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**TAAZA**

**KHABAR**

Nov 30 - Dec 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. Modi visits Dubai to attend 28th COP/UNFCCC



Prime Minister Narendra Modi embarked on a two-day visit to the United Arab Emirates on Nov 30 to attend the World Climate Action Summit in Dubai. It is the high-level segment of the 28th Conference of Parties, COP-28 to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

The Summit was held from 28th November to 12th of December, under the Presidency of the UAE. The COP to the UNFCCC provides a unique opportunity to impart momentum for collective action towards combating the shared challenge of climate change.

## 2. Indian GDP booms by 7.6%



The National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation announced on Nov 30 the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) data for the second quarter (Q2), spanning July 01 to September 30 of the FY 2023-24. The second quarter GDP growth stood at 7.6 per cent. The GDP growth in the first quarter (April-June) of the current fiscal was 7.8 per cent.

The main thrust came from the manufacturing sector which grew at 13.9 percent. The construction sector grew at 13.3 percent. With such good growth, India is expected to retain its status as the fastest-growing economy in the world.

## 3. World's first commercial flight on 100% SAF

Leading British airline, Virgin Atlantic on Nov 28 made the first transatlantic flight of a commercial passenger jet, Boeing 787, powered entirely by “sustainable” fuel. The flight took off from London’s Heathrow airport and made its way across the Atlantic to New York’s JFK airport on a sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) mixture of mostly “waste fats,” as well as plant sugars, oil, proteins and fibres.

The flight proved that SAF can be used as a safe, drop-in replacement for fossil-derived jet fuel. SAF can produce up to 70 percent less lifecycle carbon dioxide emissions versus traditional jet fuel. The Boeing 787 was powered by the Trent 1000 engines from the Rolls Royce, proving their compatibility with the SAF.

#### 4. Film awards at the IFFI at Goa



The 54th International Film Festival of India concluded on Nov 28 in Goa with the final award ceremony.

Golden Peacock for the Best Film: 'Endless Borders', Persian film by Abbas Amini

Silver Peacock for Best Director: Bulgarian director Stephan Komandarev for Blaga's Lessons

Silver Peacock for Best Actor (male): Pouria Rahimi Sam (Iran), Endless Borders

Silver Peacock for Best Actor (Female): Melanie Thierry (France), Party of Fools

Silver Peacock for The Special Jury Award: Rishabh Shetty for Kantara  
The Golden Peacock carries a cash prize of Rs. 40 lakh. Best Director and Special Jury Award carry a cash award of Rs 15 lakh while Best Actors get a cash prize of Rs. 10 lakh each.

**5. Davis Cup (Tennis):** Italy won the cup for the first time since 1976, defeating Australia on Nov 26 in Malaga, Spain.

## 6. Merriam-Webster selects 'Authentic' for 2023



With controversies surrounding 'deepfake' videos making headlines, the US based Merriam-Webster Dictionary announced on Nov 27 "authentic" as the word of the year for 2023. Authentic is roughly defined as "not false or imitation".

The term is significant to know what is fake and what is real. It often revolves around identity, whether national or personal, influencing discussions on cuisine, self, voice, and more.

## 7. "Hallucinate" is Cambridge's word of 2023

England based Cambridge Dictionary selected "hallucinate" as word of the year for 2023. It refers to a verb that gained an additional meaning this year in the context of artificial intelligence systems such as ChatGPT, which generates text that mimics human writing, "hallucinates" and produces false information.

The original definition of hallucinate refers to "seem to see, hear, feel, or smell" something that does not exist, usually because of "some health condition or under influence of a drug".

**8. Jason Dylan Bretfelean:** The 19 year old handsome hunk from Hyderabad created history on Nov 26 by emerging victorious amongst the 36 contestants from across the world at the 9th edition of the Mister Global pageant held in Mahasarakham, Thailand. This momentous achievement makes him the first Indian to clinch this prestigious title. Earlier, he had won the Rubaru Mr. India Global 2023 title to make his way to the Mister Global pageant.



## 9. Drones for women Self Help Groups

The Union Cabinet on Nov 29 approved a Central Sector Scheme for providing Drones to the Women Self Help Groups (SHGs), with an outlay of Rs. 1261 crore for two years. The scheme aims to provide drones to 15,000 selected Women SHGs during the period 2023-24 to 2025-2026 for providing the same on rent to farmers for agriculture purposes, mainly for Nano fertilisers and pesticide applications. It is expected that SHGs would be able to earn additional income of at least Rs. one lakh per annum.

The scheme will help in infusing advanced technology in agriculture for improved efficiency, enhance crop yield and reduce cost of operation for the benefit of farmers. The scheme provides Central Financial Assistance at 80% of the cost of drones and related accessories/ancillary charges, up to a maximum of Rs. eight lakh per SHG.

**10. Sqn Ldr Manisha Padhi:** A Squadron Leader in the Indian Air Force, was appointed on Nov 29 as India's first woman Aide-De-Camp (ADC) from the Indian Armed Forces. She has been attached to the Governor of Mizoram. An Aide-De-Camp is a personal assistant or secretary to a person of high rank, including head of state.

**11. The Asian Development Bank** (ADB) approved a \$170 million loan to support the modernization of water supply services in the city of Kochi in Kerala. The loan will help to improve the quality of life for residents of Kochi by providing them with access to clean and reliable water.

Observed across the world to raise awareness on HIV/AIDS. The day aims to spread factual information such as the fact that Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) is a contagious virus that leads to Acquired ImmunoDeficiency Syndrome (AIDS). AIDS is the last stage of the HIV virus.

The day also throws emphasis on the fact that HIV can NOT be spread by touching or coughing or handshake or sharing food with the HIV-infected person. It can only spread through unprotected sexual contact with a person or infected needles and infected blood. The theme for the Day this year is "Let communities lead".



## 12. December 02: National Pollution Control Day



Observed annually in India in memory of the people who lost their lives in the tragic 1984 Bhopal Gas Tragedy. The horrific industrial accident took place in the Union Carbide India Limited (UCIL) pesticide plant in Bhopal where leakage of highly poisonous Methyl Isocyanate - MIC gas on the mid-night of Dec 2-3 killed thousands of people and maimed lakhs of other persons with various ailments.

The day aims to raise awareness among not only people but the authorities as well regarding the hazard of industrial pollutants and the harmful impact they can have on future generations.

## 13. December 2: World Computer Literacy Day

The day aims to promote awareness about computers and to encourage people to use them efficiently. The day was introduced by the Indian computer company NIIT in the year 2001 to promote technological skills, especially in children and women, and to inspire them to learn more and make their work easier and faster by the use of computers.

The history of the computer can be traced back to the early 1820s when Charles Babbage designed the 'Difference Engine,' a mechanical computer capable of performing simple calculations.

## 14. Dec 02: International Day for Abolition of Slavery



Observed to spread awareness about ending human trafficking and the exploitation of humans. The focus of this day is on eradicating contemporary forms of slavery, such as trafficking in persons, sexual exploitation, the worst forms of child labour, forced marriage, and the forced recruitment of children for use in armed conflict.

There is no clear definition of modern slavery but it is considered as debt bondage, human trafficking, forced labour and forced marriages. Essentially, it refers to situations of exploitation that a person cannot refuse or leave because of threats, violence, coercion, deception, and/or abuse of power. An estimated 50 million people are still in modern slavery, including 28 million in forced labour and 22 million in forced marriage.

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## 15. President's Colour presented to AFMC, Pune



President Droupadi Murmu presented the President's Colour to the Armed Forces Medical College (AFMC) on Dec 01 in Pune. President's Colour, also known as 'Rashtrapati ka Nishaan' is the highest honour that can be bestowed upon any military unit.

AFMC is a premier Armed Forces Medical Services establishment and one of the leading medical colleges of the country. It is celebrating its platinum jubilee this year and the award is a testament to the glorious 75 years of AFMC's exemplary service to the nation.

## 16. UAE commits \$30 bn for climate change

Marking a milestone in the history of climate change funding, the United Arab Emirates, made an unprecedented 30 billion dollar commitment to ALTÉRRRA, a climate-focused investment vehicle. The announcement was made on Dec 01 at the ongoing COP 28 in Dubai. This initiative aims to revolutionise International climate finance, prioritising equitable access for the Global South.

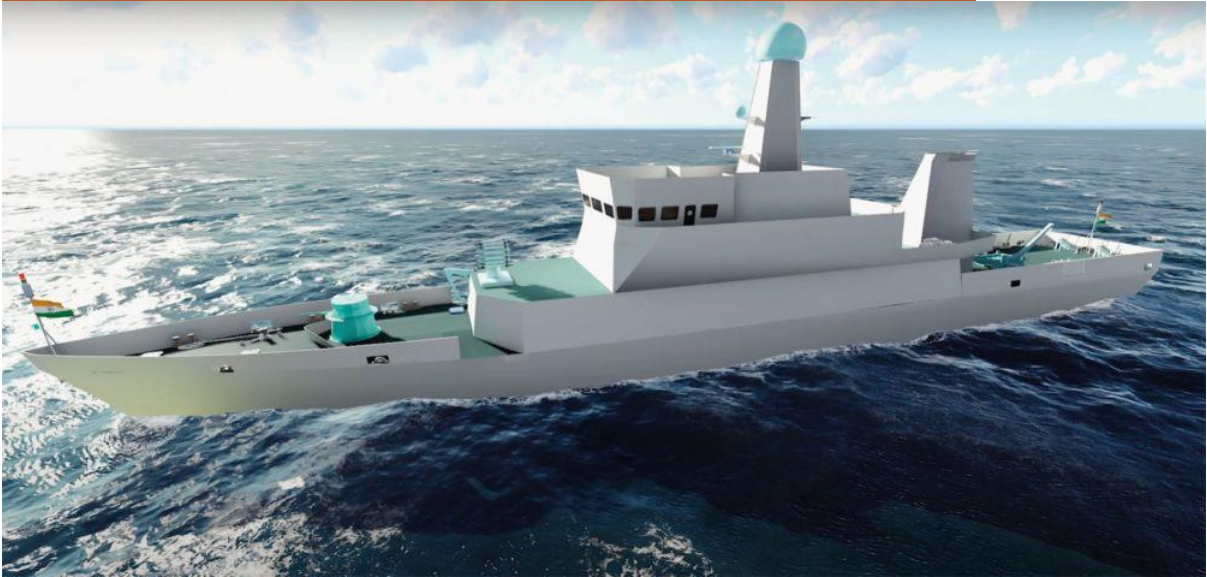
With the 30 billion dollar pledge, ALTÉRRRA now stands as the world's largest private investment vehicle dedicated to climate action, with a targeted mobilisation of 250 billion dollars globally by 2030. COP28 Dr. Sultan Al Jaber, current President of the COP 28 described the launch of ALTÉRRRA as the establishment of a new era in international climate finance.

## 17. Loss and Damage Fund created at COP 28

The delegates at the COP28 climate conference in Dubai announced a crucial decision on the opening day, Dec 01, creation of a “Loss and Damage Fund” to provide financial support to countries reeling under the impact of climate change. The initial funding is estimated to be \$475 million, with the European Union pledging \$255.39 million, the US \$17.5, Japan \$10 million and the host UAE \$100 million. The World Bank will be the interim host to the fund for a period of first four years. The fund will provide finance for addressing a variety of challenges associated with the adverse effects of climate change, such as climate-related emergencies, rising sea levels, displacement, relocation, migration, insufficient climate information and data, and the need for climate-resilient reconstruction and recovery.



## 18. Navy gets three ASW shallow water crafts



The Cochin Shipyard Ltd. achieved a significant feat on Nov 30 by simultaneously launching three Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Crafts (ASW-SWC) for the Indian Navy. INS Mahe, INS Malvan, and INS Mangrol are the first three of the series of eight ASW-SWCs. These corvette class vessels are capable of low-intensity maritime operations, mine-laying, subsurface surveillance, coordinated ASW operations with aircraft, and search and rescue missions.

## Some Other Minor News!

1. The Vijayawada Railway Station in Andhra Pradesh was awarded the prestigious platinum rating by the Indian Green Building Council (IGBC) for its commitment to environmental sustainability and eco-friendly practices.



2. Angkor Wat temple, world's largest temple complex located in the northern province of Siem Reap in Cambodia, has defeated Pompeii in Italy to become the eighth Wonder of the World.

3. Renowned author and translator Arshia Sattar was honoured with the Knight of the Order of Arts and Letters by the French government. Notable among her works are translations of epics like the Ramayana and the Mahabharata.



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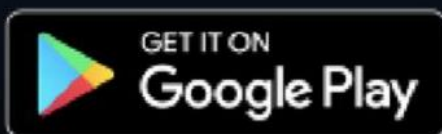
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