

**IACE**

# DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

**26<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> Jan 2023**

**DESCRIPTIVE**

## ❖ International Customs Day

- International Customs Day is celebrated every year globally on January 26 to acknowledge the role of customs officials in managing efficient flow and exchange of goods and services across countries.
- This year the theme of International Customs Day is 'Nurturing the next generation'.
- The day marks the contribution of officers as well as their challenging working conditions.
- Customs agencies play an important role in the smooth flow of goods across borders.
- The day was first established in 1953 and ratified by the Customs Co-operation Council (CCC) for the first time.
- The session was inaugurated in Brussels, Belgium.
- Later in the year 1994, CCC was renamed as World Customs Organization (WCO).
- Presently, WCO consists of 182 member states around the world.

## ❖ Data Privacy Day

- Data Protection Day, or Data Privacy Day, is celebrated on January 28. The aim is to create more awareness about the right to data protection and the various ways in which people can keep their data more safe.
- The theme for this year is 'Think Privacy First'. In this digital age, it is pragmatic to prioritize data privacy, both for individuals and businesses.
- Data Privacy Day is observed, January 28, to raise awareness of the value of online privacy, which has been proclaimed a fundamental right of a citizen. The Council of Europe on April 26, 2006, decided to coin a Data Protection Day and announced that it will be observed each

year on January 28, the day on which the Council of Europe's data protection convention, known as "Convention 108," was opened.

### ❖ **International Holocaust Remembrance Day**

➤ Every year, International Holocaust Remembrance Day is observed on January 27 to reflect on the atrocities inflicted by Adolf Hitler, which resulted in the deaths of an estimated six million Jews. The day commemorates the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau in January 1945 from Nazi control.

➤ The theme "Home and Belonging" guides United Nations Holocaust remembrance and education in 2023.

### ❖ **Dr. Prabha Atre honoured with Pt Hariprasad Chaurasia Lifetime Achievement Award**

➤ Hindustani vocalist Padma Vibhushan, Dr. Prabha Atre was conferred with the the Pandit Hariprasad Chaurasia Lifetime Achievement Award.

➤ She was awarded padma shri in 1990, padma bhushan in 2002 & padma vibushan in 2022.

### ❖ **95th Academy awards**

➤ The Song 'Naatu Naatu' from India's blockbuster film RRR and two documentaries from the country 'All That Breathes' and 'The Elephant Whisperers' have made it to the final nominations list at the 95th edition of the Academy Awards.

➤ However, India's official entry Chhello Show (Last Film Show), Gujarati language coming-of-age drama did not score a nomination in the Best International Feature category at the 95th Academy Awards.

### ❖ **Padma Awards 2023**

➤ The Padma Awards are India's highest civilian honors after the Bharat Ratna, seeking to "recognize achievements in all fields of activities or disciplines where an element of public service is involved".

- These Awards are distributed by the President of India at ceremonial functions which are held at Rashtrapati Bhawan usually around March/ April every year.
- For the year 2023, the President has approved conferment of 106 Padma Awards including 3 duo cases (in a duo case, the Award is counted as one) as per list below.
- The list comprises 6 Padma Vibhushan, 9 Padma Bhushan and 91 Padma Shri Awards. 19 of the awardees are women and the list also includes 2 persons from the category of Foreigners/Non Resident India (NRI)/Person of Indian Origin (PIO) /Overseas Citizen Of India (OCI) and 7 Posthumous awardees.?
- ORS icon Dilip Mahalanabis (Medicine), Samajwadi Party founder and former Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Mulayam Singh Yadav (Public Affairs), and architect Balakrishna Doshi (Others-Architecture) have been picked to be awarded Padma Vibhushan posthumously. Shri Zakir Hussain, Shri S M Krishna & Shri Srinivas Varadhan are the other recipients of Padma bibhushan.

❖ **Visakhapatnam railway station receives 'Green Railway Station Certification' with highest Platinum rating**

- Visakhapatnam railway station of East Coast Railway has been awarded the 'Green Railway Station Certification with highest rating of Platinum' by the Indian Green Building Council (IGBC) for adopting green concepts thereby reducing the adverse environmental impact.
- Visakhapatnam is one of the few railway stations to get this prestigious certificate. Visakhapatnam secured 82 out of 100 points in six environmental categories.
- The Environment Directorate of Indian Railways, with the support of the IGBC, has developed the Green Railway Station rating system.
- Visakhapatnam railway station performed well in categories such as sustainable facilities, health, hygiene, energy and water efficiency, smart green initiatives, innovation and development.

### ❖ **Siddharth Sharma named CEO of Tata Trusts**

➤ The philanthropic arm of the Tata group and largest shareholder in the group holding company, Tata Trusts named Siddharth Sharma, as its CEO and Aparna Uppaluri, as chief operating officer. The appointments of the new CEO and COO will come into “effect from April 1, 2023”.

### ❖ **Centre appoints Justice Sabina Acting Chief Justice of Himachal Pradesh High Court**

- The Centre notified the appointment of Justice Sabina as the acting Chief Justice of the Himachal Pradesh High Court.
- Justice Sabina, the senior-most judge of the Himachal Pradesh High Court, will assume charge as the acting Chief Justice following the retirement of Justice Amjad Ahtesham Sayed.
- She has previously served as the acting chief justice from May 25 to June 22, 2022.
- Justice Sabina was unanimously elected as joint secretary of the Bar Association of the Punjab and Haryana HC in 1986.
- She was elevated as a judge of Punjab and Haryana HC on March 12, 2008. She was transferred to the Rajasthan HC and assumed office of a judge in April 2016.

### ❖ **Prabdev Singh appointed as CEO of JP Morgan Chase by RBI**

### ❖ **Chandigarh gets North India’s largest floating solar power project**

- The Governor of Punjab and Administrator Chandigarh, Banwari Lal Purohit 23rd Jan 2023 inaugurated North India’s largest floating Solar project of 2000kWp at Water Works in Chandigarh.
- He also inaugurated a 500kWp floating Solar Project with Fountains at Dhanas Lake in Chandigarh.
- The 2000kWp Floating Solar Power Plant at Water Works has been installed at a total cost of 11 crores 70 lakhs and the 500kWp Floating Solar Power Plant with fountains have been installed at Dhanas Lake at a total cost of three crore 34 lakh rupees.

➤ These Projects have been designed and executed by CREST (Chandigarh Renewable Energy and Science & Technology Promotion Society).

### ❖ **PepsiCo Foundation and CARE foundation launches 'She Feeds the World' programme in India**

➤ PepsiCo Foundation, the philanthropic arm of PepsiCo and CARE foundation, have launched 'She Feeds the World' program in India to strengthen the role of small-scale women producers through sustainable training and economic support.

➤ The programme 'She Feeds the World', currently active in at least five countries.

➤ The PepsiCo Foundation invested USD 18.2 million to scale CARE's 'She Feeds the World' initiative in six countries, which is projected to impact five million small-scale women producers and their families over six years between 2018 and 2024.

➤ Pepsico and CARE aim to improve the status of more than 48,000 women through this program. More than 1.5 million people from West Bengal will be benefitted.

### ❖ **Aero India 2023 to be held in Bengaluru**

➤ The biennial air show and aviation expo, Aero India 2023, is scheduled for February 13–17. Yelahanka Air Force Station in Bengaluru, which has hosted it since 1996, will serve as the venue. Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the programme.

➤ More than 730 exhibitors from India and other countries will take part in the event this year.

### ❖ **India Signed MoU Between Prasar Bharati and National Media Authority of Egypt**

➤ India and Egypt signed an MOU to facilitate content exchange, capacity building, and Co-Productions between Prasar Bharati and the National Media Authority of Egypt.

➤ The MoU was signed by Union Minister of Information & Broadcasting, Youth Affairs, and Sports Anurag Singh Thakur, and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Government of Egypt, Sameh Hassan Shoukry.

- The MoUs were exchanged between the two countries in the presence of the Prime Minister of India and the President of Egypt following the delegation-level talks between the two sides at Hyderabad House in New Delhi.
- Under the MoU, both broadcasters will exchange their programs of different genres like Sports, News, Culture, Entertainment, and many more areas on a bilateral basis and these programs will be telecast on their Radio and Television platforms.
- The MOU which will be valid for three years will also facilitate co-productions and training of the officials of both broadcasters in the latest technologies.

### ❖ **Indian Navy's flagship maritime exercise TROPEX 2023 held in the Indian Ocean**

- A maritime exercise called TROPEX is being conducted by the Indian Navy in the Indian Ocean region.
- TROPEX-2023 is being organised over a period of three months from January to March.
- The TROPEX exercise is held once every two years.
- Apart from the Indian Navy the exercise will involve their participation with assets from the Indian Army, Air Force and Coast Guard.
- The first exercise of maritime surveillance was held in January 2019. It is also called the biggest war game of the Indian Navy.

### ❖ **Annual Orange Festival 2023**

- The third edition of the two-day Orange Festival has been organized in Nagaland's Rusoma village to mark the harvest of organic oranges in the district.
- The orange festival was held from 24th to 25th January 2023.

### ❖ **India Among Top 3 Nations in Expanding Organic Farming in 2020**

- India has emerged as one of the top three countries in the world where the area under organic agriculture expanded the maximum in 2020.

- The total increase under organic cultivation globally in 2020 was 3 million hectares (mh), out of which Argentina accounted for 7,81,000 hectares (up by 21 per cent), followed by Uruguay at 5,89,000 hectares (28 per cent) and India at 3,59,000 hectares.
- Sikkim became the first State in the world to become fully organic.
- Madhya Pradesh tops the list with 0.76 million ha of area under organic cultivation — that is over 27 per cent of India's total organic cultivation area.
- The top three states, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, & Maharashtra — account for about half the area under organic cultivation.

#### ❖ **4-Year-Old Boy Becomes UK's Youngest Mensa Member**

- Teddy Hobbs, a four-year-old boy from Portishead, Somerset, who can read and count in seven languages, has become Britain's youngest Mensa member.
- The child prodigy has been accepted as the youngest member of Mensa, which accepts those who score 98th percentile or more in an approved intelligence test.
- Mensa is the largest and oldest high-IQ society in the world that accepts people who score at the 98th percentile or higher on an approved intelligence test.
- He can also count to 100 in other non-native languages, including Welsh, French, Spanish and German.

#### ❖ **'Amar Ekushey Boi Mela' : Bangladesh book fair**

- The largest and longest book fair of Bangladesh 'Amar Ekushey Boi Mela' will be inaugurated by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on 1st February.
- The historic 'Amar Ekushey Boi Mela' will be organised on the grounds of the Bangla Academy and Suhrawardy Udyan in the capital city, Dhaka
- 'Paro Boi, Garo Desh: Bangabandhur Bangladesh' meaning 'Read Book, build country: Bangabandhu's Bangladesh' is the theme of the fair this year.

➤ The book fair started in 1972 to commemorate the sacrifices of people killed by Pakistani forces on 21st February, 1952, demanding Bangla as the mother language for the then East Pakistan.

➤ It has been organised every year by the Bangla Academy since 1978.

### ❖ UNESCO designates Ukraine's Odesa a World Heritage in Danger site

➤ The United Nations' cultural agency, UNESCO has designated the historic centre of Odesa, a strategic port city on Ukraine's Black Sea coast, a World Heritage in Danger site.

➤ The status, awarded by a UNESCO panel meeting in Paris, is designed to help protect Odesa's cultural heritage, which has been under threat since Russia's invasion, and enable access to financial and technical international aid.

➤ It is located about 500 kilometres from Ukraine's capital Kyiv.

➤ It is known as the pearl of the Black Sea.

➤ The Black Sea stronghold town of Khadzhibei served as the foundation for Odessa, which was founded in 1794 on land that the Empress Catherine the Great had taken from the Ottoman Empire.

➤ Seven other sites in Ukraine have been added to Unesco's World Heritage List, including the Saint-Sophia Cathedral in the capital Kyiv and the historic centre of the western city of Lviv.

### ❖ Michelle Yeoh becomes first Asian to bag Oscar nomination for Best Actress

➤ The Malaysian actor Michelle Yeoh who received her first Oscar nomination for Best Actress, and also earned a special feather in her cap. She is the first actress of Asian descent to achieve this feat.

➤ The Malaysian actor bagged her first lead role in a Hollywood film at the age of 59.

➤ Yeoh has picked up several honours including a Golden Globe for best actress this year. She became only the second Asian actress to win the award (Awkwafina won the award in 2020 for her role in The Farewell).



➤ This year, there have been several Asian actors who have received nominations from the Academy, including Yeoh's costars Ke Huy Quan and Stephanie Hsu, as well as Hong Chau for 'The Whale'.

➤ This is the highest number of Asian acting nominees recognized by the Academy in its history, according to Variety.

➤ The 95th Academy Awards will air on March 12.

### ❖ **India Elected as Vice-chair at the 12th session of Intergovernmental Technical Working Group**

➤ In the 12th Session of the Intergovernmental Technical Working Group (ITWG) on Animal Genetic Resources (AnGR) India was elected as Vice-Chair and represented Asia & Pacific region.

➤ Dr. B N Tripathi, Deputy Director General (Animal Sciences), ICAR, and the National Coordinator, vice-chaired the Session and also act as Rapporteur.

➤ The 12th Session of the Intergovernmental Technical Working Group (ITWG) on Animal Genetic Resources was held in Rome from 18th January to 20th January 2023.

### ❖ **England's Ben Stokes and Nat Sciver win ICC annual awards**

➤ England Test captain Ben Stokes and England all-rounder Nat Sciver are among the winners in the International Cricket Council's annual awards.

➤ All-rounder Stokes has been named 'Men's Test Cricketer of the Year' while Sciver won the 'ICC Women's Cricketer of the Year' award.

➤ Sciver, 30, is also named Women's one-day international (ODI) Cricketer of the Year.

➤ The 31-year-old Ben Stokes took over the Test captaincy from Joe Root in April 2022 and has won nine of his 10 Tests in charge.

➤ Stokes previously won the overall Men's Cricketer of the Year award in 2019.

➤ Men's T20 Cricketer of the Year: Suryakumar Yadav, India

➤ Men's Emerging Cricketer of the Year: Marco Jansen, South Africa

➤ Women's ODI Cricketer of the Year: Nat Sciver, England

➤ Women's T20 Cricketer of the Year: Tahlia McGrath, Australia

➤ Women's Emerging Cricketer of the Year: Renuka Singh, India

❖ **New Zealand Cricket to introduce Debbie Hockley Medal to honour top women cricketer**

➤ In an attempt to honour the most outstanding female cricketer in the circuit and to acknowledge her efforts, New Zealand Cricket is set to introduce the Debbie Hockley Medal at this year's annual awards ceremony.

➤ The honour, which will be presented annually at the NZC Awards, will be the female equivalent of the Sir Richard Hadlee Medal given annually to the top male cricketer.

➤ The 2022/23 awards ceremony will take place on March 23 in Auckland. The new award will be handed out that evening by Hockley herself.

➤ From 1979 to 2000, Hockley represented New Zealand in 118 ODIs and 19 Tests.

➤ She is regarded as a pioneer of the women's game and was one of the top players for two decades in the 1980s and 1990s.

➤ The Sir Richard Hadlee Medal was established in 1998.

➤ Debbie Hockley was the only woman to receive the New Zealand Cricketer of the Year award 13 years ago.

❖ **Asif becomes first Nepali cricketer to win the 'ICC Spirit of Cricket award'**

➤ Nepalese cricketer Asif Sheikh has been shortlisted for the Spirit of Cricket award.

➤ In this way, Asif Sheikh has become the first cricketer from Nepal to receive the ICC award.

➤ Asif Sheikh is the first Nepali actor to win this award.

- The International Cricket Council (ICC) has announced the best men's ODI Team of the Year 2022.
- Babar Azam has been named captain of the ODI Team of the Year 2022 announced by the ICC.
- Apart from this, Indian fast bowler Renuka Singh has been selected as the ICC Emerging Female Cricketer of the Year.

❖ **Balkrishna Doshi, pioneer of modernist architecture in India, passes away**

- Dr Balkrishna Vitaldas Doshi, who is widely revered for his contribution in the field of architecture, has passed away. He was 95.
- For his outstanding contribution to the field of architecture, he was conferred with Pritzker Prize in 2018 and the coveted Padma Shri in 1976.
- The Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) has announced that Indian architect Balkrishna Doshi will be the recipient of the 2022 Royal Gold Medal.
- A Padma Bhushan awardee, Doshi was known for designing the buildings of the Ahmedabad-based Centre for Environment and Planning Technology (CEPT) and Mahatma Gandhi Labour Institute. His style of architecture — an amalgam of European modernist, brutalist architecture with Indian sensibilities — won many hearts.
- The celebrated architect authored several books on art and architecture, including Paths Uncharted (2011), Balkrishna Doshi: Writings on Architecture and Identity (2019), and Balkrishna Doshi: Architecture for the People (2019). Meanwhile, international architects ended up writing books on Doshi. This included William J R Curtis's book Balkrishna Doshi: An Architecture for India, released in 2014.

❖ **Sabir Ali, Iron Man of India, passes away.**

- 'Ironman of India' Sabir Ali, who won the decathlon gold at the 1981 Asian Athletics Championships in Tokyo, passed away. He was 67.

➤ Ali, who retired from Railways, won the title in the Japanese capital with a tally of 7,253 points beating Japan's Nobuya Saito (7,078) and China's Zu Qilin (7,074). He also won two silver medals at the South Asian Federation Games held in Kathmandu and Dhaka.

➤ He was honoured with the Arjuna Award in 1981.

## IACE'S UNIQUE INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS

### IACE'S QUIZ WAR

# BATTLE OF BRAINS

## 6 TEAMS

## EACH TEAM 4 MEMBERS

### 5 SUBJECTS , 4 ROUNDS

- ◆ Q.A ◆ REASONING ◆ ENGLISH
- ◆ CURRENT AFFAIRS ◆ COMPUTER KNOWLEDGE

**1<sup>ST</sup>** PRIZE

**10,000/-**

**2<sup>ND</sup>** PRIZE

**5,000/-**

**3<sup>RD</sup>** PRIZE

**3,000/-**