List of Keywords

General Studies Paper 1

Indian Heritage and culture, History and Geography of the world and society

Topic 1: Art & Culture - Salient aspects of Art Forms, Literature and Architecture from ancient to modern times

Topic 2: Modern History: 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.

Modern History: Modern Indian history from about the middle of the eighteenth century until 1905:
- Advent of Europeans – Portuguese
- Contribution – Causes of Failure – French – Carnatic Wars
- Why they failed against the British?
- Battle of Panipat – British and Native States
- Battle of Plassey – Buxar – Anglo – Marathas – Anglo – Punjab – Sindh Conquest
- Establishment of British rule in India
- British policies and its impact
- Land Revenue System – Permanent Settlement
- Mahalwari – Ryotwari – Commercialization of Agriculture
- Development of Civil Services
- Police – Education
- Press
- Famine Commissions
- De-industrialization
- Railways
- Local Self Government
- Constitutional Developments
- Regulating Act 1773, 1784
- Charter Acts
- Government of India Act 1858, 1909, 1919, 1935
- Indian Councils Act 1861, 1892
- Religious and social reform movements and their impact
- Growth of art, literature and modern press in India
- Major Social reforms
- Indian Renaissance
- Raja Ram Mohan Roy
- Ishvar Chandra Vidyasagar
- Caste movements in south India & Maharashtra
- Reforms of Cornwallis, Wellesley, Hastings, William Bentick, Dalhousie
- Revolt of 1857
- causes and consequences
- Rise of Indian Nationalism
- Drain Theory
- Early political movements and Indian National Congress
- Moderates – Extremists
- Role of Lytton, Ripon and Curzon
- Rise of extremism
- Swadeshi and Boycott movement in India
- Split in Congress and rise of revolutionary terrorism
- Morley-Minto reforms and formation of Muslim League

Modern Indian history from 1905 until independence:
- Gandhi in South Africa
- Role of Gandhi in eradication of Indentured slavery system
- Return of Mahatma Gandhi
- Gandhian Philosophy
- Satyagraha
- His ideas on Communalism, Trusteeship, Socialism
- Means and Ends
- Relevance of Gandhian ideas in present times
- Gandhi vs Nehru, Gandhi vs Tagore, Gandhi vs Ambedkar, Gandhi vs Subhash
- Role of Women in Gandhian movements
- Why Gandhi was successful
- Champaran, Ahmedabad and Kheda Movement
- Gadhara Movement
- Home rule movement and its impact
- Role of Foreigners in National Movement
- Influence of foreign events on Indian National movement
- Non-cooperation movement and Khilafat movement
- Gandhi vs Jinnah on Khilafat Issue
- Montague Chelmsford reforms 1919
- Swarajists
- Rise of Left
- Congress Socialist Party
- Communists
- JLN
- Subhash Bose influence
- Peasant movements in India
- Rise of communalism and its dangerous effects
- Simon Commission
- Lahore Congress, from Swaraj to complete independence
- Civil disobedience movement
- Round table conferences
- Poona Pact
- Constitutional development, Government of India Act 1935
- 28-month congress rule
- National movement during world war
- Individual Satyagraha
- August Offer
- Cripps Proposal
- Quit India Movement
- Wavell Plan
- Rajaji’s Formula
- INA Trials
- RIN Mutiny
- National upsurge after second world war
- Tebhaga Movement
- Formation of Interim government
- Constituent Assembly
- Wavell Breakdown Plan
- Mountbatten Plan
- Menon Plan
- Independence of India Act 1947
- Partition and Communal Violence.
**Topic 3: Post-Independence: Post-independence consolidation and reorganization within the country.**


**Topic 4: World History:** History of the world will include events from 18th century such as industrial revolution, world wars, redrawal of national boundaries, colonization, decolonization, political philosophies like communism, capitalism, socialism etc.— their forms and effect on the society.

**World History: Events from 18th century till world war I: Key words:** Renaissance – Age of Enlightenment - Industrial Revolution – Causes & Consequences – IR in Britain, Japan, Russia, India - Impact on India - Emergence of new ideologies like capitalism, communism, socialism - American revolution and civil war – American Constitution - British Mercantilism - French revolution - Rise and fall of Napoleon - Vienna Congress - Rise of Nation states – Rise of Socialism – Communism – 1st International – 2nd International – Workers Movement - unification of Germany and Italy - Balkan Wars - Imperialism and colonization- World war- cause and consequence, Treaty of Versailles - League of Nations - Russian revolution, cause and consequence - Lenin’s New Economic Policy – Stalin’s Economic policies – Great Depression and the New Deal Events from world war I and onwards:

**Keywords:** Rise of Nazism and Hitler in Germany – Role of Hitler in WWII – Policy of appeasement - Rise of Fascism in Italy - Japanese imperialism - Chinese revolution – Spanish Revolution - World war II- cause and consequences - Decolonization and achievement of freedom by nations (from 18th century onwards) - West Africa – Indonesia – Apartheid – Malay Peninsula - Cold war and bipolar world – Cuban Missile Crisis - Afro-Asian unity and Non- alignment - Arab Nationalism - Palestine and Israel-Arab conflict - fall of USSR – Gorbachev’s policies - Fall of Berlin Wall - Gulf wars - Iranian revolution - Afghan Invasion – European Union – Formation and new challenges.
**Topic 5: Indian Society: Salient features of Indian Society, Diversity of India. 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. Social empowerment, communalism, regionalism & secularism.**


**Topic 6: Physical Geography: Salient features of world’s physical geography.**

**Topic 8: Geophysical Phenomena:** 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.

**Geomorphology:** Interior of the earth - Continental drift theory - Plate tectonic theory - Landform development in karst regions, arid region, glacial region - Landforms development due to fluvial, Aeolian and glacial action - Endogenic and Exogenic forces - Formation of fold mountains and island arcs - Volcanism and related landforms - Earthquakes and tsunami. Cryosphere.

**Oceanography:** Temperature and salinity of the oceans - Ocean currents - Waves and tides - Coral reefs and coral bleaching - EL NINO and ENSO - Sea level change - Ocean acidification – Mineral Reserves – Deep Sea Mining - Challenges

**Climatology:** Composition and structure of atmosphere - Temperature and pressure belts of the world - Atmospheric circulation- Planetary and local winds - Monsoon and jet streams - Air masses and air front - Tropical cyclones - Temperate cyclones - Heat budget - Climate change - Urban climate – Ozone Depletion

**Biogeography:** Soils: types and locations; Major biomes of the world: tropical rainforest, temperate forests, Savanah grasslands, temperate grasslands, Desert biome, Monsoon and Mediterranean biome - Wetlands- Mangrove vegetation. Contemporary issues.

**Topic 7/ Human and Economic 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).
**Human and Economic Geography:** Distribution of key natural resources across the world (including South Asia and the Indian sub-continent): Minerals: Iron, Aluminum, Manganese, Lead, Zinc, Copper, Uranium, Rare earth metals – Energy resources: Coal, Oil and natural Gas – non-conventional energy resources: Coal bed methane, Shale gas etc. - Renewable Energy resources: Solar energy, wind energy, geothermal etc.


Geopolitics. Space.
General Studies Paper 2

GOVERNANCE, CONSTITUTION, POLITY, SOCIAL JUSTICE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS.

Topic 1: Indian Constitution—historical underpinnings, evolution, features, amendments, significant provisions and basic structure.


Topic 2: 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.

### Topic 3: Separation of powers between various organs dispute redressal mechanisms and institutions.


### Topic 4: Comparison of the Indian constitutional scheme with that of other countries.


### Topic 5: Parliament and State legislatures—structure, functioning - conduct of business - powers & privileges and issues arising out of these.


### Topic 6: 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.

**Topic 7: Salient features of the Representation of People’s Act.**


**Topic 8: Appointment to various Constitutional posts, powers, functions and responsibilities of various Constitutional Bodies.**


**Topic 9: Statutory, regulatory and various quasi-judicial bodies.**


**Topic 10: Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation.**

Topic 11: Development processes and the development industry —the role of NGOs, SHGs, various groups and associations, donors, charities, institutional and other stakeholders.


Topic 12: Welfare schemes for vulnerable sections of the population by the Centre and States and the performance of these schemes; mechanisms, laws, institutions and Bodies constituted for the protection and betterment of these vulnerable sections.

Key concepts: Critical Performance of Govt schemes – Design & Implementation – Commissions for Vulnerable Sections - Protection of interest of vulnerable sections through – constitutional provisions, legislation, executive and Judiciary

Welfare schemes for Vulnerable sections - children, Women, Old Age, Divyang people, Schedule Caste, Scheduled Tribe, Poor migrants, tribals - Transgender – Surrogacy - Refugees - Constitutional provisions for the same


Topic 14: Issues relating to poverty and hunger.


**Topic 15: Important aspects of governance, transparency and accountability, e-governance applications, models, successes, limitations, and potential; citizen charters, transparency & accountability and institutional and other measures.**


**Topic 16: Role of civil services in a democracy.**

**Key concepts:** Civil Service – Historical Background – Colonial Hangover – Role in Development – Failure at Poverty Alleviation – Committed Bureaucracy – Reforms – Corruption in Civil Service – Article 311

**Topic 17: India and its neighborhood- relations.**


**Topic 18: Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India’s interests.**

**Key concepts:** SAARC vs BIMSTEC, BRICS, Afro-India Relations, SCO, ASEAN, Resurgence of Non-Aligned Movement – Connectivity Initiatives - Ashgabat Agreement – Chabahar – Peace Pipeline – Arctic Council – Non Proliferation Policy - Wassenar Agreement, Australian Group, MTCR, NSG, NPT – FIPIC Countries – CMLV Countries and India - Arctic Council
**Topic 19: Effect of policies and politics of developed and developing countries on India’s interests, Indian diaspora.**


**Topic 20: Important International institutions, agencies and fora- their structure, mandate**

General Studies Paper 3

TECHNOLOGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, BIODIVERSITY, ENVIRONMENT, SECURITY AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT

Topic 1: Indian Economy and issues relating to planning, mobilization, of resources, growth, development and employment.


Topic 2: Inclusive growth and issues arising from it.

**Topic 3: Government Budgeting.**


**Topic 4: 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.**

**Key concepts:** Major crops of India – Food crops and Non-food Crops – Rice/Wheat/Millet/Pulses/tea/coffee/Sugarcane/Cotton/Jute/ - 


**Topic 5: 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.**


**Topic 6: Food processing and related industries in India- scope’ and significance, location, upstream and downstream requirements, supply chain management.**

**Key concepts:** Food Processing - Scope/Significance/Potential/Issues and Concerns in the Food Processing Sector - Government Schemes - Nivesh Bandhu's Portal - Mega Food Parks - Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana - 100% FDI permitted in Food Processing - Dairy Processing and development Fund- Fisheries and aquaculture development fund - Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund - Setting up/Modernisation of Abattoirs – Village Storage Scheme – Dhanalakshmi – National Cold Supply Chain.
**Topic 7: Land reforms in India.**


**Topic 8: Effects of liberalization on the economy, changes in industrial policy and their effects on industrial growth.**


**Topic 9: Infrastructure: Energy, Ports, Roads, Airports, Railways etc.**


**Ports/Shipping Industry** – Major and Minor ports, Inland Water Navigation, SAGARMALA – Ro-Ro Service & Its Impact – Major Ports Act -


**Topic 10: Investment models.**

**Key concepts:** Different Investment Models - PPP - Evolution of PPP in India/ Why We need PPP, Challenges/Issues in the PPP model, Kelkar Committee Recommendations - Different PPP models - BOT, BOO, BOOT, BOLT, LDO, DBFO - EPC model - TOT, Hybrid Annuity Model, Swiss Challenge etc – FDI vs FII – Greenfield – Brownfield – Debate

**Topic 11: Science and Technology- developments and their applications and effects in everyday life.**


**Topic 12: Achievements of Indians in science & technology; indigenization of technology and developing new technology.**

**Key concepts:** Famous Indian scientists from ancient to the modern age - Notable scientists of India - CV Raman, M Visvesaraya, J C Bose, Homi Bhabha, Vikram Sarabhai, APJ Abdul kalam - The extent of indigenization in sectors of Indian economy: Agriculture, Automobile, Information and Communication Technology, Healthcare and biotechnology, Space- Defence Indigenisation

**Topic 13: Awareness in the fields of IT, Space, Computers, robotics, Nano-technology, biotechnology and issues relating to intellectual property rights.**

**Key concepts:** Bio-Technology - GM Crops (Bt Cotton, Bt Brinjal, Bt Mustard, Golden Rice), Gene Therapy, Gene editing, Gene Silencing, Three Parent baby, Human Genome Project, Genome Project India, MAANAV- Human Atlas, DNA Technology Regulation Bill, Stem Cells, Embryo Transfer Technology – Neglected Tropical Diseases – Zoonotic Diseases

**Space Technology** - Earth Observation Satellite, Communication Satellite, Global Positioning system, Gaganyaan, Chandryaan, NaVIC, Aditya L1, AstroSat, Vyommitra, - Contribution of ISRO – PSLV – GSLV – Cryogenics – Mars Mission -
IT and Computer - 4G and 5G, 4D printing, Li-Fi, Cryptocurrencies, Blockchain technology, Quantum Computing, Data Localisation, Dark Web, etc.


Topic 14: Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation, environmental impact assessment.


Environmental Impact Assessment – Need of it, Various Issues in EIA – Draft EIA 2020

Topic 15: Disaster and disaster management.


Topic 16: Linkages between development and spread of extremism.

Key concepts: Deficit of development and its regional variations - loss of trust in government efforts - Land acquisition - issues around compensation and commercial acquisitions - Tribal discontent - development induced displacement - Indoctrination- role of non-state actors in promoting extremist ideas (Left Wing Extremism etc) – Naxalbari Movement – Saranda Action Plan – Urban Naxals
Topic 17: Role of external state and non-state actors in creating challenges to internal security.


Topic 18: 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.


Cyber Security - Different kinds of cyber security vulnerabilities - malwares, Trojan horses etc, Cyber security of critical infrastructure – Nuclear power plant – financial institutions etc – Steps by Government to thwart cyber - attack – CERT – IN, etc – Crypto jacking – National CyberSecurity Policy -


**Topic 20: Various Security forces and agencies and their mandate**

**Key concepts:** Various security forces - Coastal Security - Indian Coast Guard - Central Armed Police Force - BSF, CISF, CRPF, ITBP, SSB, NSG, AR – their mandate - NIA Amendment Act – AFPSA – Need for a Cyber command – Chief of Defence Staff
General Studies paper IV

Ethics, Integrity and Aptitude

Topic 1: Ethics and Human Interface: Essence, determinants and consequences of Ethics in human actions; dimensions of ethics; ethics – in private and public relationships. Human Values – lessons from the lives and teachings of great leaders, reformers and administrators; role of family society and educational institutions in inculcating values.


Topic 2: Attitude: content, structure, function; its influence and relation with thought and behaviour; moral and political attitudes; social influence and persuasion.


Topic 3: 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.

Key concepts: Aptitude - Aptitude vs. attitude - Foundational values – Integrity – Impartiality and Non-Partisanship - Neutrality - Objectivity – Dedication and commitment- Tolerance - Sympathy, Empathy and compassion - Trustworthiness - Perseverance – Honesty - Significance of foundational values for civil servant – Nolan Principles of Public life: Selflessness, Accountability, Integrity, Honesty, Objectivity, Openness, leadership.
Topic 4: Emotional intelligence-concepts, and their utilities and application in administration and governance.


Topic 5: Contributions of moral thinkers and philosophers from India and world


Topic 6: Public/Civil service values and Ethics in Public administration: Status and problems; ethical concerns and dilemmas in government and private institutions; laws, rules, regulations and conscience as sources of ethical guidance; accountability and ethical governance; strengthening of ethical and moral values in governance; ethical issues in international relations and funding; corporate governance.


Topic 7: Probity in Governance: Concept of public service; Philosophical basis of governance and probity; 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.

Key concepts: Concept of public service and public interest – Spirit of service - Governance and public administration - governance, good governance and ethical governance - Philosophical basis of governance and probity - Courage of conviction - Politicization of bureaucracy - Code of conduct and
code of ethics - Information sharing and transparency in government - Right to Information: importance, issues and suggestions – Citizen’s charter: Citizen’s charter movement, importance, issues and suggestion - Sevottam mode – Work culture: in private and public institutions – Quality of service delivery Utilization of public fund – Corruption - e-governance.

**Topic 8: Case study on above issues.**