

INSIGHTS TEXTBOOK-BASED PRELIMS TEST SERIES 2020-21 [GS + CSAT]

[INCLUDES THEMATIC TESTS]

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1. Textbook-based Schedule (Thematic tests start from Test 13)

Test No	Date	Test topics and sources
TEST – 1	15th Jan 2021 Friday	NCERT (class VI and VII)
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. History – Our Past - Class VI 2. The Earth Our Habitat - Class VI 3. Social and Political Life – I 4. Social and Political Life – II 5. Our Environment - Class VII 6. Science - Class VI and VII <p>Current Events (1st June 2020 till date) Sources: Insights CA + PIB + DowntoEarth http://www.downtoearth.org.in/ (Common source for all tests) Map based questions - Region: India</p> <p>Mains Self Study Test (10 Questions) - Based on Above Topics</p>
TEST – 2	19th Jan 2021 Tuesday	NCERT (Class VII and VIII)
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Resource and Development - Class VIII 2. Social and Political Life - Class VIII 3. Our Pasts – II - Class VII 4. Our Pasts - III (Part - I) - Class VIII

		<p>Current Events (1st June 2020 till date)</p> <p>Map based questions - Region: South Asia</p> <p>10% Qs based on topics covered in any of the previous tests</p> <p>Mains Self Study Test (10 Questions) - Based on Above Topics</p>
TEST - 3	23rd Jan 2021 Saturday	NCERT (Class VIII and IX)
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Science – Class VIII 2. Democratic Politics – IX 3. Contemporary India – I – Class IX 4. Our Pasts – III (Part – 2) – Class VIII <p>Current Events (1st June 2020 till date)</p> <p>Map based questions – Region: West Asia (Middle-east)</p> <p>10% Qs based on topics covered in any of the previous tests</p> <p>Mains Self Study Test (10 Questions) - Based on Above Topics</p>
TEST – 4	27th Jan 2021 Wednesday	NCERT (Class IX and Class X)
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Science - Class IX 2. Contemporary India - II - Class X 3. Economics - Class IX 4. Understanding Economic Development - Class X <p>Current Events (1st June 2020 till date)</p> <p>Map based questions – Region: East and South-east Asia</p> <p>10% Qs based on topics covered in any of the previous tests</p> <p>Mains Self Study Test (10 Questions) - Based on Above Topics</p>

CSAT TEST - 1		
CSAT TEST - 1	27th Jan 2021 Wednesday	1. Comprehension 2. Basic numeracy & General mental ability (a) Numbers (b) HCF & LCM (c) Averages (d) Ratio & Proportion (e) Percentage (f) Profit & Loss (g) Simple interest & Compound interest (h) Problems on ages (i) Problems on clock (j) Partnership (k) Pipes & cistern
TEST - 5	31st Jan 2021 Sunday	NCERT (Class X and XI)
		1. An Introduction to Indian Art - Class XI 2. Democratic Politics - X 3. Science - Class X Current Events (1 st June 2020 till date) Map based questions - Region: Central and Northern Asia Questions based on UPSC past year papers – CSP and topics from CS(M), CDS, CAPF etc. (related to topics mentioned in the above sources) 10% Qs based on topics covered in any of the previous tests Mains Self Study Test (10 Questions) - Based on Above Topics
REVISION TEST (Covers all Previous Tests)		
TEST - 6	4th Feb 2021 Thursday	Test 1- 5 Syllabus Current Events (1 st June 2020 till date)
TEST - 7	8th Feb 2021 Monday	NCERT Class XI
		1. Chemistry - Chapter 14 2. Biology - Chapters 11-22 (under Unit 4 and 5) 3. Fundamentals of Physical Geography

		Current Events (1 st June 2020 till date) Map based questions - Region: Europe 10% Qs based on topics covered in any of the previous tests Mains Self Study Test (10 Questions) - Based on Above Topics
TEST - 8	12th Feb 2021 Friday	NCERT (Class XI)
		1. India Physical Environment 2. Indian Constitution at Work 3. Living Craft Traditions of India - Chapters 9 and 10 (Class XI) Current Events (1 st June 2020 till date) Map based questions - Region: Africa 10% Qs based on topics covered in any of the previous tests Mains Self Study Test (10 Questions) - Based on Above Topics
CSAT TEST - 2		
CSAT TEST - 2	12th Feb 2021 Friday	1. Comprehension 2. Basic numeracy & General mental ability (a) Time & work (b) Time & Distance (c) Boats & streams (d) Problems on trains (e) Permutation & combination (f) Probability (g) charts, graphs, tables etc.
TEST - 9	16th Feb 2021 Tuesday	NCERT (Class XI and XII)
		1. Indian Economic Development – Class XI 2. Themes in Indian History – I 3. Biology – Class XII – Chapters 1-7 (Under Units 5 and 6) Current events (1 st June 2020 till date) Map based questions – Region: North America 10% Qs based on topics covered in any of the previous tests

		Mains Self Study Test (10 Questions) - Based on Above Topics
TEST - 10	20th Feb 2021 Saturday	NCERT (Class XII)
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chemistry - Chapter 16 - Class XII 2. Biology - Class XII - Chapters 8-16 (Under Units 8, 9 and 10) 3. Physics - Class XI - Chapter 5, 8 (Laws of Motion and Gravitation) 4. Physics - Class XII - Chapter 15 (Communication Satellites) 5. Fundamentals of Human Geography <p>Current Events (1st June 2020 till date)</p> <p>Map based questions – Region: South America</p> <p>10% Qs based on topics covered in any of the previous tests</p> <p>Mains Self Study Test (10 Questions) - Based on Above Topics</p>
TEST - 11	24th Feb 2021 Wednesday	NCERT (Class XII) + TRIBES (Thematic)
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. India - People and Economy 2. Themes in Indian History - II & III 3. Ministry of Tribal affairs website - Special focus on PVTGs - https://tribal.nic.in/Statistics.aspx 4. Tribes covered in Insights Current affairs compilations 2020 5. Major tribal (cover state-wise) and racial groups in India (Caucasian, Mongoloid, Australoid, Negroid etc.) <p>Current Events (1st June 2020 till date)</p> <p>Map based questions - Region: Antarctica & Australia</p> <p>10% Qs based on topics covered in any of the previous tests</p> <p>Mains Self Study Test (10 Questions) - Based on Above Topics</p>
REVISION TEST (Covers all Previous Tests)		
TEST - 12	28th Feb 2021 Sunday	Test 1- 11 Syllabus Current Events (1 st June 2020 till date)
CSAT TEST - 3		
CSAT TEST - 3	28th Feb 2021 Sunday	Revision test of Test 1 & Test 2 syllabus

TEST - 13	3rd Mar 2021 Wednesday	STANDARD SOURCES + INTERNATIONAL-1 (Thematic)
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. LAXMIKANTH –5th edition - Indian Polity- Chapters 1 to 7 2. Introductory Macroeconomics 3. Tamilnadu History Textbook - Class XI - Chapters 1-3 4. International borders of India, related agreements, treaties and issues (see Min of External Affairs website) 5. International NGOs working in India and Indian NGOs - e.g. Greenpeace, ADR, SEWA <p>Current Events (1st June 2020 till date) Map based questions - Region: Arctic 10% Qs based on topics covered in any of the previous tests</p> <p>Mains Self Study Test (10 Questions) - Based on Above Topics</p>
TEST - 14	7th Mar 2021 Sunday	STANDARD BOOKS/SOURCES + INTERNATIONAL-2 (Thematic)
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. LAXMIKANTH – 5th edition - Indian Polity - Chapters 8 to 16 2. RAMESH SINGH 10th edition: Ch 1-5: Introduction; Growth, Development and Happiness; Evolution of the Indian Economy; Economic Planning; Planning in India 3. Tamil Nadu History Textbook - Class XI - Chapters 4-8 4. Contemporary World Politics 5. Ministry of External Affairs website - cover major trade agreements and partnerships of India 6. UN Specialized agencies - websites, and that of regional bodies e.g. ASEAN, BIMSTEC, SAARC, BRICS, SCO 7. India Yearbook 2020 - Ch on India and World <p>Current Events (1st June 2020 till date) 10% Qs based on topics covered in any of the previous tests</p> <p>Mains Self Study Test (10 Questions) - Based on Above Topics</p>
TEST - 15	11th Mar 2021 Thursday	STANDARD SOURCES + AGRICULTURE-1 (Thematic)
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. LAXMIKANTH – 5th edition - Indian Polity - Chapters 17 to 26 2. RAMESH SINGH 10th Edition: Ch 6-9: Economic Reforms; Inflation and Business Cycle; Agriculture and Food Management; Industry and Infrastructure

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. India Yearbook 2020- Ch 4,15 & 27 on Agriculture; Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Aff.; Water Resources 4. <i>IFS</i> (Indian Forest Service) Agriculture Mains Optional Syllabus – Part 1 – See Appendix below 5. Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare and other websites – full list of websites in the Appendix below 6. Tamil Nadu History Textbook - Class XI - Chapters 9-13 <p>Current Events (1st June 2020 till date)</p> <p>10% Qs based on topics covered in any of the previous tests</p> <p>Mains Self Study Test (10 Questions) - Based on Above Topics</p>
TEST - 16	15th Mar 2021 Monday	<p>STANDARD SOURCES + AGRICULTURE-2 (Thematic)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. LAXMIKANTH – 5th edition - Indian Polity - Chapters 27 to 35 2. RAMESH SINGH 10th Edition: Ch 10-15: Services Sector; Financial Market; Banking in India; Insurance in India; Security Market in India (avoid over-detailed terminologies and jargon); External Sector in India (Very important) 3. TamilNadu History Textbook - Class XI - Chapters 13-17 4. WTO (and other international) agreements related to Agriculture - See appendix below 5. Agricultural credit: NABARD, Cooperatives, Regional Rural Bank etc - see appendix 6. TN Agricultural Website: http://agritech.tnau.ac.in/ (Past year UPSC Qs asked from here) <p>Current Events (1st June 2020 till date)</p> <p>10% Qs based on topics covered in any of the previous tests</p> <p>Mains Self Study Test (10 Questions) - Based on Above Topics</p>
		<p>CSAT TEST - 4</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Comprehension 2. General mental ability <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Series completion (b) Coding — Decoding (c) Blood Relations (d) Puzzle Test (e) Sequential Output Tracing

		(f) Direction Sense Test (g) Logical Venn diagrams (h) Alphabet Test (i) Number, Ranking & Time Sequence Test (j) Logical Sequence of Words (k) Arithmetical Reasoning (l) Inserting the Missing Character (m) Data Sufficiency (n) Decision Making (o) Assertion and Reason (p) Situation Reaction Test (q) Verification of Truth of the Statement
TEST - 17	19th Mar 2021 Friday	STANDARD SOURCES + AGRICULTURE-3 & ENVIRONMENT-1 (Thematic)
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> LAXMIKANTH – 5th edition - Indian Polity - Chapters 35 to 42 RAMESH SINGH 10th Edition: Ch 16-21: International Economic Organizations and India; Tax Structure in India; Public Finance in India; Sustainability and Climate Change; Human Development in India, Burning Socio-economic issues FAO, ICRISAT, IFPRI, IFAD websites - cover initiatives in detail, Reports etc. India Yearbook 2020 - Ch 11, 12 on Energy and Environment IFoS (Indian Forest Service) Agriculture Mains Optional Syllabus – Part 2 – See Appendix below TamilNadu History Textbook - Class XI - Chapters 19-23 <p>Current Events (1st June 2020 till date)</p> <p>10% Qs based on topics covered in any of the previous tests</p> <p>Mains Self Study Test (10 Questions) - Based on Above Topics</p>
REVISION TEST (Covers Previous GS Tests 13-17)		
TEST - 18	23rd Mar 2021 Tuesday	<p>Test 13-17 Syllabus</p> <p>Current Events (1st June 2020 till date)</p>

<p>TEST - 19</p>	<p>27th Mar 2021 Saturday</p>	<p>STANDARD SOURCES + ENVIRONMENT-2 (Thematic)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. LAXMIKANTH – 5th edition - Indian Polity - Chapters 43 to 51 2. Goh Cheng Leong-Certificate Physical and Human Geography - Chapters 1 to 4 3. ICSE Environmental Studies - Class IX (2018 edition – S. Chand Publications) or Shankar Ganesh (related topics) 4. Websites of UNFCCC, UNEP, WWF-India (species and protected areas both) & IUCN (Critical species India) 5. Environmental Treaties - India as a partner- http://ifs.nic.in/Dynamic/book/page8.pdf (list comprehensive, but read more) 6. <i>IFoS</i> (Indian Forest Service) Agriculture Mains Optional Syllabus – Part 3 – See Appendix below <p>Current Events (1st June 2020 till date)</p> <p>10% Qs based on topics covered in any of the previous tests</p> <p>Mains Self Study Test (10 Questions) - Based on Above Topics</p>
		<p>TEST - 20</p>

CSAT TEST - 5		
CSAT TEST - 5	31st Mar 2021 Wednesday	1. Comprehension 2. Logical reasoning & Analytical ability (a) Logic (b) Statement - Arguments (c) Statement - Assumptions (d) Statement - Courses of Action (e) Statement – Conclusions (f) Syllogism
	TEST - 21 4th Apr 2021 Sunday	STANDARD SOURCES + CULTURE (Thematic) 1. Goh Cheng Leong-Certificate Physical & Human Geography - Chapters 11 to 15 2. CCRT - Art and Culture (Literary Arts - http://www.ccertindia.gov.in/literaryarts.php) 3. CCRT - Art and Culture (Visual Arts - http://www.ccertindia.gov.in/visualarts.php) 4. UNESCO Indian Heritages + National heritages https://www.indiaculture.nic.in/national-list-intangible-cultural-heritage-ich 5. India Yearbook 2020 - Ch on Culture and Tourism 6. Ministry of Culture website Current Events (1 st June 2020 till date) 10% Qs based on topics covered in any of the previous tests Mains Self Study Test (10 Questions) - Based on Above Topics
		STANDARD SOURCES + CULTURE (Thematic) 1. LAXMIKANTH – 5 th edition - Indian Polity - All Appendices 2. Goh Cheng Leong - Certificate Physical and Human Geography - Chapters 16 to 25 3. CCRT - Art and Culture (Performing Arts - http://www.ccertindia.gov.in/performingart.php) 4. Qs based on previous UPSC questions (Civil Services Prelims) on Culture 2011-2020 5. Insights Prelims Revision Module 2020 - Arts and Culture Current Events (1 st June 2020 till date) 10% Qs based on topics covered in any of the previous tests
TEST - 22	8th Apr 2021 Thursday	STANDARD SOURCES + CULTURE (Thematic) 1. LAXMIKANTH – 5 th edition - Indian Polity - All Appendices 2. Goh Cheng Leong - Certificate Physical and Human Geography - Chapters 16 to 25 3. CCRT - Art and Culture (Performing Arts - http://www.ccertindia.gov.in/performingart.php) 4. Qs based on previous UPSC questions (Civil Services Prelims) on Culture 2011-2020 5. Insights Prelims Revision Module 2020 - Arts and Culture Current Events (1 st June 2020 till date) 10% Qs based on topics covered in any of the previous tests

		Mains Self Study Test (10 Questions) - Based on Above Topics
TEST - 23	12th Apr 2021 Monday	SOCIAL WELFARE-1 (Thematic)
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. India Yearbook 2020 - Ch 10 (Education), 16 (Health & Family Welfare), 17 (Housing & Urban), Ch 20 (Law and Justice), 21 (Labour), 23 (Planning), 24 (Rural Dev.), 28 (Welfare) , 29 (Youth affairs) 2. Insights Revision Modules for Prelims 2020 - Government Schemes and Society 3. Initiatives by UN Specialized Agencies (from their websites) - WHO, UNDP, WB, IMF, ILO, UNESCO, WIPO 4. Ministries concerned directly with social welfare - list in appendix below 5. Yojana 2020 - Only cover "DO YOU KNOW" section <p>Current Events (1st June 2020 till date)</p> <p>10% Qs based on topics covered in any of the previous tests</p> <p>Mains Self Study Test (10 Questions) - Based on Above Topics</p>
REVISION TEST (Covers all Previous Tests)		
TEST - 24	16th Apr 2021 Friday	<p>Test 1-23 Syllabus</p> <p>Current Events (1st June 2020 till date)</p>
CSAT TEST - 6		
CSAT TEST - 6	16th Apr 2021 Friday	Revision test of Test 4 & Test 5 syllabus
ECONOMICS + SOCIAL WELFARE -2 (Thematic)		
TEST - 25	20th Apr 2021 Tuesday	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Union Budget 2021-22 2. Economic Survey 2020-21 & 2019-20 3. Economic Concepts and Terminologies - Ramesh Singh 7th ed. - Last chapter 4. RBI's website (look for new releases and topics listed on the home page) + Annual Reports (lot of questions will be asked from this)

		<p>5. NITI Aayog website (full) including all its reports on Labour and general economic environment of India</p> <p>Current Events (1st June 2020 till date)</p>
TEST - 26	24th Apr 2021 Saturday	<p>SCIENCE & TECH - EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES, CONCEPTS & APPLICATIONS (Thematic)</p>
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. India Yearbook 2020 - Ch 8, 9 & 25 on Science and Tech; Communications and IT and Defence 2. Insights Science and Tech Compilations - Revision Modules 2020 3. NCERT - Bio (Covered in previous tests); Phy (XI-Ch 1,5,8; XII-Ch 15); Chem (Covered in previous tests) 4. Ministry websites - New and Renewable energy; Science & Tech; Earth Sciences 5. Technology Review (https://www.technologyreview.com/) - see topics section - AI, Bio-tech, Computing etc. 6. Insights Current events; Science Daily (https://www.sciencedaily.com/); NASA; Indian Express (Explained) 7. <i>IFoS</i> (Indian Forest Service) Agriculture Mains Optional Syllabus – Part 4 – See Appendix below <p>Current Events (1st June 2020 till date)</p>
CSAT TEST - 7		
CSAT TEST - 7	24th Apr 2021 Saturday	Complete Syllabus
TEST - 27	28th Apr 2021 Wednesday	Complete Syllabus
TEST - 28	2nd May 2021 Sunday	Complete Syllabus
CSAT TEST - 8		
CSAT TEST - 8	2nd May 2021 Sunday	Complete Syllabus
TEST - 29	6th May 2021 Thursday	Complete Syllabus

TEST - 30	10th May 2021 Monday	Complete Syllabus
FULL SYLLABUS TESTS (Mimics UPSC Prelims Exam)		
TEST - 31	14th May 2021 Friday	Complete Syllabus
TEST - 32	18th May 2021 Tuesday	Complete Syllabus
CSAT TEST - 9		
CSAT TEST - 9	18th May 2021 Tuesday	Complete Syllabus
TEST - 33	23rd May 2021 Sunday	Complete Syllabus
TEST - 34	29th May 2021 Saturday	Complete Syllabus
CSAT TEST - 10		
CSAT TEST - 10	29th May 2021 Saturday	Complete Syllabus
TEST - 35	5th June 2021 Saturday	Complete Syllabus
TEST - 36	10th June 2021 Thursday	Complete Syllabus
CSAT TEST - 11		
CSAT TEST – 11	10th June 2021 Thursday	Complete Syllabus

TEST - 37	16th June 2021 Wednesday	Complete Syllabus
TEST - 38	22nd June 2021 Tuesday	Complete Syllabus
CSAT TEST - 12		
CSAT TEST - 12	22nd June 2021 Tuesday	Complete Syllabus

Total Number of Tests: 50

- 12 tests (2 Revision Tests)– based on NCERTs
- 12 tests (2 Revision Tests)– based on standard textbooks, Thematic tests & references + Economic Survey 2020-21 & Budget 2021 + India Year Book 2021 and 2020
- 2 Tests – Dedicated Thematic – Social Welfare and Science/Technology
- 12 full length tests covering comprehensive syllabus
- 12 CSAT
- Suitable for both Freshers and Veterans
- Once joined, it is advisable that you take the tests on time to ensure you cover all the syllabus.
- INSTA Preparatory classes will be given to all subscribers

Medium: English

Mode: Online & Offline

Inclusions: INSTA Preparatory Classes are preloaded. You can watch them at any time

Discussion Video for each test

10 Mains Questions with Synopsis

INSTA 30 Current Affairs and INSTA Value-added Material (Soft Copy)

Our INSTA 75 days Revision Plan 2021 which will be released later in the Month of March 2021(tentatively) exclusively for prelims preparation will be aligned to Textbook based Prelims Test series 2021 and Subject-wise prelims test series 2021.

2. INSTA Preparatory Class Schedule

	Date	Topic (Recorded)	Overview
Class 1	Pre-loaded	Strategy for UPSC CSE 2021	You will get a great insight on the UPSC Journey, what should be the overall strategy, what would help in becoming toppers, how to make a customised plan for each individual and how to evaluate the plan and stick to it.
Class 2	Pre-loaded	How to read books for INSIGHTS Prelims Tests?	Considering the vast syllabus and also stack of study materials available, it is very important to choose the right books and also read them the right way. In this class, you will get to know how to study extensively as well as selectively from different sources available.
Class 3	Pre-loaded	How to read Current Affairs?	UPSC has time and again shown the width & depth of current affairs that it can go into. With the growing importance of Current Affairs, it is equally important to study current affairs with UPSC Exam perspective. This class throws a light on how to link current affairs to the Prelims, to GS answers as well as in Optional Subject.
Class 4	Pre-loaded	How to make notes for Prelims 2021?	Effective notes making strategy is utmost important. An aspirant should learn to make customised notes for quick revision. One should not waste most of the time in making notes, at the same time should not ignore making important notes for quick revision.
Class 5	Pre-loaded	Strategy Class and Tricks to score high in Insights Prelims Tests as well as in Prelims 2021	This class will deal with different techniques and tricks through which you can commit less mistakes, increase accuracy and score high in prelims.

3. NOTES

1. All tests will have 100 questions.
2. Apart from the sources mentioned above, we will also be setting questions from the REFERENCE Books listed below. They are not compulsory to read, but if you have time and interest, you can go through them. These sources are used by UPSC to frame some difficult questions each year.
3. Also, see the Appendix to cover areas mentioned in the Thematic syllabus in the tests.
4. You can also use Old NCERT Modern History-Bipin Chandra OR Spectrum-Modern India to cover Modern History portions. We'll often supplement questions from these sources when we cover Modern History from NCERTs or TN Textbooks.
5. In place of ICSE Environmental Studies, you can also use standard coaching material like Shankar IAS Environment.

SOURCES

1) History

1. Sumit Sarkar - Modern India
2. Bipin Chandra - India's Struggle for Independence
3. Tamilnadu Board - 12th Standard History Textbook
4. RS Sharma - Ancient India - Old NCERT
5. Satish Chandra - Modern India - Old NCERT
6. Spectrum – Modern India

2) Art & Culture

1. Indian Culture – Nitin Singhania
2. Indian Culture – Spectrum
3. Indian culture – NIOS material

3) Geography

1. ICSE 8th-10th Geography
2. Atlas - Oxford Student Atlas (NOT School Atlas)

4) Polity

1. Parliament Website - Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha, Speaker
2. Cabinet Secretariat and other official websites
3. PRS

5) Biology, Ecology and Environment

1. Shankar IAS Environment Material
2. Old NCERT - Biology - 12th Std

6) Dynamic Sources

1. Yojana
2. Ministry Websites
3. Space.com
4. agritech.tnau.ac.in
5. Websites of ISRO & NASA
6. <http://www.downtoearth.org.in/>

APPENDIX

Test 15 and 16: Websites to cover for Agriculture Thematic

Ministry of Agriculture & Farmer's Welfare

Ministry of Food Processing Industries Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution

Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying

WTO agreements and agricultural credit can be covered from:

A. Ramesh Singh (Ch on Agriculture and Food)

B. WTO's website C. Websites of NABARD and RBI's website

(https://www.rbi.org.in/scripts/bs_viewcontent.aspx?Id=2240)

IFoS Agriculture and S&T Syllabus:

PART -1: Food production and consumption trends in India. National and international food policies. Production, procurement, distribution and processing constraints. Relation of food production to national dietary pattern, major deficiencies of calorie and protein.

PART-2: Application of principles of plant breeding to the improvement of major field crops. Backcross method of breeding, breeding for disease and pest resistance, role of inter-specific and inter-generic hybridization. Role of biotechnology in plant breeding. Improved varieties, hybrids, composites of various crop plants.

PART-3: Seed technology, its importance. Different kinds of seeds and their seed production and processing techniques. Role of public and private sectors in seed production, processing and marketing in India. Storage pests and diseases of cereals and pulses, and their control.

Enzymes and plant pigments; photosynthesis-modern concepts and factors affecting the process, aerobic and non-aerobic respiration; C, C and CAM mechanisms. Carbohydrate, protein and fat metabolism. Growth and development; photo-periodism and vernalization. Auxins, hormones, and other plant regulators and their mechanism of action and importance in agriculture. Physiology of seed development and germination; dormancy.

PART-4:

Cell Theory, cell structure, cell organelles and their function, cell division, nucleic acids-structure and function, gene structure and function. Laws of heredity, their significance in plant breeding. Chromosome structure, chromosomal aberrations, linkage and cross-over, and their significance in recombination breeding. Polyploidy, euploid and an euploids. Mutation-micro and macro-and their role in crop improvement. Variation, components of variation. Heritability, sterility and incompatibility, classification and their application in crop improvement. Cytoplasmic inheritance, sex-linked, sex influenced and sex-limited characters.

Brief on covering protected areas:

There is no single source to cover protected areas other than Wikipedia based reading, so use that judiciously.

We will also be covering national parks, biospheres reserves, lakes etc. asked in UPSC previous year papers.

This is very crucial because they tell you briefly what sites are important to cover. ENVIS portal is a government owned portal. It does not discuss areas, sites or species in detail, but gives a general overview. Again, Wiki is your only recourse here.

Test 23 (websites to cover)

Ministry of Development of North-eastern region

MHRD;

Ministry of Minority Affairs;

Social Justice and Empowerment;

Women and Child Development

Ministry of Panchayati Raj;

Ministry of Rural Development

Ministry of Labour and Employment;

Law and Justice;

Ministry MSME;

Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

Ministry of Tribal Affairs (also covered in another test on Tribes in India);

Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.

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