

A photograph of the United Nations General Assembly Hall, showing the large circular auditorium with its distinctive wooden slat walls and a large circular skylight at the top. The UN emblem is visible on the wall in the background.

# VEDHIK

## DAILY NEWS ANALYSIS

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**VEDHIK**  
**IAS ACADEMY**

*The New Learning Mantra*

## **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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# India abstains again in UN vote

HRC panel to probe Russian actions



**Gloom spreads:** Delegates observe a minute of silence at a session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva. ■ REUTERS

SUHASINI HAIDAR  
NEW DELHI

India on Friday abstained on a vote at the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva as the Council decided to set up an international commission of enquiry into Russia's actions in Ukraine.

The resolution, the strongest one to be adopted by the UN system yet, "strongly condemned" aggression by Russia, and said it was "gravely concerned" about reports of rights violations by Russian forces, civilian casualties and the forced displacement of 6,60,000 refugees due to Russian "bombing and shelling".

India was among 13 countries of the 47-member council elected from UN members that abstained

from the resolution, along with China, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Sudan, Uzbekistan and Venezuela. Significantly the vote followed Prime Minister Narendra Modi's attendance at a meeting of Quad leaders hosted by U.S. President Joseph Biden, as well as a U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearing where senior officials made it clear that the U.S. has "spared no effort" to push India to change its position, with little success.

Thirty-two countries, or nearly two-thirds of the Council voted for the resolution that asked the HRC president to appoint three human rights experts for a year.

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# India abstains from vote to probe actions of Russia

They were mandated them to "investigate all alleged violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law, and related crimes, in the context of the Russian Federation's aggression against Ukraine".

Only Russia and Eritrea voted against the resolution. Russia has denied targeting civilian areas, and Russian President Putin had accused the Ukraine government of attacks and human rights violations in the Eastern Donbas region to justify military operations in Ukraine.

India did not speak after the vote, but Permanent Representative of India to the UN in Geneva Indramani Pandey had addressed the Council's "urgent debate" on the human rights situation prior to the vote on Thursday.

The Modi government has decided to abstain from three votes at the UN Security Council, two at the UN General Assembly in New York, two at the Human

Rights Council in Geneva, and one at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Vienna.

The IAEA vote was particularly significant as it related to safety at four nuclear power stations and a number of nuclear waste sites including Chernobyl, as the Russians seized control of them.

On Friday, Russian troops captured another nuclear power plant in Zaporizhzhia after bombing the area, which triggered more worries.

IAEA Director General Rafael Grossi said he was "deeply concerned" with the situation at the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear power plant and was in touch with senior Ukrainian officials, as the UN Security Council planned to discuss the issue on Friday. India's vote on the issue, as well as an upcoming vote on a resolution demanding humanitarian access, due to be presented at the UNSC next week, will be watched closely.

# 'Close to reviving Iran N-deal'

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE  
VIENNA

A deal on reviving the 2015 accord between Tehran and world powers on Iran's nuclear programme is "close", Britain said on Friday, at a crunch point for negotiations in Vienna.

"We are close. E3 negotiators leaving Vienna briefly to update Ministers on state of

play," British envoy Stephanie Al-Qaq said on Twitter, referring to negotiators from U.K., France and Germany.

Along with counterparts from China, Iran and Russia they have been taking part in the latest round of talks in the Austrian capital since late November.

The U.S. has been participating indirectly. Iran's Fo-

reign Minister Allossein Amir-Abdollahian said he was prepared to travel to Vienna if a deal is reached to revive the accord.

Former U.S. President Donald Trump withdrew from it in 2018 and re-imposed sanctions, prompting Iran to start disregarding the limits on its nuclear activity laid down in the agreement.

# 'Geopolitical events have added to challenges for central banks'

Financial markets have turned volatile amid heightened uncertainty: RBI's Das

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
MUMBAI

Financial markets the world over have turned extremely volatile as they have been left grappling with heightened uncertainty over the pace of future monetary policy normalisation, Reserve Bank Governor Shaktikanta Das said on Friday.

"Recent geopolitical developments have further aggravated the challenges and dilemmas for the central banks," Mr. Das said, without specifying the developments he was referring to.

## 'Complex challenges'

"The current global conditions, after about two years of living through the pan-



**Tough times:** Central banks are in a bind; act aggressively to curb inflation and they risk starting a recession, says Das. ■ AFP

demic, are now posing complex challenges for central bank communication," he noted, delivering an address on Monetary Policy and Central Bank Communication at the National Defence College in New Delhi.

"A number of economies, including the major ones, are facing multi-decadal high inflation due to supply disruptions, tighter labour markets, fragility of the just in time inventory management and geopolitical disturbanc-

es," he added.

"Central banks are in a bind – if they act aggressively to contain inflation which may perhaps subside as normalcy returns, they run the risk of setting in recession; on the other hand, if they act too little and too late, they may be blamed for "falling behind the curve" and may have to do a lot of catching up later, which will be detrimental to growth," the RBI Governor observed.

Stating that communication was an extremely potent component of the toolkit of modern central banks, Mr. Das said it needed to be balanced and well-telegraphed to avoid unintended consequences.

# Halt hostilities for evacuation, India urges Russia and Ukraine

Over 1,000 students trapped in Kharkiv, Sumy

KALLOL BHATTACHERJEE  
NEW DELHI

India has urged both Russia and Ukraine to ensure “at least a local ceasefire” so that it could evacuate its nationals stranded in the conflict-torn eastern Ukrainian hotspots of Kharkiv and Sumy, said a Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) official on Friday.

Addressing the media here, MEA spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said it is “difficult” for the Indian students to traverse through live conflict locations and India is unwilling to expose them without an assurance of a ceasefire or a local ceasefire. “Without ceasefire, it appears difficult. There is shelling take place, and the two armies have contact points. We do not want our students to pass through areas where they would be exposed to risks. We would expect there should be a safe route for our students so that they could be evacuated safely. We have asked both sides to agree to some form



**Lives derailed:** A fleeing mother and child crossing a track at the Lviv central train station in Ukraine on Friday. • AFP

of ceasefire or at least a local ceasefire,” said Mr. Bagchi.

The Indian push for “some form of a ceasefire” came as New Delhi continues efforts to evacuate its stranded nationals from Kharkiv and Sumy where at least 1,000 students remain amidst a fast-shifting military situation.

## Russia's assurance

Earlier, Russian National Defence Control Centre Head Mikhail Mizintsev had stated that Russia would help transport foreign students back to their countries. “130 comfortable buses are ready to

depart to Kharkiv and Sumy from the Nekhoteyevka (near Belgorod) and Sudzha (near Kursk) checkpoints since 6 a.m. today to rescue Indian and citizens of other foreign states,” said Mr. Mizintsev.

Mr. Bagchi acknowledged that evacuating Indian students through the Russian territory would be “easy” but said there is an active zone of hostilities between the current location of the buses at Russian checkpoints and the position of the students.

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## Halt hostilities for evacuation, says India

“These buses are actually, 50 or 60 kms away from where the students are. They are frankly too far away for them to just walk and take it. Having the buses is a good step but the key step is not there which is how do we get the students from where they are in relative safety (of bomb shelters),” said Mr. Bagchi. He described this phase as the “most difficult” that can’t be accomplished without security guarantees from both sides.

Mr. Bagchi explained that India's primary focus remains on getting the students out in a safe and secure manner. The official reiterated that an Indian national has already died in the conflict and therefore New Delhi has reasons to be cautious about the safety of the students during the critical period of transiting through the areas near Sumy and Kharkiv.

He also assured that the

Government of India would be bearing the medical cost of the required treatments for Harjot Singh who was shot on Friday in Kyiv and is currently hospitalised. India evacuated around 1,000 students from Kharkiv during a brief pause in hostilities on Wednesday.

However, there has been no forward movement in the evacuation of the rest of the students despite an agreement reached by Russia and Ukraine during the second round of discussion in Belarus on Thursday.

Following the discussion, Dmytro Kuleba, Foreign Minister of Ukraine announced that Ukraine has set up a helpline for foreign students.

“We have established an emergency hotline for African, Asian and other students wishing to leave Ukraine because of Russia's invasion - +380934185684,” Mr Kuleba said in a social media post.

# Ruckus in Haryana Assembly as govt. tables anti-conversion Bill

## Speaker suspends Congress MLA for tearing a copy of the Bill

**VIKAS VASUDEVA**  
CHANDIGARH

The BJP-led government in Haryana introduced its new anti-conversion Bill in the Assembly on Friday, leading to noisy scenes as the Opposition MLAs protested against its tabling.

Home Minister Anil Vij introduced the Haryana Prevention of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Bill, 2022, which prohibits conversion by allurements, coercion or fraudulent means, etc. during the budget session.

As heated arguments ensued between the Treasury and Opposition benches, Congress MLA Raghuvir Singh Kadian, alleging that the intent of the Bill was not clean, tore a copy of it.

While Mr. Vij hit back saying the Congress believes in communalism and partitioned India on the basis of religion, Chief Minister Manohar Lal said there's no mention of any religion in the Bill and it pertains to only forcible conversions. He said it does not stop anyone who is willingly converting provided that the person submits an application for wilful conversion to the District Magistrate.

Speaker Gian Chand Gupta suspended Mr. Kadian for

the remainder of the session after he refused to tender an apology, prompting Congress MLAs to stage a walk-out in protest.

### CM's defence

Elaborating on the Bill, Mr. Lal said any religious priest or any person intending to organise a conversion shall give prior notice to the District Magistrate about the venue. A copy of this notice shall be pasted on the notice board outside the District Magistrate's office.

"If any person has an objection to this conversion, then they can file their objection in writing within 30 days. The District Magistrate shall investigate and decide whether the conversion is intended to be in contravention of Section 3. If the District Magistrate comes to the conclusion that the intended conversion is in contravention of Section 3, then he shall decline the intended conversion by passing a reasoned order. An appeal can be made against the order passed by the District Magistrate before the Divisional Commissioner within 30 days," he said.

The Chief Minister said many cases have surfaced in the State of people being converted through various allurements. "To stop such incidents, The Haryana Prevention of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Bill, 2022 has been introduced," Mr. Lal said.

# J&K delimitation: fears grow over 'voter islands'

Draft proposal does not recognise that constituencies have to be geographically contiguous, say some political leaders

PEERZADA ASHIQ  
DAMINI NATH  
NEW DELHI

With the Delimitation Commission yet to publish maps of the proposed new constituencies for the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly, a look at the Census 2011 administrative boundaries along with the draft list of tehsils in some seats points to islands, where a part of the constituency is completely cut off from the rest and surrounded by another constituency.

The Delimitation Commission, chaired by retired Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai and including Chief Election Commissioner Sushil Chandra and the State Election Commissioner as ex-officio members, was likely to publish its draft for public comments soon, according to sources.

Political leaders participating in the delimitation

process as well as independent observers have raised fears of "islands" being formed. Chattar Singh, a former vice-president of the Delhi Congress, who has been engaged with delimitation issues for years, used the administrative atlas for J&K and the draft proposals to find that many such islands were being proposed.

## Wrong units used

For example, in Kishtwar district, where the number of constituencies has been proposed to be increased from two to three (Mughal-aidan, Kishtwar and Padder), Bounjwah tehsil was proposed to be in the Mughal-aidan constituency.

However, one village in the tehsil, Kewah, would be completely surrounded by villages in the Kishtwar constituency, according to Mr. Singh's analysis.



National Conference workers protest against a draft proposal of the J&K Delimitation Commission in Srinagar. •NISSAR AHMAD

Mr. Singh said the draft proposals had used the boundaries of the *patwar halqa*, an administrative unit of multiple villages, which in some cases included villages that were not located next to each other.

"This has happened because the basic principles have not been followed. The Delimitation Act, 2002 says that apart from population, the constituencies have to be geographically compact areas and contiguous. In my

research, I have found several instances of islands being proposed," Mr. Singh said.

The three Jammu and Kashmir National Conference MPs, who are associate members of the Delimitation Commission, including former Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah, have also raised concerns about the voter islands.

## Case of Rajouri

In their submission to the Commission on February 14, the three MPs wrote that the Commission "has carved out geographical islands and joined with the other Assembly segments without any proximity or connectivity". The MPs cited the example of Rajouri, where Sohna, Doongi and Bagla *patwar* circles had been added to Thana Mandi seat.

"The inhabitants of these areas have to cross entire Ra-

jourri to reach Thana Mandi. All the fundamental legal parameters have been grossly violated with least consideration of the hardship the people may have to suffer," they had said.

The Commission had once again sought the associate members' responses till Friday after making some changes, according to sources. On Friday, the National Conference (NC) submitted an 18-page dissent note to the Delimitation Commission. The NC MPs stuck to their earlier stand, reflected in its objections filed in February where it questioned the panel's constitutional validity and "unacceptable biased proposals".

"Our stand on the Delimitation Commission remains unchanged. We hope the NC response is placed on the official website soon," MP Hasnain Masoodi said.

## Being ready

Vaccination was shown to have been a life saver during the third wave of the pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic is on a discernible wane. Just a month ago, India was reporting around 1,70,000 cases a day and the latest numbers suggest it has plummeted to around 6,000. India is now contributing to only 0.7% of global cases. Last year this time, cases were below 5,000 a day, encouraging several States and the Centre to claim that the pandemic was over, though within a matter of weeks there was a resurgence fuelled by the Delta variant which birthed a summer of catastrophe. There is, however, a crucial distinction between then and now in that over 75% of those over 15 years are now fully vaccinated in India. A small and growing number of those over 60 have had the third dose. Reports suggest that over 90% of Indians have been exposed to the virus over the last two years and, therefore, combined with the vaccination, are sufficiently protected against disease – but not infection – for many more months ahead. What bears emphasis is that avoiding vaccination makes one, particularly the elderly, vulnerable to serious infection. Balram Bhargava, Director-General, ICMR, said at a press meet this week that 92% of those who died of COVID-19 since January this year were unvaccinated, and underlined that vaccines and the wide vaccination coverage had played an important role in protecting hundreds of lives.

India is fortunate in that it does not have to battle vaccine hesitancy in a large measure. The initial scepticism regarding the vaccines not having passed the typical stages of vaccine approval saw a certain degree of hesitation, but very soon it emerged, in April and May last year, that India's main problem was an insufficient number of vaccines. Though India today has administered nearly 178 crore vaccine doses and has several indigenously developed vaccines that have been approved in emergency mode by authorities, there are still serious questions on supply. Currently, vaccine demand is low and the vaccination drive is in 'mop up mode' and administering second doses. But were the pandemic situation to suddenly turn for a fourth wave to take shape, there would be a spike in demand for vaccinations for children, particularly those below 15, as well as booster doses for adults. The experience of Covaxin's manufacturer being unable to ramp up vaccinations in time during the crisis months ought to be a persistent reminder to other biotechnology companies that having vaccines is very different from being ready with a seamless supply chain. The Indian government has still not made public a timeline for when vaccines from Biological E, Gennova and Zydus Cadila will be practically available for mass use. Though the world is occupied with a different crisis, India must not let its guard down and should insist on companies being ready with a measurable timeline.

## Data protection bill may hit FDI: industry bodies

Govt. reviewing concerns:Minister

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI

Implementation of the proposed data protection bill, as recommended by a Parliamentary panel, will significantly degrade India's business environment and reduce foreign investment inflows, a dozen global industry bodies have said in a joint letter to the government.

The industry associations have sought wider consultations with stakeholders before the bill is introduced in Parliament.

The industry bodies represent thousands of companies and technology majors like Google and Dell.

The letter, dated March 1, addressed to Union Communications and IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, said the

panel's report includes novel recommendations for the personal data protection bill which, if enacted, would create powerful disincentives for India's innovation ecosystem.

### Non-personal data

The bodies have expressed concern on inclusion of non-personal data, restrictions on cross-border data transfers and data localisation obligations. They said mandates for firms to locally store data in India will degrade the privacy and cybersecurity protection.

Minister of State for Electronics and IT Rajeesh Chandrasekhar on Thursday had said the government is going through the concerns that stakeholders have shared with the Ministry.

# FADA slashes automobile sales outlook to 'negative' citing war

It says Russia-Ukraine conflict may hit global supply chain

**YUTHIKA BHARGAVA**  
NEW DELHI

The Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations (FADA) on Friday revised downwards its sales outlook for the Indian automobile sector from 'neutral' to 'negative' as the Russia-Ukraine conflict is expected to negatively impact the global automobile supply chain.

"With Omicron passing away without much impact and supplies showing signs of recovery, it looked as if the Indian auto industry was at the cusp of recovery until Russia invaded Ukraine," the industry body said.

FADA said that there were concerns over the shortage of semiconductors creating



additional supply side issues for passenger vehicles.

"Till the time Russia-Ukraine conflict doesn't come to an end, FADA changes its outlook from 'neutral' to 'negative'," the automobile retailers group said.

Russia is one of the largest producers of rare-earth metals, especially palladium, a metal used for plating semi-

conductors, while Ukraine is one of the biggest producers and exporters of neon gas that is used in the manufacture of semiconductors.

According to FADA data, total retail vehicle sales fell 9.21% to about 13.74 lakh units last month from more than 15.13 lakh units in February 2021. The sales were down 20.7% compared with February 2020's sales of more than 17.32 lakh.

Passenger vehicle (PV) sales declined 7.84% to 2.38 lakh vehicles, while that of two-wheelers and tractors fell 10.7% to about 9.83 lakh units, and almost 19% to 50,304 units, respectively.

Commercial vehicle sales rose 7.41% to 63,797 units.

## New gin berry species discovered in T.N.

*Glycosmis albicarpa* bears distinct large white fruit

**E.M. MANOJ**  
KALPETTA

A team of scientists from the Botanical Survey of India (BSI) have discovered a new gin berry species from the Kanyakumari Wildlife Sanctuary in Tamil Nadu. The species, *Glycosmis albicarpa*, with a distinct large white fruit, is endemic to the southern Western Ghats. The species belongs to the Orange family *Rutaceae*.

The findings have been published in the latest issue of the *Nordic Journal of Botany* published from Sweden.

Many of the related plants of these taxonomic groups



The gin berry species discovered from the Kanyakumari Wildlife Sanctuary in Tamil Nadu. ■SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

are being utilised for their medicinal values and food. Most commonly related species of these plants are collected from the wild, mainly for local use as food and medicine.

Berries of the *Glycosmis* species have the unique characteristic of 'gin aroma' and gained in popularity as an edible fruit. The species is al-

so a larval host plant for butterflies like other species of *Glycosmis*, said K.A. Sujana, the leader of the scientific team.

The species, an evergreen small tree, was found as undergrowth in the Tirunelveli semi-evergreen forests at the Panagudi forest section of the wildlife sanctuary as a single population that covers

an area of approximately 2 sq. km., said Dr. Sujana.

"While exploring the study site, four sub-populations of the species were located in the valley between two hillocks, with each having three-seven mature individuals in groups," she said. Though flowering, natural regeneration and seedling recruitment of this taxon is found to be fairly good within the locality, habitat modification causes a major threat to the survival of this species, she added. "A special conservation effort for this particular region is the need of the hour," said Dr. Sujana.

The discovery not only emphasises the uniqueness and endemism in Western Ghats' flora but also add to the growing inventory of the region's flora, said Ragesh Gopala Vadhyar, co-author.

| 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 <sup>th</sup> century such as industrial revolution, world wars, re-drawal 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.  |
|                                 |  |
| <b>General Studies Paper IV</b> |  |
| A                               | Ethics and Human Interface: Essence, determinants and consequences of Ethics in human actions;   |
| B                               | Dimensions of ethics;  |
| C                               | Ethics in private and public relationships. Human Values - lessons from the lives and teachings of great leaders, reformers and administrators;  |
| D                               | Role of family, society and educational institutions in inculcating values.  |
| E                               | Attitude: Content, structure, function; its influence and relation with thought and behaviour;   |
| F                               | Moral and political attitudes;   |
| G                               | Social influence and persuasion.   |
| H                               | Aptitude and foundational values for Civil Service , integrity, impartiality and non-partisanship, objectivity, dedication to public service, empathy, tolerance and compassion towards the weaker sections.                       |
| I                               | Emotional intelligence-concepts, and their utilities and application in administration and governance.   |
| J                               | Contributions of moral thinkers and philosophers from India and world.   |
| K                               | Public/Civil service values and Ethics in Public administration: Status and problems;  |
| L                               | Ethical concerns and dilemmas in government and private institutions;  |
| M                               | Laws, rules, regulations and conscience as   |
| N                               | sources of ethical guidance;   |
| O                               | Accountability and ethical governance; strengthening of ethical and moral values in governance; ethical issues in international relations and funding;   |
| P                               | Corporate governance.  |
| Q                               | Probity in Governance: Concept of public service;  |
| R                               | Philosophical basis of governance and probity;   |
| S                               | Information sharing and transparency in government, Right to Information, Codes of Ethics, Codes of Conduct, Citizen's Charters, Work culture, Quality of service delivery, Utilization of public funds, challenges of corruption. |
| T                               | Case Studies on above issues.  |