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09-10 | December

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??

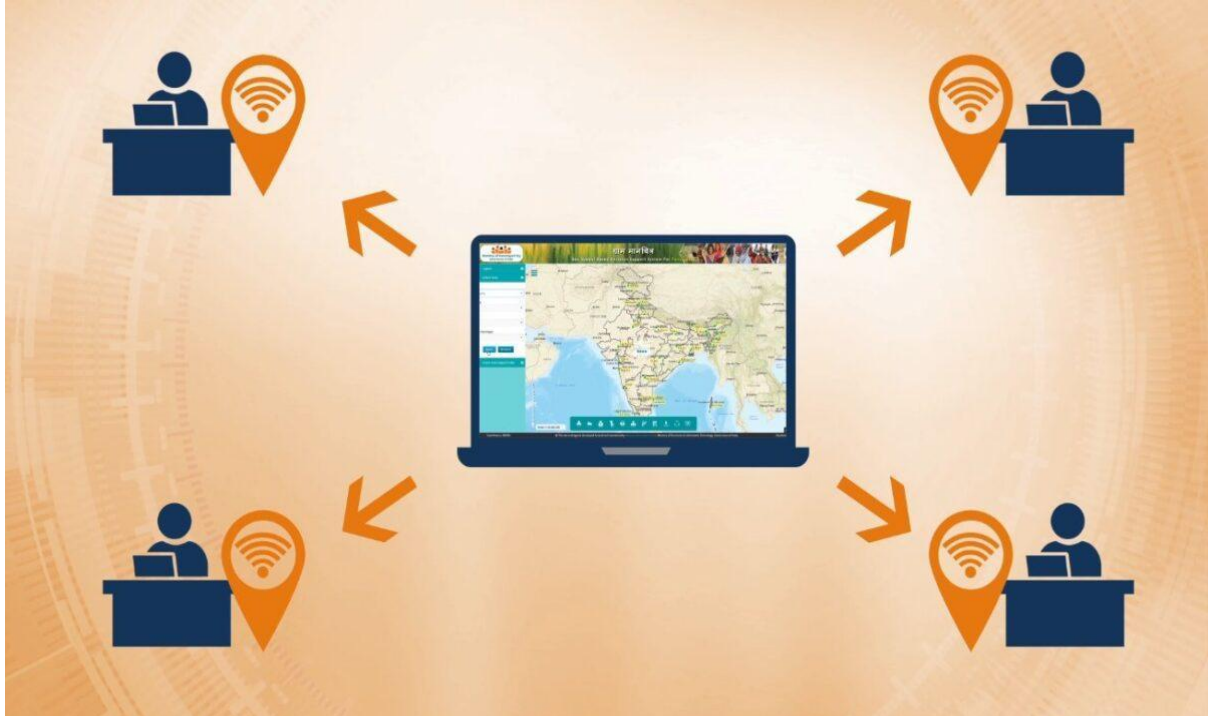
Don't worry!!

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. Gram Manchitra to boost spatial planning



In order to encourage the Spatial Planning by the Gram Panchayats, the Ministry of Panchayati Raj had launched the Geographic Information System (GIS) application “Gram Manchitra” (<https://grammanchitra.gov.in>). This application facilitates and supports Gram Panchayats to perform planning at Panchayat level using geo-spatial technology.

It is a single platform where spatial pictures of various developmental works undertaken by Panchayat can be seen. It will also act as a decision support system for the Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP). The app will provide a repository of information on all works and assets related to natural resource management, water harvesting, drought proofing, sanitation, agriculture, check dams and irrigation channels etc.

2. 4 Indian ladies in Forbes top 100 list



Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, HCL Corporation Chairperson Roshni Nadar Malhotra, Steel Authority Of India Chairperson Soma Mondal and Biocon Executive Chairperson Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw are the four Indians in the Forbes list of 'The World's Most Powerful Women' for 2023.

Sitharaman has made it to the list for the fifth year in a row, ranking at number 32. While Malhotra was ranked 60th, Mondal took the 70th spot and Mazumdar-Shaw the 76th. The list is topped by Ursula Gertrud von der Leyen, a German physician and politician serving as the 13th President of the European Commission. She is followed by Christine Lagarde, President, European Central Bank and Kamala Harris, Vice President of USA.

3. India ranked 7th in Climate Change Index

India moved one step ahead at 7th rank in this year's Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) released on Dec 8 at the global climate conference (COP-28) in Dubai. India maintained its place among the top 10 for the fifth year in a row. Despite being the world's most populous country, it has relatively low per capita emissions, the index said.

None of the countries could score enough marks to enter the top three rankings. Denmark was placed at fourth spot, followed by Estonia and Philippines at 5th and 6th spot, respectively. China, the largest polluter, was placed at 51st rank while the US, the second biggest emitter came in at 57 rank. Saudi Arabia secured the last rank at 67th spot. The Index evaluates the climate mitigation efforts of 63 countries and the European Union, covering over 90 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions.

4. UPI payment limits raised

Announcing the December bi-monthly monetary policy review on Dec 8, the RBI raised the UPI payment limit to hospitals and educational institutions to Rs 5 lakh from Rs 1 lakh presently. The enhanced limit will help consumers make payments of higher amounts through UPI for education and healthcare purposes.

RBI also hiked the cap for e-mandates for recurring payments through UPI to Rs 1 lakh per transaction, from Rs 15,000 at present. Popular recurring payments such as mutual fund subscriptions, insurance premium subscriptions and credit card repayments, up to Rs. one lakh, now will not require an OTP generation.



5. Federal Bank - Bank of the Year 2023



Kerala based private bank, Federal Bank, was awarded the prestigious title of “Bank of the Year (India), 2023” by The Banker, a renowned London based financial magazine. The bank was honoured for the initiatives such as the Digital Personal Loan, the ‘Bank on the Go’ initiative, and the introduction of ‘Feddy’, an artificial intelligence-powered chatbot.

6. December 09: International Anti-Corruption Day

Celebrated every year with UN support to spread awareness against corruption. The day also highlights the role of the “United Nations Convention against Corruption” (UNCAC of Oct 2003) in combating and preventing corruption. It aims to make people aware of the repercussions of indulging in corruption and motivate them to follow a righteous path.

This year’s theme for the Day is “UNCAC at 20: Uniting the World Against Corruption.” The theme aims to combine efforts to combat corruption globally and stand against bribery, misuse of public funds, and any such unethical practices.

7. December 09: National Submarine Day



The Indian Navy celebrates this day to commemorate the induction of its first submarine, the erstwhile INS Kalvari, on this day in 1967. The Soviet Russia made Foxtrot class submarine was decommissioned on the 31st May, 1996, after 29 years of meritorious service. This day is also observed to remember and honour submariners who made supreme sacrifice in their service.

As per the extant practice of Navy to keep the names alive, a new modern indigenously built submarine was commissioned in the Indian Navy in December, 2017 with the same name – INS Kalvari.

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Multiple Choice Questions!

1. Information System (GIS) application to promote Spatial Planning by the Gram Panchayats?
 - a. Gram Darpan
 - b. Gram Manchitra
 - c. Gram Aanchal
 - d. Nakshaa
 - e. Bhu Chitran

2. The Forbes list of 'The World's Most Powerful Women' for 2023 included only four Indian ladies. Which one of the following is NOT one of them?
 - a. Nirmala Sitharaman
 - b. Roshni Nadar Malhotra
 - c. Nita Ambani
 - d. Soma Mondal
 - e. Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw

3. India moved one step ahead at _____ rank in this year's Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) released on Dec 8 at the global climate conference (COP-28) in Dubai:
 - a. 7th
 - b. 11th
 - c. 17th
 - d. 21st
 - e. 26th

4. The RBI raised the UPI payment limit to hospitals and educational institutions to Rs _____ lakh, from Rs 1 lakh at present:
- a. 2
 - b. 3
 - c. 4
 - d. 5
 - e. 6
5. Which private Indian Bank was awarded the prestigious title of “Bank of the Year (India), 2023” by The Banker, a renowned London based financial magazine?
- a. IndusInd Bank
 - b. Yes Bank
 - c. Federal Bank
 - d. RBL Bank
 - e. Axis Bank
6. December 09: National Submarine Day The Indian Navy celebrates December 09 as the National Submarine Day to commemorate the induction of its first submarine named _____ :
- a. INS Vagir
 - b. INS Karanj
 - c. INS Vela
 - d. INS Arihant
 - e. INS Kalvari

Answer Key

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

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