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KHABAR

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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. February 21: International Mother Language Day



The Day is celebrated across the globe with support from UNESCO, Paris to celebrate the linguistic diversity that exists in the world.

- In India, the HRD Ministry observes Matribhasha Divas on this day to highlight the linguistic diversity of our country.
- The central theme for the day this year is “Multilingual education – a pillar of learning and intergenerational learning.” The theme encourages preservation of indigenous languages.

2. February 22: World Thinking Day

Observed every year to help spread awareness and give voice to young women all over the world. It is celebrated by the girl guides and girl scouts in 150 countries.

- The Day celebrates sisterhood, friendship, and women empowerment. It also provides an opportunity to highlight the issues that affect women and girls globally.

- The theme for this year's celebrations is "Our World, Our Thriving Future," which emphasises the importance of creating a sustainable and inclusive world where all girls have the opportunity to thrive.

3. Exercise MILAN: The 12th edition of the 9 day naval exercise MILAN started on Feb 9 near the port city of Visakhapatnam with participation of around 50 navies of 'friendly' countries.



Navies from the US, Japan, Australia, France, Bangladesh, South Korea, Vietnam, Indonesia and Malaysia, among others, participated in the exercise.

The exercise aimed to strengthen regional cooperation and maritime security, foster interoperability and understanding between participating navies and provide a platform for sharing best practices and expertise.

4. 11th Asian Indoor Athletics Championship 2024, India clinched three gold medals on the opening day as Tajinderpal Singh Toor (shot put), Harmilan Bains (1500 mt) and Jyothi Yarraji (60 mt hurdles) won gold on Feb 17 in Tehran, Iran. Ankita Dhyani won silver in the women's 3000m race, finishing India's tally to 4 medals. China topped the medal tally with 16 medals, including 8 gold.



5. Fali S Nariman: Eminent constitutional jurist passed away on Feb 09 in New Delhi at the ripe age of 95. He had been suffering from multiple ailments.

- Nariman served as the additional solicitor general between 1972 and 1975 and had resigned from the post during the emergency.
- His career took a significant leap forward when he was appointed a Senior Advocate by the Supreme Court of India in 1971.
- For his contributions to jurisprudence, he was honoured with the Padma Bhushan (1991) and Padma Vibhushan (2007) and several international awards, including the Gruber Prize for Justice, USA.

6. Universities to appoint ombudspersons



The University Grants Commission (UGC) has reiterated that the universities across the country should appoint ombudspersons at the earliest.

- Students should be able to approach the ombudspersons for speedy redressal of various issues faced by them to ensure that they are not forced to take extreme steps of “self-harm” under stress.
- The UGC had issued the Student Grievance Redressal Regulations-2023 as per which it is mandatory for all higher education institutions to appoint ombudspersons to address students’ complaints.
- The ombudsperson shall help students in addressing issues such as irregularities in admission, misinformation, refusal to admit according to the institute’s policy, withholding of documents to induce payment of unnecessary charges, violations in admission process or unlawfulness in evaluation, etc.
- According to the UGC, 700 varsities have appointed ombudspersons while 300 others are yet to make such appointments.

7. Ameen Sayani: Immensely popular iconic radio personality whose name was synonymous with the songs programme 'Binaca Geetmala', passed away at the age of 91, on Feb 20 in Mumbai.



- A first of its kind show, Binaca Geetmala was aired from 1952 to 1994, earning massive popularity for 42 long years. Sayani's opening sentence of Binaca Geetmala, "Namaste behno aur bhaiyon, main aapka dost Ameen Sayani bol raha hoon" on Radio Ceylon (now Sri Lanka) still evokes strong nostalgia amongst hindi music lovers.
- He ruled the hearts of radio listeners for almost half a century, from the early fifties to the late nineties. His valuable services to the radio fraternity were recognised with prestigious honours like the Padma Bhushan and the Padma Vibhushan.

8. Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur: (Knight of the Legion of Honour), France's highest civilian honour was conferred on Shashi Tharoor, noted Congress politician from Kerala, author and diplomat for his lifelong dedication to fostering global understanding.

9. SPMCIL releases 3 souvenir coins



To mark the 19th foundation ceremony of state-owned Security Printing & Minting Corporation of India Ltd. (SPMCIL), New Delhi, three souvenir coins were released on Feb 15.

- The three coins included one based on the theme of Ram Lalla and Ram Janmabhoomi Temple, Ayodhya. The other two coins included one on enlightenment of Lord Buddha and another on Greater one-horned Rhino.
- The souvenir coins are now available for purchase on the SPMCIL website. SPMCIL is the umbrella body for nine units that include 4 India Government Mints, 2 currency note presses, 2 Security Printing Presses and one Security Paper Mill.

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Some Other Minor News!

1. PM Modi launched Pradhan Mantri Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (PM-USHA) through video conferencing on Feb 20 in Mumbai University.



2. The government has increased the authorised capital of the Food Corporation of India (FCI) from ₹10,000 crore to ₹21,000 crore, demonstrating a significant commitment to enhancing operational capacities of FCI.

Multiple Choice Questions!

1. The 12th edition of the 9 day naval exercise MILAN started on Feb 9 near which port city of India?
 - a. Mumbai
 - b. Cochin
 - c. Visakhapatnam
 - d. Chennai
 - e. Pardip

2. Which city hosted the 11th Asian Indoor Athletics Championship 2024 from Feb 17 to 19?
 - a. Tehran
 - b. Jeddah
 - c. Kuala Lumpur
 - d. Osaka
 - e. Hangzhou

3. Which noted politician has been honoured recently with the Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur, France's highest civilian honour?
 - a. Pinarayi Vijayan
 - b. Shashi Tharoor
 - c. Renuka Chaudhary
 - d. Milind Deora
 - e. Kapil Sibal

4. To mark the 19th foundation ceremony of state-owned Security Printing & Minting Corporation of India Ltd. (SPMCIL), three souvenir coins were released on Feb 15. SPMCIL is located in which city?
 - a. Nashik
 - b. Hyderabad
 - c. Kolkata
 - d. New Delhi
 - e. Bengaluru

5. Renowned Urdu poet Gulzar and Sanskrit scholar Jagadguru Rambhadracharya were selected on Feb 17 for the 58th Jnanpith Award-2023. What is the amount of cash prize given with the award?
 - a. Rs. 05 lakh
 - b. Rs. 7.5 lakh
 - c. Rs. 11 lakh
 - d. Rs. 15 lakh
 - e. Rs. 21 lakh

6. The Indian Space Research Organisation launched GSLV F14 on Feb 17 from Sriharikota to successfully place satellite INSAT 3DS in a geosynchronous transfer orbit. What kind of satellite is this?
 - a. Weather
 - b. Defence
 - c. Communication
 - d. Surveillance
 - e. General

7. The Indian Women's Team won their first-ever Badminton Asian Team Championships title on Feb 18 by defeating Thailand in which country?
 - a. Thailand
 - b. China
 - c. Indonesia
 - d. China
 - e. Malaysia

8. Name the renowned Jain seer who breathed his last on Feb 18 at Chandragiri Teerth in Chhattisgarh, after undertaking the 'sallekhna' ritual.
 - a. Acharya Vidyasagar Maharaj
 - b. Sri Vachananda Swami
 - c. Bhakti Charu Swami
 - d. Munishri Tarun Sagar
 - e. None of these

9. The Indian Air Force conducted Exercise Vayu shakti, its full-scale firepower demonstration on Feb 17 over skies in which area?
 - a. Karnataka
 - b. Rajasthan
 - c. Maharashtra
 - d. Gujarat
 - e. Tamil Nadu

10. Six countries secured first rank in the latest Henley Passport Index 2024 released on Feb 18. Which one of the following is NOT one of them?
- a. France
 - b. Germany
 - c. Italy
 - d. Switzerland
 - e. Japan

Answer Key

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

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