



OPTIMIZE IAS
LEARN FROM THE BEST

**DAILY PRACTICE SHEET COMPILATION
(JANUARY, 2021)**

Santosh Sir All 6 Prelims qualified

If I can do it, you can too !!!

asksantoshsir@gmail.com, <https://t.me/asksantoshsir>

OPTIMIZE IAS

DAILY PRACTICE SHEET

Table of Contents

Prelims Topics.....	3
General Studies - 1.....	22
History.....	22
Geography.....	24
Society.....	26
General Studies-2.....	29
Polity.....	29
Governance.....	33
International Relation.....	34
General Studies-3.....	37
Economics.....	37
Science and Technology.....	46
Environment.....	49
Internal Security.....	51
General Studies-4.....	53
Ethics.....	53

Prelims Topics

1st January 2021

Daily Prelims Topic

1. Foreign tribunals
2. Agriculture Infrastructure Development Fund
3. Macrophages (lung immune cells)
4. Core Industries
5. Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) scheme
6. Open Credit Enablement Network (OCEN), Open Health Services Network (OHSN)
7. FATF
8. Fiscal Deficit
9. Brahma Samaj and Keshab Chandra Sen
10. Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure

Daily mapping

1. Gulf of Aden

2nd January

Daily Prelims Topic

1. Umred Paoni Karhandla Sanctuary (Maharashtra)
2. Northeast monsoon
4. Emergency Use Listing, GAVI vaccine Alliance
5. Insider trading
6. Digital Payment Index by RBI
7. Global Corruption Perception Index

8. FinMin seeks feedback on rationalisation of compliances under various DFS Acts
9. Consumer protection regulator seeks RBI intervention on banks delaying refund in case of failed transactions
10. Emergency use authorisation for Oxford Covid vaccine: What does it mean?
11. Digital payment transactions surge in lockdown to surpass pre-Covid levels
12. Ladakh's Tso Kar Wetland Complex now a Wetland of International Importance.
13. Digital Payment Index by RBI
14. Interconnection Usage Charges (IUC)

3rd January

Daily Prelims Topic

1. Expert panel clears first indigenous COVID-19 vaccine by Bharat Biotech
2. Alang Ship-breaking yard (Bhavnagar, Gujarat)
3. Rajaji Tiger Reserve, Kedarnath wildlife division, Corbett Tiger Reserve, Bageshwar forest division
4. Agriculture: Division of power between states and the Centre by the Constitution
5. FATF
6. Trade deficit
7. D Voters
8. Ramtheertham temple
9. Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History
10. Deepor Beel shrinking in size (Assam's only Ramsar Site)
11. Woolly rhino from the Ice Age found in Russia

Daily Mapping

1. Rohtang pass
2. Kazakhstan (latest to abolish death penalty)
3. Caspian Sea

4th January

Daily Prelims Topic

1. Lithium triangle
2. Western Disturbance
3. Conjugate vaccine
4. OPEC
5. What is efficacy rate in vaccine?
6. What are DFI? Why were they closed?
7. What is compulsory licensing?

5th January

Daily Prelims Topic

1. Agri-export body drops 'halal' from meat manual: no role for govt (APEDA)
2. NGMA calendar to focus on retrospectives of Nandalal Bose, Ramkinker Baij and Amrita Sher Gil
3. Epizootic
4. Ajanta caves painting
5. FPI (Foreign portfolio Investment)
6. Budget Session
7. EXIM Bank
8. MEA cautions Commerce Ministry about increasing phishing attacks against exporters
9. Digital life certificate
10. La Nina to take hold of agri markets in 2021

Daily Mapping

- Greece

6th January

Daily Prelims Topic

1. Bird flu outbreak in Kerala: Avian flu outbreak has been classified as a ‘state disaster’ after the Centre notified the outbreak of H5N8 subset of Influenza
2. Cabinet Committee on Parliament Affairs
3. Rashtriya Kamdhenu Aayog
4. Aadhar enabled Payment Systems and Aadhar Payment Bridge Systems
5. Women Scientist Programme
6. Asian water bird census
7. Global economic prospectus report
8. G-TAM

Daily mapping

1. Galwan
2. Grand Renaissance Dam hydropower project/Nile River

(Explained: On Nile, a Grand Dam divides African nations | Explained News, The Indian Express)

7th Jan

Daily Prelims Topic

1. 6th schedule
2. PM 2.5 (Particulate Matter 2.5)
3. Appointment/Removal of judges of lower courts (News: HC sacks 16 employees of Bihar civil court)
4. Caracal
5. PMI (Purchasing Manager Index)
6. National Infrastructure Pipeline
7. Hung parliament
8. Basaveshwara
9. Pulicat lake

Daily mapping

- Qatar

8th January

Daily Prelims Topic

1. India’s GDP to contract 7.7% in current fiscal, advance estimates by NSO show
2. Creation of legislative assemblies in certain UTs (Art 239A)/AGMUT cadre

3. Disqualification of lawmakers
4. Voluntary Disclosure Scheme For Exotic Live Animals
5. Equalisation levy
6. Spectrum auctions
7. Fiat money
8. What is Most Favoured Nation Status?
9. What are tariff and non-tariff barriers
10. Retailers appeal to PM to order recall of proposed changes to tobacco products law
11. CBIC to introduce its flagship Liberalized MSME AEO Package

9th January

Daily Prelims Notes

1. Impeachment of the President: Procedure in USA vs India
2. Kathak/SangitNatakAkademi
3. Institute of Eminence
4. Bird Flu
5. Gross value Added
6. SWAMIH scheme (Special Window for Affordable and Mid-Income Housing—scheme
7. Follow on public offer
8. State election Commission
9. H1 B visa
10. Article 179

Daily Mapping

- South Asia countries and CPEC

10th Jan

Daily Prelims Topic

1. Priority list for Covid-19 Vaccination
2. UAPA
3. Role of Aurangzeb (In news due to Aurangabad naming controversy in Maharashtra)
4. Quality Council of India
5. Pravasi Bhartiya Divas
6. Shivalik Elephant reserve

7. Immunogenicity
8. Kerala: To set up Kalaripayattu Academy to boost traditional martial art form
9. Avian influenza - A(H7N9) , A(H5 N1) , A(H5 N8)
10. *Mukundpura* meteorite
11. Entangles Particle and Quantum Technology

Daily Mapping

- Pangong Tso

11 January

Daily Prelims Topic

1. Expenditure budget
2. Lithium reserve in India
3. Gas pipeline from Kochi to Bengaluru
4. Black Box in flight
5. Corporate Average Fuel Efficiency/Economy regulations
6. Pre-pack Insolvency scheme
7. Vanadium reserves in Arunachal
8. Inverted Duty Structure
9. Excise Duty
10. Black Box

Daily Mapping

- Latin America-Lithium Triangle

- Lithium reserves in India- Marlagalla-Allapatna region of Karnataka's Mandya district

12th January

Daily Prelims Topic

1. Staying the law
2. Sultanpur National Park
3. People Mover
4. Sea Vigil and Tropex
5. Tirthan Wildlife Sanctuary and Great Himalayan National Park in Himachal Pradesh
6. Prevention of Cruelty to Animal's act

Daily Mapping

- West Bank and Israel

13th January

Daily Prelims Topic

1. Green Corridor
2. Asola wildlife sanctuary (New Delhi-Gurugram)
3. National youth Parliament festival
4. Pongal and Jallikattu
5. Pneumonia
6. Consumer Price Index
7. Index of Industrial Production
8. Sandbox guidelines

Daily Mapping

- Aravallis

14th January

Daily Prelims Topic

1. 30 days' notice period not mandatory under Special Marriage Act,1954: Allahabad HC
2. Cabinet Committee on Security/Tejas aircraft
3. Bhogali Bihu
4. Cyborg
5. PMFBY
6. T-bills

Daily Mapping

- Uganda

15th January

Daily Prelims Topic

1. No anti-dumping duty on carbon black
2. Competition commission of India
3. USTAAD scheme
4. Indian Council of cultural relations
5. Pig painting may be world's oldest cave art: archaeologists
6. Clinical Trial Liability Insurance
7. Entomophagy
8. Bird flu and Bird migratory pattern
9. Article 33

Daily Mapping

- Yamuna and its tributaries
- Lipulekh

16th January

Daily Prelims Topic

1. Broadcast Audience Research Council (BARC)
2. Nihang Sikhs
3. National Policy on Faecal Sludge and Septage Management (FSSM)
4. Earthquake
5. Open Sky Treaty (OST)
6. Houbara Bustard
7. PMKVY 3.0
8. COVID Vaccine Intelligence Network (CoWIN) system
9. Rabi sowing headed for record this year

Daily Mapping

- Indonesia
- Netherland

17th January

Daily Prelims Topic

1. Consultative Committee of Parliament
2. Contempt Jurisdiction of the Supreme Court
3. PM CARES fund

4. Startup India Seed Fund
5. Net metering
6. Zero Coupon Bond
7. National Investigation Agency (NIA) and Right to Protest
8. Trans Fats

Daily Mapping

- Hong Kong
- Sabarmati, Mahisagar, Narmada, Vishwamitri and Bhadar rivers in Gujrat

18th January

Daily Prelims Topic

1. G7
2. Ammonia as pollutant
3. Ustad Mustafa Khan
4. International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)
5. Blue and green hydrogen
6. Smoking and vegetarianism could be 'protective' against SARS-CoV-2 infection: CSIR survey
7. Gucchi Mushroom
8. PM Awasyojna
9. Vistadome coach deployed to promote tourism in Kevadia (Statue of Liberty) Gujrat

Daily Mapping

- Black sea
- Mount Semeru (Volcano erupts in Indonesia)
- Libya

19th January

Daily Prelims Topic

1. NCLAT
2. Financial assistance from the Disaster Response Fund to UTs
3. NCBC
4. AEFI (adverse event following immunization)
5. News Broadcasters Association (NBA)/Indian Broadcasting Federation (IBF)
6. Engineered carbon removal
7. IRFC
8. COVIN
9. India's star tortoise
10. New Monsoon Forecast Model

Daily Mapping

- Honduras

20th January

Daily Prelims Topic

1. S 400
2. Parakaram Diwas
3. People Density Index
4. Question hour, Zero hour
5. Insider tradin

6. Habeas Corpus
7. Chief Information Commissioner (CIC)
8. Domestic Systematically Important Banks
9. Global Risks Report
10. K-Shaped recovery

11. P-Notes

Daily Mapping

- Lakshadweep

21st January

Daily Prelims Topic

1. PM Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) programme
2. Exclusion from the NRC doesn't render one ineligible to vote
3. Disturbed Areas Act
4. India Innovation Index Report
5. PMAY-G
6. Chenab hydel project
7. Dragon fruit
8. Sec 32A of IBC
9. Revenue Deficit
10. Official secrets Act

Daily Mapping

- Cauvery and tributaries

- Bhutan

22nd Jan

Daily Prelims Topic

1. Pausing farm laws for 18 months:
2. NGT
3. Pardoning Power of governor
4. Demarche
5. Sensex
6. Green Bond (RBI says Cost of green bonds issuance high in India)
7. V –Shaped Recovery
8. Geo hazard management
9. Tax –Free bond
10. Horizontal Reservation

Daily Mapping

- Ratle hydroelectric project - River Chenab
- Venezuela
- Iran

23rd January

Daily Prelims Topic

1. Environment Protection, Act 1986
2. Starred and unstarred questions in Parliament (Question hour in focus in budget session)
3. Desert Knight 21

4. Ujjawala
5. The EdelmanTrust Barometer
6. Keeping bill in abeyance
7. Jerenga Pothar
8. New Start treaty
9. 4-tier structure for regulation of NBFCs
10. Indian Port Bill
11. Bulk Drug Vs Formulations
12. Census vs Caste Census

Daily Mapping

- Monuments of Mahabalipuram

24th January

Daily Prelims Topic

1. SUKHOI 30 MKI
2. NASAL VACCINE
3. NATIONAL EMERGENCY
4. BIJU PATNAIK
5. FLASH DROUGHTS
6. US and CLIMATE ACTION
7. ALABAMA FOREST
8. PEPSEQ TECHNOLOGY

25th January

Daily Prelims Topic

1. RISA CLOTH
2. SUNDERBANS
3. NATIONAL VOTER DAY
4. MCLR vs EXTERNAL BENCHMARK RATE
5. INEQUALITY REPORT
6. Time Capsule in ALIGARH MUSLIM UNIVERSITY
7. PREFERENTIAL TRANSACTION IN IBC
8. POCSO ACT
9. USENET POLICY

Daily Mapping

- Palk bay
- Sethusamudram Project
- Sundarbans

26th January

Daily Prelims Topic

1. RHESUS MACAQUE
2. MOUNT K2
3. LAW COMMISSION
4. PADMA AWARDS
5. MAHA VIR CHAKRA
6. GREAT RESET
7. FIAT CURRENCY

8. GREEN TAX
9. FRATERNITY

Daily Mapping

- Nakula

27th January

Daily Prelims Topic

1. Indian Astronomical Union, Ladakh
2. Bangladesh contingent participates in republic day parade for the first time (Third foreign country to do so)
3. Red Fort
4. Jhumur dance (tribal dance of Tripura)
5. PM 2.5 and Anemia
6. Off-budget borrowings
7. REGN-COV2
8. Competition Commission of India (CCI)
9. Silent cyber:
10. European Commission
11. LIBOR
12. Finance Commission
13. India aims to increase seaweed production to 11.5 lt in five years
14. Regulated Cropping and multiple cropping
15. UNSC

16. Gobind Ballabh Pant

28th January

Daily Prelims Topic

1. Supreme Court Collegium
2. Shaurya chakra
3. Kanha tiger reserve
4. Mount Merapi's (Indonesia)
5. Quantitative Easing
6. Global Risks Report
7. PRAGATI
8. Subhash Chandra Bose AapdaPrabandhanPuraskar 2021
9. AyuSamvad campaign
10. UDAN
11. PM Rashtriya Bal Puraskat
12. Grants to RLB's
13. IEA

Daily Mapping

- Mount Merapi's (Indonesia)

29th January

Daily Prelims Topic

1. President's address in House
3. India Justice Report
4. Dow jones industrial Average

5. Who can take COVI-19 vaccine and who can't?
6. H-1B, H4 visas
7. Pakistan gets GI tag for Basmati rice
8. Short squeeze:
9. Corruption Perception Index
10. Life mission
11. World gold council
12. Expansionary budget

13. Uniting for Consensus (UFC) group and G4

Daily Mapping

- Morocco

30th Jan

Daily Prelims Topic

1. Bare Necessity Index
2. Contempt of Court
3. Disclosure of Interest in RTI application only when application seeks personal info
4. Strategic sector:
5. Central Issue Price:
6. Doomsday clock
7. The history of 'Joy Bangla
8. Fcra amendment
9. Novavax
10. Gig economy
11. PM JAY
12. Forbearance
13. How Economic Survey has projected a growth of 11% and Base Year

31st Jan

Daily Prelims Topic

1. PETN explosive
2. Beema Bamboo
3. Cess and surcharge
4. K-shaped recovery
5. Dutch Tulip bubble burst:
6. Niti Governing council
7. Shree Lingaraj temple
8. Chandrayaan
9. Neutrinos in death of massive stars
10. Tropical cyclone
11. Saturn and titan
12. Abraham accord

General Studies - 1

History

1st Jan

1. Bring out some of lessons from the Indian history as a possible approach to fight current economic crisis. [Reference: [The Better India](#)]
2. Discuss the contribution of Brahma Samaj and Kesab Chandra Sen in modernising India. [Reference: [The Hindu](#)]

2nd Jan

World history

1. Discuss the causes of Israel-Arab conflict. Also throw light on peace efforts as peace by other means than war in one of the century's worst conflict. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

Art and culture

1. What is the significance of historical art and architecture? In context of controversy over demolition of IIM Ahmedabad building discuss what are the concerns over protection of heritage structure in India? [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

3rd Jan

1. The quit India movement was most Un-Gandhian part of the freedom struggle led by Mahatma Gandhi. Critically examine.

6th Jan

1. Discuss the history of farmers protest in India. [Reference: [The Hindu](#)]

10th Jan

1. Comment on how Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose provided an alternative idea and approach and was an important pillar of deepening of Indian National Movement. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

11th Jan

1. What was New Deal post-Great Economic crisis of 1929? What were the factors that led to need of New deal and examine its role on American economy and global economy? [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

(Sajjid Z Chenoy writes: Given demand uncertainties, budget is opportune moment for a large physical and social infrastructure push (indianexpress.com))

2. The Aligarh Movement marks a of modern India. Comment. [Reference: [The Hindu](#)]

12th Jan

1. *Swami Vivekananda* might be called as the *father* of modern *Indian* Nationalism. Comment

14th Jan

1. Elaborate on Mahatma Gandhi's stay in South Africa as the enabler of his strategy in Indian National movement. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

2. What do you understand by harvest festival? Discuss its significance. [Reference: [Times Of India](#)]

30th Jan

1. Discuss the symbolics and architectural grandeur of red fort. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

2. Shah Jahan left behind a grand legacy of structures constructed during his reign. Discuss

SANTOSH SIR'S 700+ MAINS MENTOR SHIP PROGRAM

Geography

2nd Jan

1. Discuss the geographical condition conducive to tobacco crop. Which crops can replace it?

8th Jan

1. What are the locational factors of Iron and Steel industries? Discuss the challenges Iron and steel industry is facing in India. [Reference: [Financial Express](#)]

10th Jan

1. Discuss the geophysical characteristics of the Circum-Pacific zone (CSE MAINS 2020)

14th Jan

1. What do you understand by religious tourism? Discuss the challenges faced and opportunities. [Reference: [FICCI](#)]

15th Jan

1. What are the factors responsible for extreme air pollution in Delhi compared to other metro cities? What have been government's response to address it? [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

16th Jan

1. Why is Indonesia more prone to earthquake? [Reference: [CNN](#)]

19th Jan

1. What do you understand by religious tourism? Discuss the challenges faced and opportunities. [Reference: [FICCI](#)]

20th Jan

1. What do you understand by religious tourism? Discuss the challenges faced and opportunities. [Reference: [FICCI](#)]

24th Jan

1. What are extreme climate events? Do you think Climate Change is responsible for increasing incidents of extreme climate events in India? [Reference: [The Hindu](#)]

25th Jan

1. Critically examine Sethu *Samudram Project* in the context of increasing Chinese presence in the Indian Ocean. [Reference: [Orfonline](#)]

26th Jan

1. Discuss the traditional rain water harvesting systems in different regions of India

27th Jan

1. What do you understand by crop rotation? Why it is important? [Reference: [Business Line](#)]

Society

1st Jan

1. Caste discrimination still continues unabated in spite of legal safeguards. In this context discuss challenges of caste discrimination and what more needs to be done? [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

2nd Jan

1. India showing case fatality rate (CFR) of women due to Covid-19 deviates from global trend where men have high CFR. Examine causes for such trends in India and suggest measures for the same. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

4th Jan

1. Discuss the structural causes for pervasive violence targeted against certain groups in rural society in India. Also, suggest measures. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]
2. Discuss the invisibility of gender in Indian Agriculture. How will the recent farm acts impact women involved in agriculture? [Reference: [The Hindu](#)]

5th Jan

1. Pandemic has deepened the social and economic divide throughout the world. Comment. [Reference: [Business Line](#)]
2. Community action with a focus on women's well-being can fight malnutrition effectively. Comment. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

6th Jan

1. Malnourishment in India a gender problem. Do you agree? Discuss how gender discrimination is the key underlying cause of malnourishment in India.

7th Jan

1. "Stricter Law alone cannot deter rising sexual violence against women". Critically examine. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

8th Jan

1. What do you understand by dominant caste? Why dominant castes in various states are asking for reservation.

9th Jan

1. Recognising women's unpaid care role at homes can be a great tool for women empowerment. Critically examine. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

12th Jan

1. Public policy should aim at closing the huge gender gap in unpaid domestic and care work through 'recognition, reduction and redistribution'. Explain
2. All societies continue to show discrimination based on identity. Discuss causes of such discrimination even in current times through examples of national and international importance and measures which can be taken to address it. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]
3. Recognition of care work in the public sphere could help in unsettling the gendered and unequal division of house work and unpaid care burden. Discuss. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

14th Jan

1. Discuss India's vaccine roll-out strategy and what are challenges associated with it. [Reference: [Indian Express](#), [Indian Express](#)]
2. Discuss the challenge of aging population in India.

15th Jan

Art and Culture

1. Elaborate the role of major architects in shaping modern India during the British times.
2. Critically examine the Swachh Bharat Mission and also suggest how it can be made more efficient New India. [Reference: [Financial Express](#)]

19th Jan

1. The concept of open schooling with more flexible academic rules can go a long way in addressing concerns of high dropout rates, low attendance and limited infrastructure. Comment. [Reference: [Financial Express](#)]
2. What is gender based violence. Explain with life cycle approach

20th Jan

1. Differentiate between the concept of sex, sexuality, sexual orientation and gender. [Reference: [The Hindu](#)]

21st Jan

1. Examine the link between migration and development. [Reference: [IOM](#)]

23rd Jan

1. The poor women's labour force participation is not only a function of low education and social status, but also, to a significant extent, of culture and social barrier. Examine [Home, alone | The Indian Express](#)

25th Jan

1. What do you understand by middle class? Do you think it is dominant in deciding political discourse?

26th Jan

1. What do you understand by communalism? How big it is a threat to Indian Polity and Society? In your opinion what can be done to tackle this problem.

27th Jan

1. Gender parity is a long-cherished goal. Discuss achievements of India in this direction so far and what are the challenges remaining. Also, suggest what steps must be brought to accelerate this process. [Reference: [Financial Express](#)]

28th Jan

1. Examine the equal citizenship status in Indian society which constitution envisaged. What challenges it faces till date. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

General Studies-2

Polity

1st Jan

1. Why was Special Marriage Act enacted? Discuss its significance in the context of uniform civil code. [Reference: [The Hindu](#)]

Welfare Schemes

1. PM-WANI has all the potential to usher in universal digital revolution India needs today. Discuss. [Reference: [Financial Express](#)]

3rd Jan

1. Do you agree with the opinion that Supreme Court has been instrumental in putting check and balances on the application of the President Rule in India? Discuss it with the help of court's position over the years. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

4th Jan

1. What is democratic decentralisation? Elaborate the positive trends of empowerment coming through elections and representations all over India with implications for whole democracy. [Reference: [Indian Express](#), [The Hindu](#), [Indian Express](#)]

5th Jan

1. Is Indian federalism under strain? Discuss all issues with emphasis on the role of Governor. Is it time to have a relook? [Reference: [The Hindu](#)]

6th Jan

1. What do you understand by judicial review? Why heightened judicial review is not right? [Reference: [The Hindu](#)]
2. All India Service because of its dual control is a contentious issue in our federal set up. Discuss its role and federal issues associated with it. [Reference: [The Hindu](#)]

7th Jan

1. Examine the evolution of Right to privacy in India through the Supreme Court's judgements. Also, critically examine Data Protection Bill in this respect. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

8th Jan

1. The violence in the oldest democracy over the Presidential election is a wider reflection democracy is facing worldwide. In this context bring out challenges' democracy today and strategy to overcome them. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

9th Jan

1. Compare and contrast impeachment process of the President in India and USA? [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

11th Jan

1. What do you understand by rule of law? Is Indian constitution based on rule of law? Is rule of law a reality in India? [Reference: [The Hindu](#)]

12 Jan

1. USA mob violence is an indication of rising tendency of executive coups around the world. In this context discuss constitutional provisions for national emergency in India and how fragility of democracy at times lead to it. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

13th Jan

1. What is judicial overreach? How it is different from judicial activism? Discuss issues in the court encroaching into territory beyond its remit. [Reference: [Indian Express](#), [Indian Express](#)]
2. What is Right to Privacy and its status in India? Discuss challenges it faces from social media penetration and suggest a framework for better protecting privacy in this context. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

14th Jan

1. What is Parliamentary democracy? Examine the functioning of Parliamentary democracy in India in recent decades. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]
2. Right to access to drinking water is fundamental to life and that it was a duty of the state to provide this. Discuss the statement with the help of judicial interpretation in the matter. Also bring forward the issues India faces in realizing it. [Reference: [Financial Express](#)]
3. Discuss the rationale behind Article 33 of the constitution with example. [Reference: [Live Law](#)]

17th Jan

1. What is contempt of court? Discuss how sometimes the exercise of this power compromises on even fair criticism of judiciary. Do we think 70 year after independence do we still need it? [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

19th Jan

1. What do you understand by electoral democracy? Do you the rising incidents of protests throughout the world makes democratic evaluation of the electoral democracy's effectiveness in responding to people's concerns and demands need of the hours? [Reference: [DownToEarth](#)]

2. The waves of democracy are major surges of democracy which have occurred in history. Assess the three waves of democracy. [Reference: [DownToEarth](#), [Wikipedia](#)]

20th Jan

1. It is perfectly possible to pervert the Constitution, without changing the form by merely changing the form of administration and to make it inconsistent and opposed to the spirit of Constitution". Comment in context of Indian federalism. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

21st Jan

1. Delhi HC judgement entailing stating interest for query behind RTI might weaken RTI. In this context also discuss what the challenges RTI has been facing are. [Reference: [Financial Express](#)]

2. Compare and contrast power of Indian and USA president to pardon and commute. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

24th Jan

1. Discuss the role of State Election Commissioner in the backdrop of panchayat polls in Andhra Pradesh. [Reference: [Times Of India](#)]

25th Jan

1 Voting is the life and soul of democracy. Discuss the major determinants of voting behaviour in India.

2. Electoral reforms is a must to enhance the quality of democracy in India. What are the suggested reforms by various commissions and committees and how far are they significant to make democracy successful?

26th Jan

1. Discuss the significance of the value of fraternity discussed in the preamble. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

27th Jan

1. What is mandatory minimum punishment in Indian jurisprudence? Taking example of POCSO discuss if mandatory punishment is a necessity in some cases. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]
2. Are values mentioned in the preamble a reality in today's India? Critically comment. [Reference: [Business Line](#)]

29th Jan

1. Indian healthcare faces a multi-pronged challenge. In this context discuss challenges of universal healthcare and ways to address them. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]
2. Assess the success of JAM and DBT in India so far. How this can be turned into a success in digital delivery in India. [Reference: [Financial Express](#)]

30th Jan

1. Indian democracy is in flux today. Discuss challenges it is facing presently and what should be the approach to come out of it successfully. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

Governance

2nd Jan

1. How artificial intelligence can improve e-governance? Discuss. [Reference: [PIB](#)]
2. Analyse the features of COPTA 2003. [Reference: [Business Line](#)]

4th Jan

1. What matters is not the quantity of governments but the quality". In this context discuss Good Governance and its impact through examples during Covid-19 pandemic and areas to improve for India in this regard. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]
2. What do you understand by e-governance? Bring out how technology can redefine e-governance by revolutionising public service delivery in India. [Reference: [Financial Express](#)]

5th Jan

1. What do you understand by gig workers? Discuss the need to provide them social security.

8th Jan

1. Discuss the role and functioning of EPFO.

27th Jan

1. What do you understand by governance? Differentiate between reform and regulation. Also, discuss why reform is an ongoing process and need of the hour in India. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]
2. The ideal of corporate governance is an evolving concept. Elaborate. Also discuss how Structured Digital Database (SDD) promoted by SEBI can push CG towards good governance from compliance. [Reference: [Financial Express](#)]
3. Sub optimal policy decisions and poor policy implementation highlight lack of capacity in government. How far public –private partnership can bridge this? [Reference: [The Hindu](#)]

29th Jan

1. India lacks sporting culture. In this context, critically analyze National Sports Policy. [Reference: [The Hindu](#)]

30th Jan

1. Health Crisis can be transformed into economic and social crisis. Comment. [Reference: [Business Line](#)]
2. Discuss the need for health sector regulator. [Reference: [Business Line](#)]

International Relation

2nd Jan

1. Comment on the current global scenario which offers India both challenges and opportunity to emerge as a global rather than an aspirational player. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

3rd Jan

1. What is Post-Brexit trade deal between EU and the UK? Discuss its implications for both and direction the relations between may take from here on. [Reference: [The Hindu](#)]
2. CPEC project has many inherent challenges in it, yet offers a significant advantage to China and Pakistan. Discuss. Also, bring out its implications for India and what strategy it should adopt towards it. [Reference: [The Hindu](#)]

5th Jan

1. Discuss the commonalities driving India-USA together in recent years. What are irritants in developing relationships and strategy India should adopt to address it. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]
2. India begins its journey as member of UNSC in a changed circumstance. In this context discuss priorities and approach India should follow in this stint. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

6th Jan

1. Discuss irritants in Indo-USA relations. Also, throw light on significance of this relationship in current context. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

7th Jan

1. Middle-East reset will not only have regional but global implications. Discuss. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

8th Jan

1. What do you understand by MFN status? Discuss trade barriers in this context.

9th Jan

1. India-Sri Lanka in recent years has been in flux. In this context challenges of the relationship and what it means for India's Indian Ocean strategy. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

11th Jan

1. India's shift to electric mobility will need a reorientation of its foreign policy also. [Reference: [The Hindu](#)]

12 Jan

1. The India's two-year stint in UNSC as non-permanent members is an opportunity for reforming UNSC from within. Elaborate. Also, focus on why UNSC has not been effective in its role in enforcer of global piece. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

14th Jan

1. What is Indo-Pacific? Comment on the Indo-USA growing convergence on Indo-Pacific and its impact on India's national interest. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]
2. A strong India would act as a "counterbalance" to China. Critically examine this statement in the context of US indo pacific strategy. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

16th Jan

1. Any outstanding issue should not become irritant in another wise friendly relationship. In the context of statement elaborate on closer relationship of India-Nepal and challenges it is facing in current times. [Reference: [Yahoo](#)]

17th Jan

1. Current geopolitical flux in world could gravitate towards a bipolar global order where the US and China are two poles. Critically examine. Also, what is your opinion on what should be India's approach to two countries in such a situation? [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

19th Jan

1. Pandemics in the past have changed the world order. Will covid-19 do the same? [Reference: [Hindustan Times](#)]

2. India-USA relationship is characterized by tensions and cooperation. Can India's AtmaNirbhar strategy might accentuate the tensions? [Reference: Indian Express]

20th Jan

1. Discuss the challenges facing India-Nepal Relations especially focusing on China factor? [Reference: [The Hindu](#), [OrfOnline](#)]

23rd Jan

1. Why is India interested in Arctic? Analyze the draft Arctic Policy. <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/india-to-expand-research-tourism-in-arctic/article33636563.ece>

25th Jan

1. WTO-led multilateral trading system has been a catalyst not only to the growth and expansion of global trade but it has significantly contributed to global prosperity, peace, and stability. Discuss the challenges faced by the WTO and analyze India's engagement with the body. [Reference: [Business Line](#)]

27th Jan

1. Do you think UNSC has lost its relevance? Do you think India deserves a place in the UNSC P5? [Reference: [The Hindu](#)]

28th Jan

1. India-China relations is an example of a contrasting picture as on the one hand they have emerged as major trade partner and on the other hand major border conflict puts them against each other. Elaborate. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

29th Jan

1. Discuss various ways to address the situation stalemate in Indo-China relations. [Reference: [New Indian Express](#)]

2. What do you understand by Unitingfor Consensus (UFC) group and G4? Explain in the context of INDIA'S permanent membership of UNSC. [Reference: [Times Of India](#)]

General Studies-3

Economics

1st Jan

1. Discuss the idea of allowing corporate in banking. [Reference: [Financial Express](#)]

2nd Jan

1. Why corruption is a huge burden for growth in India. Analyze factors responsible for India's poor rank global perception Index, 2019. What lessons India can learn from China on focusing on growth amidst efforts to tackle corruption. Comment. [Reference: [Financial Express](#)]

3rd Jan

1. Banking is the multiplying force in an economy for growth and revival. Elaborate. Discuss challenges ahead for Indian Banking in wake of recent setbacks to economy. [Reference: [The Hindu](#)]

4th Jan

1. What do you understand by Development Financial Institutions (DFIs)? Examine their contribution to the economy? Why they become unviable after liberalization? Critically examine the need to resurrect them again. [Reference: [Business Line](#)]

5th Jan

1. Discuss the problem of urban employment in India. Is gig economy a viable solution?
2. What is asset monetisation? Discuss with the examples how India and world have used it to attract investment in infrastructure. What more India needs to do for boost asset monetisation for infrastructure investments? [Reference: [Financial Express](#)]
3. Skill, not chance is the dominating factor in Online gaming industry". In this context challenges online gaming industry faces in India. Should it be banned? [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

6th Jan

1. Digital revolution has deepened the financial inclusion in rural India. Critically examine. Also discuss how financial inclusion is a step towards inclusive growth. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

2. Elaborate the role of science and technology can play in bringing Indian agriculture out of stagnation. Also, examine Indian efforts in this direction so far. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]
3. What is Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for vaccines and why it has been in controversy in India recently? Also, show how different countries handle EUAs. [Reference: [Financial Express](#)]

7th Jan

1. Instead of ad hoc steps, the Centre needs to push long-term reforms in public sector banks. [Reference: [Business Line](#)]

8th Jan

1. Critically examine Minimum Support Price (MSP) regime role in Indian agriculture. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

9th Jan

1. Discuss the challenges in making India a \$5 trillion economy? [Reference: [Financial Express](#)]

10th Jan

1. Discuss the effectiveness of work from home as a new Norm at workplaces. Also discuss benefits of Hybrid workplace as an alternative in many offices. [Reference: [Financial Express](#)]

11th Jan

1. Discuss various issues plaguing Indian agriculture. Are recent three farm laws sufficient to bring farmers out of crisis. Also give structural reforms needed. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]
2. Critically examine the need of FCI's procurement policy in aftermath of three farm bills passed. [Reference: [Financial Express](#)]
3. Setting international standards and conformity standards as part of regulations can propel India's Atma Nirbhar strategy with pushing up export. In this context discuss challenges in current regulations for standard setting for manufacturing and how conformity with international standard will help. [Reference: [Financial Express](#)]
4. What do you understand by easy monetary policy? Explain quantitative easing in this context. Examine the risks involved. [Reference: [The Hindu](#)]

12th Jan

1. Discuss role and strategy for exports in doubling farmer's income in agriculture. [Reference: [Financial Express](#)]

13th Jan

1. Examine the Code on wages brought as part of labour reforms recently. What more needs to be done for fair and living wage in India. [Reference: [Financial Express](#)]
2. The DFC will herald an era of fast, safe and timetabled running of freight trains. Discuss. [Reference: [Financial Express](#)]

14th Jan

1. What is digital lending? Can digital lending make access to financial services and products more fair, efficient and inclusive? [Reference: [The Quint](#)]

15th Jan

1. What do you understand by startup? Comment upon start up scenario in India. Discuss the challenges faced by them.
2. What do you understand by inverted duty structure? Discuss its impact on domestic industry. [Reference: [Economic Times](#), [Business Line](#)]
3. What is Hybrid Annuity model (HAM)? Why developers prefer HAM over Engineering, Procurement and Build, Operate and Transfer model. How the recent changes in HAM model will further boost infrastructure sector. [Reference: [Financial Express](#)]

16th Jan

1. What is Corporate Social Responsibility? Discuss how it can be channelised for vaccine development and government-led vaccine rollout in wake of Covid-19. [Reference: [Financial Express](#)]

17th Jan

1. What is "Bad bank concept" sometimes seen as way to address NPAs of Banks? Examine benefit it offers and challenges it may encounter in Indian financial reforms to address NPAs. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

2. What do you understand by start-ups in Indian context? Bring out their role in disruption and diversification capacity to propel India towards equity and growth. (Press Information Bureau (pib.gov.in))

3. What is revenue and capital expenditure? In context of Covid-19 forcing governments to go for higher fiscal deficit discuss need for expenditure reforms in India and direction it should take. [[‘Refine quality of expenditure to aid fiscal sustainability’ - The Hindu](#)]

18th January

1. Explain the divergence between booming financial sector and stagnant real sector.

2. What do you understand by crop diversification? Discuss need for crop diversification as an immediate priority. Also suggest a basic policy framework for crop diversification in India. [Reference: [India Express](#), [India Express](#)]

3. What is National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP)? Suggest measures to boost investment through NIP to upgrade infrastructure for a \$5 trillion economy. [Reference: [Financial Express](#)]

4. How is cartel different from competition in market system? In this context discuss impact of proposed regulatory authority for steel and cement industry. [Reference: [Financial Express](#), [India Blooms](#)]

19th Jan

1. Critically examine the reasons behind failure of India’s public sector disinvestment program. [Reference: [Business Line](#)]

2. What do you understand by inter -generational equity? Examine the National Mineral Policy 2019 in this context. [Reference: [The Hindu](#)]

3. What do you understand by Non-performing Assets? Amidst India’s NPA crisis examine RBI’s efforts to tackle NPA’s so far. How far Bad banks can be feasible in this context? [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

20th Jan

1. RERA was heralded as a big change for hitherto unregulated sector. What are the advantages it offers to all stakeholders and challenges it continues to face? [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

2. Discuss strategies to revive tourism which saw the biggest fallout due to Covid-19. [Reference: [Financial Express](#)]

21st Jan

1. How the reforms in power subsidy can push India's efforts for cleaner fuel and clean environment. [Reference: [Financial Express](#)]
2. What is equalization levy? Discuss challenges in taxation of digital companies. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

22nd Jan

1. Discuss how the recent changes in Essential Commodities Act will help deregulating agriculture sector. Also, bring out the concerns with the changes brought. [Reference: [Financial Express](#)]
2. What do you understand by resource mobilization? How effective tax free bonds in mobilizing revenues in covid hit scenario? [Reference: [Business Line](#)]
3. Examine the functioning of Competition Commission of India in ensuring a fair competition in market in India. [Reference: [Financial Express](#)]
4. What is industrial Revolution 4.0? What should be India's strategy to adopt and gain advantage out of Industrial revolution 4.0? [Reference: [Financial Express](#)]
5. What is inflation targeting? Should we tinker with it? [Reference: [Business Line](#)]

23rd Jan

1. What do you understand by NBFCs? Why the NBFC sector is in stress for last few years? Discuss RBI's paper Revised Regulatory Framework for NBFCs -- a Scale-Based Approach.
<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/rbi-plans-a-four-layered-regulatory-framework-for-nbfc/article33636935.ece>
2. Diversification of agriculture is not only essential for nutrition security in India, but also to promote equity and sustainability. Comment. [Imbalances in India's cereal economy need more than a short-term fix | The Indian Express](#)
3. Critically examine the implications of making MSP legally binding? [Explained: The cost of guaranteed MSP | Explained News, The Indian Express](#)
4. What do you understand by indigenization of technology? Discuss how production linked Incentive scheme can push indigenization in pharmaceutical sector. [Self-reliance push: 3 cos to manufacture priority bulk drugs | Business News, The Indian Express](#)

5. Discuss the importance of the mining sector for the economy. Critically examine the existing regulation and the proposed one. Will the new regulation bring positive changes.

24th Jan

1. Discuss the role of Krishi Vikas Kendra in doubling farmer's income.
2. Indian economy has made a transition from jobless growth to job –loss growth in the last decade. Do you agree? Argue with facts. [Reference: [Business Standard](#)]
3. The paradox of “hunger amidst plenty” has haunted India for a long time and shows no sign of going away. In the light of the statement discuss the need to expand distribution under the PDS. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]
4. Discuss the role of Nano and micro enterprises in solving the job problem of the country. [Reference: [The Hindu](#)]

25th Jan

1. What do you understand by financial inclusion? Discuss the role of digital lending in this regard. [Reference: [Business Line](#)]
2. What do you understand by price deficiency payment? Will it make farming remunerative? [Reference: [Business Line](#)]

26th Jan

1. What do you understand by gender budgeting? Discuss its status in India. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]
2. Discuss the challenges of budgeting in the time of crisis?

27th Jan

1. What is disinvestment? Discuss the trends in disinvestment and its effective utilization in Indian case. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

2. Why inequality is considered biggest threat to economic revival? Discuss in the backdrop of recent OXFAM report “The Inequality Virus “. [Reference: [The Hindu](#)]

28th Jan

1. Steel industry has huge role in self-reliant strategy. Elaborate. Comment on challenges facing industry and strategy to overcome them. [Reference: [Financial Express](#)]

29th Jan

1. What do you understand by monopoly? Critically examine the global antitrust against the tech companies. [Reference: [The Hindu](#), [CFR](#)]

2. What is the difference between monetary and fiscal policy? Discuss their role in an economy. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

3. Tax reforms can have an effective role in rebounding economic growth in India. Elaborate. [Reference: [Financial Express](#)]

30th Jan

1. “The risks from doing too little are much more than the risks from doing too much.” In this context discuss what is counter-cyclical fiscal policy and the need of higher fiscal spending for growth. [Reference: [Indian Express](#), [Financial Express](#)]

2. “Reliance on Juggad hurts innovation”. In this context discuss the need of more R&D role of private sector in India. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

3. “Forbearance an emergency medicine, not staple diet”. Discuss the need of a fresh Asset Quality Review (AQR) to end India’s continued NPA woes. [Reference: [Financial Express](#), [Financial Express](#)]

4. Policies need to create enabling infrastructure and promote non-discriminatory practices at the workplace to incentivize more women to join the workforce. Elaborate. [Reference: [Financial Express](#)]

5. Examine the approach of focusing on economic growth over policies to address inequality. [Reference: [Financial Express](#)]

31st Jan

1. What do you understand by External Commercial Borrowing? Discuss its challenges in Indian fiscal policy and how it should be productively employed for growth. [Reference: [Financial Express](#)]
2. Examine the role of PM-JAY in taking incremental steps for India's healthcare towards universal healthcare. [Reference: [Live Mint](#)]
3. What is subsidy? How subsidy has become one of the critical challenges for government expenditure in India. Suggest a comprehensive approach to rationalize food subsidy in India.
4. What do you understand by Bad Bank? Can it solve the problem of NPAs? [Reference: [Business Line](#)]

<https://optimizeias.com/>

OPTIMIZE IAS

Science and Technology

1st Jan

1. How Artificial intelligence and technology can potentially alter businesses in India and what steps are being undertaken to be prepared for AI-led economy. [Reference: [Financial Express](#)]

3rd Jan

1. Examine the potential as well achievement of India's indigenous vaccine development capabilities in wake of vaccine development sweeping world scientists. [Reference: [The Hindu](#)]

4th Jan

1. Covaxin is a giant leap for innovation in India. Comment
2. Why India's approval of homegrown COVAXIN is being criticized? [Reference: [Economic Times](#)]
3. Discuss how 5G can help in powering Digital India? [Reference: [Financial Express](#)]
4. What do you understand by compulsory licensing? Why it is needed? Critically examine Patent Rules (Amendment) 2020 in this regard.

5th Jan

1. Discuss the regulatory regime for vaccine approval in India. In this context, explain Emergency Use Authorization (EUA). [Reference: [The Hindu](#)]

7th Jan

1. India is in a race between "demography and technology". Critically examine in the context of growing adoption of robots. [Reference: [Business Line](#)]
2. Newdraft Science, Technology and Innovation policy may be a game changer for overall science ecosystem in India. Comment. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

12th Jan

1. What is BVLOS and why is it important for drone industry? [Reference: [Geospatial World](#), [Business Line](#)]

13th Jan

1. Incentivizing innovation in India can be the driver of economy to aim of \$5 trillion economy. In this context discuss opportunities and challenges for innovation in India. Examine government's effort in promoting innovation. [Reference: [Orfonline](#)]
2. What do you understand by Nano technology? Discuss its applications.

15th Jan

1. What is genome sequencing? Discuss its various applications with specific mention of precision medicine.

(A new genome sequencing laboratory inaugurated at IGI airport New Delhi)

16th Jan

1. What is “herd immunity” in context of an infection? Explain the India’s vaccination with a focus on achieving herd immunity. Also, bring forth the potential challenges in vaccination at such large scale. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

17th Jan

1. What are Transfats? Why are they considered bad for our health? Discuss strategies to regulate it. [Reference: [The Hindu](#)]

18th Jan

1. How technology helped the humankind overcome the biggest disruption in recent history. [Reference: [Financial Express](#)]

2. Discuss new technologies for water purification amidst rising water stress. [Reference: [Business Line](#)]

19th Jan

1. What do you understand by mutation? How will it impact the covid-19 pandemic and India’s approach to manage it?

20th Jan

1. Discuss the challenge of vaccine hesitancy.

23rd Jan

1. What are biofuels? What are the three generations of biofuels? <https://www.thehindu.com/to-days-paper/state-omcs-to-buy-biodiesel-made-from-used-cooking-oil/article28980168.ece>

25th Jan

1. What do you understand by scientific social responsibility? Discuss its need in the light of draft scientific social responsibility policy. [Reference: [The Wire](#)]

27th Jan

1. What do you understand by block chain technology? Can it be used for electronic voting? [Reference: [The Hindu](#)]

OPTIMIZE IAS
LEARN FROM THE BEST

SANTOSH SIR'S 700+
GS(1,2&3) Mains Mentorship

A goal without a plan is just a wish

READ Understand Concepts
Mains Master Notes

WRITE Weekly Applied Tests

DISCUSS
Weekly Discussion by
SANTOSH SIR

To be the best, you have to learn from the best.

[Program Link](#)

Environment

1st Jan

1. Analyse the vulnerability of India due to climate change risks. In this context discuss the need to build climate resilience. [Reference: [The Hindu](#)]

2nd Jan

1. Why there has been huge global interest in Arctic? Discuss how this interest and climate change is taking toll on world as a whole. Also, bring out implications for India of warming Arctics. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]
2. Examine the impact of pandemic on environment and sustainable development. Has it been a boon for sustainable development? Critically examine. [Reference: [Business Line](#)]

10th Jan

1. Discuss the impacts of conflict between infrastructure development and wildlife protection. Also, mention Indian efforts so far in wild life protection and what more needs to be done. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

19th Jan

1. It is time to think about the creation of a National Red List Authority. Discuss in the context of WILD LIFE (PROTECTION) ACT, 1972.
2. Compare and contrast Indian Forest Act 1927 and Forest Rights Act, 2006.
3. Finance is a major pillar to overcome climate change. In this context what has been on global front to mobilize finance for same. Also discuss what more needs to be done. [Reference: [Financial Express](#)]

20th Jan

1. Elaborate on India's e-waste management rule, 2017. Discuss challenges of e-Waste management in India and how to overcome that. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

24th Jan

1. The people's movement against the Silent Valley project was significant in the sense that it was not a rhetorical protest, but one in which the scientific argument supported the views of the anti-dam group. Comment upon the impact of Silent Valley Movement. [Reference: [Monga Bay](#)]

26th Jan

1. What do you understand by Green tax? Explain with an example in India. [Reference: [OECD](#), [Aditya Birla Capital](#)]

28th Jan

1. India faces a double whammy of coastal inundation and drying glaciers. Comment. [Reference: [Financial Express](#)]

31st Jan

1. What do you understand by green tax? Discuss in the context of automobile section. [Reference: [The Hindu](#)]

Internal Security

3rd Jan

1. Critically examine the impact of successful Panchayat elections holds for J&K scenario post Article 370 withdrawal. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

4th Jan

1. What is theatre command? What aims Indian policy makers seeks to achieve through theatre command? Bring out some challenges in effective functioning of theatre command in Indian context. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

7th Jan

1. Discuss India's maritime security concerns. Examine efforts to secure India's maritime security in this regard. [Reference: [The Hindu](#)]

9th Jan

1. Social media has evolved into a hydra-headed creature threatening security of individual as well as state. Comment. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

15th Jan

1. Social media is a double-edged sword. In context of role of social media as medium to promote violence in USA discuss issues with the misuse of social media and what should be framework to regulate it. [Reference: [Indian Express](#), [Financial Express](#)]
2. Climate change is the biggest national security for countries of the world. Elaborate the security threats die to climate change and what has been world's response so far? Are these steps enough? [Reference: [Bloomberg](#)]

18th Jan

1. Recent controversy over WhatsApp privacy policy shows Privacy policies online are illegible and 'consent' is broken. Elaborate. Also, discuss how consent can be made truly empowering for digital users. [Reference: [Indian Express](#), [The Hindu](#)]
2. What is 5G? How prepared India is prepared to adopt 5G? Also, what measures first be taken to ensure India develops its own capacity in 5G. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

16th Jan

1. Discuss India's national security challenges emerging from the borders. Also throw light on Comprehensive Integrated Border Management System (CIBMS) in this context. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

OPTIMIZE IAS
LEARN FROM THE BEST

SANTOSH SIR'S 700+ GS(1,2&3) Mains Mentorship

A goal without a plan is just a wish

READ Understand Concepts
Mains Master Notes

WRITE
Weekly Applied Tests

DISCUSS
Weekly Discussion by
SANTOSH SIR

To be the best, you have to learn from the best.

Program [Link](#)

General Studies-4

Ethics

6th Jan

1. What is conflict of interest? Show through examples conflict of interest in various ways of life. Also, suggest how to overcome conflict of interest. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]
2. What do you understand by trust? Why it is hard to build? [Reference: [Business Line](#)]

8th Jan

1. What is humility? Explain it through your own example. Elaborate how it can help public servants in serving people better.

9th Jan

1. Leader's words at their best can inspire, at their worst they can incite. Explain with examples. [Reference: [NyTimes](#)]

10th Jan

1. What do you understand by social influence?
2. What do you understand by patriotism? How it is different from Nationalism

11th Jan

1. What do you understand by trust? How can government build trust? [Reference: [The Hindu](#)]

12th Jan

1. Comment on the statement below to show its importance in current domestic and global context

“Truth can be stated in a thousand different ways, yet each one can be true”. Swami Vivekanad

13th Jan

1. Discuss the problem of pervasive corruption in India. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

14th Jan

1. Differentiate between law, rule and conscience as the source of the ethics. [Reference: [Business Line](#)]

15th Jan

1. What do you understand by dilemma? [Reference: [The Hindu](#)]

16th Jan

1. What is trust? Why it is important in governance? [Reference: [The Hindu](#)]

17th Jan

1. What do you understand by vaccine hesitancy?

19th Jan

1. What do you understand by vaccine hesitancy? Analyze the reasons behind it. How can government counter it?

20th Jan

1. What is conflict of interest and propriety? How it impacts good governance? [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

21st Jan

1. You are the health secretary. Recently vaccination has started, but people are hesitant to come forward for vaccination because of vaccine hesitancy. Devise a strategy to combat vaccine hesitancy

22nd Jan

1. What is misinformation? How it is leading to vaccine hesitancy? [Reference: [Business Line](#)]

23rd Jan

1. What are the inter-generational equity concerns in mining? <https://www.livemint.com/Opinion/FfEugBncFQYC8UzvCEgP6M/Intergenerational-equity-mining-and-Goa-Foundation.html>

2. Land needed for mining, dams and other large-scale projects is acquired mostly from Adivasis, hill dwellers and rural communities. The displaced persons are paid monetary compensation as per the legal provisions. However, the payment is often tardy. In any case, it cannot sustain the displaced families for long. These people do not possess marketable skills to engage in some other occupation. They end up as low paid migrant laborers. Moreover, their development goes to industries, industrialists and urban communities whereas the costs are passed on to these poor helpless people. This unjust distribution of costs and benefits is unethical.

Suppose you have been entrusted with the task of drafting a better compensation-cum-rehabilitation policy for such displaced persons, how would you approach the problem and what would be the main elements of your suggested policy? (250 words)

24th Jan

1. What do you understand by professional? What are characteristics of a good professional?

25th Jan

1. What do you understand by whistleblowing? How does it help in preventing and catching insider trading in companies?

2. Discuss ethical issues in insider trading. [Reference: [Upenn](#)]

26th Jan

1. What do you understand by hate? Why it is considered dangerous for the society and the nation?

27th Jan

1. What do you understand by intellectual honesty? [Reference: [The Hindu](#)]

28th Jan

1. The Anthropocene era with its threat to ecology has created an ethical dilemma before human race. Explain. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]

29th Jan

1. India lacks sporting culture. Do you agree with this opinion? Discuss how can it be developed? [Reference: [The Hindu](#)]

2. What do you understand by dehumanization? How does it affect our action? [Reference: [NPR](#), [DW.COM](#)]

30th Jan

1. What is Mahatma Gandhi's seven social sins? Discuss its relevance in present context. [Reference: [Indian Express](#)]