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**KHABAR**

09-12 | October

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!

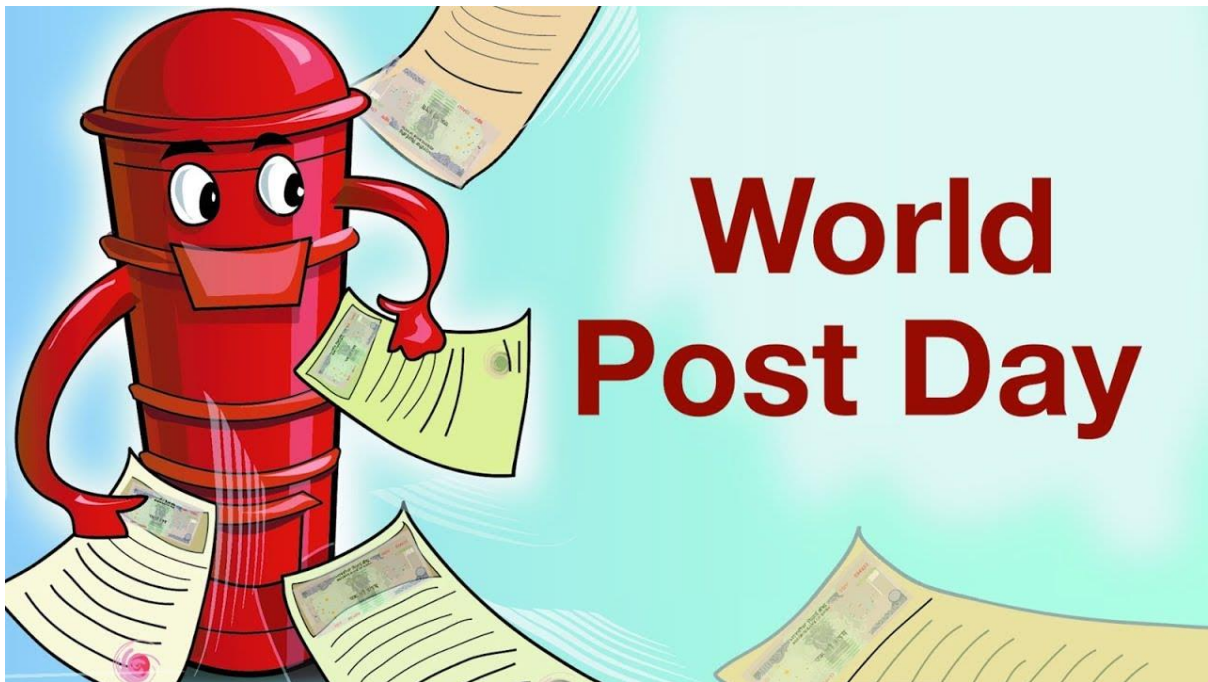
### 1. October 9: Indian Foreign Service Day



It was on this day in 1946 that the Indian government established the Indian Foreign Service for India's diplomatic, consular and commercial representation overseas. Ambassador, High Commissioner, Consul General, Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations and Foreign Secretary are some of the important offices held by the members of the Indian Foreign Service. Currently, Dr S Jaishankar is our Union Minister for External Affairs.

### 2. October 9: World Post Day

Celebrated each year on the anniversary of the establishment of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) on this day in 1874 in the Swiss capital, Bern. It was declared World Post Day by the UPU Congress held in Tokyo, Japan in 1969. The day aims to create awareness of the role of the postal sector in people's and businesses' everyday lives and its contribution to social and economic development. The theme for 2023 is "Together for trust: Collaborating for a safe and connected future".



India has the largest postal network of the world having more than 1,56,000 offices. History of formal postal services in India can be traced back to 1727 when Calcutta G.P.O. started under a Postmaster General. The first postal stamp in India was introduced on 1 July 1852. On November 21, 1947, Independent India got its first ever official postage stamp printed, featuring the Indian flag with the nationalist cry "Jai Hind."

### 3. October 10: World Mental Health Day

The day is observed with the support of WHO to raise awareness about the common psychological conditions and remove stigma attached to them. The pandemic in recent years has made mental health more critical. Mental health is one of the most neglected areas of public health.

About 1 billion people are living with mental disorders. This year the theme selected for the day's campaign "Mental Health is a Universal Human Right", calls to step up efforts in mental health in a human-rights based approach.



#### 4. 2023 Nobel prize in Economics



This year's Nobel prize in Economics has been awarded to Ms. Claudia Goldin, an American economic historian, for her work on women's employment and pay. Prof Goldin's research uncovered key drivers behind the gender pay gap. The award was announced on Oct 09 by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, Stockholm.

She is only the third woman to receive the prize, and the first to not share the award with male colleagues. The 77-year-old professor currently teaches labour market history at Harvard University in the USA.

#### 5. IMF hikes India's GDP growth rate to 6.3%

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) in its annual publication, World Economic Outlook, released on Oct 10, has raised India's GDP growth forecast for 2023-24 to 6.3 per cent on the back of strong consumption demand.

Current forecast is 20 basis points more than 6.1 per cent announced in July this year. The IMF's latest growth forecast comes a month or so after data released by the Statistics Ministry on August 31 showed the Indian economy expanded by 7.8 per cent in April-June, 2023.

## 6. BRICS International Competition Conference



The Competition Commission of India hosted the 8th BRICS International Competition Conference (BRICS ICC) on Oct 11-13 in New Delhi. The theme of the conference was “New Issues in Competition Law and Policy – Dimensions, Perspectives, Challenges”. The conference was attended by more than 600 delegates from the competition regulating authorities of BRICS and non-BRICS nations, competition law experts, non-government advisors and domestic invitees.

## 7. State elections announced in 5 states

The Election Commission announced on Oct 09 the poll schedule for the assembly elections in five states – Mizoram, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Telangana. The elections will be held between 7th to 30th of next month as under:

Mizoram, 40 seats –	7th November
Chhattisgarh, 90 seats –	7th/17th November
Madhya Pradesh 230	17th November
Rajasthan 200	25th November
Telangana 119	30th November

The counting for all five states will take place on 3rd December and the results will be announced on . There are 679 assembly seats in these five states and 16 crore electors. Around 60 lakh first-time voters will participate in these polls.

**8. Dr. Gagandeep Kang:** A leading vaccinologist and currently professor of gastroenterological sciences at Christian Medical College, Vellore in Tamil Nadu, was formally inducted as a Member of the US National Academy of Medicine in Washington on 9th October.



This makes her only the third Indian expert after former WHO chief scientist Soumya Swaminathan and acclaimed cardiologist K Srinath Reddy, to get the honour. Kang has been one of the foremost leaders in the development of the indigenous rotavirus vaccine for saving lakhs of children from diarrhoeal diseases every year.

**9. Ex Chakravat:** The Annual Joint Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) Exercise (AJHE-23) 'Chakravat' was held on Oct 09–11 in Goa. It was hosted by the Indian Navy. Participants from India's armed forces, paramilitary forces, disaster response organisations, NGOs, academic institutions, and international organisations, took part in the exercise..

### **10. Sri Lanka hosts annual meeting of IORA**

Sri Lanka hosted the 23rd meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) on Oct 11 in Colombo. Foreign Ministers of 16 countries attended the meeting. Sri Lanka took over Chairmanship of the multilateral group for the next two years (2023-25). The meeting was chaired by the Foreign Minister of Sri Lanka, Ali Sabry.



IORA was established in 1997 as an intergovernmental organisation of States on the rim of the Indian Ocean, for mutual cooperation. It has members from Africa, West Asia, South Asia, Southeast Asia and Oceania. The Association's membership has expanded to 23 member states and 11 dialogue partners.

## 11. RBI's working group on ECL framework

The Reserve Bank of India has decided to constitute an external working group on expected credit loss (ECL) based framework for provisioning by Banks. The ECL approach to provisioning is a paradigm shift from the current incurred loss-based provisioning regime.

The Working Group will be chaired by R Narayanaswamy, former Professor, IIM Bangalore and will consist of eight members - domain experts from academia and industry as well as representatives from select banks.

## 12. Mumbai airport launches Asia's first DARK

In a major initiative in the aviation sector, the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport, Mumbai commissioned a specialised Disabled Aircraft Recovery Kit (DARK) on Oct 09, becoming the first airport in Asia to have such a facility.

The DARK facility has high-pressure lifting bags that ensure superior durability, require minimal manpower, and provide a more efficient recovery process, in contrast to conventional low-pressure counterparts. It has the ability to swiftly recover the biggest commercial aircraft in operations in the world, including B777-300, which weighs over 390 Metric tons.



## 13. October 11: International Day of the Girl Child



Observed every year to focus on issues like female infanticide to gender inequality to sexual abuse that the girls across the globe are exposed to. The Day focuses attention on the need to address the challenges girls face and to promote girls' empowerment and the fulfilment of their human rights. The theme for this year is "Invest in Girls' Rights: Our Leadership, Our Well-being".

**Remember!** In India, National Girl Child Day is celebrated on January 24 every year.

## 14. October 12: World Arthritis Day

The day is celebrated to raise awareness about arthritis, an inflammatory condition which causes pain and stiffness in joints which can worsen with age. The theme for this year is "Living with an RMD at all stages of life". RMD stands for Rheumatic and Musculoskeletal Diseases.

Arthritis is an inflammatory joint disorder, which affects the joints tissues around the joint, and other connective tissues, causing joint pain and stiffness. More than 100 types of arthritis exist, but the most common are Osteoarthritis and Rheumatoid arthritis.

## 15. India welcomes President of Tanzania



President of Tanzania Samia Suluhu Hassan arrived in New Delhi on Oct 8 on a four day State visit to India at the invitation of the President Droupadi Murmu. She also held parleys with the prime minister Modi. She addressed the India-Tanzania Investment Forum on Oct 10 in New Delhi.

She was conferred with an Honorary Doctorate by Jawaharlal Nehru University for her pivotal role in fostering stronger India-Tanzania relations. Two sides signed six MoUs in the fields such as Sports, Maritime Industry, Cultural Exchange, industrial cooperation and digital solutions.

Tanzania is an East African country, opening to the Indian Ocean.

## 16. Op Ajay to bring back Indians from Israel

India launched "Operation Ajay" on Oct 11 to facilitate the return of Indians from Israel. Special charter flights and other arrangements were put in place to ensure safe return of Indian citizens. A 24-hour Control Room was set up in the Ministry of External Affairs to monitor the situation and provide information and assistance. First batch of 230 Indians living in Israel left for India on Oct 12.

Indian skipper Rohit Sharma in a sparkling inning against Afghanistan becomes the highest six-hitting (554\*) batter in International cricket here on Wednesday.

## 17. Rohit scores highest (554) sixes



Rohit Sharma created history on Oct 11 scoring highest (554) sixes in international cricket, breaking Chris Gayle's record of 553 for most sixes. While Gayle amassed 553 sixes in 551 innings, Rohit surpassed the record in just 473 innings. The record was made in New Delhi, playing against Afghanistan.

**18. Max Verstappen** added his name to the honourable list of Formula One triple champions on October 08 when the Red Bull driver won the Qatar Grand Prix. 26 year old Verstappen retained his F1 world championship earlier in 2021 and 2022.



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## Some Other Minor News!

1. Union Finance and Corporate Affairs Minister Nirmala Sitharaman visited Marrakech, Morocco on Oct 11 to 15 to attend the Annual Meetings of the World Bank Group and the International Monetary Fund, along with G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors meeting.



2. The Union Cabinet approved on Oct 11 establishment of an autonomous body, Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat) to focus on “youth-led development and to provide equitable access to the youth in the age-group of 15-29”.

3. Navneet Munot, the MD & CEO of HDFC Asset Management, was elected as the Chairman of the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI).

4. Mohammadreza Shadloui Chiyaneh, star Kabaddi player from Iran became the most expensive overseas player at the auction of the Pro Kabaddi League. He was bought by Puneri Paltan for Rs 2.35 crore.



5. The 37th edition of the National Games, scheduled for 2023, is set to take place in the picturesque state of Goa.

## Multiple Choice Questions!

1. Indian Foreign Service Day on Oct 09 marks which of the following events that took place on this day?
  - a. Appointment of India's first High Commissioner to Great Britain in 1948
  - b. Handing over of the charge of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs by Britishers to Indians in 1947
  - c. Establishment of the Indian Foreign Service in 1946
  - d. Appointment of India's first minister for External Affairs in 1947
  - e. Joining of the first batch of 11 Indian Foreign Service officers in 1949
  
2. This year's Nobel prize in Economics has been awarded to Ms. Claudia Goldin, an economic historian, for her work on women's employment and pay. She hails from which country?
  - a. Finland
  - b. Brazil
  - c. Australia
  - d. USA
  - e. Mexico
  
3. The Competition Commission of India hosted the 8th BRICS International Competition Conference (BRICS ICC) on Oct 11-13 in which city?
  - a. Bhubaneswar
  - b. Kohima
  - c. New Delhi
  - d. Mt Abu
  - e. Wayanad

4. Dr. Gagandeep Kang, a leading vaccine researcher from India, was formally inducted as a Member of the US National Academy of Medicine in Washington on 9th October. She is a renowned researcher in diseases associated with which field?
  - a. Influenza
  - b. Measles
  - c. Polio
  - d. Diarrhoea
  - e. Hepatitis
  
5. The Annual Joint Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) Exercise (AJHE-23) 'Chakravat' was held on Oct 09–11 in which place?
  - a. Goa
  - b. Visakhapatnam
  - c. Kochi
  - d. Navi Mumbai
  - e. Chennai
  
6. Sri Lanka hosted the 23rd meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) on Oct 11 in which city?
  - a. Trincomalee
  - b. Hambantota
  - c. Batticaloa
  - d. Jaffna
  - e. None of these



7. In a major initiative in the aviation sector, which Indian airport commissioned a specialised Disabled Aircraft Recovery Kit (DARK) on Oct 09, becoming the first airport in Asia to have such a facility?
- a. Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi
  - b. Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport, Mumbai
  - c. Rajiv Gandhi International Airport, Hyderabad
  - d. Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International Airport, Kolkata
  - e. Shahid Bhagat Singh International Airport, Chandigarh
8. President of \_\_\_\_\_, Samia Suluhu Hassan arrived in New Delhi on Oct 8 on a four day State visit to India:
- a. Nigeria
  - b. Kenya
  - c. Tanzania
  - d. Ethiopia
  - e. Namibia
9. India launched "Operation \_\_\_\_\_" on Oct 11 to facilitate the return of Indians from Israel:
- a. Mitra
  - b. Ajay
  - c. Vijay
  - d. Sakha
  - e. Swadesh

## Answer Key

Q	ANSWER
1	B
2	D
3	C
4	D
5	A
6	E
7	B
8	C
9	B

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