

Annual Exam
GENERAL KNOWLEDGE/ CURRENT AFFAIRS
Classes VI-VIII

National News

1. Indian Railway Conference Association renames "**Ayodhya Junction**" as "**Ayodhya Dham.**" It was inaugurated by PM Narendra Modi on Dec 30.
2. **RBI** (The Reserve Bank of India) approves **C S Rajan** as part-time **Chairman of Kotak Mahindra Bank.**
3. **President Draupadi Murmu** to attend **Karbi Youth Festival, 2024** Golden Jubilee Celebration on Jan 12-19 in **Diphu, Assam.** It is an annual festival celebrated by the Karbi People living in East and West Karbi Anglong district and other districts in the Northeast Indian state of Assam. It is considered the oldest ethnic festival in India.
4. Cabinet chaired by PM Narendra Modi approves opening **Consulate General of India in Auckland.**
5. Lucknow to be developed as India's first 'AI City.'
6. Global AI market estimated at \$137 billion in 2022.
7. PM Modi unveiled new Admirals' epaulettes reflecting India's maritime heritage. Redesigned epaulettes are inspired by naval ensign and **Chhatrapati Shivaji's rajmudra.**



An epaulette

8. ISRO scientist **V.R. Lalithambika** conferred highest civilian French honour - '**Chevalier de l'Ordre national de la Légion d'honneur.**'
9. World AIDS Day 2023 is celebrated on December 1. The theme for this year is 'World AIDS Day 35: Remember and Commit'.
10. In the recently concluded Assembly elections, BJP secured majority in MP, Rajasthan, and Chhattisgarh. In Teleangana, the Congress party won the majority.
11. Supreme Court led by Chief Justice of India (CJI) DY Chandrachud upholds abrogation of Article 370.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

1. Volcano eruptions occur in Iceland after earthquake.
2. Bulgaria and Romania have received permission to join Europe Schengen Visa.
3. Iconic Garisenda Tower in Italy may collapse due to excessive leaning.
4. China plans to make 50% of clean – fuel ships in the world by 2025.
5. Pakistani-Hindu Dr Saveera Parkash is set to be the first woman candidate from the minority community to stand in the upcoming general elections from Buner district of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province.
6. Nepal will export 10 MW power to India in next 10 years.

IT – NEWS

1. The Adani Group has expressed its interest in investing in Telangana, with plans to establish a data centre and aerospace park.
2. Full form of:
 NPCI- National Payments Corporation of India
 UPI -Unified Payment Interface
3. According to the report, there were over 700 million active internet users in India as of December 2022.
4. Microsoft, the tech giant, has introduced a revolutionary Artificial Intelligence-based innovation aimed at providing visually impaired children and young adults with a better understanding of their social environment, improving their ability to interact with peers, and enhancing their confidence.
5. Google to shut 'Important' tab in Files app soon. It will notify the users in advance and provide a deadline of February 15, 2024, after which the documents in the Important tab will be permanently deleted.
6. Microsoft executive Dee Templeton joins OpenAI board: report.

MISCELLANEOUS

1. NASA sends spacecraft to study 'God of Chaos' asteroid.
2. Lt Commander Prerna Deosthalee becomes the first Woman to Command INS Warship 'Trinkat' marking a watershed moment in the country's naval history.

3. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has proposed that India will host the 33rd Conference of Parties (COP33) in 2028.
4. In a strategic move aimed at bolstering data security and prioritizing indigenous technology, paramilitary forces are set to transition to the 'Sandesh' App' for all official communication and document sharing in the new year.
5. Angkor Wat, located in the heart of Cambodia, has recently earned the prestigious title of the 8th wonder of the world, surpassing Italy's Pompeii.
6. The Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development for 2023 has been jointly awarded to Daniel Barenboim and Ali Abu Awwad for Israel-Palestine conflict resolution efforts.
7. Barracuda, the fastest solar-electric boat of India was launched in Kerala to boost eco-friendly maritime transportation.
8. **Veer Bal Diwas** is observed on 26th **December** every year to commemorate the **martyrdom** of the **four sons of Guru Gobind Singh**, the **tenth** and **last Sikh guru**.
9. In a testament to the enduring friendship between **India and France**, **President Emmanuel Macron** is set to be the chief guest at the Republic Day celebrations in New Delhi.

SPORTS NEWS

1. Virat Kohli becomes top Indian run-scorer in World Test Championship (WTC). The feat was achieved in ongoing Test series against South Africa surpassing Rohit Sharma's WTC runs.
2. R. Vaishali becomes India's third woman Grandmaster.

3. Jennifer Varghese and Divyanshi Bhowmick won the Silver Medal at the ITTF World Youth Table-Tennis Tournament in Nova Gorica, Slovenia.
4. India beats Australia 4-1 in the T-20 series held in India.
5. England Women beat India Women 2-1 in the three-match series held in India.
6. Indian men secure fourth position in the FIH Hockey Men's Junior World Cup. Germany secured First Position while France got Second Position and Spain got the Third Position. Indian woman got Ninth Position.
7. Leander Paes and Vijay Amritraj became the first Asian Men to be inducted into the international Tennis Hall of Fame.