

X FACTOR FOR MAINS

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GS-1: SOCIETY

Caste & Inequality

- Caste Discrimination: 40,000+ cases under SC/ST Act (2022).
- Manual Scavenging: Still present; 1.58 lakh manual scavengers identified.
- Urban Caste Bias: Present in housing, hiring, matrimonial sites.

Women & Gender

- Female LFPR: 37% (PLFS 2022-23).
- Sex Ratio at Birth: 929 (NFHS-5).
- Crimes Against Women: 4.45 lakh cases (NCRB 2022).
- Digital Gender Gap: Only 33% of internet users are women (GSMA 2023).

Youth & Demographic Transition

- Median Age: 28.4 years.
- Youth Unemployment: ~12.5% (CMIE).
- Mental Health Crisis: 1 in 7 Indians affected.

Regionalism & Identity

- Rising demands: Gorkhaland, Bundelkhand.
- Hate Crimes: Threaten communal and social cohesion.

GS-2: POLITY

Constitutional Framework

- FR-DPSP Synergy: A21 expanded to health, privacy, environment.
- Basic Structure: Reaffirmed in Kesavananda, NJAC verdict.
- Key Amendments: 42nd (DPSPs), 73rd/74th (Panchayats/Municipalities), 103rd (EWS quota).

Legislature

- Ordinance Raj: Maharashtra, Odisha lead.
- MPLADS: ₹5 Cr/MP/year; underutilization prevalent.
- Private Member Bills: Only 14 passed in 70+ years.

Executive

- Political vs Permanent Exec: Frequent reshuffles.
- Lateral Entry: Used in NITI Aayog, EAC.

Judiciary

- Pendency: 5 Cr+ cases; SC alone has 70,000+.
- Vacancies: HCs – ~35%.
- NJAC Struck Down: No enforceable accountability.

Local Governance

- PRI Reps: 32 Lakh+; 14 Lakh women (33%+ reserved).
- ULBs: Only 1% of GDP from property tax.
- Devolution Index: Kerala, Maharashtra perform best.

GS-2: EDUCATION

Access & Equity

- School Enrollment: 26.5 Cr; 98.4% in 6–14 yrs.
- Higher Education: 4.1 Cr enrolled; GER ~27%.
- Female Share: ~2 Cr.
- NEP 2035 Target: 50% GER.
- Private vs Public: 44% students in govt schools (rural).

Infrastructure & Investment

- Public Spending: 2.9% of GDP; NEP target: 6%.



- Internet Access: Only 34% of schools.
- Toilet Facilities: 30% rural schools lack girls' toilets.

Learning Outcomes

- Arithmetic Skills: 57.3% rural youth can't divide (ASER).
- Reading English: Only 25% can read Class 5-level text.
- NAS 2021: Declining Math & Science scores.

Higher Education & Employability

- No Indian University in QS Top 100.
- Research Spend: 0.7% of GDP (vs China 2.8%).
- Employability: 50% of graduates unemployable.

Skill Development

- Formal Skill Training: Just 3.7% youth trained (PLFS).
- High Dropout Rates: Economic pressure, poor relevance.

GS-2: HEALTH

Health Spending & Infra

- Govt Health Spend: 1.84% of GDP.
- OOE: Down from 64.2% (2014) to 39.4% (2022).
- Union Budget 2024–25: ₹90,959 Cr (~1.89%).
- Doctor:Population = 1:1,194.
- Beds per 1000: 1.3 (India), 2.7 (Delhi).
- Medical Colleges: 730 (from 307 in 2014); MBBS Seats: 1 Lakh+.

Health Indicators

- MMR: 97 | IMR: 26 | U5MR: 29 | NMR: 18.
- Life Expectancy: 67.3 (2021) vs 70.7 (2019).
- Anaemia: 67% children, 57% women.
- Obesity: 20% adults (urban up to 30%).

Disease Burden

- NCDs: 49% of total deaths.
- Diabetes: 77–100 million; 26% global share.
- Tuberculosis: 2.15 million new cases/year.

Governance Challenges



- 40% Doctor absenteeism in rural PHCs.
- Health Insurance: Only 41% coverage.
- CHCs: >70% lack specialist staff.

GS-2: GOVERNANCE

Citizen-Centric Governance

- RTI: 30 Lakh+ filed/year; 5.5 Lakh pending in CIC/SICs.
- Sevottam Framework: Weak adoption.
- Citizen Charters: Present but poorly enforced.

Good Governance Initiatives

- Good Governance Index: Top – Gujarat, Maharashtra.
- Mission Karmayogi: Civil service reform.
- PRAGATI & e-SamikSha: Real-time governance tracking.

Digital Governance

- JAM Trinity: Saved ₹2.25 Lakh Cr.
- DigiLocker: 7,000+ services.
- MyGov, CPGRAMS: Enhancing feedback systems.

GS-2: SOCIAL JUSTICE

Marginalised Groups

- SC/ST Budget: ₹1.26 L Cr (SC), ₹0.98 L Cr (ST).
- OBC Quota in NEET AIQ: Implemented from 2021.

Disability & Elderly

- PwD Population: 2.21% (Census 2011); undercounted.
- Schemes: UDID, Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan.
- Elderly: 19% by 2050 – rising demand for geriatric care.

Minorities

- Schemes: Pre & Post Matric Scholarships.
- Issues: Reduced funds, poor execution.

Transgender Rights

- Trans Act 2019: Recognition given but certification process criticized.



- Few states like Kerala, TN lead in inclusion initiatives.

GS-3: INDIAN ECONOMY

Growth Trends

- GDP: ~7.6% (2023–24); among fastest globally.
- PCI: ₹1.96 Lakh (2023–24), doubled since 2014.
- CPI Inflation: Avg. 5.1% (FY24).
- Fiscal Deficit: 5.8% (FY24); FY25 target: 5.1%.

Employment

- Urban Unemployment: 6.7%; Rural: 4.2% (PLFS).
- LFPR: 57.9%.
- Gig Workers: 7.7M (2023); may reach 23.5M by 2030.
- Formalisation: 28 Cr+ on e-Shram; EPFO coverage rising.

Financial Sector

- Credit Growth: 16.4% YoY.
- NPAs: 3.2% – lowest in a decade.
- UPI: 117 Bn txns; ₹182 Lakh Cr (2023).

Welfare & Inclusion

- Poverty: 24.8 Cr lifted since 2014 (NITI Aayog).
- DBT Transfers: ₹34.6 L Cr since inception.
- PMGKY: 81 Cr+ beneficiaries during pandemic.

External Sector

- Exports: ~\$775 Bn (FY24); Goods – \$437 Bn.
- CAD: 1.2% of GDP.
- Forex: ~\$650 Bn (Mar 2024) – record high.

Taxation & Budget

- Capex: ₹11.1 L Cr (2024–25).
- GST: ₹1.72 L Cr (April 2024) – highest ever.
- Direct Taxes: ₹19.5 L Cr collected in FY24.

GS-3: ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

Air Pollution

- In 2024, India ranked **5th most polluted** country; PM2.5 averaged **50.6 µg/m³**—over 10× the WHO safe level.
- **Delhi** remained the most polluted capital; AQI exceeded **357** (PM2.5) in early 2025, with ozone levels breaching 100 µg/m³ on **83 of 92 days** during March–May.
- Long-term PM2.5 exposure reduces average Indian life expectancy by **5.3 years**.

Solid Waste & Water Stress

- India generates over **100 million tonnes/year** of municipal waste; nearly **40% remains uncollected** due to governance gaps.
- Floods from extreme weather displaced **5.4 million** people internally (2023–2024), with Assam disproportionately affected.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

- India's share of global GHG emissions reached **7.8%**—a 1 pp increase (2020–2023).
- On the Environmental Performance Index, India ranks **177th/180**, performing poorly in air quality, biodiversity, and emissions.

GS-3: INTERNAL SECURITY

Left-Wing Extremism (Naxalism)

- As of April 2024, only **38 districts** in nine states affected—down from 126 in 2013.
- Naxalite incidents dropped by **81%** (1,936 in 2010 → 374 in 2024); deaths fell by **85%** (1,005 → 150).

Cybersecurity & Surveillance

- Cybercrime cases reached **1.1 million in 2023**; financial frauds form 75% of total (*Add citation if available*).
- Annual malware detections exceeded **369 million incidents**.

Police & Accountability

- Police-to-population ratio: ~153/100,000 (UN recommends 222); state-level vacancies remain at ~20%.

"उद्यमेन हि सिद्ध्यन्ति कार्याणि न मनोरथैः।

न हि सुप्तस्य सिंहस्य प्रविशन्ति मुखे मृगाः॥"

"Success is achieved only through effort and not by mere dreams.

Just as a deer doesn't enter the mouth of a sleeping lion."

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