



VEDHIK

DAILY NEWS ANALYSIS

24 - SEP - 2022

FOREWORD

We, at Team Vedhik is happy to introduce a new initiative - "Daily Current Affairs_The Hindu" compilations to help you with UPSC Civil Services Examination preparation. We believe this initiative - "Daily Current Affairs_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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‘Ambedkar tourist circuit only aids nationalistic narrative’

The five spots on the tour are not true to Dr. Ambedkar’s ‘true legacy’, say scholars and Ambedkarites; they suggest Raigarh where he led Mahad Satyagraha and Pune where he held negotiations with Gandhi, among others, as places of significance

Sreeparna Chakrabarty
NEW DELHI

The Central government has announced a special tourist circuit encompassing five key sites associated with Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. Dalit scholars and Ambedkarites, however, argue that the five spots or the “Panchateerths” selected for the circuit do not do justice to Ambedkar’s “real legacy” and have been chosen to just fit into the “localised and nationalistic” narrative of the government.

According to Ambedkar scholars, there are a host of other sites like Raigarh district of Maharashtra where Dr. Ambedkar led the Mahad Satyagraha, Pune where he held the first negotiations with Mahatma Gandhi in Yerwada jail on a separate electorate for depressed classes, and Sri Lanka where he attended a Buddhist conclave.

Ashok Bharti, Founder and Chairperson of NAC-



Place of pilgrimage: Ambedkar’s memorial in his birthplace Mhow in Madhya Pradesh is frequented by Buddhists, Dalits and Ambedkarites. A.M. FARUQUI

DOR (National Confederation of Dalit and Adivasi Organisations), said, “People who have not read Dr. Ambedkar and his work have made this concept (of the tourist circuit) in a hurry. They should have consulted organisations and people who are thorough with his work and life.”

Places of import
The five cities in the tourist

circuit as announced by the government are Mhow (his birthplace), London (where he resided and studied), Nagpur (also studied here), Delhi (where he passed away) and finally Mumbai (where he was cremated).

These sites are already visited by Dalits as pilgrimage spots; the idea is to attract members of the public from outside the Dalit

community, a senior official of the Ministry of Tourism said.

According to Chandrabhan Prasad, Dalit ideologue, “It is a bid to subvert and distort Dalit historical landmarks. I would prefer that the tourist circuit begins from the *Mahar talab andolan*. One of the greatest incidents of expression of freedom for Dalits.”

Mahad Satyagraha was a

satyagraha led by Dr. Ambedkar on March 20, 1927 to allow untouchables to use water in a public tank in Mahad, currently in Raigarh district of Maharashtra. Pune is another landmark place.

Similar is the case of Kolhapur where in March 1920, another legendary social reformer, Chatrapati Shahuji Maharaj, declared Dr. Ambedkar as the true leader of the oppressed classes in India.

Going further, Rajesh Lillothia, Head of Congress SC department, said that if the government wants to do true justice to Dr. Ambedkar’s legacy, they should dedicate the Central Vista to Dr. Ambedkar.

Modi and Ambedkar
Since assuming office in 2014, the Modi government has celebrated Ambedkar – unveiling his portrait in Parliament’s Central Hall and developing Deeksha Bhoomi as an international tourist centre.

The Global South's assertion in geopolitics

The international system is witnessing geopolitical changes and a push for competitive great power hegemony. The United States leads with its goal for primacy in the international system. The U.S.'s national security documents advocate curbing China's rise, weakening Russia's capabilities, securing Europe behind U.S. leadership and building satellite alliances with countries which conform to U.S. interests and values. But other players have different agendas and the Global South matters more than before.

China is the 'near peer', but in reality is no match to the U.S. militarily. Given its phenomenal economic reach that widened during globalisation, China began building counter institutions. It looked for accommodation with the U.S. in its 'peaceful rise' project. As the U.S. found this unacceptable, China turned from partner to competitor to threat.

Experiences with the West as a factor

Russia, with its vast natural resources and military capability, has shown capacity to assert its will in global geopolitics. The Russian aggression in Ukraine confirms the view of U.S. strategists who would like to weaken Russian capabilities. Further, they see Russia especially when in alliance with China or any other country as dangerous to U.S. geopolitics. Russian aggression against Ukraine and the terrible war of attrition have been a geopolitical watershed. The U.S. is using this conjuncture for global primacy. Europe is now firmly behind the U.S.'s strategic plans and is re-militarising. The developing Sino-Russian strategic partnership 'without limits' is the clearly defined enemy other for the West. So, the only speed breaker is the Global South.

Countries of the Global South, especially India, China and others, are being blamed for the failing sanctions against Russia in the context of the Ukraine war. The truth is that the Global South, with a few exceptions (except seven), wants a quick and negotiated end to this terrible war; all oppose the sanctions regime and all advocate



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The Global South has new agency in a changing world, with several countries finding that neutrality and strategic autonomy have become a viable option

neutrality. The reasons for neutrality include: the needs for regime survival especially because many in the South are dependent on Russian energy, fuel, fertilizers, wheat, commodities and defence equipment. They have memories of colonialism and recent interventions such as Iraq (2003), Lebanon (1982, 2006), Libya (2011), Afghanistan (2001-21), Yemen (2010-on) Syria (supporting Jordan), Mali, etc.

Recent experiences such as the refusal by the West to grant a one-time exception for patents for the COVID-19 vaccine have not helped either. Media images of the way refugees from the South are treated in contrast to the welcome to Ukrainian refugees have revealed the unsurprising racism. Many countries of the South believe that they are unlikely to get western help when they need it the most. In such circumstances Russia is not seen as a threat in the Global South.

China marches on

China's expanding military footprint is problematic for many countries in Asia. China's 'grey zone' policies – of creeping expansionism, violation of maritime zones in the South China Seas and elsewhere – have antagonised several countries which include Vietnam, Indonesia, India and the Philippines. But even then, most of these Southern countries would not like to be a part of security or military alliances with either the West or the Russian or Chinese sides. For example, the security pact that China (May 2022) offered to 10 Pacific island nations did not find favour with them (the Solomon Islands, Kiribati, Samoa, Fiji, Tonga, Vanuatu, and Papua New Guinea, the Cook Islands, Niue, and the Federated States of Micronesia). They also did not agree to China's 'Common Development Vision'.

The U.S. response to this neutrality has been to put massive pressure for sanctions on Russia and build threat narratives about China. But there has been an unprecedented pushback from the South that wants to make its own strategic choices. For example, the U.S. Congress recently passed a bill – "Countering Malign Russian Activities in Africa Act" – that advocates pressuring, monitoring, and punishing African states and leaders who engage with Russia. In response, the South African Foreign Minister Naledi Pandor in a press conference – U.S. Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken was present – said no African country could be bullied and described this U.S. Bill as "offensive legislation". Ms. Pandor called for diplomacy and urged: "African countries that wish to relate to China, let them do so, in whatever the particular form of relationship of their choice" (August 22, 2022). She also reminded Mr. Blinken of the plight of Palestine under occupation.

On its part, China is waiving debt owed by 17 African countries (for 23 interest-free loans that were due in 2021) – as India did in 2003. There

has been similar pushback from Latin America and the West Asian countries. Of course regional powers also work with the U.S. to project their own power – for example Saudi Arabia vis-à-vis Iran. Smaller states do a balancing act between regional powers – as Sri Lanka does between India and China.

Stronger countries of the Global South such as India have used their leverage to negotiate with multiple sides. India increased oil purchases from Russia, shrugging off western pressure. India has a military Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement (LEMOA) with the U.S.; at the same time it has developed the International North South Transport Corridor connecting Russia and India via central Asia and Iran with three sanctioned states. It participates in military exercises such as the U.S.-led RIMPAC (the Rim of the Pacific Exercise, and one of the world's largest maritime exercises) but also sends a military contingent for the Vostok exercises (one of exercises Moscow routinely conducts) with Russia and China. So, India, Vietnam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Turkey and others have developed the capacity to transact with competing and conflicting sides.

Moving to geoeconomics

The South's choices are extending slowly to geoeconomics. The fear of the U.S. strategy of freezing dollar reserves has made the South cautious. Further, there is the U.S. Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen's recent announcement about U.S. trade policies of 're-shoring' and 'friend-shoring' – meaning trade between allies. This is leading the South to gradually find ways of bypassing the dollar in bilateral trade by using local currencies. Currency swap arrangements are used by China and Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)+ 3 countries; India with Russia and 23 other countries. This does not mean the end of dollar dominance, but alternate paths are opening up for them.

In sum, the Global South has new agency. Multilateral institutions, ranging from BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) and the African Union, to ASEAN, and the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, have given it new confidence. Several countries including India, Brazil, South Africa, Indonesia and Malaysia have become economic powerhouses, albeit with their own inequalities and domestic problems. In these circumstances, neutrality and strategic autonomy have become a viable though not a normative option.

The Global South has made a statement on its development, for better terms for trade for which it needs strategic autonomy. If the Global South were to voice collective concerns on existential threats from climate change, ecological devastation, inequalities and increasing militarisation, and work in plural inclusive ways, it could make the world a better place for itself.



G4 countries highlight ‘urgent need’ for reform in UN Security Council

Germany, Brazil, Japan and India reiterate support for each other’s bids to become permanent members of the UNSC, and for representation of African countries

Sriram Lakshman
UNITED NATIONS

Reform of the United Nations has been a central theme of External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar’s visit to the United Nations this week, and on Thursday, he met with his counterparts from Germany, Brazil and Japan under The Group of Four (G4) banner following the BRICS meeting. The group is primarily focused on UN Security Council (UNSC) reform, and permanent membership for G4 members. On Thursday, they reiterated their commitment to pushing forward reform and expressed dissatisfaction at the lack of progress.

“Reiterated our joint commitment to work towards text based negotiations that leads to Reformed Multilateralism. Will continue our cooperation towards this goal,” Mr. Jaishankar tweeted after the meeting. India is currently a non-permanent member of the Council.



Strong bonds: External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar with counterparts from Brazil, Germany and Japan during the G4 meeting on Friday. PTI

In addition to reiterating their support for each other’s bids to become permanent members of the UNSC, the G4 also reiterated its support for African countries being represented in a permanent and non-permanent capacity. The G4 felt that the UN decision making bodies needed to be urgently reformed as global issues were increasingly complex and interconnected, a joint press

statement from the group said. The “inability” of the UNSC to “effectively” address these problems “vividly demonstrate[s] the urgent need” for UNSC reform, the statement said.

U.S. President Joe Biden emphasized its support for expanding permanent and non-permanent seats on the Council, during his UN-GA address on Wednesday. However, State Department spokesperson Ned

Price had said in 2021 that the U.S. supports expansion of body provided it “does not alter or expand the veto”.

On Thursday, the G4 ministers expressed concern that the 76th Session of the UN General Assembly did not make “meaningful progress” in the Inter-Governmental Negotiations (IGN), which, according to the G4, was constrained by a lack of transparency.

Coming soon: relief from spam calls and fraudulent messages

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

In a move that could offer mobile phone users a big relief from spam calls and fraudulent messages, the government has proposed to make it mandatory that the identity of a person sending a message or calling should be visible to the receiver irrespective of the platform used for communication.

“All of you know that there has been a rise in cases where people get a call saying I am calling from XYZ bank seeking financial details leading to fraud... or you get threats from unknown numbers... so we have introduced a lot of points for user protection and to prevent cyber-fraud...” Telecom Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said on Friday.

He said the focus of the proposed telecom Bill was to ensure protection of users. He said protection of



The focus of the draft Bill is to protect users, the Minister said.

users would not be limited to calls made via landline or normal voice calls, but all types of calls such as those made on WhatsApp, Zoom calls and FaceTime.

“Whichever type of call it is, if someone is calling me, I have the right to know who is calling. This is a right that every user has and it has now been put into the Act. There has to be a light touch but focused and effective regulation primarily focused on protection of users,” he said.

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Coming soon: relief from fraud, spam calls

The draft Bill enables a legal framework for preventing harassment of users from unsolicited calls and messages and states that “the identity of a person sending a message using telecommunication services shall be available to the user receiving such message, in such form as may be prescribed”.

Speaking to reporters, the Minister stressed that the government envisaged a light touch regulatory environment that would not stifle innovation or increase regulatory burden.

The draft Bill, which was released earlier this week inviting comments from stakeholders, seeks to replace the existing legal framework comprising the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885, the Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1933 and the Telegraph Wires (Unlawful Possession) Act, 1950, that currently govern the telecommunication sector in the country.

New provisions

It includes provisions such as waiving dues for financially stressed operators, bringing over-the-top platforms (such as WhatsApp, Zoom, Netflix) within the ambit of telecom services that require a licence to operate and provisions for message interception in case of public emergency.

Replying to a query on licensing of OTT apps, the Minister said these were already included under regulation as an interpretation of ‘telegraph’ under the Indian Telegraph Act. “Already by interpretation of what is a telegraph - the service which you use today... is it telegraph? It is not... but... over a period of time all the services that you use are already interpreted under telegraph... We are in 2022...the construct that we take in 2022, we need to consider the reality of 2022...With interpretation there is confusion... law should be certain and clear. To bring that clarity this has been done.”

The Minister said this draft would go through a transparent consultation process and only then the final draft would be made on the basis of inputs received. The Minister said he expected the new telecom Bill to be converted into a law in the next six to 10 months.

Currency pressure

RBI will have to ensure price stability and prevent further rupee weakening

The rupee is yet again facing renewed pressure, along with major peers, as the dollar continues to strengthen in the wake of the Federal Reserve's latest jumbo 75 basis points interest rate increase and the U.S. central bank's unequivocal message that it remains squarely focused on taming inflation. The Indian currency weakened past the 81-mark against the dollar for the first time ever in Friday's intraday trade, before ending the week at a new record closing low. The rupee's slide was softened by the Reserve Bank of India's intervention to smoothen volatility; the cumulative impact of such interventions over the 12 months through September 16 have shrunk the RBI's war chest of foreign exchange reserves by almost \$94 billion to \$545.65 billion. The fact that the rupee is not alone in depreciating against the dollar can be of little comfort to Indian companies reliant on imports of raw materials or services for the smooth functioning of their businesses. They are struggling to contend with rising costs at a time when domestic demand is still to regain a durable post-pandemic footing. The higher import bill is also bound to add inflationary pressures to an economy already beset by persistently elevated inflation and further complicates monetary policymakers' efforts to rein in the price gains.

The rupee's more than 8% depreciation against the dollar so far in 2022, with almost all of the weakening having occurred in the wake of Russia's invasion of Ukraine on February 24, has also largely offset whatever gains that may accrue from the fact that the price of the Indian basket of crude oil has now retreated substantially and is close to its pre-war levels. Overseas portfolio investors too have once again turned net sellers of Indian stocks and debt in the last two sessions after having resumed their purchases of local assets in August and for most of this month. As a result, so far in 2022, FPIs have in total dumped \$20.6 billion of Indian equity and debt following three straight years of net investments. And the Fed's projection of further steep monetary tightening, of at least another 125 basis points, is only likely to lead to more outflows over the last quarter of this year. With the rupee's real effective exchange rate (REER), or trade-weighted average of its value, also signalling that the Indian currency is still overvalued, the RBI's rate setting panel will have a fine tightrope to walk next week as it battles to restore a semblance of price stability without choking growth and by ensuring the rupee does not weaken too sharply.

Industry urges duty remission revamp in Foreign Trade Policy

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

Industry is hoping for concrete measures from the new foreign trade policy to give a fillip to India's exports amid slowing global demand, including an overhaul of the duty remission scheme introduced last year and removal of the levy of GST on global trade intermediaries.

The Commerce and Industry Ministry is expected to unveil the new policy next week as the 2015 policy, currently in operation, expires on September 30 after being extended for two and a half years.

The Remission of Duties and Taxes on Export Products (RoDTEP) scheme was supposed to take care of various duties and taxes outside GST that add to the cost of exports, but is unable to do so because of various anomalies, restrictions and very low rates, PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry president Pradeep Multani said on Friday.

The industry chamber has urged the government to consider tweaking the scheme so that exporters are specifically reimbursed on the basis of actual taxes and duties paid by them on outbound shipments.

Mr. Multani also pointed out that buying agents and consultants hired by foreign buyers are key intermediaries who facilitate exports of over a billion-plus dollars for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), but their services are being taxed at 18% under the GST Act.

"We expect removal of



Pradeep Multani

this GST levy as it is akin to "Export of Taxes" which is against the basic premise of the GST law as well as against the international trade practices," he said on Friday.

'Reboot of SEIS'

Seeking a continuation of the capital goods export promotion scheme, given that engineering products have driven a large part of the uptick in exports over the past year, the PHDCCI chief also mooted a reboot of the discontinued Services Export Incentive Scheme, especially for sectors like travel, tourism and construction.

Last week, the Federation of Indian Exporters' Organisations (FIEO) sought a review of the interest equalisation benefits for exporters.

"There is an urgent need to restore the interest equalisation benefit of 5% to manufacturers in the MSME segment and 3% to all tariff lines (instead of 410 tariff lines) as cost of credit is equally adversely impacting all exporters," FIEO president A. Sakthivel had said, emphasising that credit costs for smaller players are now 10%-11%.

In Odisha's Nayagarh, a data-driven solution to child marriage

SPECIAL

Satyasundar Barik
BHUBANESWAR

With the aim of eradicating child marriage, Nayagarh, a tiny Odisha district, has adopted a unique initiative by scrupulously recording information on all adolescent girls in the district.

From birth registration date to Aadhaar number, from family details to skill training, information of 48,642 adolescent girls can be found in registers named Aliva.

Nayagarh, with a population of 9,62,789, has a skewed sex ratio at 855. Child marriages in the district are still considered a part of their social life.

Observing that child marriages are solemnised in the age group of 14-19 and dropouts among girls' students continued to be high, the district administration launched the Aliva programme in January this year. Anganwadi workers had been asked to identify every adolescent girl in their jurisdiction and keep tabs on them. There are 1,584 registers available in



Nayagarh in Odisha is recording information on all adolescent girls in the district. NAGARA GOPAL

1,584 Anganwadi centres of the district.

The 100-page register maintains a record of the girl, along with the name of her father. From the third page onwards, each page contains data of the adoles-

cent girl, including address, education status, birth registration date, Aadhaar Card Number, contact details and family details. The age of the girl is approved by the local school headmaster, father, supervisor

and child marriage prohibition officer (CMPO). Towards the end of the register, information about child marriage, educational progress, skill training status and health issues of the adolescent girls is available. Nayagarh district has decided to maintain the record for a period of 10 years – 2020 to 2030. As per Odisha's child marriage prevention strategy, the State aims to eradicate child marriage by 2030.

The register has been useful for law enforcement agencies, as parents lie about the age of their girls.

“When tipped off, district administration and the police refer to registers for ascertaining proof of girls' age,” said Ipsita Agarwal, district coordinator of ActionAid, a non-government organisation, which works closely with district administration to prevent child marriages. Though different districts have come up with other innovative ideas, the Aliva registers are by far the most comprehensive ones that keep tabs on girls' lives. Ganjam district is maintaining register of every marriage to prevent child marriages.



India gets its first avalanche monitoring radar in Sikkim

An avalanche monitoring radar, the first of its kind in India, has been installed in North Sikkim by the Army and Defence Geoinformatics and Research Establishment. It can detect avalanches within three seconds of its trigger and will assist in saving lives of troops and reducing damage to property. The radar was inaugurated by Lt. Gen. Tarun Kumar Aich, General Officer Commanding of Sukna-based 33 Corps, on September 20 at an altitude of 15,000 feet, one officer said. The radar was made operational by DGRE, a lab under the Defence Research Development Organisation (DRDO), which is involved in forecasting and mitigation of avalanche hazards faced by the Army in the Himalayan region.

Quad signs agreement for disaster relief and assistance

Sriram Lakshman

UNITED NATIONS

Foreign Ministers of the Quad group of countries - India, the U.S., Australia, and Japan - met on the fringes of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) on Friday to sign a Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) partnership into effect.

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar said the world was going through a difficult period - listing the Ukraine conflict and climate events, and said that it was especially important for the Quad to further the “constructive agenda” it had set up for itself and work together to deliver public goods.

“I think our meeting today is evidence that the Quad is strong and getting stronger,” Mr. Blinken said.

Australia’s Foreign Minister Penny Wong said the Quad was about ensuring the region is “peaceful, stable, prosperous and in which sovereignty is respected”.

Japan’s Foreign Minister Yoshimasa Hayashi, said the world was witnessing “direct attempts to unilaterally change the status quo by force” and that the international order based on the rule of law was under threat.

General Studies Paper I	
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 th 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
General Studies Paper II	
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
General Studies Paper III	
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.
General Studies Paper IV	
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.