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KHABAR

16-17 | January

2024

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 16: National Startup Day



This day is celebrated to appreciate the spirit of entrepreneurship and promote achievements of Indian startups. The day aims to bring together young celebrated entrepreneurs to brainstorm, innovate and excel in contributing to the growth of the Indian economy. This initiative was started in the year 2022 by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi to encourage entrepreneurship and promote innovation in businesses.

2. India's first Dark Sky Park in Pench

Pench Tiger Reserve etched its name in history by becoming India's first Dark Sky Park and the fifth in Asia. The National Park is spread over 300 sq km, over parts of Madhya Pradesh and adjoining Maharashtra. The River Pench passes through the middle of this park.

- This recognition not only places Pech on the global stage but also underscores the vital need to preserve natural darkness for ecological balance, nature conservation, and the well-being of communities.

- A Dark Sky Park is an area dedicated to protecting the night sky and preventing light pollution. These spaces offer people the opportunity to marvel at the beauty of the stars and the nocturnal environment of the area. For astronomy enthusiasts, a telescope has been installed on a protection tower.
- The park has replaced over 100 street and community lights in various villages around the park. New lights are designed to face the ground, minimising their impact on the night sky and enhancing the overall stargazing experience. It is the same forest area that is described in the famous "The Jungle Book" by Rudyard Kipling.

3. Rohit Sharma, the Captain of Team India, etched his name in the record books by becoming the first men's player to feature in 150 T20 International matches.

- This milestone was achieved on Jan 14 by playing T20I against Afghanistan at the Holkar Cricket Stadium, Indore.
- He also crossed another milestone of winning 100 T20I matches, proving his leadership prowess.



4. Funds released for PM-JANMAN beneficiaries



The Prime Minister released the first instalment of ₹540 crore to one lakh beneficiaries of Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM-JANMAN) under the rural housing scheme PM Awas Yojana - Gramin, on Jan 15 via video conferencing.

- Every beneficiary will get 2.5 lakh rupees for a pucca house which will be a source of dignified living with electricity, gas connection, pipe water and toilet.
- PM-JANMAN was launched in Nov 2023 for the socio-economic welfare of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs). With a budget of around 24,000 crore rupees, it focuses on 11 critical interventions through nine Ministries.
- It is aimed at improving the socio-economic conditions of the PVTGs by saturating their habitations with basic facilities including safe housing, clean drinking water, improved access to education, health and nutrition, electricity, road and telecom connectivity, and sustainable livelihood opportunities.

5. 75th Emmy Awards 2024 declared



Most popular TV awards, 2024 Emmy Awards (Prime Time) were declared on Jan 15 in Los Angeles, USA.

Outstanding Drama Series: Succession on HBO Max

Outstanding Lead Actress in a Drama Series: Sarah Snook as Shiv Roy in Succession

Outstanding Lead Actor in a Drama Series: Kieran Culkin as Roman Roy in Succession

Outstanding Directing for a Drama Series: Mark Mylod for Succession

6. 2024–'Year of Technology Absorption'

On the occasion of the 76th Army Day, Chief of Army Staff, General Manoj Pandey, announced that the Indian Army has decided to observe the year 2024 as the 'Year of Technology Absorption' -- a theme that underscores the Army's focus and efforts to leverage technology as a catalyst for transformative change.

- The Indian Army is moving ahead with multi-faceted developments in technologies related to land, aerospace, naval, cyberspace and cyber physical systems, making the Indian defence and security ecosystem formidable.

7. Fitch hikes Indian GDP growth rate to 6.9%



New York based global credit rating agency, Fitch Ratings has made an upward revision to India's growth forecast for fiscal year ending March 2023, with the growth rate now seen at 6.9 percent, as against a forecast of 6 percent issued in May last year.

“India is poised to remain one of the fastest-growing countries globally in the next few years as the robust economic momentum is proving resilient”, said the agency. However, the GDP growth rate for fiscal year 2024-25, is likely to be lower at 6.5 percent.

8. Gujarat tops in promoting startups

The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, declared results of the State's Startup Ranking-2022 on Jan 16 in New Delhi for the grouping of states in various categories based upon the stage of startup ecosystem development.

- All the states and UTs were evaluated across 7 broad reform areas consisting of 25 action points ranging from Institutional Support, Fostering Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Access to Market, Incubation and Mentorship support, Funding Support, Capacity building of enablers & Roadmap to a sustainable future.

- In category A states (Population above 1cr), four states, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu were ranked as “Best Performer”. Next five states including Maharashtra, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan and Telangana were ranked as “Top Performer”.
- In category B States (Population less than 1 cr), Himachal Pradesh was ranked as “Best Performer” while Arunachal Pradesh and Meghalaya were ranked as “Top Performer”.

9. The Best FIFA Football Awards 2023: One of the most prestigious international awards in Football were declared on Jan 15 in London.



The Best FIFA Men's Player: Lionel Messi, Argentina

The Best FIFA Women's Player: Aitana Bonmati, Spain

The Best FIFA Men's Goalkeeper: Ederson, Brazil

The Best FIFA Women's Goalkeeper: Mary Earps, England

10. Chess prodigy R Praggnanandhaa secured the number one spot among Indian chess players following his victory over World Champion Ding Liren on Jan 17 in the 2024 Tata Steel Chess Tournament in Wijk aan Zee, Netherlands.



11. India 4th most powerful military force

As per the latest annual report by Global Firepower (GFP), India continues to be the world's fourth most powerful military force. The United States retained its number one rank, followed by Russia and China at second and third place, respectively.

- The GFP ranking evaluates military capabilities based on factors such as manpower, equipment, natural resources, finances, and geography across land, sea, and air.
- A total of 145 countries were assessed on the basis of their global military prowess for the Global Firepower's 2024 Military Strength Rankings.

12. Ex-Ayutthaya: The maiden bilateral maritime exercise between the Indian Navy and Royal Thai Navy held on Dec 20–23 in Thailand has been named 'Ex-Ayutthaya', which symbolises the significance of two of the oldest cities -- Ayodhya in India and Ayutthaya in Thailand.



Participating units from both navies conducted surface and anti-air exercises including weapon firing, seamanship evolutions and tactical manoeuvres.

13. Exercise "Sahyog-Kaijin": Naval exercise held between Indian Coast Guard and Japan Coast Guard on Jan 12 off the Chennai coast. The two sides carried out joint operations like Search & Rescue, Pollution Response and Fire Fighting.

14. Solar Power Scheme for PVTG areas

The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy launched a New Solar Power Scheme under the Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM JANMAN) for electrification of one lakh un-electrified households in particularly vulnerable tribal group (PVTG) areas across 18 states.

- The project includes installation of 0.3 kW solar off-grid systems for electrification of PVTG households and introduction of solar lighting in 1,500 multi-purpose centres in areas beyond the reach of the conventional grid. The scheme has a total financial outlay of Rs 515 crore for three years, 2023-26.

15. WHO includes Ayurveda, Siddha & Unani



The World Health Organisation launched the Traditional Medicine Morbidity codes of Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani Chapter in International Classification of Diseases (ICD) 11 as Module 2 on Jan 10 in Delhi.

- With this, data and terminology related to diseases termed differently in Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani systems will now be included in the World Health Organization's ICD 11 classification.
- This effort will lead to global uniformity in ASU (Ayurveda, Unani, and Siddha) medicine as a code of vocabulary defining diseases. It will further strengthen and expand India's public healthcare delivery system, research, Ayush insurance coverage, research and development, and policy-making systems

16. Army's SAMBHAV for secure communication



The Indian Army has indigenously developed an "end-to-end secure mobile ecosystem" aiming to provide secure communication with instant connectivity on the move.

- The ecosystem – SAMBHAV (Secure Army Mobile Bharat Version) – operates on the contemporary 5G technology and will represent a significant leap forward in India's defence capability.
- It will have multi-layered encryption with a pan-India secure ecosystem avoiding possibilities of eavesdropping or communication sabotage.

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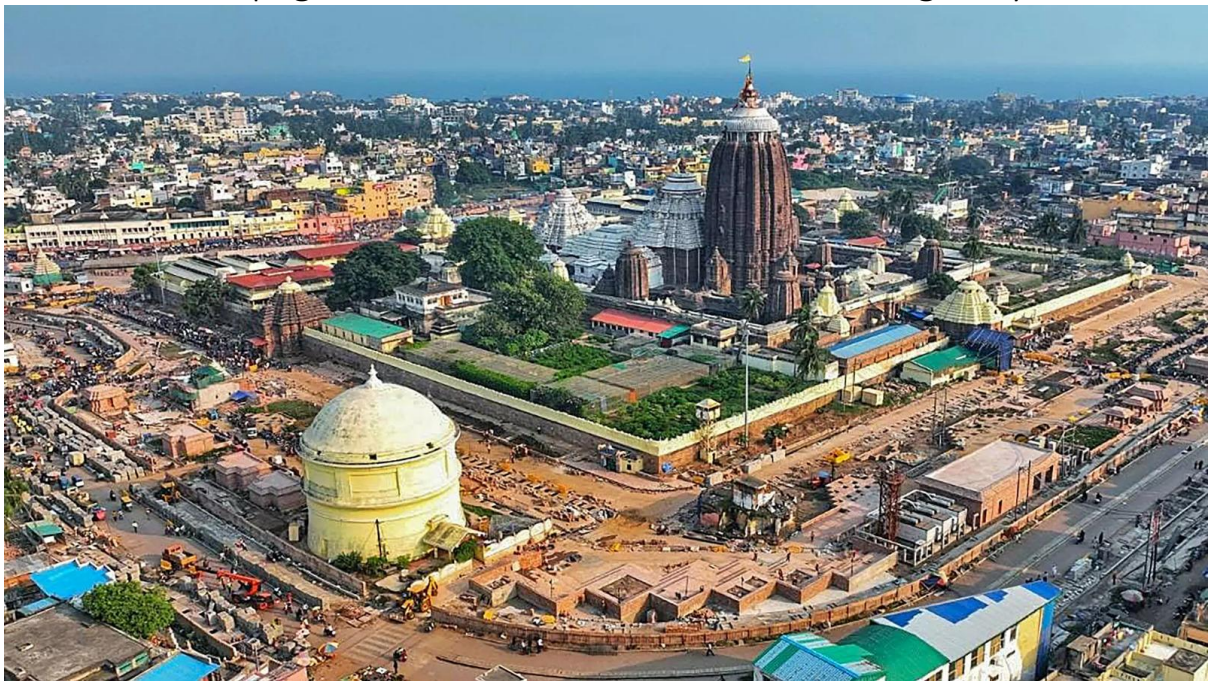
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Our Founder VMS Grover awarded by
Punjab Education Minister

Some Other Minor News!

1. The much-awaited 'Srimandir Parikrama Prakalpa' or Jagannath Temple Heritage corridor project at Puri in Odisha was thrown open to the public on Jan 17. Developed at a cost of over 4 thousand crore rupees, it is part of a significant initiative of the state government to transform the pilgrim town of Puri into a world heritage city.



2. The Central Government has re-appointed Dr. Michael Debabrata Patra as Deputy Governor, Reserve Bank of India for a further period of one year with effect from January 15, 2024.

Multiple Choice Questions!

1. Which national day is observed on January 16 to appreciate the spirit of entrepreneurship and promote achievements of Indian startups?
 - a. National Startup Day
 - b. National Innovation Day
 - c. National Entrepreneurs Day
 - d. National SME Day
 - e. None of these

2. India's first Dark Sky Park and the fifth in Asia, has been set up in which National Park?
 - a. Kaziranga National Park
 - b. Corbett National Park
 - c. Gir Wildlife Sanctuary
 - d. Pench Tiger Reserve
 - e. Ranthambore National Park

3. The Prime Minister released the first instalment of ₹540 crore to one lakh beneficiaries of PM-JANMAN for house construction. Who are the beneficiaries of the PM-JANMAN scheme?
 - a. Rural Households
 - b. Tribal Groups
 - c. BPL families
 - d. SC/ST families
 - e. Tribal SHGs

4. Most popular TV awards, 2024 Emmy Awards (Prime Time) were declared on Jan 15 in Los Angeles, USA. Which TV series won all the top four awards in drama series?
 - a. Fargo
 - b. True Detective
 - c. The Bear
 - d. Succession
 - e. The Sopranos

5. One of the most prestigious international awards in Football, The Best FIFA Football Awards 2023, were declared on Jan 15 in London. Who won the The Best FIFA Men's Player Award?
 - a. Erling Haaland
 - b. Kylian Mbappé
 - c. Harry Kane
 - d. Lionel Messi
 - e. Cristiano Ronaldo

6. With which country India hosted the Naval Exercise "Sahyog-Kaijin" on Jan 12 off the Chennai coast?
 - a. Indonesia
 - b. Malaysia
 - c. Japan
 - d. UAE
 - e. Thailand

7. The World Health Organisation launched the Traditional Medicine Morbidity codes of which three Indian systems of medicine in International Classification of Diseases (ICD) 11 as Module 2?
- a. Ayurveda, Yoga and Unani
 - b. Homoeopathy, Ayurveda and Naturopathy
 - c. Unani, Siddha and Ayurveda
 - d. Ayurveda, Naturopathy, and Unani
 - e. Naturopathy, Unani and Homeopathy
8. What is the name of the "end-to-end secure mobile ecosystem" indigenously developed by the Indian Army to provide secure communication?
- a. Prabuddh
 - b. Sambhav
 - c. Prakhar
 - d. Meghdoot
 - e. Sanchaar

Answer Key

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

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