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KHABAR

28-29 | 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. CCEA hiked the MSP of Copra



The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs CCEA on Dec 27 approved Minimum Support Price, MSP for Copra (coconut kernel) for 2024-25 season. MSP for the milling copra has been fixed at Rs. 11,160 per quintal and for ball copra at Rs 12,000 per quintal.

- New MSP is an increase of 300 rupees per quintal for milling copra and 250 rupees per quintal for ball copra over the previous season.
- Milling copra is used to extract oil, while ball or edible copra is a popular dry fruit used in making sweets and is also used in various religious rituals.
- Kerala and Tamil Nadu are major producers of milling copra, whereas ball copra is produced predominantly in Karnataka.
- India is the largest producer of coconut in the world, producing around 14 million tonnes of copra annually, accounting for almost one third of world production.

2. Grand Master Koneru Humpy won the silver medal on Dec 28 in the World Women Rapid Championships 2023 at Samarkand, Uzbekistan, losing gold to Anastasia Bodnaruk of Russia. Men's crown was retained for the record fifth time by the Norwegian champion Magnus Carlson.



3. Anish Dayal Singh: A 1988-batch IPS officer of Manipur cadre, appointed as the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF).

4. Rahul Rasgotra: 1989-batch IPS officer of Manipur cadre, appointed as the Director General of Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP).

5. Nina Singh: 1989-batch IPS officer of Rajasthan cadre, appointed as the Director General of CISF - Central Industrial Security Force.

6. RBI retains D-SIB status for three banks



The Reserve Bank of India unveiled on Dec 28 its updated list of Domestic Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs) for 2023. The State Bank of India (SBI), HDFC Bank and ICICI Bank continue to be categorised as D-SIBs.

- While ICICI Bank continues to be in bucket 1, same as in 2022, SBI moves to a higher bucket, from bucket 3 to bucket 4, and HDFC Bank shifts from bucket 1 to bucket 2, wef April 01, 2025.
- The RBI had categorised SBI and ICICI Bank as D-SIBs in 2015 and 2016, respectively. HDFC Bank was also classified as a D-SIB in 2018.
- The higher bucket means these banks will have to place additional Common Equity Tier 1 (CET1) capital, in addition to the capital conservation buffer.
- The D-SIB framework introduced in 2015, aims to ensure the soundness of these institutions and mitigate the impact of their failure on the broader economy.

7. 99th “Tansen Samaroh” held in Gwalior



Government of Madhya Pradesh organised “Tansen Samaroh”, the biggest gathering of classical music maestros from all over the world, from 24 to 28 December in Gwalior.

- It is held every year in December in Gwalior as a tribute to Indian musical legend Ramtanu Misra, famously known as Mian Tansen.
- Artists and music lovers from all over the world gather here to pay tribute to the Great Indian Musical Maestro Tansen.
- On Dec 25 more than 1500 Tabla players united for a mesmerising performance in Gwalior Fort, resonating the beats of Vande Mataram in Taal Darbar, securing a place in Guinness Book of World Records.

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Some Other Minor News!

1. The National Conference of Chief Secretaries was held on Dec 27-28-29 in New Delhi to encourage participative governance and partnership between the Centre and the State Governments. The key focus area of the Conference was 'Ease of Living' and the implementation of a common development agenda in partnership with the states.



2. The union home ministry has declared Muslim League Jammu Kashmir (Masarat Alam faction) MLJK-MA as an 'Unlawful Association' under Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act as it was involved in anti-national and secessionist activities in Jammu and Kashmir, supporting terrorist activities and inciting people to establish Islamic rule in Jammu and Kashmir.

3. Vijayakanth, Tamil actor and politician, fondly known as 'Captain', passed away on Dec 28 in Chennai. He was 71. After a successful stint in acting, where he played lead roles in over 150 movies, he founded political party Desiya Murpokku Dravida Kazhagam (DMDK) in 2005.

4. Justice Sanjiv Khanna, the senior-most judge of the Supreme Court, has been appointed as the Executive Chairperson of the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA).



5. Pakistan conducted a successful flight test of indigenously developed guided multi-launch rocket system 'Fatah-II' on Dec 27. The missile is capable of engaging targets with high precision up to a range of 400 kilometres.

6. With a view to push the position of the Indian rupee as a viable trade settlement currency, especially in the oil trade, India made its first-ever payment in rupees for crude oil purchased from the United Arab Emirates (UAE). This move is seen as part of a broader strategy to diversify oil suppliers and reduce transaction costs.

Multiple Choice Questions!

1. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs CCEA on Dec 27 approved Minimum Support Price, MSP for Copra (coconut kernel) for 2024-25 season. Which state is the largest producer of ball copra?
 - a. Kerala
 - b. Karnataka
 - c. Tamil Nadu
 - d. Assam
 - e. Maharashtra
2. Which Indian Grandmaster won the silver medal on Dec 28 in the World Women Rapid Championships 2023 at Samarkand, Uzbekistan?
 - a. Koneru Humpy
 - b. Harika Dronavalli
 - c. R Vaishali
 - d. Velpula Sarayu
 - e. Divya Deshmukh
3. Nina Singh, 1989-batch IPS officer of Rajasthan cadre, has been appointed as the first woman Director General of which Central Armed Police Force?
 - a. BSF
 - b. CRPF
 - c. ITBP
 - d. SSB
 - e. CISF

4. The Reserve Bank of India unveiled on Dec 28 its updated list of Domestic Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs) for 2023. Which of the following are the three banks categorised as D-SIBs?
- a. PNB, HDFC Bank, SBI
 - b. HDFC Bank, SBI, Axis Bank
 - c. ICICI Bank, HDFC Bank, SBI
 - d. BoB, ICICI Bank, SBI
 - e. HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank, PNB
5. On Dec 25 more than 1500 _____ players united for a mesmerising performance in Gwalior Fort, securing a place in Guinness Book of World Records:
- a. Mridang
 - b. Tabla
 - c. Violin
 - d. Flute
 - e. Shehnai

Answer Key

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

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