

Competitive Exams: Sports Current Affairs 2009 (Part 1 of 3)

Federer Wins a record 15th Grand Slam Title (5th July 2009)

Roger Federer, the world no 1, has won the Wimbledon title in the men's single event for the sixth time and crossed the record of 14 Grand Slam titles set by Pete Sampras. Federer defeated Andy Roddick in one of the most interesting finals in the Wimbledon in London. The five setter final was won by Federer 5 – 7, 7 – 6 (6), 7 – 6 (5), 3 – 6 and 16 – 14.

Sushil Kumar wins gold medal in wrestling (28th June 2009)

Sushil Kumar won the gold medal in style, after emerging the champion in the 66 kg freestyle category. India won two gold, one silver and two bronze medals, accounting for a total of five medals. Rahul Balasaheb secured the gold medal in the 55 kg freestyle category. In 120 Kg freestyle category, Rajiv Tomar secured the silver medal, Ravinder Singh and Ramesh Kumar won the bronze in the 60 kg Greco Roman in 74 kg freestyle categories respectively.

Pakistan wins Twenty20 World Cup (22nd June 2009)

The Pakistan Team had scored a sensational victory against Sri Lanka and won the T20 World cup. Pakistan achieved a 139-run target for the loss of two wickets with eight balls to spare. This win is the first major trophy since 1992, when Imran Khan led them to victory in the 50-over World Cup in Australia. As Pakistan scored the winning run with Shahid Afridi, people danced with joy, fired up crackers and celebrated by distributing sweets at Lahore.

India knocked out of World T20 (15th June 2009)

Defending champion India was knocked out of the World Twenty20 title race after a three-run defeat at the hands of an inspired England in the Super Eight match. Chasing a modest victory target of 154, India's batting order crumbled when it mattered most and the defending champions could manage only 150 for five.

Federer won French Open (7th June 2009)

Roger Federer has won the French Open title by defeating Robin Soderling. The scores were 6 – 1, 7 – 6 (1), 6 – 4. The 14th major title won by Federer breaks the Pete Sampras record. He has now become the sixth man to win all four Grand Slam championships. Federer won his 14th Grand Slam championship at the age of 27. He will now try for the 15th Grand Slam title beginning in two weeks at Wimbledon, which he has won five times already. He has also won the US Open for the past five years, and he has three Australian Open titles with him.

Anand wins Chess Oscar for sixth time (8th May 2009)

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The World Champion Viswanathan Anand continued to dominate supreme bagging the Chess Oscar for the sixth time and becoming the first non-Russian to do so. He received the award from International Chess Federation (FIDE) President Kirsan Ilyumzhinov being contested between teams of Azerbaijan and FIDE World, in Baku. The Indian ace has earlier won the honour in 1997, 1998, 2003, 2004 and 2007 while Russia's Garry Kasparov has claimed it 11 times and Bobby Fischer of America has taken it home thrice. The Chess Oscar is awarded by Russian chess magazine 64-Chess Review on the basis of a poll carried out among chess journalists and experts. The Oscar comes in the form of a statuette also called the Fascinated Wanderer.

Brasa appointed Indian men's hockey coach (1st May 2009)

Spain's master coach Jose Brasa has been appointed as the new chief coach of the Indian men's hockey team. Pravir Krishna, the Joint Secretary of Union Ministry of Sports said Brasa will soon join the Indian men's hockey team as the chief coach. He also informed that Brasa was handed a two-year contract, but didn't rule out the chances of his agreement being extended till the 2012 London Olympics. The Spaniard put forth a list of demands, including a free hand in running the team, the need for technology and a good physiotherapist, and a support staff of 14 people, including two from Spain. The Sports Ministry accepted his demands. The official also informed that Brasa would be coming to India early next week to formally take charge of his duties.

BCCI nominates Gambhir, Jhulan for Arjuna award (30th April 2009)

The Board of Control for Cricket in India has recommended batsman Gautam Gambhir and women's team captain Jhulan Goswami for the esteemed sports award, the Arjuna Award. Gambhir, opener has scored 1, 579 test runs at an average of 75.19, and 1, 494 runs at 46.38 in ODIs. Jhulan won the ICC Women Cricketer of the Year Award in 2007.

Book on Tendulkar released (24th April 2009)

A book, titled 'If Cricket Is a Religion, Sachin is God' was released on Sachin's 36th birthday. The authors of the book are Vijay Santhanam and Shyam Balasubramaniam who are graduates of IIM (Ahmedabad). They believe that Tendulkar is one of the greatest sportspersons of our times and surely the finest cricketer of our times. The most remarkable thing about Tendulkar is the way he has handled himself and his fame right from his early teens, they feel.

India seals historic win in NZ after 41yrs (7th April 2009)

Though rain stopped India from winning the third and final test against New Zealand at Basin Reserve in Wellington, it sealed the historic 1 – 0 series victory on Apr 7 after 41 years. The last time India won a series in New Zealand was under the captaincy of Mansur Ali Khan Pataudi in 1967 – 68. India had won the first Test in Hamilton by 10 wickets and drew the second Test in Napier.

India win Hamilton Test, a win in NZ after 33 years (21st March 2009)

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Dominant India defeated New Zealand by 10 wickets in the 1st Test to take 1 – 0 lead. This is India's first Test win in New Zealand since 1976.

India wrapped up New Zealand's second innings on 279 with the hosts giving a 38-run lead in the 1st Test. Harbhajan Singh took six wickets for his side.

India thrash New Zealand to seal ODI series (Feb 2009)

India won the One day series against new zeland soil at first time.

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