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**TAAZA**

**KHABAR**

28-29 | November

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!

### 01. S&P projects 6.4% growth for India



New York based credit rating agency Standard & Poors (S&P) Global Ratings has projected India's economic growth at 6.4 percent for fiscal year 2024-25. However, the agency cautioned that high food inflation and weak exports can cast a shadow on growth in the years ahead. In its Economic Outlook for Asia Pacific, the agency mentioned that India's growth this year and the next is on track to be the strongest in emerging market economies with higher domestic demand.

### 02. Asia's largest open-air trade fair

Asia's largest open-air annual trade fair, the Bali Jatra, commemorating the glorious ancient maritime legacy of Odisha, was inaugurated on Nov 27 on the banks of the Mahanadi River in Cuttack. "Bali Jatra" translates to "A journey to Bali."

The festival has its roots in ancient times, some 2,000 years ago, when traders from Kalinga (now Odisha) used to embark on sea voyages to nearby lands like Bali, Java, Sumatra, etc in Southeast Asia. The fair begins on Kartika Purnima every year and continues for a week. About two thousand stalls displaying various traditional handicrafts, household goods, and food items, especially local cuisine, took part in the fair.

### 03. PMGKAY extended till Dec 31, 2028

The union cabinet approved on Nov 29 extension of the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Ann Yojana (PMGKAY) for another five years from 1st of January 2024, till December 31, 2028. Under the scheme, five kg of free food grains are being provided per month to over 81 crores poor in the country and Antyodaya households get 35 kg of free food grains per month.

PMGKAY is amongst the world's biggest social welfare schemes aimed at ensuring food and nutrition security at an estimated cost of 11.80 lakh crore rupees over a 5 year period.





## 04. Peace agreement signed with UNLF, Manipur



In a historic step towards peace in Manipur, the Central and Manipur governments signed a peace agreement on Nov 29 in New Delhi with the United National Liberation Front (UNLF), a banned Meitei extremist organisation and the oldest armed group based in the Manipur valley. About 300 extremists surrendered their arms agreeing to renounce the violence and return to the mainstream.

This is the first time a valley-based insurgent group has agreed to return to the mainstream by abjuring violence. They also agreed to abide by the Constitution of India and laws of the land. It is hoped that the return of the UNLF to the mainstream will also encourage other valley-based armed groups to participate in the peace process in due course.

The UNLF was formed in 1964 and has been operating both within and outside Indian territory since then, striving for the independent Manipur. It is one of the eight Meitei extremist organisations that the government has declared to be unlawful associations under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967.

**05. Christopher Luxon:** Leader of the National Party was sworn in as the new prime minister of New Zealand on Nov 29.

## **06. 16th Finance Commission to be formed**

The Union Cabinet approved the terms of reference (ToR) for the 16th Finance Commission, which will recommend the formula for sharing revenues between the Centre and the States for the five-year period beginning on April 1, 2026. The Commission will make its report available by 31st of October, 2025.

It will also suggest the principles that should govern the grants-in-aid of the revenues of the States out of the Consolidated Fund of India and the sums to be paid to the States by way of grants-in-aid of their revenues under Article 275 of the Constitution. The commission is formed every five years according to Article 280 of the Constitution.



**07. Henry Kissinger:** Former United States Secretary of State (Foreign Minister) and 1973 Nobel Peace Prize winner, passed away on Nov 29 at his home in Kent in the state of Connecticut, USA. Kissinger had an unparalleled strong effect on US foreign policy and external affairs in the early seventies. He served under two presidents — Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford — between 1969 and 1977. He was regarded as an accomplished diplomat, expert political scientist and a learned geopolitical consultant.

## 08. 13th Hockey India Senior Men's National Championship:

Punjab won the tournament on Nov 28 by defeating defending Champions Haryana in the final played in Chennai.

## 09. L'Ordre d'Honneur:

Smt VR Lalithambika, a senior scientist from ISRO, was conferred this top French civilian honour for her engagement in space cooperation between France and India. Created in 1802 by Napoleon Bonaparte, the L'Ordre d'Honneur (the Legion of Honour) is the highest civilian award given by the French Republic for outstanding service to France, regardless of the nationality of the recipients.





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## Multiple Choice Questions!

1. The central government has decided which new name for the Ayushman Bharat-Health and Wellness Centres?
  - a. Ayushman Arogya Kendra
  - b. Bharat Swasthya Kendra
  - c. Ayushman Arogya Mandir
  - d. Bharat Arogya Mandapam
  - e. Ayushman Niramaya Mandir
  
2. Prime Minister Narendra Modi took a sortie in which fighter jet on Nov 25 in Bengaluru?
  - a. Sukhoi Su-30MKI
  - b. LCA Tejas
  - c. MiG 29
  - d. Rafale
  - e. Mirage 2000
  
3. Paul Lynch, winner of this year's Booker Prize for his novel 'Prophet Song', hails from which country?
  - a. Ireland
  - b. Portugal
  - c. Greece
  - d. Scotland
  - e. Belgium

4. What is the amount of cash prize given with the Booker Prize (in British Pounds)?
- a. 15,000
  - b. 25,000
  - c. 33,000
  - d. 50,000
  - e. No cash prize
5. Vidya \_\_\_\_\_ became the first Indian woman to win an individual world snooker title by securing Gold at the World 6 Red Women Snooker Championships in Doha, Qatar:
- a. Ratn
  - b. Ghosh
  - c. Pillai
  - d. Iyer
  - e. Bala
6. Aditi Ashok is a top rated Indian player of which sports?
- a. Squash
  - b. Wushu
  - c. Golf
  - d. Chess
  - e. Billiards

7. The United Nations has designated November 26 as the World Sustainable \_\_\_\_\_ Day:
  - a. Progress
  - b. Transport
  - c. Development
  - d. Ecosystem
  - e. Growth
  
8. With which country India hosted the 17th edition of joint military exercise Surya Kiran 2023 from Nov 24 to Dec 7?
  - a. Sri Lanka
  - b. Maldives
  - c. Malaysia
  - d. Bhutan
  - e. Nepal
  
9. Recently there was a news item in various newspapers about Kavro Doma 360. What is it?
  - a. Anti-aircraft missile
  - b. Rifle-rated ballistic helmet
  - c. Hand held rocket launcher
  - d. Man mounted anti tank gun
  - e. Multiple drone firing system



## Answer Key

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

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