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11-12 | 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??

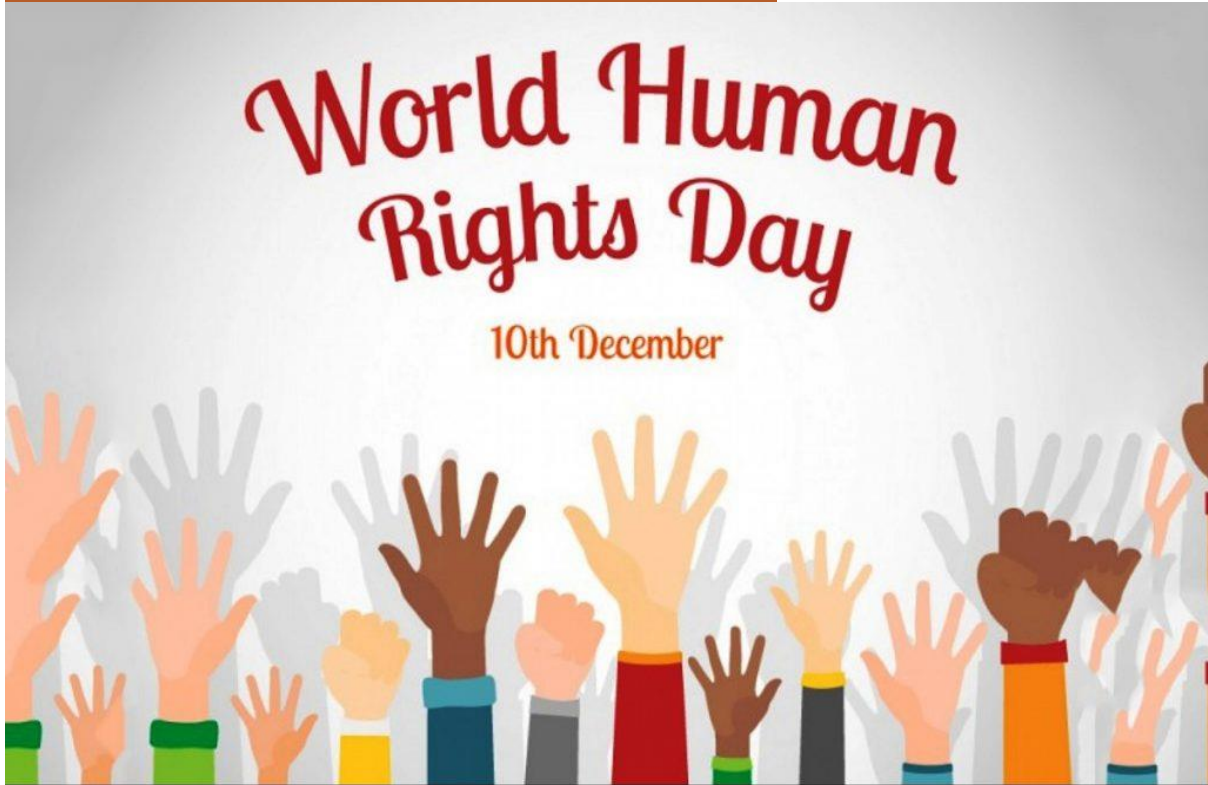
Don't worry!!

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. December 10: Human Rights Day



The day marks the anniversary of its adoption by the UNO in 1948, the “Universal Declaration of Human Rights” (UDHR). It is a historic document that proclaims the inseparable rights of every human being -- regardless of race, colour, religion, sex, language, political or other opinions, national or social origin, property, birth or another status. This year’s theme for the Day is “Dignity, Freedom, and Justice for All”.

In India, the Human Rights Act came into effect on September 28, 1993. On October 12, 1993, the National Human Rights Commission was established. Justice Arun Kumar Mishra is its current Chairman.

## 2. December 11: International Mountain Day



Observed with support from UNO to encourage sustainable development in mountains all over the world. Mountains cover over 27% of earth's surface and are home to 15% of the world's population and a quarter of the world's land animals and plants. They provide fresh water (through rivers) to half of humanity.

Unfortunately, mountains are under threat from climate change and overexploitation.

The theme for 2023 is "Restoring Mountain Ecosystems.". Their conservation is part of Goal 15 of the SDGs. **Remember!!** India celebrates a similar "Himalayan Day" on Sep 09.

## 3. December 11: UNICEF Day

Celebrated every year to mark the establishment of UNICEF on this day in 1946. UNICEF endeavours to protect the rights of every child, everywhere, across more than 190 countries.

It is the world's largest provider of vaccines and works for supporting child health and nutrition, safe water and sanitation, quality education and skill building.

The UN General Assembly created the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund, UNICEF on December 11, 1946 to provide essential supplies, assistance and to improve the health, nutrition, education, and general welfare of children after massive destruction by World War II.

However, in 1953, it became a permanent agency of the UNO, and the words 'International' and 'Emergency' were dropped from the official name but the acronym continued as UNICEF. Its headquarter is in New York and the current head is Ms. Catherine M Russell.

#### 4. December 12: International Universal Health Coverage Day



The day celebrated with support from WHO aims to promote stronger, more equitable health systems to achieve universal health coverage, leaving no one out. It marks the anniversary of the United Nations' historic and unanimous endorsement of universal health coverage in 2012.

This year's theme for the Day is "Health for All: Time for Action". It aims for taking immediate and tangible steps for making Universal Health Coverage a ground reality for all.

## 5. SC upholds abrogation of Article 370



In a significant move, the Supreme Court upheld the validity of Centre's decision to abrogate Article 370 of the Constitution of India, which granted special status to the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir. The verdict from a five-judge Constitution bench led by Chief Justice DY Chandrachud came in response to a bunch of petitions challenging the Centre's move to abrogate Article 370. The Parliament scrapped Article 370 on August 5, 2019 and split the state into two Union Territories - Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh.

The apex court said Article 370 was a temporary provision brought for some specific purposes and there is no mala-fide in President's order abrogating it. State of Jammu and Kashmir did not enjoy any sovereignty after it joined the Union of India.

**6. Donald Tusk:** Elected as Poland's Prime Minister by its Parliament.

**7. VINBAX-2023:** A small contingent from the Indian Army took part in the joint military exercise with a unit of the Vietnam People's Army from Dec 11 to 21 in Hanoi, capital of Vietnam. It is an annual training event conducted alternatively in India and Vietnam. The exercise focused on the deployment and employment of an engineer company and a medical team.



**8. Ex Prasthan:** The Indian Navy conducted a multi agency exercise 'Prasthan' on Dec 08 along with other defence, State and civil agencies in the Offshore Development Area off Mumbai. The exercise is conducted every six months to validate measures and procedures to address various contingencies that may arise in the oil production platforms.

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## Some Other Minor News!

1. India hosted the World Investment Conference for the first time, from Dec 11 to 14 at Yashobhumi convention centre in New Delhi. Over 1000 attendees, 50 Investment Promotion Agencies (IPAs) and various multilateral agencies attended the conference.



2. With a view to attract more tourists to bring a multiplier effect on the economy, Indonesia has proposed issuing free entry visas to travellers from India and 19 other countries. Earlier, Malaysia and Thailand also adopted the same strategy for attracting more tourists, including from India.

3. LIC has become the fourth largest insurer in the world, ahead of US-based MetLife and Prudential Financial Inc. The LIC is behind only Germany's Allianz SE, China's China Life Insurance (CLI), and Japan's Nippon Life. LIC has \$503.07 billion in reserves, while Allianz has \$750.20 billion

4. A three-day Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence-GPAI Summit, 2023 was held at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi from Dec 12 to 14. The GPAI is a multi-stakeholder initiative of 28 countries and the EU, bringing together leading experts from the field of science, industry, international organisations, and governments.



5. The Indian Army recently conducted a table-top exercise (TTX) for women officers from the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) in New Delhi. A tabletop exercise is a disaster preparedness activity that takes participants through the process of dealing with a simulated disaster scenario.

6. Rural Electrification Corporation, REC, a Maharatna company, signed a 200 million Euro loan with Germany's KfW Bank for funding of reforms in the power distribution companies, DISCOMs.

## Multiple Choice Questions!

1. December 10 is observed as the Human Rights Day. Who is the current chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission?
  - a. Justice Surya Kant
  - b. Justice MR Shah
  - c. Justice KM Joseph
  - d. Justice Ajay Rastogi
  - e. Justice Arun Kumar Mishra
  
2. December 11 is celebrated as UNICEF Day, a specialised agency of UNO for children. UNICEF is based in which city?
  - a. Paris
  - b. New York
  - c. Geneva
  - d. Rome
  - e. Brussels
  
3. In a significant move, the Supreme Court upheld the validity of Centre's decision to abrogate which Article of the Constitution of India, which granted special status to the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir?
  - a. 270
  - b. 302
  - c. 360
  - d. 366
  - e. 370

4. What was the name of the joint military exercise of Indian and Vietnam People's Army held from Dec 11 to 21 in Hanoi, capital of Vietnam?
- a. IndVin-23
  - b. Vinbax-2023
  - c. Vintex-23
  - d. Indovet-23
  - e. Vietex-23
5. Which organisation conducted a multi agency exercise 'Prasthan' on Dec 08 along with other defence, State and civil agencies in the Offshore Development Area off Mumbai?
- a. Narcotics Bureau
  - b. Indian Customs
  - c. Indian Navy
  - d. Indian coast Guard
  - e. Mumbai Police

## Answer Key

Q	ANSWER
1	E
2	B
3	E
4	B
5	C

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