## News Articles

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*C – Chennai; B – Bengaluru; D – Delhi; H – Hyderabad; T – Thiruvananthapuram*
Tamil Nadu takes the top spot in Good Governance Index

The State, however, lags behind in its competitors in terms of commerce and industries

Part A—Preliminary Examination

Paper I—(200 marks)

- Current events of national and international importance.
- Indian Polity and Governance- Constitution, Political System, Panchayati Raj, Public Policy, Rights Issues, etc.

Part B—Main Examination

PAPER-III

General Studies- II: Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations.

- Functions and responsibilities of the Union and the States, issues and challenges pertaining to the federal structure, devolution of powers and finances up to local levels and challenges therein.
- Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation.
- Important aspects of governance, transparency and accountability, e-governance- applications, models, successes, limitations, and potential; citizens charters, transparency & accountability and institutional and other measures.

News

- Good Governance Index has been launched
- Tamil Nadu has topped the index among 18 big states in the country

Good Governance Index (GGI)

- Uniform tool across states to assess the status of Governance & Impact of various interventions taken up by the Ss and UTs

Objectives of GGI

1. To provide quantifiable data to compare the state of governance in all states and UTs
2. To enable states and UTs to formulate and implement suitable strategies for improving governance
3. To shift towards result-oriented approaches and administration
- Prepared by
  - The Dept. of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) under the Min. of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions
  - In partnership with Centre for Good Governance, Hyderabad - technical partner
    - to design and develop the GGI

How is the GGI calculated?
- 10 sectors are taken into consideration

These 10 sectors are measured based on 60 indicators.
- Categories
  1. NE and Hill states
  2. Union Territories
  3. Big states

- All the states/UTs are ranked on all indicators separately, at the same time composite ranking is also calculated

- Composite ranking (1st three places/ranks)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Big States</th>
<th>NE &amp; Hill states</th>
<th>UTs</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tamil Nadu</td>
<td>Himachal Pradesh</td>
<td>Puducherry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>Uttarakhand</td>
<td>Chandigarh</td>
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<tr>
<td>Karnataka</td>
<td>Tripura</td>
<td>Delhi</td>
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### Sector-wise Rankings

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Big states</th>
<th>NE and Hill states</th>
<th>UTs</th>
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<td>Tamil Nadu</td>
<td>Himachal Pradesh</td>
<td>Chandigarh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Public Health</td>
<td>Kerala</td>
<td>Manipur</td>
<td>Puducherry</td>
</tr>
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<td>3 Economic Governance</td>
<td>Karnataka</td>
<td>Uttarakhand</td>
<td>Delhi</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 Judicial and Public Security</td>
<td>Tamil Nadu</td>
<td>Himachal Pradesh</td>
<td>Puducherry</td>
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<td>West Bengal</td>
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<td>6 Agriculture and Allied</td>
<td>Madhya Pradesh</td>
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<td>Daman and Diu</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 Human Resource Development</td>
<td>Goa</td>
<td>Himachal Pradesh</td>
<td>Puducherry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Social welfare Development</td>
<td>Chhattisgarh</td>
<td>Meghalaya</td>
<td>Daman and Diu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Commerce and Industries</td>
<td>Jharkhand</td>
<td>Uttarakhand</td>
<td>Delhi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Citizen centric Governance (not included in ranking)</td>
<td>-</td>
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</table>
17 civilians killed in attack on Yemen market: UN

Third incident in same area in a month

**AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE**

Seventeen civilians were killed in an attack in a market in Yemen's northern Saada governorate, the United Nations said, the third deadly assault on the same location in just over a month.

The attacks come despite relative calm in Yemen, where large-scale combat between government troops – backed by a Saudi-led military coalition – and the Iran-aligned Houthi rebels has largely subsided.

The UN said 12 Ethiopian migrants were among the 17 civilians killed in the incident on Tuesday at the Al-Raqiq market in Saada governorate, a Houthi rebel stronghold.

At least 12 people were wounded, it said, without saying who was responsible or what weaponry was used.

The Saudi-led coalition acknowledged on Thursday it had carried out an operation in Monabbih, a Saada district where the market is located.

The coalition did not provide further details.

An attack on Al-Raqiq market on November 22 killed 10 civilians, again including Ethiopian nationals, and just days later, at least another 10 civilians were killed and 22 wounded in a second such incident.

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**Part A**—Preliminary Examination

**Paper I** - (200 marks)

- Current events of national and international importance.
- Indian and World Geography—Physical, Social, Economic Geography of India and the World.

**Part B**—Main Examination

**PAPER-III**

**General Studies - II:** Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations.

- Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India’s interests.
- Effect of policies and politics of developed and developing countries on India’s interests, Indian diaspora.

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**News**

- Civilians killed in market attack in Saada governorate, Yemen
- Yemen civil war
  - Saudi led coalition + Govt. troops
  - Iran led Houthi rebels
- Yemen
  - Geography

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**History**

- Zaidis (Shia sect) dominate north
- Sunnis dominate South
- Fall of Ottoman Empire in 1918
  - North ruled by Shia Imam
  - South - Federation of South Arabia under British
- 1962: Yemen Arab Republic - Capital Sana’a
- 1969: People’s Democratic Republic of Yemen - Aden
- 1990: Unification of Yemen
  - President: Ali Abdullah Saleh
  - V.P: Ali Salim al-Beidh
  - 1994: Civil war
- Emergence of al-Qaeda in early 2000s
- Protest by Houthi rebels
- Arab Spring 2011 in Yemen - Salen resigned
  - Abdurabbuh Mansur Hadi - new President - but overthrown in 2015 by Houthis
- 2017 - Assassination of Salen

Impact on Indian interests:
1. Saudi Arabia and Iran are fighting each other in Yemen - India need to balance interests
   - India should be a mediator
2. Indian diaspora in Middle East
   - Operation Raahat in Yemen in 2015 by Indian Armed Forces (Indian Navy and Air Force)
   - Rescue of Indian and foreign nationals
The Data Protection Bill only weakens user rights

A culmination of flawed policy proposals, this piece of legislation will refine, store and trade personal information.

I

Civilspedia Team - Powered by Shankar IAS Academy

Personal Data Protection Bill, 2019

Aims:

- to provide for protection of the privacy of individuals relating to their personal data,
- specify the flow and usage of personal data,
- create a relationship of trust between persons and entities processing the personal data,
- protect the rights of individuals whose personal data are processed,
- to create a framework for organisational and technical measures in processing of data,
- laying down norms for social media intermediary, cross-border transfer, accountability of entities processing personal data,
- remedies for unauthorised and harmful processing,
- to establish a Data Protection Authority of India for the said purposes and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

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- Based on recommendations of Committee of Experts on Data Protection, 2017 (Justice B.N. Srikrishna Committee)

- Right to Privacy → Fundamental Right
  - Justice K.S. Puttaswami Vs UoI, 2017
  - Protected as intrinsic part of Right to Life and Personal Liberty under Article 21 and freedoms guaranteed by Part III of the Constitution

Author’s view

- Bill focused on security and revenue interests of Govt.

- Edward Snowden → “Symbiotic relationship between financial model of large online platforms and security interest... rely on personal data and attention economy”

- Platforms gather data, govt seeks to access it.

- In India → Govt seeks to access data, collect it and exploit it
  - Govt - active data trader → generate revenue → meet fiscal goals

- Digital India Programme
  - Citizen-State interaction data-fied
  - Fulfills geostrategic goals → personal data is viewed as strategic state resource

- Economic Survey 2019 → Chapter on fiscal approach towards personal data
  - Data can be created as public good within legal framework of data privacy

- Examples
  1. Bulk Data Sharing Policy and Procedure, 2019
  - Min. of Road Transport and Highways holds vehicle registration certificates and drivers license
  - Shares data with enforcement agencies automobile industries, banks, finance companies, etc - at specific rates for each data set
free access to vehicle's basic data to all registered users
- mParivahan App/Ministry's Web Portal
- To promote statutory compliances
- To facilitate individual hiring/renting of vehicles or purchase/sale and hiring of drivers
- Author's view - breaks fundamental assumption of used for definite purpose only.

Committee of Experts to deliberate on data governance framework for non-personal data

Community data - aggregate from multiple persons without specific individual attribution
- e-commerce data, AI training data, derived data, etc

Recognizing the economic dimension of data - access and control is critical for economic advantage.

- Personal Data Protection Bill - reflects political economy, ensures minimal levels of protection for personal data

& Consequences
- Fundamental Right to Privacy not fulfilled - rather controlled
- Balancing both - Clumsy - muddy articulation - ensures weak data protection law

Conclusion
- Privacy not given importance
- Perfect barrel - trade personal information without people's control
- Reframe texts of the Bill
New wagon to boost cargo capacity

Volume may rise 4-fold; trials for Dedicated Freight Corridor's wagons underway

YUTIKA BHARADWAJ

The Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India, Ltd. (DFCCIL) tasked with building the over 8,000-crs. freight corridor in the country, on Thursday began testing a new wagon that will help boost the cargo carrying capacity by four times due to increased length of the trains, use of double stack containers and more payload carrying capabilities.

"The new wagon - called RGS type A & B - is currently a prototype. A total of three such wagons have been manufactured in India so far, with another 44 wagons to follow." said Dinesh Mohan, General Manager (Operations), DFCCIL.

The wagons - used for hauling freight - have been tested by the Research Design and Standards Organization (RDSO) and are manufactured at the Golden Rock Railway Workshop in Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu. These wagons will be placed on the Delhi to Lucknow route by January 2020. If approved by the RDSO, wagons will be manufactured commercially as per industry requirements.

On Thursday, the trial was conducted at a speed of 120 kmph on a 250-km-long section of the western freight corridor from Bawri to Kishangaon. Currently, maximum speed of goods trains varies from 60 kmph to 100 kmph on the Indian Railways tracks. The DFCCIL tracks are separate from the Indian Railways tracks. However, mostly they run parallel to each other.

Part A—Preliminary Examination

Paper I - (200 marks)

- Current events of national and international importance.
- Indian Polity and Governance-Constitution, Political System, Panchayati Raj, Public Policy, Rights Issues, etc.
- Economic and Social Development-Sustainable Development, Poverty, Inclusion, Demographics, Social Sector Initiatives, etc.

Part B—Main Examination

PAPER-III

General Studies-II: Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations.

- Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation.

PAPER-IV


- Indian Economy and issues relating to planning, mobilization, of resources, growth, development and employment.
- Infrastructure: Energy, Ports, Roads, Airports, Railways etc.
<table>
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<th>Eastern DFC</th>
<th>Western DFC</th>
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<tr>
<td>World Bank Funding</td>
<td>JICA Funding</td>
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</table>

**States:**
- Punjab, Haryana, U.P., Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal
- Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra

**DFCCIL:**
- Estd. in 2006 under Ministry of Railways
- **Objective:**
  - Planning, development, mobilisation of resources, construction, etc. of DFCs.
- A company under the Companies Act, 1956.

**News**
- DFCCIL began testing new wagons
  - BLCS (types A and B) wagons
  - by RDSO
  - successfully tested at 100 kmph
  - Avg. speed of freight trains to increase from 85 kmph to 70 kmph

**Note:** DFCs are complementary to Industrial corridors. [Refer 19th Sep 2019 News Analysis]
PAPERS

NPR: house-to-house verification planned

Data on parents’ place of birth to be gathered, register already has data of 80 crore residents

The Narendra Modi government plans to update the National Population Register (NPR), which already has an electronic database of more than 80 crore residents, by verifying the details of all residents through house-to-house enumeration, according to an official manual for conducting the final NPR exercise.

The NPR exercise has become controversial because the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019, which includes Muslims, fears about an NPR, has been stalled in Parliament.

Clad with census data for the NPR was first collected in 2001 and updated in 2011. The Modi government has proposed that the next phase of NPR be conducted, along with the national census, between April and September 2020.

According to the government manual seen by The Economic Times, the enumerators, all central government officials, will “readily and correctly the demographic data sheets”. They are also guided by collecting mobile, voter card, identity card, passport and driving licence numbers from residents.

The manual requires the “identification of all new residents, new households found in the local area during the field work”. The new NPR form collected details on 15 parameters, whereas a “pro-test” form was used to collect data on a trial basis from 30 lakh people in September.

Part A—Preliminary Examination

Paper I—(200 marks)

- Current events of national and international importance.
- Indian Polity and Governance—Constitution, Political System, Panchayati Raj, Public Policy, Rights Issues, etc.
- Economic and Social Development—Sustainable Development, Poverty, Inclusion, Demographics, Social Sector Initiatives, etc.

Part B—Main Examination

PAPER-II

General Studies-I: Indian Heritage and Culture, History and Geography of the World and Society.

- Role of women and women’s organization, population and associated issues, poverty and developmental issues, urbanization, their problems and their remedies.

PAPER-III

General Studies-II: Governance, Constitution, Policy, Social Justice and International relations.

- Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation.

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Principle and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses

- By Statistics Division of Dept of Economic and Social Affairs, UN

- Concepts relating to the place of enumeration

2.48. In general, usual residence is defined for census purposes as the place at which the person lives at the time of the census, and has been there for some time or intends to stay there for some time.

2.50. It is recommended that countries apply a threshold of 12 months when considering place of usual residence according to one of the following two criteria:

(a) The place at which the person has lived continuously for most of the last 12 months (that is, for at least six months and one day), not including temporary absences for holidays or work assignments, or intends to live for at least six months;

(b) The place at which the person has lived continuously for at least the last 12 months, not including temporary absences for holidays or work assignments, or intends to live for at least 12 months.

Section 14A in the Citizenship Act, 1955

14A. Issue of national identity cards.—

(1) The Central Government may compulsorily register every citizen of India and issue national identity card to him.

(2) The Central Government may maintain a National Register of Indian Citizens and for that purpose establish a National Registration Authority.
Practice Question – Prelims

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding Good Governance Index (GGI).

1. It is designed and developed by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances partnered with Centre for Good Governance, Hyderabad.

2. The states and UTs are categorised into 5 groups viz., North, South, North-East, Central and West – for ranking convenience.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2
Practice Question – Prelims

Q2. Red Sea does **not** share border with which of the following countries?

1. Saudi Arabia
2. Ethiopia
3. Iraq
4. Egypt
5. Qatar

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

a) 1 and 4 only
b) 1, 2 and 5 only
c) 2, 3 and 5 only
d) 3, 4 and 5 only

Practice Question – Prelims

Q3. Which among the following rights are implicit right(s) under Article 21 of the Constitution?

1. Right to privacy
2. Right to speedy trial
3. Right to live with dignity
4. Right to sleep
5. Right to electricity

Select the correct answer from the code given below.

a) 1 and 3 only
b) 1, 2 and 3
c) 1, 2, 3 and 5
d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5
**Practice Question – Prelims**

Q4. Consider the following statements regarding the Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor.

1. It is being developed by National Industrial Corridor Development and Implementation Trust.
2. A portion of this corridor passes through the states of Jharkhand and Odisha.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

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**Previous Year Question – Mains 2017**

**GS – II**

Q. Examine the scope of Fundamental Rights in the light of the latest judgement of the Supreme Court on Right to Privacy. (15 marks, 250 words)

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**Previous Year Question – Mains 2018**

**GS – III**

Q. Data security has assumed significant importance in the digitized world due to rising cyber-crimes. The Justice B. N. Srikrishna Committee Report addresses issues related to data security. What, in your view, are the strengths and weaknesses of the Report relating to protection of personal data in cyber space? (15 marks, 250 words)
Practice Question – Prelims

Q1. Option ‘a’ – 1 only
Q2. Option ‘c’ – 2, 3 and 5 only
Q3. Option ‘d’ – 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5
Q4. Option ‘d’ – Neither 1 nor 2