<table>
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<tr>
<th>S. No</th>
<th>News Articles</th>
<th>Page Number*</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td>U.S. House impeaches President Donald Trump</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Not unimpeachable (Editorial)</td>
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<td>Impeached Trump faces trial in Senate</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Practice cum Revision - MCQs</td>
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</tbody>
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*C – Chennai; B – Bengaluru; D – Delhi ; T – Thiruvananthapuram; H - Hyderabad*
**U.S. House impeaches President Donald Trump**

Voting was largely along party lines; Senate trial next month

**Impeached Trump faces trial in Senate**

This, in part, is a reminder of the divide between the two political parties in the U.S. It was a reminder of the importance of the Constitution and the rule of law.

**Not unimpeachable**

Trump is unlikely to be removed as President, but the blame will fall on him.

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**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-III**

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

- Indian Constitution—historical underpinnings, evolution, features, amendments, significant provisions and basic structure.
- Comparison of the Indian constitutional scheme with that of other countries.
House of Representatives impeached U.S. President

**Timeline:**

- Joe Biden – Leading Democrat for 2020 elections
- Trump pressured Ukrainian President to investigate corruption charges against Biden
- White House meeting withheld, $391 million security aid
- Articles of abuse of power allegations, obstructing probe by US Congress

**Impeachment Procedure**

- Article 2, Section 4 of US Constitution
  - Grounds for impeachment are treason, bribery, high crimes and misdemeanors

**US President - Impeachment & Removal**

- **House of Representatives (Investigation)**
  - Article 1(2)5 of US Constitution
  - Impeachment Inquiry
    - Announcement on impeachment inquiry
    - 6 House committees investigate
    - After investigating, committees will report findings to House as a whole
  - Vote on impeachment
    - Vote on impeachment resolution
    - Simple Majority

- **Senate (Trial)**
  - Article 1(3)6 of US Constitution
  - House Managers (Prosecution), Senate (Jury), CJ of S. Court (Judge), President (defendant)
  - Deliberation (Senate meets in closed session)
  - Vote on Conviction
    - Votes on each article of impeachment separately
    - Requires 2/3rd majority to convict
Practice Question – Prelims

Q. Consider the following statements regarding impeachment of President of India.

1. Only Lok Sabha can initiate charges of impeachment against the President.
2. The impeachment resolution will get passed in a House only if it gets 2/3rd or more of the total membership of that House.

Select the correct statement(s) from the codes given below.

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2
RBI to conduct ‘Operation Twist’ to manage yields on Dec. 23

Bank to simultaneously buy and sell government securities

- The Reserve Bank of India will simultaneously buy and sell government securities in a market operation, known as ‘Operation Twist’, on December 23, 2023.
- The central bank will purchase government securities (bonds) and sell government securities (bills) in the secondary market.
- This will help in managing yields and also provide liquidity to the market.

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-IV


- Indian Economy and issues relating to planning, mobilization of resources, growth, development and employment.

Bond

- Debt Instrument: Investor -> Loans to Entity
- Money Issues Bonds
  
* Owners of bonds are also known as
  - Debt holders
  - Creditors

Government Securities (G-Secs)

- Tradable Instrument that is issued by the Central Govt./ State governments
- Acknowledges Government’s debt obligation

Types

- Short term
  - Treasury Bills
    - Maturity period -> <1 year
  - Long Term
    - Government Bonds / Debentures
      - Maturity period -> >1 year
- Also called as risk-free gilt-edged instruments

Issued through auctions conducted by RBI

- Conducted in E-Kuber (CBS platform of RBI)
- RBI Issues
  - Indicative auction calendar
  - Notifications
  - Press Communiques
  - Auctions

Open Market Operations

- Buying / selling of government securities to/from open market
- Purpose -> To adjust the Liquidity conditions in the market

Liquidity Conditions

- Excess -> RBI Sells G- secs to Open Market
- Tight -> RBI Buys G- secs from Open Market
- Repurchase or buyback of G- secs
- Buying back the existing securities that are sold in Open Market
- Premature Redemption of G- secs
**Practice Question – Prelims**

Q. Consider the following.

1. Treasury Bills
2. Government Bonds
3. Dated Securities

Which of the above is/are long-term government securities?

a) 1 only  

b) 1 and 2 only  

c) 2 and 3 only  

d) 2 only

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**Practice Question – Prelims**

Q. Consider the following about Open Market Operations.

1. The objective is to adjust the liquidity conditions in the open market.
2. The above objective is achieved only by selling of Government Securities to the open market.

Which of the above statement/s is/are incorrect?

a) 1 only  

b) 2 only  

c) Both 1 and 2  

d) Neither 1 nor 2
Pact to open door for U.S. defence firms

They can cooperate with Indian private sector for future agreements, including the one on fighter jets.

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Foundational Agreements on Defence between USA and India

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No</th>
<th>Agreement</th>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Status of Agreement</th>
<th>Today’s News (20-12-2019)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement</td>
<td>LEMOA</td>
<td>Signed (2016)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Communications Compatibility and Security Agreement</td>
<td>COMCASA</td>
<td>Signed (2018)</td>
<td>Review to operationalise COMCASA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement for Geospatial Cooperation</td>
<td>BECA</td>
<td>Not signed yet</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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News

Signing of Industrial Security Annex between India & USA in 2nd India-US 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue

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Part A—Preliminary Examination

Paper I - (200 marks)

- Current events of national and international importance.

Part B—Main Examination

PAPER III

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

- Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India’s interests.
- Effect of policies and politics of developed and developing countries on India’s interests, Indian diaspora.
Practice Question – Prelims

Q. ‘Industrial Security Annex’ which is often seen in news, is a pact signed between India and which of the following countries?

a) Iran  

b) Russia  

c) European Union  

d) United States of America

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GSOMIA</th>
<th>COMCASA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| * Enables sharing of military intelligence between India-USA  
*a) India & USA have to protect each others’ classified information  
*ISA- Industrial Security Annex  
*Add-on to GSOMIA  
*Enable transfer of key high end technology from US defence firms to its Indian partners  
*‘State of the art’ defence technology will be available to Indian defence firms  
*Boost to Indian private sector involved in defence manufacturing  |
| * India specific version of the Communication and Information on Security Memorandum of Agreement (CISMOA)  
*Signed in 2018 → valid for 10 years  
*India can procure and transfer specialised equipment from USA for encrypted communications  
*Steps to operationalise COMCASA will be discussed in Military Cooperation Group meeting → India’s Defence Minister  
*Military Cooperation Group  
*Sub-group of Defence Policy group  |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Defence Policy Group</th>
<th>Information Fusion Centre for Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>* Primary Mechanism that guides USA-India strategic defence partnership</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| *To strengthen the maritime security in the Indian Ocean Region  
*Maritime Information hub for the Indian Ocean Region  
*Established at Gurugram  |
Visa fee waiver scheme for SL refugees yet to catch on

Only 1,230 non-camp refugees have received the benefit over the last four years.

A scheme offering a waiver of visa fee and overstay penalty was launched for the non-camp refugees from Sri Lanka, but it is yet to take off despite the government’s efforts.

Over the past four years, around 1,230 non-camp refugees have applied for the waiver scheme. According to the Refugees and Immigration Department, a total of 34,603 refugees still reside outside the camps. This is on top of 20,734 refugees living in the camps. The scheme has been in place since December 2018 and applies to non-camp refugees.

Various reasons cited for the slow implementation of the scheme:

- Lack of awareness
- Difficulties in processing applications
- Refusals by the Indian authorities

A senior official in the Indian government dealing with the affairs of refugees clarified that the Indian authorities have not been lenient in their approach to granting visa fee waivers. The scheme is applicable exclusively to non-camp refugees as they are under the protection of the authorities.

Explaining the importance of the scheme, the official said that in the absence of the waiver, the non-camp refugees may have to pay an extra charge, which may be as high as Rs. 15,000 or more, depending on the number of years spent in the country.

As for the grant of waiver, the official pointed out that generally, the committee makes recommendations to the Home Ministry.

**Incentive to return to Sri Lanka**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2016-17</th>
<th>2017-18</th>
<th>2018-19</th>
<th>2019-20</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1,257</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>1,377</td>
<td>2,750</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Welfare schemes for vulnerable sections of the population by the Centre and States and the performance of these schemes: mechanisms, laws, institutions and Bodies constituted for the protection and betterment of these vulnerable sections.

- India and its neighborhood- relations.

- Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India’s interests.

**Rule 7(2)(c) of RFR 1992**

- Any foreigner to present ‘registration report’ immediately after the expiry of authorised period of stay in India.

**Incentive for voluntary repatriation, based on proposal of Govt. of T.N.**

- Visa Fee and Overstay Penalty Waiver for Sri Lankan Refugees

- Applicable for those refugees who came to India prior to 9th January 2015 and opt to voluntarily return to Sri Lanka.
& meant for expediting the voluntary repatriation process of Non-camp refugees
& application scrutinized by a committee
  ▶ Secretary rank officer (Principal Secretary)
  ▶ IG of Police
  ▶ FRRO
& decided on case-to-case basis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Incentive to return</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Applied</th>
<th>Rejected</th>
<th>Granted</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2015-16</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>29</td>
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<td>2016-17</td>
<td>455</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>444</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2017-18</td>
<td>394</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>393</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2018-19</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>217</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2019-20*</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>1,257</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>1,230</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Reasons for limited response to the scheme
& Lack of awareness
& Complex/cumbersome process
& Desire of refugees to become Indian Citizens
& Challenges to safety in Sri Lanka in short and long run
*Assisting agency (other than Govt.)
& UNHCR
& based in Geneva, Switzerland
*India has constructed or repaired more than 45,000 houses in Sri Lanka
& Northern & Eastern Provinces in Sri Lanka
& Special support for Indian-origin Tamils

PRACTICE QUESTIONS DISCUSSION
Practice Question – Prelims

Q1. Consider the following about Open Market Operations.

1. The objective is to adjust the liquidity conditions in the open market.

2. The above objective is achieved only by selling of Government Securities to the open market.

Which of the above statement/s is/are incorrect?

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

Practice Question – Prelims

Q2. Consider the following statements regarding impeachment of President of India.

1. Only Lok Sabha can initiate charges of impeachment against the President.

2. The impeachment resolution will get passed in a House if it gets 2/3rd majority or more of the total membership of that House.

Select the correct statement(s) from the codes given below.

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2
Practice Question – Prelims
Q3. Consider the following.
1. Treasury Bills
2. Government Bonds
3. Dated Securities
Which of the above is/are long-term government securities?
a) 1 only
b) 1 and 2 only
c) 2 and 3 only
d) 2 only

Practice Question – Prelims
Q4. ‘Industrial Security Annex’ which is often seen in news, is a pact signed between India and which of the following countries?
a) Iran
b) Russia
c) European Union
d) United States of America
Practice Questions – Prelims
20-12-2019

Answers
1. Option – b
2. Option – b
3. Option – c
4. Option - d