

Top 25 Questions for UPSC Prelims for Current Affairs

List of 25 Expected Current Affairs Questions in IAS Prelims 2022:

- **What are the objectives of the Good Governance Index (GGI)?**
 - Good Governance Index (GGI), 2021 was launched on Good Governance Day (25th December). GGI assesses the State of Governance across States and UTs which enables ranking of States/Districts and provides a comparative picture while developing a competitive spirit for improvement. Every year at least one question is asked on the Indexes. So aspirants must prepare the newly launched indexes.
- **What is the objective of the PM-DevINE scheme, launched recently?**
 - The new scheme Prime Minister's Development Initiative for North-East Region (PM-DevINE) was launched to fund infrastructure and social development projects in the North-East. Such schemes which have been in news or have been launched recently are important for the UPSC Prelims.
- **What are the features of the world's 1st GM rubber sapling?**
 - Genetically modified plants are an important topic from the perspective of UPSC Prelims as many times questions on the technology are asked. Aspirants must prepare such topics intensively. The world's first genetically modified (GM) rubber sapling was recently planted at the Rubber Board's Sarutari research farm on the outskirts of Guwahati in Assam. With additional copies of the gene MnSOD (manganese-containing superoxide dismutase) inserted in it, the GM rubber is expected to tide over the severe cold conditions during winter, which is a major factor affecting the growth of rubber saplings.
- **What is the status of India with respect to the import and export of Pulses and Basmati Rice?**
 - Every year at least one question is expected on the trends of production, import or export of pulses, rice, etc. Aspirants must update these facts before the exam.
 - India is the world's largest exporter of basmati rice.
 - India is the biggest producer and consumer of pulses in the world.
 - India is the largest cotton producer and the largest consumer of cotton in the world.
 - India ranks first in the number of organic farmers and ninth in terms of area under organic farming.
- **What are the advantages of Fertigation?**
 - UPSC has a way of asking for unique terminologies. So such terms become important. Fertigation is a method of fertilizer application in which fertilizer is incorporated within the

irrigation water by the drip system. In this system, fertilizer solution is distributed evenly in irrigation.

- **What is the “World Hunger Map”?**
 - Alibaba Cloud, the cloud computing arm of Alibaba is working with World Food Programme (WFP) to develop a digital “World Hunger Map”. The map will help to monitor global hunger and operations to end the scourge by 2030 which is one of the UN’s key Sustainable Development goals. World Food Programme (WFP) has been in news recently which makes it an important topic.
- **What is Article 348 (1), as seen sometimes in news?**
 - The articles, which were in news in one year are likely to be asked in the exam. A Division Bench of the Gujarat High Court recently asked a journalist facing contempt of court proceedings to speak only in English as that was the language in the higher judiciary. Such articles which were in news recently, become important from the perspective of UPSC Prelims. Article 348 (1) of the Constitution of India provides that all proceedings in the Supreme Court and in every High court shall be in the English Language until Parliament by law otherwise provides.
- **What is 'One Nation, One Election'?**
 - Recently, the Centre has clarified that it is not planning on amending the Representation of the People Act, 1951 to enable a common electoral roll and simultaneous elections to all electoral bodies in the country. Simultaneous elections have been in news for a few years now. Thus, candidates must detailed understanding of such important topics.
- **What is Public Order?**
 - The Hijab ban was in the news recently. The state government issued a “public order” under the Karnataka Education Act, 1983 that didn’t allow students to wear a headscarf in educational institutions. Public order is one of the three grounds on which the state can restrict freedom of religion. It is also one of the grounds to restrict free speech and other fundamental rights. Aspirants must focus on such words when reading through the current affairs.
- **What is the right to be forgotten?**
 - Recently the Centre told the Delhi High Court that the “right to be forgotten” is part of the fundamental right to privacy. Fundamental rights are a very important part of the syllabus of UPSC Prelims. Every year, at least one question is asked related to this topic. Aspirants must revise these important topics before the final exam.
- **The sea of Japan is surrounded by how many countries?**
 - Questions from geographical locations are seen every year in the UPSC Prelims. Although one must read maps every day to be able to answer such types of questions, having a good understanding of locations that were in news for some reason or other is a smart way of tackling such questions. The sea of Japan is bounded by Japan and Sakhalin Island to the east and by Russia and Korea on the Asian mainland to the west.

- **What is Operation Devi Shakti, recently seen in the news?**
 - Such questions are asked in the match of the following types of questions. Amid the Taliban seizing power in Afghanistan and capturing Kabul after the U.S. withdrawal from the country. India conducted Operation Devi Shakti to evacuate more than 800 people including its citizens and Afghan partners from Afghanistan.
- **Where are the following places located?**
 - Panjshir Valley
 - Farzad-B Gas field
 - Sanaa
 - Some important places in the news must be revised. Panjshir is located in Hindukush Mountains and the entire valley is located along the Panjshir River which flows all along its length in Afghanistan.
 - Farzad B is an offshore natural gas field located in the Persian Gulf (Iran).
 - Recently, the Houthi rebels attacked Yemen's largest airbase (Al-Anad airbase). Sanaa is the capital of Yemen.
- **What is the current financing model of WHO?**
 - Because of the ongoing Covid-19, WHO has been in news for over two years. It is important to understand different aspects of the organisation. The WHO budget largely consists of two funding types, namely assessed contributions and voluntary contributions. While WHO's budget has increased substantially – from US\$ 1.4 billion from 1990–1991 to US\$ 5.8 billion for 2020–2021 – assessed contributions have remained more or less static at about US\$ 1 billion.
- **Who are the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC)?**
 - United Nations Security Council (UNSC) is an important organisation and an aspirant can expect a question on this organisation anytime. UNSC is one of the principal organs of the United Nations with the primary responsibility of maintaining international peace and security. India has been campaigning for a permanent seat at the UNSC along with Germany, Japan and Brazil (known as G4).
- **Who are the participating countries in the multilateral exercise Dosti?**
 - Multilateral and bilateral exercises are conducted every year between India and other countries. These are important from the point of view of the Prelims exam. Dosti is one such multilateral exercise between Maldives, India and Sri Lanka.
- **What is the meaning of feminization of the Indian Agri-workforce?**
 - The Periodic Labour Force Survey or PLFS (2019-2020) data shows a surge in the female labour force participation rate in agriculture. There has been a rise in the workforce engaged in agriculture to 45.6 per cent (2019-20) from 42.5 per cent (2018-19). These are some important concepts which an aspirant must be familiar with.

- **What are the important features of the National Education Policy 2020?**
 - Prime Minister launched multiple key initiatives in the education sector to mark the first year anniversary of the National Education Policy 2020. Education policy is an important topic from which one can expect a question in the upcoming Prelims exam. The NEP, was launched in July 2020 as the guiding philosophy for changing the learning landscape, making education holistic and building strong foundations for an Atmanirbhar Bharat. Also, the **National Achievement Survey (NAS) and Annual Status of Education Report (ASER)** survey released the recent reports, highlighting the quality of education in school again. Read the highlights of these reports as trends of such questions has been on rising in the UPSC Prelims.
- **What are the highlights of the NFHS-5 survey released by the Union Ministry of Health and Family Affairs?**
 - The main objective of successive rounds of the NFHS is to provide reliable and comparable data relating to health and family welfare and other emerging issues. NFHS-5 includes some new focal areas, such as death registration, pre-school education, expanded domains of child immunization, menstrual hygiene, frequency of alcohol and tobacco use etc. Health and Education are important sections of the UPSC Syllabus. One or more questions are expected on these subjects anytime in this examination.
- **Who releases Global Hunger Index?**
 - The GHI has been released by Welthungerhilfe (lately in partnerships with Concern Worldwide) since 2000. The Global Hunger Index (GHI) is a tool designed to comprehensively measure and track hunger at the global, regional, and country levels. High-income countries are not included in the GHI. Indexes and reports released by important organisations must be covered in order to answer some of the direct questions in the exam.
- **What is the significance of Web 3.0?**
 - Web 3.0 is the next stage of the web evolution that would make the internet more intelligent or process information with near human-like intelligence through the power of AI systems that could run smart programs to assist users. The significance of Web 3.0 is that data will be more relevant to each user, decentralised data networks, ensure data security and privacy etc.
- **What are Karewas, seen in the news recently?**
 - Karewas are thick lacustrine deposits (deposits in the lake) of glacial clay and other materials embedded with moraines. Development and construction in the Kashmir Valley are excavating and destroying its highly fertile alluvial soil deposits called 'karewas'. They are ideal for the cultivation of saffron almonds, apples and several other cash crops, they also hold fossils and remnants of many human civilisations and habitations.
- **What is a Standing Deposit Facility (SDF)?**
 - In its first bi-monthly policy review (FY23), the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) has introduced Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) as the floor in the Liquidity Adjustment Facility (LAF) corridor. SDF is a liquidity management instrument to absorb liquidity

(deposit) from Scheduled Commercial banks (SCBs) without any collateral/government securities in return.

- **What is Carbofuran?**

- The recent death of more than 95 Himalayan griffon vultures (Near Threatened) and a steppe eagle in Assam has been attributed to pesticide poisoning due to carbofuran. It is a pesticide that is widely used to control insects and nematodes on a variety of agricultural crops. Its extensive use for agricultural and non-agricultural purposes has been directly responsible for environmental contamination and human health issues.

- **What are the distinctive styles of Hoysala Architecture?**

- Ministry of Culture announced that the Hoysala temples of Belur, Halebid and Somnathapura in Karnataka have been selected as India's nomination for UNESCO's list of World Heritage sites for 2022-2023. This makes this topic important. Aspirants are advised to read through the Hoysala Architecture and some important facts related to the temple.