

A) ESSAY (20 marks)

1) Internal Security & Policing (STATIC CORE)

- **Threat taxonomy:** terrorism (ideology, funding, online recruitment), insurgency, LWE, riot/communal violence, organised crime (human/wildlife/arms/drugs), FICN.
- **Intelligence basics:** the intelligence cycle (direction–collection–processing–analysis–dissemination–feedback), **HUMINT/OSINT/SIGINT/IMINT/ELINT**, tasking vs collection separation, agency coordination, product types (estimates, indicators, warnings), bias traps (mirror-imaging, confirmation).
- **National security architecture (civil):** MHA; IB (domestic intel—broad role), NIA (UAPA cases), NCB (NDPS), CAPFs roles (BSF/ITBP/CRPF/SSB/CISF/AR), NCRB (crime data), NSG (counter-terror), NATGRID; Multi-Agency Centre (MAC) & SMACs; State ATS/SIB.
- **Policing doctrine: Prakash Singh** reforms (tenure, DGP selection, Police Complaints Authority), Model Police Act, community policing models, beat intelligence, witness protection, victim compensation, forensics chain of custody, **CCTNS/ICJS**.
- **Border management:** land/coastal/riverine; ICPs, fencing, sensors, MDA; border haats; bilateral coordination mechanisms.
- **Prisons & corrections:** undertrials, parole/probation, Model Prison Manual, e-Mulakat, after-care/reintegration.
- **Key laws (concept-level):** UAPA, NDPS, IT Act (relevant provisions), POCSO, JJ Act, Witness Protection Scheme, Arms Act.

- **Doctrines & case law to name-drop:** proportionality (privacy/surveillance), natural justice, **K.S. Puttaswamy** (privacy), **Shreya Singhal** (speech), **Prakash Singh** (police reforms).

Current attach-points: deepfakes/disinformation, drone incursions, cyber-frauds, synthetic opioids, border infiltration, criminal law code rollout, forensics capacity.

2) Cyber, Data & Tech Governance (STATIC CORE)

- **Institutions & rails:** CERT-In, NCIIPC, sectoral CERTs, SOCs; critical information infrastructure; incident response workflow.
- **Security primitives:** authentication, authorisation, encryption, hashing, logging, air-gapping, zero trust.
- **Data protection principles:** legality, purpose limitation, data minimisation, storage limitation, accuracy, accountability; cross-border transfers; anonymisation vs pseudonymisation.
- **Platform governance:** safe harbour basics, due diligence, traceability debates, content takedown standards, recommender transparency.
- **AI governance:** explainability, bias, accountability, human-in-the-loop, model cards, watermarking; risk-based regulation.
- **Future tech:** 5G/6G security, IoT/OT security, cloud sovereignty, quantum/post-quantum crypto fundamentals.

Current attach-points: generative-AI safety, spyware allegations, data localisation trade-offs,

algorithmic amplification & harm, cyberattacks on utilities.

3) Constitution, Governance & Federalism (STATIC CORE)

- **Values & structure:** Preamble ideals, fundamental rights vs duties, DPSPs; separation of powers; basic structure doctrine.
- **Centre–State:** lists, cooperative/competitive federalism; **Sarkaria & Punchhi** Commissions—key ideas; Inter-State Council.
- **Administrative reform: Second ARC** takeaways (ethics, citizen charters, e-Governance, grievance redress—**Sevottam**, outcome budgeting).
- **Transparency & accountability:** RTI (scope/exemptions), social audit, performance dashboards, public procurement basics (GeM).
- **Tribunalisation & regulatory state:** independence, appointment safeguards, appellate oversight.
- **Urban governance:** 74th CAA spirit, empowered mayor vs commissioner model, ward committees, municipal finance & user charges.

Current attach-points: centre–state friction (law/order, finances), regulator appointments, civic tech, municipal bankruptcies.

4) Economy, Jobs & Development (STATIC CORE)

- **Growth drivers:** capital formation, productivity, TFP, ICOR; sectoral mix (agri–industry–services).
- **Employment:** types of unemployment, labour force metrics (WPR/LFPR/UR), informality vs formalisation levers (EPFO/ESIC/GST).
- **Macro policy:** fiscal (FRBM logic, capex multipliers, subsidies vs transfers), monetary (inflation targeting, transmission), external (BoP, CAD, REER).
- **MSMEs:** credit gaps; **Account Aggregator**, **OCEN**, **TReDS**, receivables financing; cluster development; compliance easing.
- **Logistics & competitiveness:** PM Gati Shakti NMP, multimodal integration, ports/corridors, standards & metrology, quality infrastructure.
- **Financial inclusion:** JAM, DBT architecture, last-mile KYC, grievance redress for fintech.
- **Gig/platform economy:** definitions, social security design, portability, aggregator obligations.
- **Green economy:** renewables, storage, grid integration, carbon markets/bonds, just transition.

Current attach-points: PLI outcomes, semiconductor ecosystem, inflation-food shocks, export logistics, platform worker protections.

5) Social Sector (STATIC CORE)

- **Education:** NEP pillars; **FLN** (foundational literacy & numeracy), teacher professional

development, assessment reforms, mother-tongue transition.

- **Health:** primary health care (HWCs), NCDs, mental health integration, AMR, digital health building blocks, health insurance basics.
- **Nutrition & social protection:** targeting vs universality, portability (One Nation One Ration), community kitchens, ICDS logic.
- **Gender & inclusion:** WLPP drivers (safety, transport, childcare), SHGs, care economy, trafficking prevention.
- **Migration & urbanisation:** rental housing, slum upgradation options (in-situ vs relocation), urban informality.

Current attach-points: learning loss recovery, tele-medicine scaling, anaemia drive, women-led growth narrative, circular migrants.

6) External Security & Foreign Policy (STATIC CORE)

- **Doctrinal frame:** strategic autonomy, neighbourhood first, Act East, Indo-Pacific, maritime security & SLOCs.
- **Borders:** LOC/LAC basics, hotlines/flag meetings, confidence-building; riverine/coastal peculiarities.
- **Geo-economics:** supply chain resilience, critical minerals, technology coalitions.
- **Regional groupings:** BIMSTEC, IORA, SCO (functional angles).

Current attach-points: Red Sea risks, critical minerals race, cross-border migration/refugees.

7) Environment, Climate & DRR (STATIC CORE)

- **Indian legal stack:** EPA 1986, Air Act, Water Act, Forest (Conservation), Wildlife, Biodiversity Act; **NGT**; EIA basics; **CRZ** norms.
- **Institutions:** CPCB/SPCBs, MoEFCC, State Boards; National/State Action Plans on Climate Change.
- **Global regime:** UNFCCC, Kyoto vs Paris architecture, CBDR-RC, loss & damage, finance mechanisms.
- **DRR frame:** Sendai priorities; NDMA/NDRF roles; early warning systems; ICS (Incident Command System).
- **Urban resilience:** heat action plans, blue-green infrastructure, storm-water management.

Current attach-points: heatwaves, urban floods, forest fires, coastal erosion, carbon market architecture.

8) Ethics, Media & Society (STATIC CORE)

- **Ethical theories:** deontology (Kant), utilitarianism (Mill), virtue ethics (Aristotle), consequentialism vs rights; justice (Rawls).
- **Public-sector ethics:** conflict of interest, probity, accountability vs secrecy, whistle-blowing.
- **Free speech vs harm:** tests, due process, narrow tailoring; editorial responsibility; influencer/advertising ethics; misinformation governance.

Current attach-points: hate-speech boundaries, creator economy regulation, deepfake harms.

B) COMPREHENSION (10 marks)**What they test (STATIC SKILLS)**

- **Text structure recognition:** problem–cause–effect–solution; compare/contrast; chronology; classification.
- **Argument anatomy:** claim, evidence, warrant, counter-argument, concession; spotting **assumptions**.
- **Rhetoric & tone:** analytical, cautionary, prescriptive, critical, laudatory, sceptical; modal verbs as cues.
- **Inference & implication:** “implies/suggests/likely means” with **one quoted anchor**.
- **Vocabulary-in-context:** denotation vs connotation; idioms/phrasal verbs; pronoun referents.
- **Micro-data reading:** one small table/number (trend/exception/ratio).
- **Trap handling:** absolute qualifiers (always/never), out-of-scope generalisation, author’s vs stakeholder views.

C) LONG ANSWERS (2 × 10 marks)**A) Internal Security, Policing & Criminal Justice (45 topics)**

1. Online radicalisation pipelines & counter-radicalisation at district level
2. Disinformation/deepfakes playbook for elections & communal harmony
3. Community policing blueprint: beat mapping, citizen volunteers, trust metrics
4. Witness Protection Scheme—financing, anonymity protocols, inter-state relocation
5. Undertrial management & bail reforms (e-courts, legal aid, VC hearings)
6. Prison reforms: overcrowding, mental health, vocational rehab, parole/probation
7. Forensics capacity & chain-of-custody for digital/biological evidence
8. Women/child cyber safety: CSAM takedowns, helplines, survivor services
9. Financial cyber-fraud response (1930 helpline, 2-hour freeze SOPs, fusion cells)
10. Urban riot/communal violence prevention: intelligence, quick response, mediation
11. LWE containment: security-development convergence & surrenderee rehab
12. NE insurgency management: political dialogue, border coordination, livelihoods
13. Counter-terror finance: hawala layering, shell firms, property attachment
14. FICN (fake currency) networks & OSINT fusion
15. Narcotics & synthetic drugs: maritime interdiction, precursor control, rehab linkage
16. Human trafficking (source–transit–destination) & cross-border coordination
17. Wildlife crime/illegal timber: intelligence, customs, community incentives

18. Arms trafficking & 3D-printed weapons—LEA readiness
 19. Organised crime—politics nexus: evidence standards, witness security, fast-track courts
 20. Police reforms: **Prakash Singh** compliance, tenure, PCA, Model Police Act
 21. Police use-of-force doctrine: body-cams, de-escalation, SOPs & accountability
 22. Hate speech law tests & public-order balancing (process safeguards)
 23. Border management: riverine, marsh, desert—terrain-specific tech & community roles
 24. Coastal security architecture: MDA, AIS, fishing community intelligence
 25. Anti-drone/low-slow-small threat SOPs on borders & sensitive sites
 26. Intelligence cycle basics for districts (tasking—collection—analysis—dissemination)
 27. Inter-agency coordination: MAC/SMAC, joint tasking, common databases
 28. ICJS/CCTNS utilisation & data quality improvement
 29. Civil defence & crowd management for mass events (stampede prevention)
 30. Critical event security (religious/political/sports) risk matrices
 31. Jail radicalisation prevention & counter-narratives inside prisons
 32. Juvenile justice balance: diversion, rehabilitation, community supervision
 33. Community dispute resolution: mohalla committees, faith leaders, SHG networks
 34. Electoral security: EVM transport, strongrooms, candidate/booth mapping
 35. Cyber patrolling & OSINT ethics for district police
 36. Digital evidence seizure: hash verification, logs, chain documentation
 37. Cyber cafés/fintech KYC gaps & LEA cooperation protocols
 38. Stalking, sextortion, doxxing: swift remedies & safe reporting
 39. Protection of vulnerable groups (elderly, migrants, minorities) in policing
 40. Disaster-time law & order: evacuation security, relief distribution integrity
 41. Police HR & wellness: shift design, trauma counselling, burn-out prevention
 42. Model Prison Manual implementation & independent inspection
 43. Victim compensation schemes: design, financing, time-bound disbursal
 44. Community intelligence for border haats/markets without harassment
 45. Extradition/MLAT/INTERPOL usage: bottlenecks & improvements
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- B) Cyber, Data, Platforms & Emerging Tech (25 topics)**
46. Encryption vs lawful access—proportionality & targeted access architecture

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| <p>47. Platform liability: due diligence, grievance redress, recommender transparency</p> <p>48. AI in policing: hotspot analysis/FRT—bias, audits, human-in-loop, appeals</p> <p>49. Critical Information Infrastructure (power, ports, pipelines) OT/SCADA security</p> <p>50. Incident reporting & tabletop/red-team exercises for utilities</p> <p>51. Supply-chain security: chips/telecom, SBOMs, vendor risk management</p> <p>52. Cloud/sovereign cloud choices for government data</p> <p>53. Data localisation trade-offs: enforcement vs interoperability/innovation</p> <p>54. DPI safety (Aadhaar/UPI/AA): fraud risk, grievance mechanisms, privacy by design</p> <p>55. Child safety online: age-appropriate design, default protections, reporting pathways</p> <p>56. Quantum/post-quantum crypto readiness roadmap</p> <p>57. IoT/CCTV security standards for cities & transport</p> <p>58. Cyber workforce development: district labs, curricula, certifications</p> <p>59. National cyber drills & sectoral CERTs—closing last-mile gaps</p> <p>60. Ransomware readiness for municipalities & hospitals</p> <p>61. Public procurement for innovation (PPI) in safety tech—sandboxes, standards</p> <p>62. OSINT standards & evidence admissibility</p> | <p>63. Data trusts & anonymisation for policy research with privacy preserved</p> <p>64. Algorithmic transparency reports & independent audits</p> <p>65. App store governance & national security screening</p> <p>66. Deepfake detection & watermarking norms—limits & practicalities</p> <p>67. Digital literacy for citizens (anti-phishing, reporting, hygiene)</p> <p>68. Dark-web monitoring—LEA capacity & legality</p> <p>69. Cyber insurance & minimum security baselines</p> <p>70. E-discovery/e-disclosure standards for courts & LEAs</p> |
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- C) Economy, Jobs, Delivery & Finance (25 topics)**
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| <p>71. Employment strategy: labour-intensive manufacturing vs services exports</p> <p>72. MSME credit rails: AA/OCEN/TReDS + credit guarantees + payment discipline</p> <p>73. Informality to formalisation: EPFO/ESIC/GST & compliance cost reduction</p> <p>74. Inflation management: food supply chains, logistics, competition policy</p> <p>75. Logistics competitiveness: ports, multimodal nodes, standards/quality infra</p> <p>76. Startup→Scale-up: patient capital, standards/IP, gov procurement as market maker</p> |
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77. Digital financial inclusion: DBT integrity, grievance redress, consented data sharing
78. Gig/platform worker social security: portability, contributions, aggregator duties
79. District-led tourism & creative economy: safety, branding, skilling
80. State finances: capex quality, fiscal rules, freebies vs prudence
81. Public procurement reform: GeM, e-tendering, SME participation
82. Agricultural logistics: cold chain, FPOs, e-NAM integration
83. Skilling & apprenticeships linked to local clusters
84. Financial consumer protection against predatory lending
85. ESG/green finance for MSMEs: transition plans & verification
86. Urban municipal finance: user charges, bonds, land value capture
87. Outcome budgeting & performance agreements in departments
88. Grievance redress platforms (CPGRAMS/state equivalents): SLA & feedback loops
89. Last-mile service delivery in aspirational districts—what works
90. Social registry/data integration pitfalls & safeguards
91. District export hubs: standards, testing, logistics, branding

92. Credit for women-led enterprises & care-economy jobs
93. Cooperative sector reforms & governance
94. Informal rental housing and vouchers for migrants
95. Public nutrition supply chains (ICDS/MDM/PM-POSHAN) leakage control

D) Governance, Federalism, Urban & Social Sector (25 topics)

96. Criminal law codes implementation: training, forensics, victim rights, dashboards
97. Police accountability: internal affairs + PCA + community review mechanisms
98. RTI vs privacy: proactive disclosure, anonymisation, data fiduciary duties
99. Tribunalisation/regulatory state: independence, appointments, appeals
100. Cooperative federalism mechanisms: ISC, Zonal Councils—making them matter
101. Disaster governance under **Sendai**: ICS adoption, drills, community volunteers
102. Urban governance: empowered mayors, ward committees, civic data trusts
103. Slum upgradation: in-situ vs relocation, tenure security, services
104. Rental housing for migrants: contracts, deposits, dispute resolution
105. Education FLN acceleration: teacher mentoring, assessments, mother-tongue bridges

106. Higher-ed research & innovation linkages (state universities)
107. Mental health integration into PHC & schools; suicide prevention protocols
108. Tele-medicine standards: referral, privacy, drug supply, audits
109. Gender & work: childcare economy, safe transport, harassment redress
110. Elderly care & pensions: community care, health linkages
111. Substance abuse prevention: community models & rehab reintegration
112. Street vending & inclusive urban economy
113. Sports as local development strategy: infra, safety, inclusion
114. Migrant portability (ration/health/education)—inter-state MoUs
115. Social audits in urban schemes: design & independence
116. Service delivery dashboards & data quality assurance
117. Public ethics: conflict of interest, whistle-blower protection
118. Citizen charters & **Sevottam**—time-bound delivery
119. E-office adoption & records management for transparency
120. Grievance analytics to policy change: a feedback loop model

E) Environment, Climate, Energy & DRR (20 topics)

121. Heat action plans: thresholds, work-rest cycles, water points, outreach
122. Urban flooding: drainage audit, encroachment removal, blue-green infra
123. Forest fire mitigation: detection tech, community brigades, compensation
124. Air quality governance: source apportionment, coordination, compliance
125. Coastal erosion & relocation: hazard mapping, livelihoods, compensation
126. Drought resilience: groundwater governance, micro-irrigation, crop choices
127. Waste systems: SWM rules, segregation, EPR, MRFs, waste-to-energy risks
128. Industrial safety & chemical disaster management (MAH units)
129. Energy transition: grid upgrades, storage, RE curtailment, DISCOM health
130. EV ecosystem: charging, standards, safety, recycling
131. Carbon markets & MRV credibility for industry
132. Nature-based solutions in cities: wetlands, urban forests
133. Climate finance access for cities & MSMEs
134. Disaster logistics & volunteer management (NDRF/state teams)

- 135. Early warning to last mile: sirens, IVRS, local language messaging
- 136. Riverine erosion & embankment management—community roles
- 137. Coastal fisheries & MDA integration for safety/compliance
- 138. Mining-area rehabilitation & just transition
- 139. Health impacts of heat/air & targeted public health responses
- 140. Green jobs roadmap for states/districts