



UPSC Prelims GS Syllabus Decoded for Beginners

Aligned with Official Syllabus + Trends | By IASGanga

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1. Current Events of National & International Importance

Official Syllabus

As per syllabus: "Current events of national and international importance"

Government Schemes & Policies

Explore the latest initiatives and policies in the government sector.

Supreme Court/High Court Judgments

Discover the latest legal rulings from the courts.

Reports & Groupings

Access informative reports and international groupings.

Defence Exercises

Stay informed about defense drills and exercises.

Recommended Sources

Daily: The Hindu/Indian Express

Monthly: Vision/Forum/IASGanga CAs

Govt Portals: PIB, PRSIndia

Yearly: PT 365/IASGanga Yearly CA PDF

Trend: 7-9 Questions every year

Budget & Bills

Stay updated on budget allocations and key bills.

International Summits

Get insights from global summits and conferences.

Awards

Celebrate achievements with prestigious awards.

Environment Summits

Join discussions on environment-related summits.

Seginner Tip

Focus on **events linked to static topics** like polity, economy, environment.



2. History of India & Indian National Movement

Official Syllabus

As per syllabus: "History of India and Indian National Movement with special focus on the freedom struggle"

Trend: ~9–12 Questions

Beginner Tip: Stick to **timelinebased preparation** + revise frequently asked terms

What to Cover

- Gandhian era movements (2025 saw 5 questions!)
- Modern India (Reformers, Swadeshi, INC sessions)
- Post-1947 facts like State Reorganization
- Ancient & Medieval (terms, personalities, religion, art and culture)

Subject	Recommended Books
Modern:	Spectrum by Rajiv Ahir
Ancient & Medieval:	Tamil Nadu Class 11-12 OR
	NCERT Class 6–8 OR
	RS Sharma (Ancient History) + Satish Chandra (Medieval History)
Art & Culture:	NCERT Fine Arts + Nitin Singhania (selectively)

3. Indian and World Geography

1

Official Syllabus

As per syllabus: "Physical, Social, Economic Geography of India and the World"

Trend: 15–17 Questions

2

What to Cover

India Geography: Rivers, climate, soil, agriculture, map-based (reservoirs, minerals)

World Geography: Mountains, seas, time zones, climate zones, map work

Human & Economic geography: Population, resources.

3

Recommended Books

NCERTs Class 11-12 (must)

GC Leong (Selected chapters)

Map Book: Oxford Atlas (practice marking weekly)

4

Beginner Tip

Mark 1 map every Sunday (countries, rivers, boundaries, volcanoes)





4. Indian Polity and Governance



Official Syllabus

As per syllabus: "Constitution, Political System, Panchayati Raj, Public Policy, Rights Issues, etc."

Trend: 12–15 Questions



Articles (21, 32, 368, etc.)

Schedules (5th, 6th, 7th, 10th)

Union & State Executive + Parliament & State Legislature + Bodies

Panchayati Raj + FRs/DPSPs/FDs

Current events in governance (Lokpal, Inter-state council)



Study Materials

Laxmikanth (Bible for Polity), 2nd ARC Ethics Report (Optional add-on), Newspaper + PIB for current issues



Beginner Tip

Memorize Articles + Schedules smartly; focus on flowcharts for structures



5. Economic & Social Development

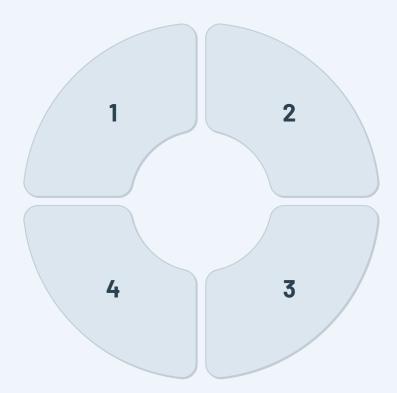
Official Syllabus

As per syllabus: "Sustainable
Development, Poverty, Inclusion,
Demographics, Social Sector
Initiatives, etc."

Trend: 14-20 Questions

Development Areas

Poverty, demographics, inclusion



Core Topics

Fiscal Policy, Budgeting, Deficits, **RBI**, financial instruments, **banking**

Social Focus

Social schemes (**Pensions, SHGs, Women**), MSMEs, startups, **digital payments**

Recommended Books:

Class 11 NCERT – Indian Economic Development

Ramesh Singh (selective) + Budget/Eco Survey + NITI reports

Newspaper + PT365 Economy

Beginner Tip:

Understand basic terms (MDR, Repo, Bonds, GDP) + track govt schemes





6. Environment, Ecology, Biodiversity & Climate Change

1 Official Syllabus

As per syllabus: "General issues on Environmental ecology, Bio-diversity and Climate Change"

Trend: 10–17 Questions

2 Species & Zones

Species in news, ecological zones

3 Legal Framework

Acts: EPA, WPA, FRA, Biodiversity Act

4 Environmental Issues

Pollution (plastic, air, water), GHG, Paris Agreement, CoP, UNFCCC

Recommended Books:

Shankar IAS/ PMF IAS Environment Book

NCERTs Class 12 Biology (units 13–16)

PIB + Ministry sites + **PT365 Environment**

Beginner Tip:

Focus on **recent initiatives** + ecology and biodiversity + **terms** like greenwashing





Bonus Integration Tip

1

Use PYQs as anchors

For every topic above, keep a copy of **previous 5 years'** questions.

2

Ask yourself

Is this topic directly asked?

Analyze pattern

Is it current-linked or static-based?

Summary Booklist for Beginners

Subject	Book/Source
Polity	M. Laxmikanth + Pt 365
Modern History	Spectrum by Rajiv Ahir
Ancient/ Medieval	TN Class 11/12, Old NCERTs + Nitin Singhania
Geography	NCERTs 11–12, GC Leong, Atlas
Economy	Class 11 NCERT, Ramesh Singh (optional) + Pt 365
Environment	Shankar/ PMF IAS, Current Affairs + Pt 365
Current Affairs	Newspaper + Monthly + PIB + Pt 365





IASGanga Beginner Protocol

Foundation Building

Start with **NCERTs** + one subject book

Parallel Revision

Parallelly revise **PYQs + Syllabus** terms

Daily Routine

Daily: Read 30 mins newspaper

Monthly Practice

Monthly: Revise via IASGanga CA highlighted PDF + Notes + IASGanga Monthly CAs Test (PYQs - based)

Yearly Compilation

Yearly: PT 365/IASGanga Yearly CA PDF

Integration Strategy

Never study current affairs in isolation—link with static





Join the Revolution



<u>Telegram</u>

Connect with our community



Website

Access comprehensive study materials



YouTube YouTube

Watch educational videos and lectures