

# Topic Wise UPSC Mains Questions (PYQs)

## GS Paper III

Year	Subject	Sub-Topic	Question	Marks
2023	Economics	Sustainable Development and Growth	Faster economic growth requires increased share of the manufacturing sector in GDP, particularly of MSMEs. Comment on the present policies of the Government in this regard.	10 Marks
2023	Economics	Economic Schemes and Policies	What is the status of digitalization in the Indian economy? Examine the problems faced in this regard and suggest improvements.	10 Marks
2023	Economics	Agriculture and Food Management	How does e-Technology help farmers in production and marketing of agricultural produce? Explain it.	10 Marks
2023	Economics	Land Reforms	State the objectives and measures of land reforms in India. Discuss how land ceiling policy on landholding can be considered as an effective reform under economic criteria.	10 Marks
2023	Science & Technology	Information and Communication Technology	Introduce the concept of Artificial Intelligence (AI). How does AI help clinical diagnosis? Do you perceive any threat to privacy of the individual in the use of AI in the healthcare?	10 Marks
2023	Science & Technology	Biotechnology	Discuss several ways in which microorganisms can help in meeting the current fuel shortage	10 Marks
2023	Environment	Disaster and Disaster Management	Dam failures are always catastrophic, especially on the downstream side, resulting in a colossal loss of life and property. Analyze the various causes of	10 Marks

			dam failures. Give two examples of large dam failures.	
<b>2023</b>	Environment	Pollution	What is oil pollution? What are its impacts on the marine ecosystem? In what way is oil pollution particularly harmful for a country like India?	10 Marks
<b>2023</b>	Security	Terrorism and Organized Crime	Winning of 'Hearts and Minds' in terrorism affected areas is an essential step in restoring the trust of the population. Discuss the measures adopted by the Government in this respect as part of the conflict resolution in Jammu and Kashmir.	10 Marks
<b>2023</b>	Security	Communication Networks and Cyber Security	The use of unmanned aerial vehicles(UAVs) by our adversaries across the borders to ferry arms/ammunitions, drugs, etc., is a serious threat to the internal security. Comment on the measures being taken to tackle this threat.	10 Marks
<b>2023</b>	Economics	Poverty and Employment	Most of the unemployment in India is structural in nature. Examine the methodology adopted to compute unemployment in the country and suggest improvements.	15 Marks
<b>2023</b>	Economics	Indian Economy	Distinguish between 'care economy' and 'monetized economy'. How can care economy be brought into monetized economy through women empowerment?	15 Marks
<b>2023</b>	Economics	Agriculture and Food Management	Explain the changes in cropping pattern in India in the context of changes in consumption pattern and marketing conditions.	15 Marks
<b>2023</b>	Economics	Agriculture and Food Management	What are the direct and indirect subsidies provided to farm sector in India? Discuss the issues raised by the World Trade Organization(WTP) in relation to agricultural subsidies.	15 Marks

2023	Environment	Renewable and Energy Resources	The adoption of electric vehicles is rapidly growing worldwide. How do electric vehicles contribute to reducing carbon emissions and what are the key benefits they offer compared to traditional combustion engine vehicles?	15 Marks
2023	Science & Technology	Space and Related Developments	What is the main task of India's third moon mission which could not be achieved in its earlier mission? List the countries that have achieved this task. Introduce the subsystems in the spacecraft launched and explain the role of the 'Virtual Launch Control Centre' at the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre which contributed to the successful launch from Sriharikota.	15 Marks
2023	Environment	Biodiversity and Conservation	Comment on the National Wetland Conservation Programme initiated by the Government of India and name a few India's wetlands of international importance included in the Ramsar Sites.	15 Marks
2023	Environment	Climate Change	The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change(IPCC) has predicted a global sea level rise of about one metre by AD 2100. What would be its impact in India and the other countries in the Indian Ocean region?	15 Marks
2023	Security	Security Forces and Agencies	What are the internal security challenges being faced by India? Give out the role of Central Intelligence and Investigative Agencies tasked to counter such threats.	15 Marks
2023	Security	Terrorism and Organized Crime	Give out the major sources of terror funding in India and efforts being made to curtail these sources. In the light of this, also discuss the aim and objective of the ' No Money for Terror [NMFT]' Conference recently held at New Delhi in November 2022.	15 Marks

<b>2022</b>	Economics	Infrastructure	Why is Public Private Partnership (PPP) required in infrastructural projects ? Examine the role of PPP model in the redevelopment of Railway Stations in India.	10 Marks
<b>2022</b>	Economics	Sustainable Development and Growth	Is inclusive growth possible under market economy ? State the significance of financial inclusion in achieving economic growth in India.	10 Marks
<b>2022</b>	Economics	Agriculture and Food Management	What are the major challenges of Public Distribution System (PDS) in India ? How can it be made effective and transparent ?	10 Marks
<b>2022</b>	Economics	Agriculture and Food Management	Elaborate the scope and significance of the food processing industry in India.	10 Marks
<b>2022</b>	Science & Technology	Health and Diseases	The increase in life expectancy in the country has led to newer health challenges in the community. What are those challenges and what steps need to be taken to meet them ?	10 Marks
<b>2022</b>	Science & Technology	Biotechnology	Each year a large amount of plant material, cellulose, is deposited on the surface of Planet Earth. What are the natural processes this cellulose undergoes before yielding carbon dioxide, water and other end products ?	10 Marks
<b>2022</b>	Environment	Pollution	Discuss in detail the photochemical smog emphasizing its formation, effects and mitigation. Explain the 1999 Gothenburg Protocol.	10 Marks
<b>2022</b>	Environment	Climate Change	Explain the mechanism and occurrence of cloudburst in the context of the Indian subcontinent. Discuss two recent examples.	10 Marks
<b>2022</b>	Security	Terrorism and Organized Crime	Discuss the types of organised crimes. Describe the linkages between terrorists and organised crime that exist at the national and transnational levels.	10 Marks

<b>2022</b>	Security	Security Forces and Agencies	What are the maritime security challenges in India ? Discuss the organisational, technical and procedural initiatives taken to improve the maritime security.	10 Marks
<b>2022</b>	Economics	Sustainable Development and Growth	Economic growth in the recent past has been led by increase in labour activity.” Explain this statement. Suggest the growth pattern that will lead to creation of more jobs without compromising labour productivity.	15 Marks
<b>2022</b>	Environment	Renewable and Energy Resources	Do you think India will meet 50 percent of its energy needs from renewable energy by 2030 ? Justify your answer. How will the shift of subsidies from fossil fuels to renewables help achieve the above objective ? Explain.	15 Marks
<b>2022</b>	Economics	Agriculture and Food Management	What are the main bottlenecks in upstream and downstream process of marketing of agricultural products in India ?	15 Marks
<b>2022</b>	Economics	Agriculture and Food Management	What is Integrated Farming System ? How is it helpful to small and marginal farmers in India ?	15 Marks
<b>2022</b>	Science & Technology	Space and Related Developments	Launched on 25th December, 2021, James Webb Space Telescope has been much in the news since then. What are its unique features which make it superior to its predecessor Space Telescopes ? What are the key goals of this mission ? What potential benefits does it hold for the human race?	15 Marks
<b>2022</b>	Science & Technology	Recent Developments	What is the basic principle behind vaccine development? How do vaccines work? What approaches were adopted by the Indian vaccine manufacturers to produce COVID-19 vaccines ?	15 Marks

<b>2022</b>	Environment	Climate Change	Discuss global warming and mention its effects on the global climate. Explain the control measures to bring down the level of greenhouse gases which cause global warming, in the light of the Kyoto Protocol, 1997.	15 Marks
<b>2022</b>	Environment	Disaster and Disaster Management	Explain the causes and effects of coastal erosion in India. What are the available coastal management techniques for combating the hazard ?	15 Marks
<b>2022</b>	Security	Communication Networks and Cyber Security	What are the different elements of cyber security ? Keeping in view the challenges in cyber security, examine the extent to which India has successfully developed a comprehensive National Cyber Security Strategy.	15 Marks
<b>2022</b>	Security	Spread of Extremism	Naxalism is a social, economic and developmental issue manifesting as a violent internal security threat. In this context, discuss the emerging issues and suggest a multilayered strategy to tackle the menace of Naxalism.	15 Marks
<b>2021</b>	Economics	National Income Accounting	Explain the difference between computing methodology of India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) before the year 2015 and after the year 2015.	10 Marks
<b>2021</b>	Economics	Financial Sectors and Capital Market	Distinguish between Capital Budget and Revenue Budget. Explain the components of both these Budgets.	10 Marks
<b>2021</b>	Economics	Land Reforms	How did land reforms in some parts of the country help to improve the socio-economic conditions of marginal and small farmers ?	10 Marks
<b>2021</b>	Economics	Agriculture and Food Management	How and to what extent would micro-irrigation help in solving India's water crisis ?	10 Marks

2021	Science & Technology	Defence and Related Developments	How is S-400 air defence system technically superior to any other system presently available in the world?	10 Marks
2021	Environment	Environmental Organisations and Conventions	Explain the purpose of the Green Grid Initiative launched at World Leaders Summit of the COP26 UN Climate Change Conference in Glasgow in November, 2021. When was this idea first floated in the International Solar Alliance (ISA) ?	10 Marks
2021	Environment	Environmental Organisations and Conventions	Describe the key points of the revised Global Air Quality Guidelines (AQGs) recently released by the World Health Organisation (WHO). How are these different from its last update in 2005? What changes in India's National Clean Air Programme are required to achieve these revised standards ?	10 Marks
2021	Environment	Disaster and Disaster Management	Discuss about the vulnerability of India to earthquake related hazards. Give examples including the salient features of major disasters caused by earthquakes in different parts of India during the last three decades.	10 Marks
2021	Security	Money-Laundering and other Financial Crimes	Discuss how emerging technologies and globalisation contribute to money laundering. Elaborate measures to tackle the problem of money laundering both at national and international levels.	10 Marks
2021	Security	Communication Networks and Cyber Security	Keeping in view India's internal security, analyse the impact of cross-border cyber attacks. Also discuss defensive measures against these sophisticated attacks.	10 Marks
2021	Economics	Basic Economic Concepts	Do you agree that the Indian economy has recently experienced V- shapes recovery? Give reasons in support of your answer.	15 Marks
2021	Economics	Infrastructure	"Investment in infrastructure is essential for more rapid and inclusive economic	15 Marks

			growth. "Discuss in the light of India's experience.	
<b>2021</b>	Economics	Economic Schemes and Policies	What are the salient features of the National Food Security Act, 2013 ? How has the Food Security Bill helped in eliminating hunger and malnutrition in India?	15 Marks
<b>2021</b>	Economics	Agriculture and Food Management	What are the present challenges before crop diversification? How do emerging technologies provide an opportunity for crop diversification?	15 Marks
<b>2021</b>	Science & Technology	Biotechnology	What are the research and developmental achievements in applied biotechnology/? How will these achievements help to uplift the poorer sections of the society?	15 Marks
<b>2021</b>	Science & Technology	Recent Developments	The Nobel Prize in Physics of 2014 was jointly awarded to Akasaki, Amano and Nakamura for the invention of Blue LEDs in 1990s. How has this invention impacted the everyday life of human beings ?	15 Marks
<b>2021</b>	Environment	Environmental Organisations and Conventions	Describe the major outcomes of the 26th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). What are the commitments made by India in this conference?	15 Marks
<b>2021</b>	Environment	Disaster and Disaster Management	Describe the various causes and the effects of landslides. Mention the important components of the National Landslide Risk Management Strategy.	15 Marks
<b>2021</b>	Security	Role of External State and Non-state Actors	Analyse the multidimensional challenges posed by external state and non-state actors, to the internal security of India. Also discuss measures required to be taken to combat these threats.	15 Marks
<b>2021</b>	Security	Terrorism and Organized Crime	Analyse the complexity and intensity of terrorism, its causes, linkages and	15 Marks

			obnoxious nexus. Also suggest measures required to be taken to eradicate the menace of terrorism.	
<b>2020</b>	Economics	Sustainable Development and Growth	Explain intra-generational and inter-generational issues of equity from the perspective of inclusive growth and sustainable development.	10 Marks
<b>2020</b>	Economics	National Income Accounting	Define potential GDP and explain its determinants. What are the factors that have been inhibiting India from realizing its potential GDP?	10 Marks
<b>2020</b>	Economics	Agriculture and Food Management	What are the main constraints in transport and marketing of agricultural produce in India?	10 Marks
<b>2020</b>	Economics	Agriculture and Food Management	What are the challenges and opportunities of food processing sector in the country? How can income of the farmers be substantially increased by encouraging food processing?	10 Marks
<b>2020</b>	Science & Technology	Nanotechnology	What do you understand by nanotechnology and how is it helping in health sector?	10 Marks
<b>2020</b>	Science & Technology	Recent Developments	How is science interwoven deeply with our lives? What are the striking changes in agriculture triggered off by the science-based technologies?	10 Marks
<b>2020</b>	Environment	Environmental Acts and Policies	How does the draft Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2020 differ from the existing EIA Notification, 2006?	10 Marks
<b>2020</b>	Environment	Environmental Acts and Policies	What are the salient features of the Jal Shakti Abhiyan launched by the Government of India for water conservation and water security?	10 Marks
<b>2020</b>	Security	Communication Networks and Cyber Security	Discuss different types of cybercrimes and measures required to be taken to fight the menace.	10 Marks

<b>2020</b>	Security	Security Forces and Agencies	For effective border area management, discuss the steps required to be taken to deny local support to militants and also suggest ways to manage favourable perception among locals.	10 Marks
<b>2020</b>	Economics	Public Finance	Explain the meaning of investment in an economy in terms of capital formation. Discuss the factors to be considered while designing a concession agreement between a public entity and a private entity.	15 Marks
<b>2020</b>	Economics	Taxation	Explain the rationale behind the Goods and Services Tax (Compensation to States) Act of 2017. How has COVID-19 impacted the GST compensation fund and created new federal tensions?	15 Marks
<b>2020</b>	Economics	Agriculture and Food Management	What are the major factors responsible for making rice-wheat system a success? In spite of this success how has this system become bane in India?	15 Marks
<b>2020</b>	Economics	Infrastructure	Suggest measures to improve water storage and irrigation system to make its judicious use under depleting scenario.	15 Marks
<b>2020</b>	Science & Technology	Health and Diseases	COVID-19 pandemic has caused unprecedented devastation worldwide. However, technological advancements are being availed readily to win over the crisis. Give an account of how technology was sought to aid management of the pandemic	15 Marks
<b>2020</b>	Environment	Renewable and Energy Resources	Describe the benefits of deriving electric energy from sunlight in contrast to the conventional energy generation. What are the initiatives offered by our Government for this purpose?	15 Marks
<b>2020</b>	Environment	Environmental Acts and Policies	What are the key features of the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) initiated by the Government of India?	15 Marks

<b>2020</b>	Environment	Disaster and Disaster Management	Discuss the recent measures initiated in disaster management by the Government of India departing from the earlier reactive approach.	15 Marks
<b>2020</b>	Security	Spread of Extremism	What are the determinants of left-wing extremism in Eastern part of India? What strategy should Government of India, civil administration and security forces adopt to counter the threat in the affected areas?	15 Marks
<b>2020</b>	Security	Security Forces and Agencies	Analyse internal security threats and transborder crimes along Myanmar, Bangladesh and Pakistan borders including Line of Control (LoC). Also discuss the role played by various security forces in this regard.	15 Marks
<b>2019</b>	Economics	Taxation	Enumerate the indirect taxes which have been subsumed in the goods and services tax (GST) in India. Also, comment on the revenue implications of the GST introduced in India since July 2017.	10 Marks
<b>2019</b>	Economics	Basic Economic Concepts	Do you agree with the view that steady GDP growth and low inflation have left the Indian economy in good shape? Give reasons in support of your arguments.	10 Marks
<b>2019</b>	Economics	Economic Schemes and Policies	How far is Integrated Farming System (IFS) helpful in sustaining agricultural production	10 Marks
<b>2019</b>	Economics	Economic Schemes and Policies	Elaborate the impact of National Watershed Project in increasing agricultural production from water-stressed areas.	10 Marks
<b>2019</b>	Economics	Economic Reforms	How was India benefitted from the contributions of Sir M. Visvesvaraya and Dr. M. S. Swaminathan in the fields of water engineering and agricultural science respectively?	10 Marks

<b>2019</b>	Science & Technology	Space and Related Developments	What is India's plan to have its own space station and how will it benefit our space programme?	10 Marks
<b>2019</b>	Environment	Pollution	Coastal sand mining, whether legal or illegal, poses one of the biggest threats to our environment. Analyze the impact of sand mining along the Indians coasts, citing specific examples.	10 Marks
<b>2019</b>	Environment	Disaster and Disaster Management	Vulnerability is an essential element for defining disaster impacts and its threat to people. How and in what ways can vulnerability to disasters be characterized? Discuss different types of vulnerability with reference to disasters.	10 Marks
<b>2019</b>	Security	Terrorism and Organized Crime	The banning of 'Jammata-e-Islami' in Jammu and Kashmir brought into focus the role of over-ground workers (OGWs) in assisting terrorist organizations. Examine the role played by OGWs in assisting terrorist organizations in insurgency affected areas. Discuss measures to neutralize influence of OGWs.	10 Marks
<b>2019</b>	Security	Communication Networks and Cyber Security	What is CyberDome Project? Explain how it can be useful in controlling internet crimes in India.	10 Marks
<b>2019</b>	Economics	Sustainable Development and Growth	It is argued that the strategy of inclusive growth is intended to meet the objectives of inclusiveness and sustainability together. Comment on this statement.	15 Marks
<b>2019</b>	Economics	Public Finance	The public expenditure management is a challenge to the Government of India in context of budget making during the post liberalization period. Clarify it.	15 Marks
<b>2019</b>	Economics	Agriculture and Food Management	What are the reformative steps taken by the Government to make food grain distribution system more effective?	15 Marks

<b>2019</b>	Economics	Agriculture and Food Management	Elaborate the policy taken by the Government of India to meet the challenges of the food processing sector.	15 Marks
<b>2019</b>	Science & Technology	Industry	How is the Government of India protecting traditional knowledge of medicine from patenting by pharmaceutical companies?	15 Marks
<b>2019</b>	Science & Technology	Biotechnology	How can biotechnology help to improve the living standards of farmers?	15 Marks
<b>2019</b>	Environment	Sustainable Development	Define the concept of carrying capacity of an ecosystem as relevant to an environment. Explain how understanding this concept is vital while planning for sustainable development of a region.	15 Marks
<b>2019</b>	Environment	Disaster and Disaster Management	Disaster preparedness is the first step in any disaster management process. Explain how hazard zonation mapping will help disaster mitigation in the case of landslides.	15 Marks
<b>2019</b>	Security	Terrorism and Organized Crime	Indian Government has recently strengthened the anti-terrorism laws by amending the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA), 1967 and the NIA act. Analyze the changes in the context of prevailing security environment while discussing the scope and reasons for opposing the UAPA by human rights organizations.	15 Marks
<b>2019</b>	Security	Role of External State and Non-state Actors	Cross-Border movement of insurgents is only one of the several security challenges facing the policing of the border in North-East India. Examine the various challenges currently emanating across the India-Myanmar border. Also, discuss the steps to counter the challenges.	15 Marks
<b>2018</b>	Economics	Sustainable Development and Growth	“Access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy is the sine qua non to achieve Sustainable Development Goals	10 Marks

			(SDGs)". Comment on the progress made in India in this regard.	
<b>2018</b>	Economics	Taxation	Comment on the important changes introduced in respect of the Long term Capital Gains Tax (LCGT) and Dividend Distribution Tax (DDT) in the Union Budget for 2018-2019.	10 Marks
<b>2018</b>	Economics	Agriculture and Food Management	What do you mean by Minimum Support Price (MSP)? How will MSP rescue the farmers from the low income trap?	10 Marks
<b>2018</b>	Economics	Agriculture and Food Management	Examine the role of supermarkets in supply chain management of fruits, vegetables and food items. How do they eliminate number of intermediaries?	10 Marks
<b>2018</b>	Science & Technology	Physics	Discuss the work of 'Bose-Einstein Statistics' done by Prof. Satyendra Nath Bose and show how it revolutionized the field of Physics.	10 Marks
<b>2018</b>	Science & Technology	Waste Management	What are the impediments in disposing the huge quantities of discarded solid wastes which are continuously being generated? How do we remove safely the toxic wastes that have been accumulating in our habitable environment?	10 Marks
<b>2018</b>	Environment	Ecology and Ecosystem	What is wetland? Explain the Ramsar concept of 'wise use' in the context of wetland conservation. Cite two examples of Ramsar sites from India.	10 Marks
<b>2018</b>	Environment	Agriculture and Food Management	Sikkim is the first 'Organic State' in India. What are the ecological and economical benefits of Organic State?	10 Marks
<b>2018</b>	Economics	Infrastructure	The China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is viewed as a cardinal subset of China's larger 'One Belt One Road' initiative. Give a brief description of CPEC and enumerate the reasons why India has distanced itself from the same.	10 Marks

2018	Security	Spread of Extremism	Left Wing Extremism (LWE) is showing a downward trend, but still affects many parts of the country. Briefly explain the Government of India's approach to counter the challenges posed by LWE.	10 Marks
2018	Economics	Planning and NITI Aayog	How are the principles followed by NITI Aayog different from those followed by the erstwhile planning commission in India?	15 Marks
2018	Economics	Balance of Payments and Foreign Reserves	How would the recent phenomena of protectionism and currency manipulations in world trade affect macroeconomic stability of India?	15 Marks
2018	Economics	Agriculture and Food Management	Assess the role of National Horticulture Mission (NHM) in boosting the production, productivity and income of horticulture farms. How far has it succeeded in increasing the income of farmers?	15 Marks
2018	Economics	Agriculture and Food Management	How has the emphasis on certain crops brought about changes in cropping patterns in recent past? Elaborate the emphasis on millets production and consumption.	15 Marks
2018	Science & Technology	Biotechnology	Why is there so much activity in the field of biotechnology in our country? How has this activity benefitted the field of biopharma?	15 Marks
2018	Science & Technology	Nuclear Technology	With growing energy needs should India keep on expanding its nuclear energy programme? Discuss the facts and fears associated with nuclear energy.	15 Marks
2018	Environment	Environmental Acts and Policies	How does biodiversity vary in India? How is the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 helpful in conservation of flora and fauna?	15 Marks
2018	Environment	Disaster and Disaster Management	Describe various measures taken in India for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) before and after signing 'Sendai Framework for DRR (2015-2030)'. How is this framework	15 Marks

			different from 'Hyogo Framework for Action, 2005'?	
<b>2018</b>	Security	Communication Networks and Cyber Security	Data security has assumed significant importance in the digitized world due to rising cyber-crimes. The Justice B. N. Srikrishna Committee Report addresses issues related to data security. What, in your view, are the strengths and weaknesses of the Report relating to protection of personal data in cyber space?	15 Marks
<b>2018</b>	Security	Money-Laundering and other Financial Crimes	India's proximity to two of the world's biggest illicit opium-growing states has enhanced her internal security concerns. Explain the linkages between drug trafficking and other illicit activities such as gunrunning, money laundering and human trafficking. What countermeasures should be taken to prevent the same?	15 Marks
<b>2017</b>	Economics	Money and Banking	Among several factors for India's potential growth, savings rate is the most effective one. Do you agree? What are the other factors available for growth potential?	10 Marks
<b>2017</b>	Economics	Indian Economy	Account for the failure of manufacturing sector in achieving the goal of labour-intensive exports rather than capital-intensive exports. Suggest measures for more labour-intensive rather than capital-intensive exports.	10 Marks
<b>2017</b>	Economics	Infrastructure	Examine the developments of Airports in India through Joint Ventures under Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model. What are the challenges faced by the authorities in this regard.	10 Marks
<b>2017</b>	Economics	Agriculture and Food Management	Explain various types of revolutions, took place in Agriculture after Independence in India. How these revolutions have helped	10 Marks

			in poverty alleviation and food security in India?	
<b>2017</b>	Economics	Agriculture and Food Management	What are the reasons for poor acceptance of cost effective small processing unit? How the food processing unit will be helpful to uplift the socio-economic status of poor farmers?	10 Marks
<b>2017</b>	Science & Technology	Biotechnology	Stem cell therapy is gaining popularity in India to treat a wide variety of medical conditions including leukaemia, Thalessemia, damaged sornea and several burns. Describe briefly what stem cell therapy is and what advantages it has over other treatments?	10 Marks
<b>2017</b>	Science & Technology	Space and Related Developments	India has achieved remarkable successes in unmanned space missions including the Chandrayaan and Mars Orbitter Mission, but has not ventured into manned space mission, both in terms of technology and logistics? Explain critically	10 Marks
<b>2017</b>	Environment	Sustainable Development	Not many years ago, river linking was a concept but it is becoming reality in the country. Discuss the advantages of river linking and its possible impact on the environment.	10 Marks
<b>2017</b>	Security	Communication Networks and Cyber Security	Discuss the potential threats of Cyber attack and the security framework to prevent it.	10 Marks
<b>2017</b>	Security	Spread of Extremism	The north-eastern region of India has been infested with insurgency for a very long time. Analyze the major reasons for the survival of armed insurgency in this region.	10 Marks
<b>2017</b>	Economics	Economic Schemes and Policies	One of the intended objectives of Union Budget 2017-18 is to 'transform, energize and clean India'. Analyse the measures proposed in the Budget 2017-18 to achieve the objective.	15 Marks

<b>2017</b>	Economics	National Income Accounting	“Industrial growth rate has lagged behind in the overall growth of Gross-Domestic-Product(GDP) in the post-reform period” Give reasons. How far the recent changes in Industrial Policy are capable of increasing the industrial growth rate?	15 Marks
<b>2017</b>	Economics	Basic Economic Concepts	What are the salient features of ‘inclusive growth’? Has India been experiencing such a growth process? Analyze and suggest measures for inclusive growth.	15 Marks
<b>2017</b>	Economics	Agriculture and Food Management	What are the major reasons for declining rice and wheat yield in the cropping system? How crop diversification is helpful to stabilize the yield of the crop in the system? (Answer in 250 words)	15 Marks
<b>2017</b>	Economics	Agriculture and Food Management	How do subsidies affect the cropping pattern, crop diversity and economy of farmers? What is the significance of crop insurance, minimum support price and food processing for small and marginal farmers?	15 Marks
<b>2017</b>	Science & Technology	Nuclear Technology	Give an account of the growth and development of nuclear science and technology in India. What is the advantage of fast breeder reactor programme in India?	15 Marks
<b>2017</b>	Environment	Climate Change	‘Climate Change’ is a global problem. How India will be affected by climate change? How Himalayan and coastal states of India will be affected by climate change?	15 Marks
<b>2017</b>	Environment	Disaster and Disaster Management	On December 2004, tsunami brought havoc on 14 countries including India. Discuss the factors responsible for occurrence of Tsunami and its effects on life and economy. In the light of guidelines of NDMA (2010) describe the mechanisms	15 Marks

			for preparedness to reduce the risk during such events.	
<b>2017</b>	Security	Spread of Extremism	Mob violence is emerging as a serious law and order problem in India. By giving suitable examples, analyze the causes and consequences of such violence.	15 Marks
<b>2017</b>	Security	Terrorism and Organized Crime	The scourge of terrorism is a grave challenge to national security. What solutions do you suggest to curb this growing menace? What are the major sources of terrorist funding?	15 Marks
<b>2016</b>	Economics	Poverty and Employment	How globalization has led to the reduction of employment in the formal sector of the Indian economy? Is increased informalization detrimental to the development of the country?	12.5 Marks
<b>2016</b>	Economics	Population and Demography	Women empowerment in India needs gender budgeting. What are the requirements and status of gender budgeting in the Indian context?	12.5 Marks
<b>2016</b>	Economics	Economic Schemes and Policies	Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) is necessary for bringing unbanked to the institutional finance fold. Do you agree with this for financial inclusion of the poorer section of the Indian society? Give arguments to justify your opinion.	12.5 Marks
<b>2016</b>	Economics	Economic Schemes and Policies	What are 'Smart Cities'? Examine their relevance for urban development in India. Will it increase rural-urban differences? Give arguments for 'Smart Villages' in the light of PURA and RURBAN Mission.	12.5 Marks
<b>2016</b>	Economics	Foreign Trade and Investment	Justify the need for FDI for the development of the Indian economy. Why there is gap between MOUs signed and actual FDI? Suggest remedial steps to be taken for increasing actual FDIs in India.	12.5 Marks

<b>2016</b>	Economics	Sustainable Development and Growth	Comment on the challenges for inclusive growth which include careless and useless manpower in the Indian context. Suggest measures to be taken for facing these challenges.	12.5 Marks
<b>2016</b>	Economics	Agriculture and Food Management	What is water-use efficiency? Describe the role of micro-irrigation in increasing the water-use efficiency.	12.5 Marks
<b>2016</b>	Economics	Agriculture and Food Management	What is allcroptily? Discuss its role in major cropping systems of irrigated agriculture.	12.5 Marks
<b>2016</b>	Economics	Land Reforms	Discuss the role of land reforms in agricultural development. Identify the factors that were responsible for the success of land reforms in India.	12.5 Marks
<b>2016</b>	Economics	Economic Schemes and Policies	Given the vulnerability of Indian agriculture to vagaries of nature, discuss the need for crop insurance and bring out the salient features of the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY).	12.5 Marks
<b>2016</b>	Science and Technology	Recent Developments	Give an account of the current status and the targets to be achieved pertaining to renewable energy sources in the country. Discuss in brief the importance of National Programme on Light Emitting Diodes (LEDs).	12.5 Marks
<b>2016</b>	Science and Technology	Space and Related Developments	Discuss India's achievements in the field of Space Science and Technology. How the application of this technology has helped India in its socio-economic development?	12.5 Marks
<b>2016</b>	Science and Technology	Nanotechnology	Why is nanotechnology one of the key technologies of the 21st century? Describe the salient features of Indian Government's Mission on Nanoscience and Technology and the scope of its application in the development process of the country.	12.5 Marks

<b>2016</b>	Environment	Biodiversity and Conservation	Rehabilitation of human settlements is one of the important environmental impacts which always attracts controversy while planning major projects. Discuss the measures suggested for mitigation of this impact while proposing major developmental projects.	12.5 Marks
<b>2016</b>	Disaster and Disaster Management	Disaster and Disaster Management	The frequency of urban floods due to high intensity rainfall is increasing over the years. Discussing the reasons for urban floods, highlight the mechanisms for preparedness to reduce the risk during such events.	12.5 Marks
<b>2016</b>	Disaster and Disaster Management	Disaster and Disaster Management	With reference to National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) guidelines, discuss the measures to be adopted to mitigate the impact of the recent incidents of cloudbursts in many places of Uttarakhand.	12.5 Marks
<b>2016</b>	Security	Security Forces and Agencies	The terms 'Hot Pursuit' and 'Surgical Strikes' are often used in connection with armed action against terrorist attacks. Discuss the strategic impact of such actions.	12.5 Marks
<b>2016</b>	Security	Terrorism and Organized Crime	"Terrorism is emerging as a competitive industry over the last few decades." Analyze the above statement.	12.5 Marks
<b>2016</b>	Security	Terrorism and Organized Crime	Border management is a complex task due to difficult terrain and hostile relations with some countries. Elucidate the challenges and strategies for effective border management.	12.5 Marks
<b>2016</b>	Science and Technology	Communication Networks and Cyber Security	Use of Internet and social media by non-state actors for subversive activities is a major security concern. How have these been misused in the recent past? Suggest effective guidelines to curb the above threat.	12.5 Marks

2015	Economics	Poverty and Employment	The nature of economic growth in India in recent times is often described as a jobless growth. Do you agree with this view? Give arguments in favour of your answer.	12.5 Marks
2015	Economics	Economics of Animal rearing	Livestock rearing has a big potential for providing non- farm employment and income in rural areas. Discuss suggesting suitable measures to promote this sector in India.	12.5 Marks
2015	Economics	Land reforms in India	In the view of the declining average size of land holdings in India which has made agriculture non – viable for a majority of farmers should contract farming and land leasing be promoted in agriculture? critically evaluate the pros and cons.	12.5 Marks
2015	Economics	E- technology in the aid of farmers	How can the Digital India program help farmers to improve farm productivity and income? What step has the government taken in this regard?	12.5 Marks
2015	Economics	Issues related to direct and indirect farm subsidies	In what way could replacement of price subsidy with direct benefit Transfer (DBT) change the scenario of subsidies in India? Discuss.	12.5 Marks
2015	Economics	Issues related to transport and marketing of agricultural produce	What are the impediments in marketing and supply chain management in developing the food processing industry in India? Can e-commerce help in overcoming this bottleneck?	12.5 Marks
2015	Economics	Balance of Payments and Foreign Reserves	Craze for gold in Indian has led to surge in import of gold in recent years and put pressure on balance of payments and external value of rupee. In view of this, examine the merits of Gold Monetization scheme.	12.5 Marks
2015	Economics	Economic Schemes and Policies	“Success of make in India program depends on the success of Skill India	12.5 Marks

			programme and radical labour reforms.” Discuss with logical arguments.	
2015	Environment	Renewable and Energy Resources	To what factors can be the recent dramatic fall in equipment cost and tariff of solar energy be attributed? What implications does the trend have for thermal power producers and related industry?	12.5 Marks
2015	Economics	Industry	There is a clear acknowledgement that Special Economic Zones (SEZs) are a tool of industrial development, manufacturing and exports. Recognising this potential, the whole instrumentality of SEZs require augmentation. Discuss the issue plaguing the success of SEZs with respect to taxation, governing laws and administration.	12.5 Marks
2015	Science and Technology	Space and Related Developments	What do you understand by “Standard Positioning System” and “Precision positioning system” in the GPS era? Discuss the advantage India perceives from its ambitious IRNSS programme employing just seven satellites.	12.5 Marks
2015	Science and Technology	Robotics	What are the areas of prohibitive labour that can be sustainably managed by robots? Discuss the initiatives that can propel the research in premier research institutes for substantive and gainful innovation.	12.5 Marks
2015	Security	Communication Networks and Cyber Security	Discuss the advantage and security implication of cloud hosting of servers vis-a-vis in house machine based hosting for government business.	12.5 Marks
2015	Security	Communication Networks and Cyber Security	India’s Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) which has a database containing formatted information on more than 2 million medicinal formulations is proving a powerful weapon in country’s fight against erroneous patents. Discuss	12.5 Marks

			the pro and cons of making the database available publicly available under open source licensing.	
<b>2015</b>	Environment	Environmental Acts and Policies	Discuss the Namami Gange and National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) programmes and causes of mixed results from the previous schemes. What quantum leaps can help preserve the river Ganga better than incremental inputs?	12.5 Marks
<b>2015</b>	Disaster and Disaster Management	Disaster and Disaster Management	The frequency of earthquakes appears to have increased in the Indian subcontinent. However, India's preparedness for mitigating their impact has significant gaps. Discuss various aspects.	12.5 Marks
<b>2015</b>	Security	Security Forces and Agencies	Human right activists constantly highlight the fact that the Armed forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 (AFSPA) is a draconian act leading to cases of human right abuses by security forces. What sections of AFSPA are opposed by the activists. Critically evaluate the requirement with reference to the view held by Apex Court.	12.5 Marks
<b>2015</b>	Security	Role of External State and Non-state Actors	Religious indoctrination via social media has resulted in Indian youth joining the ISIS. What is ISIS and its mission? How can ISIS be dangerous to the internal security of our country.	12.5 Marks
<b>2015</b>	Security	Spread of Extremism	The persisting drives of the government for development of large industries in backward areas have resulted in isolating the tribal population and the farmers who face multiple displacements. With Malkangiri and Naxalbari foci, discuss the corrective strategies needed to win the Left Wing Extremism (LWE) doctrine affected citizens back into mainstream of social and economic growth.	12.5 Marks

<b>2015</b>	Science and Technology	Communication Networks and Cyber Security	Considering the threats cyberspace poses for the country, India needs a “Digital Armed Forces” to prevent crimes. Critically evaluate the National Cyber Security Policy, 2013 outlining the challenges perceived in its effective implementation.	12.5 Marks
<b>2014</b>	Economics	Services Sector	Normally countries shift from agriculture to industry and then later to services, but India shifted directly from agriculture to services. What are the reasons for the huge growth-services vis-a-vis industry in the country? Can India become a developed country without a strong industrial base?	12.5 Marks
<b>2014</b>	Economics	Population and Demography	“While we flaunt India’s demographic dividend, we ignore the dropping rates of employability.” What are we missing while doing so? Where will the jobs that India desperately needs come from? Explain.	12.5 Marks
<b>2014</b>	Economics	Agriculture and Food Management	There is also a point of view that Agricultural Produce Market Committees [APMCs) set up under the State Acts have not only impeded the development of agriculture but also have been the cause of food inflation in India. Critically examine.	12.5 Marks
<b>2014</b>	Economics	Agriculture and Food Management	“In the villages itself no form of credit organization will be suitable except the cooperative society.” – All India Rural Credit Survey. Discuss this statement in the background of agricultural finance in India. What constraints and challenges do financial institutions supplying agricultural finance face? How can technology be used to better reach and serve rural clients?	12.5 Marks

2014	Economics	Agriculture and Food Management	The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 has come into effect from 1st January, 2014. What are the key issues which would get addressed with the Act in place? What implications would it have on industrialization and agriculture in India?	12.5 Marks
2014	Economics	Inclusive Growth	Capitalism has guided the world economy to unprecedented prosperity. However, it often encourages short-sightedness and contributes to wide disparities between the rich and the poor. In this light, would it be correct to believe and adopt capitalism for bringing inclusive growth in India? Discuss.	12.5 Marks
2014	Economics	Sustainable Development and Growth	Explain how Private Public Partnership arrangements, in long gestation infrastructure projects, can transfer unsustainable liabilities to the future. What arrangements need to be put in place to ensure that successive generations' capacities are not compromised?	12.5 Marks
2014	Economics	Infrastructure	National Urban Transport Policy emphasises on 'moving people' instead of 'moving vehicles'. Discuss critically the success of the various strategies of the Government in this regard.	12.5 Marks
2014	Economics	Foreign Trade and Investment	Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the defence sector is now set to be liberalized: What influence this is expected to have on Indian defence and economy in the short and long run?	12.5 Marks
2014	Economics	Services Sector	Scientific research in Indian universities is declining, because a career in science is not as attractive as are business professions, engineering or administration,	12.5 Marks

			and the universities are becoming consumer-oriented. Critically comment.	
<b>2014</b>	Science and Technology	Health and Diseases	Can overuse and free availability of antibiotics without Doctor's prescription, be contributors to the emergence of drug-resistant diseases in India? What are the available mechanisms for monitoring and control? Critically discuss the various issues involved.	12.5 Marks
<b>2014</b>	Science and Technology	Issues related to Intellectual Property	In a globalized world, Intellectual Property Rights assume significance and are a source of litigation. Broadly distinguish between the terms—Copyrights, Patents and Trade Secrets.	12.5 Marks
<b>2014</b>	Environment	Environmental Organisations and Conventions	Should the pursuit of carbon credits and clean development mechanisms set up under UNFCCC be maintained even though there has been a massive slide in the value of a carbon credit? Discuss with respect to India's energy needs for economic growth.	12.5 Marks
<b>2014</b>	Disaster and Disaster Management	Disaster and Disaster Management	Drought has been recognized as a disaster in view of its spatial expanse, temporal duration, slow onset and lasting effects on vulnerable sections. With a focus on the September 2010 guidelines from the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), discuss the mechanisms for preparedness to deal with likely El Nino and La Nina fallouts in India.	12.5 Marks
<b>2014</b>	Environment	Biodiversity and Conservation	Environmental Impact Assessment studies are increasingly undertaken before a project is cleared by the Government. Discuss the environmental impacts of coal-fired thermal plants located at coal pitheads.	12.5 Marks

<b>2014</b>	Security	Role of External State and Non-state Actors	“The diverse nature of India as a multi-religious and multi-ethnic society is not immune to the impact of radicalism which is seen in her neighbourhood? Discuss along with strategies to be adopted to counter this environment.	12.5 Marks
<b>2014</b>	Economics	Infrastructure	International civil aviation laws provide all countries complete and exclusive sovereignty over the airspace above their territory. What do you understand by ‘airspace’ What are the implications of these laws on the space above this airspace? Discuss the challenges which this poses and suggest ways to contain the threat.	12.5 Marks
<b>2014</b>	Security	Role of External State and Non-state Actors	How does illegal trans-border migration pose a threat to India’s security? Discuss the strategies to curb this, bringing out the factors which give impetus to such migration.	12.5 Marks
<b>2014</b>	Security	Terrorism and Organized Crime	In 2012, the longitudinal marking for high-risk areas for piracy was moved from 65 degrees east to 78 degrees east in the Arabian Sea by the International Maritime Organisation. What impact does this have on India’s maritime security concerns?	12.5 Marks
<b>2014</b>	Security	Security challenges and their management in border areas	China and Pakistan have entered into an agreement for development of an economic corridor. What threat does this pose for India’s security? Critically examine.	12.5 Marks
<b>2013</b>	Economics	Economic Schemes and Policies	With a consideration towards the strategy of inclusive growth, the new Companies Bill ,2013 has indirectly made CSR a mandatory obligation. Discuss the challenges expected in its implementation in right earnest. Also discuss other	10 Marks

			provisions in the Bill and their implications. (200 words)	
2013	Economics	Economic Schemes and Policies	What were the reasons for the introduction of Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act, 2013? Discuss critically its salient features and their effectiveness.	10 Marks
2013	Economics	Taxation	What is the meaning of the term 'tax expenditure'? Taking housing sector as an example, discuss how it influences the budgetary policies of the government.	10 Marks
2013	Economics	Indian Economy	Food Security Bill is expected to eliminate hunger and malnutrition in India. Critically discuss various apprehensions in its effective implementation along with the concerns it has generated in WTO.	10 Marks
2013	Economics	Agriculture and Food Management	What are the different types of agriculture subsidies given to farmers at the national and at state levels? Critically analyse the agricultural subsidy regime with reference to the distortions created by it.	10 Marks
2013	Economics	Agriculture and Food Management	India needs to strengthen measures to promote the pink revolution in food industry for ensuring better nutrition and health. Critically elucidate the statement.	10 Marks
2013	Economics	Industry	Examine the impact of liberalization on companies owned by Indians. Are they competing with the MNCs satisfactorily? Discuss.	10 Marks
2013	Economics	Agriculture and Food Management	Establish relationship between land reforms, agricultural productivity and elimination of poverty in the Indian economy. Discuss the difficulties in designing and implementation of agriculture – friendly land reforms in India.	10 Marks
2013	Economics	Foreign Trade and Investment	Discuss the impact of FDI entry into Multi-trade retail sector on supply chain	5 Marks

			management in commodity trade pattern of the economy.	
<b>2013</b>	Economics	Foreign Trade and Investment	Though India allowed Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in what is called multi-brand retail through the joint venture route in September 2012, the FDI, even after a year, has not picked up. Discuss the reasons.	5 Marks
<b>2013</b>	Economics	Taxation	Discuss the rationale for introducing the Goods and Services Tax (GST) in India. Bring out critically the reasons for the delay in roll out for its regime.	10 Marks
<b>2013</b>	Economics	Renewable and Energy Resources	Write a note on India's green energy corridor to alleviate the problem of conventional energy.	10 Marks
<b>2013</b>	Economics	Infrastructure	Adoption of PPP model for infrastructure development of the country has not been free of criticism. Critically discuss the pros and cons of the model.	10 Marks
<b>2013</b>	Economics	Economic Reforms	Bringing out the circumstances in 2005 which forced amendment to the section 3(d) in Indian Patent Law, 1970, discuss how it has been utilized by the Supreme Court in its judgement in rejecting Novartis' patent application for 'Glivec'. Discuss briefly the pros and cons of the decision.	10 Marks
<b>2013</b>	Science and Technology	Health and Diseases	What do you understand by Fixed Dose drug Combinations (FDCs)? Discuss their merits and demerits.	10 Marks
<b>2013</b>	Science and Technology	Chemistry	What do you understand by Umpire Decision Review System in cricket? Discuss its various components. Explain how silicone tape on the edge of a bat may fool the system?	10 Marks

2013	Security	Communication Networks and Cyber Security	What is a digital signature? What does its authentication mean? Give various salient built-in features of a digital signature.	5 Marks
2013	Science and Technology	Recent Developments	How does the 3D printing technology work? List out the advantages and disadvantages of the technology.	5 Marks
2013	Economics	Infrastructure	What is an FRP composite material? How are they manufactured? Discuss their application in aviation and automobile industries.	5 Marks
2013	Environment	Renewable and Energy Resources	What do you understand by Run-of-river hydroelectricity project? How is it different from any other hydroelectricity project?	5 Marks
2013	Disaster and Disaster Management	Disaster and Disaster Management	How important are vulnerability and risk assessment for pre-disaster management? As an administrator, what are key areas that you would focus on in a Disaster Management System?	10 Marks
2013	Environment	Pollution	What are the consequences of Illegal mining? Discuss the Ministry of Environment and Forest's concept of GO AND NO GO zones for coal mining sector.	10 Marks
2013	Environment	Pollution	Enumerate the National Water Policy of India. Taking river Ganges as an example, discuss the strategies which may be adopted for river water pollution control and management. What are the legal provisions of management and handling of hazardous wastes in India?	10 Marks
2013	Security	Money-Laundering and other Financial Crimes	Money laundering poses a serious security threat to a country's economic sovereignty. What is its significance for India and what steps are required to be taken to control this menace?	10 Marks
2013	Security	Communication Networks and Cyber Security	What are social networking sites and what security implications do these sites present?	10 Marks

<b>2013</b>	Security	Communication Networks and Cyber Security	Cyber warfare is considered by some defense analysts to be a larger threat than even Al Qaeda or terrorism. What do you understand by Cyber warfare? Outline the cyber threats which India is vulnerable to and bring out the state of the country's preparedness to deal with the same.	10 Marks
<b>2013</b>	Security	Role of External State and Non-state Actors	Article 244 of the Indian Constitution relates to administration of scheduled area and tribal areas. Analyse the impact of non-implementation of the provisions of the Fifth schedule on the growth of Left Wing extremism.	10 Marks
<b>2013</b>	Security	Internal Security Challenges in India	How far are India's internal security challenges linked with border management particularly in view of the long porous borders with most countries of South Asia and Myanmar?	10 Marks
<b>2012</b>	Economics	Economic Schemes and Policies	What do you understand by the term "Innovation"? Discuss the need for launching a national innovation in India?	25 Marks
<b>2012</b>	Economics	Economic Schemes and Policies	Keeping in view the informal sector's share in the total workforce in the country, critically examine the relevant inclusive measures initiated by the Government of India and their effectiveness.	25 Marks
<b>2012</b>	Environment	Biodiversity and Conservation	In the context of the growing demands for the ban of Endosulfan in the country, critically examine the issues involved. What, in your view, should be done in the matter?	25 Marks
<b>2012</b>	Economics	Services Sector	'The issues of tourism in core areas of tiger reserve forests in the country is a subject matter of debate. Critically examine various aspects of this issue, keeping in view relevant recent judicial pronouncements.	25 Marks

<b>2012</b>	Economics	Sustainable Development and Growth	“Domestic resource mobilization, though central to the process of Indian economic growth, is characterized by several constraints.” Explain.	25 Marks
<b>2012</b>	Science and Technology	Health and Diseases	What do you understand by the term “Multi-Drug Resistant Tuberculosis” (MDR-TB)? What measures would you advocate for its containment and what are the implications of its spread in the community?	15 Marks
<b>2012</b>	Science and Technology	Health and Diseases	Many food items contain ‘trans fats’. What do you understand by this term? Which Indian food items contain Trans fats? What are the implications of trans fats on human health?	15 Marks
<b>2012</b>	Science and Technology	Space and Related Developments	Significance of the SPOT-6 rocket launch for ISRO	2 Marks
<b>2012</b>	Environment	Environmental Organisations and Conventions	Analyse critically the interlinkages between the Convention on Biological Diversity and FAO Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.	15 Marks
<b>2012</b>	Economics	Sustainable Development and Growth	Critically review the international concern in achieving the target set for the Minimum Development Goals.	15 Marks
<b>2012</b>	Economics	Economic Schemes and Policies	Discuss the likely negative impact of the protectionist measure proposed by the US on India’s software industry.	15 Marks
<b>2012</b>	Science and Technology	Health and Diseases	Despite strict prohibitory regulations, “doping” has become increasingly common amongst athletes. Name five commonly used performanceenhancing drugs. What are the risks associated with their use?	10 Marks
<b>2012</b>	Science and Technology	Space and Related Developments	The safe landing of the “Curiosity” Rover under NASA’s space programme has sparked many possibilities. What are	10 Marks

			these and how could humankind benefit from them?	
<b>2012</b>	Economics	Agriculture and Food Management	What is Perm culture? Give at least three common examples where permaculture concepts are being put to use.	10 Marks
<b>2012</b>	Security	Information and Communication Technology	The Sequoias supercomputer was launched this year. What are its specific features and what its purpose?	5 Marks
<b>2012</b>	Science and Technology	Health and Diseases	The Human Papilloma Virus vaccine has been making the headlines in the recent months. Who make the ideal candidates for receiving this vaccine and what are its benefits?	5 Marks
<b>2012</b>	Environment	Biodiversity and Conservation	Explain the concepts "Environmental Sustainability" and "Sustainable Development of People"?	5 Marks
<b>2012</b>	Environment	Environmental Organisations and Conventions	Explain briefly the "Clean Development Mechanism" as provided under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).	5 Marks
<b>2011</b>	Science and Technology	Health and Diseases	Bring out the salient features of the PCPNDT Act, 1994, and the implications of its amendment in 2003.	20 Marks
<b>2011</b>	Economics	Money and Banking	Salient recommendations of the RBI-appointed Damodaran committee on customer service in Banks.	12 Marks
<b>2011</b>	Economics	Poverty and Employment	Benefits and potential drawbacks of 'cash-transfers' to 'Below Poverty Line' (BPL) households.	12 Marks
<b>2011</b>	Economics	Planning and NITI Aayog	New initiatives during the 11th Five Year Plan in the National Programme for Control of Blindness (NPCB).	12 Marks
<b>2011</b>	Environment	Climate Change	The impact of climate change on water resources in India.	12 Marks
<b>2011</b>	Security	Terrorism and Organized Crime	Measures taken by the Indian government to combat piracy in the Indian Ocean.	12 Marks

<b>2011</b>	Environment	Biodiversity and Conservation	Comment on the following in not more than 50 words each: Phase-IV of the tiger monitoring programme in India.	5 Marks
<b>2011</b>	Economics	Inflation	Comment on the following in not more than 50 words each: Why the Central Statistics Office has notified a new series of Consumer Price Index from this year ?	5 Marks
<b>2011</b>	Disaster and Disaster Management	Disaster and Disaster Management	Comment on the following in not more than 50 words each: Composition and functions of the National Executive Committee of the National Disaster Management Authority.	5 Marks
<b>2011</b>	Science and Technology	Information and Communication Technology	Comment on the following in not more than 50 words each: The Telecommunications Ministry's proposed Spectrum Management Commission.	5 Marks
<b>2011</b>	Science and Technology	Recent Developments	Comment on following in not more than 50 words each: Nisarga-Runa technology of BARC.	5 Marks
<b>2011</b>	Science and Technology	Health and Diseases	Comment on the following in not more than 50 words each: The first-aid that you can safely administer to a person standing next to you at the bus-stop who suddenly faints.	5 Marks
<b>2011</b>	Security	Defence Technology	Comment on the following in not more than 50 words each: The Kaveri K-10 aero-engine.	5 Marks
<b>2011</b>	Science and Technology	Recent Developments	Comment on the following in not more than 50 words each: Molecular Breast Imaging (MBI) technology.	5 Marks
<b>2011</b>	Security	Terrorism	Trace the progress of India's efforts for a joint. counter-terrorism strategy with China. What are the likely implications of the recent Xinjiang violence on these efforts?	12 Marks

<b>2011</b>	Economics	Economic Schemes and Policies	Bring out the importance of the 'Small and Medium Enterprises Expo and Conference' held in Dubai last year for Indian business.	12 Marks
<b>2011</b>	Economics	Economic Schemes and Policies	In the context of the Euro-zone' debt crisis, examine the proposed 'six-pack' solution. Do you think that this has a better chance of success than the earlier Stability and Growth Pact?	20 Marks
<b>2011</b>	Science and Technology	Chemistry	Comment on any thirteen of the following in about 50 words each: International Year of Chemistry	5 Marks
<b>2011</b>	Environment	Waste Management	Comment on any thirteen of the following in about 50 words each: The scourge of e-waste	5 Marks
<b>2011</b>	Science and Technology	Recent Developments	Comment on any thirteen of the following in about 50 words each: 'Designer' poultry eggs	5 Marks
<b>2011</b>	Science and Technology	Recent Developments	Comment on any thirteen of the following in about 50 words each: INSPIRE programme of the Department of Science and Technology	5 Marks
<b>2011</b>	Science and Technology	Space and Related Developments	Comment on any thirteen of the following in about 50 words each: The 'Kessler syndrome' with reference to space debris	5 Marks
<b>2011</b>	Science and Technology	Health and Diseases	Comment on any thirteen of the following in about 50 words each: Omega-3 fatty acids in our food	5 Marks
<b>2011</b>	Science and Technology	Recent Developments	Comment on any thirteen of the following in about 50 words each: Difference between 'spin-drying' and 'tumble-drying' technology with reference to drying of washed clothes	5 Marks
<b>2011</b>	Environment	Biodiversity and Conservation	Comment on any thirteen of the following in about 50 words each: The diminishing population of vultures	5 Marks

<b>2011</b>	Security	Defence Technology	Comment on any thirteen of the following in about 50 words each: 'Arsenic-bug' and the significance of its discovery F-22 Raptor aircraft	5 Marks
<b>2011</b>	Environment	Renewable and Energy Resources	Comment on any thirteen of the following in about 50 words each: 'Concentrated' solar energy and 'photovoltaic' solar energy	5 Marks
<b>2011</b>	Science and Technology	Recent Developments	Comment on any thirteen of the following in about 50 words each: Analog, hybrid and IP systems in CCTV technology	5 Marks
<b>2011</b>	Science and Technology	Chemistry	Comment on any thirteen of the following in about 50 words each: Various applications of Kevlar	5 Marks
<b>2011</b>	Science and Technology	Information and Communication Technology	Comment on any thirteen of the following in about 50 words each: Differences between Compact Disc (CD), Digital Versatile Disc (DVD) and Blu-ray Disc	5 Marks
<b>2011</b>	Economics	Economic Organisations and Conventions	Comment on the following in about 50 words each: Functions of the World Customs Organisation (WCO)	5 Marks
<b>2011</b>	Economics	Sustainable Development and Growth	Comment on the following in about 50 words each: World Food Programme (WFP) of the United Nations (UN)	5 Marks
<b>2011</b>	Science and Technology	Space and Related Developments	Why have each of the following been in the news recently? Tiangong-1	2 Marks
<b>2011</b>	Science and Technology	Information and Communication Technology	Why have each of the following been in the news recently? K-computer	2 Marks
<b>2011</b>	Science and Technology	Space and Related Developments	Why have each of the following been in the news recently? Gliese 581 g	2 Marks
<b>2011</b>	Science and Technology	Robotics	Why have each of the following been in the news recently? MABEL robot	2 Marks
<b>2011</b>	Security	Communication Networks and Cyber Security	Why have each of the following been in the news recently? 'Operation Shady Rat'	2 Marks

<b>2011</b>	Science and Technology	Information and Communication Technology	Why have each of the following been in the news recently? 'SAGA-220'	2 Marks
<b>2011</b>	Economics	Sustainable Development and Growth	Why have each of the following been in the news recently? 'Billion Acts of Green'	2 Marks
<b>2011</b>	Science and Technology	Recent Developments	Why have each of the following been in the news recently? OPERA detector at Gran Sasso	2 Marks
<b>2011</b>	Science and Technology	Space and Related Developments	Why have each of the following been in the news recently? Saturn's Titan	2 Marks
<b>2010</b>	Environment	Waste Management	Comment on the spatial components in urban solid waste management in the country.	12 Marks
<b>2010</b>	Environment	Pollution	Bring out the salient features of the evolution and the current status of the 'Bharat Stage' vehicle emission norms in the country.	12 Marks
<b>2010</b>	Economics	Financial Sectors and Capital Market	After the September 1st changes, do you think that Unit Linked Insurance Plans (ULIPs) and Mutual Funds (MFs) are on a level playing field? Substantiate your answer from the perspective of an ordinary investor.	12 Marks
<b>2010</b>	Economics	Money and Banking	What do you understand by 'repo rate' and 'reverse repo rate'? What are the implications in raising these rates?	12 Marks
<b>2010</b>	Environment	Environmental Organisations and Conventions	List any eight 'Ramsar' wetland sites located in India. What is the 'Montreux Record' and what Indian sites are included in this Record?	12 Marks
<b>2010</b>	Economics	Infrastructure	Are the 'Dedicated Freight Corridor' railway project and the 'Golden Quadrilateral' road project mutually complementary or competitive? Assess.	12 Marks
<b>2010</b>	Economics	Infrastructure	Comment on the salient features of the recent (-aft Model Real Estate (Regulation	12 Marks

			of Development) Ac of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation of the Central Government.	
<b>2010</b>	Environment	Pollution	Comment on the recent HFC-23 emissions controversy that includes in its ambit some Indian companies.	5 Marks
<b>2010</b>	Economics	Economic Schemes and Policies	Comment on the recommendations of the Wadhwa Commission on the Public Distribution System.	5 Marks
<b>2010</b>	Economics	Foreign Trade and Investment	Bring out the sectoral and state-wise distribution patterns of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows into the country.	5 Marks
<b>2010</b>	Disaster and Disaster Management	Disaster and Disaster Management	What are the salient features of The National Oil Soil Disaster Contingency Plan?	5 Marks
<b>2010</b>	Economics	Public Finance	National Investment Fund	2 Marks
<b>2010</b>	Economics	Sustainable Development and Growth	Evaluate India's approach towards meeting the country's growing energy demands. Compare the success of this approach with that of another Asian giant which has perhaps the fastest growing energy demands.	20 Marks
<b>2010</b>	Economics	Foreign Trade and Investment	Bring out the FDI and employment implications of China being a manufacturing hub and India a services hub?	12 Marks
<b>2010</b>	Economics	Economic Organisations and Conventions	Have the Uruguay Round negotiations and the resultant Trade Related Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) agreement helped in resolving trade conflicts arising out of variations in different nations' IPR regimes? Also list the steps taken by India to conform to TRIPS.	12 Marks
<b>2010</b>	Economics	Economic Organisations and Conventions	Compare and contrast the role of the IMF with that of the World Bank.	5 Marks

<b>2010</b>	Economics	Population and Demography	Bring out the significance of GDI and GEM as components of the UN's Human Development Report (HDR). Comment on India's relative rankings with regard to HDI and GDI.	5 Marks
<b>2010</b>	Economics	Foreign Trade and Investment	What is 'Round Tripping' in the context of FDI inflow, and why has it been in the news recently in the case of India?	5 Marks
<b>2010</b>	Economics	Environmental Organisations and Conventions	In the context of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), distinguish between 'Annex I' and 'Annex II' countries.	5 Marks
<b>2010</b>	Economics	Economic Organisations and Conventions	Comment on the reasons for the recent economic crisis in the so-called 'PIGS' countries of Europe.	5 Marks
<b>2010</b>	Environment	Environmental Organisations and Conventions	Comment on the present status of the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC). What important issues, do you think, need to be taken up at the seventh review conference of the BWC scheduled for 2011?	12 Marks
<b>2010</b>	Science and Technology	Recent Developments	Bring out the applications of computer models in studying climate changes, with special reference to the Community Earth System Model (CESM)	12 Marks
<b>2010</b>	Environment	Biodiversity and Conservation	What is phytoremediation ? Discuss its applications.	12 Marks
<b>2010</b>	Science and Technology	Recent Developments	Explain and differentiate among 'Plasma', 'LCD' and 'LED' television technologies.	12 Marks
<b>2010</b>	Science and Technology	Information and Communication Technology	What is 'cloud computing'? Bring out its essential features and list its advantages and limitations.	12 Marks
<b>2010</b>	Science and Technology	Nanotechnology	Discuss the applications of nanotechnology in the health care sector.	12 Marks
<b>2010</b>	Environment	Environmental Organisations and Conventions	Comment on the following in not more than 50 words each: Rotterdam Convention	5 Marks

<b>2010</b>	Science and Technology	Health and Diseases	Comment on the following in not more than 50 words each: MRSA infection	5 Marks
<b>2010</b>	Science and Technology	Robotics	Comment on the following in not more than 50 words each: HRP-2M Choromet	5 Marks
<b>2010</b>	Science and Technology	Recent Developments	Comment on the following in not more than 50 words each: Maglev vehicles	5 Marks
<b>2010</b>	Science and Technology	Recent Developments	Comment on the following in not more than 50 words each: Super absorbent polymers (SAP)	5 Marks
<b>2010</b>	Science and Technology	Space and Related Developments	Comment on the following in not more than 50 words each: CARTOSAT-2B	5 Marks
<b>2010</b>	Science and Technology	Information and Communication Technology	Comment on the following in not more than 50 words each: Various generations of mobile phone technology	5 Marks
<b>2010</b>	Science and Technology	Information and Communication Technology	Who/What are the following and why have they been in the news recently? (Your answers should be in a sentence or two only): Wolfram Alpha	5 Marks
<b>2010</b>	Economics	Infrastructure	Who/What are the following and why have they been in the news recently? (Your answers should be in a sentence or two only): 'Dreamliner' aircraft	5 Marks
<b>2010</b>	Science and Technology	Recent Developments	Who/What are the following and why have they been in the news recently? (Your answers should be in a sentence or two only): Blue gene project	5 Marks
<b>2010</b>	Security	Defence Technology	Who/What are the following and why have they been in the news recently? (Your answers should be in a sentence or two only): 'Predator' drones	5 Marks
<b>2010</b>	Disaster and Disaster Management	Disaster and Disaster Management	Who/What are the following and why have they been in the news recently? (Your answers should be in a sentence or two only): 'Deepwater Horizon' incident	5 Marks
<b>2010</b>	Science and Technology	Health and Diseases	Who/What are the following and why have they been in the news recently? (Your	5 Marks

			answers should be in a sentence or two only): ACTN 3 gene	
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