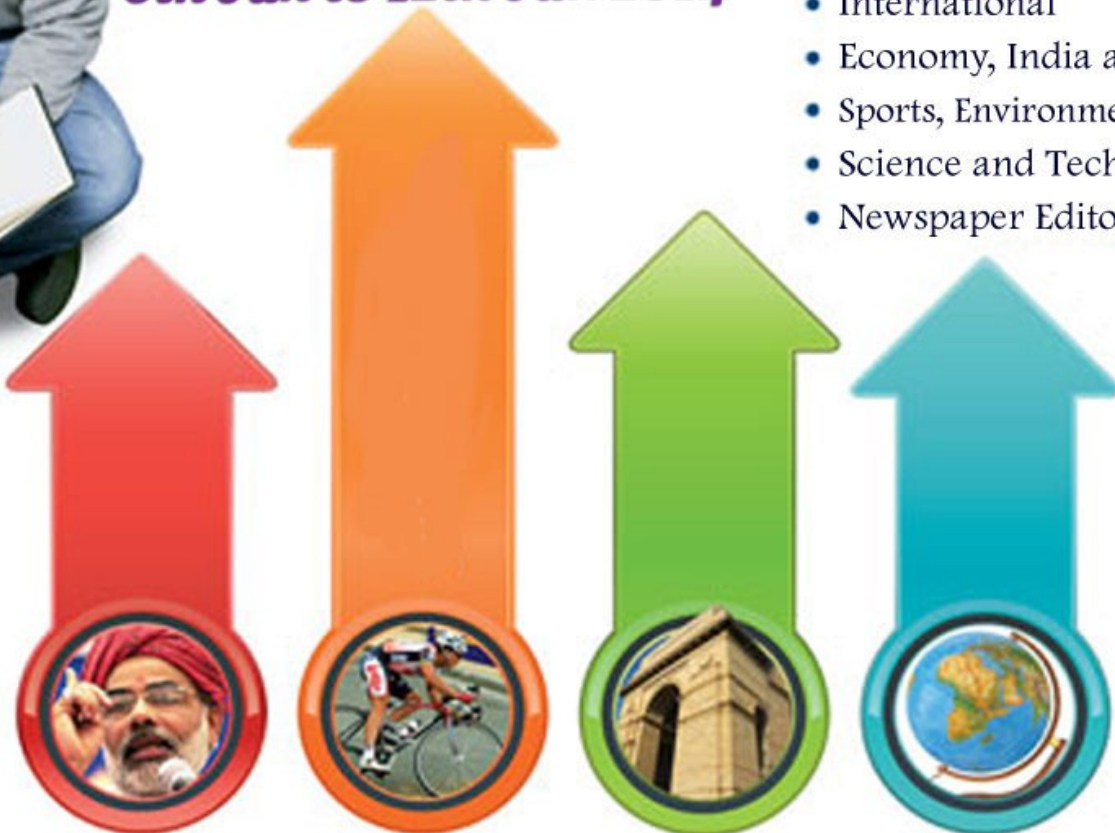


Weekly Current Affairs



News From:
6th Jan to 12th Jan 2014

- National
- International
- Economy, India and The World
- Sports, Environment, In The News
- Science and Technology
- Newspaper Editorials





Weekly Current Affairs Update For IAS Exam

6th January 2014 TO 12th January 2014

**For Any Query Call our Moderator at:
011 – 45151781**



What made
Gandhi
Gandhi.

SOUL

UPSC PORTAL
www.upscportal.com

NATIONAL PORTAL OF INDIA

A GLINT OF INDIA

(Courtesy: NATIONAL PORTAL OF INDIA)

THE LIST OF PRESIDENTS AND VICE-PRESIDENTS OF INDIA SINCE 1947 TILL DATE

Presidents of India	
Name	Tenure
Dr Rajendra Prasad (1884-1963)	26 January 1950-13 May 1962
Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan (1888-1975)	13 May 1962-13 May 1967
Dr Zakir Hussain (1897-1969)	13 May 1967-3 May 1969
Varahagiri Venkatagiri (1884-1980) (Acting)	3 May 1969-20 July 1969
Justice Mohammad Hidayatullah (1905-1992) (Acting)	20 July 1969-24 August 1969
Varahagiri Venkatagiri (1884-1980)	24 August 1969-24 August 1974
Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed (1905-1977)	24 August 1974-11 February 1977
B.D. Jatti (1913-2002) (Acting)	11 February 1977-25 July 1977
Neelam Sanjiva Reddy (1913-1996)	25 July 1977-25 July 1982
Giani Zail Singh (1916-1994)	25 July 1982-25 July 1987
R. Venkataraman (1910-2009)	25 July 1987-25 July 1992
Dr Shankar Dayal Sharma (1918-1999)	25 July 1992-25 July 1997
K.R. Narayanan (1920-2005)	25 July 1997-25 July 2002
Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam (Birth-1931)	25 July 2002-25 July 2007
Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil (Birth-1934)	25 July 2007 - 25 July 2012
Shri Pranab Mukherjee (Birth-1935)	25 July 2012 - Incumbent

Vice-Presidents of India	
Name	Tenure
Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan (1888-1975)	1952-1962
Dr Zakir Hussain (1897-1969)	1962-1967
Varahagiri Venkatagiri (1884-1980)	1967-1969
Gopal Swarup Pathak (1896-1982)	1969-1974
B.D. Jatti (1913-2002)	1974-1979
Justice Mohammad Hidayatullah (1905-1992)	1979-1984
R. Venkataraman (B-1910)	1984-1987
Dr Shankar Dayal Sharma (1918-1999)	1987-1992
K.R. Narayanan (1920-1925)	1992-1997
Krishan Kant (1927-2002)	1997-2002
Bhairon Singh Shekhawat (B-1923)	2002-2007
Mohammad Hamid Ansari (B-1937)	11 August 2007 - Incumbent

UPSC PORTAL
www.upscportal.com

Online Test Series For



IAS

PRE GENERAL STUDIES



100% IAS Exam Syllabus Covered

at just ₹100 per Test

All India Ranking immediately after the test

Detailed Explanation after the Test

Take Test any Time any Day

Register Now

**For any query Call
011-45151781, 011-65023618**

www.upscportal.com/test-series

Click Here for Full Information:

<http://upscportal.com/civilservices/test-series/online-ias-pre>

Ministry of External affairs

President Park Gyun-hye's forthcoming State Visit to India

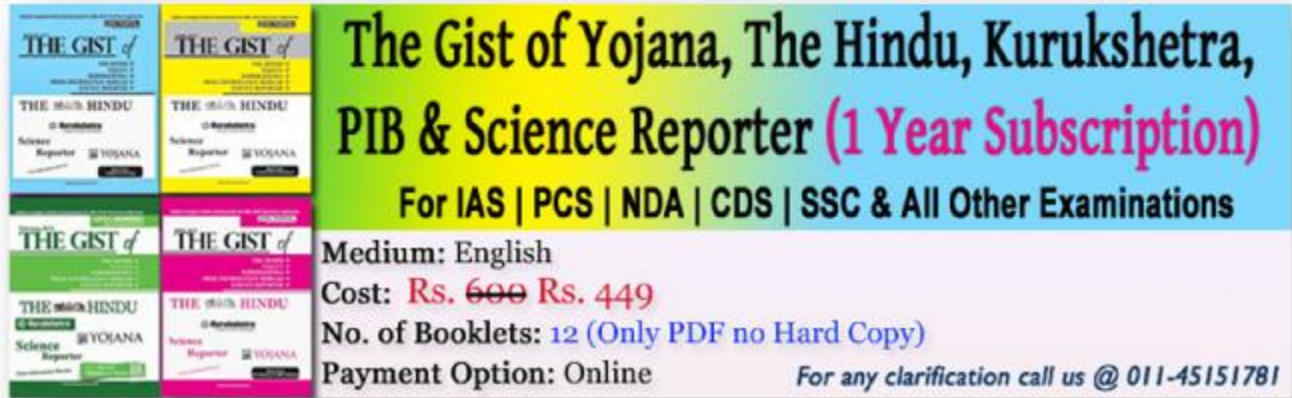
(Courtesy: Ministry of External affairs)

- The first lady President of the Republic of Korea, HE Park Gyun-hye is visiting India on 15 – 18 January 2013 at the invitation of President Pranab Mukherjee. The visit would be a major landmark in the rapidly deepening bilateral relationship between the 3rd and 4th largest economies of Asia. The visit of President Park in the very first year of her 5 year term is a forceful iteration of her administration's commitment to the strong ties forged with India by her predecessor President Lee Myung – bak.
- India had acknowledged the importance of India – ROK relations by inviting former President Lee Myung – bak as the Chief Guest at the 61st Republic Day celebrations in January 2010. During the visit the bilateral relationship was raised to the level of "Strategic Partnership" from the "Long Term Cooperative Partnership for Peace and Prosperity" declared at the time of President Rho Mou-hyun's state visit to India in 2004. President Rho was from the liberal side and Presidents Lee and Park are from the conservative party. It is reassuring to note that in both the countries there is complete bipartisan support to a strong friendship between India and ROK. President Lee Myung inspecting the Guard of Honour at Rashtrapati Bhawan in New Delhi in January, 2010.
- Over the years, India and ROK relations have passed through several distinct phases. The 1950s were a period of estrangement between democratic India and authoritarian South Korea. 1960s and 70s also witnessed only a limited engagement as ROK continued to be authoritarian. In the 1980s, ROK's remarkable economic progress caught the attention of Indian leadership. Once ROK embraced real democracy in the late 1980s the bilateral relations grew rapidly.
- The visit of Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao to ROK in 1993 paved the way for the entry of Korean Chaebols into India. Over time Korean companies like Samsung, LG and Hyundai Motors have become household names in India. Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao visited Republic of Korea in 1993.
- The economic exchanges have grown rapidly between the two market economies. India – ROK trade crossed \$20 billion in the year 2011. In fact, India – ROK trade is more than India – Japan trade. The two countries declared their intention to fashion a close economic engagement by forging a Comprehensive Economic Partnership in 2010.
- In our times, people to people relations are a critical element of any bilateral partnership. In recent years both the countries have opened cultural centers in each other's capital. Hindi is taught in two Universities in Seoul and Pusan. India has flourishing departments of Korean Studies in Delhi University and Jawaharlal Nehru University.

Online Coaching for IAS Exam (at just 100 Rs./month)

<http://upscportal.com/civilservices/courses>

- There is strong will on both sides to deepen the existing strategic as well as economic partnership and the forthcoming Presidential visit would be an opportunity to chart a clear road map for the coming years.
- The bilateral trade has shown a slight decline recently. This is a cause for worry. President Park is likely to take up the long – delayed POSCO project for early approvals. This proposed \$12 billion investment for a 12 million tonne steel plant in Odisha has been mired in environmental and land acquisition issues.
- The widening trade gap between India and ROK is a cause of worry for India. It needs to be impressed upon the visiting dignitary that ROK must be as open to products and services from India, as India has been to Korean white goods, automobiles and equipment.
- Korea also needs to enter India's burgeoning infrastructure sector as an investor. Korean companies like DOOSAN in power, Hyundai Rotem in urban transport and Samsung C&E for construction are already active in the Indian market. They need to upgrade their relationship with India from a seller – buyer relationship to a long term investor. Korean investment in India's infrastructure sector needs to be pushed and encouraged.
- Happily, there are no significant bilateral issues between India and ROK. Both the countries are vibrant democracies with open economies. They share a worldview to ensure peace and tranquility in East Asia. Both the countries are working together to foster a peaceful international environment conducive to economic growth. The forthcoming visit of the new ROK President would be an opportunity for her to appreciate India's immense economic and strategic potential. President Park's discussions with the Indian leadership would be an occasion to reaffirm the commitment of the two countries to continually deepen this close friendship.



**The Gist of Yojana, The Hindu, Kurukshetra,
PIB & Science Reporter (1 Year Subscription)**
For IAS | PCS | NDA | CDS | SSC & All Other Examinations

Medium: English
Cost: ~~Rs. 600~~ Rs. 449
No. of Booklets: 12 (Only PDF no Hard Copy)
Payment Option: Online

For any clarification call us @ 011-45151781

THE GIST DETAILS:

- Ø Medium: English
- Ø Price: Rs. ~~600~~ Rs. 449
- Ø No. of Booklets: 12 (1 Year)
- Ø Publisher: UPSCPORTAL.COM
- Ø File Type: PDF File Only (No Hard Copy)

TOPICS OF THE GIST

- Ø Gist of The Hindu
- Ø Gist of Yojana
- Ø Gist of Kurukshetra
- Ø Gist of Press Information Bureau
- Ø Gist of Science Reporter

For Full Information Click Here:

<http://upscportal.com/civilservices/order-form/the-gist-subscription>

Planning Commission of India

Education Division

(Courtesy: Planning Commission of India)

Through the various Five Year Plans, the scope of work of the Education Division covers the following:

- Different stages of education such as Pre-primary, formal and non-formal Education, Secondary, Senior Secondary, University and Technical Education;
- Special areas such as that of girls' education, Education for the children of scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and other backward classes;
- Adult Education and Education in the backward areas.
- The major Education programs relate to achieving the aim of Universalisation of Elementary Education through Sarva Siksha Abhiyan, Adult Education, Vocationalization of Education, Teacher Education, Science Education, Educational Planning, Administration and Supervision, Physical Education, Games and Sports, Scholarship, Language Development, Book Promotion, Libraries, Youth Service Schemes, Cultural Institutions and activities etc.
- The Education Division performs the following functions, within the areas of its concern:
- Formation of long-term, medium-term and annual plans for the Central and the State/Union Territories levels, defining the phases in which they should be implemented, assigning their inter-se priorities and resource allocation;
- Coordination of the education plans of the States/Union Territories and the central agencies including the University Grants Commission and the National Council of Education Research & Training as well as of the national-educational plan with the development plans in other sectors, assessing and indicating adjustments needed in the plan policies, programs and priorities so as to achieve national goals and objectives;
- In support of the above functions, maintain educational statistics and undertake/promote/support research studies and surveys covering –
 - (a) Generation, collection, compilation and analysis of data and relevant information
 - (b) Program evaluation and prognosis and
 - (c) Alternative and/or supplementary measures and new policy initiatives in the field of education;
- Collaborate with and/or advise/assist the concerned Government Departments, international organizations and other agencies like NUEPA, NCERT, UGC in matters such as;
 - (a) Foreign technical assistance for education development;
 - (b) Training of educational planning functionaries;
 - (c) Administrative reforms, innovations and experiments bearing upon economy efficiency and effectiveness of educational services; and

Online Coaching for IAS Exam (at just 100 Rs./month)

<http://upscportal.com/civilservices/courses>

- Examine resource mobilization and low cost strategies/alternatives and make recommendations in this regard;
- Review of Committees and Commissions, Central Advisory Boards and Annual/Five Year Plan;
- The technical staff of the Division is also working on the Educational Statistics received from the MHRD, and the Department of Statistics and other agencies.

Art & Culture

The functions of Education Division are primarily to provide over-all policy and guidance in formulation of plans and programs for preserving and promoting the rich cultural heritage of the country. These are plans/programs of the Ministry of Culture, whose main activities are of archaeological excavations, promotion of visual & literary arts, preservation of the material and non-material heritage, developing of museums, libraries and institutions. A number of institutions have been actively associated with the promotion, preservation and dissemination of rich cultural heritage of India.

Youth Affairs & Sports:

The Education Division also looks after the over-all planning and policies of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports take steps to channelize the energy of the youth into constructive work and to inculcate in them noble and patriotic values. These programs stress promotion & up-gradation of necessary life skills amongst the youth through vocational training besides creating employment opportunities for them. Efforts are made to involve youth in national building activities. The Division also addresses issues relating to promotion of sports, sports talents and sports infrastructure in States/UTs.

UPSC PORTAL
45+ Final Selections!!
UPSC PORTAL'S TOPPERS
2012-13

Next Year it could be Yours??

JOIN NOW >>

The advertisement features a grid of 45+ top scorers, each with a photo, name, and rank. The names and ranks are as follows:

RAGHUVENDRA SINGH 12 th	TANU PRIYA 18 th	KARESH KALRA 76 th	V KALCHOURI 139 th	ABHILASH S 402 th	VINEET KUMAR 517 th	RAJEEV BALLEA 536 th	ASHUTOSH MOHLA 560 th	ADARSH GUPTA 601 th	ATABEZIAN V P 602 th	ALISH SINGH 660 th	
FRANK NOBLE A 157 th	ANURAG ARYA 164 th	GAURAV GROVER 198 th	SHRUTI SINGH 216 th	NIKRAM NAIR 674 th	RAJESH KUMAR 492 th	AGNYA GOHAI 719 th	BALAJI SINGH 726 th	VINEET KUMAR 742 th	SURE KANT 749 th	AKHIL TIRANI 750 th	SHANU 775 th
SHANU 775 th	SHANU 775 th	SHANU 775 th	SHANU 775 th	SHANU 775 th	SHANU 775 th	SHANU 775 th	SHANU 775 th	SHANU 775 th	SHANU 775 th	SHANU 775 th	SHANU 775 th

Click Here to Buy 1 Year Subscription - "Only PDF"

<http://upscportal.com/civilservices/current-affairs/weekly-update>

NATIONAL EVENTS

Pre-marital sex immoral

- Pre-marital sex is “immoral” and against the “tenets of every religion”, a court of Delhi said while holding that every act of sexual intercourse between two adults on the promise of marriage does not become rape.
- Additional Sessions Judge Virender Bhat also held that a woman, especially grown up, educated and office-going, who has sexual intercourse on the assurance of marriage does so “at her own peril”.
- According to the court, “When a grown up woman subjects herself to sexual intercourse with a friend or colleague on the latter’s promise that he would marry her, she does so at her own peril. She must be taken to understand the consequences of her act and must know that there is no guarantee that the boy would fulfill his promise. He may or may not do so. She must understand that she is engaging in an act which not only is immoral but also against the tenets of every religion. No religion in the world allows pre-marital sex.”

Panel on sexual harassment

- The Aam Aadmi Party has announced the setting up of an internal committee on sexual harassment as per the Vishaka guidelines of the Supreme Court.
- The panel will comprise Atishi Marlena, Preeti Sharma Menon and Leela Ramdass.
- Giving the information Dilip Pandey, a member of the Political Affairs Committee said while Ms. Marlena and Ms. Menon are members of the party, Ms. Ramdass is a social activist.
- The AAP, claimed Mr. Pandey, is the first party to set up such a committee.
- The Vishaka judgment by the Supreme Court laid down the guidelines for employers for dealing with complaints of sexual harassment/assault at the workplace, and stipulated the formation of committees to dispose of complaints from victims.

Two time zones will create chaos

- A dual time zone in India, which will be set in place if Assam turns its clock forward by an hour, will not only create “unimaginable chaos” in a country of India’s demographic size, but also barely meet its intended goal of saving energy, say authors of a new research paper that examines the merits of resetting the Indian Standard Time (IST).
- Assam Chief Minister Tarun Gogoi recently announced his decision to reset the clock in the State an hour ahead of IST to save energy and increase productivity.

Online Coaching for IAS Exam (at just 100 Rs./month)

<http://upscportal.com/civilservices/courses>

- India would save 2.7 billion units of electricity every year by shifting the IST meridian eastward (from 82.5E longitude in Uttar Pradesh to 90E near the Assam-Bengal border), calculate the authors.
- Prof. Sen Gupta stated that by setting two time zones or introducing “daylight saving” schedules, India stands to gain little, and could in fact suffer from negative energy saving. Prof. Sen Gupta and his colleagues calculated the energy saving potentials of several scenarios.
- The paper calculates the savings State-wise: 0.49 per cent of total energy consumption in Karnataka, 0.21 in Tamil Nadu, 0.28 in Andhra Pradesh, 0.64 in West Bengal and 0.68 in Madhya Pradesh.
- For the study, the authors analyzed thousands of daily power load curves that usually have two peaks — one in the morning and another in the evening.

Rural sanitation works included under MGNREGS

- India is the world's largest open air lavatory with over 620 million people practising open defecation in the country. Seeking to address this persisting problem, the UPA government has widened the scope of its flagship Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) to include works relating to rural sanitation in collaboration with the Nirmal Bharat Abhiyaan (NBA) Scheme.
- This interlinking is aimed at strengthening the base of rural livelihood and creates durable assets in rural areas and infrastructure at a village level. More specifically, it shall accelerate sanitation coverage in rural areas to provide privacy and dignity particularly to women.
- “As per the Para 4 (1) IV (i) of the Schedule- I of the MGNREG Act..., taking up rural sanitation related works, such as, individual household latrines, school toilets, Anganwadi toilets can be taken up either independently or in convergence with schemes of other Government Departments to achieve “open defecation free status.”
- The amendment made to the existing guidelines incorporates various changes including Individual Household latrine (IHHL) works can be taken up either under NBA or independently under MGNREGS, as per the choice of the beneficiary.

New guidelines to support molestation victims

- The Department of Health Research (DHR) has drawn up guidelines on addressing psychological aspects of sexual violence. The new rules focus on bracing a victim of sexual assault for ‘secondary victimization’ resulting from inadequate support from family, friends, service providers, and the criminal justice system.
- According to the guidelines, a counselor must tell a victim what might happen in court and discuss methods by which they can handle the situation. Visualization techniques can be employed to help the victim recover from the trauma soon after being questioned; conversations with friends and family can be used to prevent the victim from thinking about the ordeal.

Online Coaching for IAS Exam (at just 100 Rs./month)

<http://upscportal.com/civilservices/courses>

- The guidelines suggest the survivor may feel a sense of injustice resulting from lack of information; perceived lack of interest by the police or courts, delay in the legal process; or loss of income or job resulting from the impact of the assault.
- She may have been treated disrespectfully by hospital or police personnel, or she may have lacked support from her friends and family.
- In India, where 'honor' is considered sacred, 'secondary victimization' by family and society is not uncommon. Such treatment may have a great negative impact on a woman's mental health and increase feelings of vulnerability. She may feel shunned by family, friends, or others who may blame her for the incident or fail to understand her mental state.

Google's proposal for voter registration tool

- The Election Commission recently turned down the proposal of the U.S. based internet search engine Google to have an "electoral look up services for citizens" even as BJP Rajya Sabha MP Tarun Vijay made a forceful plea before the Commission to abort any such proposal.
- Google made a presentation to the Commission for electoral look up services for citizens to help in its efforts for better electoral information services. However, after due consideration, the Commission has decided not to pursue the proposal any further.
- Mr. Vijay, who submitted a memorandum to Chief Election Commissioner V.S. Sampath and Election Commissioner H.S. Brahma, wanted them to reject the Google's proposal as it would be against the interests of the nation and its security.
- An FIR had been lodged with the approval of the Government of India by the Surveyor-General of India in Delhi against the security violations by Google India private limited relating to national map restriction policy, he alleged.

AIR to launch 'India 360'

- Bringing the world to radio listeners in a unique format, All India Radio (AIR) will launch 'India 360' initiative this Republic Day, highlighting India's bilateral ties with countries by presenting interesting facts and anecdotes.
- The programme will be of 8-10 minutes duration and will be broadcast in English once a week in coordination with the External Affairs Ministry's external publicity division.
- It will be aired on FM Gold..
- The aim is to highlight India's bilateral relations with the countries in an interesting radio format, bringing to the listeners the different aspects of a country after detailed research and airing the bytes of the Indian ambassador of each country, she said.
- The ambassador in each country would speak about important aspects of bilateral relations like trade ties, people-to-people contact, and the Indian diaspora.

Click Here to Buy 1 Year Subscription - "Only PDF"

<http://upscportal.com/civilservices/current-affairs/weekly-update>

- Japan will be the first country to be broadcast under this initiative coinciding with the visit of Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe as the chief guest of Republic Day function.

India polio-free for third straight year

- India has a reason to smile. It recently completes three years without reporting any case of polio.
- It is only the second time in the history that a disease is being eliminated in India through immunization after small pox in May 1980.
- However, officially the World Health Organization (WHO) will certify India as polio-free on February 11 after the last of random samples picked up would be tested.
- India's being declared polio-free is particularly important because it was the only country in the South East Asian region with polio cases.
- Once India is declared polio-free, the entire WHO region would also become polio free. The WHO on February 24, 2012 removed India from the list of countries with active endemic wild polio transmission.
- India carried a large burden of polio disease but has made impressive progress in the past 35 months.
- The number of polio cases came down from 741 in 2009 to 42 in 2010 and just one in 2011 – from West Bengal.
- No polio case has been reported in the country since then. India won the war against polio through intense Pulse Polio Immunization under the Global Polio Eradication Initiative in 1988 under which over 17 crore children were vaccinated in each round of vaccination with the help of 24 lakh vaccinators.

Trial of Prithvi-II

- India test-fired its indigenously developed Prithvi-II missile, which is capable of carrying 500 kg to 1,000 kg of warheads and has a strike range of 350 km, from a test range at Chandipur near Balasore.
- The test was carried out as part of a user trial by the Army. The surface-to-surface missile was test fired from a mobile launcher in salvo mode from launch complex-3 of the Integrated Test Range at 9.48 a.m.
- Inducted into India's SFC in 2003, Prithvi-II, the first missile to be developed by the DRDO under India's Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme is now a proven technology.
- Prithvi-II is capable of carrying 500 kg to 1,000 kg of warheads and is thrust by liquid propulsion twine engines. It uses advanced inertial guidance system with manoeuvring trajectory.

- The last user trial of Prithvi-II was successfully carried out from the same base on December 3, 2013.

Shah panel report

- Operations of top steel and mining companies, including Tata Steel, SAIL, Aditya Birla Group's Essel Mining, JSPL and Sarda Mines, are likely to get affected if a recommendation by the Justice M B Shah Commission to ban mining along the Baitarni river in Odisha is accepted.
- The high-powered panel, in its five-volume report on illegal mining in Odisha, has recommended revisiting the environment approvals granted to all 55 mines around the Baitarni river and its tributaries.
- About 40 firms and mining lease holders operate 55 mining leases that directly impact the Baitarni river.
- Tata Steel and the Rungta Mines Group, with five mines each, are located in the area and would be the worst hit if the Commission's recommendation is accepted by the Ministry of Environment and Forests.
- Tata Steel, which procures 80 per cent of its iron ore requirements from Odisha, has eight mines (including manganese ore) in the state. Of these, five mines – Khandhbandh, Joda East, Joda West, Manmora and Malda -- directly affect the Baitarni river.
- SAIL's Bolani iron ore mine, the Aditya Birla group's Jilling Longalota and Kasia iron ore mines, Jindal Steel & Power's Tantra Raikela Bandhal and Adhunik Metaliks' Kulum may also face closure.
- The Rungta Mines Group's mines -- Jajang, Kolmong, Oraghat, Katasai and Kalimati, Serajuddin & Co's Balda block, Sarada Mines' Thakurani-B block, R P Sao's Guali, Odisha government-owned PSU Odisha Mining Corporation's three mines and one each of BPMEL and OMDC are part of the list.

12th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas

- The 12th edition of the annual Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) will commence in Delhi this time. Held under the aegis of the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India, the event is aimed at engaging the Indian diaspora across the globe. The first day of the event will be dedicated to young overseas Indians. Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India is the partner Ministry for the three-day event this year.
- The plenary session of this year's PBD will be inaugurated by Dr Manmohan Singh, Prime Minister of India, in the presence of the Chief Guest, Datuk Seri G Palanivel, Federal Minister of Malaysia, on the second day of PBD.
- The theme of PBD this year is 'Engaging Diaspora: Connecting Across Generations'. There will be a special session of chief ministers of different states of India. The chief ministers of Haryana, Kerala, Gujarat, Meghalaya and Himachal Pradesh have already confirmed attendance in this year's PBD, he added.

Online Coaching for IAS Exam (at just 100 Rs./month)

<http://upscportal.com/civilservices/courses>

- The valedictory will be given by Pranab Kumar Mukherjee, President of India, on January 9, during which awards in 14 categories will be given away.

Anti-graft bills

- The government will push its six anti-graft framework bills during the short Parliament session in February fulfilling the agenda set by Rahul Gandhi.
- Addressing his monthly press conference in New Delhi , Union Home Minister Sushilkumar Shinde said the bills would be pushed when Parliament meets in February to pass vote on account.
- The bills likely to be pushed during the session are the Public Procurement Bill, the Prevention of Corruption Act (Amendment) Bill, the Prevention of Bribery of Foreign Public Officials and Officials of Public International Organisations Bill, Electronic Delivery of Services Bill, The Right of Citizens for Time-bound Delivery of Goods and Services and Redressal of their Grievances Bill and the Whistleblowers Protection Bill.
- To a question as to whom did Congress find as bigger challenge - Narendra Modi or Arvind Kejriwal, Mr. Shinde said “none” and elaborated further that Congress had weathered many storms during its 128-year-long history.

WWW.UPSCPORTEL.COM

Weekly Current Affairs Update for IAS Exam

- ❖ You will be provided current affairs on various important topics on a weekly basis
- ❖ Important national and international news from various sources at a single platform for your convenience
- ❖ Various Categories (National, International, Economy, etc..)

Inaugural Offer
₹ 1040 ₹ 299

For Any Query Call our Moderator at: 011 - 45151781

WHY IS IT A WIN-WIN SITUATION FOR THE STUDENTS?

- You will be provided current affairs on various important topics on a weekly basis.
- Important national and international news from various sources at a single platform for your convenience.
- Each and every topic will be given point wise , making it easier to grasp.
- Very handy when it comes to various competitive exams.....

VARIOUS CATEGORIES:

- **Planning Commission**
- **Ministry of External Affairs**
- **National Portal of India**
- **National**
- **International**
- **Economy**
- **India And The World**
- **Sports**
- **In The News**
- **Science and Technology**
- **Burning Issues (Editorials From Different Newspapers)**

WHAT YOU WILL GET:

- You will get (52 Issues) PDF Only no Hard Copy

For Full Information Click Here:

<http://upscportal.com/civilservices/current-affairs/weekly-update>

INTERNATIONAL

Confiscated ivory

- In an unprecedented move, China publicly destroyed 6.1 tonnes of confiscated ivory to shed its image as the world's biggest market for smuggled elephant tusks and discourage illegal trade and poaching.
- The public event was held in Dongguan city of the booming Guangdong Province in southern China, considered a key area where illegal trade of ivory is widely reported.
- The event, the first public ivory destruction in China, was the country's latest effort to discourage illegal ivory trade, protect wildlife and raise public awareness.
- China's move came two months after the United States destroyed its stockpile of ivory for the first time in 25 years of collecting items sold in the illegal ivory trade.
- Conservation groups have been saying that China, which has a vast middle class with growing spending power, is the world's biggest market for ivory.
- The international ivory trade was banned in 1989, but black markets still thrive in parts of the world, and poachers kill an estimated 96 elephants in Africa a day to obtain their tusks, according to the Wildlife Conservation Society.
- Increasing demand for ivory is fuelling a brutal slaughter of African elephants.

China-Japan feud

- Diplomats from China and Japan were invoking the evil Lord Voldemort from the bestselling "Harry Potter" series in their feud over the Yasukuni war shrine in Tokyo.
- China said the shrine, which Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe visited, glorifies Japan's militaristic past.
- Writing in The Telegraph last week, China's ambassador to the United Kingdom said- "If militarism is like the haunting Voldemort of Japan, the Yasukuni Shrine in Tokyo is a kind of horcrux, representing the darkest parts of that nation's soul."
- A horcrux contains part of Voldemort's soul, and all seven horcruxes must be destroyed to kill him.
- In response, the Japanese ambassador said China plays "the role of Voldemort in the region by letting loose the evil of an arms race and escalation of tensions."

“Polar vortex”

- An icy vortex of Arctic air pushed deadly wind chills and heavy snow into much of the Midwest, with meteorologists saying at least 32 states were in its path over the coming days as it moves south and east.
- Even the northern tier of winter-hardy states and cities such as Minnesota, Chicago and Milwaukee called off school as the country braced for wind chill temperatures down to minus 51 degrees Celsius and colder.
- In Green Bay, Wisconsin, tens of thousands of fans braved (-) 26° C wind chill temperatures to watch a key football playoff game between the Green Bay Packers and the San Francisco 49ers. Despite the Green Bay team having an apparent weather advantage, the 49ers won 23-20.
- Before the “polar vortex” — as it was being called by meteorologists — hit the east and south, and rain was expected to fall in those regions and be turned into thick ice when temperatures plunge into the (-)20°C range .
- The weather caused cancellation of 3,467 flights and delays in another 11,191, according to the flight tracker FlightAware.com.
- At New York’s Kennedy Airport, a Delta Airlines plane skidded off an icy runway and into the snow. There were no injuries, but the airport was closed for some hours, according to New York Daily Newspaper .
- Overall, around 149 million people — about half the US population — were expected to be in the grip of the Arctic chill .

Humanitarian crisis in South Sudan

- Protracted fighting in South Sudan could result in a humanitarian catastrophe, international agencies warned, as peace talks in the Ethiopian capital failed to quell internecine hostilities that have plunged the world’s youngest nation into crisis.
- Approximately two lakh people have been displaced thus far, a number that the U.N. warns could double to four lakh if the fighting continues. More than 1000 people have been killed since South Sudan President Salva Kiir accused his former deputy, Riek Machar of attempting to overthrow the government. Mr. Kiir’s government has since imprisoned 11 politicians including Mr. Machar, even as militias loyal to the opposing factions have clashed repeatedly.
- India has significant economic interests in Sudan and South Sudan. State-owned ONGC Videsh (OVL), a subsidiary of the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd, the China National Petroleum Corporation and Petronas, of Malaysia, are the primary players in South Sudan’s oil sector.
- OVL has also financed and constructed a 741 km pipeline from the Khartoum refinery in Sudan to Port Sudan on the Red Sea.

Woman fined for wearing veil in public

- A court in Versailles near Paris handed down a 150 Euro-fine and a month-long suspended prison sentence to a woman who had contravened the French law banning the wearing of a niqab or full-face veil in public.
- The court also threw out her demand that the law be declared unconstitutional on the grounds that it infringes freedom of dress. The law bans any covering that “hides the face in public”.
- Cassandra Belin, the woman whose identity check led to rioting in the Paris suburb of Trappes was not present during the hearing, which took place last month. She is a Frenchwoman who has converted to Islam. Her companion, Mickael Khiri, who has already been condemned to a three-month suspended prison sentence, was present in court to hear the verdict.
- The anti-niqab law was passed on grounds of security, with lawmakers carefully skirting the issue of religion. The woman’s lawyer Advocate Bataille attempted to argue that the law as voted by the French Parliament on 11 October 2010 was unconstitutional because it violated his client’s freedom to practice her religion. The law, he argued, singled out Muslims and stigmatized them because of their religion.
- Complaints have been lodged with the European Court of Human Rights and the court in Versailles threw out the request to review the law’s constitutionality because other legal avenues continue to remain open to the plaintiff.

N-safety index

- India has been ranked below its two nuclear-armed neighbors — Pakistan and China — in the list of countries with a weak nuclear material security in the world, according to a U.S.-based think-tank.
- In the 2014 Nuclear Threat Initiative’s Nuclear Materials Security Index released, India has been ranked 23rd out of 25 countries with weapons-usable nuclear materials.
- India received 41 out of 100 points, which is improvement by one point from the 2012 score.
- For comparison, China received 64 points and has been ranked at 20th spot, while Pakistan with 46 points stands at 22nd place.
- India and these countries are included in the list of 25 countries with one kilogram or more of these materials, which also includes all other nuclear-armed states.
- The low rank is due to a number of factors, including weak regulations that are written as guidance rather than as requirements; increasing quantities of weapons-usable nuclear materials for both civilian and military use and gaps in its regulatory structure such as a lack of an independent regulatory agency.
- External risk factors, such as high levels of corruption, which undermine confidence in implementation or enforcement of security measures and also increase the risk that officials may contribute (even unwittingly) to the theft of nuclear material are also among the factors, it added.

- Both India and China improved their scores since 2012 by one point by contributing to the IAEA Nuclear Security Fund, which supports the implementation of nuclear security activities, the report said.
- Pakistan improved its score by publishing new regulations for the physical protection of nuclear facilities.
- In comparing both countries, India scored higher than Pakistan on international legal commitments because India has adopted all of the relevant treaties whereas Pakistan has not.

UN child marriage resolution

- India stopped short of co-sponsoring a first-of-its-kind United Nations resolution on eliminating "early marriage" due to a lack of greater legal clarity, according to the External Affairs Ministry .
- The Resolution on 'Strengthening efforts to prevent and eliminate child, early and forced marriage: Challenges, achievements, best practices and implementation gaps', was adopted by consensus at the 24th Session of the Human Rights Council held between September 9-27, 2013, in Geneva, Switzerland.
- India supported the resolution, and even made a strong statement in its favour, but refused to join it as a co-sponsor.
- "The resolution calls for preventing and eliminating child and forced marriages since their existence goes against the principles of human rights. India has been completely supportive of this call. However, the resolution also calls for preventing and eliminating 'early marriage'.
- "The concept of 'early marriage' is nowhere defined and it is debatable whether early marriages can be 'eliminated' if such a marriage is above the legal age for marriage as per the law of the land, i.e. 18 years in the case of India.
- India co-sponsored three resolutions - on promoting human rights through sport and the Olympic ideal, local government and human rights, and equal political participation - at the September, 2013, meeting of the UN Human Rights Council.

ONLINE COACHING FOR IAS EXAMS

UPSC PORTAL
www.upscportal.com



- ✓ 24x7 E-learning Access
- ✓ 100% Syllabus Covered
- ✓ at just 100 Rs.per month
- ✓ Discussion Forum, Chat
- ✓ Telephonic Support



Register Now

FREE TRIAL 7 DAY

Online Course for Civil Services Preliminary Examination

- ✓ Online Coaching for CSAT Paper - 1 (GS) 2014
<http://upscportal.com/civilservices/courses/ias-pre/csat-paper-1>
- ✓ Online Coaching for CSAT Paper - 2 (CSAT) 2014
<http://www.upscportal.com/civilservices/courses/ias-pre/csat-paper-2>
- ✓ सामान्य अध्ययन प्रारंभिक परीक्षा के लिए ऑनलाइन कोचिंग (पेपर - 1)
<http://www.upscportal.com/civilservices/courses/ias-pre/csat-paper-1-hindi>
- ✓ सीसैट (CSAT) प्रारंभिक परीक्षा के लिए ऑनलाइन कोचिंग (पेपर - 2)
<http://www.upscportal.com/civilservices/courses/ias-pre/csat-paper-2-hindi>

Online Course for Civil Services Mains Examination

- ✓ General Studies Mains (NEW PATTERN - Paper 2,3,4,5)
<http://www.upscportal.com/civilservices/courses/ias-mains-gs>
- ✓ Public Administration for Mains
<http://www.upscportal.com/civilservices/courses/ias-mains-pub-ad>

Online Course for One Day Examination

- ✓ Online Coaching for SSC CGL (Tier-1) Exam
<http://sscportal.in/community/courses/ssc-cgl-tier-1>
- ✓ SSC हिंदी Online Coaching
<http://sscportal.in/community/courses/ssc-cgl-tier-1-hindi>

For Full Information about Online Coaching Click below Link:

<http://upscportal.com/civilservices/courses>

INDIA AND THE WORLD

India-Japan Defence Deal

- India and Japan resolved to continue their defence consultation and cooperation, including in maritime security, at a meeting of their Defence Ministers A.K. Antony and Itsunori Onodera.
- Mr. Onodera briefed the Indian delegation of Japan's National Security Strategy and National Defence Program Guidelines, which were adopted in December last.
- According to the reports from Japan, the two sides were "expected to regularise joint training exercises between the MSDF and the Indian Navy in the Indian Ocean so they can protect sea-lanes in the wake of the growing maritime assertiveness of China." India did not view the relations from the prism of threat because India, Japan and China together had been conducting anti-piracy exercises in the Gulf of Aden.
- An official statement said the Ministers appreciated the progress in the defence cooperation and exchanges in a variety of fields, including the holding of the third Defence Policy Dialogue, which was decided during the 2011 Defence Ministerial meeting; the second "2 plus 2" dialogue; and the second training between the MSDF and the Navy, which was held in December 2013.

UPSC PORTAL
45+ Final Selections!!
UPSCPORTAL'S TOPPERS
2012-13

RADHIVENDRA SINGH 12 th	TANU PRIYA 18 th	KANISH KANAN 76 th	Y. RAJESHWARI 139 th	SHREYA S. S. 492 th	VISHV KUMAR 517 th	RAJESH BANERJEE 536 th	ASHUTOSH MOHLE 560 th	ADARSH GUPTA 602 th	AKSHAY SINGH 660 th	
FRANK NOBLE A 157 th	ANURAG ARYA 164 th	GAURAV GROVER 198 th	NEELAM KUMAR 674 th	RAVISH KUMAR 492 th	SONIKA GOHIL 719 th	SH. JAGDIP 726 th	VINEET KUMAR 742 th	SURESH KUMAR 749 th	ANIL KUMAR 750 th	SHREYAS KUMAR 775 th
SH. JAGDIP 776 th	SHREYAS KUMAR 781 th	SHREYAS KUMAR 781 th	ADARSH KUMAR 970 th	MEERA KUMAR 674 th	SARATHI LAL 809 th	G. LATCHANA 846 th	SHREYAS KUMAR 866 th	SHREYAS KUMAR 900 th		

Next Year it could be Yours??

JOIN NOW >>

ECONOMY

Flow of credit to SHGs

- Disproportionate credit disbursement and weak bank credit linkages remain a persistent challenge for several States including Bihar, Jharkhand and Gujarat. Taking note of this, the Government has stepped in and is taking several steps to improve bank linkages of Self Help Groups (SHGs) across the country.
- This lopsided focus reportedly is mostly due to credit disbursement remaining confined to the 'usual gang of four States' - Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Kerala of this (SHG) credit.
- As per the figures presented in NABARD's report, "Status of Microfinance in India 2012-13", over 35 lakh SHGs were saving linked and 68 per cent were credit linked in the Southern States. The corresponding figures for Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Jharkhand, Maharashtra and Gujarat are over 20 lakh and 47 per cent respectively.
- More specifically, Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana has been restructured as the National Rural Livelihoods (NRLM). NRLM, through a dedicated implementation mechanism under the State Rural Livelihood Missions (SRLM) is focusing on improving the quality of SHGs.
- Under the Women Self Help Group (WSHG) scheme administered by NABARD, in 150 districts over 80,000 SHGs have been formed of which 20,000 have been credit linked.

Direct tax collection

- Gross direct taxes collected during April-December 2013 rose 12.33 per cent to Rs 4,81,914 crore. Out of this, gross corporate taxes collections were up 9.35 per cent to Rs 3,10,126 crore and the personal income tax mop-up increased by 18.53 per cent to Rs 1,67,589 crore, according to official data.
- Securities Transaction Tax (STT) collections stand at Rs. 3,427 crore, showing a growth of 4.04 per cent. Wealth Tax collections posted a growth of 11.92 per cent at Rs. 742 crore.
- The government had fixed the direct tax collection target in the Union Budget of over Rs 6.68 lakh crore for 2013-14, aiming for a growth of 19 per cent over the collections in 2012-13.
- The slower-than-target growth will make Finance Minister P. Chidambaram's task of keeping the fiscal deficit, or the excess of the government's spending over its revenues, within the target of 4.8 per cent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) tougher. Mr. Chidambaram has said that the government will not allow the fiscal deficit target to be breached.

CPI-linked bonds to be customer-friendly

- The idea behind the recently-launched inflation-proof bonds, with a complex nomenclature, Inflation-Indexed National Savings Securities-Cumulative (or IINSS-C for short) is laudable. It is meant to address a specific and pressing requirement of domestic savers.
- There is no doubt at all that the inflation bonds are complex. The instrument is designed to beat inflation will run for 10 years. To the reference CPI index, a minimum spread of 1.5 per cent will be added. Total returns will be compounded half-yearly and paid at the end of 10 years. Eligible investors can apply for between Rs.5,000 and Rs.5 lakh.
- For ordinary investors, the complexity of the instrument as well as the fact that returns can be had only after 10 years will be deterrents. Pre-payment is allowed but only after three years for ordinary investors and one year for senior citizens (defined for this scheme as those above 65 years). Pre-payment charges are huge: the investor is only paid 50 per cent of the previous year's interest.
- There are no special tax advantages. In this connection, earnings from other savings instruments such as the PPF are not taxed at all. The recent offers of tax-free bonds by certain public sector undertakings have been a big draw even though they offer interest only once a year. But the main disadvantage is the lack of provision for more frequent interest, at least half-yearly.
- The CPI-linked bonds need to be more customer-friendly. It is clearly not for all. A senior citizen will logically have very little use for an instrument that delivers returns after 10 years. For the well-heeled, the cap of Rs.5 lakh will be a deterrent. But it is true that many other categories will benefit from a bond which is shorn of its complexity, is marketed with more vigor, and has a greater orientation towards its investors.

FDI in e-commerce

- Expediting its efforts to further relax foreign direct investment (FDI) policy regime, the government has circulated discussion paper on FDI in e-commerce among stakeholders, aiming to usher in the reform before the Lok Sabha elections.
- While debating as to whether FDI in e-commerce should be allowed at all, the discussion paper has sought views on the FDI cap in the sector and listed out the merits and demerits of the move.
- Presenting both 51 per cent or 100 per cent cap scenario on the FDI in the sector, the paper has raised sticky questions including whether the "existing retail stores get displaced due to e-commerce".
- At present, 100 per cent FDI is allowed in business-to-business e-commerce, while business-to-consumer is prohibited.
- The government allowed 51 per cent FDI in the multi-brand retail trading (MBRT) in September 2012, with riders including mandatory investment of a minimum 50 per cent towards back-end infrastructure and compulsory 30 per cent sourcing from SMEs.

Online Coaching for IAS Exam (at just 100 Rs./month)

<http://upscportal.com/civilservices/courses>

- Another important issue raised in the paper is geographical restriction for e-commerce, as applicable in the FDI policy for MBRT. According to the policy for MBRT, states have been empowered to take decision on notification of towns and cities with population of more than 10 lakh as per 2011 census.
- At present, 12 states including Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Delhi, Haryana, J&K, Maharashtra, Manipur, Rajasthan, and Uttarakhand allow FDI in multi-brand retail stores.

CAG to audit telcos

- Big business is aghast at a court ruling which allows the Comptroller & Auditor General (CAG) to audit books of accounts of private telecom companies. India Inc fears that if CAG is allowed to audit telecom companies and - as has already been made amply clear to the three power distribution companies in Delhi - discoms in Delhi, no business is safe from the prying eyes of the Government.
- Delhi's discoms have been voicing shrill protests against any CAG audit, saying their operations do not come under CAG's purview and anyway, they are already audited by auditors who are CAG approved. So then why is the Government unleashing the CAG monster on telecom and power distribution firms? Does it want to scare big business away?
- Telecom firms are owned by billionaires such as Mukesh Ambani and Sunil Mittal whereas two of the discoms in Delhi are joint ventures between Reliance ADAG and the state government, the third between the Tatas and the state government.
- The state power suppliers are already audited by CAG.

Usage of Bitcoin

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has cautioned users, holders and traders of virtual currencies (VC) like Bitcoin, Litecoin, BBQcoin and Dogecoin and is examining the legal and regulatory framework of VCs. In a press release, RBI stated that Bitcoin and other VCs are exposed to potential financial, operational, legal, customer protection and security related risks.
- According to RBI, the creation, trading or usage of VC including Bitcoin, as a medium for payment, are not authorised by any central bank or monetary authority. No regulatory approvals, registration or authorisation is stated to have been obtained by the entities concerned for carrying on such activities.
- Bitcoin was created to solve the mathematical solution to double-counting but it grew into an alternate currency system altogether; its value has skyrocketed as more and more people, investors and enthusiasts jumped onto the bandwagon and started transacting in the virtual currency.

Fed tapering

- World stock markets were muted amid concern an improved U.S. economy might prompt the Federal Reserve to reduce its stimulus faster than previously expected.

Click Here to Buy 1 Year Subscription - "Only PDF"

<http://upscportal.com/civilservices/current-affairs/weekly-update>

Online Coaching for IAS Exam (at just 100 Rs./month)

<http://upscportal.com/civilservices/courses>

- Crude rose as expectations of greater heating oil demand in chilly North America offset signs of weak gasoline demand.
- A survey that showed U.S. employment increased in December prompted concern the Fed might accelerate the process of winding down bond buying that has supported stock prices. The Fed has been buying \$85 billion of bonds a month in a strategy dubbed quantitative easing, or QE, but said in December it will trim that by \$10 billion to \$75 billion beginning this month.
- In Europe, France's CAC 40 gained 0.1 to 4,264.02 while Germany's DAX dropped 0.1 per cent to 9,491.49. Britain's FTSE 100 was steady at 6,720.99.
- Tokyo's Nikkei 225 shed 1.5 per cent to 15,880.3 and China's benchmark Shanghai Composite Index fell 0.8 per cent to 2,027.62. Hong Kong's Hang Seng dropped 0.9 per cent to 22,787.33.
- Elsewhere in Asia, Taiwan's Taiex was down 0.5 per cent and Seoul's Kospi fell 0.7 per cent. Sydney's S&P/ASX 200 added 0.2 per cent to 5,324.40.
- In the United States, payroll processor ADP said companies added 238,000 jobs in the U.S. in December, up slightly from 229,000 in the previous month. November's figures were also revised higher.

100% FDI limit in pharma

- The government decided to retain 100% foreign direct investments (FDI) for existing pharmaceutical companies setting aside the speculation that the limit, if not curbed could eventually encourage a hike in cost of medicines.
- FDI in the pharmaceutical sector jumped by 86.5% to \$1.08 billion during April-October period of the current fiscal amid concerns over continuous mergers and acquisitions of domestic drug makers by multinationals.
- In the past one year, a number of multinational companies have tried to acquire Indian pharmaceutical companies leading to fears that these companies will stop producing essential and generic drugs in the country that will result in increase in the cost of medicines.
- India had allowed 100% FDI in the pharma sector through the automatic approval route in 2002.
- In its proposal, the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) had said that the acquisition of Indian pharma companies will severely impact availability and affordability of generic medicines in the country and recommended a reduction in the FDI cap to 49% from 100% in rare or critical pharma verticals. In September 2013, the government cleared the US based Mylan's FDI proposal.

India slips in business optimism

- India has slipped to eighth rank from the top spot in terms of business optimism, with 69% of the corporates having a positive outlook on the economy and growth of operations in 2014, says a survey.
- India has ranked eighth in the list which was topped by United Arab Emirates and Philippines, where 90% of businesses said they are optimistic about growth and the economy, followed by Peru at 84%, according to Grant Thornton's International Business Report (IBR).
- IBR is a survey of both listed and privately held businesses. The data was drawn from interviews with 3,500 senior executives across industry sectors and was conducted between November and December 2013.
- With strong sentiment for change in the recent state elections and decisive actions by the RBI/government in last few months, it's easy to see how medium to large businesses in India are more optimistic about the outlook for the economy in the coming months, Chandiok added.
- Moreover, the appointment of Raghuram Rajan as the governor of Reserve Bank of India seems to have steadied the economy and provided the much-needed confidence to Indian businesses, the report said.

WWW.UPSCPORTAL.COM



UPSCPORTAL's Study Kits for Civil Services & Other Examinations

- ➔ Medium: English
- ➔ 100% Syllabus Covered
- ➔ Available in Hard Copy

Study Kit for Preliminary Examinations:

- ✓ IAS (Pre) GS Paper 1
<http://upscportal.com/civilservices/study-kit/ias-pre/csat-paper-1>
- ✓ IAS (Pre) GS Paper 2
<http://upscportal.com/civilservices/study-kit/ias-pre/csat-paper-2>
- ✓ आई. ए. एस. (सामान्य अध्ययन) प्रारंभिक परीक्षा 2014 पेपर -1
<http://www.upscportal.com/civilservices/study-kit/ias-pre/csat-paper-1-hindi>
- ✓ आई. ए. एस. (सी-सैट) प्रारंभिक परीक्षा 2014 पेपर -2
<http://www.upscportal.com/civilservices/study-kit/ias-pre/csat-paper-2-hindi>
- ✓ GS Foundation Course (PT+ MAINS) for 2014
<http://upscportal.com/civilservices/study-kit/ias-pre/general-studies-foundation-course>
- ✓ सामान्य अध्ययन (GS) फ़ाउंडेशन कोर्स (पी. टी. + मुख्य)
<http://upscportal.com/civilservices/study-kit/ias-pre/gf-foundation-course-hindi>

Study Kit for Mains Examinations:

- ✓ Contemporary Issues
<http://www.upscportal.com/civilservices/study-kit/contemporary-issues-ias-mains>
- ✓ Public Administration
<http://www.upscportal.com/civilservices/study-kit/ias-mains-public-adminstration>
- ✓ Essay Writing
<http://www.upscportal.com/civilservices/study-kit/essay-mains>
- ✓ English Grammar & Comprehension
<http://www.upscportal.com/civilservices/study-kit/ias-mains-english-compulsory>
- ✓ History
<http://www.upscportal.com/civilservices/study-kit/ias-mains-history>
- ✓ Philosophy
<http://upscportal.com/civilservices/study-kit/ias-mains-philosophy>
- ✓ Sociology
<http://upscportal.com/civilservices/study-kit/ias-mains-sociology>
- ✓ General Studies
<http://www.upscportal.com/civilservices/study-kit/gf-mains>

Study Kit for UPSC Other Examinations:

✓ Armed Police Forces (CAPF)

<http://upscportal.com/civilservices/study-kit/capf>

Study Kit for Other One Day Examinations:

✓ SSC Combined Graduate Level (Tier - I)

<http://sscportal.in/community/study-kit/cgl>

✓ सीजीएल (टियर-1) अध्ययन सामग्री

<http://sscportal.in/community/study-kit/cgl/tier-1-hindi>

✓ SSC Combined Graduate Level Examination (Tier - II)

<http://sscportal.in/community/study-kit/cgl-tier-2>

✓ SSC Combined Higher Secondary Level (10+2) Examination

<http://sscportal.in/community/study-kit/chsle>

✓ IBPS Specialist Officer Study Kit

<http://bankpoclerk.com/community/study-kit/ibps-specialist-officer>

✓ IBPS Probationary Officer (PO) Study Kit

<http://bankpoclerk.com/community/study-kit/ibps-po>

✓ IBPS Clerk Study Kit

<http://bankpoclerk.com/community/study-kit/ibps-clerk>

For Full Information about Study Kits Click below Link:

<http://upscportal.com/civilservices/study-kit>

ENVIRONMENT

Fossil National Park

- The management plan of the Pithoragarh Forest Division for 2011 to 2021 has proposed that the Lapthal region be declared a Fossil National Park.
- The region is close to the Indo-Tibetan border. Some part of it lies in Pithoragarh district and the rest in Chamoli district.
- The detailed proposal is being prepared by the Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve officials. Once the mapping is over, the Fossil National Park would be spread across an area measuring 500 to 1,000 sq-km, most of which lies 4,500 metres above mean sea level. The area is the exposed bed of an ancient sea, which disappeared during the formation of the Himalayas.
- The area has sparse vegetation. Several swamps and pools in the area are home to various species of flora and fauna. Snow leopard, musk deer, Tibetan wild ass, woolly hare, and Tibetan wolf are among the species found in the region.
- The region being close to the international border is guarded by the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) and the Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve administration.

Eco clearance regulator

- The Supreme Court has directed the government to appoint a Regulator with offices in States under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for appraising projects, enforcing environmental conditions for approvals and imposing penalties on polluters.
- A Green Bench of Justices A.K. Patnaik, T.S. Thakur and Ibrahim Kalifulla gave the Centre time till March 31 to make the appointment and directed it to file a compliance report. The Bench told Solicitor-General Mohan Parasaran that it would have ordered the appointment with immediate effect but granted the government time keeping the interest of economy in mind.
- The Regulator could exercise “only such powers and functions of the Central government under the Environment (Protection) Act as are entrusted to it and obviously cannot exercise the powers of the Central government under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.” While exercising powers under the Environment Protection Act, the Regulator would ensure that the National Forest Policy, 1988 was duly implemented as held in this court’s July 6, 2011 order in the case of Lafarge Umiam Mining.

Gangotri glacier retreating

- The Gangotri glacier is retreating like other glaciers in the Himalayas and its volume and size are shrinking as well.
- According to a report, “Recessional moraines and broad glacial terrace-like features provide sufficient evidences of shrinking of the glacier in the recent past between Gaumukh and Bhojbasa.”
- The Gangotri, one of the largest Himalayan glaciers, is in Uttarkashi district. Originating at about 7,100m above sea level, the glacier is 30.2km long and has a width that varies between 0.5 and 2.5km. The Bhagirathi, one of the main tributaries of the Ganga, originates from the glacier, which has retreated more than 1,500 metres in the last 70 years.

Snow leopard conservation

- WWF India in partnership with Tata Housing Development Company today announced the launch of a project for conservation of endangered 'snow leopards' species in the country.
- As a part of the project 'Save Our Snow Leopards' (SOS), the two organizations unveiled an online crowd funding campaign for species conservation in India, aiming to raise at least Rs 15 lakh.
- The funds raised will be utilized to scale up WWF's snow leopard conservation projects such as setting up camera traps to study the exact status and distribution of snow leopards in range states and support the construction of predator-proof livestock pens for local communities in snow leopard habitats that will help in managing snow leopard-human conflict.
- The snow leopard population in India is estimated to be 400-700, while their worldwide number is around 7,000. In India they are in Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh.
- International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the world's oldest and largest global environmental organization, has listed snow leopards as 'endangered' species.

Niyamgiri project

- The Union Environment Ministry has taken a decision in two high profile cases, rejecting the forest clearance for Vedanta's bauxite mining project in Niyamgiri Hills of Odisha, and renewing the stand-alone environmental clearance for Posco's eight million tonnes per annum steel plant.
- The rejection of Vedanta's proposal to dig in the Niyamgiri hills came after 12 village councils of Dongriya Kondh tribal groups rejected the project in their traditional forestlands.
- The Supreme Court had empowered the village councils to decide on the project in order to protect their customary and religious rights.
- The court had asked the Environment Ministry to review its earlier decision to not permit the mining, based on the views of the tribal community.

Online Coaching for IAS Exam (at just 100 Rs./month)

<http://upscportal.com/civilservices/courses>

- The renewal of original clearance given to Posco's steel plant in 2007 by Environment Minister Veerappa Moily, on the other hand, came after the Ministry delinked other components of the integrated project, including the port and the mining parts from its review process.
- The Ministry was asked by the National Green Tribunal to review the environment clearance

WWW.UPSCPORTAL.COM

Online Test Series For



IAS

PRE GENERAL STUDIES



100% IAS Exam Syllabus Covered

at just ₹100 per Test

All India Ranking immediately after the test

Detailed Explanation after the Test

Take Test any Time any Day

Register Now

**For any query Call
011-45151781, 011-65023618**

www.upscportal.com/test-series

Click Here for Full Information:

<http://upscportal.com/civilservices/test-series/online-ias-pre>

SCIENCE AND TECH

Third orbit boost on GSAT-14

- The third manoeuvre to boost the orbit of GSAT-14, India's advanced communication satellite, was successfully executed, making the orbit more or less circular.
- The ground controllers at the Master Control Facility of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) did this by giving commands to the satellite's propulsion system, called the Liquid Apogee Motor (LAM) to fire.
- Over the coming days it would be allowed to gradually drift until it reached its final slot at 74 degrees E longitude.
- The satellite's east and west antennae, which are used for communicating with it from the ground, were deployed at 9.18am and 11.30am respectively.
- GSAT-14 would be used for telecasting programmes, telecommunication, tele-education and tele-medicine.
- ISRO's Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle, called GSLV-D5, put GSAT-14 into a highly elliptical orbit on January 5 with a perigee of 179km and an apogee of 35,950km. A cryogenic engine built in India had propelled the GSLV-D5 into a perfect geosynchronous transfer orbit on that day. GSAT-14 will have a mission life of 12 years.

14 new gene targets in Alzheimer's

- Scientists have identified 14 new genes potentially implicated in Alzheimer's disease.
- One gene in particular demonstrates the important role inflammation may play in the brain of Alzheimer's patients, researchers who successfully generated a stem cell model of familial Alzheimer's disease (FAD), have found.
- A team of scientists at The New York Stem Cell Foundation (NYSCF) Research Institute and the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai (ISMMS) produced stem cells and neural precursor cells (NPCs), representing early neural progenitor cells that build the brain from patients with severe early-onset AD with mutations in the Presenilin 1 (PSEN1) gene.
- These NPCs had elevated Abeta42/Abeta40 ratios, indicating elevation of the form of amyloid found in the brains of Alzheimer's patients.
- These levels were greater than those in adult cells that did not have the PSEN1 mutation. This elevated ratio shows that the NPCs grown in the petri dish accurately reflected the cells in the brains of FAD patients.

India: polio-free

- India has completed three years without reporting any case of polio.
- It is only the second time in the history that a disease is being eliminated in India through immunization after small pox in May 1980.
- However, officially the World Health Organization (WHO) will certify India as polio-free on February 11 after the last of random samples picked up would be tested.
- India's being declared polio-free is particularly important because it was the only country in the South East Asian region with polio cases.
- Once India is declared polio-free, the entire WHO region would also become polio free. The WHO on February 24, 2012 removed India from the list of countries with active endemic wild polio transmission.
- India carried a large burden of polio disease but has made impressive progress in the past 35 months.
- The number of polio cases came down from 741 in 2009 to 42 in 2010 and just one in 2011 – from West Bengal.
- No polio case has been reported in the country since then. India won the war against polio through intense Pulse Polio Immunization under the Global Polio Eradication Initiative in 1988 under which over 17 crore children were vaccinated in each round of vaccination with the help of 24 lakh vaccinators.

SPORTS

MS Dhoni: captain in all three formats

- Mahendra Singh Dhoni is not averse to the idea of continuing as the skipper of the the Indian cricket team in all the three formats, saying it would be unfair to burden a new player with the mantle of captaincy with just one year left for the World Cup.
- Dhoni had, last year, said that he might have to give up a format to lead India's title defence in 2015 but such a decision would be made only at the end of 2013. Dhoni will be 33 by the time the World Cup starts in Australia and New Zealand.

World's top junior shuttler: Aditya Joshi

- Young shuttler Aditya Joshi from Madhya Pradesh has become the first male junior badminton player from India to be ranked top in the world.
- Aditya, 17, recently got the number one slot in the January rankings of the World Badminton Federation (WBF).
- Aditya was at the 11th position till November, but he managed to jump ahead of all the players by achieving 18,776 points.
- Aditya started playing badminton in 2001 when he was only five and very soon, he started winning in the categories above his age in the local tournaments.
- Within six years, he started proving himself at the international arena and clinched the gold in Remensco junior international tournament held in Russia in 2011. During the same year, he won a gold medal in Asian sub-junior championship held in Japan.
- His victory in the national junior championship held at Chandigarh in December 2012 made way for his top ranking.
- Aditya was the national champion in 2013 and had won two gold medals in junior international tournament held at Pune and silver in the senior national championship while his age corresponds to junior category.

Team India's No.1 position at stake

- India will have to beat New Zealand in the upcoming ODI series to retain their top spot in the ICC rankings as Australia and England have a chance to topple Mahendra Singh Dhoni's men from the perch.
- Australia are currently ranked second with 114 ratings points, six ratings behind number-one ranked India, while England is ranked third on 111 ratings points.

Online Coaching for IAS Exam (at just 100 Rs./month)

<http://upscportal.com/civilservices/courses>

- Australia was last ranked number-one in July 2012, only to be overtaken by England who held the top position till December 2012.
- Australia and England`s rise to the top position however, is dependent on how India fare in their five-match series against host New Zealand, which begins on January 19 in Napier.
- For both England and Australia to go top, they would not just need wins themselves but also hope that New Zealand gets the better of India.
- Meanwhile, Virat Kohli is the highest-ranked Indian in the batsmen`s rankings at the second spot with Shikhar Dhawan being the next best-placed at 10th.
- In the bowlers` list, Ravindra Jadeja is the highest-ranked Indian at sixth followed by R Ashwin at the 16th position after going up a rung. Jadeja is also the best among the Indians in the all-rounders` list at the fifth spot.

WWW.UPSCPORTAL.COM

IN THE NEWS (PERSONS)

Bill Gates:

- Microsoft founder Bill Gates has been named as the most admired person on the planet with cricketering legend Sachin Tendulkar fifth on a list of 30 people compiled after a poll in 13 countries, including India.
- The 'World's most admired people poll' was conducted by YouGov for The Times by surveying almost 14,000 people in Great Britain, France, Germany, Russia, the US, Australia, Pakistan, Indonesia, India, China, Egypt, Nigeria and Brazil.
- There were four Indians in the top ten and seven overall in the list of 30 most-admired people.
- Sachin was fifth with six other Indians featuring in the list - BJP's prime ministerial candidate Narendra Modi (7th), Bollywood icon Amitabh Bachchan (9th), former President Abdul Kalam (10th), social activist Anna Hazare (14th), Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal (18th) and Business tycoon Ratan Tata (30th).
- Mr. Gates the co-founder of Microsoft and a billionaire philanthropist, earned more admiration than U.S. President Barack Obama who was second, Russian President Vladimir Putin (3rd), Pope Francis (4th) and Chinese President Xi Jinping (6th) to claim the title.

Ariel Sharon:

- Former Israeli prime minister Ariel Sharon died at 85, after eight years in a coma, Israeli media reports said.
- Mr. Sharon, one of the country's most prominent military and political leaders for decades, served as prime minister between 2001 and 2006.
- He suffered a massive stroke while campaigning for re-election on January 4, 2006, in a race he had been tipped to win.

Sitasharan Sharma:

- Senior BJP legislator Sitasharan Sharma was unanimously elected as the Speaker of Madhya Pradesh Assembly.
- The proposal to elect Sharma, who represents Hoshangabad seat, was moved by Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan and seconded by Parliamentary Affairs Minister Dr Narottam Mishra.
- From the Opposition bench, the proposal was supported by senior Congress MLAs, Mahendra Singh, Satyaprakash Sakhwar, Dr Govind Singh, newly-nominated Congress Legislature Party (CLP) leader Satyadev Katare, besides Independent MLA Kal Singh Bhabar.

Selected Editorials of Importance

No real winners in Bangladesh

(Courtesy: THE HINDU)

The elections in Bangladesh went off predictably — amid a boycott by the Bangladesh Nationalist Party and its 18 smaller allies, lots of violence, loss of life and property, and a victory for the Awami League. As many as 30 people died on the election weekend, and on voting day activists and supporters of the boycotting parties went about burning polling booths. The Election Commission says the turnout was just less than 40 per cent, a figure hotly contested by the Opposition which put it at a quarter of that. In any case it was nowhere close to the nearly 80 per cent turnout in 2008 — the highest in Bangladesh — that gave Sheikh Hasina a landslide victory. This time, the Awami League was assured of victory even before a single vote was cast — it faced no contest in half of the 300 parliamentary seats due to the boycott. In the remaining ones, the party faced opposition from its own dissidents, and won 110, thus obtaining an absolute majority. Although Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has declared her satisfaction with the turnout, and asked law enforcing authorities to quell the continuing unrest with an “iron hand”, she must know that questions about the credibility of this election will not easily vanish. In a nation that has worked hard to build some of the best social indicators in South Asia — Bangladesh has cut ahead of India on reducing poverty and malnutrition, infant and maternal mortality rates and gender disparities — such unending political and civil strife can only undermine the gains of the last few years.

The Bangladesh Prime Minister has rejected calls, including by the United States, for dialogue with the Opposition and fresh elections. She has declared that talks with the Opposition can be held only when the BNP ends “violence and terrorism” and severs its alliance with the banned Jamaat-e-Islami. But a mid-term election may become a necessity if the political chaos does not abate. It is time the Awami League realised that while its fight against Islamism is a good fight, it simply cannot be won by polarising the nation politically. It will take two, though. BNP leader Khaleda Zia needs to discover better alternatives to expressing political differences than holding the country ransom to street violence and thuggery. As for her dalliance with Islamism, she has Pakistan’s example to see what opportunistic alliances with religious extremism can do to a country. New Delhi’s description of the elections as a “constitutional requirement” that Prime Minister Hasina has fulfilled, is too nuanced to serve any useful purpose; in fact, it only makes it seem partisan. If India really wants to help progressive and liberal forces in Bangladesh, it must use its cordial ties with the Awami League to work at breaking the deadlock.

Coalgate costs

(Courtesy: THE FINANCIAL EXPRESS)

A vital condition for economic growth is energy usage. The energy imperative is critical in industrialisation, because of the change from usage of animate to inanimate energy. This inanimate energy has been based on coal-driven steam power and coal-based thermal energy generating electricity. Though wind and water sources have been around for ages, their energy yield is low. A lack of adequate energy resources condemned life in the past to semi-immobility and low productivity. Steam power changed that.

The use of electric power has been a major source of change in the last two centuries. Electric power removed constraints on enjoying efficiencies in manufacturing processes and made possible the redesign of

Online Coaching for IAS Exam (at just 100 Rs./month)

<http://upscportal.com/civilservices/courses>

entire manufacturing systems. Because of electricity usage, made possible by Thomas Edison's creation of a coal-based electricity generating and distributing system, per capita energy consumption doubled in the last quarter of the 19th century, and led to enormous wealth increases in the US. This is when the US became the world's economic powerhouse.

The late economist, Professor Vernon Ruttan, had documented that per capita energy consumption and gross national product (GNP) growth was highly correlated on a one-to-one basis. More per capita energy consumption led to GNP growth. More power produced led to greater growth. With greater wealth, there was enhanced power consumption. This set in motion a dynamic process leading to the emergence of the world's largest industrial sector and the evolution of the US as the world's richest nation.

Where does India figure?

The ratio of per capita energy consumption to GNP is an important development indicator. On that metric, India fails miserably. In fact, data for the 1990s and 2000s highlights that India's per capita energy consumption was 12.7 British thermal units (Btu) compared with 340.8 Btu for the US and 34.5 Btu for China. China consumes three times the energy that India does. South Korea's consumption is 154.6 Btu, 12 times India's rate. Brazil consumes 45.4 Btu, more than three times India's rate.

When development is analysed, South Korea and China lead the pack, and rising energy consumption has played a role. China has historically consumed more energy than

Riga's new currency

(Courtesy: THE HINDU)

Latvia's entry this month as the Eurozone's 18th member-state, a decade after Riga's accession to the European Union (EU), leaves Lithuania as the lone Baltic nation still outside the currency bloc. Not surprisingly, strong nationalist overtones have reverberated in the rival stances in the population of two million on the adoption of the beleaguered euro. For, as many as five countries sharing the common currency including Spain, the group's fourth largest economy, had to be bailed out in the wake of the credit, banking and housing crises. Bemoaning the country's third currency change-over in nearly 25 years, after the lats and the rouble earlier, the no-euro camp has characterised euro-entry as another sacrifice of national sovereignty. Conversely, the champions of Riga's Eurozone entry view membership as symbolic of the assertion of the country's European identity.

For the leadership of the crisis-ridden European Union, meanwhile, Riga's entry is a rare opportunity to tout the appeal of the euro. Brussels remembers that neither the economic climate nor the political reception was very different when Estonia adopted the euro in 2011, in the previous expansion of the currency union. Latvia's spectacular recovery from the ravages of the 2008 banking collapse and the 'virtues' of economic austerity is the dominant narrative. The run-up to the so-called Baltic Tiger's euro entry had raised concerns about the country's large foreign bank deposits sourced from Russia, especially after the huge run on Cypriot banks last April. Although foreign money accounts for 50 per cent of Latvian bank deposits, the size of the banking sector is small relative to the overall economy, according to the European Commission. Save in Lithuania, which is expected to join in 2015, the prospect of expansion of the Eurozone into the rest of the bloc of 28 countries is extremely remote, both in the states of the former Eastern Europe as well as in Britain, Denmark and Sweden. The reasons for this have to do largely with the rise of strong Eurosceptic parties in some countries. In others, apprehensions about the implications of joining a monetary union that is still dithering on the question of forging economic integration are among the factors. But the reality in the

Click Here to Buy 1 Year Subscription - "Only PDF"

<http://upscportal.com/civilservices/current-affairs/weekly-update>

Online Coaching for IAS Exam (at just 100 Rs./month)

<http://upscportal.com/civilservices/courses>

medium term of a two-speed Europe of euro ins and outs could take a toll on the overall process of deeper and closer European integration. The EU will no doubt continue to muddle through. Its leaders have to strive hard to deepen the democratic legitimacy of its institutions to their own people. That would be in the interest of the world's single largest trading bloc, as well as the rest of the world.

WWW.UPSCPORTAL.COM

Click Here to Buy 1 Year Subscription - "Only PDF"

<http://upscportal.com/civilservices/current-affairs/weekly-update>

MCQs

:: NATIONAL ::

Q1.

- i) Jains could soon become the sixth designated minority community of the country.
- ii) Jains who make up 0.4 per cent of the country's population if given minority status will bring them under the ambit of the National Commission for Minorities and allow the community to run their educational institutions as per the same rules that govern all minority institutions.

Which of the above statement/statements is/are true?

- a) only i
- b) only ii
- c) both i and ii
- d) neither i nor ii

Q2.

- i) Rs.1,000-crore Nirbhaya Fund announced last year by Finance Minister P. Chidamabaram, to ensure the safety and security of travelling women, continues to remain a nonstarter.
- ii) The Election Commission has accepted the proposal of the U.S. based internet search engine Google to have an "electoral look up services for citizens."

Which of the above statement/statements is/are true ?

- a) only i
- b) only ii
- c) both i and ii
- d) neither i nor ii

:: INTERNATIONAL ::

Q3.

- i) The anti-niqab law was passed in France on grounds of security, with lawmakers carefully skirting the issue of religion.
- ii) A record-breaking cold snap known as the "polar vortex" has swept across the whole country of Australia, making temperatures drop down in minus.

Which of the above statement/statements is/are true?

- a) only i
- b) only ii
- c) both i and ii
- d) neither i nor ii

Q4.

- i) 'India 360' is an initiative to be launched by All India Radio (AIR) on Jan 26 ,2014 highlighting India's bilateral ties with countries by presenting interesting facts and anecdotes.
- ii) Under Customs Baggage Declaration Regulations, 2013, an Indian citizen need not fill up the immigration form when he or she goes out of the country .

Which of the above statement/statements is/are true ?

- a) only i
- b) only ii
- c) both i and ii
- d) neither i nor ii

:: ECONOMY ::

Q5.

- i) Tamil Nadu has become a hotspot for Japanese investors and the number of Japanese business establishments in the State recently.
- ii) The world's first Bitcoin storage service that insures deposits of the digital currency against hackers and accidental loss has opened in London.

Which of the above statement/statements is/are true ?

- a) only i
- b) only ii
- c) both i and ii
- d) neither i nor ii

:: ENVIRONMENT ::

Q6.

- i) A project for conservation of endangered 'snow leopards' has been launched by WHO and Infosys.
- ii) The blueprint for the new environment authority, prepared by the Union Ministry of Environment and Forests in 2011, gives the Minister a veto on the decisions on clearances under the Environment Protection Act, 1986.

Which of the above statement/statements is/are NOT true ?

- a) only i
- b) only ii
- c) both i and ii
- d) neither i nor ii

:: INDIA AND THE WORLD ::

Q7.

- i) India has been ranked below its two nuclear-armed neighbours — Pakistan and China — in the list of countries with a weak nuclear material security in the world, according to a U.S.-based think-tank.
- ii) India scored higher than China on the implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolution 1540 related to nuclear security issues.

Which of the above statement/statements is/are true ?

- a) only i
- b) only ii
- c) both i and ii
- d) neither i nor ii

:: SPORTS ::

Q8.

- i) Jacques Kallis is the third highest run-getter in Test cricket .
- ii) Rahul Dravid of Indian cricket team is the highest run-getter in Test cricket till date.

Which of the above statement/statements is/are true?

- a) only i
- b) only ii
- c) both i and ii
- d) neither i nor ii

MCQs Answers

Ans 1: c

Ans 2: a

Ans 3: a

Ans 4: a

Ans 5: c

Ans 6: a

Ans 7: c

Ans 8: a

WWW.UPSCPORTAL.COM

Weekly Current Affairs Update for IAS Exam

- ❖ You will be provided current affairs on various important topics on a weekly basis
- ❖ Important national and international news from various sources at a single platform for your convenience
- ❖ Various Categories (National, International, Economy, etc..)

Inaugural Offer
₹ 1040 ₹ 299

For Any Query Call our Moderator at: 011 - 45151781

WHY IS IT A WIN-WIN SITUATION FOR THE STUDENTS?

- You will be provided current affairs on various important topics on a weekly basis.
- Important national and international news from various sources at a single platform for your convenience.
- Each and every topic will be given point wise , making it easier to grasp.
- Very handy when it comes to various competitive exams.....

VARIOUS CATEGORIES:

- **Planning Commission**
- **Ministry of External Affairs**
- **National Portal of India**
- **National**
- **International**
- **Economy**
- **India And The World**
- **Sports**
- **In The News**
- **Science and Technology**
- **Burning Issues (Editorials From Different Newspapers)**

WHAT YOU WILL GET:

- You will get (52 Issues) PDF Only no Hard Copy

For Full Information Click Here:

<http://upscportal.com/civilservices/current-affairs/weekly-update>