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DAILY NEWS ANALYSIS

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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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First copy of Tamil Bible stolen from Saraswathi Mahal traced to London

The Idol Wing-CID says the Bible, lost in 2005, will be brought back soon

R. SIVARAMAN
CHENNAI

The copy of what is considered the first Tamil translation of the Bible, which was reportedly stolen from Saraswathi Mahal Library, Thanjavur, has been traced by Idol Wing-CID to London. The theft was first reported in 2005 and then the case was closed without any progress. It was reopened and reinvestigated by the Idol Wing-CID officers, led by Director-General of Police K. Jayanth Murali.

The first Tamil translation of the New Testament was printed in 1715 by Bartholomäus Ziegenbalg, a Danish

missionary. It was presented to Tulaji Rajah Serfoji by Schwartz, another missionary and a close friend of the king. After the library was taken over by the government, the antiquarian book became an exhibit at the library museum for public viewing.

On October 10, 2005, the Deputy Administrator of the Serfoji Palace lodged a complaint with the Tanjore West police that the antique Bible was stolen. But the case was closed on the ground it was not traceable. However, in 2017, the Idol Wing-CID received a complaint from Elephant G. Rajendran on the disappearance of an anti-

quarian Bible from Saraswathi Mahal Library. This led to the registration of a case of theft, which the Idol Wing-CID took up.

Mr. Jayanth Murali said, "We reviewed the case since there was no headway in the earlier investigation. We intensified the investigation and made headway after a special team was constituted to trace the Bible. A perusal of the visitors' register revealed that there had been some foreign visitors to the museum on October 7, 2005, the day the book went missing. Further inquiries revealed that these visitors had come to India to attend a function to commemorate Bartholomäus Ziegenbalg. So, when the needle of suspicion pointed to the foreign



The first copy of the Tamil translation of the New Testament. •SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

visitors, we launched a search on the websites of various museums in the world, as also the websites of collectors and organisations connected with Bartholomäus

Ziegenbalg.

"After several days of browsing the websites of museums abroad, our officers stumbled on the collection of George III, which included thousands of printed books, manuscripts and pamphlets, most of which are rare. Hidden among the thousands of books was the stolen Bible, the first translated antiquarian Bible in Tamil that was printed at Tharangambadi in the 17th Century with the signature of Rajah Serfoji himself. The antiquarian Bible that was available on the website of the king's collection matched with the picture of the stolen book. Further inquiries confirmed our findings," he said.

R. Dhinakaran, Inspector-General of Police, Idol Wing-

CID, said, "We have taken steps to retrieve the Bible from the collector and restore it to the Saraswathi Mahal under the UNESCO treaty. We have written to the authorities in London and we will bring it back soon."

Bartholomäus Ziegenbalg was born in Saxony in 1682. He studied at the University of Halle, then the centre for Pietistic Lutheranism. Responding to an appeal from the King of Denmark for missionaries, he and Heinrich Plütschau arrived in Tranquebar (Tharangambadi), a tiny Danish colony on the east coast, close to Nagapattinam in Tamil Nadu, in September 1706, as the first Protestant missionaries in that country.

He soon set up a printing

press and published studies of the Tamil language and Indian religion and culture. His translation of the New Testament into Tamil in 1715 and the church building he and his associates constructed in 1718 are still in use. He died on February 23, 1719, at the age of 37. He left behind a Tamil translation of the New Testament and Genesis through Ruth, many brief writings in Tamil, two church buildings, a seminary, and 250 baptised Christians. Schwartz, became a close friend of Tulaji Rajah Serfoji. There is speculation that Schwartz, in commemoration of their friendship, handed over the first copy of the New Testament that Bartholomäus Ziegenbalg printed to Tulaji Rajah Serfoji.

Lakhs of devotees throng Puri to attend annual Rath Yatra

200 special trains run for the convenience of pilgrims

SATYASUNDAR BARIK
BHUBANESWAR

Lakhs of devotees thronged the coastal town of Puri town to witness the annual Rath Yatra with three decorated chariots of sibling deities Lord Balabhadra, Lord Jagannath and Devi Subhadra towed in front of the 12th century Shree Jagannath Temple on Friday.

For the first time in two years, devotees turned up for Rath Yatra at Puri as COVID-19 scare had forced the State government to organise the annual festival restricting participation below 500 people including priests in 2020 and 2021.

As not all devotees can enter the temple on normal days, three deities, it is said, are taken out once in a year to give *darshan* to all.

Ministry of Railways had



Annual procession: Temple priests and devotees preparing for the Jagannath yatra in Puri. ■SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

announced that it will run over 200 special trains during the yatra for smooth travel and convenience of the pilgrims.

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, Governor Ganeshi Lal, Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan and Chief Justice of Odisha

High Court S. Muralidhar towed the chariots.

In view of congregation of a massive crowd, 180 police platoons led by 1,000 trained officers were deployed for traffic control and to prevent any untoward incidents including attempts of sabotage.

Modi holds talks with Putin

The leaders discuss Ukraine, bilateral trade in agricultural goods, and fertilizers

KALLOL BHATTACHERJEE
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday held a telephone conversation with Russian President Vladimir Putin, where the leaders discussed Ukraine and the latest developments in the global commodities market. The talks came days after Mr. Modi participated in the G-7 summit in Germany.

“The two leaders reviewed the implementation of the decisions taken during President Putin’s visit to India in December 2021. In particular, they exchanged ideas on how bilateral trade in agricultural goods, fertilizer and pharma products could be encouraged further,” an official press release said.

The two sides discussed the latest developments in the Ukraine crisis, with Mr. Modi reiterating “India’s long-standing position in fa-



Deepening dialogue: Vladimir Putin and Narendra Modi had met in New Delhi in December 2021. ■ FILE PHOTO

vour of dialogue and diplomacy.”

Friday’s discussion showed a continuum of diplomatic consultation that has intensified over the last few days which also witnessed heavy warfare between Ukraine and Russia.

According to a Russian statement on the conversation, President Putin accused the Western powers of obstructing a peaceful settle-

ment of the Ukrainian crisis. Diplomatic sources indicated that India is closely following the course of the war in Ukraine, especially the latest Russian strikes in Odessa, and Kyiv.

The Indian announcement of the telephone conversation said that the “leaders also discussed global issues, including the state of the international energy and food markets”. Despite West-

ern objections, India has emerged as a major buyer of Russian crude oil in the last four months since Russia invaded Ukraine.

The latest estimates suggest that Russian oil supplies to India in June reached an average of 1.2 million barrels per day. That apart, Russia has emerged as a major partner for India as New Delhi battles the “commodities shock”, that is the fallout of the combination of war and the punitive western sanctions on Russia.

In order to prevent a fertilizer shortfall, India reached out to Russia earlier this year. According to Russian news outlet, Sputnik, India imported 3,50,000 tonnes of diammonium phosphate from Russia between April and July. India’s fertilizer requirement is expected to grow as the monsoon rains will be accompanied by the kharif sowing season.

How delisting is a ticking political time bomb in northern Chhattisgarh

With the next Assembly elections just about a year away, the drive towards delisting of converted tribals has attained great political significance in the State

SHUBHOMOY SIKDAR
RAIPUR

During a recent visit to Chhattisgarh's Jashpur, Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel was asked about the delisting of tribals who have converted to other religions, primarily Christianity – an issue that has been festering in the State since the beginning of this year. A number of rallies have been held in Jashpur in recent months to protest against tribals who have converted, but still avail benefits of the Scheduled Tribe provisions.

Mr. Baghel sought to put the ball in the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)'s court, saying that the campaign for delisting was being run by the BJP and since the party is in power at the Centre, it should initiate a constitutional amendment if it means business rather than

“hold rallies in Jashpur”.

While the issue of delisting of Christian tribals in order to deny them reservation benefits has gained momentum nationally since the beginning of this year, the question assumes greater significance in a district like Jashpur that has 67% tribal population, most of whom hail from the Oraon tribe and a majority of whom are converts to Christianity from several generations ago.

The issue has assumed political significance in the light of the fact that the entire northern belt of Surguja had voted en masse for the Congress in the 2018 assembly elections, forcing the BJP to draw a blank in all the 14 seats there. With the next Assembly elections just about a year away, the drive towards delisting of convert-



Key issue: The drive towards delisting of converted tribals may split the 32% tribal votes in the State. •PTI

ed tribals may split the 32% tribal votes in the State, which is not good news for the ruling Congress party, admits its leaders privately.

Bhagat, face of protests
Ganesh Ram Bhagat, a former State minister and the national convener of Janjati Su-

raksha Manch (JSM), has emerged as the face of the delisting protests in the region. Founded in 2006, JSM is leading the delisting campaign in the country and is widely perceived to have the backing of the BJP and the Rashtriya Swayamsewak Sangh (RSS). Jashpur, a dis-

trict that shares borders with Jharkhand and Odisha, is Mr. Bhagat's home turf and hence, crucial from his individual standpoint too, according to those in the BJP.

SPECIAL

“We will not sit quietly till the demands are met. If the Christians do not follow our tribal cultures and traditions, do not worship the gods that we do, how can they be counted as tribals and keep on taking the reservation benefits?” he asks.

However, such assertions have sparked fears among the Christians, says Yakub Kujur, a former college professor and member of the Jashpur Vikas Samiti that works for the rights of the tribals and the displaced. He also says that despite the

conversion, his family and other fellow Christians follow many tribal customs and traditions.

It is to be noted that it was also in Jashpur, where the first Vanvasi Kalyan Ashram was founded in 1952 by Ramakant Keshav Deshpande (also known as Balasaheb Deshpande), an official of the Odisha State Department of Tribal Welfare, with the support of the then undivided Madhya Pradesh government [led by Congress' Ravi Shankar Shukla] and the RSS.

Ghar Wapasi Abhiyaan

The turf-war over the years has only intensified. More recently, the region was the main hub of a Ghar Wapasi Abhiyaan in Chhattisgarh's tribal hub, with the members of the Jashpur royal family, particularly the now

deceased BJP leader Dilip Singh Judeo, playing a leading role in the campaign. During his lifetime, he had claimed to have reconverted thousands of Christian tribals back to Hinduism.

Since his death in 2013, there has been a clamp down on such activities.

“It is common knowledge that the Christians do not vote for us and hence if they are delisted, it will only help us electorally. However, there is the larger question of other tribals being denied the benefits meant for them. Christians can no longer be termed backward,” says an ex-MLA on condition of anonymity.

Mr. Kujur, however, feels that delisting will have far-reaching consequences and it does not merely concern reservation benefits. “Delisting may also mean that we

won't be counted as tribals and that means de-scheduling Fifth Schedule of the Constitution that deals with the administration and control of Scheduled Areas as well as of Scheduled Tribes residing in any State other than the States of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram,” he says.

Mr. Bhagat says that the animist beliefs and worshipping of nature by the tribals are closer to Sanatana Dharma than Christianity.

After having organised several rallies at the district level, Mr. Bhagat's JSM now wants to take the issue to each and every block of Surguja and later Bastar, another tribal belt in South Chhattisgarh. He distances himself from BJP party and says he is only working for tribal rights and “anyone was free to benefit from it”.

Reset mode

GST's metamorphosis into a truly Good and Simple Tax needs more Centre-States dialogue

The GST Council met over two days this week – its first ‘regular’ meeting after a nine-month break – with much on its plate, stemming from four ministerial groups’ recommendations to fix various aspects of the indirect tax regime that remains a work in progress five years on. It ratified three of the four reports, put off one for further deliberations based on concerns flagged by a State, with a commitment to reassemble and resolve the impasse holistically in little over a month. A new ministerial panel is being tasked with figuring out the long-pending constitution of an appellate tribunal for GST disputes, to move ahead. Based on an ‘interim’ report of a panel to rationalise tax rates, exemptions have been scrapped on several items and rates altered for others to correct inverted duty structures. This may translate into higher prices on many goods and services (and reductions for a few) from July 18, although their impact on inflation is difficult to ascertain. However, a larger restructuring of the GST’s multiple rates’ structure, with an increase in levies to bolster revenues that have fallen short of expectations, partly due to rate cuts earlier effected as electoral tools, has been put off. With inflation expected to remain buoyant, that exercise may have to wait longer.

Apart from the fine print of the Council’s decisions, which include tighter norms on the horizon for registering new firms and closing of tax evasion loopholes, there is a more critical takeaway. That the deliberations were constructive and not combative, especially amid the brewing trust deficit between the Centre and States in the past few meetings and the prolonged pause since it last met, bodes well for the necessary next steps to make GST deliver on its original hopes. Not a single member raised the recent Supreme Court order that some States believed had upheld their rights against ‘arbitrary imposition’ of the Centre’s decisions in the Council. Moreover, over a dozen States brought up an ‘extra agenda item’ – their anxieties about the sunset of assured revenue growth from July 1, on which even Ministers from BJP-ruled States spoke up to seek the continuance of GST Compensation for some years. That States are no longer driven by party whips in this critical forum, should enrich the quality of dialogue and outcomes. That the Centre ‘heard them out’ and left the issue open, unlike the last Council meet when its response was akin to an outright ‘No’, is most refreshing. Taking a clear call, one way or the other, on continuing this support, will be ideal for the Centre and States to plan their fiscal math better. Just as sustaining and nurturing this fledgling federal compact is critical to make the GST work better for all, sooner rather than later.

Govt. hikes duty on gold to cushion rupee

Centre raises tariff on gold to 15%; imposes cess on export of crude oil, fuels to check 'windfall' profits

VIKAS DHOOT
NEW DELHI

In a bid to curb a surge in gold imports and check 'windfall gains' being made by producers of crude oil and petroleum products, the Centre has raised the import duty on the yellow metal to 15%, from 10.75%, and levied fresh taxes on the export of fuels, including petrol and ATF, as well as on the domestic sale of crude oil.

The higher gold import levy is expected to help rein in India's rising current account deficit and ease the pressure on the rupee. As much as 107 tonnes of gold were imported in May and imports have been 'significant' in June as well, the Finance Ministry said, stressing that the surge in gold imports was putting pres-



Costly glitter: A surge in gold imports has added pressure on India's current account deficit and also the rupee. ■ FILE PHOTO

sure on India's current account deficit.

Foreign trade data show India's gold imports surged almost ninefold in May to surpass \$6 billion, from \$677.7 million in May 2021.

A cess of ₹23,250 per tonne has been levied on crude oil in the face of the elevated global prices that were leading to windfall profits for domestic oil producers who sell their output at

international parity prices even to domestic refineries. This cess would, however, not apply to imported crude and would have no adverse impact on domestic fuel prices, the Ministry said.

A special additional excise duty has also been imposed on exports of petroleum products at ₹6 per litre on petrol and aviation turbine fuel (ATF), and ₹13 per litre on diesel as exports have become more attractive for more domestic refineries.

'Boost local availability'

Exporters would now also be required to declare at the time of exports that 50% of the outbound quantity of fuel has been or will be supplied in the domestic market during the current financial year. "These measures will

ensure domestic availability of the petroleum products," the Ministry stressed.

"The higher duties on inbound gold shipments will slightly reduce the outflow on account of gold imports, and help provide stability" to the rupee-dollar exchange rate, said Abhishek Jain, partner (indirect tax) at KPMG India. "The change in taxation on petroleum products will help reduce the recent uptick in the demand-supply gap," he added.

The cess on crude would not be levied for small producers with annual output of less than 2 million barrels in the previous financial year. Also, to incentivise additional production, the levy would be waived on a firm's crude oil output that was in excess of last year's output.

June's GST revenues surpass ₹1.44 lakh crore

This would imply a 'substantive upside of about ₹1.2 lakh crore' for the Government of India relative to its Budget Estimates for Central GST of ₹6.6 lakh crore.

"The sharp 56% headline growth in June benefits from the economic recovery, and has also been boosted by the low base of the second wave of COVID-19 and the transmission of elevated commodity prices into output inflation," said ICRA chief economist Aditi Nayar.

Central GST collections in June were ₹25,306 crore, State GST at ₹32,406 crore, while Integrated GST accounted for ₹75,887 crore, including ₹40,102 crore collected on import of goods. GST revenues had hit a high of ₹1,67,540 crore in April this year, before dropping to about ₹1.41 lakh crore in May. "These consistent high collections indicate recovery from the pandemic hit and can also be attributed to inflation and tight check and balances implemented by the government," said Abhishek Jain, partner (indirect tax) at KPMG India.

Most States and Union Territories recorded a sharp uptick in revenues, led by Kerala where collections jumped 116% year-on-year and Ladakh (118%), while

negative growth was witnessed only in the Union Territory of Daman and Diu (-13%) and areas under Central jurisdiction (-12%).

Over 50% growth

Several States recorded over 50% growth in collections. Tamil Nadu recorded an 83% growth in June's GST collections, followed by Uttarakhand (82%), Haryana (77%), Karnataka (73%), Maharashtra (63%), West Bengal (58%), Rajasthan (56%), Punjab (51%) and Gujarat (50%).

Revenues in Uttar Pradesh grew by 49%, while the growth was 46% and 37% for Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, respectively.

"The increase in States' collections in excess of 40% comes in the backdrop of the guaranteed revenue to States. This would assuage many States who were worried about their revenue mobilisation ability going forward," said M.S. Mani, partner at Deloitte India.

"If GST collections grow at the pace of 17% in this year, some States with a relatively higher dependence on GST compensation within their revenue sources, may find it to be a particularly challenging year," Ms. Nayar pointed out.

GST revenues surpass ₹1.44 lakh crore

VIKAS DHOOT
NEW DELHI

India recorded its second highest monthly gross GST revenues in June at ₹1,44,616 crore, 56% more than a year earlier when the second COVID wave had hit economic activity. Revenues from import of goods rose 55%, while domestic transactions and import of services were 56% higher in the month.

Gross GST Compensation Cess collections hit ₹11,018 crore, including ₹1,197 crore on import of goods, the highest since the introduction of GST five years ago. This is the fourth successive month since March that monthly GST revenues have crossed the ₹1.4 lakh crore mark.

‘Enhanced GST’

“The average monthly gross GST collection for the first quarter of 2022-23 was ₹1.51 lakh crore against the average monthly collection of ₹1.1 lakh crore in the same period last year. Coupled with economic recovery, anti-evasion activities, especially action against fake billers, contributed to the enhanced GST,” the Finance Ministry said.

Rating agency ICRA said it expects the monthly average GST collections in 2022-23 to be about June’s revenue level.

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PMI hints manufacturing slowed to a 9-month low

Prices drag confidence to 27-month low

VIKAS DHOOT
NEW DELHI

Price pressures dampened growth in India's manufacturing sector to the slowest pace in nine months, with the survey-based Global India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) sliding to 53.9 in June, from 54.6 in May. Worries about inflation also dragged business confidence sentiment down to a 27-month.

"Factory orders and production rose for the twelfth straight month... but in both cases the rates of expansion eased to nine-month lows," S&P Global said in a note.

A reading of 50 on the PMI indicates no change in the level of activity from the previous month.

Export orders rise

New export orders rose for the third successive month in June and employment rose for the fourth successive month, albeit at a slight pace. While stronger client demand sustained order books, growth was curbed by acute inflationary pressures as per respondents' inputs in the PMI survey.

The manufacturing sector displayed encouraging resilience on the face of acute price pressures, rising interest rates, rupee depreciation and a challenging geopolitical landscape, said Pollyanna De Lima, economics associate director at S&P Global Market Intelligence Unit.

"Yet, there was a broad-based slowdown in growth across a number of measures such as factory orders, production, exports, input buying and employment as clients and businesses restricted spending amid ele-



vated inflation," she noted.

'Output unlikely to rise'

Although the outlook for the Indian manufacturing industry remained positive midway through 2022, sentiment slipped to a 27-month low, S&P Global said, with less than 4% of panelists forecasting output growth in the year ahead. The vast majority expect no change in output from present levels a year on, citing inflation as the key concern.

The rate of input cost inflation faced by producers remained historically high, but was the slowest in three months, as were the pass-through of costs through higher charges to consumers. Firms reported increases for a wide range of inputs, including chemicals, electronics, energy, metals and textiles.

"There was positive news regarding supply chains, with the latest results showing the first shortening of input lead times since the onset of COVID-19. This seemed to have curbed the upward pressure on input costs, with purchase prices and output charges increasing at sharp but slower rates," Ms. De Lima noted.

"Companies nevertheless remained very concerned about inflation, a key factor that dragged down business confidence," she concluded.

Govt. recasts Banks Board Bureau to FSIB

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI

The Centre has transformed the Banks Board Bureau (BBB) into Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB) by making some amendments.

Guidelines for selection of general managers and directors of public sector general insurance companies have been made part of FSIB, sources said.

The amendments were required as the Delhi High Court in its order last year said the BBB is not a competent body to select the general managers and directors of state-owned general insurers.

DRDO carries out test flight of autonomous UAV

It was developed in Bengaluru unit

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) on Friday successfully carried out the maiden test flight of a new Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV), an autonomous Flying Wing Technology Demonstrator, from the Aeronautical Test Range, Chitradurga, Karnataka.

“Operating in a fully autonomous mode, the aircraft exhibited a perfect flight, including take-off, way point navigation and a smooth touchdown,” DRDO said. “This flight marks a major milestone in terms of proving critical technologies towards the development of future unmanned aircraft and is significant step towards self-reliance in strategic defence technologies.”

It is a reduced sized autonomous aircraft and is proving various technologies for autonomous aircraft to be built in future, a DRDO official explained. The Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) is powered by a small turbofan engine.

The engine is Russian TRDD-50MT originally designed for cruise missiles. “A



DRDO is developing UAVs of different classes.

small turbo fan engine is being developed indigenously for meeting the requirement,” another official told *The Hindu*. The UAV was designed and developed by Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE), Bengaluru, a premier research laboratory of DRDO.

DRDO is in the process of developing UAVs of different classes to meet the requirements of the armed forces. Rustom-2, the indigenous Medium Altitude Long Endurance (MALE) UAV under development, had crossed a milestone by reaching an altitude of 25,000 feet and an endurance of 10 hours in December 2021 and is being designed to reach an altitude of 30,000 feet and 18 hours endurance. An Unmanned Combat Aerial Vehicle is also on the drawing board.

‘India’s nuclear policy reflects past ideology’

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI

National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) chairperson Justice Arun Kumar Mishra (retd.) on Friday said India’s policy on nuclear weapons was a manifestation of its past ideology.

He was addressing the last day of the conference ‘Human Rights in Indian Culture and Philosophy’.

Justice Mishra said Indian civilisational ethos was

“blessed with the power of assimilation of different streams of ideas and faiths, as we want to improve and not impose our culture upon others, which may amount to violation of human rights,” an NHRC statement said.

He said the world was today facing the threat of destructive weapons, the use of which only benefitted the manufacturers of the weapons.

General Studies Paper I

| | |
|---|--|
| A | History of Indian culture will cover the salient aspects of art forms, literature and architecture from ancient to modern times; |
| B | Modern Indian history from about the middle of the eighteenth century until the present-significant events, personalities, issues; |
| C | Freedom struggle-its various stages and important contributors / contributions from different parts of the country; |
| D | Post-independence consolidation and reorganization within the country; |
| E | History of the world will include events from 18 th century such as industrial revolution, world wars, re-drawing of national boundaries, colonization, decolonization, |
| F | Political philosophies like communism, capitalism, socialism etc.-their forms and effect on the society |
| G | Salient features of Indian Society, Diversity of India; |
| H | Effects of globalization on Indian society; |
| I | Role of women and women's organization; |
| J | Social empowerment, communalism, regionalism & secularism |
| K | Salient features of world's physical geography; |
| L | Geographical features and their location- changes in critical geographical features (including water bodies and ice-caps) and in flora and fauna and the effects of such changes; |
| M | Important Geophysical phenomena such as earthquakes, Tsunami, Volcanic activity, cyclone etc. |
| N | Distribution of key natural resources across the world (including South Asia and the Indian subcontinent); |
| O | Factors responsible for the location of primary, secondary, and tertiary sector industries in various parts of the world (including India); |
| P | Population and associated issues; |
| Q | Urbanization, their problems and their remedies |
| | |

General Studies Paper II

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|---|--|
| 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; |

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