



**VEDHIK**  
IAS ACADEMY  
*The New Learning Mantra*



# **VEDHIK**

## DAILY NEWS **ANALYSIS**

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## FOREWORD

We, at Team Vedhik is happy to introduce a new initiative - "Vedhik - Daily News Analysis (DNA)\_The Hindu" compilations to help you with UPSC Civil Services Examination preparation. We believe this initiative - "Vedhik - Daily News Analysis (DNA)\_The Hindu " would help students, especially beginners save time and streamline their preparations with regard to Current Affairs. A content page and an Appendix has been added segregating and mapping the content to the syllabus. It is an appreciable efforts by Vedhik IAS Academy helping aspirants of UPSC Civil Services Examinations. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Dr. Babu Sebastian, former VC - MG University in extending all support to this endeavour. Finally I also extend my thanks to thank Ms. Shilpa Sasidharan and Mr. Shahul Hameed for their assistance in the preparing the compilations.

We welcome your valuable comments so that further improvement may be made in the forthcoming material. We look forward to feedback, comments and suggestions on how to improve and add value for students. Every care has been taken to avoid typing errors and if any reader comes across any such error, the authors shall feel obliged if they are informed at their Email ID.

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# Discovery of lithium deposits in J&K to cut down import needs

The find will serve as a major boost to the manufacture of rechargeable batteries for smartphones, laptops and electric cars in the country

**The Hindu Bureau**  
SRINAGAR

**T**he discovery of 5.9 tonnes of lithium deposits in Jammu and Kashmir, a first for India, would reduce the need for imports and improve employment opportunities, officials in the Union Territory said on Friday, adding that the find was a major boost to the manufacture of rechargeable batteries for smartphones, laptops and electric cars.

The lithium inferred resources have been established in Reasi district. "There was a presence of bauxite in composite form and during its processing lithium was also discovered. We had explored it earlier also but now this time it has been approved by the Geological Survey of India (GSI)," said Shafiq Ahmad, District Mineral Officer, Reasi. The mineral blocks are likely to be auc-



The GSI has said that 5.9 tonnes of lithium deposits have been established in Reasi district.

tioned after sanction from the Central government.

The GSI had said on Thursday that lithium inferred resources had been found in the Salal-Haimana area of Reasi. An official said the geological reports on reaching the G2 and G3 stages of exploration were discussed during the 62nd Central Geological Programming Board (CGPB) meeting held in New Delhi on Thursday.

Around 51 mineral blocks have been identified

across the country, including J&K, based on the work carried out by the GSI from field seasons 2018-19 till date.

Residents of Salal expressed their delight after the news of the discovery spread. "Surveyors from the GSI have been visiting and taking samples from Salal area in the past two years. Finally, we get to hear the good news. It will go a long way in addressing unemployment issues here," Rajinder Singh, a local Naib Sarpanch, said.

Earlier, the Mines ministry had said that to strengthen the critical mineral supply chain for emerging technologies, the government was taking several measures to secure minerals, including lithium, from Australia and Argentina. Currently, India is import-dependent for many minerals like lithium, nickel and cobalt.

*(With PTI inputs)*

# Larger Bench to hear plea against Dawoodi Bohra practice

**Krishnadas Rajagopal**

NEW DELHI

A Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court on Friday, referred to a larger Bench of nine judges a series of petitions challenging the authority of Dawoodi Bohra community leaders to excommunicate their members.

The five-judge Bench led by Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul was dealing with the question whether the practice of excommunication in the Dawoodi Bohra community could continue as a “protected practice” despite the coming into force of the Maharashtra Protection of People from Social Boycott (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act of 2016.

The reference to the five-judge Bench led by Justice Kaul was based on a 1962 judgment of another five-judge Bench in the *Sardar Syedna Taher Saifuddin vs The State Of Bombay* case. The Bench had held that the religious faith and tenets of the Dawoodi Bohra community gave its religious heads the power of

excommunication as part of their “management of religious affairs” under Article 26(b) of the Constitution.

## **1962 judgement**

Justice A.S. Oka, who pronounced the judgment for the five-judge Bench, said the Sardar Syedna judgment raised questions about rights under Articles 26(b) and Article 21 (right to life and due process of law) of the Constitution.

The 1962 judgment was pronounced on a challenge to Section 3 of the Bombay Prevention of Excommunication Act of 1949.

The 2016 Act of the Maharashtra Assembly had identified 16 types of social ostracisation and made them illegal, punishing the perpetrators with imprisonment for up to three years. One among the 16 dealt with the expulsion of a member of a community.

Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta had submitted that the matter concerned religious freedoms and should be further referred to the nine-judge Sabarimala Bench.

# Suitability of a candidate cleared by Collegium can't be subject of judicial review: SC

**Krishnadas Rajagopal**

NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday, in a nine-page order, explained that “suitability” of a candidate cleared by the Collegium for appointment as a judge in a constitutional court cannot be a subject of judicial review.

“We are clearly of the opinion that this court, while exercising power of judicial review, cannot issue a writ of certiorari quashing the recommendation, or mandamus calling upon the Collegium of the Supreme Court to reconsider its decision... To do so would violate the law as declared, as it would amount to evaluating and substituting the decision of the Collegium, with individual or personal opinion on the suitability and merits of the person,” a Special Bench of Justices Sanjiv Khanna and B.R. Gavai reasoned.

The Bench rejected the argument that the Collegium had not known the ‘facts’ about Victoria Gowri. It said the Collegium had not “deemed it appro-



priate to withdraw the recommendation or recall their decision” even after receiving the petitioners’ letter about her on February 1. The order, however, does not address the petitioner’s argument about the oral statement made by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud in open court on February 6 that the Collegium was considering the “developments” raised in the letter. The letter had drawn the Collegium’s attention to social media posts of Ms. Gowri in 2018 which, according to the petitioners, amounted to hate speech.

## **Under daily scrutiny**

But the Bench, in its order, said a judge’s pledge and duty transcended religious, linguistic, regional or sectional diversities. As

an Additional Judge, she was under daily scrutiny from lawyers, litigants and the public. The courts were open and the judges spoke by giving reasons in writing for their decisions.

The court said the question whether Ms. Gowri was “fit” to be a judge was outside the ambit of judicial review. “The question whether a person is fit to be appointed as a judge essentially involves the aspect of suitability and stands excluded from the purview of judicial review,” it noted.

The Bench distinguished between ‘suitability’ and ‘eligibility’ of a candidate zeroed in for High Court judgeship. Eligibility was based on “objective factors” given in Article 217 (2) of the Constitution like citizenship and 10 years’ experience as a judicial officer or a lawyer in a High Court. Suitability of a candidate was the domain of the Collegium as it involved a procedure “designed to test the fitness of a person, including her character, integrity, competence and knowledge”.

# Centre to borrow ₹13,879 crore to boost health infrastructure

## The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

The Union government has signed loan agreements to borrow up to ₹13,879 crore to strengthen health infrastructure from international agencies.

As per a written reply in Lok Sabha by Minister of State for Health, Dr. Bharti Pawar, as on February 6, loan agreements have been signed with Asian Development Bank (ADB) for \$300 million (₹2,474 crore) and with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) for 50 billion Japanese Yen (₹3,162 crore).

In addition, the World Bank has approved \$1 billion (₹8,243 crore) IBRD loans for Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM). IBRD is the lending arm of the World Bank.

The loan agreements have been signed to augment PM-ABHIM which was launched on October 25, 2021, with an outlay of about ₹64,180 crore (till FY

## The loan agreements have been signed to augment PM-ABHIM which was launched on October 25, 2021

2025-26) to strengthen healthcare infrastructure across the country.

While the government provides financial assistance to States and Union Territories to set up and upgrade health infrastructure under National Health Mission, the PM-ABHIM was launched in addition to it. It was launched to fill gaps in health infrastructure, especially in critical and primary care facilities.

The major initiatives planned under the mission include support for construction of 17,788 rural Health and Wellness Centres, establishment of 11,024 Urban Health and Wellness Centres, setting up 3,382 Block Public Health Units and setting up of Integrated Public Health Labs in all districts.

# 'Resources for States raised sharply'

**The Hindu Bureau**  
NEW DELHI

Asserting that resources for States have been raised sharply in the Union Budget 2023-24, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Friday called out Opposition-ruled States like Kerala, Punjab and Himachal Pradesh for hiking taxes on petroleum products and red-flagged irregularities in West Bengal's implementation of Central schemes.

Hitting out at the Opposition's charges that Budget's 'green' allocations were driven by considerations "keeping someone in mind", possibly referring to the Adani Group that has ambitious green hydrogen plans, Ms. Sitharaman said that the Modi government doesn't keep just one person but everybody and the country in mind while taking decisions.

"Giving such statements is absolutely wrong. If



Nirmala Sitharaman

anything, if such language continues and I have been repeatedly the target of such a leader...I don't want to name because the leader is not around... [who]

throws an allegation and goes away. If allocations were made, phone calls were made, if relations were given benefit, if *jijajis* and *bhatijas* (brothers-in-law and nephews) got benefits, it might be their culture and under Prime Minister Modi, none of us do any of that," she said.

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**'NO VOTE-BANK POLITICS'**

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# Resources for States raised sharply: Minister

“Any such allegation will be given back in the same language. I’m sorry I cannot afford to have this kind of language,” the Minister remarked during the debate on the Budget in the Lok Sabha.

On West Bengal MPs’ claims that GST Compensation dues of ₹823 crore are pending, Ms. Sitharaman said she was stunned at the facts. “The GST Compensation claims with certificates from the Accountant General (AGs) haven’t come from West Bengal since 2017-18. Then what should I do? Without the AG’s certificate, how can I pay?,” she asked.

“We are told repeatedly that the Centre doesn’t pay West Bengal its dues. We are ready to pay the dues but at least follow the due process,” Ms. Sitharaman averred, adding that the State also owes the Centre ₹1,841 crore as dues for availing the help of Central Armed Police Forces.

The Congress did not participate in the Budget debate in the Rajya Sabha later in the day, protesting the suspension of senior MP Rajani Patil.

# Industrial output rise moderates to 4.3%

**Vikas Dhoot**

NEW DELHI

India's industrial output growth moderated to 4.3% in December 2022 from 7.3% in November, despite mining and electricity production rising at around 10% for the second successive month as manufacturing growth faltered from

6.1% in November to 2.6%.

While base effects perked up electricity and mining, which had grown at 2.8% and 2.6% respectively, a year earlier, manufacturing didn't see such a push despite a mere 0.6% rise in December 2021.

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# Industrial output rise moderates to 4.3%

Yet, overall manufacturing levels were 4.7% higher on a sequential basis and the Manufacturing index component of the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) hitting the highest level since March 2022.

On the basis of end-use, four of six sub-sectors – primary goods, capital goods, infrastructure and construction goods, and consumer non-durables – recorded a rise in the range of 7% to 8% in December 2022, partly aided by weaker growth numbers a year ago.

However, Consumer durables output slipped into contraction again, slipping a sharp 10.4% in December 2022, from a 1.9% contraction a year ago. After three months of contraction, consumer durables had rebounded in November to grow 5.2% year-on-year. December's output was 2.2% lower than November 2022 and marked the second worst production level in 13 months.

“The negative growth in consumer durables means that the pent-up demand seen during festival season has weaned off,” said Bank of Baroda chief economist Madan Sabnavis, noting that the consumer non-durables grew 7.2% over a low base of 0.3% in December 2021.

Intermediate goods production shrank 0.3% in December 2022 compared to a 1% growth in December 2021, but was 3.6% over November's levels, with total output at its highest level since May 2022.

“On the whole, the infra-related industries are showing good traction while it is volatile for consumer goods... Firms have also been raising prices of their products which will come in the way of demand as will the series of interest rate hikes invoked by the Reserve Bank of India,” he said, projecting growth to remain “narrowly focussed rather than broad based” in last quarter of 2022-23.

# SC calls for SEBI response over Adani stock fall

To protect investors, Bench asks the Board to submit a note detailing legal and factual aspects of regulatory framework for securities market

**Krishnadas Rajagopal**  
NEW DELHI

**T**he Supreme Court on Friday asked the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and the government to produce the existing regulatory framework in place to protect Indian investors, who are mostly middle class and reported to have lost several lakhs of crores in the past two weeks after the U.S.-based short-seller firm Hindenburg Research published a report, which led to sudden market volatility following a meltdown in the Adani Group shares.

Assuring the SEBI that it does not intend to go on a “witch-hunt” and is more interested in an “open dia-

Usually, this may happen on a small scale, but reports in newspapers say the total loss suffered by Indian investors may go in the range of several lakh crore in terms of investor value

**JUSTICE D.Y. CHANDRACHUD**  
CJI



logue”, a three-judge Bench led by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud flagged the court’s concern for Indian investors and highlighted the need to protect them from such sudden market volatility in the future. “How do we ensure protection of Indian investors? Usually, this may happen on a small

scale, but reports in newspapers say the total loss suffered by Indian investors may go in the range of several lakh crore in terms of investor value,” CJI Chandrachud told Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the SEBI.

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# SC calls for SEBI reply over Adani stock fall

Chief Justice Chandrachud said the stock market was no longer a place for just “high value investors” to dabble in.

“It is also a place now where a whole wide spectrum of the middle class are investing due to changes in the financial and tax regimes... There is a need for circuit-breakers here,” the CJI told Mr. Mehta.

The Solicitor General said the market took a plunge on “something” that happened outside, beyond the jurisdiction of the SEBI.

“That report [Hindenburg] was the trigger point,” Mr. Mehta submitted.

“Stock market goes entirely by sentiment... What we want to look into is whether we have a robust mechanism in place to protect Indian investors... How do we ensure that what happened does not happen again in the future?” Chief Justice Chandrachud said.

The court, on Mr. Mehta’s submission, recorded that the SEBI was “closely monitoring the situation and continues to do so”. The Supreme Court clarified in its order that its observations should not be construed as a reflection on the SEBI or other statutory authorities.

## Complete analysis

The court asked the SEBI to submit a note by Monday detailing the legal and factual aspects of the existing regulatory framework for the securities market. The market regulator could also give a complete analysis of its powers and even suggest whether it needed to grow more teeth to deal with the “new world” of seamless capital movement.

If the Centre wanted, the court said it could even consider constituting an expert committee of domain experts in banking and securities along with a former judge to act as a “wise guiding force”.

The court made it clear that it did not want to encroach into the policy domain. It would tread carefully, keeping a wary eye against causing any upsets in the stock market.

The court listed the case for February 13.

The Bench was hearing separate petitions filed by advocates Vishal Tiwari and M.L. Sharma for an investigation into Hindenburg Research’s report.

# ISRO successfully launches SSLV-D2, satellites put in orbit

**Sangeetha Kandavel**

SRIHARIKOTA

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully launched its second developmental flight of a Small Satellite Launch Vehicle – SSLV-D2 – and placed three satellites in precise orbit on Friday.

The three satellites are ISRO's Earth Observation Satellite EOS 07, U.S.-based firm Antaris' Janus-1 and Chennai-based space start-up SpaceKidz's AzaadiSAT-2.

SSLV-D2 lifted off from the first launch pad at Satish Dhawan Space Centre-SHAR, Sriharikota, in Andhra Pradesh at 9.18 a.m. This is the first satellite launch in 2023.

"The SSLV-D2-EOS-07 mission is successfully ac-



SSLV-D2 taking off from Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota on Friday. R. RAGU

complished," ISRO mentioned on its Twitter handle, a few minutes after the take off.

ISRO in a statement said: "The vehicle injected satellites into close to 450 km circular orbit at an inclination of 37.2 degrees."

# Wildlife enthusiasts spot 145 species during first Sundarban bird festival

**Shiv Sahay Singh**  
KOLKATA

Birders, wildlife enthusiasts and forest officials have sighted 145 different bird species during the first Sundarban bird festival. The first-ever festival was organised by the Sundarban Tiger Reserve (STR) division of West Bengal Forest Department, where six teams visited different areas inside the Sundarban Biosphere Reserve.

The species recorded during the bird festival included 78 forest birds and 42 species of waders, raptors etc. The two-day exercise which ended on Friday also recorded six species of waterfowl.

The total number of birds spotted during the exercise was 5,065. Two threatened bird species of the Sundarbans, Eurasian Curlew and Lesser Sand Plover, were also spotted. Birders were able to spot seven of the 12 species of



**Winged wonder:** The fulvous-breasted woodpecker was sighted during the Sundarban bird festival. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

kingfishers found in the Sundarbans.

Deputy Field Director of Sundarban Tiger Reserve, Justine Jones, said that the first-ever bird festival has provided baseline data as far as the number of bird species in the Sundarbans is concerned. "We can carry out the same exercise in the years to come and the baseline data would provide us changes as far as bird species are concerned," he added.

According to Mr. Jones, sighting 145 species in a

matter of two days is a good sign.

A publication by Zoological Survey of India, (ZSI) in 2021, had recorded 428 bird species in the Sundarbans which is one-third of all the avian species found in the country.

Despite being home to so many species of birds the habitats face threats including plantation activity along the *chars* (river islands) which disturbs the birds, and illegal activities along *chars* and uninhabited islands.

# India's law and order matrix needs a reboot

**T**he annual All India Conference of Directors General/Inspectors General of Police which was held recently, witnessed a departure from the past, when some aspects that were discussed found their way into the public domain. This led to an element of controversy over the management of certain issues, specially on the border, but little else. In its present form, the DGPs/IGPs conference is a relatively new construct (1980), superseding the earlier annual conference of Heads of Intelligence and CIDs of different States. The latter conference used to deal mainly with the nitty-gritty of police work, viz., intelligence, crime and criminal investigation, technology and the forensic aspects, while the conference now additionally deals with a host of other issues including Policy and personnel matters.

## In-depth discussion is taking a hit

The proliferation of subjects up for discussion in recent conferences, and the presence of increasing numbers of delegates to cover the various subjects leave little scope for any in-depth discussion. Today's security threats have an all-embracing character and there is a crying need for in-depth discussions on futuristic themes in policing, such as cyber crime, the dark web, crypto, maritime security, the threat from drones, and also problems stemming from an unchecked social media. These are in addition to subjects such as left-wing extremism, counter-terrorism, drug trafficking and border issues. Lack of adequate time to discuss these matters in detail tend to undermine both the quality of the debates and possible outcomes.

Admittedly, we may not be standing today at the beginning of history, but the evolving security scenario is producing a myriad of internal and external challenges. As the 21st century advances, security problems will grow at an exponential rate. Their dimensions are as yet unclear, but what is already evident is that the emerging challenges would require greater innovativeness and agility as well as a demonstration of newer cognitive skills to meet the challenges posed by swift technological change and the rise of data war fighting. Hence, decision making in these circumstances needs to undergo fundamental changes, entailing more purposive discussion at higher levels.

Law and order management today would be a good starting point in this context. This subject may appear rather mundane in a world dominated by technology; but what it currently demands is a combination of newer skills, in both technology and crowd management, which are



**M.K. Narayanan**

is a former Director, Intelligence Bureau, a former National Security Adviser, and a former Governor of West Bengal

With the evolving security scenario resulting in complex challenges, the nature of the security discourse as well as ground techniques have to be improved

not readily available among security agencies. The attention of most security forces in the country has essentially been devoted to ongoing threats such as terrorism, which has resulted in law and order management being put on the back burner. Managing today's angry, and often unruly, mobs requires a fresh set of skills and inherent abilities, apart from mere technology. A heavy-handed approach tends to create more problems than they solve. Any approach of this kind only leads to a catastrophic divide between law enforcement agencies and the public, at a time when newer practices and skills are the proper answer.

Hence, much more is clearly required than simply reiterating that technology, including artificial intelligence, can provide answers to a host of problems that exist. Understanding the psychology of agitating mobs and, in turn making them realise the dangers of their own predilections before matters get out of hand, is not an innate, but an acquired skill. This needs better attention.

Police and security agencies, must consequently, be provided with the right attributes, and for which they need to be adequately trained. This would call for a top down approach, as there would be considerable competition of resources from within the agencies for other items such as advances in weaponry and technology. It would be required even more, to secure acceptance of utilitarian aspects of any such move.

## Pay attention to selection, skills

The selection of personnel to security agencies, especially the police, also will require a total makeover. The 21st century is proving to be vastly different from the 20th century, and the choice of personnel to man security agencies requires more high-level attention than has been devoted to this task. Most of the debate on this subject has been outside, rather than within the police forces, and the higher echelons of the forces have not spent enough time in determining what can and needs to be done. The police forces must mirror the kind of society we live in today, and must be capable of dealing with today's modern antagonists. The latter often employ a variety of tactics and skills, and use common imagery to keep track of developing situations, including on social media and Twitter. For the police and security forces, this means that more than the mere acquisition of new skills, they must develop a different mind set, including that force cannot be the answer to every situation.

Technological advances worldwide have meant

that the human skills of security agencies need to be suitably tailored to a world in which the Internet, social media and other breakthroughs, often provide protestors and agitators an upper hand, and often detrimental to law and order. This has given rise to the importance of 'Open Source intelligence' that is often neglected by security agencies. The proper utilisation of Open Source intelligence could well become the critical factor in managing many law and order situations today. A vast gap exists at present between the need, and on how best to utilise information from open sources.

An added problem, apart from the existing cauldron of events, incidents and situations, is the presence of multiple security agencies, including intelligence and investigative agencies, who seldom act with a common purpose. Their techniques and methodologies tend to be different, often leading to contradictions in approach. While the proliferation of agencies was intended to create specialised agencies for special requirements, this has not happened. Far from easing the burden of individual agencies, they often hinder proper analysis and investigation.

## 'Small is beautiful'

Hence, what is clear is that there is a very real need to take a hard look at not only improving the nature of the security discourse – in regard to the range and varieties of threats – but also on how to bring about changes in regard to intelligence techniques, investigative methodologies, improving the ground situation, etc. Conventional wisdom would suggest that an apex level meeting of DGPs/IGPs would provide the necessary direction and policy imperatives. The reality is that too broad a sweep, both in terms of the subjects discussed, as well as in the numbers present, tends to affect the quality of the discourse even among dedicated professionals. Meaningful discussions cannot occur when the size of the conference inhibits detailed and frank discussion even in a professional atmosphere. Here, as in many other aspects of life, 'small is beautiful'.

In short order, it can be said that there is a case for splitting the annual conference of DGPs/IGPs into two separate conferences – a higher level conference of DGPs/IGPs to discuss policy related issues, and a separate conference to be held of intelligence and security specialists (IGs/CID) to discuss the finer points of methodology, techniques and acquisition of new skills for current and future problems. Outcomes would then become more relevant to current and future security needs.



<b>General Studies Paper I</b>	
A	History of Indian culture will cover the salient aspects of art forms, literature and architecture from ancient to modern times;
B	Modern Indian history from about the middle of the eighteenth century until the present-significant events, personalities, issues;
C	Freedom struggle-its various stages and important contributors / contributions from different parts of the country;
D	Post-independence consolidation and reorganization within the country;
E	History of the world will include events from 18 <sup>th</sup> century such as industrial revolution, world wars, re-drawing of national boundaries, colonization, decolonization,
F	Political philosophies like communism, capitalism, socialism etc.-their forms and effect on the society
G	Salient features of Indian Society, Diversity of India;
H	Effects of globalization on Indian society;
I	Role of women and women's organization;
J	Social empowerment, communalism, regionalism & secularism
K	Salient features of world's physical geography;
L	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;
M	Important Geophysical phenomena such as earthquakes, Tsunami, Volcanic activity, cyclone etc.
N	Distribution of key natural resources across the world (including South Asia and the Indian subcontinent);
O	Factors responsible for the location of primary, secondary, and tertiary sector industries in various parts of the world (including India);
P	Population and associated issues;
Q	Urbanization, their problems and their remedies
<b>General Studies Paper II</b>	
A	India and its neighbourhood- relations;
B	Important International institutions, agencies and fora- their structure, mandate;
C	Effect of policies and politics of developed and developing countries on India's interests;
D	Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India's interests.
E	Indian Constitution, historical underpinnings, evolution, features, amendments, significant provisions and basic structure;
F	Comparison of the Indian Constitutional scheme with other countries;
G	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; Inclusive growth and issues arising from it;
H	Parliament and State Legislatures - structure, functioning, conduct of business, powers & privileges and issues arising out of these;
I	Structure, organization and functioning of the executive and the judiciary, Ministries and Departments;
J	Separation of powers between various organs dispute redressal mechanisms and institutions;
K	Appointment to various Constitutional posts, powers, functions and responsibilities of various Constitutional bodies;

L	Statutory, regulatory and various quasi-judicial bodies;
M	Mechanisms, laws, institutions and bodies constituted for the protection and betterment of these vulnerable sections;
N	Salient features of the Representation of People's Act;
O	Important aspects of governance, transparency and accountability, e-governance- applications, models, successes, limitations, and potential;
P	Citizens charters, transparency & accountability and institutional and other measures;
Q	Issues relating to poverty and hunger,
R	Welfare schemes for vulnerable sections of the population by the Centre and States, Performance of these schemes;
S	Issues relating to development and management of social sector / services relating to education and human resources;
T	Issues relating to development and management of social sector / services relating to health
<b>General Studies Paper III</b>	
A	Indian Economy and issues relating to planning, mobilization of resources, growth, development and employment;
B	Effects of liberalization on the economy, changes in industrial policy and their effects on industrial growth;
C	Inclusive growth and issues arising from it;
D	Infrastructure Energy, Ports, Roads, Airports, Railways etc. Government budgeting;
E	Land reforms in India
F	Major crops, cropping patterns in various parts of the country, different types of irrigation and irrigation systems;
G	Storage, transport and marketing of agricultural produce and issues and related constraints;
H	e-technology in the aid of farmers; Technology Missions; Economics of Animal-Rearing.
I	Issues of buffer stocks and food security, Public Distribution System- objectives, functioning, limitations, revamping;
J	Food processing and related industries in India – scope and significance, location, upstream and downstream requirements, supply chain management;
K	Issues related to direct and indirect farm subsidies and minimum support prices
L	Awareness in the fields of IT, Space, Computers, robotics, nano-technology, bio-technology;
M	Indigenization of technology and developing new technology;
N	Developments and their applications and effects in everyday life;
O	Issues relating to intellectual property rights
P	Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation, environmental impact assessment
Q	Disaster and disaster management
R	Challenges to internal security through communication networks, role of media and social networking sites in internal security challenges, basics of cyber security;
S	Money-laundering and its prevention;
T	Various forces and their mandate;
U	Security challenges and their management in border areas;
V	Linkages of organized crime with terrorism;
W	Role of external state and non-state actors in creating challenges to internal security;

X	Linkages between development and spread of extremism.
<b>General Studies Paper IV</b>	
A	Ethics and Human Interface: Essence, determinants and consequences of Ethics in human actions;
B	Dimensions of ethics;
C	Ethics in private and public relationships. Human Values - lessons from the lives and teachings of great leaders, reformers and administrators;
D	Role of family, society and educational institutions in inculcating values.
E	Attitude: Content, structure, function; its influence and relation with thought and behaviour;
F	Moral and political attitudes;
G	Social influence and persuasion.
H	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.
I	Emotional intelligence-concepts, and their utilities and application in administration and governance.
J	Contributions of moral thinkers and philosophers from India and world.
K	Public/Civil service values and Ethics in Public administration: Status and problems;
L	Ethical concerns and dilemmas in government and private institutions;
M	Laws, rules, regulations and conscience as
N	sources of ethical guidance;
O	Accountability and ethical governance; strengthening of ethical and moral values in governance; ethical issues in international relations and funding;
P	Corporate governance.
Q	Probity in Governance: Concept of public service;
R	Philosophical basis of governance and probity;
S	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.
T	Case Studies on above issues.