

Weekly Current Affairs

VOL-304

| | |
|---|-----------|
| NATIONAL | 4 |
| #1 Merger of Daman and Diu, Dadra and Nagar Haveli UTs | 4 |
| #2 Yuwaah Youth Skilling Initiative | 5 |
| #3 Special Protection Group (Amendment) Bill | 5 |
| #4 Industrial Relations Code bill introduced in Lok Sabha | 6 |
| #5 Lokpal logo, motto released | 7 |
| #6 Parliament passes Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Bill | 7 |
| INTERNATIONAL | 9 |
| #1 EB-5 | 9 |
| #2 8th International Tourism Mart | 10 |
| #3 Aga Khan Architecture Award | 10 |
| #4 Aalmi Tablighi Ijtima | 11 |
| #5 Global Bio-India Summit 2019 | 11 |
| BUSINESS AND ECONOMY | 12 |
| #1 Sebi's new default disclosure norm | 12 |
| #2 RBI revises framework on currency swap arrangement for SAARC nations | 13 |
| #3 Coalbed methane | 13 |
| #4 Electricity per capita | 14 |
| #5 Consumer spending surveys | 14 |
| #6 RBI seeks to push rupee in global play | 15 |



UPSC IAS EXAMS

PRINTED STUDY MATERIALS

VISIT: <http://iasexamportal.com/STUDY-KIT>




| | |
|---|-----------|
| SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY | 16 |
| #1 Indian scientists identify a protein that helps regulate blood sugar levels | 16 |
| #2 PSLV-C47 successfully launches Cartosat-3 and 13 | 17 |
| #3 Contract' for the World Wide Web | 17 |
| #4 Why broiler chicken is sometimes chewy | 18 |
| #5 What is Golden Rice? | 18 |
| HEALTH | 20 |
| #1 Autosomal Dominant Polycystic Kidney Disease | 20 |
| #2 Polydactyly | 21 |
| #3 Potential Diarrhea vaccine developed in Sweden | 22 |
| #5 Global Bio-India Summit 2019 | 23 |
| SPORTS | 24 |
| #1 Deepika won gold at the Continental Qualification Tournament | 24 |
| #2 Ekana Cricket Stadium became the second neutral venue in India to host a Test match | 24 |
| #3 Jon Rahm won 2019 DP World Tour Championship | 24 |
| #4 Lakshya wins 4th title of the season won Scottish Open | 25 |
| MCQ | 26 |
| Q1.Which of the following statements regarding regulation of organic foods in the domestic market stands true ? | 26 |
| Q2.The Union cabinet had recently approved the Labour Code on Industrial Relations 2019, allowing companies to hire workers on fixed-term contract of any duration.The code will combine which of the following acts ? | 27 |
| Q3.With respect to the PradhanMantriKaushalVikasYojana,which of the following statements stands true ? | 27 |
| Q4.The recently launched Green Channel policy is the policy that provides eligibility criteria for firms to obtain Green Channel Status.Under the policy, when a firm gains the "Green Channel status" it can self-certify its products for their quality. It was launched by which of the following ministry's ? | 28 |



UPSC IAS EXAMS
PRINTED STUDY MATERIALS

VISIT: <http://iasexamportal.com/STUDY-KIT>

50% OFF

 **CLICK HERE**

- Q5. Consider the following statements : 28
- Q6. Which of the following places in India receives rainfall of more than 250cm/year ? 28
- Q7. The Prime Minister's Office has set up a group of 12 ministers to resolve differences over the proposed Model Agricultural Land Leasing Act, 2016. Which of the following statements regarding the provisions of the act stands true ? 29
- Q8. With respect to the recently passed The Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Bill, 2019 which of the following statements stands true ? 29
- Q9. India has now emerged from just an automobile producing hub to designing and development hub as well. Which of the following statements regarding the same stands true? 30
- Q10. The Atapaka bird sanctuary has become a safe breeding ground for two migratory bird species. The sanctuary, surrounded by an artificial pond, has a good vegetation cover supporting nests for the avian guests. It hosts around 6000 pelicans and around 1200 painted storks during winter. The sanctuary is located in which of the following lakes ? 30

Important Article from various newspapers 32

- #1 Widening gap: On UN's Emissions Gap Report (The Hindu) 32
- #2 India's food basket must be enlarged (The Hindu) 33
- #3 Company directors can't just resign and walk away (The Hindu) 36
- #4 Is this the end of multilateralism? (The Hindu) 37
- #5 Combat global warming inadequate (Mint) 39



UPSC IAS EXAMS

PRINTED STUDY MATERIALS

VISIT: <http://iasexamportal.com/STUDY-KIT>




CLICK HERE

NATIONAL



#1 Merger of Daman and Diu, Dadra and Nagar Haveli UTs

- Lok Sabha passed the Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu (Merger of Union Territories) Bill, 2019.

Key features of the Bill include:

- The First Schedule to the Constitution specifies the territories that come under various states and UTs. The Bill amends the First Schedule to merge the territories of the two UTs: (a) Dadra and Nagar Haveli, and (b) Daman and Diu. The merged territory will form the UT of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu.
- Article 240(1) of the Constitution allows the President to make regulations for certain UTs, including the UTs of Dadra and Nagar Haveli, and Daman and Diu. The Bill amends the Article to replace these two UTs with the merged UT.
- The First Schedule to the Representation of the People Act, 1950 provides one seat in Lok Sabha to each of the two UTs. The Bill seeks to amend the Schedule to allocate two Lok Sabha seats to the merged UT.
- The Bill provides that the jurisdiction of the High Court of Bombay will continue to extend to the merged UT.
- There will be no change in the status of Group III and IV employees.



UPSC IAS EXAMS

PRINTED STUDY MATERIALS

VISIT: <http://iasexamportal.com/STUDY-KIT>




#2 Yuwaah Youth Skilling Initiative

- UNICEF has launched 'YuWaah' Generation Unlimited in India on 1.11.2019.

Key highlights:

- According to UNICEF, Generation Unlimited, called YuWaah in India, is a multi-stakeholder alliance which aims to facilitate youth to gain relevant skills for productive lives and the future of work.
- The target age group of YuWaah includes adolescent girls and boys.
- Its key mission is to promote access to foundational, transferable and 21st century skills for youth inside and outside formal education systems, which includes defining foundational skills, life skills and flexible learning and identifying and scaling impactful delivery models.
- YuWaah intends to create platforms to guide youth to market opportunities (career guidance, mentorship, internships, apprenticeships) and facilitate integration of career guidance in school education.

#3 Special Protection Group (Amendment) Bill

- Lok Sabha passes the Special Protection Group (Amendment) Bill, 2019 to amend the Special Protections Group Act, 1988.

Special Protections Group Act, 1988: Salient Features

- Based on the recommendations of the Birbal Nath committee report, SPG came into existence in 1985. From 1985 to 1988, SPG was governed by an Executive Order and only in 1988 the SPG Act came into existence.
- Under the Act, the Special Protection Group (SPG) provides security to the Prime Minister and his immediate family members.
- It also provides security to former Prime Ministers and their immediate family members for a period of one year from the date on which they cease to hold the office. Beyond this period, the SPG security is provided based on the level of threat as decided by the central government.
- The threat must: (i) emanate from a military or terrorist organisation, and (ii) be of a grave and continuing nature.
- If the SPG security is withdrawn from a former Prime Minister, it will also be withdrawn from his immediate family members, unless the level of threat faced by the immediate family member warrants such security.

Special Protection Group (Amendment) Bill, 2019: Salient Features



UPSC IAS EXAMS
PRINTED STUDY MATERIALS

VISIT: <http://iasexamportal.com/STUDY-KIT>

50% OFF

[CLICK HERE](#)

- The Bill amends this provision to state that the SPG will provide security to the Prime Minister, and members of his immediate family residing with him at his official residence.
- It will also provide security to any former Prime Ministers, and his immediate family members residing with him at the residence allotted to him.
- This security will be provided for a period of five years from the date on which he ceases to hold the office of Prime Minister.
- If the SPG security is withdrawn from a former Prime Minister, it will also be withdrawn from his immediate family members.

#4 Industrial Relations Code bill introduced in Lok Sabha

- The Minister of State (I/C) for Labour and Employment introduced The Industrial Relations Code Bill, 2019 in the Lok Sabha.

Key highlights:

- The draft code on Industrial Relations has been prepared after amalgamating and simplifying the relevant provisions of following three Central Labour Acts:
- The Trade Unions Act, 1926
- The Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946
- The Industrial Disputes Act, 1947

Features:

- Setting up of two-member tribunal (in place of one member) and introducing a concept that some of the important cases will be adjudicated jointly and the rest by a single member resulting speedier disposal of cases.
- To impart flexibility to the exit provisions, for which, the threshold for prior approval of appropriate Government has been kept unchanged at 100 employees, but added a provision for changing 'such number of employees' through notification.
- The re-skilling fund, is to be utilised for crediting to workers in the manner to be prescribed.
- Definition of Fixed Term Employment and that it would not lead to any notice period and payment of compensation on retrenchment excluded.
- Vesting of powers with the government officers for adjudication of disputes involving penalty as fines thereby lessening the burden on tribunal.



UPSC IAS EXAMS
PRINTED STUDY MATERIALS

VISIT: <http://iasexamportal.com/STUDY-KIT>




#5 Lokpal logo, motto released

- Lokpal Chairman Justice (retired) Pinaki Chandra Ghose launched the new logo for the apex anti-corruption ombudsman. A new motto was also adopted.

Motto:

- The new motto of Lokpal is 'Ma Gridhah Kasyasvidhanam' which in English means "Do not be greedy for anyone's wealth."
- It has been taken from a sloka of 'Isavasyopanishad'.

Logo:

The logo symbolises how Lokpal protects and cares for the people of India by establishing justice as per law.

The logo symbolizes various essence of LOKPAL figuratively in shapes such as: ombudsman (judges bench), people (three human figures), vigilance (Ashok chakra forming eye-pupil), law (shape of book in orange) and judicial (the tricolor two hands are placed below forming a unique balance). The logo is in tricolor representing the national essence of LOKPAL.

#6 Parliament passes Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Bill

- Parliament passed the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Bill, 2019, with the Rajya Sabha approving it. The Lok Sabha had already passed the bill.

Key highlights:

- The Bill defines a transgender person as one whose gender does not match the gender assigned at birth. It includes trans-men and trans-women, persons with intersex variations, gender-queers, and persons with socio-cultural identities, such as kinnar and hijra.
- It prohibits the discrimination against a transgender person, including denial of service or unfair treatment in relation to education, employment, healthcare, access to, or enjoyment of goods, facilities, opportunities available to the public.
- Every transgender person shall have a right to reside and be included in his household.
- No government or private entity can discriminate against a transgender person in employment matters, including recruitment, and promotion.
- Educational institutions funded or recognised by the relevant government shall provide inclusive facilities for transgender persons, without discrimination.
- The government must provide health facilities to transgender persons including separate HIV surveillance centres, and sex reassignment surgeries.



UPSC IAS EXAMS
PRINTED STUDY MATERIALS

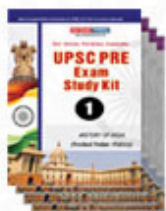
VISIT: <http://iasexamportal.com/STUDY-KIT>



50% OFF



UPSC IAS Exam GENERAL STUDIES Study Materials



- 100% UPSC PRE GS Paper Syllabus Covered
- 1750+ Pages, with Home assignments (MCQs)
- 1 Years Gist of The Hindu, Yojana, Pib Etc.
- 10 Years Solved Papers & IAS Planner
- Years Weekly, Monthly Current Affairs (PDF Copy)



~~₹ 8,000/-~~
₹ 3,999/-

for Exam Help Call Us at: +91 8800734161, 9958790414

IAS EXAM PORTAL

What you will get:

- 100% G.S. Syllabus Covered
- 1750+ Pages
- Total Books: 18
- Every section is covered with Multiple Choice Question (MCQs)
- Flow chart, diagram and figures are exhaustively compiled
- NCERT Notes of different section of the syllabus is covered.
- IAS Planner Booklet - Print Copy
- UPSC Syllabus Booklet - Print Copy
- UPSC PRE 10 Year Solved Papers - Pdf Copy
- IAS PRE 5 MOCK Tests with OMR - Pdf Copy
- Online Coaching Access (1 Year Pdf Copy)
- Weekly Current Affairs (1 Year Pdf Copy)
- Current Affairs for UPSC IAS (Pre.) Exam (Pdf Copy)
- Gist of The Hindu, Yojana, Kurukshetra, PIB (1 Year) - Pdf Copy
- Guidance & Support from Our Experts

Price of the Kit:

~~Rs. 8,000~~

Rs. 3,999/-

(Limited time Offer)



Buy Online



Net Banking

Order Online (100% Safe)

[Click here for Other Payment Options \(Cash/NEFT/etc\)](#)

FOR MORE DETAILS VISIT:

<http://iasexamportal.com/SK-101>

**50%
OFF**

CLICK HERE

- A transgender person may make an application to the District Magistrate for a certificate of identity, indicating the gender as 'transgender'.
- The Bill imposes penalties for the offences against transgender persons like bonded labour, denial of use of public places, removal from household & village and physical, sexual, verbal, emotional or economic abuse.
- The NCT chaired by Union Minister for Social Justice, will advise the central government as well as monitor the impact of policies with respect to transgender persons. It will also redress the grievances of transgender persons.



UPSC IAS EXAMS
PRINTED STUDY MATERIALS

VISIT: <http://iasexamportal.com/STUDY-KIT>




INTERNATIONAL



INTERNATIONAL Current Affairs

#1 EB-5

- New rules governing the EB-5 visa of the United States came into effect, which include a significant increase in the investment amount required to obtain the visa.

About:

- The EB-5 is one of five employment-based immigrant visas that can be obtained in the United States (others being EB-1, EB-2, EB-3, EB-4). An immigrant visa allows its holder to live and work in the US permanently, as opposed to a non-immigrant visa like the H-1B.
- Under the US immigration rules, the EB-5 is a category of visa which enables an individual to apply for permanent residency in the United States (also called green card) after meeting certain investment and employment-generation criteria.

The applicant is required


- To make the necessary investment in a commercial enterprise in the United States, and
- To create or, in certain circumstances, preserve 10 full-time jobs for qualified United States workers.



UPSC IAS EXAMS

PRINTED STUDY MATERIALS

VISIT: <http://iasexamportal.com/STUDY-KIT>




- The US uses the visa scheme to generate employment in what are called 'targeted employment areas'. The TEAs consist of areas that have an average unemployment rate of at least 150% of the national average unemployment rate of the US, as well as certain rural areas.

#2 8th International Tourism Mart

- The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, in association with the North Eastern States is organising the 8th "International Tourism Mart" (ITM) at Imphal, Manipur from 23 November to 25 November, 2019.

Key highlights:

- This is the 8th International Tourism Mart (ITM) and an annual event organised in the North Eastern region with the objective of highlighting the tourism potential of the region in the domestic and international markets.
- It brings together the tourism business fraternity and entrepreneurs from the 8 North Eastern States. The event has been planned to facilitate interaction between buyers, sellers, media, Government agencies and other stakeholders.
- The ITMs are organised in the North Eastern States on rotation basis. Manipur is hosting this mart for the second time. The earlier editions of this mart have been held in Guwahati, Tawang, Shillong, Gangtok, Agartala.

#3 Aga Khan Architecture Award

- A floating school project in Bangladesh named 'The Arcadia Education Project' has won the Aga Khan Architecture Award.

Key highlights:

- The 'Arcadia Education Project' in South Kanarchor of Bangladesh is an amphibious school designed by renowned architect of Bangladesh Saif Ul Haque.
- The project involved construction of a school in an area which is under water during the monsoon months. The school which remains on the ground during the dry season and floats on water when the area is submerged in water during monsoon.
- The amphibious structure for school is built by utilising only the local material-bamboo, used tyres and steel drums for constructing the.
- The Aga Khan Foundation lauded the project for its contribution to improve people's lives, social and economic development, access to education in rural communities and global issues like rising water levels.



UPSC IAS EXAMS
PRINTED STUDY MATERIALS

VISIT: <http://iasexamportal.com/STUDY-KIT>



 **CLICK HERE**

Aga Khan Award for Architecture

- The Aga Khan Award for Architecture is an architectural prize established by the Aga Khan IV in 1977. The award is associated with the Aga Khan Trust for Culture (AKTC), an agency of the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN).
- It is given every three years to projects that set new standards of excellence in architecture, planning practices, historic preservation and landscape architecture.

#4 Aalmi Tablighi Ijtimia

- In Madhya Pradesh, the four-day Aalmi Tablighi Ijtimia, world's biggest Islamic Congregation began in Bhopal. More than one million people from 54 countries are expected to attend the congregation which will continue till 25th November.

Key highlights:

- Alami Tablighi Ijtimia is a forum for delivering some important religious-spiritual messages to Muslims around the world. Scholars speak on a variety of subjects including the Islamic way of life and the Six Principles.
- One of the most prominent features of Alami Tablighi Ijtimia is that it has no political affiliation.
- Ijtimia started in the era of Nawabs in Bhopal. The first Alami Tablighi Ijtimia took place in Bhopal in 1944 and only 14 people attended it then. Now the number has increased to millions.
- Thousands of people from various countries across the world including Russia, France, Indonesia, Malaysia, Iraq and Saudi Arabia have reached Bhopal to participate in this event.

#5 Global Bio-India Summit 2019

- India's first largest biotechnology conference – the Global Bio-India (GBI) Summit, 2019 concluded in New Delhi.

Key highlights:

- The three-day event was organized by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India along with Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC).
- The Department plans to turn the GBI into an annual event with support from all stakeholders.
- The Summit provided an opportunity to showcase the potential of India's biotech sector to the international community, identify, create opportunities and deliberate on the key challenges in the areas of Bio-pharma, Bio-Agri, Bio-Industrial, Bio-Energy and Bio-Services and allied sectors.



UPSC IAS EXAMS
PRINTED STUDY MATERIALS

VISIT: <http://iasexamportal.com/STUDY-KIT>




BUSINESS AND ECONOMY



BUSINESS & ECONOMY Current Affairs

#1 Sebi's new default disclosure norm

- The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has approved stricter disclosure norms for listed companies.

Salient features of Norms:

- In case of default in repayment of loans beyond 30 days, listed companies will have to disclose the fact of such default within 24 hours. The new default rule will come into force on January 1, 2020.
- An early disclosure can act as an early warning system, which can help investors make considered decisions on whether to stay on or sell the stock and exit, cutting their losses.
- It is also expected that the move will lead to greater credit discipline in the banking industry.

Other recent steps by SEBI:

- SEBI has amended Portfolio Managers (PM) Regulations, 2019 following which net worth requirement of portfolio managers has been enhanced from two crore to five crore rupees.
- SEBI has approved a proposal to reduce the overall time taken for a rights issue from 55 days to 31 days.
- Besides, SEBI has also extended the Business Responsibility Report requirement to top 1,000 companies, from 500 currently.



UPSC IAS EXAMS

PRINTED STUDY MATERIALS

VISIT: <http://iasexamportal.com/STUDY-KIT>




#2 RBI revises framework on currency swap arrangement for SAARC nations

- To further economic cooperation within the SAARC region, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has put in place a revised Framework on Currency Swap Arrangement for SAARC countries for the period 2019 to 2022.

Salient Features:

- Under the framework for 2019-22, RBI will continue to offer swap arrangement within the overall corpus of \$2 billion.
- The RBI would enter into bilateral swap agreements with SAARC central banks, who want to avail swap facility.
- The drawals can be made in US Dollar, Euro or Indian Rupee. The Framework provides certain concessions for swap drawals in Indian Rupee.
- The Currency Swap Facility will be available to all SAARC member countries, subject to their signing the bilateral swap agreements.
- The new Framework is valid from November 14, 2019 to November 13, 2022.
- Earlier, the SAARC currency swap facility came into operation on November 15, 2012 with an intention to provide a backstop line of funding for short term foreign exchange liquidity requirements or balance of payment crises till longer term arrangements are made.

#3 Coalbed methane

- The Ministry of Coal has asked the state-run coal miner Coal India Limited (CIL) to produce 2 MMSCB (million metric standard cubic metres) per day of coalbed methane (CBM) gas in the next 2 to 3 years.

Key highlights:

- CBM is extracted from unconventional gas reservoirs – where gas is extracted directly from the rock that is the source of the gas.
- The methane is held underground within the coal and is extracted by drilling into the coal seam and removing the groundwater. The resulting drop in pressure causes the methane to be released from the coal.
- CBM has been looked at as a clean alternative fuel with significant prospects.
- CBM can be used for power generation, as compressed natural gas (CNG) auto fuel, as feedstock for fertilisers, industrial uses such as in cement production, rolling mills, steel plants, and for methanol production.

Indian scenario:



UPSC IAS EXAMS

PRINTED STUDY MATERIALS

VISIT: <http://iasexamportal.com/STUDY-KIT>




- According to the Directorate General of Hydrocarbons, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, India's CBM resources are estimated at around 92 trillion cubic feet (TCF), or 2,600 billion cubic metres (BCM).
- The Damodar Koel valley and Son valley are prospective areas for CBM development.
- According to the Directorate, CBM production in March 2015 was around 0.77 MMSCMD from 5 CBM blocks.
- In 2018, the Union Cabinet relaxed the rules for Coal India Limited (CIL) to extract natural gas lying below coal seams to boost production.

#4 Electricity per capita

- During the Winter Session of Parliament, the Ministry of Power released data on India's per capita consumption of electricity.

Key highlights of the data:

- India's per capita consumption of electricity is 1,181 kWh as of 2018-19.
- The highest per capita consumption in 2018-19 is in Dadra and Nagar Haveli, at 15,179 kWh. The Union Territory is followed by the states of Gujarat (2,378), Goa (2,274), Haryana (2,082) and Punjab (2,046).
- The state with the lowest per capita consumption of electricity is Bihar, at 311 kWh, followed by the North-eastern states of Assam (341), Nagaland (356), Manipur (371) and Tripura (514).
- The 5,251 previously un-electrified households in villages were electrified between 2017-18 and 2018-19 under the Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana scheme. Arunachal Pradesh accounts for the highest number of such households at 1,134, followed by Odisha (925), Jharkhand (729), Bihar (596) and Assam (572).
- As of April 28, 2018 all inhabited Census villages stand electrified, with the exception of seven states where over 19 lakh households were unwilling to be electrified earlier. These households are now willing to get electricity connections.

#5 Consumer spending surveys

- Government of India announced that in view of "data quality issues" the Ministry of Statistics had decided not to release the results of the all-India Household Consumer Expenditure Survey (CES) conducted by the National Statistical Office (NSO) during 2017-2018.

Key highlights:

- The all-India Household Consumer Expenditure Survey (CES) is traditionally a quinquennial (recurring every five years) survey conducted by the government's National Sample Survey Office (NSSO).
- It is designed to collect information on the consumption spending patterns of households across the country, both urban and rural.



UPSC IAS EXAMS
PRINTED STUDY MATERIALS

VISIT: <http://iasexamportal.com/STUDY-KIT>

50% OFF



- The data gathered in this exercise reveals the average expenditure on goods and services and helps generate estimates of household Monthly Per Capita Consumer Expenditure (MPCE) as well as the distribution of households and persons over the MPCE classes.
- Way ahead: Government has announced that it is “separately examining the feasibility of conducting the next Consumer Expenditure Survey (CES) in 2020-2021 and 2021-22 after incorporating all data quality refinements in the survey process”.

#6 RBI seeks to push rupee in global play

- In a bid to boost internationalisation of the rupee, the RBI has relaxed norms for the opening of special non-resident rupee (SNRR) accounts and permitted direct remittance from India into these accounts.

Key highlights:

- Now, RBI has expanded the scope of SNRR Account by permitting person resident outside India to open such account for:
 - External Commercial Borrowings in INR;
 - Trade Credits in INR;
 - Trade (Export/ Import) Invoicing in INR; and
- Business related transactions outside International Financial Service Centre (IFSC) by IFSC units at GIFT city like administrative expenses in INR outside IFSC, INR amount from sale of scrap, government incentives in INR, etc.
- It has also been decided to rationalise certain other provisions for operation of the SNRR Account, as under:
 - Remove the restriction on the tenure of the SNRR account opened for the purposes given at paragraph 3 above as the proposed transactions are more enduring in nature.
- Apart from Non-Resident Ordinary (NRO) Account, permit credit of amount due/ payable to non-resident nominee from account of a deceased account holder to Non-Resident External (NRE) Account or direct remittance outside India through normal banking channels.



UPSC IAS EXAMS

PRINTED STUDY MATERIALS

VISIT: <http://iasexamportal.com/STUDY-KIT>




'THE GIST' MAGAZINE

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION



Gist of THE HINDU
Gist of Yojana Magazine
Gist of Science Reporter
Gist of Kurukshetra Magazine
Gist of PIB



THE HINDU

YOJANA

Kurukshetra

Press Information Bureau



IAS EXAM PORTAL
www.iasexamportal.com

TOPICS OF THE GIST Magazine:

- The Hindu Newspaper (Monthly)
- Yojana Magazine (Govt of India)
- Kurukshetra (Govt of India)
- Press Information Bureau (Govt of India)
- Science Reporter Magazine

No. of Issues: 12 Months (1 Year)

Release Date: 20th of Every Month

File Type: PDF File (via Email)

Price of the Magazine:

~~Rs. 840~~

Rs. 499/-

(Only Rs.42/- Per Month)



Net Banking

Order Online (100% Safe)

[Click here for Other Payment Options \(Cash/NEFT/etc\)](#)

FOR MORE DETAILS CLICK HERE



SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY



#1 Indian scientists identify a protein that helps regulate blood sugar levels

- Scientists at the CSIR-Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB) in Hyderabad have demonstrated the role of a protein secretagoin (SCGN) in increasing insulin action in obesity-induced diabetes. These findings were published in the latest issue of the journal iScience.

Key highlights:

- Secretagoin is a protein that in humans is encoded by the SCGN gene. The encoded protein is a secreted calcium-binding protein which is found in the cytoplasm.
- CCMB said that the findings established SCGN as a functional insulin-binding protein with therapeutic potential against diabetes.
- They show that SCGN binds to insulin and protects it from various stresses, increases its stability and adds to its action. It said various kinds of cellular stresses can result in loss of structure and function of insulin, ultimately leading to diabetes.
- The scientists have shown injection of SCGN (found at lower levels in diabetic patients) in obese diabetic mice clears excess insulin from circulation and reduces fat mass.
- The Researchers said that SCGN would soon become a diagnostic marker, and one should check its potential in diabetes management.



UPSC IAS EXAMS

PRINTED STUDY MATERIALS

VISIT: <http://iasexamportal.com/STUDY-KIT>




#2 PSLV-C47 successfully launches Cartosat-3 and 13

- India's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle, in its forty ninth flight (PSLV-C47), successfully launched Cartosat-3 and 13 commercial nanosatellites from Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) SHAR, Sriharikota. This is the 21st flight of PSLV in 'XL' configuration (with 6 solid strap-on motors).

Key highlights:

- Cartosat-3 satellite is a third generation agile advanced satellite having high resolution imaging capability. The mission life of the Cartosat-3 is 5 years.
- This is the 9th satellite of Cartosat series developed by Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).
- One of Cartosat-3's cameras offers a ground resolution of 25 cm. Currently, WorldView-3, a satellite owned by U.S. company Maxar, has the best ground resolution of 31 cm. An existing policy allows only government and government authorised agencies to access ISRO's high-resolution imageries below a resolution of 1 m.
- At 1,625 kg, Cartosat-3 is unusually heavy and more than double the mass of the previous eight in its class.
- Cartosat-3 will address the increased user's demands for large scale urban planning, rural resource and infrastructure development, coastal land use and land cover, etc.

#3 Contract' for the World Wide Web

- Tim Berners-Lee, inventor of the World Wide Web, has announced a "Contract for the Web" – aimed at saving the future of his invention.

Key highlights:

- The idea is to create a global plan of action for all stakeholders to together commit to building a "better" Web.
- The World Wide Web Foundation, a non-profit organization founded by Tim Berners-Lee worked on it with Representatives from over 80 organisations, including governments of France, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, and Ghana; tech majors Google, Facebook, Twitter, etc, civil society activists, and academics.
- The Contract consists of following 9 principles, three each for governments, private companies, and individuals and civil society to endorse
- Governments will "Ensure everyone can connect to the Internet", "Keep all of the Internet available, all of the time", and "Respect and protect people's fundamental online privacy and data rights".



UPSC IAS EXAMS

PRINTED STUDY MATERIALS

VISIT: <http://iasexamportal.com/STUDY-KIT>




- Companies will “Make the Internet affordable and accessible to everyone”, “Respect and protect people’s privacy and personal data to build online trust”, and “Develop technologies that support the best in humanity and challenge the worst”.
- Citizens will “Be creators and collaborators on the Web”, “Build strong communities that respect civil discourse and human dignity”, and “Fight for the Web so that it “remains open and a global public resource for people everywhere”.

Implementation:

- The principles are lofty, and implementation will not be easy.
- The ‘Contract for the Web’ is not a legal document, or a United Nations document – though the organisation is in talks with the UN. It cannot currently bend governments or companies – even those that are on board – to its will.

#4 Why broiler chicken is sometimes chewy

- Broiler chicken can sometimes be hard to chew. Now, Researchers believe they have found the reason which is a condition called wooden breast syndrome.

Key highlights:

- The wooden breast syndrome is a metabolic disorder characterised by abnormal fat accumulation in the breast muscle tissue of broiler chicken. When it affects broiler chickens, it makes the meat hard and chewy.
- The researchers identified an enzyme called lipoprotein lipase as likely contributing to wooden breast syndrome in broiler chickens. Lipase is crucial for fat metabolism.
- The first stage of the condition involves inflammation of the veins in the breast tissue and accumulation of lipid around the affected veins. Over time, this is followed by muscle cell death and replacement by fibrous and fatty tissue.
- It is a costly problem that can render the birds unmarketable and cause losses for growers.

#5 What is Golden Rice?

- Bangladesh could become the first country to approve golden rice as it will soon take decision on the release of Golden Rice.

Key highlights:

- Golden rice was developed almost two decades ago by biologists from Switzerland and Germany as a way to prevent vitamin A deficiency in the developing world.



UPSC IAS EXAMS
PRINTED STUDY MATERIALS

VISIT: <http://iasexamportal.com/STUDY-KIT>

50% OFF

CLICK HERE

- Lack of vitamin A is a leading cause of childhood blindness and can also make children more susceptible to death from other illness like measles.
- Vitamin A is made from beta-carotene, which is found in carrots, spinach, sweet potatoes, and other vegetables.
- To create golden rice, scientists modified rice plants with beta-carotene genes from maize. By doing this, rice plants started to produce the rich orange-coloured pigment.
- Then, the transgenic plants were donated to publicly funded research centres to develop their own versions of golden rice using local rice varieties.
- Since the inception of golden rice in the late 1990s, debates have raged over the transgenic crop, considered a genetically modified organism (GM), and it has struggled to gain approval.
- Moreover, stringent international regulations such as the Cartagena Protocol have stymied approval of many GM crops.

Scenario in Bangladesh:

- In Bangladesh, the golden rice in question was developed at the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) in Los Baños, Philippines.
- This particular version is based on the dhan 29 rice variety widely grown in Bangladesh.
- If everything goes to plan, farmers might be planting golden rice seed by 2021.



UPSC IAS EXAMS
PRINTED STUDY MATERIALS

VISIT: <http://iasexamportal.com/STUDY-KIT>







HEALTH

#1 Autosomal Dominant Polycystic Kidney Disease

- Doctors at Delhi's Sir Ganga Ram Hospital have removed what is believed to be the "largest kidney" in India and the third-largest in the world, from a 56-year-old man suffering from a genetic disorder called Autosomal Dominant Polycystic Kidney Disease (ADPKD).
- The kidney weighed 7.4 kg (more than two newborn babies), and measured 32 cm x 21.8 cm. A human kidney on average weighs between 120 grams and 150 grams.
- According to doctors at the hospital, the only two instances of kidneys heavier than this being removed are from the United States (9 kg) and the Netherlands (8.7 kg).
- The Guinness Book of Records, however, acknowledges a 4.25 kg kidney removed from an ADPKD patient at a Dubai hospital in 2017 as the heaviest ever.

What is Autosomal Dominant Polycystic Kidney Disease (ADPKD)?


- It is a rare disease that occurs in 1 out of 700-1,000 individuals. Globally, there are over 12.5 million such cases, but only a fourth of them are believed to be aware of their condition.
- Even so, as inherited kidney disorders go, ADPKD is among the most common. It is also one of the most common causes of end-stage kidney disease (when kidneys can no longer function properly).
- Numerous cysts grow in the kidneys, and the most common symptoms include pain in the back and between the ribs and hips, headaches, blood in the urine, high blood pressure, and kidney insufficiency.



UPSC IAS EXAMS

PRINTED STUDY MATERIALS

VISIT: <http://iasexamportal.com/STUDY-KIT>

- Though a kidney disease, ADPKD can affect other organ systems leading to a multisystem disorder. Organs that can be affected include the liver, pancreas, prostate and glands of the male reproductive tract.

Key findings:

- The American non-profit National Organisation for Rare Diseases (NORD) says ADPKD was earlier known as adult polycystic kidney disease, since it usually occurs in the fourth or fifth decade of life – but it has been reported in children and infants as well.
- ADPKD is caused by inherited mutations in one of the two genes that create proteins for the proper functioning of the kidneys and other parts of the body.
- Even so, the precise role that these proteins play in the proper functioning of the kidney is not fully understood. Researchers believe they help in the development of tubes and blood vessels in the kidneys and other organs, and in increasing the flow of calcium through cell membranes.
- The ADPKD cysts that can range in size from that of a pin-head to larger than a grapefruit, according to NORD. These cysts, which resemble blisters, form inside the kidneys on the walls of hair-sized structures called nephrons, which help to filter out waste from the blood.
- The cysts can also continue to grow as isolated sacs of fluid, and this is what gives the kidney its abnormal size and weight.

How can the disease be treated?

- Both men and women are equally likely to develop this disease. Over 6,000 new cases are diagnosed every year in the United States, according to NORD.
- Treatment includes dialysis and renal (kidney) transplant. The diagnosis involves using imaging techniques such as ultrasonography and Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI).
- In the case of the 56-year-old patient in Delhi, his other kidney weighed more than the one that was removed. One of them had to be removed because the patient had stopped responding to antibiotics, and was in pain.
- The patient is on dialysis, and is expected to undergo a renal transplant. Typically, among patients with this disease who are undergoing dialysis, the kidney is not removed unless there are signs of bleeding, infection or tumours.

#2 Polydactyly

- Several news organisations in India and overseas reported the story of a 63-year-old woman in a village in Odisha who had been ostracised by the community as a “witch” because she was born with 12 fingers and 20 toes. The woman’s condition is known as polydactyly.



UPSC IAS EXAMS
PRINTED STUDY MATERIALS

VISIT: <http://iasexamportal.com/STUDY-KIT>

50% OFF

 **CLICK HERE**

Key highlights:

- Polydactyly/polydactylism or hyperdactyly is a birth defect in which humans and animals have supernumerary fingers or toes. In other words, a person suffering from the congenital anomaly of polydactyly will have more than five digits in a particular hand or foot.
- Polydactylism is reported in perhaps one or two children per 1,000 live births, and could be the most common abnormality of development seen in newborns worldwide. The defect is also seen in cats, dogs, cattle, sheep, pigs, chickens, geese, and sometimes horses.
- The defect develops during the sixth or seventh week of gestation, when an irregularity occurs in the splitting of the fingers from the hand or foot, creating an extra digit. Causes are believed to be genetic, in some cases hereditary.
- In most cases, the extra digits can be surgically removed; the procedure gets more challenging if there is bone with the skin and tissue, and most difficult when the bone has a joint.

#3 Potential Diarrhea vaccine developed in Sweden

- The researchers of the University of Gothenburg in Sweden have developed a potential Diarrhea vaccine.
- Science journal, The Lancet, reports that it has been proved safe and effective in an early-stage clinical trial in Bangladesh.

Key highlights:

- The report said that 80 to 100 per cent of the children aged two to five years and 50 to 80 percent of infants aged six to eleven months, selected for the study responded to all key immunity generating components of the vaccine.
- The researchers said, there is no vaccine yet for use for children and vaccine development for Diarrhea is a World Health Organization priority.

Cases of bubonic plague

- China reported a third case of bubonic plague after two other plague cases were revealed last week, but the disease remains rare despite its fearsome reputation and authorities say the cases appear unrelated.

Key highlights:

- Plague is an infectious disease caused by the bacteria *Yersinia pestis*, a zoonotic bacteria, usually found in small mammals and their fleas.
- It is transmitted between animals through fleas. Humans can be infected through:



UPSC IAS EXAMS
PRINTED STUDY MATERIALS

VISIT: <http://iasexamportal.com/STUDY-KIT>



 **CLICK HERE**

- the bite of infected vector fleas
- unprotected contact with infectious bodily fluids or contaminated materials
- the inhalation of respiratory droplets/small particles from a patient with pneumonic plague.
- Two main forms of plague infection, depending on the route of infection are: Bubonic plague is caused by the bite of an infected flea. Plague bacillus, *Y. pestis*, enters at the bite and travels to the nearest lymph node where it replicates itself. The lymph node then becomes inflamed, tense and painful, and is called a 'bubo'. Human to human transmission of bubonic plague is rare.
- Pneumonic plague, or lung-based plague, is the most virulent form of plague. Any person with pneumonic plague may transmit the disease via droplets to other humans.

Other highlights:

- As an animal disease, plague is found in all continents, except Oceania. Since the 1990s, most human cases have occurred in Africa.
- The three most endemic countries are the Democratic Republic of Congo, Madagascar, and Peru.
- Nowadays, plague is easily treated with antibiotics and the use of standard precautions to prevent acquiring infection.
- Historically, plague was responsible for widespread pandemics with high mortality. It was known as the "Black Death" during the fourteenth century, causing more than 50 million deaths in Europe.
- Between 2010 and 2015 there were 3,248 cases worldwide, leading to 584 deaths – a fatality rate of 18%, according to the World Health Organization.

#5 Global Bio-India Summit 2019

- India's first largest biotechnology conference – the Global Bio-India (GBI) Summit, 2019 concluded in New Delhi.


Key highlights:

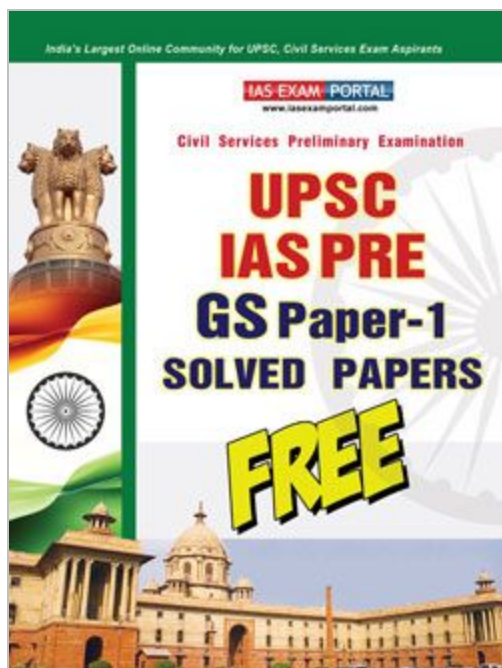
- The three-day event was organized by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India along with Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC).
- The Department plans to turn the GBI into an annual event with support from all stakeholders.
- The Summit provided an opportunity to showcase the potential of India's biotech sector to the international community, identify, create opportunities and deliberate on the key challenges in the areas of Bio-pharma, Bio-Agri, Bio-Industrial, Bio-Energy and Bio-Services and allied sectors.



UPSC IAS EXAMS
PRINTED STUDY MATERIALS

VISIT: <http://iasexamportal.com/STUDY-KIT>



Free E-Book: IAS Pre General Studies (Paper-1)

Previous 10 Years Question Papers Download

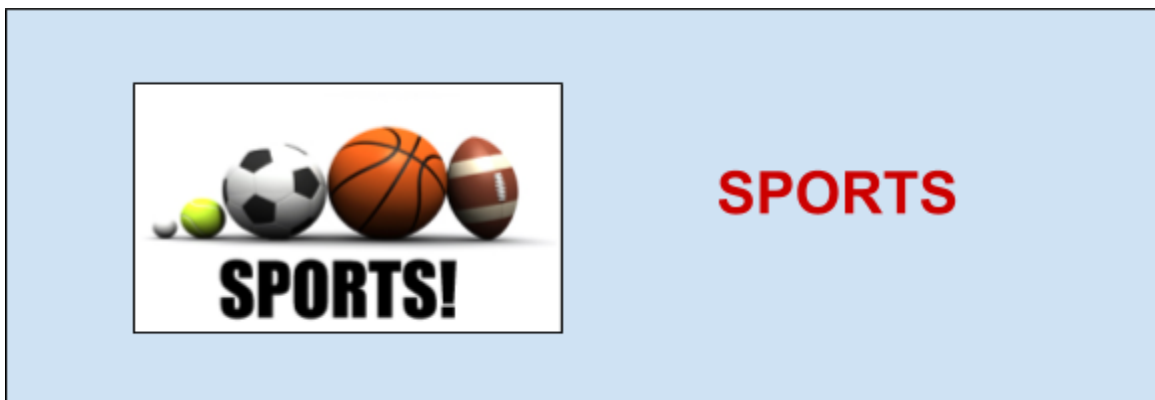


**Download
IAS PRE PAPERS**

CLICK HERE TO DOWNLOAD

FREE EBOOK PDF

SPORTS



#1 Deepika won gold at the Continental Qualification Tournament

- Indian archer Deepika Kumari won gold at the Continental Qualification Tournament held on the sidelines of the 21st Asian Archery Championships in Bangkok, China. Also, Ankita Bhakat won silver at the tournament.

#2 Ekana Cricket Stadium became the second neutral venue in India to host a Test match

- The Bharat Ratna Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Ekana Cricket Stadium in Lucknow became the second neutral venue in India to host a Test match. Afghanistan and the West Indies are playing in a one-off Test at the stadium. Rajiv Gandhi International Cricket Stadium in Dehradun became the first neutral venue to host a Test in the country. Afghanistan and the host Ireland for a one-off Test in March 2019. Neutral venue: Dubai International Cricket Stadium and Sheikh Zayed Stadium, Abu Dhabi have played host to the maximum number of 13 neutral Tests so far. It is followed by the Sharjah Cricket Stadium which hosted 9 matches and the Lord's London which hosted two such Tests matches. List of the Neutral Venue:

#3 Jon Rahm won 2019 DP World Tour Championship



UPSC IAS EXAMS

PRINTED STUDY MATERIALS

VISIT: <http://iasexamportal.com/STUDY-KIT>




- Jon Rahm won the 2019 DP World Tour Championship in Dubai. This is his second title in three years. The award has crowned him as European Number One on the final day at Jumeirah Golf Estates, Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Rahm shot four-under 68 to reach 19-under 269. He defeated Tommy Fleetwood to clinch the title.

#4 Lakshya wins 4th title of the season won Scottish Open

- Indian shuttler Lakshya Sen won his fourth title in three months bagging the Scottish Open title. Indian overcame the Brazilian opponent 18-21, 21-18, 21-19, in a 56-minute final. Uttarakhand clinched three titles out of the four tournaments that he has played since September SaarLorLux Open, Dutch Open, and Belgian International. Indian began his campaign with a straight-game won over Austria's Luka Wraber, before defeating compatriot Kiran George to reach the quarterfinals. Lakshya will break into the top-40 in the BWF rankings and inch closer to a direct qualification in the top grade 2 events. Lakshya Sen Lakshya joined fellow Indians Anand Pawar (2010 and 2012), Arvind Bhatt (2004), and Pullela Gopichand (1999) in winning the Scottish Open title. Indian kept breathing down his opponent's neck, but Coelho ensured he had the bragging rights after the opening game. The decider turned out to be an evenly fought contest. Lakshya will now play at the Syed Modi International Super 300 tournament at Lucknow.



UPSC IAS EXAMS
PRINTED STUDY MATERIALS

VISIT: <http://iasexamportal.com/STUDY-KIT>




MCQ



Q1. Which of the following statements regarding regulation of organic foods in the domestic market stands true ?

- 1) Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) is the food regulator in the country and is responsible for regulating food in domestic market and imports except organic foods which comes under NPOP.
 - 2) However, organic foods are required to comply with the requirements of labelling of FSSAI in addition to that of NPOP or PGS (Participatory Guarantee System for India (PGS))-India.
 - 3) FSSAI has notified domestic standards for organic products recognizing National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP), Participatory Guarantee System for India (PGS) or any other equivalent procedure as prerequisite for qualifying the organic food claim in domestic market.
- a. 1 & 2 only
 - b. 2 & 3 only
 - c. 1 & 3 only
 - d. all the above

Answer: (a)



UPSC IAS EXAMS
PRINTED STUDY MATERIALS

VISIT: <http://iasexamportal.com/STUDY-KIT>



CLICK HERE

Q2.The Union cabinet had recently approved the Labour Code on Industrial Relations 2019, allowing companies to hire workers on fixed-term contract of any duration.The code will combine which of the following acts ?

- 1) Industrial disputes act 1947
 - 2) Code on wages act
 - 3) Trade unions act 1926
 - 4) Industrial employment (standing orders) act 1946
 - 5) Minimum wages act
- a. 1,2 & 3 only
 - b. 1,3 & 4 only
 - c. 2,4 & 5 only
 - d. 2,3 & 5 only

Answer: (b)

Q3.With respect to the PradhanMantriKaushalVikasYojana,which of the following statements stands true ?

- 1) Under PradhanMantriKaushalVikasYojana (PMKVY) skilling is being imparted through Short Term Training (STT) courses and Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL).
 - 2) Under PMKVY, there are certain incentives to encourage participation of Persons with Disabilities, (PwD) in the skill training namely; post placement support, monthly conveyance allowance, boarding and lodging etc.
 - 3) Under RPL, individuals with prior learning experience or skills are being assessed and certified. It aims to align the competencies of the unregulated workforce of the country to the National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF).
- a. 1 & 2 only
 - b. 2 & 3 only
 - c. 1 & 3 only
 - d. all the above

Answer: (d)



UPSC IAS EXAMS
PRINTED STUDY MATERIALS

VISIT: <http://iasexamportal.com/STUDY-KIT>

50% OFF

 **CLICK HERE**

Q4. The recently launched Green Channel policy is the policy that provides eligibility criteria for firms to obtain Green Channel Status. Under the policy, when a firm gains the "Green Channel status" it can self-certify its products for their quality. It was launched by which of the following ministry's ?

- a. Ministry of Commerce
- b. Ministry of MSME's
- c. Ministry of Defence
- d. Ministry of Agriculture and farmers' welfare

Answer: (c)

Q5. Consider the following statements :

- 1) An aquifer is an underground layer of water-bearing permeable rock, rock fractures or unconsolidated materials (gravel, sand, or silt). Groundwater can be extracted using a water well.
- 2) Groundwater can be found at nearly every point in the Earth's shallow subsurface, to some degree, although aquifers do not necessarily contain fresh water.
- 3) An aquitard is a zone within the Earth that restricts the flow of groundwater from one aquifer to another. A completely impermeable aquitard is called an aquiclude or aquifuge.

Which of the above statements are true ?

- a. 1 & 2 only
- b. 2 & 3 only
- c. 1 & 3 only
- d. all the above

Answer: (d)

Q6. Which of the following places in India receives rainfall of more than 250cm/year ?

- 1) Leh
- 2) Agumbe
- 3) Bikaner



UPSC IAS EXAMS
PRINTED STUDY MATERIALS

VISIT: <http://iasexamportal.com/STUDY-KIT>

50% OFF

 **CLICK HERE**

4) Wayanad

5) Mawsynram

- a. 1,2 & 3 only
- b. 2,4 & 5 only
- c. 1,4 & 5 only
- d. 2,3 & 5 only

Answer: (b)

Q7. The Prime Minister's Office has set up a group of 12 ministers to resolve differences over the proposed Model Agricultural Land Leasing Act, 2016. Which of the following statements regarding the provisions of the act stands true ?

1) The act will prevent land leasing to promote agricultural efficiency, equity and power reduction. This will also help in much needed productivity improvement in agriculture as well as occupational mobility of the people and rapid rural change.

2) The act incentivise tenants to make investment in land improvement and also entitle them to get back the unused value of investment at the time of termination of tenancy.

3) In order to resolve the dispute between the landlord and lease holder, the provision of "Special Land Tribunal" has been made in the Civil Court.

- a. 1 & 2 only
- b. 2 & 3 only
- c. 1 & 3 only
- d. all the above

Answer: (b)

Q8 With respect to the recently passed The Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Bill, 2019 which of the following statements stands true ?

1) The Bill therefore allows individuals to self-identify their gender, but at the same time they must also undergo the screening process to get certified, and as a result be identified as a 'transgender'.

2) The Bill specifically recognises and provides appropriate penalties for violence faced by transgender persons from officials in educational institutions, healthcare institutions, police stations, etc.



UPSC IAS EXAMS
PRINTED STUDY MATERIALS

VISIT: <http://iasexamportal.com/STUDY-KIT>



50% OFF

 **CLICK HERE**

3) No government or private entity can discriminate against a transgender person in employment matters, including recruitment, and promotion. Every establishment is required to designate a person to be a complaint officer to deal with complaints in relation to the Act.

- a. 1 & 2 only
- b. 2 & 3 only
- c. 1 & 3 only
- d. all the above

Answer: (c)

Q9 India has now emerged from just an automobile producing hub to designing and development hub as well. Which of the following statements regarding the same stands true?

1) The Automotive Mission Plan (AMP) 2006-16 taken up jointly by Government of India and the India automotive industry has been largely successful in its endeavour to lay down the roadmap for development of the industry.

2) The Automotive industry has achieved the target of incremental employment creation of 25 million jobs over the period 2006-2016.

3) India has attracted significant quantum of investments from global and local original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) as well as component manufacturers, exceeding the target of Rs. 1,57,500 crore.

- a. 1 & 2 only
- b. 2 & 3 only
- c. 1 & 3 only
- d. all the above

Answer: (d)

Q10 The Atapaka bird sanctuary has become a safe breeding ground for two migratory bird species. The sanctuary, surrounded by an artificial pond, has a good vegetation cover supporting nests for the avian guests. It hosts around 6000 pelicans and around 1200 painted storks during winter. The sanctuary is located in which of the following lakes ?

- a. Chilika lake



UPSC IAS EXAMS
PRINTED STUDY MATERIALS

VISIT: <http://iasexamportal.com/STUDY-KIT>

50% OFF

 **CLICK HERE**

- b. Kolleru lake
- c. Vembanad lake
- d. Wular lake

Answer: (b)



UPSC IAS EXAMS
PRINTED STUDY MATERIALS

VISIT: <http://iasexamportal.com/STUDY-KIT>




Important Article from various newspapers



#1 Widening gap: On UN's Emissions Gap Report (The Hindu)

- Mains Paper 3: Environment
- Prelims level : Paris Agreement
- Mains level : Uses of green technologies

Context:

- The UN's Emissions Gap Report comes as a sharp warning to countries on Climate Change.

Main goal of the Paris Agreement:

- To keep the rise in global temperature over pre-industrial times well below 2°C, and ideally at 1.5°C.

Highlights of the report:

- Emissions gap represents the difference between current actions to reduce greenhouse gases (GHGs) and what is needed to meet the target.
- The UN report estimates that there would have to be a 2.7% average annual cut in emissions from 2020 to 2030 for temperature rise to be contained at 2°C, while the more ambitious 1.5° C target would require a 7.6% reduction.
- But countries with large emissions, such as the U.S., China, the European Union (EU) nations and India, will face more challenging demands if corrective measures to decarbonise are not implemented now.



UPSC IAS EXAMS
PRINTED STUDY MATERIALS

VISIT: <http://iasexamportal.com/STUDY-KIT>



CLICK HERE

- Climate warnings issued over the years have failed to impress most politicians, but the EU is considering an emergency declaration, and the British Parliament adopted a resolution earlier this year.
- It can do little to mitigate the effects of dangerous climate change. Hundreds of millions of people could face the extreme impacts.
- Actions taken by various countries:
- In the U.S., the Trump administration has initiated the process of withdrawing from the Paris Agreement, but there is considerable sub-national support for climate action.
- The EU, where public pressure to act on climate change is high, is working on legislation to bring about net zero emissions.
- The U.K., responsible for a large share of historical emissions, has turned its net zero 2050 goal into a legal requirement.
- China and India, on the other hand, have to reconcile growing emissions with development needs.
- Their best options are a scaling up of investments in renewable energy, leapfrogging to clean technologies in buildings and transport, and greater carbon sequestration.

Way ahead:

- It needs to provide more consistent support for renewable energy, have a long-term plan to retire coal power plants, enhance ambition on air quality, adopt an economy-wide green industrialisation strategy, and expand mass transport.
- In the key area of buildings, the energy conservation code of 2018 needs to be implemented under close scrutiny.

Conclusion:

- With a clear vision, India could use green technologies to galvanise its faltering economy, create new jobs and become a climate leader.

Mains Questions:

Q.1) How green technologies can boost India's growth and sustainable development?

#2 India's food basket must be enlarged (The Hindu)

- Mains Paper 2: Health
- Prelims level : Global Hunger Index
- Mains level : Role of Agrobiodiversity to wiping out hunger



UPSC IAS EXAMS
PRINTED STUDY MATERIALS

VISIT: <http://iasexamportal.com/STUDY-KIT>

50% OFF

 **CLICK HERE**

Context:

- India is ranked 102 in the Global Hunger Index (GHI) out of 117 qualified countries.
- Scenarios of malnutrition in India:
- Hunger is defined by caloric deprivation; protein hunger; hidden hunger by deficiency of micronutrients.
- Nearly 47 million or four out of 10 children in India do not meet their potential because of chronic undernutrition or stunting.
- This leads to diminished learning capacity, increased chronic diseases, low birth-weight infants from malnourished parents.
- The global nutrition report pegs 614 million women and more than half the women in India aged 15-49 as being anaemic.

Nutrition garden:

- The Ministry of Human Resources Development brought out school 'nutrition garden' guidelines encouraging eco-club students to identify fruits and vegetables best suited to topography, soil and climate.
- These gardens can give students lifelong social, numerical and presentation skills, care for living organisms and teamwork, besides being used in the noon-meal scheme.
- Students also learn to cultivate fruits and vegetables in their homes and this could address micronutrient deficiencies.

Agrobiodiversity:

- Agrobiodiversity is relating to diversity of crops and varieties – is crucial in food security, nutrition, health and essential in agricultural landscapes.
- Out of 2,50,000 globally identified plant species, about 7,000 have historically been used in human diets.
- Today, only 30 crops form the basis of the world's agriculture and just three species of maize, rice and wheat supply more than half the world's daily calories.
- Genetic diversity of crops, livestock and their wild relatives, are fundamental to improve crop varieties and livestock breeds. We would not have thousands of crop varieties and animal breeds without the rich genetic pool. India is a centre of origin of rice, brinjal, citrus, banana, cucumber species.
- Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems:
- Across the world, 37 sites are designated as Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS), of which three are Indian – Kashmir (saffron), Koraput (traditional agriculture) and Kuttanad (below sea-level farming).
- In India, over 811 cultivated plants and 902 of their wild relatives have been documented. Our promising genetic resources include rice from Tamil Nadu (Konamani), Assam (Agni bora) and Kerala (Pokkali),



UPSC IAS EXAMS

PRINTED STUDY MATERIALS

VISIT: <http://iasexamportal.com/STUDY-KIT>




Getting Started for IAS



- Civil Services Exam: What, Why and How?
- How to Read A Newspaper for IAS Exam?
- IAS Preparation for Rural/Remote Areas Students?
- NCERT and NIOS Books for IAS Preparations?
- Strategy for IAS Exam for Working Professionals?
- Detailed Road Map for GS (Pre.)



IAS EXAM PORTAL
www.iasexamportal.com

- [The Hindu Newspaper: How and What to study in it](#)
- [9 Step Strategy To Prepare For The UPSC Interview](#)
- [Importance of Yojana, Kurukshetra Magazine for UPSC Exams](#)
- [Crack IAS Preliminary in your first attempt](#)
- [Secrets of UPSC Exam Success](#)
- [\(FAQs\) Civil Services Examination \(CSE\)](#)
- **New!** [\(Getting Started in Hindi\) सिविल सेवा क्या, क्यों और कैसे ?](#)
- [\(Article\) DECIDING THE OPTIONAL SUBJECT with MYTHS AND FAQs by Divey Sethi \(IFS\)](#)
- [\(IAS PLANNER\) Selection of Optional Subjects](#)
- [Civil Services Exam: What, Why and How ?](#)
- [How should one start IAS preparation from scratch?](#)
- [Two more attempts in UPSC Exams: all boon and no bane!!](#)
- [How to Study? The Ultimate Dilemma](#)
- [Preparing for Civil Services without Coaching](#)
- [Importance of NCERT BOOKS for UPSC Exams \(Why, What, How\)](#)
- [How to Read A Newspaper for IAS Exam](#)
- [What are the important topics to read from a newspaper in two hours?](#)
- [\(Motivational\) Did not clear UPSC Pre Exam? Read this Article](#)
- [IAS Preparation for Rural/Remote Areas Students](#)
- [NCERT and NIOS Books for IAS Preparations](#)
- [Strategy for IAS Exam for Working Professionals](#)
- [Overview of UPSC Personality Test \(IAS Interview\)](#)
- [Preparing for Civil Services \(Pre.\) Examination](#)
- [All About UPSC Interview Panel Board and Profile](#)
- [How to Prepare Current Affairs For UPSC IAS \(Pre.\) Exam](#)
- [IAS Preparation for Undergraduate & CBSE Students](#)
- [The Significance and Role of Essay Paper in IAS MAINS](#)
- [What does Evaluate, Examine, Critically Discuss and Such Terms Mean??](#)
- [How to Study for Ethics Paper?](#)
- [Job Profile of an IAS Officer](#)
- [Decision Making for CSAT](#)

CLICK HERE

Bhalia Wheat and mushroom (Guchhi) from Himachal Pradesh and rich farm animal native breeds – cattle (42), buffaloes (15), goat (34), sheep (43) and chicken (19).

- Agrobiodiversity helps nutrition-sensitive farming and bio-fortified foods.
- For instance, moringa (drumstick) has micro nutrients and sweet potato is rich in Vitamin A. There are varieties of pearl millet and sorghum rich in iron and zinc.

Development goals

- The UN Sustainable Development Goal 2 advocates for Zero Hunger and the Aichi Biodiversity Target focuses on countries conserving genetic diversity of plants, farm livestock and wild relatives.
- It emphasises that countries develop strategies and action plans to halt biodiversity loss and reduce direct pressure on biodiversity.
- The Centre for Biodiversity Policy and Law (CEBPOL), a policy advocacy unit of the National Biodiversity Authority, came out with recommendations to increase India's agrobiodiversity in 2019.
- These include a comprehensive policy on 'ecological agriculture' to enhance native pest and pollinator population providing ecosystem services for the agricultural landscape.
- It suggested promotion of the bio-village concept of the M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF) for ecologically sensitive farming;
- It conserving crop wild relatives of cereals, millets, oilseeds, fibres, forages, fruits and nuts, vegetables, spices etc. for crop genetic diversity healthier food; providing incentives for farmers cultivating native landrace varieties and those conserving indigenous breeds of livestock and poultry varieties.

Recommendations ahead:

- To include encouraging community seed banks in each agro-climatic zone so that regional biotic properties are saved and used by new generation farmers;
- To preparing an agrobiodiversity index, documenting traditional practices through People's Biodiversity Registers, identifying Biodiversity Heritage Sites under provisions of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002;
- To strengthening Biodiversity Management Committees to conserve agrobiodiversity and traditional knowledge.
- To developing a national level invasive alien species policy is required to identify pathways, mapping, monitoring, managing, controlling and eradicating the invasive species and prioritising problematic species based on risk assessment studies.
- Loss of crop genetic resources is mainly a result of adopting new crop varieties without conserving traditional varieties.
- There are concerns on high output breeds for production of meat, milk and eggs. The consumption pattern and culinary diversity must be enlarged to increase India's food basket.

Conclusion



UPSC IAS EXAMS
PRINTED STUDY MATERIALS

VISIT: <http://iasexamportal.com/STUDY-KIT>

50% OFF

CLICK HERE

- To conserve indigenous crop, livestock and poultry breeds, it is recommended to mainstream biodiversity into agricultural policies, schemes, programmes and projects to achieve India's food and nutrition security and minimise genetic erosion.

Mains Questions:

Q.1) How Agrobiodiversity can help improve the country's poor ranking in the Global Hunger Index?

#3 Company directors can't just resign and walk away (The Hindu)

- Mains Paper 2: Polity
- Prelims level : Insolvency and Bankruptcy code
- Mains level : Implementing smooth Insolvency and Bankruptcy code process

Context:

- The stand taken by the Committee of Creditors of Reliance Communications in rejecting the resignation of Anil Ambani and four other directors of the company is right.

Background:

- It ensures that the people who were at the helm while the company was run to the ground are around to ensure the completion of the resolution process.
- Until the dues of the creditors are, at least partly, paid. The beleaguered company had to shut down its mobile operations after being unable to pay dues exceeding ₹33,000 crore.
- Asking Ambani and other directors to continue with their duties and responsibilities and provide full cooperation in the insolvency resolution is only justified as they would be the most well-equipped to provide information regarding the assets and liabilities of the company.

Significance behind the ruling:

- The rules on handling the resignation of the managing director and members on the board of the corporate borrower are not explicitly spelt out in the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code.
- The adjudicating authority accepts the suspension of powers of the board of directors and their transfer to the resolution professional, once the insolvency resolution process begins;
- The board members and the managing director are expected to continue discharging their duties pertaining to the running of the business.
- The main difference is that while the chief executive functioned under the supervision of the board of directors earlier, he would function under the supervision of the resolution professional once insolvency proceedings commence.



UPSC IAS EXAMS
PRINTED STUDY MATERIALS

VISIT: <http://iasexamportal.com/STUDY-KIT>



50% OFF

 **CLICK HERE**

- This is justifiable, as the administrator is not expected to possess the skills required to run the company and ensure that the creditors get back as much of their dues as possible.
- The Code can also hold the directors accountable for their actions taken in the 'twilight period', which can be up to two years preceding the commencement of the insolvency proceedings.
- If the directors are found negligent in containing the potential loss to the creditors, then they are liable to make such contributions to the assets of the corporate debtor as asked by the adjudicating authority.
- Enforcement of such actions becomes easier if they remain in the organisation.
- The action of the creditors of Reliance Communications sends a signal that those responsible for the state of affairs at the company cannot just walk away, absolving themselves of all responsibilities.
- It is doubtful if this action will help the resolution process in a material way.

Way forward:

- The directors of the corporate debtor can choose to remain taciturn and not cooperate with the resolution professional.
- It is only when the creditors have exhausted all avenues of making the corporate debtor pay his dues, will they drag the company to insolvency proceedings.
- It is doubtful if the board can be made to help the administrator.
- With the IBC still a work in progress, it is hoped that the role of key management personnel can be better elucidated in the future.

Mains Questions:

Q.1) To implementing the smooth IBC process the directors must stay and ensure smooth resolution. Comment.

#4 Is this the end of multilateralism? (The Hindu)

- Mains Paper 2: International
- Prelims level : Appellate Body of WTO
- Mains level : Role of Appellate Body to disputes redressal under WTO

Context:

- The World Trade Organisation is facing the prospect of death by a thousand cuts.
- The WTO's most important arm for resolving global trade disputes.



UPSC IAS EXAMS
PRINTED STUDY MATERIALS

VISIT: <http://iasexamportal.com/STUDY-KIT>

50% OFF

[CLICK HERE](#)

Background:

- The Appellate Body (AB) will become dysfunctional from December 11, when the number of judges on the panel falls below the mandatory minimum.
- The AB delivered binding rulings in hundreds of trade disputes over the past 25 years.
- Members of the trade body were subjected to biting trade sanctions if they failed to comply with its rulings.

Role of U.S.:

- The US played a major role in establishing this binding dispute resolution mechanism at the end of the Uruguay Round of trade negotiations, that led to the creation of the WTO in 1995.
- Earlier, trade disputes were decided by GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) panels that lacked the power to enforce implementation.
- The US also remained a major beneficiary of the rulings passed by the highest court for trade issues.
- Washington succeeded in enforcing strong intellectual property enforcement rules and the removal of quantitative restrictions in India due to rulings passed by the AB.
- The US also lost several major trade disputes with India, the European Union, China, Brazil, Mexico and Canada in trade disputes involving anti-dumping measures, countervailing duties, and safeguard duties among others.
- The AB had invariably found several measures adopted by the US, particularly the provisions in the anti-dumping investigations based on zeroing methodology and countervailing measures, to be inconsistent with the existing WTO rules.
- These adverse rulings were not acceptable to the US, which wanted its way or the highway.
- Attempts to change the rules through negotiations such as the Doha Development Agenda (DDA) trade talks that began in 2001 were never concluded due to fierce opposition from the US.

Why it became dysfunctional?

- The US pulled the plug for completing the DDA talks due to opposition from its powerful lobbies that saw international rules as a threat for their trade-distorting farm subsidies and anti-dumping provisions.
- The US launched a sustained war against the adverse rulings issued by the AB, accusing the judges for not adhering to the dispute settlement understanding (DSU).
- A trade version of “shock and awe” was adopted at the WTO with the blocking of a second term for a serving AB member from South Korea in 2016.
- It blocked the selection process for filling the vacancies at the highest court for the past two years.

Way ahead:



UPSC IAS EXAMS
PRINTED STUDY MATERIALS

VISIT: <http://iasexamportal.com/STUDY-KIT>

50% OFF

CLICK HERE

- Washington has not showed any signs of lifting its opposition despite members making a concerted effort to address its concerns.
- It also placed wrenching conditions in the use of funds for AB members in pending trade disputes.
- India's two appeals against Japan and the US respectively, and one major appeal launched by the US against India's dispute on the illegal American local content requirements and subsidies used for its renewable sector, would go into limbo.
- It has been effectively the Trump administration has struck the death knell for multilateralism.

Mains Questions:

Q.1) By forcing WTO's appellate body to shut shop, the US has escalated its trade war to the WTO. Elucidate the statement.

#5 Combat global warming inadequate (Mint)

- Mains Paper 3: Environment
- Prelims level : UNEP
- Mains level : Highlights about combating air pollution

Context:

- UN Environment Programme (UNEP) released its annual Emissions Gap Report for the year 2019.

Key Highlights of the report:

1. Anticipated emissions:

- Greenhouse gas emissions have risen 1.5 per cent per year over the last decade. Emissions in 2018, including from land-use changes such as deforestation, hit a new high of 55.3 gigatonnes of CO₂ equivalent.
- Even if all current unconditional commitments under the Paris Agreement are implemented, temperatures are expected to rise by 3.2°C over pre-industrial levels.

2. Accused countries:

- The United States is the highest producer of greenhouse gases when measured on a per capita basis. Overall, China is the world's largest producer.
- India is the third-largest emitter behind the United States and China respectively. India's per capita emissions, however, are significantly below the United States, China and many others.
- G20 nations collectively account for 78 per cent of all emissions, but only five G20 members have committed to a long-term zero emissions target.



UPSC IAS EXAMS

PRINTED STUDY MATERIALS

VISIT: <http://iasexamportal.com/STUDY-KIT>




Way ahead:

- To meet the 1.5°C temperature goal of the Paris Agreement, global greenhouse gas emissions must fall by 7.6 per cent each year between 2020 and 2030.
- To deliver on these cuts, the levels of ambition in the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) must increase at least fivefold for the 1.5°C goal and threefold for the 2°C.



UPSC IAS EXAMS
PRINTED STUDY MATERIALS

VISIT: <http://iasexamportal.com/STUDY-KIT>




Public Administration Optional Study Kit for UPSC Mains Exam



- 100% PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION Syllabus Covered
- Summary of Administrative Committees
- Gist of Selected Journals of IIPA
- Current Public Administration, A Monthly Magazine
- Online Coaching Access, Mind Maps etc

50% OFF
~~₹ 8,000/-~~
₹ 3,999/-
100% SAFE

>>>>  Click Here for More Details

CLICK HERE

What you will get:

- 100% UPSC Mains Public Administration Syllabus Covered
- Public Administration Paper I (PART-1)
- Public Administration Paper I (PART-2)
- Public Administration Paper II (PART-1)
- Public Administration Paper II (PART-2)
- Summary of Administrative Committees Recommendations
- Gist of Selected Journals of IIPA of last 25 years
- Public Administration Model Q&A with Linkages ,Categorized Mains Papers and Useful Diagrams (1 Booklet- Hard Copy)
- Public Administration Solved Papers (2013-2018) with Practice Papers
- Printed Study materials along with Online Course
- Guidance & Support from Experts

Price of the Kit:

~~Rs. 8,000~~

Rs. 3,999/-
(Limited time Offer)

 Buy Online

VISA Maestro MasterCard RuPay

Net Banking

Order Online (100% Safe)

Click here for Other Payment Options (Cash/NEFT/etc)

FOR MORE DETAILS VISIT:

<http://iasexamportal.com/SK-115>

CLICK HERE

50% OFF