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TAAZA

KHABAR

30-31 | 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. Amrit Bharat Express trains launched

The first two Amrit Bharat Express trains were launched on Dec 30 from Ayodhya, through video conferencing. These trains are equipped with the latest technology to ensure that passengers do not feel any jerks at any point of the journey.

- The trains will run from Anand Vihar in Delhi to Darbhanga in Bihar and from Malda Town in West Bengal to Bengaluru in Karnataka.
- With the help of semi-coupler technology, a unique innovation in train operations, Amrit Bharat trains offer a smooth journey across various destinations running at a maximum speed of 130 km.
- The train is also equipped with the push-pull technology having two engines at both front and rear. While the front engine pulls the train, the rear engine pushes it ahead.
- It has other significant features such as horizontal sliding windows, dust-sealed wider gangways, an aerosol-based fire suppression system in toilets and electrical cubicles, and an emergency disaster management light.
- The train provides improved facilities for rail passengers like beautifully designed seats, better luggage racks, mobile charging points with mobile holders, LED lights, CCTV, public information system, among others.



2. National Transit Pass System launched



The Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav launched the National Transit Pass System (NTPS) on Dec 29 to facilitate seamless transportation of timber, bamboo, and other forest produce across the country.

- NTPS is designed for user convenience as it will facilitate online registration and submission of the applications for Transit Permit (TP) or No Objection Certificate (NOC) through web-portal and mobile app.
- NTPS will expedite issuance of transit permits for timber, bamboo and other minor forest produce without physically going to forest offices as the permit now will be issued online.
- For ensuring ease of doing business, one common permit will cover the whole of India for transit of timber, bamboo and other minor forest produce.
- Presently, 25 States and UTs have adopted the unified permit system, streamlining interstate business operations for producers, farmers, and transporters.

3. Peace Accord signed with ULFA



A historic tripartite peace accord was signed on Dec 29 between the Centre, Assam Government and the pro-talks faction of United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA), an insurgent group of Assam, in New Delhi. The deal is intended to bring lasting peace in the NorthEastern region.

- Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said 10,000 people including civilians, security personnel and ULFA cadre had been killed since the violence began in Assam after the group took up arms.
- ULFA is a banned militant outfit that has its roots in massive protests in Assam in the wake of an influx of migrants from Bangladesh before and right after the creation of that country in 1971.
- It was formed on April 7, 1979 by the radical leaders of the Assam Movement. The founders of ULFA wanted to establish a sovereign Assamese nation through an armed struggle against the Indian state.

- While the violent protests came down after the Assam Accord was signed on 15 August 1985, outfits such as ULFA, which believed that Assam was never a part of India, carried on to the path of militancy and continued with violence — vowing an independent Assam state.
- For over 44 years, this ‘struggle’ has been chequered with kidnappings and extortion, executions and bomb blasts, leading to tragic loss of life in Assam and beyond.

4. India jumps in steel production



The Ministry of Steel has informed that marking tremendous growth in the steel sector, India emerged as the second largest producer of steel in the world, next only to China.

- Domestic steel production in 2023 stood at around 90 million tonnes and domestic steel consumption at 87 million tonnes, witnessing a growth of over 14 percent over the previous year.
- The steel sector plays a pivotal role in crucial sectors such as construction, infrastructure, automobile, and defence. Shri Jyotiraditya Scindia is the current head of the Ministry of Steel.

Some Other Minor News!

1. The union home ministry has declared 'Tehreek-e-Hurriyat, J&K (TeH) 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.





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Multiple Choice Questions!

1. The first set of which two new express trains was launched on Dec 30 from Ayodhya, through video conferencing?
 - a. Bharat Gaurav
 - b. Namo Bharat
 - c. Bharat Darshan
 - d. Amrit Bharat
 - e. Ram Rath

2. The Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav launched the National Transit Pass System (NTPS) on Dec 29 to facilitate seamless transportation of which products across the country?
 - a. Tomato, Onion and Potato
 - b. Timber, bamboo, and other forest produce
 - c. Coal and allied minerals
 - d. Coconut and coir products
 - e. Tea and Timber from Northeast

3. A historic tripartite peace accord was signed on Dec 29 in Delhi with which insurgent group by the Centre and Assam Government?
 - a. National Democratic Front of Bodoland (NDFB)
 - b. United Liberation Front of Asom (ULFA)
 - c. Adivasi Security Force (ASF)
 - d. Islamic Liberation Army of Assam (ILAA)
 - e. Bodoland Liberation Army (BoLA)

4. Latest data released by the Ministry of Steel shows that India has emerged as the _____ largest producer of steel in the world:
- a. First
 - b. Second
 - c. Third
 - d. Four
 - e. Fifth

Answer Key

Q	ANSWER
1	D
2	B
3	B
4	B

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