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DAILY NEWS ANALYSIS

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FOREWORD

We, at Team Vedhik is happy to introduce a new initiative - "Daily Current Affairs_The Hindu" compilations to help you with UPSC Civil Services Examination preparation. We believe this initiative - "Daily Current Affairs_The Hindu" would help students, especially beginners save time and streamline their preparations with regard to Current Affairs. A content page and an Appendix has been added segregating and mapping the content to the syllabus.

It is an appreciable efforts by Vedhik IAS Academy helping aspirants of UPSC Civil Services Examinations. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Dr. Babu Sebastian, former VC - MG University in extending all support to this endeavour. Finally I also extend my thanks to thank Ms. Shilpa Sasidharan and Mr. Shahul Hameed for their assistance in the preparing the compilations.

We welcome your valuable comments so that further improvement may be made in the forthcoming material. We look forward to feedback, comments and suggestions on how to improve and add value for students. Every care has been taken to avoid typing errors and if any reader comes across any such error, the authors shall feel obliged if they are informed at their Email ID.

CONTENTS

- News - 21 bodies recovered from Nepal plane crash site GSP 02 A
- News - 10 Pacific island nations reject China security pact GSP 02 B
- News - Monkeypox won't turn into pandemic: WHO GSP 02 B
- Editorials - An epic contest between Ruto and Odinga GSP 02 D
- Editorials - The status of Russia's invasion of Ukraine GSP 02 D
- Editorials - Doses of statecraft to meet India's challenges GSP 02 O
- Editorials - Needed, education data that engages the poor parent GSP 02 S
- Editorials - Of lungs, trees and sin stocks GSP 02 T
- News - May inflation may slow to 7%: SBI report GSP 03 A
- Editorials - India's changing goal posts over coal GSP 03 D
- News - SC upholds rules for foreign medical students GSP 02 I
- News - Modi releases PM CARES benefits for 'COVID orphans' GSP 02 R

21 bodies recovered from Nepal plane crash site

Search continuing for the remaining person, say officials

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
KATHMANDU

Rescuers on Monday recovered 21 bodies from the wreckage site of the Tara Air plane that crashed in Nepal's mountainous Mustang district on Sunday with 22 people on board, minutes after taking off from the tourist city of Pokhara, officials said.

The turboprop Twin Otter 9N-AET plane went missing on Sunday morning in the mountainous region of Nepal. The Canadian-built plane, flying to the tourist town of Jomsom in central Nepal, was carrying four Indians, two Germans and 13 Nepali passengers, besides a three-member Nepali crew.

Rescuers have recovered 21 bodies from the crash site, the Civil Aviation Authority of Nepal (CAAN) said in a statement. One person was still missing, it added.

It said that 10 bodies were brought to Kathmandu, while 11 were taken to the



In pieces: The wreckage of the Twin Otter plane strewn on a mountain in Mustang district of Nepal on Monday. ■ REUTERS

base camp from where the rescue operation was being coordinated. Sudarshan Bartaula, a spokesperson for Tara Air, said that search and rescue teams were scouring the area for the remaining person.

President Bidya Devi Bhandari and Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba have condoled the death of crew members and passengers in the plane crash.

The government has formed a five-member com-

mission of inquiry headed by senior aeronautical engineer Ratish Chandra Lal Suman to find out the cause of the Tara Air plane crash.

A preliminary investigation revealed that the aircraft had crashed into the mountains after it swerved to the right, instead of turning to the left due to inclement weather, CAAN Director-General Pradeep Adhikari said during a meeting of the International Committee of the Parliament.

10 Pacific island nations reject China security pact

They shouldn't be too anxious about Beijing's aims: Wang

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
SUVA, FIJI

Ten Pacific island nations rebuffed China's push for a wide-ranging regional security pact on Monday, amid worries the proposal was designed to pull them into Beijing's orbit.

Talks in Fiji between Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi and leaders from the small island nations failed to reach an agreement, in a high-profile diplomatic setback for Beijing.

China is offering to radically ramp up its activities in the South Pacific, directly challenging the influence of the United States and its allies in the strategically vital region. The proposed pact would see Beijing train Pacific island police, become involved in cybersecurity, expand political ties, conduct sensitive marine mapping and gain greater access to natural resources on land and in the water.

As an enticement, Beijing is offering millions of dollars



Wang Yi

in financial aid, the prospect of a potentially lucrative China-Pacific islands free trade agreement and access to China's vast market.

Behind the scenes, Pacific leaders have voiced deep misgivings about the offer.

In a recent letter to fellow leaders, David Panuelo, the President of the Federated States of Micronesia, warned the offer was "disingenuous" and would "ensure Chinese influence in government" and "economic control" of key industries. A more soft-spoken rebuke came after the talks, when leaders said they could not agree to Beijing's proposed "Common

Development Vision" due to a lack of regional consensus.

"As always, we put consensus first," co-host and Fijian Prime Minister Frank Bainimarama said, indicating that broad accord would be needed before inking any "new regional agreements".

Papua New Guinea, Samoa and the Federated States of Micronesia were said to be among those concerned about the proposals, along with Taiwan-recognising Palau, which was not invited.

Speaking from Suva, Mr. Wang made the face-saving announcement that the 10 countries had agreed to memorandums of understanding on China's "Belt and Road" initiative. The two sides will "continue to have ongoing and in-depth discussions and consultations to shape more consensus on cooperation", he said, urging those worried by Beijing's intentions not to be "too anxious and don't be too nervous".

Monkeypox won't turn into pandemic: WHO

‘But there are still many unknowns about the virus’

ASSOCIATED PRESS
LONDON

The World Health Organization's top monkeypox expert said she doesn't expect the hundreds of cases reported to date to turn into another pandemic, but acknowledged there are still many unknowns about the disease, including how exactly it's spreading and whether the suspension of mass smallpox immunisation decades ago may somehow be speeding its transmission.



Cases have been found in 23 countries for the first time.

In a public session on Monday, WHO's Rosamund Lewis said it was critical to emphasise that the vast majority of cases being seen in dozens of countries globally are in gay, bisexual or men who have sex with men, so

that scientists can further study the issue and for populations at risk to take precautions. "It's very important to describe this because it appears to be an increase in a mode of transmission that may have been under-recognised in the past," Dr. Lewis, WHO's technical lead on monkeypox, said.

Still, she warned that anyone is at potential risk of the disease, regardless of their sexual orientation. Other experts have pointed out that it may be accidental that the disease was first picked up in gay and bisexual men, saying it could quickly spill over into other groups if it is

not curbed. To date, the WHO said 23 countries that haven't previously had monkeypox have reported more than 250 cases.

Dr. Lewis said it's unknown whether monkeypox is being transmitted by sex or just the close contact between people engaging in sexual activity and described the threat to the general population as "low".

"It is not yet known whether this virus is exploiting a new mode of transmission, but what is clear is that it continues to exploit its well-known mode of transmission, which is close, physical contact," she said.

An epic contest between Ruto and Odinga

In this Kenyan election too, the roles played by ethnicity and tribalism are likely to be decisive

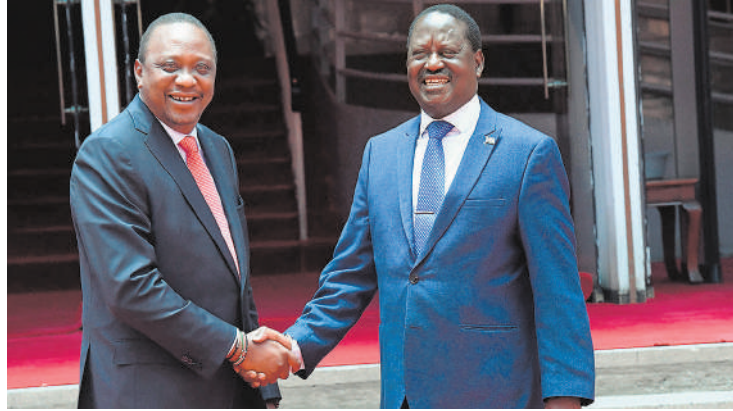


APARAJITA BISWAS

Kenya goes to the polls on August 9, 2022, to elect the country's fifth President, besides national lawmakers, governors and assemblies of its 47 counties. Without a doubt, Kenya's upcoming elections will be among the most significant political events in Africa at a time when democratic governance is receding in parts of the continent. The fact that Kenya is one of Africa's major democracies, and given its history of election-related violence, these polls are important and will be closely watched. A smooth process will consolidate democratic gains in the country and serve as a symbol for the rest of the continent. Political campaigning is in full swing and the debates mostly revolve around political dynasties, tribal power-brokers, and changing inter-ethnic alliances. Grievances about ethnic, financial, and vote-rigging corruption are existential.

A close watch

India is keeping a close watch on the Kenyan election because of the political, economic and cultural relationships forged between the two countries over a considerable period of time. The visit of India's External Affairs Minister to Kenya during the pandemic only underscored the importance that India places on strengthening ties with this crucial East African neighbour. For a maritime country and a regional powerhouse such as India, Kenya assumes immense strategic significance and serves as a gateway to the wider Indian Ocean Region. Kenya's friendship is important to India to curb China's growing aspirations in the region. Also, India faces a number of security threats in the backdrop of a dramatic rise of piracy and terrorist activities in the region. Moreover, Kenya has a vibrant community of Persons of Indian Origin presently numbering 80,000, including 20,000 expatriates. Indians are a successful community, and while their political preferences may differ, they mostly favour a closer bonding between the



While William Ruto had been President Uhuru Kenyatta's running mate for the last two elections, Mr. Kenyatta has this time endorsed long-time rival Raila Odinga. File photo of Mr. Kenyatta (left) and Mr. Odinga's famous handshake.

■ AFP

two countries.

There are a few marked similarities between India and Kenya. Democratic values, pluralism and the rule of law are important for both countries. Like Indians, Kenyans are interested and involved in politics, and are active on social media. Much like caste-based politics has remained centre stage in India's political landscape for decades, ethnic politicking is common in Kenyan politics. In Kenyan politics, the Kikuyu, Luhya, Kalenjin and Luo are the four dominant tribes who have practically ruled the country since independence. In this election too, the roles played by ethnicity and tribalism are likely to be decisive, with voting likely to be along tribal lines.

The candidates

This election has a crowded field of candidates. The leading contenders are Vice President William Ruto and the perennial challenger, Raila Odinga. This is the first time since Kenya's independence that a Kikuyu has not emerged as the main presidential candidate - Mr. Ruto is a Kalenjin, the third largest ethnic group, and Mr. Odinga is a Luo, the fourth largest ethnic group. While Mr. Ruto had been President Uhuru Kenyatta's running mate for the last two elections, Mr. Kenyatta has this time endorsed long-time rival Mr. Odinga, who was the leading contender in the 2017 elections. The famous handshake between President Kenyatta and Opposition leader Odinga in 2018 stunned the country. The amity began that year when they declared a truce after post-election violence in

2017 and lived up to the dictum that politics is the art of the possible. The effect has been a topsy-turvy recasting of political alliances. The handshake and truce have injected considerable unpredictability in the outcome of this election.

The two leading candidates have chosen running mates from the vote-rich Kikuyu ethnic group, the support of which could be vital in determining the outcome. While former Prime Minister Odinga has settled for former Justice Minister Martha Karua, a political icon known for campaigns against corruption, Vice President Ruto has picked businessman Rigathi Gachagua, who is an able political negotiator.

The prominent issues for the contest have been framed clearly by both the parties. Mr. Ruto and his coalition have framed the general elections as a contest between "hustlers" and "dynasties". In Kenya, 'hustlers' refers to those people, especially the young, who struggle to make ends meet in an economy that is said to be no longer working for them. 'Dynasties' is a pointed reference to Mr. Kenyatta's and Mr. Odinga's privileged upbringing as sons of the country's first president and vice president, respectively. By contrast, Mr. Ruto has spoken of how he went to school barefoot, and how he once "hustled by selling chickens by a roadside".

Regarding Kenya's economic agenda, Mr. Ruto has proposed a 'bottom-up' economic model in which the structure of the economy will be geared to help the common man. Mr. Odinga's campaign, on the other

hand, is focused on attacking corruption, especially in high places. The reference to high places is said to be an attack again Mr. Ruto, who has been accused of amassing huge amounts of wealth during his time as Deputy President.

The ethnicity factor

Analysts say despite economic issues emerging as a possible determinant of how people will vote, ethnicity still has a strong influence on the electorate. Besides the issue of inclusivity of all communities in government positions/appointments, the question of Kenya's foreign debt is also core to the 2022 elections. Various organisations have carried out opinion polls to gauge the voting intentions in Kenya. All of them show that a neck and neck competition, with Mr. Ruto and Mr. Odinga tied at 42%.

How does the Indian diaspora fit into this election activity? In 2017, Kenyans of Indian descent were officially recognised as the 44th tribe in Kenya because of their contribution to the country since independence. The recognition has given them a sense of shared identity with the Kenyans. However, there is no candidate of Indian origin contesting for the presidential election. It would in any case be a very tall order given the ethnic dynamics of Kenyan politics. Nonetheless, there are a few candidates of Indian origin in some constituencies running for parliament. An interesting feature of Indian diaspora candidates is that they have increasingly emerged in constituencies outside the cities, in Western and Central Kenya where they had settled, speak the local language, and have developed political constituencies.

It is difficult to gauge who the Indian diaspora may support in the presidential elections. In electoral terms, the Indian diaspora is not a homogeneous community. While the big businessmen generally support government candidates, there is also the view that they hedge their bets and support Opposition candidates, especially when the Opposition's winning prospects are high.

At present, all Kenyans are hoping for a free, fair and peaceful poll.

Aparajita Biswas, former Professor and Director, Centre for African Studies, University of Mumbai, is currently associated with The Strathmore University, Kenya

EXPLAINER

The status of Russia's invasion of Ukraine

As of now, how much of Ukrainian territory is in Russian hands? What lies ahead for both countries vis-a-vis the conflict?

STANLY JOHNY

THE GIST

■ Russia controls from the south, the city of Kherson and the nuclear plant near Zaporizhzhia. In the eastern Donbas region, they have taken almost all major cities including Mariupol. They are currently advancing towards Severodonetsk.

■ Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said on Monday that the "liberation" of Donbas was Russia's "unconditional priority". If Mr. Lavrov should be trusted, Russia is likely to shift its focus to the Ukraine-controlled parts of Donetsk once Severodonetsk is fully in its control.

■ Both Russia and Ukraine have held multiple rounds of talks, since the war began, but there has been no breakthrough. Russia stated in April that the talks were "at a dead end", adding that "Ukraine is not serious about ending the conflict".

The story so far: Three months after Russia started the invasion of Ukraine, its troops are making slow but steady advances in the eastern Donbas region. Russia has faced stiff resistance from the Ukrainian troops from day one and the crisis has snowballed into a larger security contest between Moscow and the West, which has pumped money and weapons to Ukraine. With no peace talks on the table and neither side showing any signs of compromise, the war is likely to grind on for many more weeks, if not months.

What's the current status of the invasion?

Russia started the war on February 24 on three fronts – its troops moved in from the Belarussian border in the north, from the separatists-controlled parts of Donbas in the east and from the Russian-controlled Crimean peninsula in the south. While announcing his "special military operation", President Vladimir Putin said "demilitarisation and de-Nazification" of Ukraine were his goals. It's anybody's guess whether Russia wanted to capture Kyiv and bring in a regime change. But clearly, at least as part of their war strategy, the Russians sought to envelope Kyiv, while its troops attacked cities in the east and south. While its forces made gains in the east and south, they faced stiff resistance from the Ukrainian forces in the north and northeast. As its advances slowed down, Russia pulled back troops from around Kyiv, ending its efforts to envelope the city, and retreated from Kharkiv, Ukraine's second largest city which lies about 40 km from the Russian border, and focussed its resources on the east.

The southern city of Kherson had fallen into Russian hands in the initial days of the war. From the south, Russian troops have moved towards the outskirts of Zaporizhzhia, taking over the eponymous nuclear plant, the largest in Europe. In the eastern Donbas region, the Russians have taken almost all major cities. They took Mariupol, a Sea of Azov port city known for its steel plants, last month after a prolonged siege. They took Lyman in Luhansk last week while advancing towards Severodonetsk, the easternmost city in Ukrainian hands.

As of Monday, pro-Russia media have

claimed, quoting Chechen leader Ramzan Kadyrov, that the Russians have seized Severodonetsk. The Ukrainian authorities have contested this claim, but independent reports confirm that the Russians have entered the city. Faced with the likelihood of being encircled in the east, Ukrainians troops hinted last week that they might make a tactical retreat to bolster their defences elsewhere.

What does Russia want?

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said on Monday that the "liberation" of Donbas was Russia's "unconditional priority". Donbas, the traditional industrial region that has historical ties with Russia, encompasses Ukraine's Luhansk and Donetsk oblasts (now, self-declared Luhansk and Donetsk People's Republics, which were recognised by Mr. Putin as sovereign states before ordering the invasion). Russia has already taken almost all of Luhansk.

Severodonetsk (it was the capital of the Ukrainian-controlled parts of Luhansk), is the only major city where there is still Ukrainian presence in the oblast (province) and all reports indicate that the city would be in complete Russian control within days, if it hasn't already fallen.

Russia and the separatists it backs have also taken a sizeable part of Donetsk, including Mariupol, which allowed Moscow to establish a land bridge from the Russian mainland to Crimea along the coast of the Sea of Azov. Mariupol was also the headquarters of the Azov Battalion, the neo-Nazi group that had been integrated into the Ukrainian armed forces. The capture of the city serves the Russian claims of "de-Nazifying" Ukraine.

If Mr. Lavrov should be trusted, Russia is likely to shift its focus to the Ukraine-controlled parts of Donetsk once Severodonetsk is fully in its control. But there's no clarity on whether Russia would stop the war even if it captures the whole of Donbas. There are conflicting signals from Russian leadership. According to Mr. Putin, "demilitarisation and deNazification" are the goals, which are open for interpretation. As per Mr. Lavrov, "liberation of Donbas" is the priority.

In April, Maj Gen Rustam Minnekayev, a senior Russian commander, said Russia wanted the whole of Ukraine's east and

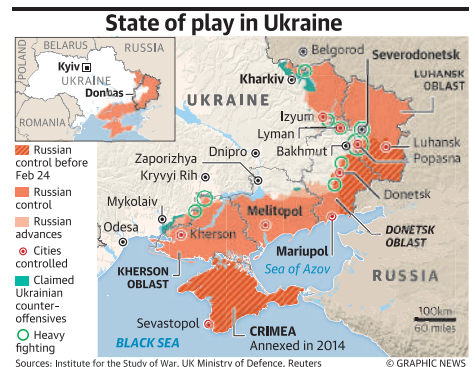
south. If Mr. Minnekayev is right, Russia wants to take, besides Donbas, Kharkiv in the northeast and Mykolaiv, Zaporizhzhia and Odesa in the south, which would turn Ukraine into a landlocked country. Ukraine has already asked for more weapons, including artillery and long-range rockets, from the West, apparently to prepare for the coming battles. The U.S. is sending them the Multiple Launch Rocket Systems (MLRS) and the High Mobility Artillery Rocket Systems (HIMARS) – both light, flexible, long-range rocket launchers. All these suggest that there is no immediate plan from any side to end the war.

Haven't the sanctions hit the Russian economy?

They have. Russia's economy is expected to contract this year. But the sanctions and their impact on the economy are unlikely to influence the Kremlin's strategic thinking for a number of reasons.

First, the war and the western response to it appear to have bolstered Mr. Putin's standing in Russia. According to the Levada Centre, an independent research firm, as of April, 82% Russians approve of his presidency. He doesn't face any immediate threat to his grip on power in Russia. Second, despite the sanctions, the Russian economy doesn't face any imminent collapse. The rouble, which U.S. President Joe Biden threatened to run into "rubble", is one of the best performing currencies this year. The sanctions also jacked up commodity prices, especially that of oil and gas, which is helping Russia, a major oil and gas exporter. Europe remains dependent on Russian gas – close to 40% of its gas requirements are met through imports from Russia. Its attempts to diversify its gas imports by buying LNG from countries such as Qatar and Libya have so far been not successful.

Also, the Russian blockade of Ukraine's sea ports is threatening to send food prices soaring which could impact global food supplies and food security. This has prompted several European countries to reach out to Mr. Putin, seeking a solution. Moreover, countries outside the Western alliances have not joined the sanctions, which means Russia is not as isolated internationally as the West claims it is. So Mr. Putin appears to be ready to fight a war of



attrition, which could hurt the global economy further.

Is there a peace process?

Both Russia and Ukraine have held multiple rounds of talks, in Minsk as well as in Istanbul, since the war began, but there has been no breakthrough. In the last round of the Istanbul talks, Ukraine had apparently made a peace proposal.

According to media reports, Ukraine proposed a 15-year consultation period for Crimea (during this period Kyiv won't contest Russia's control of the peninsula) and direct talks between Presidents Volodymyr Zelensky and Mr. Putin on the status of Donbas. As a "goodwill gesture", the Russians quickly announced that they were withdrawing troops from the outskirts of Kyiv. But soon after the Istanbul talks were concluded, video footage surfaced showing bodies in Bucha, the northern city that the Russians vacated. U.S. President Joe Biden accused Russia of committing "genocide" in Ukraine. The peace process collapsed.

Now, Mr. Zelensky has once again urged direct talks with Mr. Putin, but Russia, which stated in April that the talks were "at a dead end", says "Ukraine is not serious about ending the conflict". In between, the war continues and Ukraine keeps losing territories.

Doses of statecraft to meet India's challenges

It is clear that grand strategy, grand simplifications and higher measures of security are not the answers



M.K. NARAYANAN

The war in Europe, involving Russia and Ukraine – with Kyiv being backed by western powers and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) – and the political turmoils in South Asia dominate newspaper headlines today. This has pushed the debate on India's many internal security problems on the backburner. This is unfortunate, for many long-standing security problems have a propensity to wax and wane and seldom seem to go away.

Limitations of a security vigil

While the country's security agencies do maintain a tight vigil, what is seldom realised is that security agencies can only deal with the immediate threat. Long-term solutions require the use of statecraft. Additional doses of security whenever a situation arises are at best a temporary solution. This does not amount to problem solving. To change the mindsets of both the authorities and those challenging the existing order, it may be first necessary to admit that more and more security has its limitations. The next step is even harder, viz., to admit that the forces threatening the state have lately become nimbler in adopting new technologies and modes of warfare.

In many countries, both the authorities and security agencies are beginning to acknowledge the importance of resorting to statecraft as a vital adjunct to the role played by the security agencies. Statecraft involves fine-grained comprehension of inherent problems; also an ability to quickly respond to political challenges. It further involves strengthening the ability to exploit opportunities as they arise, and display a degree of political nimbleness rather than leaving everything to the security agencies. In short, it entails a shift from reposing all faith in the security establishment to putting equal emphasis on implementation of policies and programmes. In effect, it shifts the emphasis to for-

mulating strategies that favour political deftness, strength and agility, after the initial phase.

Upheaval in Kashmir

Two prime examples which provide grist to the above proposition are the prevailing situation in Jammu and Kashmir and the continuing problem involving Maoists. While Jammu and Kashmir has been a troubled region ever since 1947, the situation has metamorphosed over the years – at times tending to become extremely violent followed by spells of near normalcy. No proper solution has emerged to a long-standing problem.

The ongoing violence in Jammu and Kashmir which started almost 18 to 20 months ago is an instance in point. Political angst over the revocation of Article 370 of the Constitution is possibly one of the reasons for local support being available for the current crop of Jammu and Kashmir militants. A majority of them are believed to be home-grown militants, though backed by elements from across the border in Pakistan. Irrespective of the reasons for the latest upsurge in violence, what is evident is that Jammu and Kashmir has again become the vortex of violence, specialising currently on targeted killings of outsiders, mainly Kashmiri Pandits.

Migrant Kashmiri Pandits returning to Jammu and Kashmir have, no doubt, been given certain concessions, including government jobs. This might have acted as provocation, but what is equally disturbing is the targeted killings of police personnel, many of whom were on duty while some others were on leave. Information filtering out of government vaults suggests that terrorists may have infiltrated the official machinery. They also appear to have access to data banks of the police and security agencies. All this is leading to an atmosphere of uncertainty. Concerns exist that this year's Amarnath Yatra (beginning end June) could well be one of the targets of the militants. If this were to happen, it might well result in a crescendo of violence, leading to large-scale upheaval across Kashmir.

Evidently, the doctrine of containment pursued by the Jammu



GETTY IMAGES

and Kashmir police and security agencies is not having the desired effect. Security analysts believe that a sizeable segment of the new cadres fall into what they perceive as 'unpredictable', and this further aggravates the situation. The history of Jammu and Kashmir is replete with instances where a sizeable presence of such 'unpredictable' elements has tilted the scale in favour of greater violence. What is also disturbing is that strategies intended for one set of militants can seldom be applied to newer elements, making it more difficult to contain the spread of violence. In Jammu and Kashmir today, as also elsewhere, there is no all-in-one grand strategy to deal with the situation. The missing ingredient is statecraft which alone can walk in step with the changing contours of a long-standing problem.

The Maoist shadow

While problems seem to be mounting for the security establishment in Jammu and Kashmir as of now, across several heartland States of India, the police face a different kind of threat. Of all the strands of the militancy in India, Maoists or Naxalites stand apart as being the only ones with strong ideological underpinnings. Notwithstanding its ideological veneer, Maoists/Naxalites nevertheless tend to indulge in mindless violence carrying out brutal killings. The original Maoist leaders in Bengal, Andhra Pradesh and Kerala (in the late 1960s and early 1970s) who were inspired by Charu Mazumdar who talked of a 'Spring Thunder over India' (followed by his claim to have lit a spark to initiate a 'prairie fire') have since been replaced by lesser leaders with few ideological pretensions.

The combination of ideological ideation and brutal killings has of-

ten confused and confounded the police, intelligence and security establishments of the States and the Centre. In that sense, the Maoists represent the biggest challenge to the idea of India. While railing against the use of State violence, and from time to time displaying a willingness to hold peace talks with both the State and Central governments, the Maoists have seldom displayed a commitment to peaceful ways. New adherents, thanks to its ideological underpinnings, are meanwhile readily available, and this further perplexes the authorities who often tend to claim 'that Maoism is on its last legs'. More than any other militant or violent movement in the country, curbing the Maoist menace will require considerable doses of statecraft, as many of the purported demands of the Maoists find an echo among intellectuals in the cities and the 'poorest of the poor' in the rural areas.

In Punjab and the North-east

The need to use statecraft to deal with quite a few other internal security problems – some of which have lain dormant for years – is also becoming more manifest by the day. In this category may be included the resurgence of militancy by pro-Khalistan groups in the Punjab, which could spill over into Haryana and Himachal Pradesh. The recent discovery of 'sleeping cells' in the Punjab clearly indicates the potential for the revival of a pro-Khalistan movement – which once ravaged large parts of the Punjab. While pro-Khalistani sentiment is present in pockets in the United Kingdom and in Europe, it has not been in evidence in India for some time. Hence, the recent attack by pro-Khalistan elements on the headquarters of the Punjab Police Intelligence wing in Mohali was a rude shock to the security establishment. The incident appeared to be like a warning shot 'across the bow' by the Babbar Khalsa International, which has the backing of Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence – a reminder that militancy in the Punjab has not been permanently extinguished, and will need deft statecraft to nip it in the bud.

In India's North-east, more specifically in the States of Assam and Nagaland, there are again inci-

dent signs of trouble which, for the present, may need use of statecraft rather than the security forces. In Assam, the United Liberation Front of Asom-Independent (ULFA-I) is trying to revive its activities after a long spell of hibernation. Currently, the ULFA-I operates from Myanmar, and its fortunes have been on a steady decline in the past decade. However, latest reports indicate that ULFA-I has embarked on a recruitment drive which will need to be curbed before matters get out of hand. Likewise in Nagaland, where the National Socialist Council of Nagalim (I-M) has recently initiated a fresh push for a solution of the 'Naga political issue', the situation is pregnant with serious possibilities. Both instances merit the use of statecraft so that the situation does not get out of hand.

A threat in the South

In the South, intelligence and police officials appear concerned about a likely revival of Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE)-sponsored activities in Tamil Nadu. This stems from a possible revival of LTTE-sponsored militancy in Sri Lanka following the recent economic crises and uncertainty there. Security agencies in India believe that an attempt could be made to reach out to elements in Tamil Nadu to revive the spirit of the 1980s. This situation again needs deft statecraft to prevent a resurgence of the past.

Hence, it should be evident that statecraft is critical in finding lasting solutions to a host of problems that continue to afflict India. India faces several challenges today, but the answer to this is neither grand strategy nor grand simplifications nor resort to higher doses of security. India must navigate its way through a complex set of circumstances and situations, and suitably manage crises which might otherwise undermine peace and stability. A properly structured set of policies, having liberal doses of statecraft in addition to a proper set of security measures, is the best answer to India's needs, now and in the future.

M.K. Narayanan is a former Director, Intelligence Bureau, a former National Security Adviser and a former Governor of West Bengal

Needed, education data that engages the poor parent

What India lacks — and needs — is data which can hold the local vision of education and local actors accountable



PRIYADARSHINI SINGH

When the children of the poor cannot read and write, when they do not play and dance in school, can the poor speak and demand change? We gather data on enrolments, retention, learning, infrastructure, and teacher training to understand the state of our public school system. But is data enough to inspire transformative change?

The case of Rajasthan

The case of Rajasthan is intriguing. Media writings in recent years have variously highlighted the marked fall or improvement in learning outcomes, depending on the dataset being referred to — the Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) which is led by the non-governmental organisation, Pratham, or the National Achievement Survey (NAS) which is led by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT). According to ASER 2019 data, Rajasthan was among the bottom five States in learning levels, while in NAS 2017, Rajasthan was among the top performers. Valid as this debate is, it has limited resonance for the ultimate end-user of a government school, i.e. the parent. Much like the Public Report on

Basic Education (PROBE) in India of 1999 which highlighted the very poor state of government school infrastructure — shocking the education community in India — these debates do not involve school users.

Data on school education is collected to measure and monitor, fix flaws and reward achievements at the State and the national levels. Its end users are school administrators, government agencies, researchers, and civil society activists. Despite near consensus among policymakers and those who produce the data, that parents are one of the key constituencies of school data, and intense efforts to disseminate data among them, it is rarely used by poor parents. For them, schooling is about examination outcome, which is a proxy for learning, English language skills and a chance for secondary and graduate level degrees. Data on school infrastructure at the district level, or learning levels at the State level cannot galvanise the masses; at worse it can come across as a descriptor of the way things are in a government system — immutable, and hopeless.

One form of a vision

To inspire transformation, data has to be linked with a vision of school education which addresses the anxieties and aspirations of parents, and is actionable at the level of governance closest to them, i.e. the local administrative and political system. The poor will speak



FARIHA FAROQUI

when the data speaks to them and they can speak to the authorities empowered to act.

A national-level policy is just one form of an inspiring education vision. Ideally, it should encompass the essence of the vision of the people. And the vision will manifest itself differently at the national, State, district and local levels and exist in both policy and non-policy forms — for example, in the workings of say panchayat schools, when it focuses on learning and personality development among migrant children, or non-governmental organisation programmes strengthening teacher capacity for multilingual classrooms. Presently, there is no vision of education below the national level, least of all at those which engage the marginalised.

The district and school development plans introduced in national-level programmes such as the District Primary Education Programme (DPEP) and Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) have largely remained administrative practices. They were not representatives of parent-school consensus on what schooling means. Community-

based consultative bodies such as the school management committees and parent-teacher committees could not become platforms to facilitate this.

Balancing objectives

A locally rooted education vision is one that emerges from social and political consensus on why a child needs a school education. Is it to reach college? Is it to get a job after school? Is it for personality development? Is it to be an active citizen? What does a top-class government elementary school mean? This vision has to be led by local political actors and become a central part of local politics which involves both formal actors such as political party workers, and non-formal ones such as community leaders. This does not mean that ideas, practices and policies from the national level are discarded as irrelevant and elitist. Elite ideas are not necessarily elitist. On the one hand, a vision of schooling will balance immediate, tangible, popularly understandable objectives such as reading, writing as well as livelihood relevant skills and knowledge. On the other, it will include long term and abstract objectives such as peer connections, negotiating social diversity, and curiosity for new knowledge and experiences.

There is nothing about the poor that suggests that they cannot imagine schooling beyond basic livelihood to include art and culture. It is the skill and dynamics of local politicians and politics, respective-

ly, to uphold such a vision and ensure its implementation through contestation.

Presently, our school education is de-politicised, except for a few aspects such as history curriculum, language of instruction and so on. These energise national politics. Not local level contestations where some of the issues are rather settled, parents want English language competency for their children, and what they learn in history is not as worthy as maths.

The right data

It is only when data is connected with a locally developed and politically owned vision of school education that it will move beyond the administrator and the activist. Social welfare is about people, and their participation has to be simple, intuitive and energetic. If the right systems of governance and authority are designed and tools to engage with them are made available, the poor will speak up. What we lack and need is data which can hold the local vision of education and local actors accountable as much as the one we have right now, which focuses on the national one. Why should a 30-year-old parent in Bundi district in Rajasthan care whether her district had contradictory results on learning surveys of ASER and NAS? The data we collect assumes that she does not need to. It is not her business.

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Of lungs, trees and sin stocks

Large corporate enterprises themselves are making efforts to reduce the harm of tobacco consumption



LANCELOT PINTO & MAHUA ACHARYA

The second Global Adult Tobacco Survey estimated that 28.6% of all adults in India used tobacco in 2016-2017, second only to China. The survey said 42.4% of men and 14.2% of women used tobacco – both the smokeless form, i.e. chewing tobacco, and smoked form, i.e. cigarettes and ‘bidis’.

In 1987, the World Health Organization (WHO) marked ‘World No Tobacco Day’ to bring attention to the ill-effects of tobacco. ‘Poisoning our planet’ is the theme for May 31 this year, in an effort to highlight the ill-effects of tobacco on the environment.

Harm to health and environment

In 2021, smoking killed about 8 million people. But tobacco is not just a bane on human health. According to the WHO, 600 million trees are chopped down annually to make cigarettes, 84 million tonnes of CO₂ emissions are released into the atmosphere, and 22 billion litres of water are used to make cigarettes. In addition to the environmental costs of production, cigarette butts, packaging, plastic pouches of smokeless tobacco, and electronics and batteries associated with e-cigarettes pollute our environment.

India, the world’s second largest producer of tobacco, produces about 800 million kg annually. Most efforts to counter the tobacco epidemic have been directed at creating awareness about the ill-effects of tobacco. These have borne fruit. Over 90% of adults in India, across strata, identify tobacco as being harmful. Additional gains in overcoming the ill-effects of tobacco are therefore unlikely to come from more awareness campaigns alone. While several campaigns have also dealt with finding alternative livelihoods for tobacco farmers, an issue that sometimes goes unnoticed is deforestation.

About 6 million farmers and 20 million farm labourers work in tobacco farming across 15 States (Central Tobacco Research Institute). Although farming of tobacco only contributes to 1% of GDP as per one study, the direct health expenditure on treating tobacco-related diseases alone accounts for 5.3% of total health spending in India in a year (WHO). Despite this, farming of tobacco cannot be stopped without serious economic consequences and/or social disruption.

Thankfully, there are market-based solutions. The forestry community has devised

solutions and instruments to incentivise the reduction of deforestation through the use of carbon credits. With the surge in new commitments to zero carbon from the international commodity sector, companies are putting pressure on their supply chains to transition to sustainable practices and reduce deforestation. Companies like Unilever, Amazon, Nestlé, Alibaba, and Mahindra Group are pledging to cut emissions and are poised to invest an estimated \$50 billion in nature-based solutions such as carbon sinks. This is driving new interest in sourcing from sustainable landscapes and buying high-quality forest carbon credits. The revenue from this is many times higher than the earnings from selling tobacco leaves.

Cigarette companies themselves appear to be changing. In 2016, one of the largest cigarette companies pledged to begin transitioning its customers away from tobacco to smoke-free products. By 2019, it reported it was spending 98% of its research and development budget to back up this goal. Though first met with scepticism, this strategy of transitioning to ‘socially responsible bottom-lines’ is picking up speed. The rise of environmental, social, and governance (ESG) managers has helped. By looking at exposure to child labour, wasted energy and water, and diversity in management ranks, ESG managers say they have a clearer sense of a company’s long-term survival options.

Better than before

Some companies have shown much greater levels of disclosure than their competitors. These statistics don’t necessarily show how good the companies themselves are, but rather how much less harmful they are than they used to be. In a way, these so-called front runners are helping sin stocks get recognition for doing less harm than before by quantifying the pace of change. By transitioning to safer nicotine delivery systems, and moving away from tobacco, cigarette companies are potentially lowering the risk of their customers dying from cancer.

So, all is not grim. While there are problems in the business of tobacco and cigarettes, there are options, solutions and global movements being undertaken by the largest corporate enterprises. Educating potential consumers to not consume tobacco, supporting consumers in their journey to quit, and incentivising industry to help consumers and the planet will protect not just our lungs, but also the air we breathe.

Lancelot Pinto is Pulmonologist/Epidemiologist, P.D. Hinduja Hospital; Mahua Acharya is MD and CEO, Convergence Energy Services Limited, Government of India. Views are personal

May inflation may slow to 7%: SBI report

'Recent steps to tame prices may take few months to fully impact, deficit on track'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

India's retail inflation may ease to 7% in May, from the almost eight-year high of 7.8% in April, said State Bank of India economists, who reckoned that the Centre could still meet its fiscal deficit target of 6.4% of GDP for this year thanks to conservative revenue estimates in the Union Budget.

While the full impact of the recent measures to curb runaway inflation, including the excise duty cuts on fuel products and import-export duty tweaks for steel and plastic, would be visible only in later months, the economists said in a research report that the steps could decelerate the pace of price gains by about 35 to 40 basis points. One hundred basis



Within grasp: 'Fiscal deficit of 6.4% looks likely as estimates for revenue collections are conservative'. ■ SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

points are equal to one percentage point.

"Under current circumstances, consumer price inflation is expected to average at 6.5%-6.7% in 2022-23," SBI

group chief economic adviser Soumya Kanti Ghosh noted in the report. "Additionally, these measures are likely to have fiscal implication for the Centre as well [but] con-

sidering the conservative budgetary estimates, the net fiscal implication could be around ₹66,000 crore."

'Expanded subsidy bill'

The government has increased its fertilizer subsidy bill by ₹1.1 lakh crore and announced a subsidy payment of ₹200 per gas cylinder for up to 12 cylinders to about 9 crore beneficiaries of the PM Ujjwala Yojna. Customs duties on large quantities of edible oil imports have also been waived.

"These measures in total will have fiscal implication of around ₹2.5 lakh crore. However, the revenue collection for 2022-23 is expected to be higher than estimates in the Budget as they were on the conservative side," the economists concluded.

EXPLAINER

India's changing goal posts over coal

Is India's ambition to phase out coal-based power generation and switch to a natural gas-based energy production, viable?

K. BHARAT KUMAR

The story so far: In April, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said India's transition away from coal as a fuel for power would be hampered by the Russia-Ukraine war. "One calculation which I think we had in our mind was that the transition [away from coal] ... will be enabled by natural gas," she said, adding that "lowering dependence on coal, and the speed with which we want to get out of it, will now be challenged."

Why is the 'move away from coal' so important?

The threat of global warming looms over the planet, promising to bring about unprecedented natural calamities.

An effective way to keep the danger at bay is to cut the use of fossil fuels – coal, natural gas and oil. About 80% of the world's energy requirements are met by these three fuels. They have likely brought on the climate crisis we now face, as they trigger the emission of carbon dioxide. However, the worst culprit of them all is coal, which emits nearly twice as much carbon dioxide as natural gas and about 60% more than oil, on a kilogram-to-kilogram comparison.



* REUTERS

Combusting coal also leaves behind partially-burnt carbon particles that feed pollution and trigger respiratory disorders. The consequence of these chemical reactions gains great significance because, the power sector in India accounts for 49% of total carbon dioxide emissions, compared with the global average of 41%.

What is the extent of India's dependence on coal?

As of February 2022, the installed capacity for coal-based power generation across the country was 2.04 lakh megawatt (MW). This accounts for about 51.5% of power from all sources. This compares with about 25,000 MW of capacity based on natural gas as fuel, or a mere 6.3% of all installed capacity.

Renewable power accounted for 1.06 lakh MW or 27%.

Coal-based power stations are retired periodically which happens all the time. But is not fast enough nor are new additions being halted. And with good reason - coal is still inexpensive compared with other sources of energy.

For FY20, for example, India added 6,765 MW power capacity based on coal as fuel. But only 2,335 MW was retired. According to the IEA's Coal Report 2021, India's coal consumption will increase at an average annual rate of 3.9% to 1.18 billion tonnes in 2024.

So, it is not easy to shift away from coal overnight. As the World Coal Association CEO Melissa Manook put it while on her India visit recently, "Coal will still be a significant contributor in the energy sector even in 2040!"

How has war made India's move away from coal difficult?

Natural gas has been dubbed as the transition fuel in India's plans to move away from coal. The international cost of natural gas has zoomed in the recent past from a level that was considered already too high to be financially viable. On May 17, 2022, the price per MMBTU of gas was

₹1,425, compared with ₹500 in April, 2021.

Even back in November last, well before the war made things difficult, the government put in place a committee to ensure that natural gas prices remained stable. Of the 25,000 MW of gas-based power plants, about 14,000 MW remains stranded, or idle, because they are financially unviable.

While renewable energy sources are cheaper than coal, their ability to generate power consistently is subject to the whims of nature – the wind and the Sun. Coal can give you power on demand. Storage technologies are still not mature enough to help renewable energy sources become reliable generators of power.

Is there a coal availability crisis that is exacerbating our problems?

It appears that the pent-up demand returning in the economy which was in a pandemic-induced stupor for a while has caught policymakers off guard. From having asked States only recently to stop importing coal, the power Ministry urged States earlier this month to step up coal imports as the private sector would take till about 2025 to produce significant

amounts of coal.

As per a letter by the Ministry, Coal India, the country's largest supplier of the dry fuel is set to import coal for the first time since 2015. The aim of the exercise is to avoid a repeat of the power outage crisis that India faced in April – the worst in more than six years. Following the issue of the letter dated May 28 to all state utilities, officials at the States and the Centre, including to the Coal Secretary, the central government has asked States to place import tenders on hold with a view to cut procurement costs using government-to-government channels.

An internal power Ministry presentation is said to point to a 42.5 million tonne (MT) coal shortage in the quarter ending September on the back of high demand for power supply. The shortage is 15% higher than earlier anticipated. Domestic supply of coal is expected to be 154.7 MT, compared with the projected requirement of 197.3 MT. The previously anticipated shortage was 37 MT. The projections for requirements for the year ending March are 3.3% higher than earlier anticipated at 784.6 MT. Without imports, utilities are likely to run out of coal supplies by July.

THE GIST

■ Coal consumption needs to come down as the power sector in India accounts for 49% of total carbon dioxide emissions, compared with the global average of 41%.

■ As of February 2022, the installed capacity for coal-based power generation across the country was 2.04 lakh MW. This accounts for about 51.5% of power from all sources. Natural gas has been dubbed as the transition fuel.

■ As per a letter by the power Ministry, Coal India, the country's largest supplier of the dry fuel is set to import coal for the first time since 2015. The aim of the exercise is to avoid a repeat of the power outage crisis that India faced in April.

SC upholds rules for foreign medical students

'Exploitative founders of infrastructure-deficient colleges have led to decline of medical education'

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court has noted that “overambitious parents” and “exploitative founders of infrastructure-deficient” colleges have led to the decline and commercialisation of medical education and upheld the National Medical Commission’s regulations that prescribe certain strictures before foreign medical graduates can practise in India.

The regulations had in the recent past been a point of debate with relation to Indian students who were forced to return due to the Ukraine crisis.

A Bench of Justices Hemant Gupta and V. Ramasubramanian, in a judgment in



The regulations had been a point of debate when Indian students returned from war-hit Ukraine. ■ K. MURALIKUMAR

early May, upheld the regulatory validity of the National Medical Commission (Foreign Medical Graduate Licentiate) Regulations, 2021 and the National Medical Commission (Compulsory Rotating Medical Internship)

Regulations, 2021.

The first one requires the foreign medical graduates (FMGs) to undergo a medical course for a minimum of 54 months and an internship for a minimum duration of 12 months in the same foreign

medical institution; to register with a professional regulatory body competent to grant licence in the same foreign country and further undergo a supervised 12-month internship in India after applying to the National Medical Commission.

The second lists rigorous conditions for internship in India for the FMGs.

Regulations challenged

Both set of regulations had been challenged in appeals filed in the Supreme Court as violative of the right to health of the public and the right to profession of students.

The appellants had argued that the regulations placed a heavy and arbitrary

burden upon students who want to pursue medical education abroad.

But the Bench did not agree with the point of view of the appellants.

The judgment, authored by Justice Ramasubramanian, said that though it was “true that the country needs more doctors, but it needs really qualified doctors and not persons trained by institutions abroad, to test their skills only in their motherland”.

The court drew attention to how every time the regulatory authorities took steps to plug the loopholes in the medical education and reform the system and their efforts would come under challenge in courts.

Modi releases PM CARES benefits for 'COVID orphans'

A total of 4,439 children identified; no poor person will be left out, says PM

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

"*Maa Bharati* is with all of you," Prime Minister Narendra Modi told children orphaned by COVID-19 who received their benefits under the PM CARES scheme on Monday.

"Today, the poorest of the poor is confident that they will receive benefits from government schemes. No poor person should be left out of government schemes, that is our utmost priority," Mr. Modi told the beneficiaries across various districts who joined the programme through teleconference.

A total of 4,439 children have been approved for the scheme. Children who lost both their parents or a primary caregiver between March 11, 2020 and February 28, 2022 are eligible for the



Prime Minister Narendra Modi attends the release of benefits under the PM Cares for Children scheme through a video conference in New Delhi. ■ PTI

scheme. The PM also wrote an emotional personal letter to the beneficiaries. "A century ago, when the entire world was in the grip of a terrible pandemic like today, my mother lost her mother, i.e. my maternal grandmother. My mother was so young that today she doesn't remember her mother's face.

She spent an entire life in the absence of her mother, without her affection. Therefore, today, I can very well understand the anguish in your mind, the conflict in your heart," he wrote.

The scheme offers a lump-sum amount of ₹10 lakh when children turn 23 years old as well as a monthly stipend from the age of 18 to 23.

School-going children will receive free education, textbooks and uniforms in the nearest government schools.

Those in private schools may avail themselves of fee reimbursement. Students can also take loans for professional courses and higher education.

General Studies Paper I

A	History of Indian culture will cover the salient aspects of art forms, literature and architecture from ancient to modern times;
B	Modern Indian history from about the middle of the eighteenth century until the present-significant events, personalities, issues;
C	Freedom struggle-its various stages and important contributors / contributions from different parts of the country;
D	Post-independence consolidation and reorganization within the country;
E	History of the world will include events from 18 th century such as industrial revolution, world wars, re-drawing of national boundaries, colonization, decolonization,
F	Political philosophies like communism, capitalism, socialism etc.-their forms and effect on the society
G	Salient features of Indian Society, Diversity of India;
H	Effects of globalization on Indian society;
I	Role of women and women's organization;
J	Social empowerment, communalism, regionalism & secularism
K	Salient features of world's physical geography;
L	Geographical features and their location- changes in critical geographical features (including water bodies and ice-caps) and in flora and fauna and the effects of such changes;
M	Important Geophysical phenomena such as earthquakes, Tsunami, Volcanic activity, cyclone etc.
N	Distribution of key natural resources across the world (including South Asia and the Indian subcontinent);
O	Factors responsible for the location of primary, secondary, and tertiary sector industries in various parts of the world (including India);
P	Population and associated issues;
Q	Urbanization, their problems and their remedies

General Studies Paper II

A	India and its neighbourhood- relations;
B	Important International institutions, agencies and fora- their structure, mandate;
C	Effect of policies and politics of developed and developing countries on India's interests;
D	Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India's interests.
E	Indian Constitution, historical underpinnings, evolution, features, amendments, significant provisions and basic structure;
F	Comparison of the Indian Constitutional scheme with other countries;
G	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; Inclusive growth and issues arising from it;
H	Parliament and State Legislatures - structure, functioning, conduct of business, powers & privileges and issues arising out of these;
I	Structure, organization and functioning of the executive and the judiciary, Ministries and Departments;

J	Separation of powers between various organs dispute redressal mechanisms and institutions;
K	Appointment to various Constitutional posts, powers, functions and responsibilities of various Constitutional bodies;
L	Statutory, regulatory and various quasi-judicial bodies;
M	Mechanisms, laws, institutions and bodies constituted for the protection and betterment of these vulnerable sections;
N	Salient features of the Representation of People's Act;
O	Important aspects of governance, transparency and accountability, e-governance- applications, models, successes, limitations, and potential;
P	Citizens charters, transparency & accountability and institutional and other measures;
Q	Issues relating to poverty and hunger,
R	Welfare schemes for vulnerable sections of the population by the Centre and States, Performance of these schemes;
S	Issues relating to development and management of social sector / services relating to education and human resources;
T	Issues relating to development and management of social sector / services relating to health
General Studies Paper III	
A	Indian Economy and issues relating to planning, mobilization of resources, growth, development and employment;
B	Effects of liberalization on the economy, changes in industrial policy and their effects on industrial growth;
C	Inclusive growth and issues arising from it;
D	Infrastructure Energy, Ports, Roads, Airports, Railways etc. Government budgeting;
E	Land reforms in India
F	Major crops, cropping patterns in various parts of the country, different types of irrigation and irrigation systems;
G	Storage, transport and marketing of agricultural produce and issues and related constraints;
H	e-technology in the aid of farmers; Technology Missions; Economics of Animal-Rearing.
I	Issues of buffer stocks and food security, Public Distribution System- objectives, functioning, limitations, revamping;
J	Food processing and related industries in India – scope and significance, location, upstream and downstream requirements, supply chain management;
K	Issues related to direct and indirect farm subsidies and minimum support prices
L	Awareness in the fields of IT, Space, Computers, robotics, nano-technology, bio-technology;
M	Indigenization of technology and developing new technology;
N	Developments and their applications and effects in everyday life;
O	Issues relating to intellectual property rights
P	Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation, environmental impact assessment
Q	Disaster and disaster management
R	Challenges to internal security through communication networks, role of media and social networking sites in internal security challenges, basics of cyber security;
S	Money-laundering and its prevention;

T	Various forces and their mandate;
U	Security challenges and their management in border areas;
V	Linkages of organized crime with terrorism;
W	Role of external state and non-state actors in creating challenges to internal security;
X	Linkages between development and spread of extremism.
General Studies Paper IV	
A	Ethics and Human Interface: Essence, determinants and consequences of Ethics in human actions;
B	Dimensions of ethics;
C	Ethics in private and public relationships. Human Values - lessons from the lives and teachings of great leaders, reformers and administrators;
D	Role of family, society and educational institutions in inculcating values.
E	Attitude: Content, structure, function; its influence and relation with thought and behaviour;
F	Moral and political attitudes;
G	Social influence and persuasion.
H	Aptitude and foundational values for Civil Service , integrity, impartiality and non-partisanship, objectivity, dedication to public service, empathy, tolerance and compassion towards the weaker sections.
I	Emotional intelligence-concepts, and their utilities and application in administration and governance.
J	Contributions of moral thinkers and philosophers from India and world.
K	Public/Civil service values and Ethics in Public administration: Status and problems;
L	Ethical concerns and dilemmas in government and private institutions;
M	Laws, rules, regulations and conscience as
N	sources of ethical guidance;
O	Accountability and ethical governance; strengthening of ethical and moral values in governance; ethical issues in international relations and funding;
P	Corporate governance.
Q	Probity in Governance: Concept of public service;
R	Philosophical basis of governance and probity;
S	Information sharing and transparency in government, Right to Information, Codes of Ethics, Codes of Conduct, Citizen's Charters, Work culture, Quality of service delivery, Utilization of public funds, challenges of corruption.
T	Case Studies on above issues.