

Current Affairs Classes For Mains

2024

Issue based Current Affairs Program for Civil Services Examination

STARTS | 26th June, '24 | Offline and Online

Toppers Testimonial

To ForumIAS,

The Current affairs Program at Forum IAS has been extremely helpful for me in streamlining my current affairs preparation. Current affairs was one area which I found challenging to cover. However, Forum IAS's program had important topics covered along with back-ground information of the issue which helped in holistic understanding of an issue. Dipin Sir's PDF's were also a savior in accessing value addition material. Along with the above, I have written free open mock mains simulation tests at Forum. These proved to be helpful too.

Thank You Forum community for your efforts.

Ananya Reddy
AIR-3
CSE 2023.

I was a part of MGP at Forum IAS. Apart from this I also took Current Affairs classes for mains by Dipin Dandekar Sir. The top notch quality of the content and the versatile perspectives I got from Sir's classes really boosted my score in GS. One on one interaction with Dayesh Sir during my interview preparation helped me.

I am really grateful to Forum IAS especially Dipin Sir and Ayush Sir for their valuable inputs.

JARIMA LOHIA
AIR 2

I enrolled myself in multiple courses at ForumIAS - SFG, ANFG, MGP, current affairs classes and Ethics classes. The quality of content, the consistency of classes and availability of mentorship right when I needed it helped me throughout my preparation journey.

A special thanks to Ayush Sir and Dipin Sir for their efforts and constant support, even though I was practically invisible!

Smriti
SMRITI MISHRA
AIR 4, CSE 2022

I was a student of ForumIAS MGP 2023 (and 2024) and prelims simulators. I also joined Dipin Sir's current affairs classes after Prelims. I am thankful for all the quality content and support provided by Forum IAS.

Ashish Kumar
AIR 8, UPSC CSE 2023.

“I joined Current Affairs Classes by ForumIAS, which helped me immensely in my preparation and helped me succeed in the Civil Services Examination.”

- Pratham Kaushik, IAS Rank 5, CSE 2017

“I am grateful to ForumIAS for their valuable Current Affairs program which has benefited me immensely in GS Paper 2 & 3 and in Essay also.”

- Varun Reddy, IAS Rank 7, CSE 2018

“The Current Affairs at ForumIAS really helped me with it especially organization and presentation of notes which was mirrored in my own answers in the Exam.”

- Saloni Khemka, IAS Rank 27, CSE 2018

“I joined ForumIAS Current Affairs class for my mains preparation for CSE 2019. The crisp and concise content and structuring helped me a lot right before the exam. I would like to take this opportunity to thank ForumIAS and Dipin Sir”

- Sanjita Mohapatra , IAS Rank 9, CSE 2019

“I have been a part of ForumIAS Current Affairs Classes. I found Dipin sir’s notes very unique, quantitative and crisp. They helped me add value to my mains answer and in better structuring of answers.”

- Pari Bishnoi, IAS Rank 30, CSE 2019

About Program

ForumIAS will be commencing Current Affairs (GS 2 & 3 and certain aspects of GS I) for Mains 2024 – covering all major issues important for the Civil Services Mains 2024.

If there is just one classroom program, you would like to take for your Civil Services preparation – it is this.

The **MGP + Current Affairs Combination** has been the **winning combination** for almost all our successful students – be it first timers, or those seeking rank and service improvement.

Goal of the program

The Program will focus on three things:

- **Completeness:** Ensure complete coverage of Current Affairs from PIB, Hindu, Indian Express, Times of India, and magazines such as EPW, Frontline. No issues will be left out.
- **Content Differentiation:** Ensure that value addition beyond common sources is done so that there is content differentiation in answers written by our students vis-à-vis other candidates.
- **Consolidation:** Ensure that there is complete consolidation of content on various topics that are important for Prelims and Mains examination. Thus, preparation is not scattered.

Why Current Affairs Classes by ForumIAS?

It is often believed that Current Affairs Classes are for those students who are weak and cannot even read the newspaper. Moreover, Current Affairs Classes are a mere repetition of the daily newspaper and add no value beyond what can be achieved by reading the newspaper.

At ForumIAS, we know this. Since, our courses are chosen by candidates for rank improvement as well as those in higher attempts with both Mains and Interview experience – apart from first timers. Due to this, we at ForumIAS ensure that **(1) We add value to the knowledge base of candidates who choose us (2) We provide content differentiation in the class, since the key to secure high marks in the Mains examination is content differentiation** – so that our students answers are both more qualitative and substantially superior to what is written by the average candidate. Classroom Students of ForumIAS Current Affairs Class have secured **Rank 3 & 8** in CSE 2023, **Rank 2 & 4** in CSE 2022, **Rank 12 & 14** in CSE 2021, **Rank 5, 8 & 9** in CSE 2020, Rank 10 in CSE 2019, **Rank 5 & 10** in CSE 2017 and **Rank 7 - Varun, Rank 13**

- Varnit Negi, **Rank 27** - Saloni Khemka, **Rank 35** - Minal Karanwal apart from popular ForumIAS Members like IWRA and Yo_Yo_Choti_Singh, who have given us favourable feedback after the class - so you can bank on us.

What you get?

Handouts along with important editorials and articles will be given for the candidates to consolidate their preparation. The material will be sufficient to cover Current Affairs completely, and any additional sources or newspaper reading will **NOT** be required. Apart from that candidates may be required to write answers in the classroom for practice

Course Schedule:

Regular classes will be held 2 – 3 days in a week starting from **24th June, by 5 PM**. Each class will be of **3 hours duration**.

For students enrolling in online mode, the lecture videos will be available in **live as well as recorded mode**. Each video has a limit of **2 views only** i.e. you can see every video for 2 full length duration.

Offline students will be able to attend classes in offline mode only but if they miss class due to an extraordinary circumstances can **seek Video on Demand (VoD)** for a particular class. Students are requested **not to demand more than 2 VoDs in a month**.

Note: The Current Affairs Program of ForumIAS is NOT a Newspaper class. It does not follow monthly newspaper updates but focuses on issue-based preparation. The Objective is to have 1-2- page crisp notes on every Mains topic so that it is easy to revise before the exam.

Design of the program (Handouts | Lectures)

- Handouts of the topics to be covered will be provided in the soft copy (hardcopy for offline students) and will be uploaded before the class. Refer to Annexure I for Sample Handout.
- In every class important issues will be covered comprehensively. Thus, the classes will have coverage for Mains with respect to topic discussed in the class.

Fees and Concessions

The program fee is **Rs. 21,999/- (inclusive of all taxes) for offline students** and **Rs. 23,999/- (inclusive of all taxes) for online students**. The Program is available at a 10% concession for all MGP Students. Old Students of ForumIAS Current Affairs are provided (40% concession)* – subject to 100 seats. Write to admissions@forumias.academy for availing concessions.

An early bird discount of 10% is available subject to 50 seats. No concession will be granted on any other ground.

*In case of availing a concession, any other active Current Affairs course would be deactivated from your ForumIAS account.

Why is fees for online mode higher than offline fees?

This primarily owing to two reasons: a) online students have longer access to class, b) the cost of video streaming and price of other necessities associated with it are at higher side, and c) ForumIAS incentivizes students who have the discipline and consistency to commit to offline classes.

Fee Payment & Enrollment

Students can enroll in the program by paying the fees through the below means.

- By visiting the website: <https://academy.forumias.com> and making payment through Net Banking / Debit / Credit Card / UPI etc.
- By doing a NEFT / Cash Deposit in HDFC bank Accounts. For this Option, please email us at admissions@forumias.academy
- By Visiting the Offline Guidance Center* and making payment through Credit Card / Debit Card / Cheque / DD

For any query you can call us at +91 – 93117 40900 | + 91 – 93117 40400 or write to us at admissions@forumias.academy

Admissions to the program are subject to acceptance of Terms & Conditions mentioned below.

Please note: Students who have taken admission in courses meant for Mains 2024 but are unsuccessful at Prelims 2024, can now migrate their course to any other course meant for Prelims/Mains 2025 by paying the balance fees if any applicable. They can also choose to continue in the course they have taken admission into.

There will be no provision of refund of fees. This is applicable only for courses purchased between Prelims Examination 2024 and declaration of its result.

Terms & Condition

- All fees once paid are non-refundable in nature. The course is also non-transferable in nature to another person.
- The course will be valid till 30 September 2024.**
- Each program of ForumIAS is linked to ForumIAS Account with a fixed mobile number. No sharing of any programs is allowed. If candidates are found sharing programs, ForumIAS shall be free to terminate that or all program access to the candidate without any refund to the candidate. The company may initiate legal proceedings against candidates found sharing and selling such content.
- ForumIAS shall have full rights to close admissions as per its capacity. ForumIAS shall be free to amend its schedule in case of any exigencies that may arise.
- Force Majeure : Flaviant Network Pvt Ltd ("FNPL") will deliver this program on best effort and good faith basis. By subscribing to the program, you understand that in the case of a force majeure event, such as natural disaster, calamity, outbreak of a pandemic, accident,

Annexure – 1

Sample Handout

Q. The crucial aspect of development process has been the inadequate attention paid to Human Resources Development in India. Suggest Measure that can address this inadequacy.

[UPSC CSE Mains 2023 – GS Paper II | Q6]

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2022



India's low rank in HDR 132/191 (2021/22)
(130 - 2020-21)

'Humans are the real wealth of a nation'

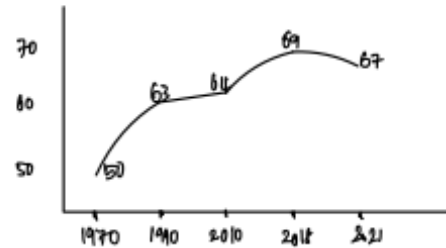


HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

It's about expansion of freedom
enhancement of capabilities;
providing equal opportunities;
ensuring long healthy prosperous life.



DATA



Life expectancy of India (source UNDP)



HDR

It's based on 3 parameters
 { life expectancy
 years of schooling
 Standard of living



HDR 2022 REPORT (by UNDP)

- India's HDI value - 0.633 (world avg 0.732)
- Top countries, Switzerland, Norway
- Neighbours - SL (72), China (79)
Bangladesh (129) Pak (16)
- reduction in HDI value in 90% countries
coz of decline in life expectancy due to covid

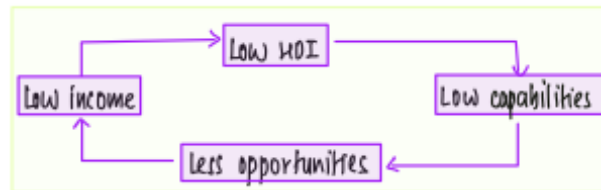


INDIAN CASE

- life expectancy 67.2 yrs
- schooling - mean 6.7 yrs
- Gender inequality - 122 rank

CHALLENGES

- Health & education accessibility
 → availability affordability
 → social infrastructure
 → inequalities
 → covid related challenges



- Lack of social protection - SPR, 2022
- Sustainable growth



VIEWES

- Amartya Sen
- Mahbub ul Haq } Nobel Laureates



NEW SCHEMES

- PM SHRI - Education
- Breakfast scheme - TN
- PM Samagra Swasthya Yojana

Q. 'Virus of Conflict is affecting the functioning of the SCO.' In light of the above statement point out the role of India in mitigating the problems.

[UPSC CSE Mains 2023 - GS Paper II | Q9]

SHANGHAI COOPERATION ORGANISATION

→ SCO - 22nd Summit held in Samarkand, Uzbekistan

"This isn't the era of war, its one of democracy, dialogue and diplomacy"
- PM Modi

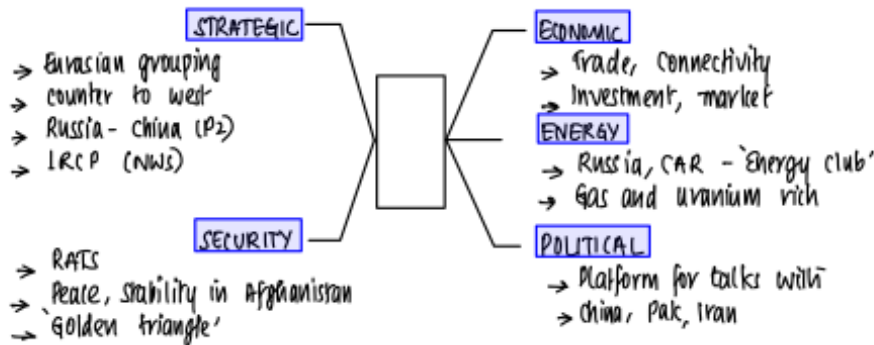
SCO

- Eurasian political, economic and security grouping; estd in 2002
- members → China, Russia, India, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan & Uzbekistan
- Iran, Belarus (newest member)
- observers - Afghanistan
- RATS - Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure

OBJECTIVES

- strengthen relations among members
- promote cooperation in political, economic, trade, culture, energy etc
- safeguard regional peace, security, stability
- create a democratic, equitable international order

SIGNIFICANCE



SAMARKAND DECLARATION

- 1) Varanasi - Tourist & cultural capital of SCO (22-23)
- 2) Agreements on food security, energy security, climate change & supply chain resilience
- 3) rejected interference in internal affairs of states under the pretext of fighting terrorism or extremism
- 4) called for WTO reforms
- 5) implement action plan for Iran's nuclear program
- 6) create an inclusive govt in Afghanistan
- 7) rejected unilateral economic sanctions

CHALLENGES

- Russia - Ukraine conflict
- China owned, China led
- 'Asian NATO' by west
- Trust deficit among members
- R.C.P nexus + 'Iran'
- connectivity issues
- limited trade
- 'Talking club'

WAY FORWARD

- Multi alignment
- NSFC
- SECURE

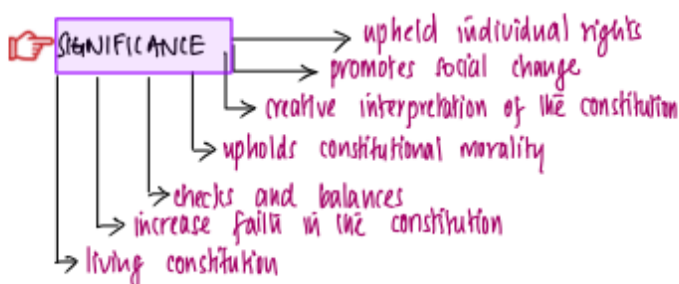
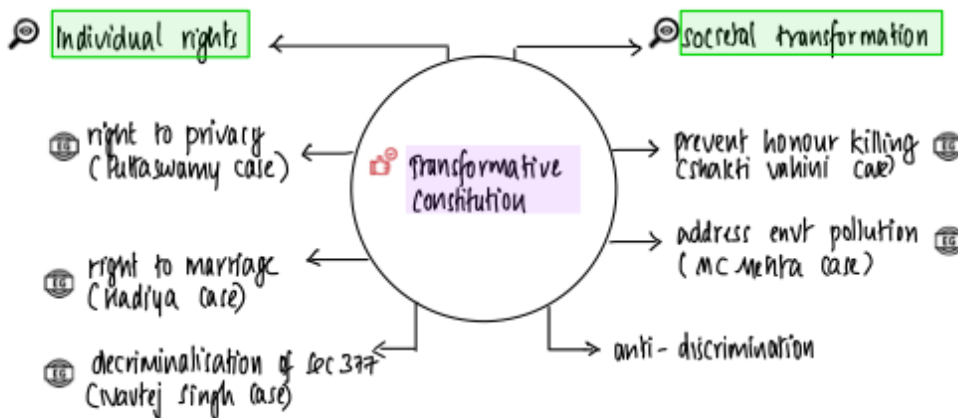
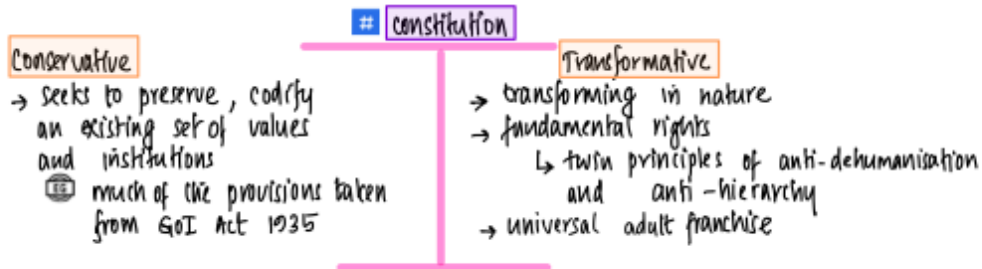
Q. "The Constitution of Indian is a living instrument with capabilities of enormous dynamism. It is a constitution made for a progressive society." Illustrate with special reference to the expanding horizons of the right to life and personal liberty.

ForumIAS

TRANSFORMATIVE CONSTITUTION

→ "constitution is a transformative document"
 - Justice Chandrachud at a lecture titled 'India @ 75 in London'

'Indian constitution is a great social document, almost revolutionary in its aim of transforming a medieval hierarchical society into a modern egalitarian democracy'
 Supreme court



Q. What is the status of digitalization in the Indian economy? Examine the problems faced in this regard and suggest improvements.

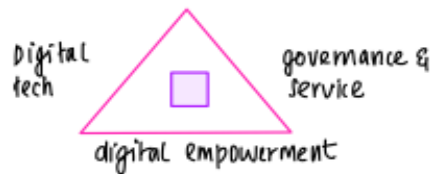
[UPSC CSE Mains 2023 – GS Paper III | Q2]

→ DPI

DPI

DIGITAL INDIA

IT + IT = IT
- PM Modi



DPI

→ Digital public goods that provide basic level of infrastructure allowing innovative applications to build on top of it

→ Socio-economic duct → inclusive growth

Eg Aadhaar, UPI, ONDC, Digilocker etc

CHARACTERISTICS



CHALLENGES

- Digital infrastructure
- Digital divide
- Digital security
- Data privacy
- Device cost

WAY FORWARD

- user centric design
- tailored products
- Tech & non-tech layer
- 'Phygital'
- cyber security, data protection

Q. How does e-Technology help farmers in production and marketing of agricultural produce? Explain it.

[UPSC CSE Mains 2023 – GS Paper III | Q3]

TECHNOLOGY IN AGRICULTURE

📱 GM crops, Kisan drones

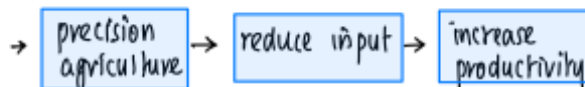
💡 AGRICULTURE REVOLUTIONS

- 1) Green - HYV of rice & wheat
- 2) White - milk
- 3) Yellow - edible oil
- 4) Blue - aquaculture

🌱 DIGITAL AGRICULTURE

- use of technology and data to improve food production
- Indian case - 3rd tech revolution in agriculture

🔍 SIGNIFICANCE



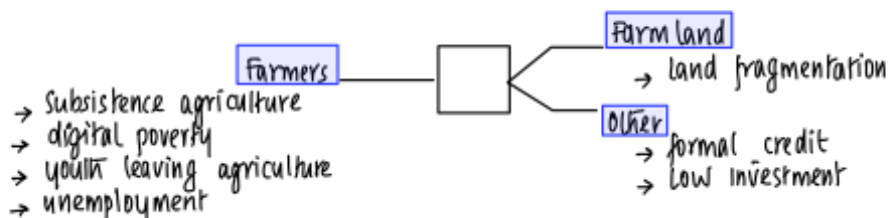
- rural development
- sustainable agriculture
- Agri tech investments ↑

📌 EG GM crops, drones, micro irrigation, nano fertilisers, e-NAM etc

📌 KISAN DRONES

- Surveying
- Seeding
- Spraying
- pollination

CHALLENGES



💬 'Agriculture suffering from technology fatigue'
→ Fr PM Dr. Manmohan Singh

🔍 REPORTS

- India Digital Ecosystem of Agriculture (IDEA) - Paper by MoA

Q. Give out the major sources of terror funding in India and the 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.

[UPSC CSE Mains 2023 – GS Paper III | Q20]

TERROR FINANCING

'No money for terror' ministerial Conference held in New Delhi (Nov'22)

MAJOR SOURCE OF TERROR FUNDING

1. organized crimes/fraud/kidnapping for ransom
2. illicit trade in commodities (oil/gold)
3. narcotic trade
4. crypto currencies
5. black money
6. mis use of non-profit orgns
7. sectors vulnerable
 - real estate
 - gems and jewellery

CHALLENGES

- FIs monitor suspicious transactions
- High volume of banking transactions
- Compliance issues - KYC

FATF

global ML and TF watch dog that sets international standards to prevent illegal activities in the economic and financial channels of a country and its interconnected linkages across the world.
Two lists → grey and black list

IMPLICATIONS OF BEING IN FATF GREY LIST

Economic

- external aid and loan will be affected
- fall in investment (FDI), sovereign rating

Political

- UN sanctions
- international pressure

MEASURES

- UAPA amendments
- Terror funding & Fake Currency Cell w/ NIA
- FCIN coordination group for intelligence sharing