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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!

01. Indian GDP poised to grow by 7%



According to the Indian Economy Review released by the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, on Jan 29, the Indian economy is poised to grow by over 7% in the FY 2024-25.

- This will mark the fourth year of nearly 7 per cent growth in succession and compares extremely favourably as compared to low global growth of just around 3%.
- India's economy grew 7.2 per cent in 2022-23 and 8.7 per cent in 2021-22. It is expected to grow 7.3 per cent in the current financial year 2023-24, remaining the fastest-growing major economy.
- The report further highlights that the structural reforms implemented since 2014 have strengthened the macroeconomic fundamentals of the economy.
- Projecting the good health of India's financial sector, the Review said that the public sector capital investment has surged in the last 10 years. There is a visible transformation in the fields of employment, ease of doing business, agriculture sector, E-commerce, and climate action.

- The Review stated that if the growth rate holds at this level, India can aspire to become a \$7 trillion economy in the next six to seven years (by 2030).

02. SADA TANSEEQ: The joint military exercise between India and Saudi Arabia was held in Rajasthan from Jan 29 to Feb 10. The exercise aimed to train troops of both sides for Joint Operations in Semi Desert terrain.

03. Subedar Preeti Rajak: A distinguished trap shooter, she was promoted to the rank of Subedar on Jan 29, making her the first woman to hold the rank of Subedar in the Indian Army. During the 19th Asian Games, held at Hangzhou in China, Rajak won a silver medal in the trap women team event. Rajak joined the Army as a Havildar in the Corps of Military Police in December 2022.

04. Australian Open concludes at Melbourne

Jannik Sinner, 22 year old tennis star from Italy defeated Daniil Medvedev of Russia on Jan 28 to lift his first Grand Slam Trophy. Women's title was won by Aryna Sabalenka of Belarus by beating Zheng Qinwen of China.



05. Rohan Bopanna became only the third Indian to win a men's doubles Grand Slam title, taking the Australian Open crown with partner Matthew Ebden on Jan 28 at Melbourne. At 43, Bopanna also became the oldest Grand Slam champion in men's tennis.



Only Leander Paes and Mahesh Bhupathi have won Major titles for India in men's tennis before while Sania Mirza did it in women's tennis.

06. The 69th Hyundai Filmfare Awards 2024 ceremony was held on Jan 28 in GIFT City, Gujarat. The awards are regarded as the most prestigious cinema awards in India. The 1st Filmfare Awards were held on March 21, 1954.

Best Film	12th Fail by Vidhu Vinod Chopra
Best Director	Vidhu Vinod Chopra for 12th Fail
Best Actor (Male)	Ranbir Kapoor (Animal)
Best Actor (Female)	Alia Bhatt (Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani)

Lifetime Achievement David Dhawan, Director and producer
Award:

07. FIH Hockey 5s Women's World Cup: Netherland won the Cup on Jan 27 by defeating India in the finals played in Muscat, capital of Oman.



08. Rana Talwar: Veteran banker, (real name Gurvirendra Singh Talwar) who was the first Indian to head a global bank -- Standard Chartered, died on Jan 27 at the age of 76 years. In the initial years, he served the Citibank in various positions. He left Citibank in 1996 to join Standard Chartered Plc as Global Chief Executive. Talwar left Standard Chartered Plc in 2002 to establish Sabre Capital Worldwide, a private equity firm.

9. First brain implant in a human patient

The neurotechnology company co-founded by Billionaire Elon Musk in 2016, installed a Neuralink brain implant in its first human patient on Jan 28 with "promising" initial results.

- It aims to build direct communication channels between the brain and computers. The ambition is to supercharge human capabilities, treat neurological disorders like ALS or Parkinson's, and maybe one day achieve a symbiotic relationship between humans and artificial intelligence.
- *Neuralink's technology will mainly work through an implant called the "Link" -- a device about the size of five stacked coins that are placed inside the human brain through invasive surgery.*

10. IMF hikes India's GDP growth to 6.3%



In its latest World Economic Outlook report, the IMF increased its GDP growth estimate for India to 6.7 percent for the current financial year 2023–24. It is 40 basis points higher than its previous forecast of 6.3 percent.

- The IMF said results are reflecting a strong public investment, and positive labour market outcomes. The agency said India continues to be the fastest-growing economy among the major economies of the world.

11. Republic Day Parade awards



Among the various contingents of three services taking part in the Republic Day Parade on the Kartavya Path in New Delhi, the Sikh Regiment Contingent was declared the best marching contingent.

- Among CAPF/Other Auxiliary Forces, the Delhi Police Women Contingent received the award for the best marching contingent.
- Among the 25 tableaux from 16 states and UTs, the tableau of the Ministry of Culture on the theme 'India: Mother of Democracy' was declared the best tableau. It presented a rich display of Bharat's cultural heritage.

12. India slips 8 ranks in corruption index

The global Corruption Perceptions Index 2023 released on Jan 30 by the Berlin based NGO Transparency International placed India at 93rd spot among 180 countries.

- Though India slipped by eight places as compared to 85th in 2022, its score dropped by one point, to 39, as against 40 in 2022. Incidentally, Maldives is also at 93rd spot. Pakistan was placed at 133rd rank.

- The Index ranked Denmark at the top with a score of 90, followed by Finland-87, New Zealand-85 and Norway at 84. At rank 180 was Somalia with the lowest score of 11.
- The index lists countries by their perceived levels of public sector corruption. It relies on 13 independent data sources and uses a scale of 0 to 100, where 0 is highly corrupt and 100 is very clean.

13. INS Nirupak: The Indian Navy's indigenously designed and built survey ship was decommissioned on January 29 at Naval Dockyard, Visakhapatnam, after 38 years of service.



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Some Other Minor News!

1. The tableau of the Ministry of Culture has secured the first prize at the Republic Day Parade 2024. The tableau presented a rich display of Bharat's cultural heritage - often hailed as the mother of democracy.



2. The Indian government has nominated Maratha Military Landscapes for recognition as UNESCO World Heritage List for the year 2024-25. The twelve component parts of this nomination are, Salher fort, Shivneri fort, Lohgad, Khanderi fort, Raigad, Rajgad, Pratapgad, Suvarnadurg, Panhala Fort, Vijay durg, Sindhudurg in Maharashtra and Gingee Fort in Tamil Nadu.

3. The National Chilika Birds Festival was held in Chilika lake in coastal Odisha on Jan 27-28-29. Chiklika, renowned as the "Birds Paradise of Asia", is the largest brackish water lake in Asia. Over 11 lakh migrant birds of 190 species visit the lake every year.

4. Bank of Baroda renamed its wholly-owned subsidiary for cards, 'BOB Financial Solutions Limited', as 'BOBCARD Limited' with the tagline "Credit Reimagined."



5. Naorem Roshibina Devi, Wushu star from Manipur was selected as the International Wushu Federation's Female Athlete of the Year on Jan 23, after a month-long public voting exercise. Two times Asian games medal winner, she was conferred Arjuna Award in 2023.

6. On Jan 28, the Supreme Court of India marked the commencement of its Diamond Jubilee year since its inception on 28 January 1950. Justice Harilal Jekisundas Kania was the first Chief Justice of India (1950-51).

7. India signed a Defence Space Agreement with France on Jan 26. This agreement opens avenues for joint development and deployment of military satellites, bolstering offensive and defensive capabilities.

8. Asia's largest civil aviation event, Wings India 2024, was held at Hyderabad's Begumpet airport from Jan 18 to 21. A major highlight of the show was the static display of 25 aircraft and helicopters along with air and drone shows.

9. Ajit Mishra, an India born prolific lawyer in London, has been conferred with "Freedom of the City of London Award" for his outstanding contribution in legal and public life.



10. The World Bank has issued \$ 100 million Plastic Waste Reduction-Linked Bonds. It is a 7-year principal protected bond with a unique feature, whereby the return for investors is linked to the issuance and monetization of Plastic Waste Recycling.

11. There are 718 snow leopards in India as per the first ever scientific count—the Snow Leopard Population Assessment in India (SPAI) Programme—in the country, released on Jan 30. SPAI is the first-ever scientific exercise to count the Snow Leopard population.

12. Reviving its operations, the domestic carrier Zoom airline started its operations on Jan 31 with flight services from Delhi to Ayodhya. Zoom airlines or Zexus Air, initially established in April 2013, commenced operations only in February 2017.

13. Toyota Motor retained its crown as the world's top-selling automaker for the fourth consecutive year after posting record annual sales of 11.2 million vehicles in 2023. German rival Volkswagen Group secured second spot by selling 9.2 million cars.



14. Indian boxer Mandeep Jangra secured a remarkable triumph on Jan 26 winning the National Boxing Association's (NBA) intercontinental super featherweight title by defeating American Gerardo Esquivel at Toppenish City, Washington (USA).

Multiple Choice Questions!

1. Which contingent of the Indian Armed forces was declared the “Best Marching Contingent” on this year’s Republic Day Parade?
 - a. Rajputana Rifles
 - b. Madras Regiment
 - c. Grenadiers
 - d. Western Naval command
 - e. Sikh regiment

2. The global Corruption Perceptions Index 2023 released on Jan 30 placed India at which rank?
 - a. 35th
 - b. 45th
 - c. 57th
 - d. 71st
 - e. 93rd

3. INS Nirupak, Indian Navy’s indigenously designed and built _____ ship was decommissioned on January 29 at Naval Dockyard, Visakhapatnam, after 38 years of service:
 - a. Anti-submarine
 - b. Mine blowing
 - c. Survey
 - d. Destroyer
 - e. Explorer

4. Which country was declared the least corrupt in the Corruption Perceptions Index 2023?
 - a. Denmark
 - b. Sweden
 - c. New Zealand
 - d. Norway
 - e. Finland

5. The joint military exercise Sada Tanseeq between India and Saudi Arabia was held at which place from Jan 29 to Feb 10?
 - a. Bakloh, HP
 - b. Pithoragarh, UK
 - c. Najran, S Arabia
 - d. Rajasthan
 - e. Asir, S Arabia

6. Jannik Sinner, 22 year old tennis star defeated Daniil Medvedev of Russia on Jan 28 to lift his first Grand Slam Trophy at Australian Open. He hails from which country?
 - a. Spain
 - b. Italy
 - c. Poland
 - d. Belarus
 - e. Serbia

7. The 69th Hyundai Filmfare Awards 2024 ceremony was held on Jan 28 in which city?
 - a. Bengaluru
 - b. Vadodara
 - c. Pune
 - d. GIFT City
 - e. Gwalior

8. Which senior personality from cinema was honoured with the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Filmfare Awards 2024?
 - a. Prem chopra
 - b. Subhash Ghai
 - c. Madhuri Dixit
 - d. David Dhawan
 - e. Hema Malini

9. India was defeated by which country in the finals of FIH Hockey 5s Women's World Cup played in Muscat?
 - a. Holland
 - b. Germany
 - c. S Korea
 - d. Netherlands
 - e. Australia

Answer Key

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

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