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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. January 4: World Braille Day



The day is celebrated to commemorate the birth anniversary of French educator and inventor Louis Braille. In 1924, he developed a system of printing and writing for the blind, called Braille. It is extensively used by the blind persons.

It is a language based on six convex embossed dots that form all the letters and symbols, using which the people with visual disabilities are able to read various text content. They are able to read the text by moving their fingers over the dots.

Louis Braille was born on 4th January 1809 in the town of Coupvray in northern France. He lost his eyesight at the age of just three years.

2. 'SMART 2.0' to push research in Ayurveda

The Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS), New Delhi, along with National Commission for Indian System of Medicine (NCISM), New Delhi, launched 'SMART 2.0' (Scope for Mainstreaming Ayurveda Research among Teaching Professionals) programme on January 03 to promote robust clinical studies in priority areas of Ayurveda in collaboration with Ayurveda institutions/hospitals across the country.

- The programme aims to generate tangible evidence to demonstrate efficacy and safety of Ayurveda interventions using interdisciplinary research methods and utilising the same for public health care.

3. Prerana Program to empower students



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Register for the program:
prerana.education.gov.in



Vadnagar, Gujarat

The Ministry of Education's Department of School Education & Literacy has launched a new program called 'Prerana (inspiration): An Experiential Learning Program', to empower students with leadership qualities.

- The program is aimed at inspiring the youth and fostering respect for Bharat's unity in diversity, embodying the spirit of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam". The curriculum of Prerana has been prepared by IIT Gandhi Nagar and is rooted in nine value-based themes.
- It is a week-long residential programme for students of classes 9th to 12th. A batch of 20 students (10 boys and 10 girls, selected from all over India, will attend the programme, every week.
- The programme will be run from a Vernacular School, established in 1888, in Vadnagar, Gujarat. This is the school where Prime Minister Modi did his schooling.

4. India defeated South Africa by 7 wickets on Jan 04 in the second and the final test in Cape Town, South Africa. The match wrapped up in 107 overs, in five sessions, making it the shortest-ever match in the history of test cricket.

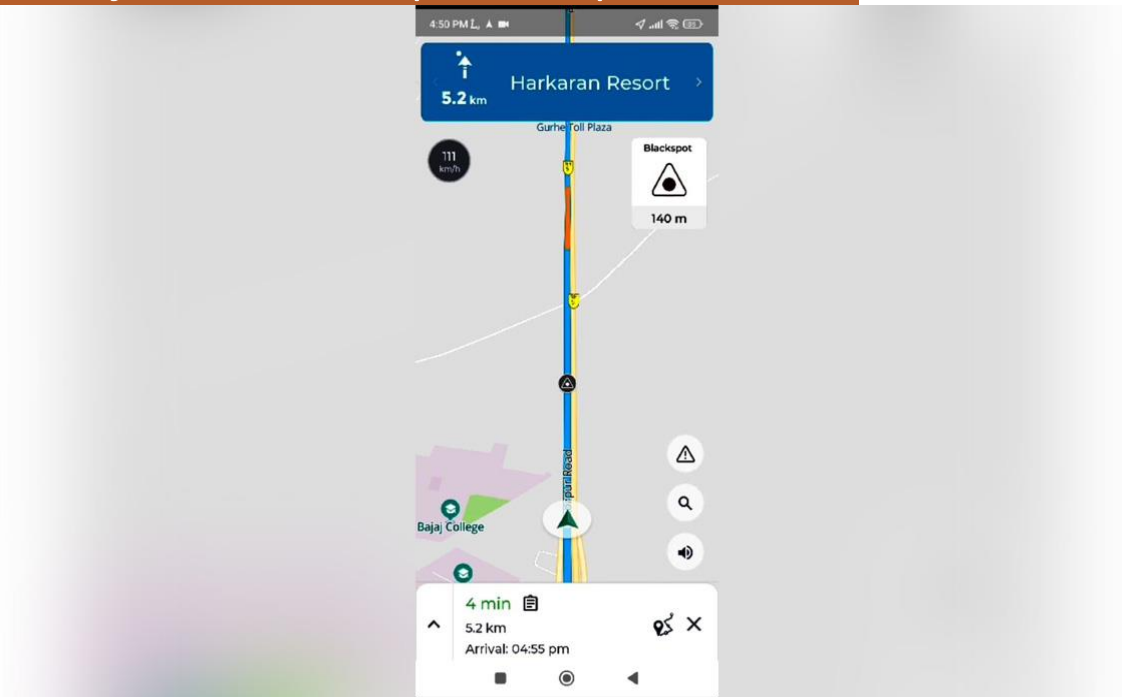


5. Indian GDP to grow by 6.2% – UN report

The UN World Economic Situation and Prospects (WESP) 2024 report, released on Jan 0, stated that the gross domestic product in South Asia is projected to increase by 5.2 per cent in 2024, driven by a robust expansion in India, which remains the fastest-growing large economy in the world.

- India is projected to grow at 6.2 per cent in 2024, supported by robust domestic demand and strong growth in the manufacturing and services sectors, said the report.
- While manufacturing and services sectors will continue to support the economy, erratic rainfall patterns are likely to dampen agricultural output, it said.

6. Punjab first to map black spots in state



Punjab has become the first state in the country to complete comprehensive mapping of all the 784 accident black spots in the state by collaborating with the Mappls App of MapMyIndia.

- An accident black spot is a place where road traffic accidents have historically been concentrated.
- The app will provide real-time traffic updates and voice alerts about black and blind spots, ensuring a safer driving experience.
- The system has been tailored to facilitate user preferences, offering voice alerts in regional languages based on individual choices.
- Citizens navigating using the Mappls App will now receive voice alerts in Punjabi alerting the commuters about the black spot ahead such as “Blackspot 100 metre di doori te hai” (black spot is 100 metres ahead).

7. DFR Fuel Reprocessing Plant launched



The Bharatiya Nabhikiya Vidyut Nigam Ltd (Nuclear Power Corporation of India) in Kalpakkam, Tamil Nadu, on Jan 02 launched its Rs 400 crore Demonstration Fast Reactor Fuel Reprocessing Plant (DFRP) at the Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research (IGCAR), Kalpakkam.

- A fast breeder reactor is one which breeds more material for a nuclear fission reaction than it consumes. It is the key to India's three-stage nuclear power programme.
- The DFRP is equipped with a unique design, which is the only of its kind in the world and is capable of reprocessing both carbide and oxide fuels discharged from the fast reactors.
- It is entirely designed by Indian scientists and signifies a crucial step towards building large commercial-scale fast reactor fuel reprocessing plants.
- The plant is a pilot for the bigger facility that would come up to reprocess the fuel that would come out of the two more 500 MW Prototype Fast Breeder Reactors that would come up later.

8. M.S. Swaminathan Award: Prof. B.R. Kamboj, the Vice Chancellor of Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University, was honoured with this prestigious award in recognition of his significant contributions as a scientist and extension specialist in the field of agronomy.

M.S. Swaminathan was a renowned agro scientist, regarded as the “Father of Green Revolution” in India.



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Our Founder VMS Grover awarded by
Punjab Education Minister

Some Other Minor News!

1. Queen Margrethe II of Denmark, in her New Year's speech, announced her decision to abdicate the throne after 52 years of rule. The 83 year old queen stepped down on Jan 14, making way for the coronation of his eldest son Crown Prince Frederik.



2. Randhir Jaiswal has taken over the position of the Official Spokesperson for the Ministry of External Affairs, succeeding Arindam Bagchi, who has been appointed as India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations and other international organisations in Geneva.

3. 23 year old Beatrice Chebet of Kenya smashed the women's world 5km record on Dec 31 in Barcelona, Spain. She clocked time of 14 min 13 sec improving the previous world record of 14:29 set by Ethiopia's Senbere Teferi in September 2021

Multiple Choice Questions!

1. January 4 is celebrated as World Braille Day. Braille language makes use of how many convex dots to form various words and symbols?
 - a. Five
 - b. Six
 - c. Seven
 - d. Nine
 - e. Thirteen

2. The Ministry of Education's Department of School Education & Literacy has launched a new program called 'Prerana (inspiration): An Experiential Learning Program', to empower students with leadership qualities. The programme will be run from a Vernacular School, established in 1888, in _____ Gujarat:
 - a. Kathiawar
 - b. Porbandar
 - c. Bharuch
 - d. Vadnagar
 - e. Dholera

3. Which Indian state is the first one to complete comprehensive mapping of all the 784 accident black spots in the state by collaborating with the Mappls App of MapMyIndia?
 - a. Kerala
 - b. Odisha
 - c. Assam
 - d. Punjab
 - e. Haryana

4. Dr. M.S. Swaminathan Award is given for outstanding work in which field?

- a. Pharmacology
- b. Space Science
- c. Agronomy
- d. Architecture
- e. Engineering

Answer Key

Q	ANSWER
1	B
2	D
3	B
4	C

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