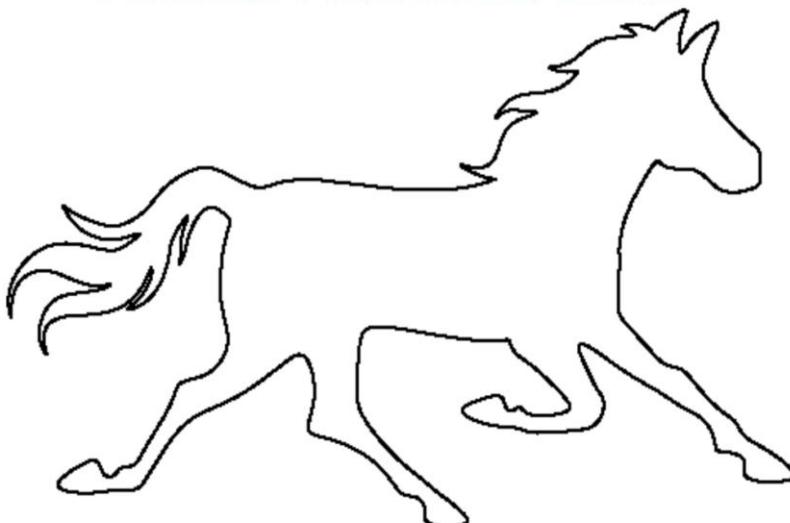


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GS OCEAN

Complete GS 1, 2, 3 before Prelims

GS Prelims is the most chaotic of all the exams that an IAS aspirant faces. I have no clue to that exam. I can't advise anyone on how to crack it. Let me leave that job for others.

But I have a way of reducing the chaos. My advice is this: *Complete GS 1, 2, 3 before the Prelims.*

GS 1, 2, 3 are far lesser chaotic than GS Prelims, though considerably more chaotic than other Mains exams.

This booklet primary attempts to tell how to go about GS 1, 2, 3. It divides the syllabus area wise, or say, sources wise. By analyzing the past three years' papers, the booklet shows how some areas are spread across the papers and their relative importance, so that you can devise your strategy wisely.

What can we learn from the analysis of the past three years' papers? Apparently there is a way of maximizing returns for the same effort. The number 1 area in terms of importance is Economy. If Economy is broadly defined, it covers 40% of the questions - 69 out of 185 asked so far!

Next in importance is Polity (static part), which is easily covered from textbooks. Current Affairs- which includes foreign policy – follows Polity in importance.

How about Geography and History? Well, do them thoroughly for Prelims. Your preparation will automatically include Mains, almost.

That is only a suggested outline. Scan through the question paper analysis and work out details for yourself.

GS 4 needs an all new dynamic approach. We have dealt with GS4 in separate icon.

Wish you good luck.

RajaSir & Team

Suggested Books

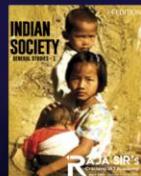
BOOKS SPECIALLY PREPARED FOR UPSC CSE



INDIAN GEOGRAPHY



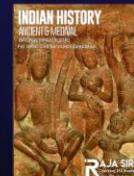
ENVIRONMENT



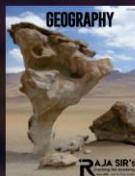
INDIAN SOCIETY



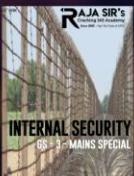
GS 2 - SPECIAL



INDIAN HISTORY



GEOGRAPHY



INTERNAL SECURITY
GS 1-2 - MAINS SPECIAL



GENERAL SCIENCE
CIVIL SERVICES PRELIMINARY EXAM



ECONOMIC
ISSUES
GS - 3 - MAINS SPECIAL



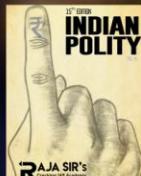
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POLITICS



MODERN INDIA



INDIAN
POLITY



SOCIOLOGY



POLITICAL SCIENCE &
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

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Current Affairs

- The Hindu, Frontline, NDTV 24 x 7, RS TV,
- IAS GOOGLE – Our In-house Magazine



Prelims Syllabus

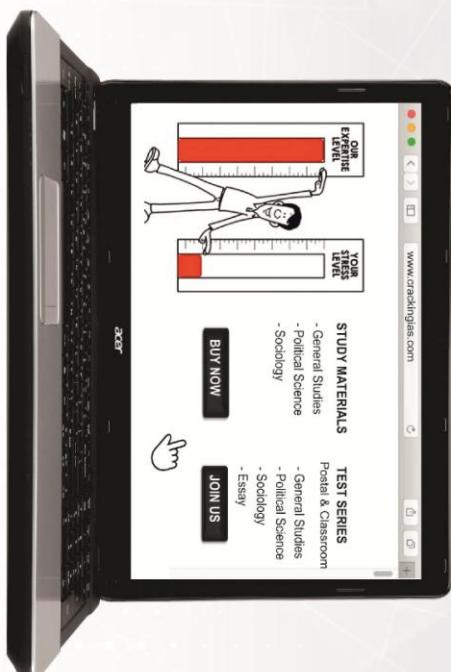
Paper - I

- Current events of national and international importance. History of India and Indian National Movement.
- Indian and World Geography - Physical, Social, Economic Geography of India and the World.
- Indian Polity and Governance - Constitution, Political System, Panchayati Raj, Public Policy, Rights Issues etc.
- Economic and Social Development Sustainable Development, Poverty, Inclusion, Demographics,
- Social Sector initiatives etc.
- General issues on Environmental Ecology, Bio-diversity and Climate Change - that do not require subject specialization.
- General Science.

Paper - II

- Comprehension
- Interpersonal skills including communication skills;
- Logical reasoning and analytical ability
- Decision-making and problem-solving
- General mental ability
- Basic numeracy (numbers and their relations, orders of magnitude, etc.) (Class X level), Data interpretation (charts, graphs, tables, data sufficiency etc. - Class X level)
- English Language Comprehension skills (Class X level).

Stress free way to LAS



I purchased study materials from Cracking IAS. It helped me a lot. Especially for Science and Technology. Conveyed in an interview to mrunal.org also.

Sir my senior has referred you, based on his words only i purchased your study materials for GS & PSIR. I find them very crispy and productive.

Sir My state PCS exam will end on 10 March, i could take my prelims test only after that, thanking my sirs anticipation, the 3 books of Raj Sirs Sociology are like bible for my optional. here in DELHI went to two institutions for sociology but feed up with them.

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Mains Analysis

245 questions have been asked so far in GS 1, 2, 3 since 2014. The break up shows the degree of importance of an area. The syllabus is also classified area wise. This helps us have an overall idea of how to go about the exam.

| Area | Number of questions (245) |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Economy | 90 |
| 2. Polity (static) | 38 |
| 3. India's Foreign Policy | 28 |
| 4. Geography, Ecology, Environment | 28 |
| 5. Modern India | 15 |
| 6. Science & Technology | 14 |
| 7. Culture/ Pre-British | 10 |
| 8. Polity (dynamic) | 8 |
| 9. Modern World | 6 |
| 10. Social Issues | 8 |

Unit 1: Economy

GS 1

- 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

GS 2

- 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
- Issues relating to development and management of Social Sector/Services relating to Health, Education, Human Resources.
- Issues relating to poverty and hunger.

GS 3

- 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.
- Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation, environmental impact assessment
- Disaster and disaster management.
- Linkages between development and spread of extremism.

Growth

1. Among several factors for India's potential growth, savings rate is the most effective one. Do you agree? What are the other factors available for growth potential? [GS3, 10M, 2017]
2. What are the salient features of 'inclusive growth'? Has India been experiencing such a growth process? Analyze and suggest measures for inclusive growth. [GS3, 15m, 2017]
3. Comment on the challenges for inclusive growth which includes careless and useless manpower in the Indian context. Suggest measures to be taken for facing these challenges. [GS3, 12.5m, 2016]
4. The nature of economic growth in India in recent times is often described as a jobless growth. Do you agree with this view? Give arguments in favour of your answer. [GS3, 12.5m, 2015]

Fiscal and monetary policies

5. Explain the salient features of the Constitution (One Hundred and First Amendment) Act, 2016. Do you think it is efficacious enough ‘to remove cascading effect of taxes and provide for common national market for goods and services’? [GS2, 15m, 2017]
6. One of the intended objectives of Union Budget 2017-18 is to ‘transform, energize and clean India’. Analyse the measures proposed in the Budget 2017-18 to achieve the objective. [GS3, 15m, 2017]
7. Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) is necessary for bringing unbanked to the institutional finance fold. Do you agree with this for financial inclusion of the poorer section of the Indian society? Give arguments to justify your opinion. [GS3, 12.5m, 2016]
8. In what way could replacement of price subsidy with direct benefit Transfer (DBT) change the scenario of subsidies in India? Discuss. [GS3, 12.5m, 2015]
9. The setting up of a Rail Tariff Authority to regulate fares will subject the cash strapped Indian Railways to demand subsidy for obligation to operate nonprofitable routes and services. Taking into account the experience in the power sector, discuss if the proposed reform is expected to benefit the consumers, the Indian Railways or the private container operators. [GS2, 12.5m, 2014]

Human development

10. ‘To ensure effective implementation of policies addressing water, sanitation and hygiene needs, the identification of beneficiary segments is to be synchronized with the anticipated outcomes’ Examine the statement in the context of the WASH scheme. [GS2, 10m, 2017]
11. Does the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 ensure effective mechanism for empowerment and inclusion of the intended beneficiaries in the society? Discuss. [GS2, 10m, 2017]

12. 'The emergence of Self Help Groups(SHGs) in contemporary times points to the slow but steady withdrawal of the state from developmental activities'. Examine the role of the SHGs in developmental activities and the measures taken by the Government of India to promote the SHGs. . [GS2, 15m, 2017]
13. Women empowerment in India needs gender budgeting. What are the requirements and status of gender budgeting in the Indian context? [GS3, 12.5m, 2016]
14. Professor Amartya Sen has advocated important reforms in the realms of primary education and primary health care. What are your suggestions to improve their status and performance? [GS2, 12.5m, 2016]
15. Examine the main provisions of National Child Policy and throw light on the status of its implementation. [GS2, 12.5m, 2016]
16. The Self Help Group (SHG) Bank Linkage Program (SBLP), which is India's own innovation , has proved to be one of the most eff poverty alleviation and women empowerment programme. Elucidate. [GS2, 12.5m, 2015]
17. The quality of higher education in India requires major improvement to make it internationally competitive. Do you think that the entry of foreign educational institutions would help improve the quality of technical and higher education in the country? Discuss. [GS2, 12.5m, 2015]
18. Public health system has limitation in providing universal health coverage. Do you think that private sector can help in bridging the gap? What other viable alternatives do you suggest? [GS2, 12.5m, 2015]
19. The penetration of self-help groups (SHGs) in rural areas in promoting participation in development programmes is facing sociocultural hurdles. Examine. [GS2, 12.5m, 2014]
20. Should the premier institutes like IITs/ IIMs be allowed to retain premier status, allowed more academic independence in designing course and also decide mode/ criteria of selection of students. Discuss in light of the growing challenges. [GS2, 12.5m, 2014]

21. Scientific research in Indian universities is declining, because a career in science is not as attractive as are business professions, engineering or administration, and the universities are becoming consumer-oriented. Critically comment. [GS3, 12.5m, 2014]

Population and poverty

22. Hunger and Poverty are the biggest challenges for good governance in India still today. Evaluate how far successive governments have progressed in dealing with these humongous problems. Suggest measures for improvement. [GS2, 10m, 2017]

23. ‘Poverty Alleviation Programmes in India remain mere show pieces until and unless they are backed by political will’. Discuss with reference to the performance of the major poverty alleviation programmes in India. [GS2, 15m, 2017]

24. “An essential condition to eradicate poverty is to liberate the poor from the process of deprivation.” Substantiate this statement with suitable examples. [GS1, 7 + 5.5m, 2016]

25. Though there have been several diff estimates of poverty in India, all indicate reduction in poverty over time. Do you agree? Critically examine with reference to urban and rural poverty indicators. [GS2, 12.5m, 2015]

26. How do you explain the statistics that show that the sex ratio in Tribes in India is more favourable to women than the sex ratio among Scheduled Castes? [GS1, 12.5m, 2015]

27. Critically examine whether growing population is the cause of poverty OR poverty is the mains cause of population increase in India. [GS1, 12.5m, 2015]

28. Why do some of the most prosperous regions of India have an adverse sex ratio for women? Give your arguments. [GS1, 10m, 2014]

29. “While we flaunt India’s demographic dividend, we ignore the dropping rates of employability.” What are we missing while doing so? Where will the jobs that India desperately needs come from? Explain. [GS3, 12.5m, 2014]

Development and displacement

30. “Inspite of adverse environmental impact, coal mining is still inevitable for development”. Discuss [GS1, 10m, 2017]
31. Not many years ago, river linking was a concept but it is becoming reality in the country. Discuss the advantages of river linking and its possible impact on the environment. [GS3, 10M, 2017]
32. Rehabilitation of human settlements is one of the important environmental impacts which always attracts controversy while planning major projects. Discuss the measures suggested for mitigation of this impact while proposing major developmental projects. [GS3, 12.5m, 2016]
33. The persisting drives of the government for development of large industries in backward areas have resulted in isolating the tribal population and the farmers who face multiple displacements. With Malkangiri and Naxalbari foci, discuss the corrective strategies needed to win the Left Wing Extremism (LWE) doctrine affected citizens back into mainstream of social and economic growth. [GS3, 12.5m, 2015]
34. There is a clear acknowledgement that Special Economic Zones (SEZs) are a tool of industrial development, manufacturing and exports. Recognising this potential, the whole instrumentality of SEZs require augmentation. Discuss the issue plaguing the success of SEZs with respect to taxation, governing laws and administration. [GS3, 12.5m, 2015]
35. The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 has come into eff from 1st January, 2014. What are the key issues which would get addressed with the Act in place? What implications would it have on industrialization and agriculture in India? [GS3, 12.5m, 2014]

Sustainable growth

36. In what way can floods be converted into a sustainable source of irrigation and all-weather inland navigation in India? [GS1, 15m, 2017]
37. What is water-use efficiency? Describe the role of micro-irrigation in increasing the water-use efficiency. [GS3, 12.5m, 2016]
38. Give an account of the current status and the targets to be achieved pertaining to renewable energy sources in the country. Discuss in brief the importance of National Programme on Light Emitting Diodes. (LEDs). [GS3, 12.5m, 2016]
39. In what way micro-watershed development projects help in water conservation in drought-prone and semi-arid regions of India? [GS1, 12.5m, 2016]
40. The effective implementation of land and water resources will drastically reduce the human miseries. Explain. [GS1, 12.5m, 2016]
41. To what factors can be the recent dramatic fall in equipment cost and tariff of solar energy be attributed? What implications does the trend have for thermal power producers and related industry? [GS3, 12.5m, 2015]
42. How can be the role of NGOs be strengthened in India for development works relating to protection of the Environment? Discuss throwing light on the major constraints. [GS2, 12.5m, 2015]
43. India is well endowed with fresh water resources. Critically examine why it still suffers from water scarcity. [GS1, 12.5m, 2015]
44. Should the pursuit of carbon credits and clean development mechanisms set up under UNFCCC be maintained even though there has been a massive slide in the value of a carbon credit? Discuss with respect to India's energy needs for economic growth. [GS3, 12.5m, 2014]

Agrarian issues

45. Mention the advantages of the cultivation of pulses because of which the year 2016 was declared as the International Year of Pulses by United Nations. [GS2, 10m, 2017]
46. Explain various types of revolutions, took place in Agriculture after Independence in India. How these revolutions have helped in poverty alleviation and food security in India? [GS3, 10m, 2017]
47. What are the reasons for poor acceptance of cost effective small processing unit? How the food processing unit will be helpful to uplift the socio-economic status of poor farmers? [GS3, 10m, 2017]
48. What are the major reasons for declining rice and wheat yield in the cropping system? How crop diversification is helpful to stabilize the yield of the crop in the system? [GS3, 15m, 2017]
49. How do subsidies affect the cropping pattern, crop diversity and economy of farmers? What is the signifi of crop insurance, minimum support price and food processing for small and marginal farmers? [GS3, 15m, 2017]
50. Discuss the role of land reforms in agricultural development. Identify the factors that were responsible for the success of land reforms in India. [GS3, 12.5m, 2016]
51. Given the vulnerability of Indian agriculture to vagaries of nature, discuss the need for crop insurance and bring out the salient features of the Pradhana Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY). [GS3, 12.5m, 2016]
52. Smart cities in India cannot sustain without smart vilages. Discuss this statement in the backdrop of rural urban integration. [GS1, 12.5m, 2015]
53. Livestock rearing has a big potential for providing non- farm employment and income in rural areas. Discuss suggesting suitable measures to promote this sector in India. [GS3, 12.5m, 2015]

54. In the view of the declining average size of land holdings in India which has made agriculture non – viable for a majority of farmers should contract farming and land leasing be promoted in agriculture? Critically evaluate the pros and cons. [GS3, 12.5m, 2015]
55. What are the impediments in marketing and supply chain management in developing the food processing industry in India? Can e-commerce help in overcoming this bottleneck? [GS3, 12.5m, 2015]
56. There is also a point of view that Agricultural Produce Market Committees (APMCs) set up under the State Acts have not only impeded the development of agriculture but also have been the cause of food inflation in India. Critically examine. [GS3, 12.5m, 2014]
57. “In the villages itself no form of credit organization will be suitable except the cooperative society.” – All India Rural Credit Survey. Discuss this statement in the background of agricultural finance in India. What constraints and challenges do financial institutions supplying agricultural finance face? How can technology be used to better reach and serve rural clients? [GS3, 12.5m, 2014]
58. Discuss the various economic and socio-cultural forces that are driving increasing feminization of agriculture in India. [GS1, 10m, 2014]
59. Why did the Green Revolution in India virtually by-pass the eastern region despite fertile soil and good availability of water? [GS1, 10m, 2014]

Industrial issues

60. Account for the failure of manufacturing sector in achieving the goal of labour-intensive exports rather than capital-intensive exports. Suggest measures for more labour-intensive rather than capital-intensive exports. ? [GS3, 10m, 2017]
61. Examine the developments of Airports in India through Joint Ventures under Public-Private Partnership(PPP) model. What are the challenges faced by the authorities in this regard. ? [GS3, 10m, 2017]

62. “Industrial growth rate has lagged behind in the overall growth of Gross-Domestic-Product(GDP) in the post-reform period” Give reasons. How far the recent changes in Industrial Policy are capable of increasing the industrial growth rate? [GS3, 15m, 2017]

63. “The growth of cities as I.T. hubs has opened up new avenues of employment, but has also created new problems”. Substantiate this statement with examples [GS1, 15m, 2017]

64. “Demographic dividend in India will remain only theoretical unless our manpower becomes more educated, aware, skilled and creative.” What measures have been taken by the government to enhance the capacity of our population to be more productive and employable? [GS2, 12.5m, 2016]

65. “Success of make in India program depends on the success of Skill India programme and radical labour reforms.” Discuss with logical arguments. [GS3, 12.5m, 2015]

66. Normally countries shift from agriculture to industry and then later to services, but India shifted directly from agriculture to services. What are the reasons for the huge growth-services vis-a-vis industry in the country? Can India become a developed country without a strong industrial base? [GS3, 12.5m, 2014]

67. Explain how Private Public Partnership arrangements, in long gestation infrastructure projects, can transfer unsustainable liabilities to the future. What arrangements need to be put in place to ensure that successive generations’ capacities are not compromised? [GS3, 12.5m, 2014]

Urbanization

68. The frequency of urban floods due to high intensity rainfall is increasing over the years. Discussing the reasons for urban floods, highlight the mechanisms for preparedness to reduce the risk during such events. [GS3, 12.5m, 2016]

69. With a brief background of quality of life in urban India, introduce the objectives and strategy of ‘smart city program.’ [GS1, 4+8.5m, 2016]

70. What are ‘smart cities’? Examine their relevance for urban development in India. Will it increase rural-urban differences? Give arguments for ‘smart cities’ in the light of PURA and RURBAN Mission. [GS3, 12.5m, 2016]
71. Major cities of India are becoming more vulnerable to flood conditions. Discuss. [GS1, 12.5m, 2016]
72. Mumbai, Delhi and Kolkata are the three Mega cities of the country but the air pollution is much more serious problem in Delhi as compared to the other two. Why is this so? [GS1, 12.5m, 2015]
73. National Urban Transport Policy emphasises on ‘moving people’ instead of ‘moving vehicles’. Discuss critically the success of the various strategies of the Government in this regard. [GS3, 12.5m, 2014]
74. Do government’s schemes for up-lifting vulnerable and backward communities by protecting required social resources for them, lead to their exclusion in establishing businesses in urban economies? [GS2, 12.5m, 2014]

Globalization

75. To what extent globalization has influenced the core cultural diversity in India? Explain. [GS1, 12.5m, 2016]
76. How globalization has led to the reduction of employment in the formal sector of the Indian economy? Is increased informalisation detrimental to the development of the country? [GS3, 12.5m, 2016]
77. Justify the need for FDI for the development of the Indian economy. Why there is gap between MoUs signed and actual FDIs? Suggest remedial steps to be taken for increasing actual FDIs in India. [GS3, 12.5m, 2016]
78. Has the Indian governmental system responded adequately to the demands of Liberalization, Privatisation and Globalization started in 1991? What can the government do to be responsive to this important change? [GS2, 12.5m, 2016]

79. “The broader aims and objectives of WTO are to manage and promote international trade in the era of globalization. But the Doha round of negotiations seems doomed due to differences between the developed and the developing countries.” Discuss in the Indian perspective. [GS2, 12.5m, 2016]

80. Discuss the changes in the trends of labour migration within and outside India in the last four decades. [GS1, 12.5m, 2015]

81. Craze for gold in India has led to surge in import of gold in recent years and put pressure on balance of payments and external value of rupee. In view of this, examine the merits of Gold Monetization scheme. [GS3, 12.5m, 2015]

82. Discuss the positive and negative effects of globalization on women in India. [GS1, 12.5m, 2015]

83. Capitalism has guided the world economy to unprecedented prosperity. However, it often encourages short-sightedness and contributes to wide disparities between the rich and the poor. In this light, would it be correct to believe and adopt capitalism for bringing inclusive growth in India? Discuss. [GS3, 12.5m, 2014]

84. Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the defence sector is now set to be liberalized: What influence this is expected to have on Indian defence and economy in the short and long run? [GS3, 12.5m, 2014]

85. In a globalized world, Intellectual Property Rights assume significance and are a source of litigation. Broadly distinguish between the terms—Copyrights, Patents and Trade Secrets. [GS3, 12.5m, 2014]

86. Though 100 percent FDI is already allowed in non-news media like a trade publication and general entertainment channel, the Government is mulling over the proposal for increased FDI in news for quite some time. What difference would an increase in FDI make? Critically evaluate the pros and cons. [GS2, 12.5m, 2014]

87. WTO is an important international institution where decisions taken affect countries in a profound manner. What is the mandate of WTO and how binding are their decisions? Critically analyse

India's stand on the latest round of talks on Food security. [GS2, 12.5m, 2014]

88. The aim of Information Technology Agreements (ITAs) is to all taxes and tariff on information technology products by signatories to zero. What impact would such agreements have on India's interests? [GS2, 12.5m, 2014]
89. Some of the International funding agencies have special terms for economic participation stipulating a substantial component of the aid to be used for sourcing equipment from the\ leading countries. Discuss on merits of such terms and if there exists a strong case not to accept such conditions in the India context. [GS2, 12.5m, 2014]
90. India has recently signed to become founding member of New Development Bank (NDB) and also the Asian Infrastructure Bank (AIIB). How will the role of the two Banks be different? Discuss the strategic significance of these two Banks for India. [GS2, 12.5m, 2014]

Unit 2: Polity (static)

GS 1:

- Post-independence consolidation and reorganization within the country.
- Social empowerment, communalism, regionalism & secularism.

GS 2:

- Indian Constitution- historical underpinnings, 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
- Bodies constituted for the protection and betterment of these vulnerable sections.
- 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.

91. What are the two major legal initiatives by the State since Independence addressing discrimination against Scheduled Tribes(STs)? [GS1, 10m, 2017]
92. Distinguish between religiousness/religiosity and communalism giving one example of how the former has got transformed into the latter in independent India. [GS1, 15m, 2017]
93. .“The local self government system in India has not proved to be effective instrument of governance”. Critically examine the statement and give your views to improve the situation. [GS2, 10m, 2017]
94. .‘Simultaneous election to the Lok Sabha and the State Assemblies will limit the amount of time and money spent in electioneering but it will reduce the government’s accountability to the people’ Discuss. . [GS2, 10m, 2017]
95. How do pressure groups influence Indian political process? Do you agree with this view that informal pressure groups have emerged as powerful than formal pressure groups in recent years? [GS2, 10m, 2017]
96. Discuss the role of Public Accounts Committee in establishing accountability of the government to the people. [GS2, 10m, 2017]
97. The Indian Constitution has provisions for holding joint session of the two houses of the Parliament. Enumerate the occasions when this would normally happen and also the occasions when it cannot, with reasons thereof. [GS2, 15m, 2017]
98. To enhance the quality of democracy in India the Election Commission of India has proposed electoral reforms in 2016. What are the suggested reforms and how far are they significant to make democracy successful? [GS2, 15m, 2017]
99. Is the National Commission for Women able to strategize and tackle the problems that women face at both public and private spheres? Give reasons in support of your answer. [GS2, 15m, 2017]
100. Initially Civil Services in India were designed to achieve the goals of neutrality and effectiveness, which seems to be lacking in the present context. Do you agree with the view that drastic reforms are required in Civil Services. Comment [GS2, 15m, 2017]
101. Examine the scope of Fundamental Rights in the light of the

latest judgement of the Supreme Court on Right to Privacy. [GS2, 15m, 2017]

102. Does the right to clean environment entail legal regulation on burning crackers during Diwali? Discuss in the light of Article 21 of Indian Constitution and judgments of the apex in this regard. [GS2, 12.5m, 2015]
103. Discuss the essentials of the 69th Constitutional Amendment Act and anomalies, if any, that have led to recent reported conflict between the elected representatives and the institution of the Lieutenant Governor in the administration of Delhi. Do you think that this will give rise to a new trend in the functioning of the Indian federal politics? [GS2, 12.5m, 2016]
104. “The Indian party system is passing through a phase of transition which looks to be full of contradictions and paradoxes.” Discuss. [GS2, 12.5m, 2016]
105. Exercise of CAG’s powers in relation to the accounts of the Union and the states is derived from Article 149 of the Indian Constitution. Discuss whether audit of the government’s policy implementation could amount to overstepping its own (CAG) jurisdiction. [GS2, 12.5m, 2016]
106. Discuss each adjective attached to the word ‘Republic’ in the ‘Preamble’. Are they defendable in the present circumstances? [GS2, 12.5m, 2016]
107. What was held in the Coelho case? In this context, can you say that judicial review is of key importance amongst the basic features of the Constitution? [GS2, 12.5m, 2016]
108. What is a quasi-judicial body? Explain with the help of concrete examples. [GS2, 12.5m, 2016]
109. “In the Indian governance system, the role of non-state actors has been only marginal.” Critically examine this statement. [GS2, 12.5m, 2016]
110. “Effectiveness of the government system at various levels and people’s participation in the governance system are inter-dependent.” Discuss their relationship in the context of India. [GS2, 12.5m, 2016]

111. “Traditional bureaucratic structure and culture have hampered the process of socio-economic development in India.” Comment. [GS2, 12.5m, 2016]

112. What is the basis of regionalism? Is it that unequal distribution of benefits of development on regional basis eventually promote regionalism? Substantiate your answer. [GS1, 3.5 + 9 m, 2016]

113. Why are the tribals in India referred as ‘Scheduled Tribes’? Indicate the major constitutional provisions enshrined in the Constitution of India for their upliftment. [GS1, 4.5 + 8m, 2016]

114. Has the formation of linguistic states strengthened the cause of Indian unity? [GS1, 12.5m, 2016]

115. For achieving the desired objectives, it is necessary to ensure that the regulatory institution remain independent and autonomous. Discuss in the light of experiences in recent past. [GS2, 12.5m, 2015]

116. Discuss the possible factors that inhibit India from enacting for its citizen a uniform civil code as provided for in the Directive Principles of State Policy. [GS2, 12.5m, 2015]

117. The concept of cooperative federalism has been increasingly emphasised in recent years. Highlight the drawbacks in the existing structure and extent to which cooperative federalism would answer the shortcomings. [GS2, 12.5m, 2015]

118. In the absence of well – educated and organised local level government system, Panchayats and Samitis have remained mainly political institutions and not effective instrument of governance. Critically Discuss. [GS2, 12.5m, 2015]

119. Resorting to ordinances has always raised concern on violation of the spirit of separation of power doctrine. While noting the rationales justifying the power to promulgate, analyse whether the decision of the Supreme Court on the issue have further facilitated to resorting to this power. Should the power to promulgate the ordinances be repealed? [GS2, 12.5m, 2015]

120. How do the Indian debates on secularism differ from the debates in the West? [GS1, 10m, 2014]

121. Starting from inventing the ‘basic structure’ doctrine, the judicial activism in achieving the ideals of democracy. [GS2, 12.5m, 2014]
122. Though the federal principle is dominant in our constitution and that principle is one of its basic features, but it is equally true that federalism under the Indian Constitution leans in favour of a strong Center, a feature that militates against the concept of strong federalism. Discuss. [GS2, 12.5m, 2014]
123. The ‘Powers, Privileges and Immunities of Parliament and its members’ as envisaged in Article 105 of the Constitution leave room for a large number of un-enumerated privileges’. How can this problem be addressed? [GS2, 12.5m, 2014]
124. What do you understand by the concept “freedom of speech and expression”? Does it cover hate speech also? Why do the films in India stand on a slightly different plane from other forms of expression? Discuss. [GS2, 12.5m, 2014]
125. Instances of President’s delay in commuting death sentences have come under public debate as denial of justice. Should there be a time limit specified for the President to accept/reject such petitions ? Analyse. [GS2, 12.5m, 2014]
126. The size of the cabinet should be as big as governmental work justifies and as big as the Prime Minister can manage as a team. How far is the efficacy of a government then inversely related to the size of the cabinet? Discuss. [GS2, 12.5m, 2014]
127. National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) in India can be most effective when its tasks are adequately supported by other mechanisms that ensure the accountability of a government. In light of the above observation assess the role of NHRC as an effective complement to the judiciary and the judiciary and other institutions. In promoting and protecting human rights standards. [GS2, 12.5m, 2014]
128. Has the Cadre based Civil Services organization been the cause of slow change in India? Critically examine. [GS2, 12.5m, 2014]

Unit 3: India's Foreign Policy

GS 2

- 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.

GS 3

- 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

129. 'China is using its economic relations and positive trade surplus as tools to develop potential military power status in Asia', In the light of this statement, discuss its impact on India as her neighbor. [GS2, 10m, 2017]
130. What are the main functions of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)? Explain diff functional commissions attached to it. [GS2, 10m, 2017]
131. The question of India's Energy Security constitutes the most important part of India's economic progress. Analyze India's

energy policy cooperation with West Asian Countries. [GS2, 15m, 2017]

132. Indian Diaspora has an important role to play in South-East Asian countries' economy and society. Appraise the role of Indian Diaspora in South- East Asia in this context [GS2, 15m, 2017]
133. The north-eastern region of India has been infested with insurgency for a very long time. Analyze the major reasons for the survival of armed insurgency in this region. [GS3, 10m, 2017]
134. The scourge of terrorism is a grave challenge to national security. What solutions do you suggest to curb this growing menace? What are the major sources of terrorist funding? [GS3, 15m, 2017]
135. To what extent is Article 370 of the Indian Constitution, bearing marginal note "Temporary provision with respect to the state of Jammu and Kashmir" temporary? Discuss the future prospects of this provision in the context of Indian polity. [GS2, 12.5m, 2016]
136. Evaluate the economic and strategic dimensions of India's Look East Policy in the context of the post Cold War international scenario. [GS2, 12.5m, 2016]
137. "Increasing cross-border terrorist attacks in India and growing interference in the internal affairs of several member-countries by Pakistan are not conducive for the future of SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation)." Explain with suitable examples. [GS2, 12.5m, 2016]
138. What are the aims and objectives of the McBride Commission of the UNESCO? What is India's position on these? [GS2, 12.5m, 2016]
139. Present an account of the Indus Water Treaty and examine its ecological, economic and political implications in the context of changing bilateral relations. [GS1, 12.5m, 2016]
140. South China Sea has assumed great geopolitical significance in the present context. Comment. [GS1, 12.5m, 2016]

141. Increasing interest of India in Africa has its pros and cons. Critically Examine. [GS2, 12.5m, 2015]
142. Discuss the impediments India is facing in its pursuit of a permanent seat in UNSC. [GS2, 12.5m, 2015]
143. Project ‘Mausam’ is considered a unique foreign policy initiative of Indian government to improve relationship with its neighbours. Does the project have a strategic dimension? Discuss [GS2, 12.5m, 2015]
144. Terrorist activities and mutual distrust have clouded India – Pakistan relations. To what extent the use of soft power like sports and cultural exchange could help generate goodwill between the two countries. Discuss with suitable examples. [GS2, 12.5m, 2015]
145. With respect to the South China sea, maritime territorial disputes and rising tension affirm the need for safeguarding maritime security to ensure freedom of navigation and over flight throughout the region. In this context, discuss the bilateral issues between India and China. [GS2, 12.5m, 2014]
146. How does India see its place in the economic space of rising natural resources rich Africa? [GS1, 10m, 2014]
147. Human right activists constantly highlight the fact that the Armed forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 (AFSPA) is a draconian act leading to cases of human right abuses by security forces. What sections of AFSPA are opposed by the activists. Critically evaluate the requirement with reference to the view held by Apex Court. [GS3, 12.5m, 2015]
148. The terms ‘Hot Pursuit’ and ‘Surgical Strikes’ are often used in connection with armed action against terrorist attacks. Discuss the strategic impact of such actions. [GS3, 12.5m, 2016]
149. “Terrorism is emerging as a competitive industry over the last few decades.” Analyse the above statement. [GS3, 12.5m, 2016]
150. Border management is a complex task due to difficult terrain and hostile relations with some countries. Elucidate the challenges and strategies for effective border management. [GS3, 12.5m, 2016]

151. Religious indoctrination via social media has resulted in Indian youth joining the ISIS. What is ISIS and its mission? How can ISIS be dangerous to the internal security of our country [GS3, 12.5m, 2015]
152. “The diverse nature of India as a multi-religious and multi-ethnic society is not immune to the impact of radicalism which is seen in her neighbourhood? Discuss along with strategies to be adopted to counter this environment. [GS3, 12.5m, 2014]
153. International civil aviation laws provide all countries complete and exclusive sovereignty over the airspace above their territory. What do you understand by ‘airspace’? What are the implications of these laws on the space above this airspace? Discuss the challenges which this poses and suggest ways to contain the threat. [GS3, 12.5m, 2014]
154. How does illegal transborder migration pose a threat to India’s security? Discuss the strategies to curb this, bringing out the factors which give impetus to such migration. [GS3, 12.5m, 2014]
155. In 2012, the longitudinal marking for high-risk areas for piracy was moved from 65 degrees east to 78 degrees east in the Arabian Sea by the International Maritime Organisation. What impact does this have on India’s maritime security concerns? [GS3, 12.5m, 2014]
156. China and Pakistan have entered into an agreement for development of an economic corridor. What threat does this pose for India’s security? Critically examine. [GS3, 12.5m, 2014]

Unit 4: Polity (dynamic)

157. Critically examine the Supreme Court's judgement on 'National Judicial Appointments Commission Act, 2014' with reference to appointment of judges of higher judiciary in India. [GS2, 10m, 2017]
158. In the integrity of index of Transparency International, India stands very low. Discuss briefly the legal, political, economic, social and cultural factors that have caused the decline of public morality in India. [GS2, 12.5m, 2016]
159. What are the major changes brought in the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1966 through the recent ordinance promulgated by the President? How far will it improve India's dispute resolution mechanism? Discuss. [GS2, 12.5m, 2015]
160. Examine critically the recent changes in the rule governing foreign funding of NGOs under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA), 1976. [GS2, 12.5m, 2015]
161. In the light of Satyam Scandal (2009), discuss the changes brought in the corporate governance to ensure transparency and accountability. [GS2, 12.5m, 2015]
162. If amendment bill to the Whistleblowers Protection Act 2011 tabled in the Parliament is passed, there may be no one left to protect. Critically Evaluate. [GS2, 12.5m, 2015]
163. Two parallel run schemes of the Government, viz the Aadhaar Card and NPR, one as voluntary and the other as compulsory, have led to debates at national levels and also litigations. On merits, discuss whether or not both schemes need run concurrently. Analyse the potential of the schemes to achieve developmental benefits and equitable growth. [GS2, 12.5m, 2014]
164. An athlete participates in Olympics for personal triumph and nation's glory; victors are showered with cash incentives by various agencies, on their return. Discuss the merit of state sponsored talent hunt and its cultivation as against the rationale of a reward mechanism as encouragement. [GS2, 12.5m, 2014]

Unit 5: Social Issues

GS 1:

- Salient features of Indian Society, Diversity of India.
- [GS3, 12.5m, 2014]

165. In the context of the diversity of India, can it be said that the regions form cultural units rather than the States? Give reasons with examples for your view point. [GS1, 10m, 2017]

166. The spirit of tolerance and love is not only an interesting feature of Indian society from very early times, but it is also playing an important part at the present. Elaborate. [GS1, 15m, 2017]

167. Mob violence is emerging as a serious law and order problem in India. By giving suitable examples, analyze the causes and consequences of such violence. [GS3, 15m, 2017]

168. Khap panchayats have been in the news for functioning as extra – constitutional authorities, often delivering pronouncements amounting to human right violations. Discuss critically the actions taken by the legislative, executive and judiciary to set the things right in this regard. [GS2, 12.5m, 2015]

169. Describe any four cultural elements of diversity in India and rate their relative significance in building a national identity. [GS1, 12.5m, 2015]

170. Debate the issue whether and how contemporary movements for assertion of Dalit identity work towards annihilation of caste. [GS1, 12.5m, 2015]

171. How does patriarchy impact the position of a middle class working woman in India? [GS1, 10m, 2014]

172. The life cycle of a joint family depends on economic factors rather than social values. Discuss. [GS1, 10m, 2014]

Unit 6: Science & Technology

GS 3

- 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 fi of IT, Space, Computers, robotics, nano-technology, bio-technology and issues relating to intellectual property rights.

173. Stem cell therapy is gaining popularity in India to treat a wide variety of medical conditions including leukaemia, Thalassemia, damaged sornea and several burns. Describe briefly what stem cell therapy is and what advantages it has over other treatments? [GS3, 10m, 2017]

174. India has achieved remarkable successes in unmanned space missions including the Chandrayaan and Mars Orbitter Mission, but has not ventured into manned space mission, both in terms of technology and logistics? Explain critically [GS3, 10m, 2017]

175. Discuss the potential threats of Cyber attack and the security framework to prevent it. [GS3, 10m, 2017]

176. Give an account of the growth and development of nuclear science and technology in India. What is the advantage of fast breeder reactor programme in India? [GS3, 15m, 2017]

177. Use of internet and social media by non-state actors for subversive activities is a major security concern. How have these been misused in the recent past? Suggest effective guidelines to curb the above threat. [GS3, 12.5m, 2016]

178. Discuss India's achievements in the field of space science and technology. How the application of this technology has helped India in its socio-economic development? [GS3, 12.5m, 2016]

179. Why is nanotechnology one of the key technologies of the 21st century? Describe the salient features of Indian government's mission on nanoscience and technology and the scope of its application in the developmental process of the country. [GS3, 12.5m, 2016]

180. What do you understand by "Standard Positioning System" and "Precision positioning system" in the GPS era? Discuss the advantage India perceives from its ambitious IRNSS programme employing just seven satellites. [GS3, 12.5m, 2015]

181. What are the areas of prohibitive labour that can be sustainably managed by robots? Discuss the initiatives that can propel the research in premier research institutes for substantive and gainful innovation. [GS3, 12.5m, 2015]

182. Discuss the advantage and security implication of cloud hosting of servers vis-a-vis in house machine based hosting for government business. [GS3, 12.5m, 2015]

183. India's Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) which has a database containing formatted information on more than 2 million medicinal formulations is proving a powerful weapon in country's fight against erroneous patents. Discuss the pro and cons of making the database available publicly available under open source licensing. [GS3, 12.5m, 2015]

184. Considering the threats cyberspace poses for the country, India needs a "Digital Armed Forces" to prevent crimes. Critically evaluate the National Cyber Security Policy, 2013 outlining the challenges perceived in its effective implementation. [GS3, 12.5m, 2015]

185. How can the Digital India program help farmers to improve farm productivity and income? What step has the government taken in this regard? [GS3, 12.5m, 2015]

186. Can overuse and free availability of antibiotics without Doctor's prescription, be contributors to the emergence of drug-resistant diseases in India? What are the available mechanisms for monitoring and control? Critically discuss the various issues involved. [GS3, 12.5m, 2015]

Unit 7: Modern World

GS1:

- History of the world will include events from 18th century such as industrial revolution, world wars, redrawing of national boundaries, colonization, decolonization, political philosophies like communism, capitalism, socialism etc.- their forms and effect on the society.

187. What problems are germane to the decolonization process in the Malay Peninsula? [GS1, 10m, 2017]
188. The anti-colonial struggles in West Africa were led by the new elite of Western-educated Africans. Examine. [GS1, 12.5m, 2016]
189. Why did the industrial revolution first occur in England? Discuss the quality of life of the people there during the industrialization. How does it compare with that in India at present times? [GS1, 12.5m, 2015]
190. To what extent can Germany be held responsible for causing the two World Wars? Discuss critically.[GS1, 12.5m, 2015]
191. What were the events that led to the Suez Crisis in 1956? How did it deal a final blow to Britain's self-image as a world power? [GS1, 10m, 2014]
192. The New Economic Policy – 1921 of Lenin had influenced the policies adopted by India soon after independence. Evaluate. [GS1, 10m, 2014]

Unit 8: Modern India

GS1:

- 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.

193. Clarify how mid-eighteenth century India was beset with the spectre of a fragmented polity. [GS1, 10m, 2017]
194. Why did the 'Moderates' failed to carry conviction with the nation about their proclaimed ideology and political goals by the end of the nineteenth century? [GS1, 10m, 2017]
195. Examine how the decline of traditional artisanal industry in colonial India crippled the rural economy. . [GS1, 15m, 2017]
196. Highlight the importance of the new objectives that got added to the vision of Indian Independence since the twenties of the last century. [GS1, 15m, 2017]
197. The women's questions arose in modern India as a part of the 19th century social reform movement. What are the major issues and debates concerning women in that period? [GS1, 15m, 2017]
198. Did the Government of India Act, 1935 lay down a federal constitution? Discuss. [GS2, 12.5m, 2016]
199. Explain how the uprising of 1857 constitutes an important watershed in the evolution of British policies towards colonial India. [GS1, 12.5m, 2016]
200. Discuss the role of women in the freedom struggle especially during the Gandhian phase. [GS1, 12.5m, 2016]
201. Highlight the differences in the approach of Subhash Chandra Bose and Mahatma Gandhi in the struggle for freedom. [GS1, 12.5m, 2016]

202. How difficult would have been the achievement of Indian independence without Mahatma Gandhi? Discuss. [GS1, 12.5m, 2015]
203. Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. B R Ambedkar, despite having divergent approaches and strategies, had a common goal of amelioration of the downtrodden. Elucidate. [GS1, 12.5m, 2015]
204. It would have been difficult for the Constituent Assembly to complete its historic task of drafting the Constitution for Independent India in just three years, but its experience gained with the Government of India Act, 1935 .Discuss. [GS1, 12.5m, 2015]
205. Examine critically the various facets of economic policies of the British in India from mid-eighteenth century till independence. [GS1, 10m, 2014]
206. In what ways did the navel mutiny prove to be the last nail in the coffin of British colonial aspirations in India? [GS1, 10m, 2014]
207. What were the major political, economic and social developments in the world which motivated the anti-colonial in India? [GS1, 10m, 2014]

Unit 9: Culture/ pre-British

GS1:

- Indian culture will cover the salient aspects of Art Forms, Literature and Architecture from ancient to modern times.

208. How do you justify the view that the level of excellence of the Gupta numismatic art is not at all noticeable in later times? [GS1, 10m, 2017]
209. Early Buddhist Stupa-art, while depicting folk motifs and narratives successfully expounds Buddhist ideals. Elaborate. [GS1, 12.5m, 2016]
210. Krishnadevaraya, the king of Vijayanagar, was not only an accomplished scholar himself but was also a great patron of learning and literature. Discuss. [GS1, 12.5m, 2016]
211. The ancient civilization in Indian subcontinent diff from those of Egypt, Mesopotamia and Greece in that its culture and traditions have been preserved without breakdown to the present day. Comment [GS1, 12.5m, 2015]
212. Mesolithic rock cut architecture of India not only reflects the cultural life of the times but also a fine aesthetic sense comparable to modern painting. Critically evaluate this comment. [GS1, 12.5m, 2015]
213. To what extent has the urban planning and culture of the Indus Valley Civilization provided inputs to the present day urbanization? Discuss. [GS1, 10m, 2014]
214. Gandhara sculpture owed as much to the Romans as to the Greeks. Explain. [GS1, 10m, 2014]
215. Taxila university was one of the oldest universities of the world with which were associated a number of renowned learned personalities of diff disciplines. Its strategic location caused

its fame to flourish, but unlike Nalanda, it is not considered as a university in the modern sense. Discuss. [GS1, 10m, 2014]

216. The third battle of Panipat was fought in 1761. Why were so many empire-shaking battles fought at Panipat? [GS1, 10m, 2014]
217. Sufis and medieval saints failed to modify either the religious ideas and practices or the outward structure of Hindu/ Muslim societies to any appreciable extent. Comment. [GS1, 10m, 2014]

Unit 10: Geography/Ecology and Environment

GS 1:

- Salient features of world's physical geography.
- Distribution of key natural resources across the world (including South Asia and the Indian sub-continent); 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.

218. How does the Juno Mission of NASA help to understand the origin and evolution of the Earth? [GS1, 10m, 2017]

219. How does the cryosphere affect global climate? [GS1, 10m, 2017]

220. Account for variations in oceanic salinity and discuss its multi-dimensional effects. [GS1, 10m, 2017]

221. Petroleum refineries are not necessarily located nearer to crude oil producing areas, particularly in many of the developing countries. Explain its implications. [GS1, 15m, 2017]

222. What characteristics can be assigned to monsoon climate that succeeds in feeding more than 50 percent of the world population residing in Monsoon Asia? [GS1, 15m, 2017]

223. 'Climate Change' is a global problem. How India will be affected by climate change? How Himalayan and coastal states of India will be affected by climate change? [GS3, 15m, 2017]

224. On December 2004, tsunami brought havoc on 14 countries including India. Discuss the factors responsible for occurrence of Tsunami and its effect on life and economy. In the light

of guidelines of NDMA (2010) describe the mechanisms for preparedness to reduce the risk during such events. [GS3, 15m, 2017]

225. Enumerate the problems and prospects of inland water transport in India. [GS1, 12.5m, 2016]
226. Discuss the concept of air mass and explain its role in macro-climatic changes. [GS1, 12.5m, 2016]
227. “The Himalayas are highly prone to landslides.” Discuss the causes and suggest suitable measures of mitigation. [GS1, 12.5m, 2016]
228. With reference to National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) guidelines, discuss the measures to be adopted to mitigate the recent incidents of cloudbursts in many places in Uttarakhand. [GS3, 12.5m, 2016]
229. What is allelopathy? Discuss its role in major cropping systems of irrigated agriculture. [GS3, 12.5m, 2016]
230. Discuss the Namami Gange and National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) programmes and causes of mixed results from the previous schemes. What quantum leaps can help preserve the river Ganga better than incremental inputs? [GS3, 12.5m, 2015]
231. The frequency of earthquakes appears to have increased in the Indian subcontinent. However, India’s preparedness for mitigating their impact has significant gaps. Discuss various aspects. [GS3, 12.5m, 2015]
232. Explain the factors responsible for the origin of ocean currents. How do they influence regional climates, fishing and navigation? [GS1, 12.5m, 2015]
233. The states of Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand are reaching the limits of ecological carrying capacity due to tourism. Critically evaluate. [GS1, 12.5m, 2015]
234. How far do you agree that the behaviour of the Indian monsoon has been changing due to humanizing landscape? Discuss. [GS1, 12.5m, 2015]

235. What are the economic significance of discovery of oil in Arctic Sea and its possible environmental consequences? [GS1, 12.5m, 2015]

236. Most of the unusual climatic happenings are explained as an outcome of the El-Nino effect. Do you agree? [GS1, 10m, 2014]

237. Why are the world's fold mountain systems located along the margins of continents? Bring out the association between the global distribution of fold mountains and the earthquakes and volcanoes. [GS1, 10m, 2014]

238. Explain the formation of thousands of islands in Indonesian and Philipines archipelagos.

239. Tropical cyclones are largely confined to South China Sea, Bay of Bengal and Gulf of Mexico. Why? [GS1, 10m, 2014]

240. Bring out the relationship between the shrinking Himalayan glaciers and the symptoms of climate change in the Indian sub-continent. [GS1, 10m, 2014]

241. Whereas the British planters had developed tea gardens all along the Shivaliks and Lesser Himalayas from Assam to Himachal Pradesh, in effect they did not succeed beyond the Darjeeling area. Explain. [GS1, 10m, 2014]

242. Account for the change in the spatial pattern of the Iron and Steel industry in the world. [GS1, 10m, 2014]

243. Critically evaluate the various resources of the oceans which can be harnessed to meet the resource crisis in the world. [GS1, 10m, 2014]

244. Drought has been recognized as a disaster in view of its spatial expanse, temporal duration, slow onset and lasting effects on vulnerable sections. With a focus on the September 2010 guidelines from the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), discuss the mechanisms for preparedness to deal with likely El Nino and La Nina fallouts in India. [GS3, 12.5m, 2014]

245. Environmental Impact Assessment studies are increasingly undertaken before a project is cleared by the Government. Discuss the environmental impacts of coal-fired thermal plants located at coal pitheads. [GS3, 12.5m, 2014]

2017 Mains Papers

GS 1

1. How do you justify the view that the level of excellence of the Gupta numismatic art is not at all noticeable in later times? (150 words)
2. Clarify how mid-eighteenth century India was beset with the spectre of a fragmented polity. (150 words)
3. Why did the ‘Moderates’ failed to carry conviction with the nation about their proclaimed ideology and political goals by the end of the nineteenth century? (150 words)
4. What problems are germane to the decolonization process in the Malay Peninsula? (150 words)
5. How does the Juno Mission of NASA help to understand the origin and evolution of the Earth? (150 words)
6. “Inspite of adverse environmental impact, coal mining is still inevitable for development”. Discuss (150 words)
7. Mention the advantages of the cultivation of pulses because of which the year 2016 was declared as the International Year of Pulses by United Nations. (150 words)
8. How does the cryosphere affect global climate? (150 words)
9. In the context of the diversity of India, can it be said that the regions form cultural units rather than the States? Give reasons with examples for your view point. (150 words)
10. What are the two major legal initiatives by the State since Independence addressing discrimination against Scheduled Tribes(STs)? (150 words) (250 words)
11. The spirit of tolerance and love is not only an interesting feature of Indian society from very early times, but it is also playing an important part at the present. Elaborate. (250 words)
12. Examine how the decline of traditional artisanal industry in

colonial India crippled the rural economy. (250 words)

13. Highlight the importance of the new objectives that got added to the vision of Indian Independence since the twenties of the last century. (250 words)
14. Account for variations in oceanic salinity and discuss its multi-dimensional effects. (250 words)
15. Petroleum refineries are not necessarily located nearer to crude oil producing areas, particularly in many of the developing countries. Explain its implications. (250 words)
16. In what way can fl ____ be converted into a sustainable source of irrigation and allweather inland navigation in India? (250 words)
17. What characteristics can be assigned to monsoon climate that succeeds in feeding more than 50 percent of the world population residing in Monsoon Asia? (250 words)
18. The women's questions arose in modern India as a part of the 19th century social reform movement. What are the major issues and debates concerning women in that period? (250 words)
19. Distinguish between religiousness/religiosity and communalism giving one example of how the former has got transformed into the latter in independent India. (250 words)
20. "The growth of cities as I.T. hubs has opened up new avenues of employment, but has also created new problems". Substantiate this statement with examples (250 words)

GS 2

1. "The local self government system in India has not proved to be effective instrument of governance". Critically examine the statement and give your views to improve the situation. (150 words)
2. Critically examine the Supreme Court's judgement on 'National Judicial Appointments Commission Act, 2014' with reference to appointment of judges of higher judiciary in India. (150 words)
3. 'Simultaneous election to the Lok Sabha and the State Assemblies will limit the amount of time and money spent in electioneering

but it will reduce the government's accountability to the people' Discuss. (150 words)

4. How do pressure groups influence Indian political process? Do you agree with this view that informal pressure groups have emerged as powerful than formal pressure groups in recent years? (150 words)
5. Discuss the role of Public Accounts Committee in establishing accountability of the government to the people. (150 words)
6. 'To ensure effective implementation of policies addressing water, sanitation and hygiene needs, the identification of beneficiary segments is to be synchronized with the anticipated outcomes' Examine the statement in the context of the WASH scheme. (150 words)
7. Does the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 ensure effective mechanism for empowerment and inclusion of the intended beneficiaries in the society? Discuss (150 words)
8. Hunger and Poverty are the biggest challenges for good governance in India still today. Evaluate how far successive governments have progressed in dealing with these humongous problems. Suggest measures for improvement. (150 words)
9. 'China is using its economic relations and positive trade surplus as tools to develop potential military power status in Asia', In the light of this statement, discuss its impact on India as her neighbor. (150 words)
10. What are the main functions of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)? Explain different functional commissions attached to it. (150 words)
11. Explain the salient features of the constitution (One Hundred and First Amendment) Act, 2016. Do you think it is efficacious enough 'to remove cascading effect of taxes and provide for common national market for goods and services'? (250 words)
12. Examine the scope of Fundamental Rights in the light of the latest judgement of the Supreme Court on Right to Privacy. (250 words)

13. The Indian Constitution has provisions for holding joint session of the two houses of the Parliament. Enumerate the occasions when this would normally happen and also the occasions when it cannot, with reasons thereof. (250 words)
14. To enhance the quality of democracy in India the Election Commission of India has proposed electoral reforms in 2016. What are the suggested reforms and how far are they significant to make democracy successful? (250 words)
15. Is the National Commission for Women able to strategize and tackle the problems that women face at both public and private spheres? Give reasons in support of your answer. (250 words)
16. 'The emergence of Self Help Groups(SHGs) in contemporary times points to the slow but steady withdrawal of the state from developmental activities'. Examine the role of the SHGs in developmental activities and the measures taken by the Government of India to promote the SHGs. (250 words)
17. 'Poverty Alleviation Programmes in India remain mere show pieces until and unless they are backed by political will'. Discuss with reference to the performance of the major poverty alleviation programmes in India. (250 words)
18. Initially Civil Services in India were designed to achieve the goals of neutrality and effectiveness, which seems to be lacking in the present context. Do you agree with the view that drastic reforms are required in Civil Services. Comment (250 words)
19. The question of India's Energy Security constitutes the most important part of India's economic progress. Analyze India's energy policy cooperation with West Asian Countries. (250 words)
20. Indian Diaspora has an important role to play in South-East Asian countries' economy and society. Appraise the role of Indian Diaspora in South- East Asia in this context (250 words)

GS 3

1. Among several factors for India's potential growth, savings rate is the most effective one. Do you agree? What are the other factors available for growth potential? (Answer in 150 words)
2. Account for the failure of manufacturing sector in achieving the goal of labour-intensive exports rather than capital-intensive exports. Suggest measures for more labour-intensive rather than capital-intensive exports. ? (Answer in 150 words)
3. Examine the developments of Airports in India through Joint Ventures under Public-Private Partnership(PPP) model. What are the challenges faced by the authorities in this regard. ? (Answer in 150 words)
4. Explain various types of revolutions, took place in Agriculture after Independence in India. How these revolutions have helped in poverty alleviation and food security in India? (Answer in 150 words)
5. What are the reasons for poor acceptance of cost effective small processing unit? How the food processing unit will be helpful to uplift the socio-economic status of poor farmers? (Answer in 150 words)
6. Stem cell therapy is gaining popularity in India to treat a wide variety of medical conditions including leukaemia, Thalassemia, damaged sornea and several burns. Describe briefly what stem cell therapy is and what advantages it has over other treatments? (Answer in 150 words)
7. India has achieved remarkable successes in unmanned space missions including the Chandrayaan and Mars Orbitter Mission, but has not ventured into manned space mission, both in terms of technology and logistics? Explain critically (Answer in 150 words)
8. Not many years ago, river linking was a concept but it is becoming reality in the country. Discuss the advantages of river linking and its possible impact on the environment. (Answer in 150 words)

9. Discuss the potential threats of Cyber attack and the security framework to prevent it. (Answer in 150 words)
10. The north-eastern region of India has been infested with insurgency for a very long time. Analyze the major reasons for the survival of armed insurgency in this region. (Answer in 150 words)
11. One of the intended objectives of Union Budget 2017-18 is to ‘transform, energize and clean India’. Analyse the measures proposed in the Budget 2017-18 to achieve the objective. (Answer in 250 words)
12. “Industrial growth rate has lagged behind in the overall growth of Gross-Domestic-Product(GDP) in the post-reform period” Give reasons. How far the recent changes in Industrial Policy are capable of increasing the industrial growth rate? (Answer in 250 words)
13. What are the salient features of ‘inclusive growth’? Has India been experiencing such a growth process? Analyze and suggest measures for inclusive growth. (Answer in 250 words)
14. What are the major reasons for declining rice and wheat yield in the cropping system? How crop diversification is helpful to stabilize the yield of the crop in the system? (Answer in 250 words)
15. How do subsidies affect the cropping pattern, crop diversity and economy of farmers? What is the significance of crop insurance, minimum support price and food processing for small and marginal farmers? (Answer in 250 words)
16. Give an account of the growth and development of nuclear science and technology in India. What is the advantage of fast breeder reactor programme in India? (Answer in 250 words)
17. ‘Climate Change’ is a global problem. How India will be affected by climate change? How Himalayan and coastal states of India will be affected by climate change? (Answer in 250 words)
18. On December 2004, tsunami brought havoc on 14 countries including India. Discuss the factors responsible for occurrence of Tsunami and its effect on life and economy. In the light

of guidelines of NDMA (2010) describe the mechanisms for preparedness to reduce the risk during such events. (Answer in 250 words)

19. Mob violence is emerging as a serious law and order problem in India. By giving suitable examples, analyze the causes and consequences of such violence. (Answer in 250 words)

20. The scourge of terrorism is a grave challenge to national security. What solutions do you suggest to curb this growing menace? What are the major sources of terrorist funding? (Answer in

250 words)

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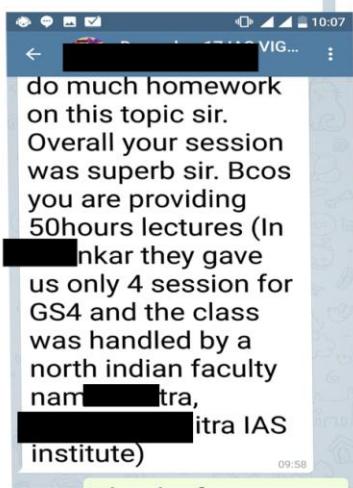
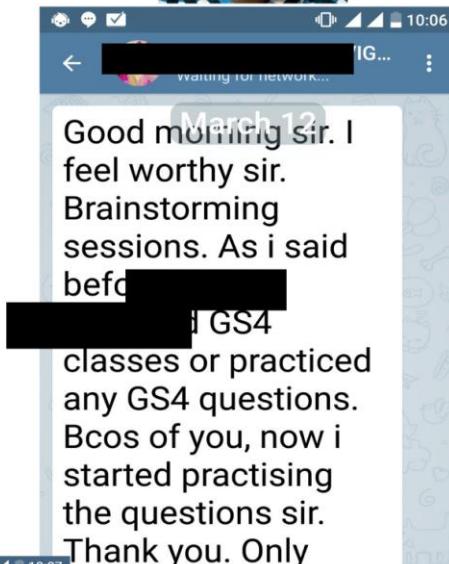
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