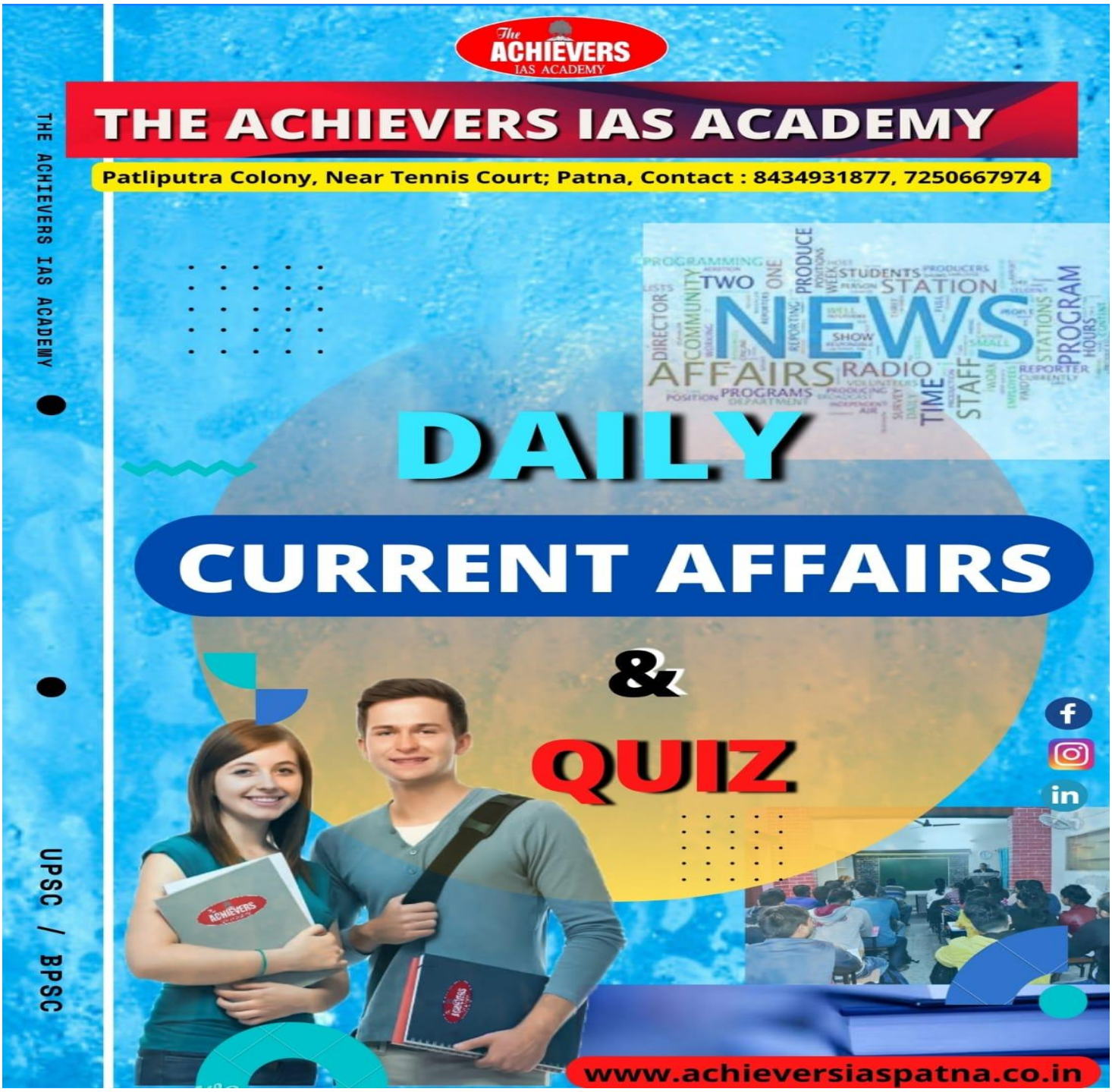
The ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

LANGUAGE - ENGLISH

CURRENT AFFAIR BOOSTER

30 – 03 – 2023

THURSDAY



1. SBI announces donation of Rs 48 lakh for tree plantation

As part of its Corporate Social Responsibility, State Bank of India (SBI) has partnered with NGO The Eko Foundation to donate Rs 48 lakh for planting 32,000 saplings at Garden City University in Bengaluru. The initiative aims to contribute to the environment by increasing green cover and promoting sustainable practices. An MoU has been signed between SBI, Garden City University and Eco Foundation for the successful implementation of this project. The tree plantation project at Garden City University in Bengaluru is being implemented using Miyawaki's technique. Developed by Japanese botanist Akira Miyawaki, this technique involves dense, This includes the creation of native forests that grow 10 times faster and are 30 times denser than normal. Plants grown using this technique become self-sustaining within 2-3 years and the multi-tiered forest helps lower temperatures, improve soil quality, support local wildlife, and sequester carbon. Are.

2. NPCI recommends PPI charges for UPI payments

NPCI has recommended levy of interchange fee on payments above Rs 2000 made through Prepaid Payment Instruments (PPIs). UPI payment is facing high cost in India. In such a situation, the purpose of this step of NPCI is to benefit the banks and payment service providers. This interchange fee will be charged from April 1. National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has issued a circular in this regard. Accordingly, it has been recommended to levy prepaid payment instrument (PPI) charges on merchant payments made through UPI from April 1. It means to say that from April 1, additional charges will have to be paid on the transaction done with the merchant.

It has been recommended by NPCI to impose this charge at 0.5-1.1 per cent. A PPI of 1.1 per cent will be levied on transactions above Rs 2,000. This charge will have to be paid only to those people, who are for merchant transactions. It will have no effect on the common people.

3. S&P retains India's economic growth forecast at 6% for FY24

Credit rating agency S&P Global Ratings has retained its forecast for India's economic growth

at 6 per cent for the next fiscal year starting April 1. The agency also expressed the hope of increasing it to 6.9 per cent in the next financial years 2024-25 and 2025-26. The report states that India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth may pick up to 7% by the end of the current financial year 2022-23, after which it may slow down to 6% in the next financial year 2023-24. India is expected to grow at an average growth rate of over 7% during 2024-2026. The rating agency has projected GDP to grow at 6.9% in the future two financial years 2024-25 and 2025-26, which may further increase to 7.1% in 2026-27. India's economy was traditionally based on domestic demand, But in recent times it has become more sensitive to global economic cycles due to the high volume of commodity exports. As a result, the annual GDP growth rate eased to 4.4% in the fourth quarter (October-December 2022), according to the rating agency.

4. Indian-origin Sikh woman becomes Connecticut's first Asian assistant police chief

Indian-origin Sikh woman officer Lieutenant Manmeet Kolan has taken charge as the Assistant Police Chief of the US state of Connecticut. She has become the first Asian to hold this position. She became the department's first second-in-command of Asian descent. Colon, 37, has taken over as assistant police chief in the US state of Connecticut. Manmeet is the first Indian-American in the department to reach the top position. Colon has served for the New Haven Police Department for the past fifteen years. Veteran colonel of the New Haven Police Department (NHPD) was sworn in as the city's third assistant police chief at a ceremony on March 24. Colon, a native of Mumbai, has become the second woman assistant chief of the department and the first Indian assistant chief. At the age of just 11, Colon moved to America with her family. Colon graduated from the police academy in December 2008 and is living in New Haven. Studied Criminal Justice at University. After this he joined the force. Colon has also served as a Detective, Sergeant, a Lieutenant, and District Manager. Most recently Colon also served in patrol as Chief of the Department of Internal Affairs.

5. Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman honored with literary award

Gandhi Peace Prizes have been announced for the last two years. The Gandhi Peace Prize will be given to former President of Bangladesh Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman for the year 2020 and the late Sultan Qaboos bin Said Al Said of Oman for the year 2019. The Ministry of Culture gave this information on Monday. PM Modi said that the Gandhi Peace Prize 2020 has been given to one of the greatest leaders of our subcontinent, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. The year 2020 marked the birth centenary of Bangabandhu. He is a symbol of indomitable courage and tireless struggle for millions of his fans. PM Modi said that Sultan of Oman late Qaboos bin Said Al Said is being honored with the Gandhi Peace Prize 2019. This is in recognition of His Majesty's standing as a leader of remarkable compassion and his

contribution to advancing peace and prosperity in the region. The Ministry of Culture informed that the award is being presented to the late Sultan Qaboos of Oman in recognition of his efforts to strengthen ties with India and promote peace and non-violence in the Gulf region. The Gandhi Peace Prize is an annual award instituted by the Government of India in 1995 to commemorate the 125th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. The award is open to all individuals irrespective of nationality, race, language, caste, creed. It is an annual award instituted by the Government of India in the year 1995 to commemorate the 125th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. The award is open to all individuals irrespective of nationality, race, language, caste, creed. It is an annual award instituted by the Government of India in the year 1995 to commemorate the 125th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. The award is open to all individuals irrespective of nationality, race, language, caste, creed.

6. Purchase of defense equipment worth 5,400 crores in self-reliant India campaign, government agreement with NSIL and BEL

Under the self-reliant India campaign of the Central Government, companies related to the production of defense materials have received large purchase orders. The Defense Ministry signed two deals with Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) and one with New Space India Limited (NSIL). The three deals are worth about Rs 5,400 crore. The first deal with BEL Ghaziabad is for procurement of Automated Air Defense Control and Reporting System. These equipment, named Project Akashteer, will be purchased for the Army for Rs 1,982 crore. The second deal with BEL Hyderabad is for procurement of Sarang Electronic Support Measure (ESM) systems. Explain that this deal has been done for Rs 412 crore and these equipment will be used by the Navy, while an agreement has been reached with NSIL to prepare the modern communication satellite GSAT 7B. 2, With this satellite worth Rs 963 crore, the Indian Army will get a lot of facilities related to communication. NSIL is a government organization working under the Department of Space.

7. Google did not get relief from NCLAT, directed to deposit fine of Rs 1337 crore in 30 days

Google has not got relief from the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLAT). The NCLAT has upheld the Commission of India's (CCI) order imposing a penalty of Rs 1,337.76 crore on internet company Google. A two-member bench of the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) has directed Google to implement the direction and deposit the amount in 30 days. A bench of NCLAT chairperson Justice Ashok Bhushan and member Alok Srivastava also made some amendments to the CCI order. He has also rejected Google's contention that natural justice was violated by the Commission of India (CCI) in the investigation. On October 20 last year, the CCI imposed a fine of Rs 1,337.76 crore on Google for anti-competitive practices with respect to Android

mobile devices. This decision was challenged by Google before the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT). But Google did not get relief from the National Company Law Tribunal and on Wednesday it upheld the order of the Commission of India to impose the penalty. Along with this, Google has been directed to deposit the amount in 30 days.

8. NGO from Assam honored with Children's Champion Award

Tapovan, a Pathsala-based NGO in Assam that focuses on supporting children with special needs and children with autism, has been awarded the Children's Champion Award 2023 in the health and nutrition category. The award is presented by the Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights and honors individuals and organizations making significant contributions to the welfare of children in various fields such as education, justice, health, nutrition, sports and creative arts. In 2022, the Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights launched the Children's Champion Award to honor people and organizations making significant contributions to children's education, health, nutrition, justice, sports and artistic expression. The award was open to nominations from all over India, and the commission received over 1,100 submissions. On March 25, Kumud Kalita, Founder-Chairman of Tapoban, was received in New Delhi by Chief Justice of Odisha High Court, Justice S. Muralidhar in the Health and Nutrition category with the Children's Champion Award. The award consists of a certificate, a plaque and a cash prize of ₹ 75,000.

Quiz

1. NASA is going to send how many humans to live on Mars from June 2023.

a) 8 humans
b) 7 humans
c) 5 humans
d) 4 humans

ANS: This summer the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) is preparing four people to live on Mars. The four "Marsplanets" will be a part of NASA's human exploration journey to Mars, even as the US space agency has long sought to send humans to the neighboring planet.

2. Recently which bank has launched 'Micropay' based on 'PIN on Mobile' technology for digital payments.

a) HDFC Bank
b) Axis Bank
c) SBI Bank
d) ICICI Bank

ANS : Axis Bank, one of the top private sector banks in India, in association with technology partners Ezetap by Razorpay and MyPinpad has introduced an unprecedented payment solution called "Micropay". MicroPay is a "PIN on Mobile" solution that turns a merchant's smartphone into a Point of Sale (POS) terminal, making digital payments easy and providing an unparalleled customer experience.

3. When has World Sparrow Day been celebrated recently?

a) March 18
b) March 20
c) March 19
d) March 21

ANS: World Sparrow Day is celebrated every year on 20 March to raise awareness about the bird. The initiative was started by the Nature Forever Society (NFS) of India, founded by Indian conservationist Mohammad Dilawar. The first

World Sparrow Day was celebrated in 2010 in different parts of the world. Sparrow numbers have declined sharply over the years.

4. NASA has partnered with which country to launch the Multi-Angle Imager for Aerosols (MAIA) mission?

a) Israel
b) Italy
c) France
d) Japan

ANS: NASA and the Italian Space Agency will work together to launch the Multi-Angle Imager for Aerosol (MAIA) mission. The mission will last three years and will focus on studying 11 cities around the world, including New Delhi, Beijing, Los Angeles, Atlanta and Rome, to examine the health effects of air pollution. The mission is set to launch before the end of 2024.

5. Which state/UT hosted the 'Kodava Hockey Festival'?

a) Andhra Pradesh
b) Odisha
c) Karnataka
d) West Bengal

ANS: The Kodava Hockey Festival is being organized in Karnataka's Napoklu town after a gap of 4 years. The annual event is the largest field-hockey tournament in the world. The Kodava community in the hill district organizes an inter-family hockey tournament every year in which players from more than 200 families participate. The only rule to make a team is that all the members should be from the same family.

6. PFRDA has increased the age limit of Lokpal from 65 years to how much?

a) 70 years
b) 60 years
c) 80 years
d) 90 years

ANS: The government has increased the maximum age for the ombudsman of the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) from 65 years to 70 years. The Ombudsman is responsible for receiving, evaluating and helping to resolve complaints or grievances under the PFRDA regulations. As per the rules of PFRDA, a complainant whose complaint is not resolved within thirty days from raising the complaint in the National Pension System Trust or a complainant who has made a complaint directly against the National Pension System Trust and there is no other intermediary and who within thirty days remains unresolved within 30 days, he can file an appeal with the Ombudsman.

7. Recently which bank has announced a donation of Rs 48 lakh for tree plantation.

a) SBI Bank
b) Axis Bank
c) HDFC Bank
d) ICICI Bank

ANS : As part of its Corporate Social Responsibility, State Bank of India (SBI) has partnered with NGO The Eko Foundation to donate Rs 48 lakh to plant 32,000 saplings at Garden City University in Bengaluru. The initiative aims to contribute to the environment by increasing green cover and promoting sustainable practices.

8. Who is the author of the book 'Basu Chatterjee: And Middle-of-the-Road Cinema'?

a) Anirudh Bhattacharya
b) Amrita Pritam
c) Dr Ashwini Fernadis
d) Arvind Mandloi

ANS: A new book titled 'Basu Chatterji: And middle-of-the-road cinema' has been released, which chronicles the life and times of Indian film director Basu Chatterjee. The book is authored by Anirudh Bhattacharya, an award-winning author, and published by Penguin Random House India (PRHI).

ONE LINER

Which country has given permission to National Hydro Power Corporation Limited (NHPC) to study the Seti River Hydroelectric Project – Nepal country.

IPL team Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) has appointed whom as its new captain – Nitish Rana.

Which player has been included in the contract grade A+ by the BCCI for the 2022-23 season - Ravindra Jadeja.

Who is the author of the book 'Basu Chatterjee: And Middle-of-the-Road Cinema' - Anirudh Bhattacharya

Which is the first NATO country to give fighter jet to a warring country – Poland

Who has recently been appointed as the CMD of Cotton Corporation of India – Lalit Kumar Gupta

Which state's NGO has been honored with the Children's Champion Award 2023 - Assam

Recently which bank has launched 'Micropay' based on 'PIN on Mobile' technology for digital payments - Axis Bank

Which writer has recently been honored with the literary award - Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman

Who has been appointed as the new MD & CEO of Axis Securities - Pranav Haridasan

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