



# The ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

LANGUAGE - ENGLISH

## CURRENT AFFAIR BOOSTER

22 - 03 - 2023

WEDNESDAY



**THE ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY**

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# DAILY

# CURRENT AFFAIRS

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# QUIZ



UPSC / BPSC

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# THE ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

## 1. Japanese PM invites PM Modi for G7 meeting



Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida called on Prime Minister Modi at Hyderabad House in New Delhi. During this, many important issues were discussed between the leaders of both the countries. After the meeting, Prime Minister Modi said that many important issues including critical technology, digital were discussed between the two countries. There was also discussion on increasing cooperation between the two countries in areas like logistics, food processing, steel, MSME. Celebrating 2023 as Tourism Exchange. The Japanese Prime Minister's visit is aimed at increasing cooperation between India and Japan in the fields of defence, trade, investment and high technology. Fumio Kishida and Prime Minister Modi discussed the priorities of the meetings of the G20 chaired by India and the G7 chaired by Japan. During this, Two important agreements were signed between India and Japan. Foreign Secretary Vinay Kwatra gave this information in a special briefing. He said that two agreements have been signed on this occasion. The first of these pertains to the renewal of the MOC (Memorandum of Cooperation) in the Japanese language. It essentially aims to focus on higher level language learning. At the same time, the second agreement is related to the Mumbai-Ahmedabad high-speed railway project. The second agreement involved an exchange of notes on a JICA loan of 300 billion for the project. The second agreement pertains to the Mumbai-Ahmedabad high-speed railway project.

## 2. India and Sri Lanka inaugurated the exhibition 'Geoffrey Bawa' in New Delhi



The Sri Lankan exhibition "Geoffrey Bawa: It's Essential to Be There" at the National Gallery of Modern Art in New Delhi was inaugurated by India's External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar. India's Minister of State for External Affairs and Culture Meenakshi Lekhi was also present on the occasion. This landmark exhibition features the works of the late Geoffrey Bawa, the iconic Sri Lankan architect. The exhibition has been organized jointly by the High Commission of Sri Lanka in New Delhi and the Geoffrey Bawa Trust to mark the 75th anniversary. During the inauguration, Indian Foreign Minister Jaishankar said about India-Sri Lanka relations that blood is thicker than water. It is natural to stand with Sri Lanka in bad times. In times of crisis, India has repeatedly stood by the countries around it, following the 'neighbourhood first policy'. The formal opening of the exhibition was attended by diplomats, senior officials of the Government of India, academicians, A large number of invitees including journalists, art lovers and professionals attended. Sri Lankan High Commissioner to India Milinda Moragoda, Director of the National Gallery of Modern Art Tamsunaro Tripathi, and Sanjay Kulatunga, Trustee of the Geoffrey Bawa Trust, External Affairs Minister Jaishankar attended the inauguration of the exhibition. More than 120 documents from the Bawa archives can be seen in the exhibition. Organized under the Sri Lanka-India Cultural Exchange Programme, "Geoffrey Bawa: It is Essential to Be There" will be on display till May 7.

## 3. Lalit Kumar Gupta named as CMD of Cotton Corporation of India (CCI)



# THE ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY



The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved Lalit Kumar Gupta as the new Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Cotton Corporation of India (CCI). CCI is a public sector company under the Ministry of Textiles. The Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) order states that Gupta will take over as the CMD of CCI with immediate effect, for a period of five years or till his superannuation or until further orders. Gupta was recommended by the PESB panel for the post of CMD of CCI, and he currently holds the position of Director (FINAN) in the same organization. Gupta holds an MBA in Marketing from ITM Business School, Navi Mumbai. And he is a certified Chartered Accountant (CA) by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI). He is also a member of the Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI). Gupta has a long association with CCI spanning nearly 25 years with vast experience in finance and allied sectors. It became a part of CCI in August 1994.

#### 4. UBS agrees to buy troubled Credit Suisse for \$3.2 billion



Switzerland's largest bank UBS has come forward to save the Swiss bank Credit Suisse from drowning in financial crisis. UBS Group has entered into a deal to buy Credit Suisse for \$3.25 billion. The valuation offered to 167-year-old bank Credit Suisse is much lower than its actual value. After the closure of America's Silicon

Valley Bank and Signature Bank, now Credit Suisse was also on the verge of sinking and the government and financial regulators of Switzerland were also scrambling to save it from happening. In this series, the Swiss National Bank, the central bank of Switzerland and the regulator FINMA conducted talks between UBS and Credit Suisse. On March 18, information came to the fore that UBS is going to buy Credit Suisse. The threat to Credit Suisse is not only a crisis for this bank and Switzerland, but could have become a challenge for the banking system around the world. This is because Credit Suisse is one of the largest wealth manager institutions in the world. Its name is one of the 30 largest Global Systemically Important Banks and if it were to sink, its bad effect would be seen on the global financial system.

#### 5. Union Home Ministry announces 10% reservation for Ex-Agniveers



The Ministry of Home Affairs had announced that 10 per cent vacancies in the Central Paramilitary Forces and the Assam Rifles would be reserved for 75 per cent Agniveers. The ministry had said that it had also announced that the upper age limit was relaxed by five years for the first batch of ex-firefighters and by three years for the subsequent batch. The government amended the rules of the Border Security Force (BSF) and brought about similar changes. As per the notification, the age limit for the candidates of the first batch will be covered up to a maximum of five years, while for other batches the age will be covered up to three years. The scheme is to recruit youth between the age of 17 to 21 years on a four-year short-term employee basis. It aims to make the profile of the youth in the Armed Forces more youthful.

#### 6. DRDO organizes workshop on 'Human Factors Engineering in Military Platforms'

# THE ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY



A two-day workshop on “Human Factors Engineering in Military Platforms” was inaugurated by General Anil Chauhan, Chief of Defense Staff, in New Delhi on 15 March. The workshop is being organized by the Delhi-based Defense Institute of Physics and Allied Sciences (DIPAS) of the Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO). The objective of the workshop is to set up a policy framework and practice incorporating science of Human Factors Engineering (HFE) in the defense sector, which will contribute to the goal of 'Atmanirbhar Bharat'. Human factors engineering (HFE) is a science that focuses on designing equipment and systems to maximize the likelihood of their safe and effective use, taking into account human capabilities and limitations.

## 7. Jayanthi Chauhan to lead Bisleri after TCPL withdraws takeover plan



Jayanthi Chauhan, daughter of Bisleri International (Bisleri) chairman Ramesh Chauhan, will now take charge of the bottled water company after Tata Consumer Products Limited (TCPL) backed out of the acquisition process. Jayanthi Chauhan, 42, is currently the chairperson of Bisleri. Earlier this year, a deal worth Rs 7000 crore was signed between Bisleri and Tata Consumer. However, then the Tata company backed out of the deal due to some reasons. It is not that the

matter has deteriorated because of the valuation. According to analysts, the promoters may change their mind later. He believes that companies interested in buying this country's biggest brand in terms of bottled water will wait for a great opportunity to buy it. Bisleri International is a well-known Indian company that specializes in the production and sale of bottled water and soft drinks. Ramesh Chauhan founded the company in the 1970s, And it is famous for the Bisleri brand now known by its name. Bisleri also makes its products available through online sellers including its own e-commerce platform.

## 8. Anoop Bagchi, MD & CEO, ICICI Prudential Life



NS Kannan, the current MD and CEO of ICICI Prudential Life Insurance, is going to retire from his post at the end of his term in June 2023. His successor will be Anup Bagchi, who is an executive director at ICICI Bank. He will serve as the Director General and CEO for a period of five years from June 19, 2023, subject to approval from the insurance regulator. To ensure a smooth transition, Bagchi has been appointed as Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer with effect from May 1, 2023, subject to necessary approvals. The announcement was made by ICICI Prudential Life Insurance, which approved the appointment of Bagchi based on the recommendation of the Board Nomination and Remuneration Committee. Bagchi has been with ICICI Bank since 2017 and currently heads the Bank's Wholesale Banking, Transaction Banking, The Markets Group and the Proprietary Trading Group handle the portfolios. With over three decades of experience in the financial services industry, he has previously worked in various sectors such as Retail Banking, Treasury, Investment Banking, Small Enterprise, Payments and Bill Attached Systems. On the other hand, has been associated with the ICICI group for more than 30 years and apart from this, he has held various positions like

# THE ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

MD & CEO of ICICI Prudential Life and ED of ICICI Bank. During his tenure, he successfully led the company through various challenges including the COVID-19 pandemic, establishing itself as a resilient and well-diversified franchise.

## QUIZ

**1. Who has been appointed as the brand ambassador of "Luxor"?**

- a) Hardik Pandya
- b) Virat Kohli
- c) K. Ale. to Rahul
- d) Ravindra Jadeja

Explanation: Stationery manufacturer Lakshya Writing Instruments Pvt Ltd has appointed noted cricketer Virat Kohli as its latest brand ambassador. Kohli is known as one of the top cricketers because of the many records he has made in his career. He will represent Lakshya's stationery products and help the company increase its appeal among young writers, thus cementing its position as the leading writing instrument provider in the country.

**Where has the DRDO organized the workshop on 'Human Factors Engineering in Military Platforms'?**

- a) Surat
- b) Kolkata
- c) Mumbai
- d) New Delhi

Explanation: A two-day workshop on "Human Factors Engineering in Military Platforms" was inaugurated by Chief of Defense Staff General Anil Chauhan in New Delhi on 15 March. The objective of the workshop is to set up a policy framework and practice incorporating science of Human Factors Engineering (HFE) in the defense sector, which will contribute to the goal of 'Atmanirbhar Bharat'.

**3. When is the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination made.**

- a) March 20
- b) March 25
- c) March 21
- d) March 22

Explanation: International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination is observed every year on 21 March. The day calls for solidarity against racism and racial discrimination. Apart from being a violation of

human rights, this racial discrimination also has harmful effects on human health and well-being and hinders social cohesion.

**4. Who has signed an MoU with the Indian Army to set up green hydrogen projects at their establishments on Build, Own and Operate model?**

- a) BHEL
- b) NMDC
- c) NTPC REL
- d) HAL

Explanation: It aims to reduce complex logistics, reduce dependence on fossil fuels and accelerate decarbonisation. Potential sites will be jointly identified for setting up green hydrogen projects for power supply in a phased manner.

**5. In which city did the 2023 Swiss Open Badminton tournament begin on 21 March 2023?**

- a) Basel
- b) Interlaken
- c) Lausanne
- d) Lucerne

Explanation: The Swiss Open Badminton Tournament 2023 is starting from today in Basel, Switzerland. The tournament will be played till 26th of this month. Indian shuttler PV Sindhu will open her campaign against local wildcard - Jenjira Stadelman. If Saina Nehwal defeats Thai shuttler Lalinrat Chaiwan in her tournament opener, then Saina Nehwal may face PV Sindhu in the second round.

**6. Recently which Indian industrialist has been appointed to the 'Order of Australia' for distinguished service.**

- a) Ghanshyamdas Birla
- b) Jamshed Naroji Godrej
- c) Mukesh Ambani
- d) Mr. Ratan Tata

Explanation: The Governor General of Australia has announced that India's top industrialist Ratan Tata has been appointed to the 'Order of Australia' for distinguished service to Australia-India relations, particularly trade, investment and philanthropy.

**7. Which airport has again topped Skytrax's ranking of the world's best airports, which was revealed at the 2023 World Airport Awards ceremony?**



# THE ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

a) Singapore Changi Airport

b) Visakhapatnam International Airport

c) Europe Airport

d) America Airport

Explanation: Singapore Changi Airport has again topped Skytrax's ranking of the world's best airports, which was revealed at the 2023 World Airport Awards ceremony. Singapore's Changi Airport has won the world's best airport award. According to the Skytrax report, among the world's 100 best airports, India's Delhi Airport has made its place at number 36, Hyderabad Airport at 65th, Bangalore Airport at 69th and Mumbai's Airport at number 84.

**8. The Union Ministry of Rural Development has decided to freeze the funds of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) for which state for the financial year 2023-24?**

a) Surat

b) Kolkata

c) Mumbai

d) West Bengal

Explanation: The Central Government has decided to stop the funds of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MNREGA) released for West Bengal in the financial year 2023-24. The Union Ministry of Rural Development has taken this step by invoking Section 27 of the MGNREGA, which allows funds to be withheld for violation of rules in the implementation of the scheme by the state. According to a report in The Hindu, the Center had first implemented the rule in December 2021 on the basis of a ground survey, which revealed rampant corruption and violation of guidelines. At present, the central government owes the state Rs 7,500 crore, of which labor wages alone account for Rs 2,744 crore.

## ONE LINER

'ISSF World Cup Shooting Championship' has started in which city - **Bhopal**.

Who has been appointed as the brand ambassador of "Luxor" – **Virat Kohli**.

The Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir has inaugurated 'Aerator Cum Dancing Fountain' in which lake - **In Dal Lake**.

The Civil-20 India meeting of G-20 is being organized in which city - **Nagpur**.

Who will set up a task force to prepare a framework to determine the logistics cost in the country – **Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade**

Which country has topped the recently released Global Terrorism Index – **Afghanistan**.

In which city Asia's largest Tulip Garden has been opened for public - **in Srinagar**.

Recently which Indian industrialist has been appointed to the 'Order of Australia' for distinguished service - **Mr. Ratan Tata**

The second G20 Sustainable Finance Working Group (SFWG) meeting under the G20 Presidency of India is scheduled to be held from March 21 to 23, 2023 in which city – **Udaipur**