

ANNUAL EXAM
GENERAL KNOWLEDGE /CURRENT AFFAIRS
(IX-XI)

NATIONAL NEWS

1. The Government launches a **nationwide campaign** to promote **sustainable practices** among middle-class families. (Jal Jeevan Mission, Swachh Bharat Mission etc)
2. Union Government has approved proposal to **rename Ayodhya Airport** as **Maharishi Valmiki International Airport**.
3. External Affairs Minister **S Jaishankar** and his counterpart **N P Saud** from Nepal co-chaired **7th Indo Nepal Joint** Commission Meeting held in Kathmandu, Nepal.
4. **World Soil Day** is celebrated on **December 5**.
5. **National Vaccination Drive** initiated, focussing on achieving broader coverage against preventable diseases.
6. **Sh. Vikas Sheel, IAS** has been appointed Executive Director of **Asian Development Bank**.
7. On **January 6**, the World will observe **WORLD DAY OF WAR ORPHANS**.
8. India's Forex Reserves surge to \$ 623 billion.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

1. **4th January** to be celebrated as **World Braille Day** to honour the inventor of the Braille script, Louis Braille.
2. **Russia** has officially commenced the chairmanship of **BRICS** group.
3. **Pakistan** successfully test-fires **Advance Rocket System – FATAH II**.
4. **India** will acquire five **Lithium blocks** in **Argentina**.
5. **Bhutan** plans to set up “**Gelephu Smartcity Project**’ an international smart city spanning over 1000 sq Km on the border with Assam.
6. **China** has set up the **deepest lab** in the World at a depth of **2400 meter**.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

1. **Indigo**, India’s leading carrier, has achieved a historic milestone by becoming the **first Indian airline** to transport **100 million passengers** in a single calendar year.
2. **United Nations** has declared **2024** as the **International Year of Camelids**. The year will highlight how camelids are key to the livelihoods of millions of households in hostile environments across

over 90 countries, particularly Indigenous Peoples and local communities.



3. **Rambagh Gate and Ramparts** in Amritsar, Punjab, have been awarded the highest honour, '**Award of Excellence**' in this year's **UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation**.
4. India aims to establish its own permanent space station called '**Bharatiya Space Station**' over the next 25 years. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has set a target to launch the first module of this station by 2028.
5. The **Sahitya Akademi Awards** for the year **2023** have been announced, recognizing outstanding literary works in various Indian languages. Among the **notable winners** are **Tamil author, Rajasekaran (Devibharathi)** for his novel '**Neervazhi Padoom**', **Telugu writer, T. Patanjali Sastry** for the short story collection '**Rameshwaram Kaakulu Marikonni Kathalu**' and **Malayalam litterateur, E.V. Ramakrishnan** for his literary study '**Malayala Novelinte Deshakalangal**'.
6. **AIIMS, New Delhi** starts country's first smart lab in its **OPD section**.
7. Israel film, '**Children of Nobody**' won **Gold Bengal Tiger** award.
8. **IIT, Chennai** researchers engineered **plant cells** to produce a drug for cancer.

IT NEWS

1. **Google DeepMind** introduces Mobile **ALOHA** humanoid technology.
2. **Reliance JIO and IIT Mumbai** have joined together for **BHARAT GPT program** and **smart TV operating system**.
3. **Google Maps**, a navigation tool, is set to undergo a transformative upgrade in India with a host of new features leveraging artificial intelligence (AI). Google plans to introduce the Address Descriptor early next year. This innovation aims to simplify location searches by offering a more intuitive experience.
4. Indian government alerted public on '**Smishing threats**' – a malicious practice that exploits SMS messages for extracting confidential information.
5. 7 RING is a Smart Ring introduced in India for contactless payment.
6. IBM and AWS (Amazon Web Services) launched an innovation lab in Bengaluru.
7. Jio Space Fibre becomes India's first Satellite based gigabit broadband service.
8. Google has introduced Earthquake alert system for android users in India.

SPORTS NEWS

1. Raghuram Rai has been appointed CEO of Indian Olympic Association.
2. R. Vaishnavi and R. Praggnandhaa have become the first brother-sister Grandmaster in the history of chess.
3. David Warner has retired from One Day cricket.
4. Indian wrestler Pooja Dhanda has been suspended for one year due to whereabouts failure by NADA (National Anti-Doping Agency).
5. More than 1200 players from 20 states and union territories will participate in the Beach games being held at Ghoghla beach in Union Territory Diu.
6. Virat Kohli becomes the 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.
7. India beats Australia 4-1 in the T-20 series held in India.
8. Leander Paes and Vijay Amritraj became the first Asian Men to be inducted into the international Tennis Hall of Fame.