<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No</th>
<th>News Articles</th>
<th>Page Number*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>A considered step that opens up new vistas (Editorial)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>‘No First Use’ nuclear doctrine is not rigid, says Rajnath Singh</td>
<td>1,12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Giving shape to an elusive strategic concept (Editorial)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>India gets its first national essential diagnostics list</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Santhal penalty stalls cremation</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>ISRO arm begins search for PSLV makers</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Practice cum Revision - MCQs</td>
<td>@end of the video</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A considered step that opens up new vistas

The abrogation of Kashmir’s special status is a major move towards a unified India.

Part A—Preliminary Examination

Paper I - (200 marks)

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

Part B—Main Examination

PAPER-II

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

- Post-independence consolidation and reorganization within the country.

PAPER-III

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

- Indian Constitution—historical underpinnings, evolution, features, amendments, significant provisions and basic structure.

PAPER-IV

General Studies-III: Technology, Economic Development, Biodiversity, Environment, Security and Disaster Management

- Inclusive growth and issues arising from it.
- Role of external state and non-state actors in creating challenges to internal security.
- Security challenges and their management in border areas - linkages of organized crime with terrorism.

*Article 370, as it was before the abrogation:*

- Only a temporary, transitional arrangement
- Temporary ‘special’ status conferred upon J and K after independence
- Included in October 1949
- Became operative only in 1952
- Then Law Minister, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar did not agree for such special status
- Did not bring people of Kashmir closer to Rest of India
- Important central laws could not be implemented

*Abrogation of Article 370*

- An impediment to the development of J and K
- Used by separatists to divide those living in J and K and Rest of India
- Used by a neighbouring country to spread terrorism
- Dysfunctional provision - has no relevance in current context
- A step in the right direction to safeguard the unity and integrity of India
- Extension of Central laws to J and K
1. Elimination of decades-old discrimination against the women of J and K
2. Fully integrated J and K with RoI
3. Facilitate greater investments
4. Generate employment for local youth
5. Enable greater scrutiny of implementation of Govt. schemes
6. Opens up new vistas for the all-round development, improved quality of life – for people in Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh

India’s Nuclear Doctrine

- Building and maintaining a credible minimum deterrent
- A posture of “No First Use”: nuclear weapons will only be used in retaliation against a nuclear attack in Indian territory or on Indian forces anywhere
- Nuclear retaliation to a first strike will be massive and designed to inflict unacceptable damage
- Nuclear retaliatory attacks can only be authorized by the civil political leadership through the Nuclear Command Authority

Political Council (Chaired by PM)
Executive Council (Chaired by NSA)
* Non-use of nuclear weapons against non-nuclear weapon states
* In the event of major attack against India, or Indian forces anywhere, by biological or chemical weapons, India will retain the option of retaliating with nuclear weapons
* Continued commitment to the goal of nuclear weapon free world

News
* Union Defence Minister – “No First Use” policy on nuclear weapons depends on the circumstances
* “Pokhran is the area which witnessed Atal Ji’s firm resolve to make India nuclear power and yet remain firmly committed to the doctrine of ‘No First Use’. India has strictly adhered to this doctrine, what happens in the future depends on the circumstances”

PM - Independence Day Speech - Formation of Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) post

Timeline
* Kargil war 1999 → Kargil Review Committee → Strategic issues with India’s national security structure
* Formation of Group of Ministers (GoM)
  - Recommendations – intelligence, internal security, border management, defence resulted in
    - appointment of NSA
    - Strengthening Intelligence coordination
    - upgrading technological capacity etc.
⇒ Issues with defence management
  * Armed forces - in decision making?
  * defence planning and strategy
  * opaque decision making process
⇒ What necessitates the creation of CDS?
  1. Nature of military conflict
     * beyond land, air & sea to space, cyber, electronic and information
     * need jointness of army, navy and air force
  2. Optimisation of resource allocation & weapon requirements

⇒ Why CDS was not established yet?
  * opposition from sections to armed forces, bureaucracy, political parties
  * apprehension to CDS undermines authority of 3 service chiefs
  * distortion of civil - military balance
⇒ Office of CDS in other democracies like USA
  * increase in participation of military in defence - decision making
  * increase in transparency
⇒ Need to focus on indigenisation of arms and ammunition
⇒ CDS - decrease in friction in civil military relation
  * increase in efficiency, transparency, accountability
India gets its first national essential diagnostics list

Part A—Preliminary Examination
Paper I - (200 marks)

- Current events of national and international importance
- Economic and Social Development—Sustainable Development, Poverty, Inclusion, Demographics, Social Sector Initiatives, etc.

Part B—Main Examination
PAPER-III
General Studies-II: Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations.

- Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation.
- Issues relating to development and management of Social Sector Services relating to Health.

National Essential Diagnostics List

- Essential List of diagnostic tests that have to be carried out by the healthcare providers in India
- Released by the Indian Council of Medical Research
- List of general laboratory tests for routine patient care
  - Diagnostic tests for Communicable diseases
  - Non-Communicable diseases
- List based on 1st edition of Essential Diagnostics List (EDL) released by WHO (May 2018)
  - India—1st country to launch National EDL
  - Will complement the National List of Essential Medicines
  - List developed for all levels of healthcare

Advantages of NEDL

- Complements the Initiatives of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
  - National Health Mission
    - Free Diagnostics Service Initiative
  - National Rural Health Mission
  - Standardisation of diagnostic services
  - Address antimicrobial resistance crisis
    - SDG 3.8

- Achieve Universal Health Coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all
- NEDL will help India achieve SDG 3.8

Challenges in implementing NEDL

- Adoption by states and harmonization with local standard diagnostic protocols and treatment guidelines
- Provision of requisite infrastructure, processes and human resources
* Ensuring quality of the tests
* Adequate utilisation of tests by the healthcare providers

**Other Requirements**

* Independent body / Committee to look into minimum acceptable specifications / standards for diagnostic equipment
* Cost-effectiveness studies for different diagnostic technologies & equipment
* Implementing Quality Management Systems
* Launch Laboratory Information Management System

**ICMR**

* Indian Council of Medical Research
* Apex body for formulation, coordination and promotion of biomedical research in India

**Mandate**

→ Conduct, coordinate and implement medical research for the benefit of the society
→ Translate medical innovations into products or processes and introducing them in public health system
→ Funded through Dept. of Health Research, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare

---

**Santhal penalty stalls cremation**

* Possible Social boycott within the Santal tribes in Mayurbhanj district, Odisha

**Santal / Santhal Tribes**

* Scheduled Tribes in the States of
  - Bihar
  - Odisha
  - West Bengal
  - Jharkhand
  - Tripura

* Not classified under Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)

**Past - Nomadic Life**

End of 18th Century - Santal Parganas
Now - Jharkhand, Bihar, Odisha, etc.

* Odisha - Mayurbhanj, Balasore, Keonjhar districts
Language - Santali
Script - Ol Chiki
Occupation - Agriculture, Industrial Labours, Mining and Quarrying
Polytheists - Autonomous tribal religion
Festivals / Rituals:
- Erok-sim - Magha-sim - Baba
- Hari-har-sim - Saktkar
- Irrugudi-sim - Saharai

Santhal Rebellion (1855-56)

- Santhals were oppressed by Zamindars and money-lenders
  - Rebelle: Rebellion → Anti-British Movement
  - Sidhu & Kanhu - Personalities
  - British created Santhal Parganas
    - Area between Bhagalpur and Raj Mahal hills

ISRO arm begins search for PSLV makers

Part A—Preliminary Examination
Paper I - (200 marks)

- Current events of national and international importance.

Part B—Main Examination
PAPER-IV

General Studies-III: Technology, Economic Development, Bio
diversity, Environment, Security and Disaster Management

- Science and Technology - developments and their
  applications and effects in everyday life.
- Awareness in the fields of IT, Space, Computers,
  robotics, nano-technology, bio-technology and issues
  relating to intellectual property rights.
NSIL - New Space India Ltd.

- Industry consortia to regularly manufacture PSLV for ISRO
- Initially outsource 5 PSLVs → on completion → contract for 12 PSLVs per annum

ISRO Chairman in 2018

- Relieve ISRO of manufacturing burden
- Plan to handover PSLV production to public and private industries
- ISRO to focus on core job

Rs. 6000 crore for 30 PSLVs - 2019 to 2024

- 85% of this → participating industries

PRACTICE QUESTIONS DISCUSSION
Practice Question – Prelims
Q1. Consider the following statements about the recently released ‘National Essential Diagnostics List’.

1. It consists of general laboratory tests that are required for routine patient care and for diagnosis of a wide array of both communicable and non-communicable diseases.
2. It has been developed and launched in India by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Practice Question – Prelims
Q2. Consider the following statements about the persons belonging to the ‘Santal’ tribe.

1. They are the people belonging to the scheduled tribes who live only in the state of Odisha.
2. They are listed as ‘Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group’.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Practice Question – Prelims
Q3. Consider the following statements.

1. The New Space India Limited (NSIL) is the commercial arm of DRDO.
2. The objective of NSIL is to spearhead commercialization of space products including production of launch vehicles, transfer of technologies and marketing of space products.
3. Antrix Corporation Ltd. is the first commercial arm of ISRO.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 1 and 3 only
c) 2 and 3 only
d) 1, 2 and 3
Practice Question – Mains
GS – III

Q. The Prime Minister of India in his Independence Day speech has announced that India will soon have a ‘Chief of the Defence Staff’ (CDS). The post of CDS was suggested after the 1999 Kargil war. Why was it not implemented till date? What are the advantages if CDS is appointed?