

# UPSC 2017: Comprehensive News Analysis “ Aug 16

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## Category: [SOCIAL ISSUES](#)

### 1. [Show collective will to build a New India, says Modi](#)

- PM asks the nation to embrace “Bharat jodo” slogan and reject “chaltha hai” attitude
- In the Independence Day speech, Prime Minister Narendra Modi drafted out the extensive outlines of a “New India” that will be independent of communalism, casteism, terrorism, corruption and nepotism.
- The period between 1942-47 was a key one for India’s struggle for independence so should the period of 2017-22 be for creating a “New India” with the same collective will, says PM Modi.

**Nothing here for Today!!!**

## Category: [INTERNAL SECURITY](#)

### 1. [Assam, Manipur can now decide on AFSPA](#)

- The Union Home Ministry is to give power to impose the “disturbed areas” tag on Assam and Manipur.
- States will be the deciding authority to either carry on the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act or annul it.
- The AFSPA authorizes the Army and forces positioned in “disturbed areas” to execute anyone violating the rule and detain and search any sites without warrant.

## Category: [ENVIRONMENT AND ECOLOGY](#)

### 1. [Human-avifauna conflict continues to escalate in Uppalapadu](#)

- A non-natural haven with a diversity of waterfowl has been center of a human-wildlife conflict.
- Many promises from the state government convinced the residents of the village to admit the birds and not to shew them away. But then after two decades, residents are annoyed with the false promises from the government.
- The exotic spotbilled (or Grey) pelicans, painted storks, ibises and many other birds were seen in this region.

## Category: [DISASTER MANAGEMENT](#)

### 1. [Living with the Deluge](#)

- PM declared Rs 2,000 crore package for post disaster management in the flood-affected Northeastern states.
- The series of flood disaster across the countries appeals for a shift in the focus from flood protection to flood governance.
- Rivers in the Northeast experience a sharp gradient along their course from Arunachal Pradesh and Bhutan to Assam’s floodplains thus carrying large amounts of sediments. When these get deposited reduces the river’s storage capacity along the channels. This in turn results in flood along the adjoining plains.

## Flood protection methods

- Embankments
- Storage dams
- Dredging rivers and bank strengthening
- Diversion canals
- Floodplains and groundwater replenishment

## Need of the hour

- Resilience across the affected areas through Flood governance
- Clean and safe Water and sanitation during the floods.
- Ensure access to health care and veterinary services.
- Due to the practice subsistence agriculture the land may remain swamped for a long duration in the monsoons. Hence correct irrigation services should be ensured.
- Reduce vulnerability
- Sustainable and balanced utilization of the resource
- Community-participation

Strong bodies and authorities similar to that of Brahmaputra Board and flood control departments are the need of the hour. These bodies should be staffed with scientists to incorporate scientific approach in disaster management.

## Category: SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### 1. [MasterCard mulls using blockchain tech](#)

- Mastercard looks ahead for a clearance from the regulatory framework in India as it is looking forward to incorporate blockchain technology into its operations .
- Presently an inter-ministerial committee is the authority to look into the regulation of blockchain technology.

## Blockchain Technology

- It is the technology behind crypto-currencies.
- Each block comprises of a hash pointer that acts as a link to a previous block. Along with those it comprises of a timestamp and transaction data.
- Blockchains are resistant technologies to modification of the data.

***Nothing here for Today!!!***

## E. Practice Questions for UPSC Prelims Exam

## F. UPSC Mains Practice Questions

### GS Paper II

1. The repeated tabling to craft an All-India Judicial Service (AIJS) similar to that of the All India Services (AIS) is creating endless debate since the recommendation by Law Commission in the 1950s.â€ Examine.

### GS Paper III

1. Repeated occurrences of floods bring up the question to shift the focus from relief measures to building resilience in flood-prone areas. Discuss.