 4,05,000 people voted. It is higher than before. He was appointed Government Spokesperson in 2014 and Foreign Minister in 2018. Christodoulides is supported by the Democratic Party, the Movement for Social Democracy and the Democratic Alignment. Cyprus was divided in 1974, when Turkish forces occupied the northern part in response to a Greek-sponsored coup d'état. Since then the current issue between Cyprus and Turkey is the ongoing dispute between the Greek Cypriots in the south and the Turkish Cypriots in the north.

**8. First woman astronaut to go on space mission from Saudi Arabia in 2023**



By the end of this year, Saudi Arabia will send its first female astronaut to space. Rayana Barnawi will go on a mission to the International Space Center (ISS) along with her fellow astronaut Ali Al-Karni, the official Saudi Press Agency said. The agency said that both the astronauts will go to space along with the crew of Mission AX-2. This mission will be launched from USA. The crew will be launched to the ISS on a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket from NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida. Saudi Arabia is also following in the footsteps of UAE. In the year 2019, UAE became the first Arab country to

register its name in history by sending one of its citizens into space. Even before this, Saudi Arabia has gone into space. In 1985, Royal Prince Sultan bin Salman became the first Muslim Arab astronaut to be part of a US-run space mission.

## QUIZ

**1. Who has inaugurated the 200th birth anniversary celebrations of Swami Dayanand Saraswati recently?**

- a) Draupadi Murmu
- b) Narendra Modi**
- c) Amit Shah
- d) Rajnath Singh

Ans :- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 200th birth anniversary celebrations of Dayanand Saraswati. Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the year-long celebrations to commemorate the 200th birth anniversary of Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati on 12 February 2023. Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati who was born on February 12, 1824, was a social reformer who founded the Arya Samaj in 1875 to combat the prevailing social inequalities.

**2. In which city has President Draupadi Murmu inaugurated the 2nd Indian Rice Congress?**

- a) Cuttack
- b) Malda
- c) Mysore
- d) Wayanad**

Ans :- President Draupadi Murmu inaugurated the 2nd Indian Rice Congress on 11 February 2023 at the National Rice Research Institute in Cuttack, Odisha. The 2023 Congress was organized under the theme "Transforming Rice Research". It focuses on the global food crisis and recent scientific developments that will help increase the production and yield of rice crops.

**3. In which city has India's first electric AC double decker bus been inaugurated recently?**

- a) Noida
- b) Mumbai**
- c) Bangalore
- d) Surat

Ans :- Brihanmumbai Electric Supply and Transport Undertaking (BEST) inaugurated India's first electric air-conditioned (AC) double-decker bus in Mumbai on 13 February. After the approval of this bus, this bus will ply between Kurla Bus Depot and Bandra-Kurla Complex

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(BKC). It is equipped with CCTV cameras and automatic doors and can be charged in 80 minutes.

**4. Which state topped the fifth edition of the recently concluded Khelo India Youth Games?**

- a) Haryana
- b) Rajasthan
- c) Uttar Pradesh
- d) Maharashtra

Ans :- The fifth edition of Khelo India Youth Games concluded on 11 February. Khelo India Youth Games were organized in Madhya Pradesh from 31 January 2023 to 11 February 2023. Maharashtra topped the medal tally by winning 161 medals including 56 gold. While Haryana stood second with 128 medals including 41 gold. Host Madhya Pradesh finished third with 96 medals including 39 gold. 5 thousand 812 players from 36 states and union territories participated in these games organized in nine cities.

**5. Which bank announced the launch of QR-code based coin vending machine as a pilot project?**

- a) HDFC Bank
- b) State Bank of India
- c) Reserve Bank of India
- d) ICICI Bank

Ans :- RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das announced the launch of QR-code based coin vending machine on 8 February 2023. It will be launched as a pilot project. RBI initially plans to launch it in 19 locations across 12 cities in the country. According to the RBI governor, coin vending machines were launched to make access to coins easier in the country.

**6. Who has been appointed as the new President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI)?**

- a) Debasish Mitra
- b) Anish Kumar Sharma
- c) Aniket Sunil Talati
- d) Ranjit Kumar Agarwal

Ans :- The Council of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) has elected Aniket Sunil Talati as the President and Ranjit Kumar Agarwal as the Vice President for the year 2023-24. ICAI's council headed by Aniket Sunil Talati and Ranjit Kumar Agarwal will be responsible for conducting the three-tier CA exam and looking after all administrative matters.

**7. Who inaugurated AMRITPEX 2023 - National Philatelic Exhibition in New Delhi?**

- a) Ashwini Vaishnav
- b) Dev Singh Chauhan
- c) Vineet Pandey
- d) Alok Sharma

Ans :- Minister of Communications, Electronics & Information Technology and Railways, Ashwini Vaishnav inaugurated AMRITPEX 2023 - National Philatelic Exhibition on February 11 in New Delhi. This five-day Mahakumbh of tickets (February 11 to 15, 2023) is being organized at Hall 5, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, as a part of the Independence Day Amrit Mahotsav celebrations. The themes of the exhibition include Amrit Mahotsav of Independence and New India, women power, youth power, nature and wildlife, and culture and history of India. Minister of State for Communications Devsingh Chauhan, Secretary Postal Department Vineet Pandey, Director General Postal Services Alok Sharma were present on the occasion.

**8. In which city the Formula E-Championship has been inaugurated by Union Minister Anurag Thakur?**

- a) New Delhi
- b) Bangalore
- c) Gurugram
- d) Hyderabad

Ans :- Union Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur along with Union Tourism Minister Kishan Reddy flagged off the ABB FIA Formula E World Championship in Hyderabad. India's first Formula E-race Hyderabad E-Prix was hosted at 'Hyderabad Street Circuit'. Hyderabad has now become the first Indian city and the 30th city in the world to host a major electric car race.

## ONE LINER

In which country has a national emergency been declared recently due to Cyclone Gambriel – **New Zealand**

Who is the first female passenger of Saudi Arabia to go to the International Space Station - **Rayan Barnawi**  
Nicos Christodolides has been elected as the President of which country – **Cyprus**

Recently the President of which country has awarded the Global Best M-Gov Award to the students of IIT Indore - **Mishra**



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Recently, which country's Mohammad Shahabuddin will become the 22nd President - **Bangladesh**

Who topped the medal tally of 5th Khelo India Youth Games – **Maharashtra**

Recently, which ministry is organizing the National Culture Festival 2023 in Mumbai from 11 to 19 February 2023 – **Ministry of Culture**

Who has won the highest bid of Rs 2.5 crore in the Women's Premier League - **Smriti Mandhana**

'Dorin Risian' has been elected as the new Prime Minister of which country - **Moldova**

Hyundai Motor India has appointed whom as its brand ambassador - **Yastika Bhatia and Renu Singh Thakur**

