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TAAZA

KHABAR

30 Sept. - Oct 02

2023

A Note for Our Students

Current affairs form core component of General Knowledge section in almost all the competitive exams. Observing the recent trends, questions from current affairs has successively increased. But how to find out relevant current affairs from vast data available on numerous websites, apps and videos??

How to efficiently prepare current affairs keeping in mind relevance of the exam??

Don't worry!!

We have the solution; Gyanm team will segregate the important and the most relevant current affairs under heading 'Gyanm recommendations' so that you can prepare this crucial component with complete efficiency!!

So let's begin!!

Gyanm Recommendations!

1. SAFF Under-19 Championship: India won the championship on Sep 30 after defeating Pakistan 3-0 in the finals played in Kathmandu, Nepal. SAFF=South Asian Football Federation



2. ICC mascots named Blaze and Tonk

ICC has announced the names of the two mascots for the 2023 Cricket World Cup in India. The female mascot has been named 'Blaze' and the male mascot has been named 'Tonk'. The names were selected after voting done by the fans around the world.

3. WHO recommends 2nd malaria vaccine

The World Health Organisation (WHO) recommended on Oct 02 a new vaccine, R21/Matrix-M, for the prevention of malaria in children. The recommendation was made on the basis of advice from the Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunization and the Malaria Policy Advisory Group.

The vaccine has been developed by the University of Oxford and the Serum Institute of India. It was found to reduce symptomatic cases of malaria by 75% during the 12 months following a 3-dose series. The vaccine is expected to cost \$ 2 to 4 per dose and is expected to be available in some countries by next .

The R21 vaccine is the second malaria vaccine recommended by WHO, after the RTS,S/AS01 vaccine which was recommended in 2021. Malaria, a mosquito-borne disease, places a particularly high burden on children in the African Region, where nearly half a million children die from the disease each year.



4. 2023 Nobel Prize for Medicine

The 2023 Nobel Prize for Medicine or Physiology was announced on Oct 02. It has been awarded to two scientists for their work and research that enabled the creation of mRNA (messenger RiboNucleic Acid) vaccines against Covid-19. The prize was announced by the Nobel Assembly at Karolinska Institute, Stockholm.

Hungary born American Ms. Katalin Karikó and American Drew Weissman were cited for contributing “to the unprecedented rate of vaccine development during one of the greatest threats to human health in modern times.” The scientist duo worked together at the University of Pennsylvania, USA.

The prize carries a cash award of 11 million Swedish kronor (Approx. \$1 million or INR 8.27 crore) drawn from the endowment left by the prize’s creator, Swedish inventor Alfred Nobel, who died in 1896.

5. Nagorno-Karabakh: This is a disputed territory spread over roughly 4,400 sq km that lies in the mountainous South Caucasus region between the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea. Although it lies totally in Azerbaijan, yet most of it was controlled by rebel ethnic Armenians, their immediate neighbour in the western side. Azerbaijan and Armenia fought a bloody war over Nagorno-Karabakh in the late 1980s and early 1990s, and it has been the trigger for further violence in the years since.



The latest round of conflict that erupted a few months back, ended on Sep 20 when the two sides declared a ceasefire, mediated by Russia. The Armenian rebels agreed to dissolve all their strongholds in the region by Dec 31, 2023. As a result, more than half of the estimated 150,000 ethnic Armenians in the region fled back to Armenia in the week after the ceasefire, fearing they would have no future in Nagorno-Karabakh.

6. WB retains Indian GDP growth @ 6.3%



In its latest 'India Development Update' released on Oct 3, the World Bank has retained its projection of 6.3 per cent growth in Indian GDP during the current fiscal. “India continues to show resilience against the backdrop of a challenging global environment”, it said.

The report mentioned that service sector activity is expected to remain strong with growth of 7.4 per cent and investment growth is also projected to remain robust at 8.9 per cent”.

7. 2023 Nobel Prize in Physics

The 2023 Nobel Prize in Physics has been awarded to Pierre Agostini, Ferenc Krausz, and Anne L’Huillier “for experimental methods that generate attosecond pulses of light for the study of electro dynamics in matter”. Their experiments have given humanity new tools for exploring the world of electrons inside atoms and molecules.

The prize was announced on Oct 03 by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences in Stockholm. The prize money will be shared equally between the three laureates.

8. 2023 SASTRA Ramanujan Prize: Mathematician Ruixiang Zhang (from China), an Assistant Professor at the University of California, Berkeley, USA, has been selected as the recipient of this prestigious prize. The prize includes a cash award of \$10,000.



It is given by the SASTRA university in Tamil Nadu in the honour of a legendary mathematician, Srinivasa Ramanujan who died at the very young age of just 32 years. It is given annually to a young mathematician below the age of 32 years for his outstanding contributions to the field of mathematics.

9. October 01: National Pension System Diwas

Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority, PFRDA has decided to observe 1st of October as the National Pension System Diwas (NPS Diwas) to promote pension and retirement planning among the citizens. PFRDA is organising this campaign under 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'.

The pension regulator aims to encourage every citizen, whether working professionals or self-employed professionals, to plan towards creating a pension corpus to ensure a financially sound future after retirement. NPS subscribers will enjoy the benefits of tax deduction on contribution, power of compounding and reap the benefits of regular income after retirement.

10. October 1: National Voluntary Blood Donation Day



This day aims at spreading awareness about the importance of donating blood and the benefits associated with this noble cause. It is organised by the National Blood Transfusion Council (NBTC) and National AIDS Control Organisation, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

Transferring or donating blood or parts of it to the needy has become an integral part of humanity in the modern health care system, particularly in these days of Covid pandemic

11. October 01: International Coffee Day

This day is celebrated to educate people about the plight of the farmers who grow coffee beans. This day is an opportunity to appreciate the aromatic drink and support the millions of farmers whose livelihoods depend on this aromatic crop. The International Coffee Organisation (ICO) was set up in 1963 in London, under the auspices of the United Nations (UN) to administer the International Coffee Agreement.

12. October 01: International Day of Older Persons



The day aims to create awareness about challenges faced by the elderly and the abuses they face. The day additionally celebrates and honours the contributions that older individuals make to society.

The United Nations General Assembly adopted the day on December 14, 1990. The theme selected for this year is "Fulfilling the Promises of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights for Older Persons: Across Generations."

13. October 01: The World Vegetarian Day

This day is celebrated to promote vegetarian diet to emphasise environmental considerations, animal welfare and rights issues and personal health benefits to encourage people into avoiding animal products. The Day was first started back in 1977 by the North American Vegetarian Society and it was endorsed by the International Vegetarian Union in 1978.

A vegetarian diet focuses on vegetables, fruits, legumes, fruits, nuts and grains and also includes animal products such as eggs, dairy and honey, that are obtained without involving the death of an animal or the consumption of its meat.

A vegetarian diet is low in fat, rich in fibres, vitamins and minerals. It is low on cholesterol and also helps in improving the immune system.

14. October 02: International Day of Non-violence

Observed to commemorate Mahatma Gandhi's philosophy of nonviolence or Ahimsa. He had said "Non-violence is the greatest force at the disposal of mankind. It is mightier than the mightiest weapon of destruction devised by the ingenuity of man". The principle of non-violence — also known as non-violent resistance — rejects the use of physical violence in order to achieve social or political change.

The UN General Assembly in a resolution on 15 June 2007, commemorated the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi as the International Day of Non-violence.



**INTERNATIONAL
DAY OF 02 OCTOBER
NON-VIOLENCE**

15. October (2): World Habitat Day



This day is an UN initiative observed on the first Monday of every October for promoting the basic right to adequate shelter and housing for everyone. According to the United Nations, around 1.8 billion people were already living in slums and informal settlements, inadequate housing or in homelessness in cities across the world before the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic. The theme for 2023 is “Resilient Urban Economies: Cities as Drivers of Growth and Recovery”. The theme presents an excellent opportunity for the countries to look at how cities can position their economies to benefit residents.

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Some Other Minor News!

1. Dr Mohamed Muizzu elected as the new President of the Maldives.



2. The Union government has extended the tenure of Nitin Gupta, the incumbent chairman of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT), till June 30, 2024.
3. The Ministry of Finance has notified the wef Oct 01, online gaming, betting, casinos, gambling, horse racing, and lottery will attract 28% Goods and Service Tax (GST).
4. President Droupadi Murmu gave her assent to the Women's Reservation Bill on Sep 29. The Central government has issued a gazette notification for the legislation which is also called Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam.

5. The higher download speeds after the launch of 5G services in India in October, last year, have pushed the country's ranking 72 notches higher to 47th spot in the Ookla's Speedtest Global Index, ahead of nations like Japan, the UK and Brazil.



6. K.N. Shanth Kumar, a seasoned media professional, has been elected as the Chairman of the Press Trust of India's Board of Directors for a one-year term.



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