

IACE

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

20TH June 2023

DESCRIPTIVE

❖ **Indian Men's Senior Football Team wins Intercontinental Cup 2023**

- Indian men's senior football team has clinched the Intercontinental Cup 2023 after defeating Lebanon in Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.
- This is India's second title in the tournament, following their win in the inaugural edition in 2018.
- The first half was goalless while in the second half, the hosts made it 1 - 0 in the 46th minute with Indian captain Sunil Chhetri's goal.
- Lallianzuala Chhangte netted the second goal in the 65th - minute, making it 2-0.

❖ **Gross Direct Tax collections register a growth of 12.73% for FY 2023-24**

- Gross Direct Tax collections for the Financial Year 2023-24 (till now) have registered a growth of 12.73% to 4,19,338 crore rupees.
- In the preceding financial year, the government recorded a growth of 3,71,982 crores rupees.
- Net collections are at three lakh 79 thousand 760 crores, showing a growth of 11.18%.
- The Gross collections include Corporation Tax at 1,87,311 crore and Personal Income Tax at two lakh 31 thousand 391 crore.

❖ **INS 'Vagir' set to embark on operational visit to Colombo**

- INS 'Vagir', has embarked on an operational visit to Colombo from 19-22 June 2023 to commemorate the 9th edition of the International Day of Yoga and aligns with the theme of 'Global Ocean Ring'. About INS Vagir:

- It was launched into water on November 12, 2020 and commenced sea trials on February 1, 2022.
- It is a Kalvari-class submarine, which includes vessels, such as the INS Kalvari, INS Khanderi, INS Karanj, INS Vela and INS Vagsheer.
- It is the fifth Scorpène-class submarine.
- It is built under Project-75 by the Mazgaon Docks Ltd, under technology transfer from the Naval Group of France under a \$3.75 billion deal signed in October 2005.

Features:

- It is capable of undertaking diverse missions including anti-surface warfare, anti-submarine warfare, intelligence gathering, mine laying and surveillance missions.
- It has advanced stealth features and is also equipped with both long-range guided torpedoes and anti-ship missiles. It is having "superior stealth features" like advanced acoustic absorption techniques.

❖ World Sickle Cell Awareness Day - June 19

- World Sickle Cell Awareness Day is observed every year on June 19th each year to raise awareness about sickle cell disease (SCD).
- 2023 theme: Building and strengthening global sickle cell communities, formalizing newborn screening and knowing your sickle cell disease status.
- It is a genetic blood disorder characterized by abnormal red blood cells that take on a crescent or sickle shape.
- These irregularly shaped cells can cause blockages in blood vessels.
- India has the world's second-greatest sickle cell disease burden, affecting socially, politically, and economically marginalised people, particularly scheduled tribes.
- A mission will be launched in India to eliminate sickle cell anaemia by 2047.

❖ **Kotak Mahindra Bank launches 'ActivMoney', auto sweep account**

- Kotak Mahindra Bank has launched its ActivMoney feature, an auto sweep feature that is offered by other banks, including Axis Bank and IndusInd Bank.
- Benefit: This feature gives customers the benefit of FD like interest up to 7% per annum, and the flexibility to access their funds at any time from the linked savings account
- It allows a savings account holder to earn higher interest as offered in FDs while retaining the liquidity offered by a saving account.

❖ **Mascot launched for 37th edition of Indian National Games**

- Goa's Chief Minister Pramod Sawant launched mascot named 'Moga' which represents an Indian bison, for the upcoming 37th National Games.
- 37th edition of the national games of India will be held in various locations in the state of Goa.
- It will feature competitions in a total of 43 disciplines.
- It will also feature 'Gatka', a traditional martial art form associated with Punjab.
- About the National games:
 - National Games in India are organised by the Indian Olympic Association.
 - The Indian sports ministry, has affirmed that the National Games will be held every two years, except in years where the Olympics and Asian Games are held.
 - PT Usha is the president of Indian Olympic Association which is headquartered in New Delhi.

❖ **SEBI issues guidelines on product offerings by online bond platform**

- SEBI has restricted online bond platform providers from offering products other than listed debt securities on their platforms.

➤ SEBI also allowed them to offer securities such as Government Securities, Treasury Bills, listed SBGs, listed municipal debt securities, and listed securitized debt instruments on their platforms.

➤ Under the rules, Online Bond Platform Providers (OBPPs) need to register themselves as stock brokers in the debt segment of the stock exchange.

❖ Assam launched a portal to check illegal cattle transportation

➤ Assam Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Department launched a web portal for cattle transportation, during a program held in Guwahati.

➤ Aim: To prevent the illegal transportation of cattle

➤ From now, Livestock farmers and cattle traders can obtain permits required for inter-state transportation of cattle through the website ahvd-cattletrans.assam.gov.in.

➤ This system is prepared under the Assam Cattle Preservation Act, 2021.

❖ Joint Exercise 'Khaan Quest' 2023'

➤ With the participation of military contingents and observers from more than 20 countries, the multinational peacekeeping joint exercise "Ex Khan Quest 2023" began in Mongolia

➤ The ceremony was inaugurated by Mongolian President Ukhmagin Khurelsukh at the exercise site.

➤ The exercise is jointly sponsored by the Mongolian Armed Forces (MAF) and the United States Army Pacific Command (USARPAC).

➤ The Indian Army is being represented by a contingent of the Garhwal Rifles.

➤ The 14-day exercise aims to improve interoperability among the participating countries, facilitate exchange of experiences and provide training to uniformed personnel for United Nations Peacekeeping Operations (UNPKO).

➤ It includes various activities like Command Post Exercise (CPX), Field Training Exercise (FTX), Combat Discussion, Lectures and Demonstrations.

➤ This military exercise will strengthen defense cooperation between the Indian Army and the participating countries, especially the Mongolian Armed Forces, thereby enhancing bilateral relations between India and Mongolia.

❖ **India gifts missile corvette INS Kirpan to Vietnam**

➤ Defense Minister Rajnath Singh announced the gift of an indigenous in-service missile corvette, INS Kirpan, to the Vietnam People's Navy to enhance that country's capabilities.

➤ The announcement was made during talks between Defense Minister Singh and Defense Minister of Vietnam General Phan Van Gang in Delhi.

❖ **About INS Kirpan:**

➤ It is an indigenously-built in-service missile.

➤ It is a Khukri class missile corvette commissioned into the Navy on January 12, 1991.

➤ It has a displacement displacing capacity of close to 1,400 tonnes.

➤ It is capable of a speed of more than 25 knots.

➤ The Khukri class are equipped with Diesel Engines assembled in India.

➤ The ship is fitted with a medium-range gun, 30 mm close-range guns, chaff launchers, and surface-to-surface missiles.

➤ It performs a wide variety of roles, including coastal and offshore patrol, coastal security, surface warfare, anti-piracy, and Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) operations.

❖ **Acharya Gopi to be conferred first Jayashankar Award**

- The Bharat Jagruthi's Professor Kothapalli Jayashankar Vishita Sahitya Award would be presented to Professor N Gopi from Yadadri Bhongir district for his contribution to the field of literature.
- The award is constituted this year and professor N Gopi is the first person to get the award.
- He will be presented with a cash award of Rs.1,01,116 and Swarna Kankanam.
- Till date, N Gopi has written 56 books, including 26 poetry collections, seven essay collections, five translations and others.
- His works have been translated into different Indian languages, besides German, Persian and Russian.
- He served as Telugu University Vice Chancellor and also as in-charge Vice Chancellor of Kakatiya and Dravida Universities.

❖ **Sociologist, author Imtiaz Ahmad passes away at 83**

- Imtiaz Ahmad, renowned scholar who taught political sociology at the Jawaharlal Nehru University in India, has died. He was 83.
- Among his numerous publications are those which throw light on Muslim empowerment, minority rights, the role of education among Muslims, how Islamic ideologies mesh with social realities, how Muslim women are studied in India and communalism.
- Ahmad also wrote critically on the Gujarat riots of 2002 in particular and communal politics in general. His work has been lauded as having shed light on the composite culture of India.

❖ **Archaeologist finds Mesolithic-era rock painting in Guntur**

- A Mesolithic period rock painting depicting a person tilling a piece of land has been found in Orvakallu village in Guntur district, Andhra Pradesh.

- The paintings were made with “natural white kaolin and red ochre pigments.
- Ochre is a pigment composed of clay, sand, and ferric oxide.
- Kaolinite is a soft, earthy, and usually white mineral produced by the chemical weathering of aluminium silicate minerals like feldspar.
- One of the paintings depicted a man catching wild goat with his left hand while wielding a hook-like implement to control it.
- Another showed two couple standing with their hands rose while a child stood behind them.
- Mesolithic period was the transitional phase between the Paleolithic and the Neolithic Ages. On the basis of archaeological discoveries, the beginning of the Mesolithic Age in Indian subcontinent is dated to around 10,000 BC.

❖ **Bhavani Devi wins bronze medal at Asian Fencing Championships**

- Olympian C.A. Bhavani Devi has secured the bronze medal at Asian Fencing Championships 2023 held in China.
- In the quarterfinal, she created history by defeating reigning World Champion Misaki Emura and secured India its first-ever medal at the event.
- She stunned the world number one 15-10 to enter the women’s sabre semifinal.
- However, Bhavani lost to Uzbekistan’s Zaynab Dayibekova in the semifinals by 15-14, securing a bronze medal.

❖ **World Refugee Day - June 20**

- World Refugee Day is commemorated every year on 20th June to serve as a reminder of the challenges faced by millions of individuals who have been forced to flee their homes due to conflict, persecution, or violence.
- 2023 theme: Hope Away from Home

- This theme highlights the resilience of refugees, who have often lost everything but their hope for a better future.
- On December 4, 2000, the United Nations General Assembly established this day through Resolution 55/76.
- The UN mentions refugees as "A refugee is someone who fled his or her home and country owing to "a well-founded fear of persecution because of his/her race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion".

❖ **Satwik-Chirag become men's doubles champions at Indonesia Open 2023**

- Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty became the first Indian pair to win the doubles title at a BWF Super 1000 event at the Indonesia Open 2023.
- They defeated the Malaysian world champion pair of Aaron Chia and Soh Wooi Yik in the final.
- The win made them the first doubles team from India to win the Indonesia Open.
- They also became the first pair from India to win a Badminton World Federation (BWF) Super 1000 title.
- Indonesia Open 2023 took place at Istora Gelora Bung Karno in Jakarta, Indonesia.

❖ **Indonesia Open:**

- The Indonesia Open is an annual badminton tournament organised by the Badminton Association of Indonesia since 1982.
- It is classified as one of the premier tournaments in the Badminton World Federation (BWF) World Tour.
- It attracts top badminton players from around the world, promoting cultural exchange through the sport.