



IAS 100

A Civil Services Chronicle Initiative

APPROACH PAPER **(New Syllabus)**



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CHRONICLE IAS ACADEMY

A CIVIL SERVICES CHRONICLE INITIATIVE

GS MAINS

(New Syllabus)

APPROACH PAPER

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UPSC NEW SYLLABUS FOR GS MAINS

PAPER-I

Essay: Candidates will be required to write an essay on a specific topic. The choice of subjects will be given. They will be expected to keep closely to the subject of the essay to arrange their ideas in orderly fashion, and to write concisely. Credit will be given for effective and exact expression.

PAPER-II

General Studies-I: Indian Heritage and Culture, History and Geography of the World and Society.

- Indian culture will cover the salient aspects of Art Forms, Literature and Architecture from ancient to modern times.
- Modern Indian history from about the middle of the eighteenth century until the present-significant events, personalities, issues
- The Freedom Struggle - its various stages and important contributors /contributions from different parts of the country.
- Post-independence consolidation and reorganization within the country.
- History of the world will include events from 18th century such as industrial revolution, world wars, redrawal of national boundaries, colonization, decolonization, political philosophies like communism, capitalism, socialism etc.- their forms and effect on the society.
- Salient features of Indian Society, Diversity of India.
- Role of women and women's organization, population and associated issues, poverty and developmental issues, urbanization, their problems and their remedies.
- Effects of globalization on Indian society
- Social empowerment, communalism, regionalism & secularism.
- Salient features of world's physical geography.
- Distribution of key natural resources across the world (including South Asia and the Indian subcontinent); factors responsible for the location of primary, secondary, and tertiary sector industries in various parts of the world (including India)
- Important Geophysical phenomena such as earthquakes, Tsunami, Volcanic activity, cyclone etc., geographical features and their location- changes in critical geographical features (including water bodies and ice-caps) and in flora and fauna and the effects of such changes.

PAPER-III

General Studies- II: Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations.

- Indian Constitution- historical under pinnings, evolution, features, amendments, significant provisions and basic structure.
- Functions and responsibilities of the Union and the States, issues and challenges pertaining to the federal structure, devolution of powers and finances up to local levels and challenges therein.
- Separation of powers between various organs dispute redressal mechanisms and institutions.
- Comparison of the Indian constitutional scheme with that of other countries

- Parliament and State Legislatures - structure, functioning, conduct of business, powers & privileges and issues arising out of these.
- Structure, organization and functioning of the Executive and the Judiciary Ministries and Departments of the Government; pressure groups and formal/informal associations and their role in the Polity.
- Salient features of the Representation of People's Act.
- Appointment to various Constitutional posts, powers, functions and responsibilities of various Constitutional Bodies.
- Statutory, regulatory and various quasi-judicial bodies
- Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation.
- Development processes and the development industry- the role of NGOs, SHGs, various groups and associations, donors, charities, institutional and other stakeholders.
- Welfare schemes for vulnerable sections of the population by the Centre and States and the performance of these schemes; mechanisms, laws, institutions and Bodies constituted for the protection and betterment of these vulnerable sections.
- Issues relating to development and management of Social Sector/Services relating to Health, Education, Human Resources. Issues relating to poverty and hunger.
- Important aspects of governance, transparency and accountability, e-governance-applications, models, successes, limitations, and potential; citizens charters, transparency & accountability and institutional and other measures.
- Role of civil services in a democracy.
- India and its neighborhood- relations.
- Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India's interests
- Effect of policies and politics of developed and developing countries on India's interests, Indian diaspora.
- Important International institutions, agencies and fora- their structure, mandate.

PAPER-IV

General Studies-III: Technology, Economic Development, Bio diversity, Environment, Security and Disaster Management.

- Indian Economy and issues relating to planning, mobilization of resources, growth, development and employment.
- Inclusive growth and issues arising from it.
- Government Budgeting.
- Major crops cropping patterns in various parts of the country, different types of irrigation and irrigation systems storage, transport and marketing of agricultural produce and issues and related constraints; e-technology in the aid of farmers.
- Issues related to direct and indirect farm subsidies and minimum support prices; Public Distribution System- objectives, functioning, limitations, revamping; issues of buffer stocks and food security; Technology missions; economics of animal-rearing.
- Food processing and related industries in India- scope and significance, location, upstream and downstream requirements, supply chain management.
- Land reforms in India.
- Effects of liberalization on the economy, changes in industrial policy and their effects on industrial growth.

- Infrastructure: Energy, Ports, Roads, Airports, Railways etc.
- Investment models.
- Science and Technology- developments and their applications and effects in everyday life.
- Achievements of Indians in science & technology; indigenization of technology and developing new technology.
- Awareness in the fields of IT, Space, Computers, robotics, nano-technology, bio-technology and issues relating to intellectual property rights.
- Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation, environmental impact assessment
- Disaster and disaster management.
- Linkages between development and spread of extremism.
- Role of external state and non-state actors in creating challenges to internal security.
- Challenges to internal security through communication networks, role of media and social networking sites in internal security challenges, basics of cyber security; money-laundering and its prevention.
- Security challenges and their management in border areas; linkages of organized crime with terrorism.
- Various Security forces and agencies and their mandate.

PAPER-V

General Studies- IV: Ethics, Integrity, and Aptitude

This paper will include questions to test the candidates' attitude and approach to issues relating to integrity, probity in public life and his problem solving approach to various issues and conflicts faced by him in dealing with society. Questions may utilise the case study approach to determine these aspects. The following broad areas will be covered.

- Ethics and Human Interface: Essence, determinants and consequences of Ethics in human actions; dimensions of ethics; ethics in private and public relationships. Human Values - lessons from the lives and teachings of great leaders, reformers and administrators; role of family, society and educational institutions in inculcating values.
- Attitude: content, structure, function; its influence and relation with thought and behaviour; moral and political attitudes; social influence and persuasion.
- Aptitude and foundational values for Civil Service , integrity, impartiality and non-partisanship, objectivity, dedication to public service, empathy, tolerance and compassion towards the weaker sections.
- Emotional intelligence-concepts, and their utilities and application in administration and governance.
- Contributions of moral thinkers and philosophers from India and world.
- Public/Civil service values and Ethics in Public administration: Status and problems; ethical concerns and dilemmas in government and private institutions; laws, rules, regulations and conscience as sources of ethical guidance; accountability and ethical governance; strengthening of ethical and moral values in governance; ethical issues in international relations and funding; corporate governance.
- Probity in Governance: Concept of public service; Philosophical basis of governance and probity; Information sharing and transparency in government, Right to Information, Codes of Ethics, Codes of Conduct, Citizen's Charters, Work culture, Quality of service delivery, Utilization of public funds, challenges of corruption.
- Case Studies on above issues.



G.S. MAIN NEW SYLLABUS ANALYZING THE CHANGES

The change in IAS main examination has been made. Now, the new format will give more weightage to General Studies. The new pattern aims to decrease the total marks of optional subjects and increases focus on general studies. This will reduce any advantage a candidate could have over highly scoring subjects being taken as optional papers. General studies have about 50% weightage while optional subject about 25%. However one cannot deny the importance of optional as it is going to be the game changer in the future.

In order to really comprehend these changes, one must put all the dimensions of this examination in a proper perspective and then try to understand the importance of these changes. General studies has been uplifted to a 'King-makers' status by allotting a huge 1000 marks to it. But GS is more than just being a part of the Main Examination. It also has an indirect role to play in the Essay Paper(250 marks) and the Interview(275 marks).

Change in continuity

UPSC had announced the new scheme of examination for IAS Prelims in 2011. The idea was to introduce an aptitude test in place of the existing optional subject paper in the civil services preliminary exam. There was a hue and cry over the proposal for Civil Services Aptitude Test (CSAT), its implementation and its syllabus for long. However, interpretation of the CSAT syllabus has created a new "beginning".

The previous pattern of the civil services preliminary exams was conceived in 1979 on the recommendations of the Kothari Commission. Since then, for 41 years, the preliminary pattern sustained with only some minor changes once in ten or fifteen years. But from 2011 onwards, civil services aspirants witnessed a sea change. Last two years configuration of questions is witness in itself.

The bid to change the system had been pending for quite some time as most of the government panels had advocated greater emphasis on "aptitude" of candidates rather than on their knowledge of subjects. The argument was that the specialists of any particular subject may not necessarily be good civil servants unless they have actual inclination towards it. Also, the new syllabus will provide a level-playing field.

Before you gear up for the IAS examination, you also need to understand the basic philosophy of this change. Most of the Committees/Commissions constituted by the Government of India (GoI) have advocated laying greater emphasis on the aptitude of the candidates for Civil Services rather than on their knowledge of a particular subject.

Even the Alagh Committee Report submitted in 2001, advocated for the greater change. The relevant portion of the Report goes like this- "The present testing of optional subjects is based on College/University curriculum. Re-examining the candidates in their own subjects appears to have doubtful utility. The universities have already done the work and retesting, possibly even at a lower level that what candidates have completed earlier, appears to be unnecessary. What is important is the relevance of a subject to the job requirements of a Civil Servant, especially in the changing scenario."

In this sense General Studies paper is the cornerstone of Civil Services examination. Inclusion of this paper both in the prelims and in the mains shows the amount of gravity that the examiner attributes to this faculty. So it becomes important to understand the essence that you being a probable administrator must have to approach this domain so that you become more comfortable with this subject-of-subjects.

In the changed scenario after the formal announcement from UPSC that it is moving

into the direction of testing analytical skill rather than synthetic knowledge that a student gathers through different sources the whole preparation module must change. Having analytical acumen shows that a person is able to grasp the impacts and the practical aspects of any event rather than simply the "whats" of it. UPSC is moving into the higher realm of knowledge testing rather than mere "information test".

What is the answer to the new scheme?

Once IAS exam termed as the 'mother of all exams', because of its vastness is now 'Maa-Paa' of the all competitive exams, as the latest entry of 'Paa' in the form of GS mains has stretched the length-breadth many fold.

Why, just read.....

1. Because of the vastness of the syllabus associated with it, wherein you are expected to know almost everything under the sun and its application.
2. Because of the unpredictability of the exam wherein you cannot afford to make selective study purely based on previous years question papers and guidelines provide by new 'mullah'.
3. The immense competition which you are confronted with, wherein you face the best minds in the country which come from their respective streams and sweat it out to become a part of the steel frame of the government. So there is hardly any room for carelessness, complacency and even overconfidence. You have to earn every mark hard to remain a cut above the rest.

In a nutshell we can only encore, underline and emphasize that now UPSC has become a dynamic battle which does not require a set pattern. By adopting the change what it has done is that it has opened the doors where it can "play" a different game every year with You.

What is implicitly and explicitly implied here can best be understood when we see the 'negotiation' and interaction which the stakeholders are doing with the current changes-can rightly be called as paradigm change in the UPSC syllabus. Here, by stakeholders we mean everyone having stake in UPSC and its preparation-they can be Coaching Institutes, Publication Houses or more importantly it can be You.

In a way, by making the syllabus too vast UPSC also intends to look out for the smart worker who can diligently decipher the needs and work accordingly. This will only make their every minute of preparation comparable to an hour of plain reading.

UPSC also knows that the current horizontal limits of the syllabic content are too vast for an ordinary mind to sustainably deal with the same. Just by reading the syllabus one can know that what is required in a man who is being tested for all the optional papers in the current GS scheme of things.

Now, the most pertinent question that must be buzzing in Your mind must be- how do I negotiate sustainably with such an unsustainable and demanding syllabus? Sure this was also the question that propelled us to prepare this text.

The following text moves in a certain manner.

We begin with a general discussion after which we take various papers of GS. Here, we delve deeper into all of them with the basic premise and standing on four parameters. They are:

- What was the Syllabus?
- What is the Syllabus?
- What was the mode of a successful preparation?
- What will be the mode of a successful preparation?

GS PAPER I

Indian Heritage and Culture, History and Geography of the World and Society have been elaborated in the syllabus under 12 main headings.

1st topic in the syllabus mentions that Indian culture will cover the salient aspects of Art Forms, Literature and Architecture from ancient to modern times.

The syllabic content under culture has not gone any change. Earlier mains syllabus also mentioned "The part relating to Indian culture will cover all aspects of Indian culture from the ancient to modern times as well as principal features of literature, arts and architecture."

One major change that can be expected is that the section of syllabus will be given more importance by all stakeholders in the field because this is the first topic and hence has highest visibility in the syllabus. In earlier mains exam syllabus this was mentioned in later half after mentioning content of history syllabus.

In last couple of years, questions from art and culture have come from such areas that only a well prepared student can attempt the questions. Last minute mugging up in art and culture has been left redundant by the recent shift in the focus of exam.

For example in 2013 mains one question asked was:

Q. Though not very useful from the point of view of a connected political history of South India, the Sangam literature portrays the social and economic conditions of its time with remarkable vividness. Comment.

Discussing "the sangam literature" will require not only factual information about the content in literature but also its relationship with the social and economic condition of that age.

Similar trend can be seen across the board in last couple of years. Earlier more factual knowledge was required about art, architecture and literature, but now focus is on clarity of concepts and importance of different facets of art.

2nd, 3rd and 4th topic mention the content of History part of GS syllabus. Syllabus mentions that Modern Indian history from about the middle of the eighteenth century until the present will include - significant events, personalities, issues.

3rd topic is The Freedom Struggle - its various stages and important contributors / contributions from different parts of the country.

4th topic is Post-independence consolidation and reorganization within the country.

Mains syllabus earlier mentioned that "The History of Modern India will cover history of the Country from about the middle of nineteenth century and would also include questions on important personalities who shaped the freedom movement and social reforms."

Here two important changes can be noticed.

1. One is that history syllabus will be from middle of eighteenth century rather than middle of nineteenth century.
2. Second change is explicit mention of Post-independence consolidation and reorganization. Analytical questions can be asked related to this topic in view of recent demand for more states from different parts of country.

Another noteworthy change is that earlier the word personalities was the only word explicitly mentioned in syllabus, whereas now events, issues, stages and contribution from different parts of country are mentioned. This has made the syllabus very clear. Questions have been asked about Patharughat, Benoy-Badal-Dinesh martyrdom, Bharat Naujawan Sabha, Babbar Akali movement, Bhai Maharaj Singh, Latika Ghosh, etc. in recent years exam.

For example in 2013 mains one question asked was:

Q. Discuss the contribution of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad to pre-and post independent India.

This requires the detailed knowledge of the contributions made by Maulana Abul Kalam Azad as question is of 10 marks and need to be written in 200 words.

5th topic of syllabus is a new inclusion that says that History of the world will include events from 18th century such as industrial revolution, world wars, redrawal of national boundaries, colonization, decolonization, political philosophies like communism, capitalism, socialism etc.- their forms and effect on the society.

Though questions have been asked about the effect of disintegration of USSR, the dichotomy between natural resource endowment and absence of development in Africa and about many international issues

which require a basic understanding of world history and philosophies mentioned above, but now questions can be specifically asked about the effect of historical events in past, on present as well as on future.

Political philosophies like communism, capitalism, socialism have to be studied not in isolation rather, keeping in mind the fact that these philosophies changed the world history and have caused long lasting and irreversible changes in society by adopting different forms to suit the local conditions.

6th, 7th, 8th and 9th topics of syllabus are aimed at covering the salient features of Indian Society that includes both traditional areas like Social empowerment (issues related to SC/ST/OBC/Minorities/Women/Children/Old People/Handicapped and other vulnerable sections) and effect of current wave of changes on Indian Society that includes Globalization and urbanisation.

Social vulnerability can be caused by multiple causes. Syllabus specifically mentions poverty, women's organisations, population and development issues. Other dimensions of Indian society that can put one portion of population at a disadvantage are caste, rural-urban setup, communalism etc.

Classical themes like "Unity in Diversity", "Secularism", "Democracy" etc. must be seen in increasingly current relevance. Topic- "Globalization's effect on Indian society" requires the study of Indian society through three different lenses-One, historical study of society, second, present challenges and third, futuristic envisioning for changes.

Such study must be not only a fault finding exercise alone rather a comprehensive "SWOT analysis of Indian Society. A detailed study of Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats that are the hallmark of Indian way of life is the underlying current of the topics. For example, topic poverty has been coupled with developmental issues and urbanisation includes both problems and remedies.

Poverty in this chapter should not be confused with the economics behind poverty. Focus of topic has to be developmental issues and how societal constraints have perpetuated poverty in the Indian conditions.

Topics 10th, 11th and 12th cover the geography of World and India, important geophysical phenomenon and geographical features.

First topic seems to open a Pandora's box from preparation point of view because salient features of world geography can include almost everything under sun (the earlier way of defining the GS syllabus in one line seems to make a return with the inclusion of this line in syllabus).

Here one must notice that preliminary syllabus also covers the topic "Indian and World Geography - Physical, Social, Economic Geography of India and the World". Salient features of world geography will cover similar content but with a vital difference in the fact that in Mains one is not given options to answer.

Traditionally, approach of students in Civil service has been

- Exhaustive study for Preliminary and
- Intensive Study for Mains.

But lately this gap has been narrowed and more so with respect to 10th Topic. Now students will have to combine their study for both the phases of exam.

11th topic covers the distribution of Natural resources and location aspects of Industries. Of late there has been a crowding in, in the mad rush for acquisition of natural resources (esp. with emerging countries like China and India joining in) and shift in the location of industries (China emerging as the factory of the world and India as the Office of the world).

In view of these tectonic shifts taking place, traditional areas of geography must be actively clubbed with recent changes and content needs to be of current relevance. For example distribution of rare earth metals would be more important than say iron ore in light of China's curb on export of these vital metals and WTO's decision against the discriminatory move.

12th topic covers major geophysical phenomena like:

- Earthquake
- Tsunamis
- Volcanic Activity, etc.

The term "etc." (in view of classical definition of geophysical phenomenon that is criticised by the votaries of a broader definition) will inter alia include plate tectonics, earth's internal structure and composition, earth's shape and magnetic and gravitation field.

Another important noteworthy thing is the use of term Geophysical rather than geographical preceding the term phenomenon.

Geographical phenomena focus on distribution patterns & require two descriptions:

- What is present? &
- Where it is?

Whereas geophysical phenomena have more focus on cause-effect relationships and are applied to societal needs such as mineral resources, mitigation of natural hazards and environmental protection; the Geophysical survey data are used to analyze potential petroleum reservoirs and mineral deposits, locate groundwater, find archaeological relics, determine the thickness of glaciers and soils etc.

Above mentioned topic and last mentioned "geographical features and their location-changes in critical geographical features (including water-bodies and ice-caps) and in

flora and fauna and the effects of such changes" have a strong dose of current relevance in light of Climatic changes taking place at an alarming pace.

One overarching theme in the whole syllabus has been the focus on topics that have utility in enhancing the welfare of people.

Most important change that will have far reaching effects on the exam is that for the first time veil has been lifted over the syllabic content of GS. In last couple of years, students have adopted a strategy of focussing on optional papers alone and treating GS as an invincible arena that was resulting in neglect of GS. UPSC has rightly tried to shift focus back to GS because an administrator needs to be jack of all trades rather than master of one.

A successful and effective administrator needs to be aware of many dimensions of human existence that include history, geography, sociology, philosophy etc. Students will need to focus on all around personality development and the most criticised line in GS syllabus "A WELL EDUCATED PERSON NEED NOT TO PREPARE SPECIALLY" will automatically become the qualification criterion in future as far as GS portion is concerned.

GS PAPER II

We shall analyse the syllabus content of the paper 3 (GS Paper II) in the changed pattern and how it is related to the previous syllabus of the general studies pattern. If we analyse the syllabus for paper three we can observe that it can be divided into three areas.

1. Topics related to polity and governance in the general studies paper 1 in the previous pattern.
2. Topics related to socio and economic development and governance related to section 4 in the previous general studies paper 1, and
3. The topics related to the international and bilateral issues and institutions and India Diaspora in the previous general studies paper 2 which are retained with one significant addition.

If we observe and analyse the changes there are few additions in the polity and governance aspects which are explicitly mentioned in the

changed syllabus. All other topics existed more or less in the previous syllabus.

In the area related to constitution, polity and governance the new topics added are:

- Representation of Peoples Act
- Structure and organisation of the ministries and departments
- Comparison of the Indian constitutional scheme with that of other countries.
- Statutory regulatory and various quasi judicial bodies
- Role of civil services in a democracy
- Coming to the area of international issues and institutions and bilateral relations the only significant addition is the effect of the policies of the developed and developing countries on India's interests.
- In the area of socio economic development in addition to the government initiatives and

programmes the new areas included are "Development processes and development industry -role of the NGO's, SHG, various groups and associations, donors, charities, institutions and other stakeholders.

- Government policies and interventions for development in the various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation
- Welfare schemes for the vulnerable sections of the population by the centre and "states and performance of these schemes; mechanism, laws, institutions and "bodies constituted for the protection and betterment of vulnerable sections of the society.

Now we shall deal with how to prepare paper three of GS.

For preparing any paper of the civil services there has to be certain basic strategy which needs to be followed. This basic strategy can be briefly summed up in the following words

How to prepare: the basic strategy

1. The candidate should have full grasp over the contents of the syllabus in each of the papers and its inter linkages with other areas in other papers.
2. Analysis of the previous question papers to note the trends of what type of questions are asked i.e fact based questions on fundamental concepts. Issue based questions on the topics currently in news for various reasons. Questions asking for suggestions or expression of opinions regarding the current developments. Examinee has to get an idea of level and depth of the questions that are asked.
3. The third step is the collection of the appropriate material from various sources and if necessary to decide on the right kind of institution that may be able to guide them in an effective way. He has to see that he devotes appropriate attention and should not go very deep into each of the topics like a research scholar.
4. A candidate has to first read the topic carefully, understand assimilate and write notes containing important points. A candidate has to prepare his own notes on each topic of the syllabus. Care should be

taken to integrate all the points that are available in different sources. He has to add or append the recent developments in that area as per the newspaper/press reports.

5. Once he has gathered enough confidence or even after finishing the study of a topic he has to practice answer writing firstly, the previous year's question papers to check his grasp of the subject or his writing skills to find out whether he is able to clearly express his views. He also has to check whether he/she is writing relevant answers or just touching only the fringe areas of what has been asked.

In the changed scenario candidate must thoroughly study:

1. Historical evolution of bilateral relationships and their significance
2. Irritants in the relationship
3. Recent Development.
4. Strategic implications and future prospects etc regarding the neighbouring countries and other important countries.

Regarding the Diaspora their distribution, significance contribution to host countries and in promoting ties with motherland and schemes and programs of the government of India for their welfare are important areas to be taken care of.

In the newly introduced topic policies and politics of the developed and developing countries on India's interests candidate has to focus on the policies and program of other countries affecting the Indian interests e.g. the American government policy of cutting down incentives for companies outsourcing work to India may impact the profitability and employability of the software companies thus affecting the economy and employment. Similarly changes in the work permit or working visas may affect Indians.

Likewise the recent Saudi Arabian Nitaqat law making it compulsory for the Saudi companies to employ locals, regulating work permits and increasing fees for renewing labour cards may affect the Indians going to gulf for employment. Thus the candidate should be aware of the challenges that other country's policies may pose to Indian interests.

Thus, to sum up, the preparation should be made in such a way that the candidate will have a thorough understanding of the fundamental aspects, recent developments and

issues under consideration and programmes, policies, act and legislations under consideration. Also important is its overall implications and impact on the society.

GS PAPER III

General Studies paper III is a new addition to the Civil Services Mains examination. However, this addition is only nominal as syllabus of this paper constituted a part of General Studies paper I & II of the previous examination format. In the new format, sections of the General Studies paper I & II in the previous format have been expanded and made more specific. The topics that were vaguely described have been elaborated upon. So, the scope of questions that can be asked on these topics have increased tremendously. If we look this in the context of changing question pattern, the inevitable conclusion is we are looking at need for complete shift in the way the students and teachers have been tackling these topics.

Before we jump on to what should be the strategy to prepare for this paper, we need to establish what exactly has changed. This can be done by going through the relevant portions of the syllabus.

The syllabus of GS Paper III varies from Economic development to Technology to Security. The underlying factor connecting the various topics is their relevance to our lives on the macro level. This paper is about awareness of trends in economy, society, environment and technology. The content of this paper is aimed at, as UPSC notification says, assessing the overall intellectual traits and depth of understanding of the candidates. This is in consonance with the UPSC's aim to make the Civil Services Examination more than just a test of a candidate's range of information and memory.

In the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) notification for the Civil Services examination the syllabus for General Studies III is broadly based on Technology, Economic Development, Bio diversity, Environment, Security and Disaster Management.

The notification expands the syllabus under these broad categories:

Economic Development

1. Indian Economy and issues relating to planning, mobilization of resources, growth, development and employment.
2. Inclusive growth and issues arising from it
3. Government Budgeting.
4. Major crops cropping patterns in various parts of the country, different types of irrigation and irrigation systems storage, transport and marketing of agricultural produce and issues and related constraints; e-technology in the aid of farmers.
5. Issues related to direct and indirect farm subsidies and minimum support prices; Public Distribution System- objectives, functioning, limitations, revamping; issues of buffer stocks and food security; Technology missions; economics of animal-rearing.
6. Food processing and related industries in India- scope and significance, location, upstream and downstream requirements, supply chain management.
7. Land reforms in India.
8. Effects of liberalization on the economy, changes in industrial policy and their effects on industrial growth.
9. Infrastructure: Energy, Ports, Roads, Airports, Railways etc.
10. Investment models.

New syllabus is more explicitly defined whereas in old syllabus only broad outlines were given. Hence, earlier it was up to the students to find out various dimensions and topics that would be covered under that outline. In that case, if one student found ten dimensions, other might find fifteen. This indirectly used to affect the preparedness level of all the students. The implicit old syllabus had ample of scope left for interpretation. But in new syllabus all the topics are clearly defined except few. E.g. Inclusive growth and issues arising from it.

The topic covered under 'Economic Development' of new syllabus was earlier 'partially' covered under two broad topics one, Economic and Human Geography under Geography of India; second, the Indian economy and issues relating to planning, mobilization of resources, growth, development and employment under Current National Issues and Topics of Social Relevance.

Similarly, topics covered under 'technology' include the old syllabus' topics plus issues that demands analytical capability of student. E.g. achievements of Indians in science & technology; indigenization of technology and developing new technology.

Keeping the growing importance of environment and its related issues, UPSC has put biodiversity, environment and disaster management as broad topics and under that there are sub-topics.

Same is the case with 'security' topic. In old syllabus it was a small sub-topic which read 'Law enforcement, internal security and related issues such as the preservation of communal harmony'. But in the new syllabus the topic is exhaustively dealt with.

The syllabus clearly defines the topic as follow:

- Linkages between development and spread of extremism.
- Role of external state and non-state actors in creating challenges to internal security.
- Challenges to internal security through communication networks, role of media and social networking sites in internal security challenges, basics of cyber security; money-laundering and its prevention
- Security challenges and their management in border areas; linkages of organized crime with terrorism
- Various Security forces and agencies and their mandate

The sub-topics of internal security shows the section has covered whole of security issues starting from traditional security challenges like terrorism, left wing extremism to new evolving challenges like cyber crime, money-laundering to role of social networking sites in internal security.

This shows that this paper like other GS Papers demands updating each topic with the news of recent development.



GS PAPER IV

DECODING ETHICS, INTEGRITY AND APTITUDE

Recently UPSC has brought out some changes in civil services (Mains) examination and a new paper on ethics, integrity and aptitude has been introduced. Following is the core area on which emphasis has been made.

- Ethics
- Attitude
- Aptitude for the Civil Services.
- Emotional intelligence.
- Contribution of thinkers.
- Public Service/Civil Service values and integrity.
- Honesty and Probity in Public Life.

It has also been suggested that case study approach may be adopted on the above points.

Importance and significance of ethics -

The Rig Veda states "Atmano Mokshartham jagat hitayacha" i.e. private good of self promotion should be subservient to the greatest good of all.

Kautilya's Arthshastra says -

***"Praja sukhe sukham rajyaha
"prajanam cha Hitehitam,***

***Natma priyam hitam rajanaha
"Prajnam cha hitam priyam"***

(In the happiness of his public rests the king's happiness, in their welfare his welfare..)

Bhishma Pitamaha, who had mastered the art of governance says "the foundation of good governance is righteousness in public affairs".

Mahatma Gandhi emphasized the importance of means stating that the means are as much or even more important than the end.

In 'Gita' Lord Krishna advises officials:

"By understanding what ought to be done, and what not, what is to be feared and what not, and what is obligatory and what is simply permitted, a ruler leads the moral and righteous nation".

Similarly Confucius (551-479 B.C.) believed

that a well ordered society required a government based on superior morality rather than on superior authority.

In the Islamic world, letters written to governors by Imam Hazrat Omer and Imam Hazrat Ali are the shining examples of governing through ethics and morality.

These examples from various religions illustrate that one should not shy away from tapping religious assets.

'Ethics' is a system of accepted beliefs and values which influence human behaviour. The family systems and educational systems are influential instruments of socialization and training of the mind in its initial years. If the values inculcated through the family and the school have underscored honesty and ethics, the impact on the mindset of citizens is likely to be highly positive and powerful.

The gist of wisdom on administrative ethics is that the public administrators are the "guardians" of the Administrative state. Hence they are expected to honour public trust and not violate it.

Relation between Ethics and Civil Services-

Following are the principles on which Civil Servants are supposed to discharge their duties and responsibilities.

- Legal and rational action: Civil Servants must follow the law and rules to govern and guide.
- Responsibility and accountability: An administrator should hold himself morally responsible for his actions and should be willing to be held accountable.
- Commitment for work: According to Swami Vivekananda "Every duty is holy and devotion to duty is the highest form of worship.
- Ensuring excellence in work: An administrator would ensure the highest standard of quality in administrative decisions and action.

- Responsiveness and resilience: He should adopt to environmental transformation and yet sustain the ethical norms of conduct.
- Principle of utilitarianism: An administrator should ensure that his decisions should lead to the greatest good of the greatest number.
- Maxim of Compassion: A civil servant without violating the prescribed law and rules would demonstrate compassion for the poor, the disabled and the weak.
- National interest: A civil servant should keep in view the impact of his action on his nation's strength and prestige.
- Principle of justice: Administrators must observe principles of equality, equity, fairness, impartiality and objectivity.
- Transparency: Civil Servants will make decisions in a transparent manner.
- Maxim of integrity: An administrator would undertake an administrative action on the basis of honesty and not use his power, position and discretion to serve his personal interest.

The Nolan Committee constituted for setting standards in public life in United Kingdom has recommended seven principles of public life:

1. Selflessness
2. Integrity
3. Objectivity
4. Accountability
5. Openness
6. Honesty
7. Leadership.

These principles of public life are of general applicability in every democracy. Arising out of such ethical principles a set of guidelines of public behavior in nature of code of conduct becomes essential for public functionaries.

United Nations has formulated a 'Code of Conduct' for public officials by its resolution 58/4 of 31st Oct. 2003. The code of conduct states that "Each State party shall promote, inter alia, integrity, honesty, and responsibility among its public officials in accordance with the fundamental principles of its legal system."

In the corporate world, governance has become an important factor for success and excellence. The Cadbury Committee defines the concept of corporate governance "the system by which companies are directed and controlled, thus placing the board of directors of a company at the centre of governance system. Maximising the shareholders value in a legal and ethical manner is the symbol of good corporate governance.

Government of India has formulated some codes, laws, rules and regulations to help achieve ethics, values, and probity in public life. Besides, some good practices have also been introduced to bring probity in public servants.

An illustrated list is as follows.

1. Official Secrets Act.
2. Right to Information Act.
3. Prevention of Corruption Act.
4. Benami (Properties) Transaction Act.
5. Central Civil Services (conduct) Rules.
6. All India Services (conduct) Rules.
7. Citizen's Charters.
8. Code of Conduct for political parties.
9. Model code of conduct (during elections).

Candidates appearing for civil services will be supposed to be familiar with these Acts, rules and regulations. Cases studies could be asked based on the above.

After this based on the aforesaid, we come to a case study based on the hotly debated and ever evolving domain of RTI also exclusively made by Mr S K Mishra. It also has an informed way of looking at the question pattern in the mains exam.

CASE STUDY - 1

You are heading a leading technical institute of the country. The institute is planning to convene an interview panel shortly under your chairmanship for selection of the post of professors. A few days before the interview, you get a call from the Personal Secretary (PS) of a senior government functionary seeking your intervention in favour of the selection of a close relative of the functionary for this post. The PS also informs you that he is aware of the long pending and urgent proposals of your institute for grant of funds for modernization, which are awaiting the functionary's approval. He assures you that he would get these proposals cleared. (20 marks | 250 words)

1. What are the options available to you?
2. Evaluate each of these options and choose the option which you would adopt, giving reasons.

Option 1: Accept the Personal secretary request, but this will be an unethical and unconstitutional step as the person will be discriminating between the candidates.

Option 2: Politely explain the Personal Secretary that Interview will be taken by the panel, thus he can't help him.

Option 3: He should directly say no to the Personal secretary as this is against the official norms. He should tell PS that the procedure of interview is transparent and if his relative is eligible for the post of professor, he will definitely be selected for it, even without favour. Further the grant of funds for institution is an official act and legal course of action should be taken to avail it.

CASE STUDY - 2

As a senior officer in the Finance Ministry, you have access to some confidential and crucial information about policy decisions that the Government is about to announce. These decisions are likely to have far-reaching impact on the housing and construction industry. If the builders have access to this information beforehand, they can make huge profits. One of the builders has done a lot of quality work for the Government and is known to be close to your immediate superior, who asks you to disclose this information to the said builder. (20 marks | 250 words)

1. What are the options available to you?
2. Evaluate each of these options and choose the option which you would adopt, giving reasons.

Option 1: The officer will disclose the information to the builder. But this will be an unethical and unofficial act. Government reports and files are confidential and their confidentiality has to be maintained according to the service rules. Nepotism and favouritism are strictly prohibited in official acts.

Option 2: The officer may ask for a written permission from the senior for disclosing the information to the builder. As according to the service rules, the direction of the official superior

shall ordinarily be in writing. Oral direction to subordinates shall be avoided, as far as possible. Where the issue of oral direction becomes unavoidable, the official superior shall confirm it in writing immediately thereafter.

Option 3: The officer should straight-forward reject the request of the superior to disclose the information to the said builder, stating it is against the norms of an organisation.

Correct course of action: The officer should not disclose the information to the builder as this will have an effect on the exchequer of the government. He should respectfully say no to the superior.

CASE STUDY - 3

You are the Executive Director of an upcoming InfoTech Company which is making a name for itself in the market.

Mr. A, who is a star performer, is heading the marketing team. In a short period of one year, he has helped in doubling the revenues as well as creating a high brand equity for the Company so much so that you are thinking of promoting him. However, you have been receiving information from many corners about his attitude towards the female colleagues; particularly his habit of making loose comments on women. In addition, he regularly sends indecent SMS's to all the team members including his female colleagues.

One day, late in the evening, Mrs. X, who is one of Mr. A's team members, comes to you visibly disturbed. She complains against the continued misconduct of Mr. A, who has been making undesirable advances towards her and has even tried to touch her inappropriately in his cabin. She tenders her resignation and leaves your office. (20 marks | 250 words)

1. What are the options available to you?
2. Evaluate each of these options and choose the option you would adopt, giving reasons.

Option 1: After receiving the complaint, Executive Director should take prompt action

against Mr. A. He should appoint a three member committee as per the sexual harassment at workplace act. The members should be independent and inquiry should be done neutrally. Both the sides should be given chance for explanation. Decision should be taken after analysing all the evidences.

Option 2: Executive Director may ask for resignation from Mr. A. But reasonable opportunity of being heard should be given to Mr. A.

Correct course of action: A committee should be set to inquire about the complaint independently. Further steps should be taken to avoid the situation in future.



CURRENT AFFAIRS — "THE PILLAR"

Current Affairs for GS is an area which is by far the most important aspect of the GS paper and also perhaps the most difficult area to master. Important, because most of the questions whether they are in the prelims or the mains draw their inspiration from what is happening in the current affairs, and difficult because of its vastness and difficulty in identifying what is important and what is not.

An important dimension to issues of current relevance is-Understanding the importance of current relevance will also help in prioritizing the syllabic content and directing your energy towards most rewarding topics. (Remember the universal advice by almost all successful candidates that "It is not important how much you are studying rather what you are studying is more important.")

For example the topics mentioned like Salient features of world's Physical Geography, Contribution of moral thinkers and philosophers from India and world are limitless topics as far as breadth of topics is concerned. Similarly, many topics like Philosophical basis of governance and probity, role of civil services in democracy, human values -lessons from the lives and teachings of great leaders, reformers and administrators, concept of ethics, attitude and aptitude etc. are limitless as far as the depth of topics is concerned.

In such a scenario, one who is aware of happenings in surroundings can smartly chose the areas that need to be focused. For example because there was a recent issue in South China Sea over the sovereignty, one should not forget to see the important geographic features of area concerned. But overstretching the above criterion will again lead to problem of plenty, because invariably every region of world must be witnessing some important event at one time or another. In such a scenario, issues that have direct repercussions on interest of India must be focused, rather than important issues of general nature. For example in row over South china sea, vital interest of India were at stake because it is a major trade route and OVL had interest in oil exploration in same area.

Apart from this, the new syllabus explicitly mentions several topics which can be dealt only with a current affairs approach. For example, in GS paper-II, devolution of power and finances up to local levels and challenges therein, Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation, Development processes and the development industry, Issues relating to development and management of Social Sector, Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India's interests and Effect of policies and politics of developed and developing countries on India's interests are some areas which have to be studied in current relevance only.

In GS paper-III, we have chapters like Inclusive growth and issues arising from it, e-technology in the aid of farmers, Science and Technology- developments and their applications and effects in everyday life, Linkages between development and spread of extremism, Challenges to internal security through communication networks, role of media and social networking sites in internal security challenges, etc. which must be read in the light of recent developments in the respective fields only.

Even in the newly introduced GS paper-IV, we find many topics which are required to be studied in the light of recent happenings and which are meant to judge the student's awareness level for the society he lives in. These topics include Emotional intelligence- their utilities and application in administration and governance, ethical issues in international relations and funding and Information sharing and transparency in government among others.

Now let us come to the "how to tackle the vastness of current affairs" part.

Most students have been found to be complaining that they have not been able to recall and reproduce whatever they have studied in the current affairs in the sense that the factual part which is useful in the prelims cannot be recalled and the analytical part

which is useful in the mains cannot be related and incorporated in the descriptive answers. However the factual versus conceptual demand for GS is now an outdated story. Concepts are paramount. People have been suggesting several strategies to prepare for current affairs but very few people have really decoded the challenge. Those who manage to do so, are success stories now.

Though every person may have his own way to deal with the challenge, yet by far all the toppers concur on certain important aspects. Firstly, the preparation of the current affairs is not a separate activity carried out in isolation with other topics, rather the concepts in all other areas together contribute both to the understanding and the relevance of whatever we study in current affairs.

Secondly the study of current affairs has to be essentially based on those issues which are of contemporary importance nationally as well as internationally. This is by far the most important aspect of studying current affairs. This alone shall ensure that whatever is studied is not only methodically arranged in the mind but is also logically reproduced in the exam. By adopting this approach a student can even create his personal notes extensively replete with references for current happenings on all the major issues of the time. However this approach is best carried out only when a student is thorough with all the concepts across the various disciplines and is in a position to identify the areas where these concepts overlap and contribute to enrich the overall understanding. Once this happens the student automatically develops the ability of identifying issues and sub-issues within the issues which on the one hand reduces the vastness of studying current affairs and on the other makes the study more methodical, enriched and easily reproducible as now he can easily relate facts and events to issues and quote them at appropriate places.

Despite all this, a student will find that there are still some questions both in the prelims as well as in the mains examination which he does not know anything about. First of all, one must never get discouraged by such questions as no matter how well you study there will always be some areas which will remain uncharted. Even the toppers do not write answers to all the questions. The important point is to minimize rather than eliminate the number of questions you do not know because that is what which makes the difference in a competitive examination. Further whatever you write you must write well i.e. to say that whatever answers you write, you must try to make sure that you have given it the widest and most lucid treatment, within the boundaries of what is being asked in the question. Even in the preliminary exam the demand for current affairs and contemporary issues are at the higher end.

Lastly, every serious candidate must try to develop a healthy group from among his peers, where he can discuss the various issues he has read and studied about. Such group discussions not only help in fine-tuning the understanding as various ideas come to forth for analysis but also allows for introduction to newer facts and perspectives along with a revision of already developed concepts and knowledge bytes. However in course of these group discussions, the participants should essentially ensure that it is carried out in a healthy spirit rather than becoming a platform for settling personal scores and mouthing ego clashes, because such discussions will lead to nothing but wasting of your precious time. Most of the toppers have had the opportunity to become a part of productive and serious groups, to which they all attribute a measurable part of their success.

Make a deliberate attempt to try these techniques and you will surely find definite improvement coming your way.



ANSWER WRITING

Nurture the asset of writing for success

Any word on writing strategy in the civil services examination could mean writing on facts only too well known. That you should write legibly and clearly within the prescribed word limits and to the point without beating around the bush, are the facts only too well known and need no repetition.

What however, needs to be mentioned here is that before beginning to write an answer, the question should be read properly. This is a well known fact, yet it needs to be repeated because not reading questions properly is the most common mistake made by a candidate, whatever may be the cause of that: lack of concentration, haste or just a habit. Perhaps the reason for that kind of mistake is the psychological tendency to see and read what we wish to see and read. A candidate may have prepared a topic and luckily the question comes from that topic. However, the language of the question asked and the answer required is different from what the candidate had anticipated. Nonetheless, seeing the question from that topic, the candidate concludes that the same question that he had anticipated has come, and begins writing the answer without verifying the question again. A simple remedy for those who have been committing this kind of mistake is to read the question more than once and, in fact, the first 5 to 10 minutes in the mains should be given for reading the questions and deciding upon which question you wish to answer first. Therefore, make it a point to go through the questions properly.

Writing Style

Next, what should be the style of writing the answer? Style of writing is a personal matter. In the civil services examination, it is expected that the candidates will write precisely and to the point. Economy of words and depth of understanding are expected of the candidates.

In a sense, if you follow the questions correctly you would probably know how precisely you can answer the questions. For instance, questions have instructions at the top,

at times. And within questions, often you will find a clear cut direction on the nature of answer to be provided by the candidates. If the question says, "Give reasons for and against," and if you start writing in the point form giving reasons in favour and reasons against, without anything more e.g. introduction etc., your answer if relevant should be considered good. But if you write your answer in the discussion style which does not distinctly clarify points in favour and against, you have clearly not followed the question and in all likelihood you will lose marks for the same. Similarly, the question will clearly state you to 'Discuss', 'Explain', 'Explain How or Why', etc., and you should be particularly careful in noting the phrase used in the question, and must answer, accordingly. Here are some clues for various 'tails' generally found with the questions in the main examination, so that you should be aware of the broad meaning of each.

Elucidate/Explain: It refers to making the statement plain. In fact you have to explain it in such a way that it becomes intelligible.

Comment: It implies that you give a written remark, giving opinion or elucidating an event, a person, a situation, etc.

Examine: It refers to inspecting something closely and bringing out facts i.e. you bring "to light various aspects of the given statement.

Critically examine: It means inspecting closely and forming or expressing judgment. The latter is of greater relevance here. It may also include comparisons and contrasts.

Discuss: It refers to writing about something i.e. you are supposed to write about the various aspects of the given statement.

Analyse: It refers to taking various facts or parts of a given statement into consideration and bringing to light its nature or structure, you take each part one by one and examine.

Amplify: It refers to elaborating the statement. You add details, make it fuller.

Illustrate: It refers to explaining or making clear by giving examples.

Often, candidates to the civil services examination have a query whether the paragraph or the point form should be adopted in writing answers. There is no hard and fast rule to follow. Mostly, the question itself makes clear as to what form is to be adopted. If the question asks you to discuss or analyse, you naturally can give your best in the paragraph or essay style. Nonetheless, there are candidates, who even in these questions use the point format and lose their marks. Perhaps, they reckon the loss won't be greater, had they adopted a discussion or analytical style of writing because of their poor language ability. But, it is expected of the UPSC candidates that they will be able to express themselves. And secondly, your language is only of secondary importance in the general studies and optional papers. You need not be the master of language to write an answer well. Therefore, if you are able to express yourself to the extent that the examiner can read and understand your answer, all is well. In that case you must adopt the analytical writing style, wherever the question demands that.

But the question does not always expect an analysis. For instance, in the question 'what are the advantages of sending men to space', examiner does not expect from you an analytical answer. "what" in the question makes that clear, and you are merely expected to point out the advantages, which can be done best in the point form.

There are, at times, compelling circumstances where point form becomes a wiser choice, and obviously so when you are hard pressed for time. For instance, suppose you have only fifteen or twenty minutes left and three complete or even two complete questions are left to be answered, you, obviously, have no choice but to adopt the point format. At least your answers will be complete and you will not lose as much marks as you might have, if you had left your answers incomplete. Also, at times you may have a lot of ideas on a particular question since you have prepared well, but you could inadvertently exceed the number of words required by a wide margin. In that case a combination of point and paragraph style even in an analytical question saves you completely from out of the word limit predicament.

Let us consider some Questions asked in UPSC Mains and Model hints for them:

1. Mushrooming of Higher Educational Institutions was a matter of grave concern for Yashpal Committee. With reference to the relevant portion of that report give your views how to harmonise private investment and quality of education.

The model answer to such questions should be structured as follows:

- Write about the genesis of Yashpal Committee.
 - After this, mention that portion of the report that deals with the private investment "in education particularly the higher education.
 - Then write about the need for the PPP model in education.
 - Since in the beginning the critical word "mushrooming" is used, also present a brief critical analysis of the 'for-profit' model of private universities in India at present and how this could be prevented by better regulation and facilitation.
2. In the changing context of governance in the country, what should be the role of the UPSC?

You should answer the above type of question in the following manner:

- Start from the Constitutional role that is allocated for UPSC.
 - After this, write the present state of New Public administration and how the society needs managers rather than administrators: facilitator rather than supervisor.
 - Elaborate on the new governance model in which the State is limiting itself from the non-core areas and is concentrating on central governance areas. In this elucidate the new recruiting model that can be imbibed by the Commission so that the newly selected bureaucrats are up for the job. Note of caution: Do not be overtly critical to any Constitutional-institution in such types of question. Appreciate the limited mandate that each institution has got and how they are producing their best result in that.
3. Write notes on any three of the following (in about 150 words each).

(a) India's strategic interests in South Asia.

The model answer to such questions should be structured as follows:

- Evolution of strategic interest in India regarding South Asia.
- Briefly discuss the pragmatic approach that the nation is now pursuing in its foreign affairs.
- Talk about the mineral, Hydro electricity, and oil and NG from this region naming also the respective nation that basically fulfils the respective needs. As today's strategic interest revolves around energy security, so talk about it more.

(b) China's 'peaceful rise' doctrine.

Your model answer to this question must be structured as given:

- What is the concept of 'peaceful rise'?
- China's historical rise and how it has evolved from the Mao Zedong times till Hu Jintao.
- The soft diplomacy that China is now increasingly playing in the region as well as in global institution.
- Also talk about the responsibility that comes with power and how China is walking on that line.

(c) India's 'Soft' and 'Hard' power strategy in foreign policy.

For model answer to this question you must focus on the following aspects:

- A brief discussion regarding the IR-how IR can be pragmatically categorized in these

two categories.

- Evolution of India's IR and foreign policy from the Nehruvian era to the present times- a brief discussion.
- Economical rise of India and how this is used emphatically and is affecting the foreign policy arena.
- Idealistic approach to foreign policy giving space to pragmatic approach.
- Future trend that can be logically deduced from the evolution in foreign policy.

(d) Critically assess the recent FTA entered into by India with ASEAN.

Any good model answer to such questions must be structured on the following lines:

- What is FTA?
 - Indo-ASEAN trade in the context of FTA- its terms and conditions.
 - How it will affect the internal market particularly the palm oil and the spices of South India.
4. 'In the WTO negotiation over the years of DOHA rounds, India appears to be diluting its stand on agriculture issues to pursue perceived gains in services' Critically, examine this statement.

For model answer to this question you must focus on the following aspects:

- Show the inherent strength of India's negotiation power at the global forum and while critically examining state that India is always thinking about its concern particularly for the agricultural sector.



CHANGE IN CONTINUITY

Expansion of existing pattern.....

*Though prima facie, it seems that UPSC has completely overhauled the hitherto existing pattern and syllabus of GS in mains exam, a deep insight into the matter reveals otherwise. The new syllabus of GS is merely an extension of the old syllabus especially the first three papers. This can be inferred if we delve deeper into the questions already asked in the previous examinations. It is quite implicit that the questions asked earlier have strong correlation with the new syllabus-the only difference being that in the new scheme some extra chapters have been added. **Also the inclination of the new syllabus is very contemporary.***

Let us have a look at the questions in different sections of GS in earlier mains examinations.....

1

MODERN INDIA AND FREEDOM STRUGGLE

1. Defying the barriers of age, gender and religion, the Indian women became the torch bearer during the struggle for freedom in India. Discuss. (2013) (200 words)
2. Several foreigners made India their homeland and participated in various movements. Analyze their role in the Indian struggle for freedom. (2013) (200 words)
3. In many ways, Lord Dalhousie was the founder of modern India. Elaborate. (2013) (200 words)
4. "The emergence of new social classes in British India was the direct consequence of the establishment of new social economy, new state system, administrative machinery and Western education." Discuss. (2008)(150 words)
5. "British vision of India had no single coherent set of ideas. On the contrary, the ideas were shot through with contradictions and inconsistencies." Discuss. (2008)(150 words)
6. "Non-Cooperation Movement gave new direction and energy to the National Movement. (2008)(150 words)
7. "Many Englishmen honestly consider themselves the trustees for India and yet to what condition they have reduced our country."(2009) (150 words)
8. "The foreign power will be withdrawn but for me real freedom will come only when we free ourselves of the dominance of western education, western culture and the western way of living which have been engrained in us." (2009) (150 words)
9. "Satan cannot enter till he finds a flaw. a great ocean separates us educated from the millions in our country."(2009) (150 words)
10. "Dalhousie's predecessors had acted on the general principles of avoiding annexation, if these could be avoided. Dalhousie acted on the principles of annexation, if he could do so legitimately. His annexations were both of war and peace." Analyse. (150 words) (2010)
11. Trace the salient sequence of events in the popular revolt that took place in February 1946 in the then 'Royal Indian Navy' and bring out its significance in the freedom struggle. Do you agree with the view that the sailors who took part in this revolt were some of the unsung heroes "of the freedom struggle? (250 words) (2011)
12. Evaluate the influence of the three important women's organizations of the early twentieth century in India on the country's society and politics. To what extent do you think were the social objectives of these organizations constrained by their political objectives? (250 words) (2011)

2 MARKERS:

1. Lakshmi Bai, Rani of Jhansi (2008)
2. Ilbert Bill (2008)
3. Lala Har Dayal (2008)
4. Vaikom Satyagraha (2008)
5. Indian State Commission (2008)
6. Megasthenes (2008)
7. Chouth and Sardeshmuki (2008)
8. Poona Sarvajanik Sabha (2008)
9. Kiang Nongbah (2009)
10. 'Egmore Faction' (2009)
11. Haileybury College (2009)
12. Ijara System (2009)
13. Taji Mideren (2009)
14. Gurudwara Reform Movement (2009)
15. Contributions of Latika Ghosh to the freedom struggle. (2010)
16. Bhai Maharaj Singh as a freedom fighter. (2010)

CULTURE

1. Discuss the Tandava dance as recorded in the early Indian inscriptions. (2013) (100 words)
2. Chola architecture represents a high watermark in the evolution of temple architecture. Discuss. (2013) (100 words)
3. List the salient features of the important folk dances of either Central India or North Eastern India.
4. What are the important similarities and differences between the Hindustani and the Carnatic styles of classical music?
5. Trace the significant steps in the evolu-

tion of television in the country. (150 words) (2009)

6. While bringing out their salient features, distinguish between either 'Madhubani' Art and 'Manjusha' Art or 'Rajasthani' schools of painting and the 'Pahari' school of painting. (150 WORDS) (2010)
7. Distinguish either between the 'Moatsu' and 'Yemshe' festivals of Nagaland or the 'Losar' and 'Khan' festivals of Arunachal Pradesh.
8. What are the major different styles of unglazed pottery making in India?
9. List the classical dance forms of India as per the Sangeet Natak Akademi.
10. The 'flute-playing Krishna' theme is very popular in Indian art. Discuss. (150 words) (15 marks)
11. What are the groups into which musical instruments in India have traditionally been classified? (5 marks)
12. Comment on the significance of fire in Zoroastrianism. (5 marks)

2 MARKER

1. 'Ram Sethu' (2008)
2. Brihadeshwara Temple, Tanjore (2008)
3. Perini Shivatandavam (2008)
4. Allasani peddana (2008)
5. Golkonda fort (2008)
6. Chisthi silsila (2008)
7. Bodhisattva (2008)
8. Maski (2009)
9. Govind Guru (2009)
10. 'Brahmadeya' (2009)
11. 'Marumakkathayam' (2009)



SALIENT FEATURES OF GEOGRAPHY

1. What do you understand by the theory of continental drift? Discuss the prominent evidences in its support. (2013) (100 words)
2. The recent cyclone on the east coast of India was called "Phailin". How are the tropical cyclones named across the world? Elaborate.(2013) (100 words)
3. Bring out the causes for the formation of heat islands in the urban habitat of the world. (2013) (100 words)
4. Major hot deserts in northern hemisphere are located between 20-30 degree north and on the western side of the continents. Why? (2013) (200 words)
5. The winter rains in North India are largely related to jet Streams and Western Disturbances. Bring out the relationship. (2008) (150 words)
6. Agricultural productivity in india remains low. Explain the reasons for this situation. (2008) (150 words)
7. Assess the significance of coastal regions in the economic development of india. (2009)
8. Buckingham canal (20 words) (2008)
9. Terai region (20 words) (2008)
10. Organic farming (20 words) (2008)
11. Demographic dividend (20 words) (2008)
12. Nor'westers (20 words) (2008)
13. Discuss the wetlands and their role in ecological conservation in India. (2009)
14. Elaborate the steps taken by the Government for regionally differentiated approach to increase crop production and diversification in the country. (2009)
15. Bring out the significance of the various activities of the Indian Meteorological Department. (2009)
16. Examine the status of urbanization among the states in India and bring out spatial inequalities. (2009)
17. Barren Island (30 words) (2009)
18. "Small holder farms need to be strengthened to achieve national food security." Do you agree with this assessment? Substantiate. (150 words) (2010)
19. Comment on the special components in urban solid waste management in the country. (150 words) (2010)
20. List the significant local storms of the hot-weather season in the country and bring out their socio-economic impact. (150 words) (2010)
21. List any eight 'Ramsar' wetland sites located in India. What is the 'Montreux Record' and what Indian sites are included in this Record? (150 words) (2010)
22. Are the 'Dedicated Freight Corridor' railway project and the 'Golden Quadrilateral' road project mutually complementary or competitive? Assess. (150 words) (2010)
23. The impact of climate change on water resources in India. (150 words) (2011)
24. The significance of counter-urbanisation in the improvement of metropolitan cities in India. (150 words)(2011)
25. Problems specific to the denotified and nomadic tribes in India. (150 words) (2011)
26. Examine the causes and the extent of 'desertification' in India and suggest remedial measures. (250 words) (25 marks). (2012)



CONSTITUTION, POLITY & GOVERNANCE

1. The role of individual MPs (Members of Parliament) has diminished over the years and as a result healthy constructive debates on policy issues are not usually witnessed. How far can this be attributed to the anti-defection law, which was legislated but with a different intention? (2013) (200 words)
2. The Supreme Court of India keeps a check on arbitrary power of the Parliament in amending the Constitution.' Discuss critically. (2013) (200 words)
3. Constitutional mechanisms to resolve the inter-state water disputes have failed to address and solve the problems. Is the failure due to structural or process inadequacy or both? Discuss. (2013) (200 words)
4. What is meant by 'judicial activism'? Evaluate its role in the context of the functioning of Indian polity. (250 words) (2008)
5. Discuss the major extra-constitutional factors influencing the federal polity in India. (250 words) (2008)
6. Enumerate the Fundamental Duties incorporated in the Constitution after the 42nd amendment. (150 words) (2008)
7. Examine the demand for greater state autonomy and its impact on the smooth "functioning of Indian polity. (150 words) (2008)
8. Discuss the composition and functions of the Union Public Service Commission. (150 words) (2008)
9. Do you think there is a need for a review of the Indian Constitution? Justify your view. (250 words) (2008)
10. Examine the role of caste in Indian politics. (150 words) (2008)
11. Discuss the problems in achieving National Integration in India. (150 words) (2008)
12. Examine the impact of Regional Political Parties in Indian Politics. (150 words) (2008)
13. What are your views on the features and impact of the Domestic Violence Act, 2005? (2009) (150 words)
14. Are the traditional determinants of voting behavior in India changing? Examine in the context of the last General Elections. (150 words)
15. Examine corruption as a serious development challenge in Indian Polity. (150 words)
16. "Disputes between the riparian states on sharing of river waters in post-Independence India are becoming increasingly complex." Objectively analyse the major disputes in this connection, with special reference to the Southern States. (250 words) (2010)
17. With respect to Cooperative Societies, what are the salient features of the 106th and 111th Constitutional Amendment Bills as at present? (150 words) (2010)
18. What are the grounds of disqualification of a Member of Parliament from either House? Quote relevant provisions in your answer. (150 words) (2010)
19. Legislative powers assigned to the Rajya Sabha under Art. 249 and Art. 312 of the Constitution. (5 marker) (2010)
20. Bring out the powers and responsibilities attached to the office of the Speaker of the Lok Sabha. (150 words) (2010)
21. How is disagreement between the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly of a State in passing of an ordinary Bill, resolved? (5 marks) (2010)

22. 'Essentially all that is contained in Part IV-A of the Constitution is just a codification of tasks integral to the Indian way of life.' Critically examine this statement. (250 words) (2011)

23. 'The exercise of executive clemency is not a privilege but is based on several principles, and discretion has to be exercised in public considerations.' Analyse this statement in the context of the judicial powers of the President of India. (250 words) (2011)

24. Bring out the salient features of the PCPNDT Act, 1994, and the implications of its amendment in 2003. (250 words) (2011)

25. Evolution of 'Green Benches' in our higher judiciary. (150 words) (2011)

26. Distinction between 'Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committees' and 'Parliamentary Forums'. (150 words) (2011)

27. Composition and functions of the National Executive Committee of the National Disaster Management Authority. (50 words) (2011)

28. The Bihar Special Courts Act, 2009 and why it has been in the news recently? (50 words) (2011)

29. The Union Cabinet recently cleared the proposal to rename and amend the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986. What are the salient features of the proposed amendments?

(150 words) (15 marks).

30. What are the salient features of the Consumer Protection (Amendment) Bill, 2011 introduced in the Lok Sabha in December 2011? (150 words) (15 marks).

31. What are the Rights within the ambit of Article 21 of the Indian Constitution? (5 marks)

2 MARKERS (2008)

1. What is censure motion?
2. Distinguish between the auditing and accounting functions of the CAG of India.
3. Distinguish between a starred question and an un-starred one asked in the Parliament.
4. What is contempt of Parliament?
5. What were the two major considerations to have the Governor appointed and not elected?
6. MTP act
7. Supreme Court on Ragging
8. M.M. Punchi Commission

2 MARKER (2009)

- A. Significance of 26th November in the country's polity.
- B. Pocket veto.
- C. PESA, 1996.



NATIONAL ISSUES, DEVELOPMENTAL ISSUES & SOCIAL JUSTICE

(i) The Indian economy and issues relating to planning, mobilization of resources, growth, development and employment.

1. With a consideration towards the strategy of inclusive growth, the new companies bill, 2013 has indirectly made CSR a mandatory obligation. Discuss the challenges expected in its implementation in right earnest. Also discuss other provisions in the bill and their implications. (2013) (200 words)
2. What are the reasons for introduction of Fiscal responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) act, 2003? Discuss critically its salient features and their effectiveness. (2013) (200 words)
3. What is meaning of the term tax-expenditure? Taking housing sector as an example, discuss how it influences budgetary policies of the government. (2013) (200 words)
4. What are the different types of agriculture subsidies given to farmers at the national and state levels? Critically analyze the agriculture subsidy regime with the reference to the distortions created by it.
5. Comment on the relationship between credit availability and agricultural growth in India. (2007)
6. Bring out the main objective of Rastriya Krishi Bima Yojana. The scheme is being implemented by which agency? (2007)
7. Explain Mega Food Park Scheme of Government of India. (2007)
8. Bring the pros and cons of Special Economic Zones. (2008)(150 words)
9. Assistance to the States for development of Export Infrastructure and other Activities (ASIDE) (150 words)(2008)
10. Critically examine the differing estimates for (i) poverty figures and (ii) GDP growth data for April-June 2010, that have been

in the news recently. In your view, what estimates are more reflective of the ground reality, and why? (250 words) (2010)

11. Assess the contributions made by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) in agricultural development. (150 words) (2010)
12. After the September 1st changes, do you think that Unit Linked Insurance Plans (ULIPs) and Mutual Funds (MFs) are on a level playing field? Substantiate your answer from the perspective of an ordinary investor. (150 words) (2010)
13. What do you understand by 'repo rate' and 'reverse repo rate'? What are the implications in raising these rates? (150 words) (2010)
14. "Cost-benefit analysis should not be the sole consideration, while deciding to host events like the Commonwealth Games." Critically comment on this perspective. (150 words) (2010)
15. Comment on the recent HFC 23 emissions controversy that includes in its ambit some Indian companies. (5 marker) (2010)
16. National Investment Fund (2 marker) (2010)
17. Highlight the structure, objectives and role of the Advertising Standards Council of India. In what way has the August 2006 government notification made it more effective? (250 words) (2011)

(ii) Issues arising from the social and economic exclusion.

1. Food security bill is expected to eliminate hunger and malnutrition in India. Critically discuss various apprehensions in its effective implementation along with the concerns it has generated in WTO. (2013) (200 words)
2. Establish the relationship between land reform, agriculture productivity and elimination of poverty in Indian Economy. Discussion the difficulty in designing and

- implementation of the agriculture friendly land reforms in India. (2013) (200 words)
3. "Globalisation has brought about a distinct class divide in India instead of ushering in a classless society." Critically examine this argument. (2008) (250 words)
 4. "The conditions of Urban poor are more deplorable than that of their rural counterparts." Give your views. (2008) (250 words)
 5. Examine whether rural women in India have been empowered by their active participation in Panchayati Raj System. (150 words) (2008)
 6. Mushrooming of higher educational institutions was a matter of grave concern for Yaspal Committee. With reference to the relevant portion of that report give your views how to harmonise private investment and quality of education. (2009)(150 words)
 7. Comment on the salient features of the recent draft Model Real Estate (Regulation of Development) Act of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation of the Central Government. (150 words) (2010)
 8. Comment on the recommendations of the Wadhwa Commission on the Public Distribution System. (5 marker)(2010)
 9. Critically examine the design of the National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) scheme. Do you think it has a better chance of success than the Swarnajayanti Gram Swarajgar Yojana (SGSY) in achieving its objectives? (250 words)(2011)
 10. Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS). (150 words)(2011)
 11. Benefits and potential drawbacks of 'cash-transfers' to 'Below Poverty Line' (BPL) households. (150 words)(2011)
 12. New initiatives during the 11th Five Year Plan in the National Programme for Control of Blindness (NPCB). (150 words)(2011)
 13. Why the Central Statistics Office has notified a new series of Consumer Price Index from this year? (50 words)(2011)
 14. What do you understand by the term "Innovation"? Discuss the need for launching a national innovation policy in India. (25 marks)
 15. Keeping in view the informal sector's share in the total workforce of the country, critically examine the relevant inclusive measures initiated by the Government of India and their effectiveness. (25 marks)
- (iii) Other issues relating to the development and management of human resource.**
1. In the changing context of governance in the country, what should be the role of the UPSC?(2009)(150 words)
 2. Distinguish between the objectives, structure and functioning of the 'Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan' and the 'Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti'. (150 words) (2010)
 3. "Upliftment of the neglected sections of society will be best served with many more centres of the Indira Gandhi National Tribal University." Expand on the assertion made. (150 words) (2010)
 4. The first-aid that you can safely administer to a person standing next to you at the bus-stop who suddenly faints. (50 words) (2011)
- (iv) Health issues including Public Health, Health education and Ethical Concerns.**
1. Identify the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) that are related to health. Discuss the success of the actions taken by the Government for achieving the same. (2013) (200 words)
 2. "Decline in the sex ratio in India is an alarming sign for India's future social development." Discuss. (150 words)(2008)
 3. The last National Family Health Survey (NFHS) displayed a very dismal picture of nutrition as regards several indicators for average Indians. Highlight the salient aspects of this problem.(150 words)(2009)
 4. The Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) approach to sanitation. (50 WORDS)(2011)
- (v) Law enforcement, internal security and preservation of communal harmony.**
1. Cyber warfare is considered by some defense analysts to be a larger threat than

even Al Qaeda or terrorism. What do you understand by Cyber warfare? Outline the cyber threats which India is vulnerable to and bring out the state of the country's preparedness to deal with the same.? (2013) (200 words)

2. What are social networking site and what security implications do these sites present?(2013) (200 words)
3. What, in your opinion, are the causes of terrorism? Suggest suitable measures to deal with the threat of terrorism in India. (250 words)(2008)
4. In the context of recent incidents , suggest measures on how security of passenger and property can be improved over Indian railways.(2009)(150 words)

(vi) Issues relating to good governance, human rights, and public probity.

1. Discussion the various social problems which originated out of the speedy process of urbanization in India. (2013) (200 words)
2. Critically examine the effects of globalization on the aged population in India. (2013) (200 words)
3. Impact of globalization on state system and its institutions (2007)
4. What should be the role of the media to project 'mass reality' in place of illusion of reality'? (150 words)(2008)
5. 'As we live in a plural society we need the greatest freedom to express our opinions even if others find it offensive'-do you agree? Discuss with reference to some recent incidents in the Indian context.(150 words)(2009)
6. You arrive first at the scene where a bus accident has just occurred. What emergency measures should you immediately and safely adopt? (5 marker) (2010)
7. E-governance initiatives by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC). (50 words) (2011)

(vii) Environmental issues, ecological pres-

ervation, conservation of natural resources and national heritage.

1. What are the consequences of illegal mining? Discuss the ministry of environment and forests' concept of "GO AND NO GO" zones for coal mining.? (2013) (200 words)
2. Enumerate the National Water Policy of India. Taking river Ganges as an example, discuss the strategies which may be adopted for river water pollution control and management. What are the legal provisions for management and handling of hazardous wastes in India?(2013) (200 words)
3. What is the meaning and aim of social forestry? What are the main weaknesses noticed in social forestry programme? (2007)
4. Explain the phenomenon of ozone depletion, its cause and effects. What efforts are needed to reduce it? (2007)
5. What do you understanding by the term 'biodiversity'? Examine the cause and consequence of degeneration of biodiversity? (2007)
6. Bring out the salient features of the evolution and the current status of the 'Bharat Stage' vehicle emission norms in the country. (150 words) (2010)
7. What are the salient features of the National Oil Spill Disaster Contingency Plan? (5 marker) (2010)
8. Phase-IV of the Tiger Monitoring Programme in India. (50 words) (2011)
9. In the context of the growing demands for the ban of Endosulfan in the country, critically examine the issues involved. What, in your view, should be done in the matter? (25 marks)
10. The issue of tourism in core areas of tiger reserve forests in the country is a subject matter of debate. Critically examine various aspects of this issue, keeping in view relevant recent judicial pronouncements. (25 marks)



1. The proposed withdrawal of International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) from Afghanistan in 2014 is fraught with major security implications for the countries of the region. Examine in light of the fact that India is faced with a plethora of challenges and needs to safeguard its own strategic interests. (2013) (200 words)
2. What do you understand by The String of Pearls'? How does it impact India? Briefly outline the steps taken by India to counter this.(2013) (200 words)
3. Economic ties between India and Japan while growing in the recent years are still far below their potential. Elucidate the policy constraints which are inhibiting this growth.(2013) (200 words)
4. Indo-Bhutan relations (2008) (150 words)
5. India and China : Strategy to Boost Ties (2008) (150 words)
6. India's ocean development policy (20 words) (2008)
7. Major hurdles in Indo-Pak ties (20 words) (2008)
8. India-Bangladesh Border Road cum Fencing (20 words) (2008)
9. India's strategic interests in South Asia. (150 words) (2009)
10. China's 'peaceful rise' doctrine (150 words) (2009)
11. Your views on the recent 'Gilgit-Baltistan empowerment and Self-Governance Order 2009'(50 words)
12. Wakan corridor (50 words)
13. National Security Advisory Board (NSAB) (50 words)
14. Geopolitics and Geostrategy(50 words)
15. Critically examine the implications of the disintegration of the Soviet Union on India's security and responses would you suggest in India's foreign policy to accommodate these implications.(250 words) (2010)
16. Assess the contributions of Indian diaspora in the Caribbean. (150 words) (2010)
17. Do you agree with the view that Israel is a 'natural ally' of India? (150 words)(2010)
18. Examine the recent developments towards the solutions of the Bangladesh-Myanmar maritime boundary dispute. What implications do these have for India? (150 words) (2010)
19. What are the major capacity-building and reconstruction projects being undertaken by India in Afghanistan? (150 words) (2010)
20. Comment on the reason for the recent hike in visa processing fees for certain categories of US visas. What is the likely impact of this hike on India? (50 words) (2010)
21. Highlight the role of the Indian peace-keeping contingent as part of MONUSCO. (50 words) (2010)
22. List the salient features of the Riyadh declaration and the bilateral agreements between India and Saudi Arabia signed earlier this year.23. Measures taken by the Indian government to combat piracy in the Indian Ocean. (paper 1) (150 words) (2011)
24. List the central Asian Republics and identify those of particular strategic and economic importance to India. Examine the opportunities and bottlenecks in enhancing "relations with these countries. (250 words) (2011)

25. Critically examine the security and strategic implications of the so-called 'string of pearls theory' for India. (250 words) (2011)
26. Subsequent to the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) waiver in 2008, what are the agreements on nuclear energy that India has signed with different countries? (150 words) (2011)
27. Trace the progress of India's efforts for a joint counter-terrorism strategy with China. What are the likely implications of the recent Xinjiang violence on these efforts? (150 words) (2011)
28. What are the salient features of the political and economic relationship between India and South Africa? (150 words) (2011)
29. Do you think that China's emergence as one of the largest trading partners of India had adversely affected the settlement of the outstanding border problem? (25 marks)
30. Discuss the contentious issues that have caused the prolonged constitutional log-

jam in Nepal. (25 marks)

31. "The situation today is far different to that prevalent fifty years back when the Indus Water Treaty was signed." Highlight the complexity of the current challenges on both sides of the border in this regard. Do you think that a review of the Treaty is in India's best interests? (25 marks)

2 MARKERS (2008)

1. Pravasi Bharatiya Divas
2. Council for Promotion of Overseas Employment (CPOE)
3. Overseas Citizenship of India (OCI) Scheme
4. Indian Diaspora in Singapore
5. Indian Diaspora and Bollywood

2 MARKERS (2008)

1. Look East Policy and North-East India
2. India at the Beijing Olympics
3. India's role in Afghanistan Today



INDIA'S ECONOMIC INTERACTION WITH THE WORLD

1. The World Bank and the IMF, collectively known as the Bretton Woods Institutions, are the two inter-governmental pillars supporting the structure of the world's economic and financial order. Superficially, the World Bank and the IMF exhibit many common characteristics, yet their role, functions and mandate are distinctly different. Elucidate. (2013) (200 words)
 2. Discuss India's stand on agricultural issues in WTO's Ministerial Conferences since Doha Round. (250 words) (2008)
 3. Convertibility of Indian Rupee (150 words) (2008)
 4. India and Global Competitiveness Index-2007. (150 words) (2008)
- 2 MARKERS (2008)**

 - A. Special Drawing Rights (SDR)
 - B. NAMA
 - C. Non-tariff Trade Barriers
 - D. Current Account Balance
 - E. Free Trade Area
 - F. Indo-EU Economic Ties
5. How far has the impact of the global meltdown been reflected in the Economic Survey 2008-09? Identify some of the core areas given priority to neutralize the adverse effect of the global downturn. (2009) (250 words)
 6. Indo-Bhutan trade relations (50 words) (2009)
 7. Sino-Myanmar relations (50 words) (2009)
 8. "foreign investment is far from being critical to India's economic growth." (200 words) (2009)
 9. "the lesson of the current global financial crisis is that India should halt and may be even reverse financial liberalization." (200 words) (2009)
 10. "in the WTO negotiations over the years of the DOHA round, India appears to be diluting its stand on agriculture issues to pursue perceived gains in services." Critically examine. (200 words) (2009)
 11. Discuss the Indo-US knowledge initiative in agriculture. (200 words) (2009)
 12. Evaluate the greater prospects for greater economic co-operation between India and China. (200 words) (2009)
 13. Does India need the World Bank? (200 words) (2009)
 14. Critically assess the recent Free Trade Agreement entered into by India with ASEAN. (200 words) (2009)
 15. Bring out the sectoral and state-wise distribution patterns of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows into the country. (5 marker) (2010)
 16. Evaluate India's approach towards meeting the country's growing energy demands. Compare the success of this approach with that of another Asian giant which has perhaps the fastest growing energy demand. (250 WORDS) (2010)
 17. Bring out the FDI and employment implications of China being a manufacturing hub and India a services hub. (150 words) (2010)
 18. Have the Uruguay Round negotiations and the resultant Trade Related Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) agreement helped in resolving trade conflicts arising out of variations in different nations' IPR regimes? Also list the steps taken by India to conform to TRIPS. (150 words) (2010)
 19. Bring out the significance of GDI and GEM as components of the UN's Human Development Report (HDR). Comment on India's relative rankings with regard to HDI and FDI. (50 words) (2010)
 20. What is 'Round Tripping' in the context of FDI inflow, and why has it been in the

- news recently in the case of India? (50 words) (2010)
21. "Compared to the South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA), the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation Free Trade Area (BIMSTEC FTA) seems to be more promising." Critically evaluate. (250 words) (2011)
22. Bring out the importance of the 'Small and Medium Enterprises Expo and Conference' held in Dubai last year for Indian business. (150 words) (2011)
22. Discuss the globalization of R&D and its impact on India's development. Provide an illustration from at least one sector such as Information Technology or Health. (25 marks)
23. Why have the resource rich African and South Asian countries remained poor for decades? Explain. (15 marks)
24. Why is international trade perceived to have failed to act as an "engine of growth" in many developing countries including India? (10 marks)



In this part, questions will test the candidate's awareness of the developments in the field of science and technology, information technology, space and basic ideas about computers, robotics, nanotechnology, biotechnology and related issues regarding intellectual property rights.

1. India's L.C.A (Tejas)(20 words)(2008)
2. In what way 'Medical Biotechnology' and 'Bioengineering' are useful for technological development of india? (250 words) (2008)
3. What do you know about Indian National Satellite Systems? Describe its important features. (250 words)(2008)
4. Internet Protocol Television (IPTV) (150 words) (2008)
5. Spintronics(150 words) (2008)
6. Wi-Fi (150 words) (2008)
7. Components of Robots(150 words) (2008)

2 MARKERS (2008)

1. Copyright and Trade Mark
2. TIFAC
3. Aspartame
4. Gene doping
5. Sappa

2 MARKER (IN PAPER 1)(2010)

- A. Chandrayaan-II
- B. Agni-V
- C. 'Aerostat' balloon

30 WORDS (2009)

1. Artificial sun
2. 'Vegetable gold'
3. PFCs and 'liquid breathing'
4. The 'P-8A Poseidon'
5. Biometric ATMs
6. Extra Vehicular Activity(EVA)
7. Nuclear submarine 'ARIHANT'

11. What do you understand by 'bio-signatures'? (150 words) (2009)
12. Write about Green Fluorescence Protein (GFP) and its applications. (150 words) (2009)
13. Define 'bioinformatics'. How does it work?How many servicing missions have been conducted for it? (150 words) (2009)
14. DNA finger printing and its utility.(100 words) (2009)
15. What is 'nanotech'? Give a brief account of its basic concepts, materials used and applications. (100 words) (2009)
16. What is "Graphene"? Mention at least three of its applications. (100 words)(2009)
17. Why tele-medicine is important for countries like India? (100 words) (2009)
18. Bring out the applications of computer models in studying climate changes, with special reference to the Community Earth System Model (CESM). (150 words) (2010)
19. What is phytoremediation? Discuss its applications. (150 words) (2010)
20. Explain and differentiate among 'Plasma', 'LCD' and 'LED' television technologies. (150 words) (2010)
21. What is 'cloud computing'? Bring out its essential features and list its advantages and limitations. (150 words) (2010)
22. Discuss the applications of nano-technology in the health care sector. (150 words) (2010)

50 WORDS (2010)

- (a) MRSA infection
- (b) HRP-2M Chromet
- (c) Maglev vehicles
- (d) Super absorbent polymers (SAP)
- (e) Ginkgo biloba
- (f) CARTOSAT-2B
- (g) Various generations of mobile phone technology.

50 WORDS (2011) (PAPER 1)

- a. Nisarga Runa Technology of BARC
- b. The Kaveri K-10 aero-engine.
- c. Molecular breast Imaging (MBI) technology

50 WORDS (2011) (PAPER 2)

- (a) International Year of Chemistry
- (b) The scourge of e-waste
- (c) 'Designer' poultry eggs
- (d) INSPIRE programme of the Department of Science and Technology
- (e) The 'Kessler syndrome' with reference to space debris
- (f) Omega-3 fatty acids in our food
- (g) Difference between 'spin-drying' and 'tumble-drying' technology with reference to drying of washed clothes
- (h) The diminishing population of vultures
 - (i) 'Arsenic-bug' and the significance of its discovery
 - (j) F-22 'Raptor' aircraft
- (k) 'Concentrated' solar energy and 'photo-voltaic' solar energy
- (l) Analog, hybrid and IP systems in CCTV technology
- (m) Various application of Kevlar
- (n) Differences between Compact Disc (CD), Digital Versatile Disc (DVD) and Blu-ray Disc.

TWO LINERS (NEW MODEL FROM 2011)

- (a) Tiangong-1
- (b) K-computer
- (c) Gliese 581 g
- (d) MABEL robot
- (e) 'Operation Shady Rat'
- (f) 'SAGA-220'
- (g) 'Billion Acts of Green'
- (h) L'Aquila earthquake
- (i) OPERA detector at Gran Sasso
- (j) Saturn's Titan

2012

1. The human population is slated to grow to 9 billion by 2050. In this context, many scientists predict that plant genomics would play a critical role in keeping out hunger and preserving the environment. Explain. (25 marks)
2. In the context of Assisted Reproductive Technologies, India has emerged as a hub of commercial surrogacy. What key biological, legal and ethical issues merit consideration while framing the regulation to govern surrogacy in India? (10 marks)
3. Despite strict prohibitory regulations, "doping" has become increasingly common amongst athletes. Name five commonly used performance-enhancing drugs. What are the risks associated with their use? (10 marks)
4. The safe landing of the "Curiosity" Rover under NASA's space programme has sparked many possibilities. What are those and how could humankind benefit from them? (10 marks)
5. What is Permaculture? Give at least three common examples where permaculture concepts are being put to use. (10 marks)
6. The Sequoia supercomputer was launched this year. What are its specific features and what is its purpose? (5 marks)
7. The Human Papilloma Virus vaccine has been making the headlines in the recent months. Who make the ideal candidates for receiving this vaccine and what are its benefits? (5 marks)

2013

1. What is an FRP composite material? How are they manufactured? Discuss their applications in aviation and automobile industry. (2013) (200 words)
2. How does the 3D printing technology work? List out the advantages and disadvantages of the technology. (2013) (200 words)
3. What is digital signature? What does its authentication mean? Give various salient built in features of a digital signature. (2013) (200 words) ■ ■

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS & WORLD AFFAIRS AFFECTING INDIA

This part will include questions on important events in world affairs and on international institutions.

1. India and East Asia Summit (EAS) (2007)
2. Shanghai Cooperation Organization, (S.C.O.) (2007)
3. Relevance of NAM. (2007)
4. Indian All-Women Contingent to Liberia (2007)
5. SAARC Summit 2007
6. The UN conference on Environment and Development (The Earth Summit) (2007)
7. G-8 Summit 2007
8. ICT4D (2007)
9. BEMs (2007)
10. BIMSTEC (2007)
11. ECJ (2007)
12. Global Governance (2007)
13. India and the New World Order (2008) (150 words)
14. India-Nigeria : Abuja declaration (20 words) (2008)
15. IPCC Report on Global Warming (20 words) (2008)
16. South-South cooperation (150 words) (2008)
17. Universal Declaration of Human Rights (150 words) (2008)
18. India-USA as strategic partners (2009)
19. Ethnic conflicts in South Asia (2009)
20. 'NEPAD' and its objectives. (2009)
21. How far have Japan's principles of Hikaku San Gensoku impacted bilateral ties with India? (150 words) (2010)
22. Compare and contrast the role of the IMF and reconstruction projects being undertaken by India in Afghanistan?
23. In the context of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), distinguish between 'Annex I' and 'Annex II' countries. (50 words) (2010)
24. Comment on the reasons for the recent economic crisis in the so-called 'PIGS' countries of Europe. (50 words) (2010)
25. Examine the opportunities for a lasting West Asia peace solution in the context of the 'historic' talks started in September 2010. (150 words) (2010)
26. Has the February agreement between the Sudanese government and the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) been more successful in ending the strife in Darfur than the Abuja peace agreement of 2006? Evaluate. (150 words) (2010)
27. Comment on the present status of the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC). What important issues, do you think, need to be taken up at the seventh review conference of the BWC scheduled for 2011? (150 words) (2010)
28. "The causes and implications of the Jasmine Revolution and its spread are as much economic in nature as they are political." Critically examine. (250 words) (2011)
29. In the context of eurozone debt crisis, examine the proposed 'six-pack' solution. Do you think that this has a better chance of success than the earlier Stability and Growth Pact? (250 words) (2011)

2 MARKERS

- (a) G.C.C.
- (b) G-77
- (c) I.C.R.C.
- (d) MERCOSUR
- (e) INTERPOL

30. "As regards the increasing rates of melting of Arctic Sea ice, the interests of the Arctic Council nations may not coincide with those of the wider world." Explain. (150 words) (2011)
31. "Strategic interests seem to be replacing commercial interests for the host country with regard to Cam Ranh Bay." Amplify. (150 words) (2011)
32. To what extent has the withdrawal of al-Shabab from Mogadishu given peace a real chance in Somalia? Assess. (150 words) (2011)
33. Is there still a role for the concept of balance of power in contemporary international politics? Discuss. (150 words) (2011)

50 WORDS (2010)

- (a) Rotterdam Convention
- (b) The Mavi Marmara incident
- (c) Significance of the Kampala declaration of the International Criminal Court (ICC)
- (d) Trial chamber of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC) and its recent verdict.

50 WORDS (2011)

- (a) Functions of the World Customs Organisation (WCO)
- (b) Success of international intervention in Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast) and its drug cartels
- (d) World Food Programme (WFP) of the United Nations (UN)
- (e) Sculpture of the broken chair in front of the UN building at Geneva

TWO LINERS

- (a) 'News International' Newspaper
- (b) Mustafa Abdul-Jalil
- (c) Abel Kirui
- (d) Natalie Portman
- (e) Nawaf Salam

TWO SENTENCE ANSWERS: 2010

- (a) Craig Venter
- (b) Shahrar Amiri
- (c) Wolfram Alpha
- (d) 'Dreamliner' aircraft
- (e) Blue gene project
- (f) Predator' drones
- (g) 'Deepwater Horizon' incident
- (h) ACTN 3 gene

2011

- (a) Lieutenant Navdeep Singh
- (b) Rahim Fahimuddin Dagar
- (c) Lobsang Sangay
- (d) Nileema Mishra
- (e) V. Tejeswini Bai
- (f) Aishwarya Narkar

2012

1. Does Putin's return as President of Russia mark a shift to a confrontationist stance in international diplomacy towards the West? (15 marks)
2. Analyse critically the interlinkages between the Convention on Biological Diversity and FAO Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. (15 marks)
3. Critically review the international concern in achieving the targets set for the Millennium Development Goals. (15 marks)
4. What is meant by the G8+5 groups? (5 marks)
5. Explain the concepts "Environmental Sustainability" and "Sustainable Development of People". (5 marks)
6. Explain briefly the "Clean Development Mechanism" as provided under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). (5 marks)



SUPPLEMENTARY READINGS

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN POLITICS & GOVERNANCE

- Growing regionalism
- Women reservation
- The issue of Reservation
- Lokpal and lokayukta
- Accountability and control:
- Citizen's Charters;
- Right to health, food
- e-governance
- Constitutionalism
- Political culture
- NHRC: Composition, nature and functions and its relevance
- 2nd Administrative Reform Commission
- The issue of Police reforms
- Coalition politics
- Pressure groups in India
- Pros and cons of smaller states
- Conflict between FR's and DPSP's
- judges accountability
- judicial activism
- Dual role of governor and its criticism
- Constitutional provisions : powers given to civil servants and its criticism
- Union and state services commission: reforms required
- Administrative tribunals : their criticism and utility
- Electoral reforms
- Role of chief election commissioner and appointment
- Criminalization of politics
- Corruption : role of vigilance commission and CBI
- Good governance
- Ethics in politics
- Role of parliament and its criticism
- Civil society
- Minorities issues
- Balance between judiciary, legislature and executive
- Legislative, Executive and Judicial control over administration
- Citizens and Administration

- Role of media, interest groups, voluntary organizations;
- Right to Information
- Social audit

Issues relating to the development and management of human resource

- Indian demographic dividend
- Skilled labour demand
- Migration and brain drain
- Brain Gain
- Entrepreneurial Development Initiative
- Constitutional provision related to HDR
- Education
- * Deficiency in the State capacity to cater to HDR of more than 450 mn youths
- * National education policy
- Gender equity in HDR

GOVERNMENT BUDGETING

- Budget-meaning
- Characteristic of budget
- Functions of budget
- Classification of budget
- Evolution of budgeting in India
- Principle of budgeting
- Budgetary Process
- Budgetary cycle
- Recent trends
- Performance budgeting and Zero base budgeting

SALIENT FEATURES OF WORLD PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY

- Earth Structure
- Landforms
- Weathering & Erosion
- Drainage System & Patterns
- Atmosphere
- World Climates
- Natural Vegetation
- World Soils
- Hydrosphere
- Natural Resource
- World Minerals

- World Industries
- World Energy Resources
- World Transport

SALIENT FEATURES OF INDIAN GEOGRAPHY

India as geographical unit

- India's location
- Land and water frontiers : china , Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Pakistan, Sri Lanka
- Geo politics and significance of strategic position of India
- Political divisions

Physiographical features

- Geological regions of India
- The Himalayan mountains
- The great plains of north India
- The peninsular plateau
- Coastal plains
- Indian islands

Drainage system

- Himalayan river system : Indus river system, Ganga river system, Brahmaputra river system
- The peninsular drainage : east and west flowing rivers
- Their Significance

Climate

- Factors influencing the climate
- The Indian monsoon : mechanism, monsoon winds, theories behind wind reversals, factors effecting monsoon winds and its movement
- Seasons : winter, summer, rainy and cool
- Climatic regions of India
- Annual rainfall and its features
- Peculiarities and significance of Indian climate

Soils of India

- Soil formation
Major soils of India : character , uses , disadvantages
- Soil erosion : types , factors leading to erosion
- Soil conservation : methods and significance

Natural vegetation and wildlife

- Factors effecting vegetation
- Classification of natural vegetation
- Area under forest cover

- **Deforestation** : reasons , consequences
- Forest conservation
- Wildlife and its preservation

Indian population

- **Indian census** : features , process , data from 2001, census 2011
- Comparison with other countries
- Religious, ethnic and caste based composition
- Migration patterns
- Rural settlements and trend in urbanization
- Human development

Resources of India

- **Water resources**: surface water , ground water , interlinking of rivers , national water grid , water disputes , water scarcity and conservation
- **Livestock** : distribution of livestock , livestock products and related industries
- **Fisheries** : fresh water and marine fisheries , development programme
- **Mineral resources** : mining process , mineral distribution and mineral belts , types of minerals , atomic minerals , conservation of resources
- **Energy resources** : conventional resources (their origin, reserves, types, conservation), oilfields, Electricity(types, conservation), oilfields, Electricity(types, non-conventional energy sources(types, effective utilization, importance and government projects)

Multipurpose projects

Major projects, advantages and “disadvantages, criticism, government “policy

Manufacturing industries

Historical perspective, government policy and planning, factors influencing location, major industrial belts, types of industries “(textile, machine etc.)

Transport

- I. **LAND**: Indian railways, Konkan railways, metro rail, roads and their classification
- II. **AIR**: airways, airports
- III. **WATER**: water transport, national waterways, shipping, ports
- IV. **Pipelines**

Tourism

Types of tourism, problems and prospects

Natural hazards and disasters

ENVIRONMENT

Natural Resources Conservations

Conservation of Forests; Conservation of Soil; Conservation of Water; Conservation of Wild Life; Conservation of Energy Resources

Energy & Environment

Fossil Fuels and Environment ;Fuel Energy and Need for Sensible Use ; Renewable Energy ;Bio-Mass Energy ; Solar Energy for Rural India; Technology and energy ; National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency.

Environmental Crisis

Forms of Environmental Crisis ; Causes of Environmental Crisis (case studies) ; Environmental Conservation ; Initiatives taken by the government (programmes); Air Pollution ; Water Pollution ; Oil Pollution at sea ; Radio-active Pollution ; Role of Government in Combating Pollution; Land Degradation: Desertification; Modern Agriculture; Soil Problem in India; Wetlands Management

Environmental Hazards

Earthquakes; Cyclonic Storms; Floods; Landslide; Landslide Zones; Drought; Biological disasters; Disaster mitigation, etc

Forests & Environment

Indian Scenario; Need for Conservation of Forests; Scope of Forest Management; Social Forestry; Agro-Forestry; Silviculture and different initiatives; National Forest Report.

Loss of Biodiversity

- Meaning, consequences, steps taken, conventions held, Indian scenario; Special projects for endangered species; Mangrove; National Bio-diversity Strategy and Action Plan and recent developments

Climate Change

- Ozone depletion - causes, consequences and remedies
- Green House effect
- Kyoto protocol
- Montreal protocol
- Earth summit
- UNFCCC
- Nagoya protocol

Wetland, Ramsar Convention

Organizational structure to deal with at National & International level.

Issues relating to environmental pollution; Principles of environmental impact assessment and environmental management; Environmental degradation; Deforestation, desertification and soil erosion; Environmental awareness;

- Coral reefs
- Bioreserves
- National parks and wildlife sanctuaries
- Weather forecast
- Ocean research

Ecological & Environmental Jurisprudence

- What is environment and ecological jurisdiction and jurisprudence?
- Need for such jurisdiction in context of present times
- Environmental jurisdiction in India-from 1972 till today with the Forest Dwellers Rights Act
- Evolution of environmental jurisdiction in India from colonial rule @ Forest rights act 1927 till the present times
- Flora and Fauna conservation
- National Green Tribunal
- Green Economy and legal assistance provided to it
- Green royalty demanded by forested States
- Environmental jurisdiction models in other developed nations
- Green Budgeting

DISASTER AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT

- Meaning and classification of Disasters
- Disaster Management Cycle
- Disaster Management - Recent trends
- Disaster preparedness, Indian context

- Disaster prevention
- Vulnerability analysis and Risk assessment
- Resource Analysis and Mobilisation
- Disaster Mitigation
- Community based disaster management
- Search, Rescue and Evacuation
- Temporary shelter, ware housing and stockpiling
- Distribution of Relief Material
- Emergency Operation System (Centre) EOC
- Damage assessment
- Rehabilitation and Reconstruction
- National Disaster Management Act 2005

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY & ITS IMPACT ON SOCIETY

- History of Science and Technology
- Social Realities and Institutions of India
- Inter-relationship Between Science and Technology
- Impact of Technology
- Man-Made Hazards (Pollution of Environment)
- Technology and Productivity
- Technology, Culture and Social Changes
- Technology, Economy and Society Behavioural Linkage
- Policy Application with Human Face for the Future Development
- Scientific revolution
- Indian society and scientific temper
- Impact of the scientific revolution
- Industrial revolution and its social effect
- Advances in the field of transportation, communication and electronics
- Warfare
- Advances in medicine and biotechnology and their effect

Biotechnology and Health Issues

- ❖ **Biotechnology**
- Basics, History
- Application and significance
- Limitations, environmental concerns
- Ethical Issues
- Different projects
- Genome Projects
- Stem Cell Projects
- Genetically modified Plants and animals
- Genetic finger printing

❖ **Diseases**

- Major out breaks(Swine flue, AIDS, Poliomyelitis)
- Vaccines, Patent issues
- Research, developments
- Health scenario in India
- ❖ Public health Management, Health Education, ethical concerns regarding Healthcare, Drug trials, Euthanasia, medical research, pharmaceuticals.

INDIAN ECONOMY

Planning in India

- Evolution of planning- its meaning, nature and types
- Strategies of Indian Planning- democratic socialism, heavy industry, wage-good model, N-M model, PURA, common minimum programme and inclusive growth
- Role of state in different types of economy
- Organizational setup (planning commission, NDC and others)
- Resource mobilization for the Plans
- Trends seen in 11 (1951-2012) five year plans in terms of economic growth, poverty reduction and equality achieved.
- Appraisal of 11th Five Year Plan
- 12th five year plan and its target
- Mid-term appraisal of 12th Plan
- Planning in the era of globalization
- State vs Market debate
- Achievements and failure of 65 years of Planning
- Concept of inclusive growth

Money and banking sector

- History of Indian banking
- Reserve Bank of India (composition, functions)
- Monetary and credit policy and the need to separate from debt function of RBI
- Reforms in banking sector
- Global financial crisis and the Banking sector
- Commercial banks and their classification
- Cooperative and regional banks
- Debt recovery tribunals
- Indian banks abroad

- Various schemes
- Financial institutions of India (IDBI, SIDBI, NABARD , ICICI , IFCI , UTI , IDFC and others)
- Insurance sector (reforms , LIC and others)
- Inflation and deflation(meaning , causes, monetary and fiscal measures , present status)
- Money stock measures in India
- Approved Indian stock exchanges
- SEBI
- On line trading in share markets
- Foreign exchange markets
- Micro finance in India and financial inclusion

Public finance

- Tax structure in India
- Reforms in taxation(reports and recommendation)
- Different types of taxes in India (VAT , GST , MAT, others)
- Financial relation between centre and state
- 13th finance commission
- FRBM act
- Money laundering

Industry

- Economic reforms of 1991 and new industrial policy
- Different type of industries (textile, iron, petroleum etc.)
- Public sector and its role in Indian economy
- Public sector vs Private sector
- Small industries(SME development act 2006)
- Industrial sickness and steps taken
- Maharatnas, navratnas and miniratnas
- Different acts (MRTP act, competition act)
- Pension reforms
- Industrial finance
- Labour issues

Foreign trade

- History and features of Indian trade with outside world (changes after economic reforms)
- Composition and direction of trade
- Foreign trade policy

- Safeguards to Indian industries
- Indian trade with SAARC, ASEAN, EU, MERCOSUR and other trading blocs
- Special Economic Zones
- Agricultural Export Zones
- Foreign investments in India and steps taken to enhance it
- India's balance of payment and steps taken to improve it
- India and WTO- TRIPS, TRIMS. GATS
- Foreign exchange reserves of India and its utilization
- Convertibility of Indian rupee and its implications
- Imports liberalization
- Financial assistance from outside world
- Global Financial Crisis- genesis, causes and impact, and decoupling thesis
- India and G-20

Major Development Programmes of India

- Employment in organized and unorganized sector
- Infrastructure development schemes
- Rural employment schemes
- Women, SC, ST and OBC development and empowerment schemes
- Schemes for capacity generation (health, education and skill development)
- Area development schemes
- Poverty reduction and insurance schemes
- Schemes for public distribution of food articles

Miscellaneous issues

- share market scams
- reforms in world financial institutions
- global financial meltdown and its implications on India
- parallel economy & black money
- inflation in food prices
- FDI in retail sector
- upcoming policies
- subsidies rationalization
- disinvestment of PSU'S
- The need to re-define poverty lines in India and various poverty estimates of committee- Tendulkar, N C Saxena Committee
- Services sector- is it sustainable?
- Basel-2 norms and Indian financial sector

- India's energy diplomacy
- Non-banking financial companies and the need to regulate it
- Inequality in India

MODERN INDIA & FREEDOM STRUGGLE

British economic policy

- Three phase of economic exploitation
- Drain of wealth
- The land revenue settlements : permanent settlement, ryotwari settlement, mahalwari settlement
- commercialisation of agriculture

Economic impact of the British rule

- Deindustrialization,
- Economic impact of revenue settlement: impoverishment of peasantry, stagnation in agriculture, rural indebtedness, rise of new landlordism,
- poverty and famine : british famine policy
- development of modern industries
- development of railroad and communication network, telegraph, postal services

Evolution of British Paramourncy

Social and Cultural developments

- Social and Cultural policies of the british
- Education: orientalist-anglicist controversy, introduction of western education, British policies and different committees.
- Official social reform measures
- Rise of press literature and public opinion

Social and Religious reform movements in India

- Rammohan roy and the Brahmo movement
- Devendranath tagore, Iswarchand vidyasagar
- Prarthana movement
- The young Bengal movement
- Dayanand sarawati and the Arya samaj
- The Ramkrishna movement
- The Theosophical movement
- Muslim religious reform movements, Wahabi movement, Aligarh movement, Deoband movement,
- Sikh reform movement

- Parsi reform movement.

Peasant movements and Tribal uprisings

- Peasant movements and tribal uprisings in the 18th and 19th centuries: Rangpur dhing, Kol rebellion, Mopla rebellion, Santhal hool, Indigo rebellion, Deccan uprising, Munda ulgulan etc.,
- The shift in the character of peasant uprisings in the post-1857 period
- Peasant movements of the 1920s and 1930s, the Kisan sabha movement

The Great revolt of 1857

- Origin and Character
- The beginning and spread of the mutiny
- Causes of failure
- Impact of the revolt
- Nature of the movement: the revolt as the war of independence, Nationalist character of the revolt.
- Administrative and military changes after the revolt

The Early phase of National Movement

- Factors leading to the birth of Indian nationalism
- Political associations
- Foundation of INC: safety-valve theory, programme and objectives
- Work of the moderates, economic nationalism
- Evaluation of early nationalists
- British attitude towards the congress

The Extremists

- Causes for the rise of extremism
- Extremist leaders: objectives and methods
- Partition of Bengal
- Swadeshi movement: boycott of goods, national education, labour unrest, samities
- Evaluation of the swadeshi movement

The Revolutionaries

- Causes for the rise of revolutionary extremism
- Revolutionary activities in Bengal, Punjab, Maharashtra, Madras
- Revolutionary activities outside India: the Gadar movement
- Revolutionary activities after Non-cooperation movement: Bhagat singh, HRA, HSRA, Surya sen

- The nature of revolutionary activities: limitations and contributions

The Home Rule Movement

- Events leading to the formation of Home Rule Leagues
- Tilak's and Annie Besant's home rule league
- The Lucknow session of congress

Nationalist movement under mahatma Gandhi (1915-1922)

- Rise of Gandhi
- Character of gandhian nationalism
- Champaran, Ahmedabad and Kheda
- Rowlatt satyagrah
- The Khilafat and Noncooperation movement: causes for launching "the movement, social composition, regional variation, the Chauri chaura incident
- Controversy after the withdrawal of NCM

Swarajists: 1922-1929

- background
- objectives and aims of swaraj party
- work of the swaraj party
- decline of swaraj party
- constructive work

Civil Disobedience Movement

- Background : simon commission, Butler Committee, the Nehru report, the round table conference
- Causes for launching the movement
- The Dandi march and responses
- The Gandhi - Irwin pact
- The Karachi session of the congress
- The second round table conference
- Second phase of civil disobedience movement
- Government repression

Election of 1937

- Formation of congress ministries
- Work of congress ministries
- The crisis at Tripuri

Indian nationalism during world war II

- Attitude towards the war
- August offer
- Individual satyagraha
- Cripps mission

The Quit India Movement

- Background of the movement
- Responses, trends, repression
- The underground movement

Indian National Army and RIN Mutiny

Rise of the left

- Causes for the rise of the left
- The left wing parties, The CPI,
- The left within the congress: Jawaharlal Nehru , Subhas Chandra Bose
- The Congress Socialist Party

Post war developments

- Shimla conference
- Elections
- The Cabinet mission
- 3rd June Plan
- Formation of Interim Government

Rise of Communalism

- What is communalism?
- Causes for the rise of communalism
- The Muslim League
- The Hindu Mahasabha
- Muslim's League Direct Action
- Communalism and Partition of India
- Congress and Partition

The Working class movement: Integration of States

The Indian Capitalist and Nationalist Movement

- Brief introduction to the Governor Generals and viceroys
- Personalities from History
- INC Session in brief
- Newspapers and journals
- Thoughts of Gandhi, Nehru and Tagore among others
- Culture of India with special focus of dance forms, art, architecture, music and personalities related to it.

INDIAN CULTURE & HERITAGE

- Modern and Essence of Culture
- Indian Culture
- Early Muslim Architecture
- Mughal India
- Modern Age Architecture
- Indian Cinema
- Role of NFDC
- Indian Crafts
- Dances
- Fashion
- Languages and their Distribution
- Indian Literature
- Media

- Indian Music
- Indian Painting
- Performing Arts

FOOD, AGRICULTURE, RELATED POLICY ISSUES, AND MARKET ECONOMY

- Major crops and cropping patterns in various parts of the country,
- Different types of irrigation and irrigation systems storage,
- Transport and marketing of agricultural produce and issues and related constraints;
- E-technology in the aid of farmers
- Issues related to direct and indirect farm subsidies and minimum support prices;
- Public Distribution System- objectives, functioning, limitations, revamping;
- Issues of buffer stocks and food security;
- Technology missions;
- Economics of animal-rearing.
- Food processing and related industries in India- scope and significance,
- Location, upstream and downstream requirements,
- Supply chain management.
- Green revolution, second green revolution
- Food production- food security-food distribution and related policy
- Regional disparity
- Modern agriculture
- Agricultural crisis & government efforts
- Organic farming
- GM food
- Hunger index
- Animal husbandry
- Agricultural revolutions-operation flood-yellow revolution-blue revolution
- Kisan credit
- Fishing in India
- Agricultural research
- Agrarian structure
- Types of farming
- Technology factor in agriculture
- The national policy for farmers 2007
- Institutional factors in agriculture
- Major issues in agri business
- Economic policy and agriculture
- Agriculture and environment

- Agriculture and poverty reduction
- Agriculture and food security
- Changing agrarian system
- Rethinking option for farmer and farming
- Reshaping food and agricultural policy
- Cooperative and cooperative farming
- Globalization and Indian agriculture
- Land utilization (net sown area, fallow lands, and others)
- Irrigation : importance, geographical factors determining type of irrigation, types, intensity of irrigation

LAND REFORMS IN INDIA

- Land structure in ancient India
- Post-Independence Agrarian Policy
- Different phases of land reforms
- Implementation of land reforms-some problems
- Impact of land reforms
- Political culture and land reforms
- Land records
- Time frame
- Procedural problems
- Recent initiatives of Government of India and of State Governments

GLOBALIZATION

- The tri band of globalization: transference, transformation, and transcendence
- Globalization and India
- Positive and negative aspects
- Current trend
- Globalization and neo-liberal economic reforms in India
- Globalization and terrorism

CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS

Security issues

- Internal armed conflict in India
- Common feature of Insurgency
- External involvement
- Status of current conflict—naxal, north east etc
- Civil instrument of force
- Army engagement to internal security operations
- Pattern of government response to the problem
- Law enforcement, preservation of

communal harmony: regionalism, communalism, cross border terrorism, police reforms, unrest in the north east

- Law Enforcement Vs Law Compliance
- Justice Vs Law
- Internal disturbance Vs External threats
- Internal disturbances in the North East areas
- AFSPA-Its analysis and examination
- Role of agencies like the IB, NIA and RAW in the heightened status of internal security threats

Other national issues

- Issues relating to good governance and accountability to the citizens including the maintenance of human rights, and of probity in public life : right to information act, administrative reforms, e-governance, important bills and acts passed
- Issues arising from the social and economic exclusion of large sections from the benefits of development : inequalities, poverty, unemployment
- Environmental issues, ecological preservation, conservation of natural resources and national heritage : wildlife projects launched, features of Indian culture, art, drama, music, dances, historical monuments, rivers, cinema and others.
- Indian economy and issues relating to planning, mobilization of resources, growth, development and employment: inclusive growth, agricultural sector, government policy and new schemes, latest budgets (proposals and implications)
- Issues relating to the development and management of human resource: education sector, vocational training and skill development, surveys and reports
- Health issues : disease outbreaks, health services provided by government, expenditure on health services
- National commissions, authorities and committees

International issues

- Relation between major powers like US-China, US-Russia, Russia-China, Russia-NATO, US-Europe, etc

- International level summits like G-20 summit, G-8 summit, West Asia Summit, SCO summit, etc.
- The reports like Human Development Report, Transparency International Report, World Investment Report, etc
- International organizations like United Nations, World Bank, IMF and reforms therein among others
- International peace and security related issues like global terrorism, Nuclear weapon related risk and international policies thereof like CTBT, NPT, FMCT, etc
- Globalization and changing dynamics of international relation and balance of power
- The role of information in international relation.
- Global financial crisis
- Reforms in world institutions : world bank, IMF, united nations
- Pollution controls
- Human rights violations in African nations and around the world
- Other events of relevance in some particular countries and at international level

International organizations and reports

- **Organizations** : World bank group, IMF, WTO, SAARC, ASEAN, OPEC, OECD, G-Groupings, European Union, MERCOSUR, APEC, UNCTAD, NATO, SCO, United Nations, IAEA , NSG, BRIC, IBSA, OPEC, WIPO, Commonwealth nations, red cross, amnesty international and their summits.
- **Reports** : Human Development Report, Corruption Report, World Bank Report, Economic Forum Report and others

SOCIAL ISSUES

Social Justice

Caste and Politics, Scheduled Caste and Backward Class Movements, Historical Perspectives, Modernisation & Caste, Democracy and the Underprivileged, Scheduled Tribes, Mandal Commission, The Other Backward Classes, Ameliorative Measures, Arguments in Favour of Reservation, Arguments Against Reservation, Social Development, Social Justice.

Social and Economic Exclusion (SEE)

- Are Social, Economic and Political Exclusion dependent on one another or are they mutually exclusive?

- Measures to remove SEE
- Programme and Policies of Government to eradicate SEE
- Why does programme fails?
- Reservation: is it a fair way to eradicate this or does it propagate it more?
- Way forward to build a mutually cohesive society

Capital Punishment

Death Penalty: a deterrent against crime? Death Penalty: not a deterrent against crime? 35th Report of the Law Commission on Capital Punishment, Modes of Execution.

Black Money

Extent of Black Money, Reasons for Black Money, Impact of Black Money, Measures to Control Black Money.

Drug Abuse

Substance Abuse, Historical Perspective, Reasons for Drug Abuse, Influencing Factors, Drug Addiction, Chemical Drug Dependency, Symptoms of Addiction, Behaviour of the Drug Addicts, Ill-effects of Drug Abuse, Ability to Resist Drugs, Recovery, Medical Treatment, World Scenario and India, Programmes for Primary Prevention, Government's Efforts, United Nations International Drug Control Programme, Thrust areas for the future.

Atrocities on Women

Dowry Death, Sexual Harassment, Rape, Female Foeticide and Infanticide, Kidnapping & Abduction, Domestic Violence, Violence Against Widows, Remedial Measures, Domestic Violence Act.

Child Labour

Definitional Inadequacy, ILO's Survey, Indian Scenario, Area of Distribution, Indian States, Nature and Issues, Politics on Child Labour, Child Work Vs Child Labour, Are all forms of child work bad?, Responsible Factors, Initiatives and steps, Necessity of Education, Scope of Planning, Work Regulation, Efforts, SC Direction.

Violence Against Children

Reforms Needed, ILO Report on Violence, Children Crime Trends, Responsible Factors, Constitutional provisions.

Juvenile Delinquency

Characteristics, Classification, Nature & Incidence, Types of Crime, Factors in Juvenile Crime, Methods of Treating, Institutions for Custody, Sociology of Juvenile Delinquency, Preventive Programmes.

Disabled

Constitutional Protection, Rehabilitation, Role of NGOs in Hope for the Disabled, Empowerment of Disabled.

Ageing

Demographic Transition in India, Current Scenario, Future Projections, UN Position on Ageing, National Policy, Old Age Pension

Human Rights

Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Human Rights in India, Areas of Human Rights, Terrorism and Insurgency, Child Marriage, Child Prostitution, Human Rights and Democratic Society, Indian Scenario, National Human Rights Commission, Protection of Human Rights Act -1993, State Human Rights Commission, Human Rights Court, Human Rights & Development.

Tribal India

Problems of Tribals, Tribals in an Urban Setting, Spread of Education, Change in Social Life, Approaches to Tribal Development.

Housing

Multifarious Dimensions, Measurement of Housing Demand, Socio-Economic Analysis of Housing in India, Present Scenario, Rural Housing, The Problem, Role of State and Society, Housing as Human Rights, The National Housing Policy, Programme Implementation, Indira Awas Yojana.

Displacement

Displacement in India, Development & Displacement, Tribals and Displacement, "Rehabilitation, Institutional Responses, Vital Measures.

Public Health

Determinants of Health, Changing Concepts of Public Health, Evolution of Modern Health System, Characteristics of an Ideal Health System, Challenges for the Health System in India, Strength of Indian Health System, Global Challenges to Public Health,

National Health Policy, Independent Commission on Health in India, Decaying Health Services.

Mental Health & Illness

Mental Health, Mental Illness, Types of Disorders, Social Change and Social Policy.

AIDS

Magnitude of AIDS/HIV Infection, Means of Transmitting HIV and High Risk Groups, Stages in the Development of the Disease, Implications, Caring for the HIV/AIDS Patients, Relation Between STDs and AIDS, Voluntary Organisations, Protective Programmes.

INDIA AND THE WORLD

Foreign Policy of India :

- Basic Principles
- Nehru's foreign policy
- India and Non Aligned Movement
- India and New world Order
- North-South Dialogue and South-South Cooperation
- New Economic order and India

India and UNO

- Need for reform of the UNO
- India's demand for permanent seat in the UNSC
- India's peace keeping operations

India's Nuclear policy , Security and Defense related matters

- India's nuclear doctrine
- India's stand on CTBT and NPT
- Pokharan I & II

INDIA'S BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH NEIGHBOURS

- Principles and objectives of India's foreign policy and changing world order
- India's relation with the neighbors : China, Pakistan, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Srilanka, Myanmar, Nepal, Afghanistan.
- Trust deficit with neighboring countries and instability in the subcontinent

India and Pakistan

- **Background:** the Kashmir issue, Bangladesh war and Shimla agreement, the Gujaral doctrine,

- **Current Relations:** Composite Dialogue process, New dispensation in Pakistan and the Peace Process
- Problems in restoration of friendly relations
- Terrorism and Indo-Pak Relations
- India, Pakistan and USA

India and Bangladesh

- Major Issues: Growth of Islamic Fundamentalism, Illegal Immigration, Border fencing Issue
- New democratic Government and future of Indo-Bangladesh Relations

India and Nepal

- Nepal's transition to Republic and India's role
- Demand for review of Indo-Nepal Treaty
- The Gorkha Issue
- The Madhesi Issue

India and Sri Lanka

- Ethnic conflict : causes and current development
- India's stand on the ethnic conflict
- Indo-Sri Lankan Accord
- Economic Cooperation
- Post LTTE Scenario

India and Myanmar

- Strategic importance
- Kaladan multimodal transit
- Stilwell Road

India and Bhutan

India and Afghanistan

- India's role in building Afghanistan
- Rise of Taliban and Pakistan's meddling
- USA's Af-Pak Policy and India

INDIA AND MAJOR POWERS OF THE WORLD

India and China

- Major Issues: Border issue, Tibet issue, Dispute over Sikkim
- China's strategic build up in India's neighbour
- Recent developments and Economic co-operation
- Vision document for 21st Century

India and Russia

- Background
- Developme
- Strategic Partnership

- Defense Cooperation
- New era of economic Relationship

India and USA

- Strategic relationship; causes for closing relationship
- Areas of Cooperation
- Impediments in Cooperation
- Indo-US Nuclear deal
- New President and India's Relation

India and Japan

- Causes for growing relations
- Economic Cooperation

India and Israel

- Areas of cooperation

India and Africa

INDIA AND REGIONAL ORGANIGATIONS

SAARC

- Objectives and performances
- SAFTA
- Problems and prospects
- Recent SAARC summit

ASEAN

- Background
- India's Look East Policy
- EAS
- Indo-ASEAN Relation

The EU

- Treaty of Rome
- Maastricht Treaty
- Machinery of the EU
- New Reform Treaty
- Indo-EU Relation

Miscellaneous

- IBSA Forum
- G8
- APEC
- India and WTO
- India and UN
- India and World Bank, IMF etc
- Regional trade agreements
- Look east policy
- Look west policy
- Middle east policy
- Oil diplomacy
- Trade diplomacy
- Focus Africa
- Emerging Partners
- Other organizations

THE INDIAN DIASPORA

- Indian Diaspora around the world and their role and significance
- Pravasi Bhartiya Divas
- Mini Bhartiya Pravasi Divas
- Important Personalities

