

**GS SCORE**

**An Institute for Civil Services**

---



**16<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> JULY, 2020**



**[www.iasscore.in](http://www.iasscore.in)**

# GS SCORE

An Institute for Civil Services

# IAS 2021-22

## LIVE & INTERACTIVE CLASSES

## LEARNING NEVER STOPS!

Due to the current situation of COVID Pandemic, we continue to put our efforts for IAS Aspirants exclusively through

**Online Live & Interactive Classes** for:

01

**GS  
FOUNDATION**

02

**OPTIONAL  
SUBJECTS**


03

**MAINS  
COURSES**

04

**TEST  
SERIES**

Visit:  [www.iasscore.in](http://www.iasscore.in)

 1B, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Pusa Road Karol Bagh, New Delhi-110005, (Adjacent to Karol Bagh Metro Gate No. 8)

 91 8448496262  [info@iasscore.in](mailto:info@iasscore.in)  /iasscore

# CONTENTS

## PIB (16<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2020)

| S. No. | Area                    | Topics   | Page No. |
|--------|-------------------------|--|----------|
| 1.     | SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY    | International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER)                    | 01       |
| 2.     | ENVIRONMENT             | Bhagirathi Eco-sensitive Zone  | 01       |
| 3.     | GOVERNANCE              | India Report on Digital Education  | 02       |
| 4.     | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS | Inauguration of Supreme Court Building of Mauritius by PM                  | 04       |
| 5.     | GOVERNANCE              | National Education Policy 2020   | 04       |
| 6.     | DEFENCE                 | Induction of Rafale in Indian Air Force                                    | 07       |
| 7.     | ECONOMY                 | Report of the High Level Group (HLEG) on Agricultural Exports              | 08       |
| 8.     | HEALTH                  | Ayushman Bharat- Health & Wellness Centres (AB-HWCs)                       | 09       |
| 9.     | ECONOMY                 | Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF)                   | 12       |
| 10.    | GOVERNANCE              | NISHTHA Programme  | 12       |
| 11.    | GOVERNANCE              | Jal Jeevan Mission   | 13       |
| 12.    | POLITY                  | Urban Local Bodies (ULBs)  | 14       |
| 13.    | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS | Indo-US Strategic Energy Partnership                                       | 16       |
| 14.    | HEALTH                  | Case Fatality Rate (CFR)   | 17       |
| 15.    | GOVERNANCE              | INDSAT   | 18       |
| 16.    | GOVERNANCE              | PM-SVANidhi Scheme   | 18       |
| 17.    | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS | India-European Union Agreement on Scientific and Technological Cooperation | 19       |
| 18.    | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS | India-Indonesia Defence Dialogue   | 21       |

01

## TARGET PT 2020

45 Days Online Prelims Classes through 4000+ MCQ

10  
AUGUST

02

## PRELIMS TEST SERIES

COMPLETE REVISION THROUGH TEST | 39 TESTS

10  
AUGUST

03

## CSAT ONLINE CLASSES

4 WEEKS CSAT ONLINE CLASSES +13 TESTS (3 SECTIONAL + 10 MOCK)

20  
AUGUST

04

## PRELIMS TEST SERIES

Sectional + Current Affairs + Mock | 31 TESTS

22  
AUGUST

05

## PRELIMS MOCK TEST

TOTAL: 20 TESTS

30  
AUGUST

06

## PRELIMS MOCK TEST

TOTAL: 20 TESTS

13  
SEPTEMBER

## 1 International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER)

### CONTEXT:

- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi congratulated the ITER organization for their hard work and success so far.

### ABOUT

- The ITER Organization celebrated the Start of Assembly of the ITER Tokamak with a ceremony on 28th July 2020 at Saint-Paul-Lez-Durance, France. Invited Head of States of all ITER member countries participated either in person, or electronically through remote mode, or conveying his/her message. The Celebration has been hosted virtually by President Macron.
- Taking note of the global participation of scientists and engineers PM Modi projected ITER to be a perfect illustration of the age-old Indian belief - Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam - the entire world is working together for the betterment of Mankind and that India stands proud with its fair share of contributions in terms of its in-kind contributions, viz., the cryostat, in vessel shields, substantial contributions to the cooling water, cryogenic and cryo-distribution systems, auxiliary heating devices using RF and beam technologies, multi mega watt power supplies and several diagnostics to help ITER to achieve and demonstrate its goal.

### International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER):

- ▶ ITER is an international nuclear fusion research and engineering megaproject, which will be the world's largest magnetic confinement plasma physics experiment.
- ▶ It is an experimental tokamak nuclear fusion reactor that is being built next to the Cadarache facility in Saint-Paul-lès-Durance, in Provence, southern France.
- ▶ The project is funded and run by seven member entities—**the European Union, China, India, Japan, Russia, South Korea and the United States**. Construction of the ITER tokamak complex started in 2013 and the building costs were over US\$14 billion by June 2015.
- ▶ The goal of ITER is to demonstrate the scientific and technological feasibility of fusion energy for peaceful use. It is the largest of more than 100 fusion reactors built since the 1950s.
- ▶ The ITER thermonuclear fusion reactor has been designed to create **plasma of 500 megawatts (thermal)** for around twenty minutes while 50 megawatts of thermal power are injected into the tokamak, resulting in a ten-fold gain of plasma heating power.
- ▶ Thereby the machine aims to demonstrate, for the first time in a fusion reactor, the principle of producing more thermal power than is used to heat the plasma. The total electricity consumed by the reactor and facilities will range from 110 MW up to 620 MW peak for 30-second periods during plasma operation.
- ▶ Being a research reactor, thermal-to-electric conversion is not intended, and ITER will not produce sufficient power for net electrical production. Instead, the emitted heat will be vented.

## 2 Bhagirathi Eco-sensitive Zone

### CONTEXT:

- In a review meeting on the Rhar Dham road project chaired by Nitin Gadkari, minister of road transport and highways, environment minister Prakash Javadekar said the ministry has approved the zonal master plan (ZMP) which will help expedite the road project.

**ABOUT:**

- The ZMP is based on watershed approach and includes governance in the area of forest and wildlife, watershed management, irrigation, energy, tourism, public health and sanitation, road infrastructure, etc.
- The approval of ZMP will give a boost to conservation and ecology of the area and also to undertake developmental activities as permitted under ZMP. The approval will also pave way for faster execution of the Chardhaam Project.

**The Bhagirathi eco-sensitive zone**

- The Bhagirathi Eco-Sensitive Zone notification from Gaumukh to Uttarakashi covering an area of 4179.59 sq. kilometer was issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change(MoEF&CC) on 18th December 2012 keeping in view the requirements of the local people without affecting their rights and privileges and also ensuring eco-friendly development for their livelihood security.
- The Bhagirathi Eco-Sensitive Zone notification mandated the State Government of Uttarakhand to prepare ZMP to be implemented under the supervision of the Monitoring Committee.
- After years of protests by local environmentalists, the notification sought to protect the entire fragile Himalayan region by restricting hydropower projects of over 2 MW, riverbed mining and change of land use.

**Char Dham Road Project:**

- The Char Dham project proposes to provide all-weather connectivity to Yamunotri, Gangotri, Badrinath and Kedarnath, and has 53 projects of 826 km length, involving an investment of Rs. 12,000 crore.

**3 India Report on Digital Education****Context:**

- Union Minister for HRD Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' virtually launched India Report on Digital Education, 2020.

**ABOUT:**

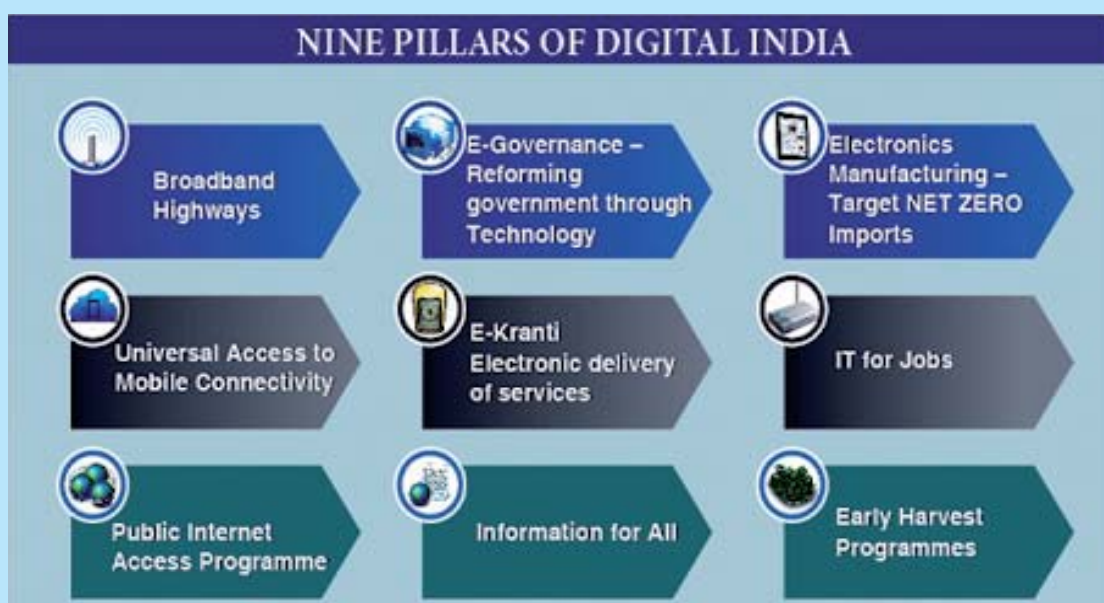
- The report elaborates on the innovative methods adopted by Ministry of HRD, Education Departments of States and Union Territories for ensuring accessible and inclusive education to children at home and reducing learning gaps.
- Ministry of Human Resource Development has initiated many projects to assist teachers, scholars and students in their pursuit of learning like DIKSHA platform, Swayam Prabha TV Channel, Online MOOC courses, On Air – Shiksha Vani, DAISY by NIOS for differently-abled, e-PathShala, National Repository of Open Educational Resources (NROER) to develop e-content and energized books, telecast through TV channels, E-learning portals, webinars, chat groups, distribution of books and other digital initiatives along with State/ UT Governments.
- Besides, the central Initiatives State/ UT Governments have also managed the critical task of providing digital education at the door step of the students. Some of the major medium to connect to the students were using social media tools like WhatsApp Group for all the classes, Online classes

through YouTube channel, Google meet, Skype etc., E-learning portal, TV (Doordarshan & regional channels), Radio (AIR), use of Diksha was most prominent choice of all the stakeholders.

- Some of the major digital initiatives by State Governments are **SMILE** (Social Media Interface for Learning Engagement) in Rajasthan, **Project Home** Classes in Jammu, **Padhai Tunhar duvaar** (Education at your doorstep) in Chhattisgarh, **Unnayan** Initiatives in Bihar through portal and mobile application, **Mission Buniyaad** in NCT of Delhi, Kerala's own educational TV channel (Hi-Tech school programme), E-scholar portal as well as free online courses for teachers in Meghalaya. Telangana has online certificate programs for teachers on 'Management of mental well-being during COVID'.
- Many states have had to be creative with low tech forms of teaching and instruction delivery with low or nil requirements of the internet. For instance- In Arunachal Pradesh, primary class students are receiving interesting Radio talks in their mother tongue through All India Radio, Itanagar.
- The districts of Jharkhand have localized actual teachers addressing children through regional Doordarshan and available radio slots.
- Digital education initiatives are also enabling enhanced support for students preparing for competitive exams. Goa has partnered with Embibe, an Artificial Intelligence (AI)-powered online platform for learning, practicing, and testing, for students preparing for entrance exams in the State.

### Digital India campaign:

- ▶ It was launched by the Government of India in order to ensure the Government's services are made available to citizens electronically by improved online infrastructure and by increasing Internet connectivity or making the country digitally empowered in the field of technology.
- ▶ The initiative includes plans to connect rural areas with high-speed internet networks. Digital India consists of three core components: the development of secure and stable digital infrastructure, delivering government services digitally, and universal digital literacy.
- ▶ Launched on 1 July 2015, by Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, it is both enabler and beneficiary of other key Government of India schemes, such as BharatNet, Make in India, Startup India and Standup India, industrial corridors, Bharatmala, Sagarmala.



## 4 Inauguration of Supreme Court Building of Mauritius by PM

### CONTEXT:

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Prime Minister of Mauritius Pravind Jugnauth to jointly inaugurate the new Supreme Court Building of Mauritius.

### ABOUT:

- The building has been constructed with Indian grant assistance and will be the first India assisted infrastructure project within the capital city of Port Louis after Covid.
- The new Supreme Court building project is one of the five projects being implemented under the '**Special Economic Package**' of USD 353 million extended by the Government of India to Mauritius in 2016. The project has been completed within schedule and below expected costs.
- The building flaunts a modern design and green features with focus on thermal and sound insulation and high energy efficiency.
- The new Supreme Court Building is expected to become an important landmark in the city center symbolizing the strong bilateral partnership between the two countries.

### Indo-Mauritian relations:

- ▶ It refers to the historical, political, economic, military, social and cultural connections between the Republic of India and the Republic of Mauritius. Connections between India and Mauritius date back to 1730, diplomatic relations were established in 1948, before Mauritius became independent state.
- ▶ The cultural affinities and long historical ties between the two nations have contributed to strong and cordial relations between the two nations. More than 68% of the Mauritian population is of Indian origin, most commonly known as Indo-Mauritians.
- ▶ **Strategic relation:** India and Mauritius co-operate in combating piracy, which has emerged as a major threat in the Indian Ocean region and Mauritius supports India's stance against terrorism.
- ▶ **Trade relation:** Economic and commercial corporation has been increasing over the years. The proposed India-Mauritius Comprehensive Economic Cooperation and Partnership Agreement (CECPA) seeks to mutually benefit both the countries in the area of trade in goods and services.
- ▶ During 2019-20, **India** received the maximum **FDI** equity inflow from Singapore (US\$ 14.67 billion), followed by **Mauritius** (US\$ 8.24 billion), Netherlands (US\$ 6.50 billion), USA (US\$ 4.22 billion) and Japan (US\$ 3.22 billion).
- ▶ **Defence cooperation:** Mauritius is part of India's security grid including Coastal Surveillance Radar (CSR) station of Indian Navy's National Command Control Communication Intelligence network. The Head of Mauritius Navy and the Mauritian National Security Advisor are Indian officers.

## 5 National Education Policy 2020

Union Cabinet approved the National Education Policy 2020, paving way for transformational reforms in school and higher education sector in the country.



# GS SCORE

An Institute for Civil Services

## IAS 2021

# GS MAINS ADVANCE

GS Paper 1, 2, 3, 4 + Essay + Mains Test Series

A Solution for 1250 Marks

Online Live Interactive Classes

**BATCH STARTS**

**16 AUGUST**

6:00 PM to 8:30 PM

Fee ₹ 42,000 + GST

5 Months Course to cover Key concepts of GS Mains paper 1, 2, 3 & 4

Complete coverage of contemporary issues of last two years

Detailed Answer Writing session on each subject

Mains Test Series including 25 Tests (10 Sectional + 3 Contemporary Issues + 8 Full Mock + 4 Essay Mock )

Essay Classes + Essay Practice Workbook

Study Material of Contemporary Issues

Off. 1B, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Pusa Road  
Karol Bagh, New Delhi-110005,  
(Adjacent to Karol Bagh Metro Gate No. 8)

+91 8448496262

info@iasscore.in

/iasscore



www.iasscore.in

## Objectives of NEP 2020:

### ● **Equitable and Inclusive Education:**

- NEP 2020 aims to ensure that no child loses any opportunity to learn and excel because of the circumstances of birth or background. Special emphasis will be given on Socially and Economically Disadvantaged Groups (SEDGs) which include gender, socio-cultural, and geographical identities and disabilities.
- This includes setting up of **Gender Inclusion Fund** and also **Special Education Zones** for disadvantaged regions and groups. Children with disabilities will be enabled to fully participate in the regular schooling process from the foundational stage to higher education, with support of educators with cross disability training, resource centres, accommodations, assistive devices, appropriate technology-based tools and other support mechanisms tailored to suit their needs.
- Every state/district will be encouraged to establish "**Bal Bhavans**" as a special daytime boarding school, to participate in art-related, career-related, and play-related activities. Free school infrastructure can be used as **Samajik Chetna Kendras**

### ● **Robust Teacher Recruitment and Career Path:**

- Teachers will be recruited through robust, transparent processes. Promotions will be merit-based, with a mechanism for multi-source periodic performance appraisals and available progression paths to become educational administrators or teacher educators.
- A common **National Professional Standards for Teachers (NPST)** will be developed by the National Council for Teacher Education by 2022, in consultation with NCERT, SCERTs, teachers and expert organizations from across levels and regions.

### ● **School Governance:**

- Schools can be organized into complexes or clusters which will be the basic unit of governance and ensure availability of all resources including infrastructure, academic libraries and a strong professional teacher community.

### ● **Standard-setting and Accreditation for School Education:**

- NEP 2020 envisages clear, separate systems for policy making, regulation, operations and academic matters. States/UTs will set up independent **State School Standards Authority (SSSA)**.
- Transparent public self-disclosure of all the basic regulatory information, as laid down by the SSSA, will be used extensively for public oversight and accountability. The SCERT will develop a **School Quality Assessment and Accreditation Framework (SQAAF)** through consultations with all stakeholders.

### ● **Increase GER to 50 % by 2035:**

- NEP 2020 aims to increase the Gross Enrolment Ratio in higher education including vocational education from 26.3% (2018) to 50% by 2035. 3.5 Crore new seats will be added to Higher education institutions.

### ● **Holistic Multidisciplinary Education:**

- The policy envisages broad based, multi-disciplinary, holistic Under Graduate education with **flexible curricula, creative combinations of subjects, integration of vocational education** and multiple **entry and exit points with appropriate certification**.
- UG education can be of 3 or 4 years with multiple exit options and appropriate certification within this period. For example, Certificate after 1 year, Advanced Diploma after 2 years, Bachelor's Degree after 3 years and Bachelor's with Research after 4 years.

## Learning plan

A look at the key features of the new education policy:

• R.V.S. PRASAD



- Public spending on education by States, Centre to be raised to 6% of GDP
- Ministry of Human Resource Development to be renamed Ministry of Education
- Separate technology unit to develop digital education resources

### SCHOOL EDUCATION

- Universalisation from age 3 to Class 10 by 2030
- Mission to ensure literacy and numeracy skills by 2025
- Mother tongue as medium of instruction till Class 5 wherever possible
- New curriculum to include 21st century skills like coding and vocational integration from Class 6
- Board exams to be easier, redesigned

### HIGHER EDUCATION

- New umbrella regulator for all higher education except medical, legal courses
- Flexible, holistic, multi-disciplinary UG degrees of 3-4 years' duration
- 1 to 2 year PG programmes, no M.Phil
- College affiliation system to be phased out in 15 years

## 6 Induction of Rafale in Indian Air Force

### CONTEXT:

- Five Rafale fighter jets of the 36 ordered by the Indian Air Force (IAF) from France landed at their home base in Haryana's Ambala.

### ABOUT:

- India had ordered 36 Rafale fighter jets from France in a deal worth about Rs 60,000 crore in September 2016. Out of the 36 Rafale aircraft, 30 will be fighter jets and six will be trainers. The trainer jets will be twin-seater and they will have almost all the features of the fighter jets.
- The new aircraft will significantly enhance the offensive capabilities of IAF, which has for long-planned to update its fighter jet force. Defence experts have said the induction of the Rafale fighter jets will be a "game-changer" for India in regional politics of South Asia.
- Rafale, categorised as a 4.5 generation aircraft for its radar-evading stealth profile, is important for IAF since most of the aircraft in its fleet, including the Mirage 2000 and the Su-30 MKI, are classified as either third or fourth-generation fighters.
- The Rafale is a twin-jet fighter aircraft able to operate from both an aircraft carrier and a shore base. The manufacturers describe it as a fully versatile aircraft which can carry out all combat aviation missions to achieve air superiority and air defence, in-depth strikes, reconnaissance, anti-ship strikes and nuclear deterrence.
- The Rafale jets will be a crucial enhancement to India's Medium Multi-role Combat Aircraft fleet.
- The Rafale fighter jets have been tailor-made for the Indian Air Force. India-specific enhancements include helmet-mounted sight, radar warning receivers, flight data recorders with enough storage

for 10 hours of data, infrared search and track systems, jammers, cold engine start capability to operate from high-altitude bases and towed decoys to lure incoming missiles away.

- India will be the fourth country, after France, Egypt and Qatar, to fly the Rafale.
- The Rafale fighter jet, however, cannot be compared with the J-20, an indigenously developed fifth-generation aircraft of China. The J-20 is soon set to be inducted in large numbers into the People's Liberation Army Air Force of China after it was successfully developed and displayed.

| The Deal  |  | The Need   |   | The Delivery   |  |
|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| <p>Overall Cost:<br/><b>7.8 billion euros</b><br/>(Rs 59,000 crore)</p> <p>Inked in:<br/><b>Sept 2016</b></p> <p><b>36 fighters</b><br/>(28 single-seat &amp; 8 twin-seat)</p> <p>No Make in India. But has 50% offsets</p> |  | <p>➤ IAF down to just 30 fighter squadrons (16-18 jets each)</p> <p>➤ At least 42 needed for collusive China-Pak threat</p> <p>➤ Just 36 Rafales will not make the</p> |   | <p>depleting numbers</p> <p>➤ So, faster induction of 123 indigenous Tejas jets required</p> <p>➤ India also buying 21 more MiG-29s &amp; 12 Sukhoi-30MKIs</p>   |  |
|   |  |  |   | <p>➤ First 5 Rafales to touch down in India on July 29</p> <p>➤ All 36 by end-2021</p> <p>➤ First 18 at Ambala in 17 'Golden Arrows' Squadron</p> <p>➤ Next 18 at Hasimara in 101 'Falcons' Squadron</p> |  |
| <p><b>The Punch</b></p> <p>➤ 4.5-Gen omni-role fighter</p> <p>➤ Can simultaneously perform both air defence &amp; ground attack missions</p> <p>➤ Can deliver nuclear weapons</p>   |  |  | <p><b>Weapons include:</b></p> <p>➤ 120-150km beyond-visual range Meteor air-to-air missiles</p> <p>➤ Over 70-km range Mica air-to-air missiles</p> <p>➤ Over 300-km Scalp air-to-ground cruise missiles</p> <p>➤ 20-70 km 'Hammer' air-to-ground precision-guided munitions also planned</p> |  |  |

## 7

## Report of the High Level Group (HLEG) on Agricultural Exports

### CONTEXT:

- The High Level Group (HLEG) on Agricultural Exports set up by the Fifteenth Finance Commission to recommend measurable performance incentives for States to encourage agricultural exports and to promote crops to enable high import substitution, has submitted its report to the Commission.

### The Terms of Reference of the HLEG include:

- To assess export & import substitution opportunities for Indian agricultural products (commodities, semi-processed, and processed) in the changing international trade scenario and suggest ways to step up exports sustainably and reduce import dependence.

- To recommend strategies and measures to increase farm productivity, enable higher value addition, ensure waste reduction, strengthen logistics infrastructure etc. related to Indian agriculture, to improve the sector's global competitiveness.
- To identify the impediments for private sector investments along the agricultural value chain and 3 suggest policy measures and reforms that would help attract the required investments.
- To suggest appropriate performance-based incentives to the state governments for the period 2021-22 to 2025-26, to accelerate reforms in the agriculture sector as well as implement other policy measures in this regard.

### **HLEG report:**

After intensive research and consultations and taking inputs from stakeholders and the private sector through intensive consultations, the HLEG has made its recommendations, major among which are:

- Focus on 22 crop value chains – demand driven approach.
- Solve Value Chain Clusters (VCC) holistically with focus on value addition.
- Create State led export plan with participation from stakeholders.
- Private Sector should play an anchor role.
- Centre should be an enabler.
- Robust institutional mechanism to fund and support implementation.

The Group in its report has recommended a State-led Export Plan - a business plan for a crop value chain cluster, that will lay out the opportunity, initiatives and investment required to meet the desired value chain export aspiration. These plans will be action-oriented, time-bound and outcome-focused. The Group has also said that for the success of the State led Export Plan, the following factors needed to be considered:-

- Plans should be collaboratively prepared with private sector players and Commodity Boards.
- Leveraging of state plan guide and value chain deep dives.
- Private sector should play an anchor role in driving outcomes and execution.
- Centre should enable state-led plans.
- Institutional governance should be promoted across state and centre.
- Funding through convergence of existing schemes, Finance Commission allocation and private sector investment.

The Group was of the view that the private sector players had a pivotal role to play in ensuring demand orientation and focus on value addition; ensuring project plans are feasible, robust, implementable and appropriately funded; providing funds for technology based on business case and for creating urgency and discipline for project implementation.

The HLEG feels that-

- India's agricultural export has the potential to grow from USD 40 billion to USD 70 billion in a few years.
- The estimated investment in agricultural export could be in the tune to USD 8-10 billion across inputs, infrastructure, processing and demand enablers.
- Additional exports are likely to create an estimated 7-10 million jobs.
- It will lead to higher farm productivity and farmer income.

## **8**

### **Ayushman Bharat- Health & Wellness Centres (AB-HWCs)**

#### **CONTEXT:**

- Ayushman Bharat- Health & Wellness Centres (AB-HWCs) have made their presence felt during the times of COVID

**IAS 2021  
MAINS TEST SERIES**

# GS MAINS



**COMPLETE GS & Essay *through* TEST SERIES**

**1500+ Topics of GS Paper 1, 2, 3 & 4 covered**



Classroom



Online



Flexi Format

**Total 32 Tests**



**DETAILED CONCEPT CLASSES**

after Every Test (4-5 Hrs.)



**Study Material**



Supplementary  
Notes with  
Answers

500+ Applied  
GS Topical  
Notes

Ethics  
Case Study  
Workbook

Essay Practice  
Workbook

1200+ Question  
Answer Practice  
Workbook

**Batch-1** Starts **23 August, 2020**

+91 8448496262

info@iasscore.in /iasscore

**FEE**

Sectional + Mock: ₹ 27,000/- (+GST)  
Sectional: ₹ 22,000/- (+GST)




www.iasscore.in

**ABOUT:**

- During the COVID-19 pandemic, the resilience of India’s public health systems particularly in the rural hinterland was reflected through continued operationalization of the Ayushman Bharat Health and Wellness Centers (AB - HWCs) and continued delivery of non-COVID essential health services while also meeting the urgent tasks of prevention and management of COVID-19.
- The AB-HWCs have been very useful in the pandemic as their population-based screenings for non-communicable diseases have provided the State health authorities a list of those with chronic diseases and the vulnerable, co-morbid population which has to be protected from COVID-19 on priority.

## Making healthcare all inclusive

Ayushman Bharat – Pradhan Mantri Jan Aarogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Ranchi, Jharkhand, on September 23. This is being touted as the “world’s largest government funded healthcare programme” targeting more than 50 crore beneficiaries




**APPROACH**

- Consists of two inter-related components
- 1,50,000** Health and Wellness Centres will be created to bring primary healthcare closer to people
- These centres will provide Comprehensive Primary Health Care (CPHC), covering both maternal and child health services and non-communicable diseases, including free essential drugs and diagnostic services
- Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY) will provide health protection cover to poor and vulnerable families for secondary and tertiary care

**PILOT LAUNCH OF PMJAY**


- The pilot launch has been done in 22 States / UTs (Arunachal Pradesh, Chandigarh, Chhattisgarh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, M.P., Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Uttarakhand, West Bengal, U.P., Jammu & Kashmir, Goa and Maharashtra among others)
- The pilot launch involved over 1,280 hospitals to test the ‘Beneficiary Identification System’ and ‘Transaction Management System’

**NO INSURANCE (%)**  
A look at no access to healthcare insurance/assurance, according to the 71st Round of NSSO



**85.9%**

Rural households




**82%**

Urban households

**HOW PMJAY PLANS TO WORK**

- PMJAY primarily targets the poor, deprived rural families and identified occupational category of urban workers’ families as per the latest Socio-Economic Caste Census data
- PMJAY will provide coverage up to **₹5,00,000** per family per year, for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization through a network of Empanelled Health Care Providers (EHCP)
- The EHCP network will provide cashless and paperless access to services for the beneficiaries at both public and private hospitals


**NOT ON BOARD**




Delhi Kerala Odisha Punjab Telangana

**SCHEME BENEFITS**

PMJAY will provide a cover of up to **₹5 lakh** per family per year, for secondary and tertiary care hospitalisation



Cashless and **paperless** access to services for the beneficiary at the point of service



- Their ability to rapidly screen individuals with co-morbidities and provide advice for protection against infection has been instrumental in winning public trust.
- Immunization sessions have been organized by the HWC teams where medical checkups of pregnant women are ensured apart from the delivery of essential medicines to TB, leprosy, hypertensive and diabetic patients.

**Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY)**

- It is a part of the Indian government’s National Health Policy which aims to provide free health coverage at the secondary and tertiary level to its bottom 40% poor and vulnerable population.
- PM-JAY is the world’s largest and fully state sponsored health assurance scheme which covers a population of the combined size of USA, Mexico and Canada.
- It was launched in September 2018, under the aegis of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in India.

9

**Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF)****CONTEXT:**

- Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairy launched the Implementation Guidelines for Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund.

**ABOUT**

- In pursuance of announced Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan stimulus package for ensuring growth in several sectors, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by Prime Minister approved setting up of Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF) worth Rs. 15000 crore.
- AHIDF would facilitate much needed incentivisation of investments in establishment of such infrastructure for dairy and meat processing and value addition infrastructure and establishment of animal feed plant in the private sector.
- The eligible beneficiaries under the Scheme would be Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), MSMEs, Section 8 Companies, Private Companies and individual entrepreneur with minimum 10% margin money contribution by them. The balance 90% would be the loan component to be made available by scheduled banks.
- Government of India will provide 3% interest subvention to eligible beneficiaries. There will be 2 years moratorium period for principal loan amount and 6 years repayment period thereafter.

**Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan**

- The government announced the "Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan" so as to revive every sphere of the economy from demand, supply to manufacturing, and make India self-reliant to sustain and tackle any Black Swan event in the future.
- The package is divided into four tranches, where each tranche has their own focus areas.
- The package' score focus is on MSMEs and agriculture and its allied activities.
- The focal point of the concept is to make the nation self-reliant with more focus on local manufacturers and service providers.
- This will strengthen the economy, improve the standard of living and most importantly improve the trade deficit and the exchequer balance of the country.
- Making the country self reliant in all spheres- from manufacturing to supplying. It will help the country to reduce its dependence on imports and may also give a boost to exports.

10

**NISHTHA programme****CONTEXT:**

- Union HRD Minister and Minister of State for HRD jointly launch the first on-line NISHTHA programme for 1200 Key Resources Persons of Andhra Pradesh.

**ABOUT:**

- NISHTHA - National Initiative for School Heads' and Teachers' Holistic Advancement is an initiative to build capacities of teachers and school principals at the elementary stage.
- The initiative is an Integrated Teacher Training Programme of the Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of HRD as part of its National Mission to improve learning outcomes at the Elementary level under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Samagra Shiksha.



- The programme aims to build the capacities of around 42 lakh participants covering all teachers and Heads of Schools at the elementary level in all Government schools, faculty members of State Councils of Educational Research and Training (SCERTs), District Institutes of Education and Training (DIETs) as well as Block Resource Coordinators and Cluster Resource Coordinators in all States and UTs.
- The aim of this training is to motivate and equip teachers to encourage and foster critical thinking in students, handle diverse situations and act as first level counsellors.
- They will be oriented on and develop their skills on various aspects related to Learning Outcomes, Competency Based Learning and Testing, Learner-centered Pedagogy, School Safety and Security, Personal-social qualities, Inclusive Education, ICT in teaching-learning including Artificial Intelligence, Health and well-being including yoga, Initiatives in School Education including library, eco club, youth club, kitchen garden, School Leadership qualities, Environmental Concerns, Pre-school, Pre-vocational Education and School Based Assessment in a joyful learning manner.
- Quality training packages containing modules related to aforesaid areas have been developed by the NCERT and NIEPA. States and UTs can contextualize the training modules and use their own material and resource persons also, keeping in view the core topics and expected outcomes of NISHTHA.

## 11 Jal Jeevan Mission

### CONTEXT:

- Jal Jeevan Mission was launched in August 2019 and in 7 months of 2019-20, around 84.83 lakh rural households were provided with tap connections.
- Further, amidst CoVID-19 pandemic, since Unlock-1, **about 45 lakh tap connections have been provided so far in the year 2020-21**. Thus, **daily about 1 lakh households are being provided with tap connections**, which indicate the 'Speed'.

### ABOUT:

- Jal Jeevan Mission, a central government initiative under the Ministry of Jal Shakti, aims to ensure access of piped water for every household in India.
- The mission's goal is to provide to all households in rural India safe and adequate water through individual household tap connections by 2024.
- The Har Ghar Nal Se Jal programme was announced by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in her Budget 2019-20 speech. This programme forms a crucial part of the Jal Jeevan Mission. The programme aims to implement source sustainability measures as mandatory elements, such as recharge and reuse through grey water management, water conservation, and rain water harvesting.
- The Jal Jeevan Mission will be based on a community approach to water. According to the government, the mission will include information, education and communication as key components. The mission is meant to create a people's movement for water, making it everyone's priority.

### Drinking water crisis in India

- India is facing one of its most serious water crises. According to the NITI Aayog's Composite Water Management Index (CWMI) 2018, 21 Indian cities could face Day Zero in the coming years. Day Zero refers to the day when a place is likely to have no drinking water of its own. Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi and Hyderabad are among the most susceptible.

- The report also said that 75% of Indian households do not have drinking water on premise and about 84 per cent rural households do not have piped water access.
- Water is not properly distributed where it is supplied through pipes. Mega cities like Delhi and Mumbai get more than the standard municipal water norm of 150 litres per capita per day (LPCD) while others get 40-50 LPCD.
- The World Health Organization prescribes 25 litres of water for one person per day to meet all basic hygiene and food needs. Extra available water, according to WHO estimates, is used for non-potable purposes like mopping and cleaning.

## 12 Urban Local Bodies (ULBs)

### CONTEXT:

- The Fifteenth Finance Commission held a meeting with Union Minister and senior officials of the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA) on issues including property taxation by Urban Local Bodies (ULBs).

### ABOUT:

- The meeting was in context with the Commission's recommendations for 2020-21 which had mandated the States to notify floor rates of property tax and thereafter show consistent improvement in property tax collection in tandem with the growth rate of State's own GSDP.
- In view of the fiscal importance of this matter and especially in the current context of Covid-19 pandemic, the Commission had intense deliberations on this matter to help the States and ULBs in having an efficient property tax administration, and to address the rampant undervaluation, scarce information, incomplete property registers, policy inadequacy and ineffective administration, and rectify by appropriate fiscal cadastral with objective tax assessment systems that are progressive, buoyant and equitable to all.

The Ministry made a series of recommendations which include some non-financial as well as financial recommendations.

#### • The Non-Financial Recommendations include:

- Change in mandatory conditions of property tax.
- Ambient air quality grant for cities to curb the sources of air pollution.
- Tied grants – for cities to take up work as per their requirement and priority, including solid waste management, water supply, etc.
- Measures against Covid-19, including separate grants to ULBs for public health infrastructure, 9.4% of central taxes.
- Continuation of urban reforms like planned urbanization, setting up of regulatory board, auditing of accounts, etc.

#### • The financial recommendations made by the Ministry to the Commission include:

- Bridging the resource gap of Municipalities – substantial increase in grants for municipal level resources and increase of devolution to Municipalities by atleast four times.
- Establishing a Programme Management Unit at MoHUA for better management of accounts .
- Building of institutional capacities.

# IAS 2021 INTEGRATED TEST SERIES for MAINS & PRELIMS

Single Source for Integrated Preparation

TOTAL NO OF  
**93**  
TESTS:

## MAINS

TOTAL NO OF TESTS: **49**

- |           |                             |
|-----------|-----------------------------|
| <b>30</b> | GS Mains Topical Tests      |
| <b>08</b> | GS Sectional Revision Tests |
| <b>03</b> | Essay Mock Tests            |
| <b>08</b> | GS Mock Tests after Prelims |

## PRELIMS

TOTAL NO OF TESTS: **44**

- |           |                       |
|-----------|-----------------------|
| <b>18</b> | Subsectional Tests    |
| <b>06</b> | Current Affairs Tests |
| <b>05</b> | Revision Tests        |
| <b>06</b> | Sectional Tests       |
| <b>03</b> | CSAT Tests            |
| <b>06</b> | Mock Tests            |

BATCH - 2 Starts:

30 AUGUST, 2020

Programme Fee

₹ 30,000 + GST

📞 8448496262

🌐 [www.iasscore.in](http://www.iasscore.in)

“Some Practice Improves Result”

## Municipal governance in India:

- ▶ Municipal governance in India has existed since the year 1687, with the formation of **Madras Municipal Corporation**, and then Calcutta and Bombay Municipal Corporation in 1726. In the early part of the nineteenth century almost all towns in India had experienced some form of municipal governance.
- ▶ According to the 2001 Census of India, there were 3723 urban local bodies (ULBs) in the country; classified into the four major categories:
  - Municipal corporation (Nagar Nigam)
  - Municipality (municipal council, municipal board, municipal committee) (Nagar Parishad)
  - Town area committee
  - Notified area committee
- ▶ The municipal corporations and municipalities are fully representative bodies, while the notified area committees and town area committees are either fully or partially nominated bodies.
- ▶ As per the Constitution of India, 74th Amendment Act of 1992, the latter two categories of towns are to be designated as municipalities or nagar panchayats with elected bodies.
- ▶ Until the amendments in state municipal legislations, which were mostly made in 1994, municipal authorities were organised on an ultra vires (beyond the authority) basis and the state governments were free to extend or control the functional sphere through executive decisions without an amendment to the legislative provisions.
- ▶ After the 74th Amendment was enacted there are only three categories of urban local bodies:
  - Mahanagar Nigam (Municipal Corporation)
  - Nagar Palika (Municipality)
  - Nagar Panchayat (Notified Area Council or City Council)
- ▶ Among all urban local governments, municipal corporations enjoy a greater degree of fiscal autonomy and functions although the specific fiscal and functional powers vary across the states, these local governments have larger populations, a more diversified economic base, and deal with the state governments directly.
- ▶ On the other hand, municipalities have less autonomy, smaller jurisdictions and have to deal with the state governments through the Directorate of Municipalities or through the collector of a district. These local bodies are subject to detailed supervisory control and guidance by the state governments.

## 13 Indo-US Strategic Energy Partnership

### CONTEXT:

- Ministerial meeting of Indo-US Strategic Energy Partnership highlight major accomplishments, prioritizes new cooperation areas.

### ABOUT:

- This emerged at a virtual ministerial meeting of the U.S.-India Strategic Energy Partnership (SEP) on July 17, 2020.
- India and the United States have announced new areas of research on transformational power generation based on supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> (sCO<sub>2</sub>) power cycles and advanced coal technologies, including carbon capture, utilization, and storage (CCUS).

- New areas of research on transformational power generation based on supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> (sCO<sub>2</sub>) power cycles and advanced coal technologies, including carbon capture, utilization, and storage (CCUS) announced.
- Smart grids and energy storage is being implemented by consortium comprising of 30 Indian and US entities.
- Policy directions for the societal acceptance of smart grid concepts, Distributed Energy Resources, impact and value of the integrative solutions and emerging role of utilities as Distributed System Operators.
- Common priorities for collaboration evolved in Clean Coal Technologies, Supercritical Carbon Dioxide (sCO<sub>2</sub>) Power Cycles and Carbon Capture Utilisation & Storage (CCUS) technologies.
- The two countries recognise the importance of Clean Energy Research, Development and Innovation and are also leading joint research and development (R&D) through the U.S.-India Partnership to Advance Clean Energy-Research (PACE-R) on smart grids and energy storage to increase resilience and reliability of the electric grid.

## 14 Case Fatality Rate (CFR)

### CONTEXT:

- India's Case Fatality Rate (CFR) falls below 2.5% for the first time. 29 States and UTs register a CFR lower than the national average.

### ABOUT:

- The focused efforts of Centre and State/UT governments on efficient clinical management of hospitalized cases have ensured that India's Case Fatality Rate has fallen below 2.5%. With effective Containment Strategy, aggressive testing and standardized clinical management protocols based on holistic Standard of Care approach, the Case Fatality Rate has significantly dipped.
- The Case Fatality Rate is progressively falling and currently, it is 2.49%. India has one of the lowest fatality rates in the world.
- Under the guidance of the Centre, the State/UT governments have ramped up the testing and hospital infrastructure by combining public and private sector efforts.
- Many States have conducted the population surveys to map and identify the vulnerable population like the elderly, pregnant women and those with co-morbidities.
- This, with the help of technological solutions like Mobile Apps, has ensured keeping the high-risk population under continuous observation, thus aiding early identification, timely clinical treatment and reducing fatalities.
- At the ground level, frontline health workers like ASHAs and ANMs have done a commendable job of managing the migrant population and to enhance awareness at the community level.
- As a result, there are 29 States and UTs with CFR lower than the India average. 5 States and UTs have a CFR of Zero. 14 States and UTs have a CFR of less than 1%. This shows commendable work done by Public Health Apparatus of the country.

### Case fatality rate (CFR):

- ▶ In epidemiology, a case fatality rate (CFR) — sometimes called case fatality risk or case-fatality ratio — is the proportion of deaths from a certain disease compared to the total number of people diagnosed with the disease for a particular period.

- ▶ A CFR is conventionally expressed as a percentage and represents a measure of disease severity.
- ▶ CFRs are most often used for diseases with discrete, limited-time courses, such as outbreaks of acute infections.
- ▶ A CFR can only be considered final when all the cases have been resolved (either died or recovered). The preliminary CFR, for example, during an outbreak with a high daily increase and long resolution time would be substantially lower than the final CFR.

## 15 INDSAT

### CONTEXT:

- The Ministry of HRD conducted the first ever Indian Scholastic Assessment (Ind-SAT) Test 2020 under its 'Study in India' programme.

### ABOUT:

- Ind-SAT is an exam for grant of scholarships and admissions to foreign students for studying in select Indian universities under the Study in India programme.
- The exam is designed to gauge the scholastic capability of students applying to study in India.
- The Ind-SAT scores will serve as a criterion to shortlist the meritorious students for the allocation of scholarships for under graduate as well as post graduate programmes under 'Study in India' programme.
- The **Study in India is a programme** of MHRD under which foreign students come to study in 116 select higher education institutions in India for under graduate and post graduate programmes.

## 16 PM-SVANidhi Scheme

### CONTEXT:

- PM reviews implementation of PM-SVANidhi Scheme

### ABOUT:

- Government of India has launched PM SVANidhi Scheme to facilitate collateral free working capital loan upto Rs.10,000/- of one-year tenure, to approximately, 50 lakh street vendors, to resume their businesses.
- Incentives in the form of interest subsidy (@ 7% per annum) and cash back (upto Rs.1,200/- per annum) are being provided to promote good repayment behaviour and digital transactions respectively. The interest subsidy effectively works out to 30 % of the entire interest burden for a loan of Rs. 10,000 @ 24 % annual interest.
- Therefore, in effect the vendor does not pay any interest, rather gets a subsidy on the loan amount if he repays in time and uses digital transactions for all receipts and payments.
- The scheme entails enhanced next tranche of loan on early or timely repayment. Loan processing has begun since July 02, 2020 through an IT platform "PM SVANidhi" with Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), which is the implementing agency for the scheme administration.

### Small industrial Development Bank of India (SIDBI):

- ▶ Small industrial Development Bank of India (SIDBI) is a development financial institution in India, headquartered at Lucknow and having its offices all over the country.
- ▶ Its purpose is to provide refinance facilities and short term lending to industries, and serves as the principal financial institution in the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) sector.
- ▶ SIDBI also coordinates the functions of institutions engaged in similar activities. It was established on April 2, 1990, through an Act of Parliament. It is headquartered in Lucknow. SIDBI operates under the Department of Financial Services, Government of India.
- ▶ SIDBI is one of the four All India Financial Institutions regulated and supervised by the Reserve Bank of India; other three are EXIM Bank, NABARD and NHB.

17

## India-European Union Agreement on Scientific and Technological Cooperation

### CONTEXT:

- India & the European Union agreed to renew the Agreement on Scientific cooperation for the next five years, 2020-2025, at the 15th India-EU Summit, a virtual one which was led by Prime Minister Sri Narendra Modi from India's side.

### ABOUT:

- The European Union delegation was headed by European Council President Charles Michel and President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen.
- This has been done by exchange of Note Verbale between two sides. The Agreement was initially signed in on 23 November 2001 and renewed two times in past in 2007 and 2015.
- This will expand the cooperation in scientific and technological research strengthen the conduct of cooperative activities in areas of common interest and application of the results of such cooperation to their economic and social benefit.
- Cooperative activities may take the forms of reciprocal participation of Indian research and European research entities in research, technological development, and demonstration projects under each other programme.
- India and European Union have strong research and innovation cooperation under the framework of said "Agreement," and it has grown steadily over the years.
- In the last 5 years, the level of co-investment on India-EU Research Technology Development Projects for addressing societal challenges such as affordable healthcare, water, energy, food & nutrition has been stepped up resulted in several technologies, patents development, their gainful utilization, joint research publications, sharing of research facility and, exchange of scientists and students from both sides.
- The cooperation has been focused on water, green transport, e-mobility, clean energy, circular economy, bio-economy, health, and ICT.
- Additional areas, such as climate change, sustainable urban development, manufacturing, advanced materials, nanotechnologies and biotechnology, food processing, and ocean research may also be considered in future endeavours.



An Institute for Civil Services

IAS  
2021

# PRELIMS 2021 PRACTICE PROGRAMME

**BATCH-1 Starts**

Test Timings:  
9:00 AM to 11:00 AM

**30**  
AUGUST  
2020

## TOTAL 65 TESTS

|                            |                       |                             |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>33</b><br>SUB SECTIONAL | <b>6</b><br>SECTIONAL | <b>7</b><br>CURRENT AFFAIRS |
| <b>16</b><br>MOCK TESTS    | <b>3</b><br>CSAT      |                             |

4000+ Topics Covered through  
Smart Solution

PROGRAMME FEE: ₹ 8,500 + GST

📍 1B, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Pusa Road Karol Bagh, Delhi-110005,  
(Adjacent to Karol Bagh Metro Gate No. 8)

✉ info@gsscore.com 🌐 /iasscore

📞 8448496262

🌐 www.iasscore.in



**CONTEXT:**

- India and Indonesia agreed to further enhance bilateral defence cooperation in Defence Ministers' Dialogue.

**ABOUT:**

- The defence cooperation between India and Indonesia has witnessed an upswing in the recent years, which is in consonance with the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership between the two sides.
- Potential areas of cooperation in the field of defence industries and defence technology were also identified by the two countries.
- India and Indonesia in mutual collaboration will usher into an expansion of defence industries and technology and to the deepening of maritime security.

**Strategic partnership**

- ▶ India and Indonesia, united by historic cultural ties and ancient Maritime Silk Route, have signed strategic partnership agreement to enhance cooperation in the national and maritime security and safety, trade connectivity, infrastructure and economic development.
- ▶ India's southernmost territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands lies close to Aceh province of Indonesia, an area which is an important global trade route.
- ▶ In May 2018, "Shared Vision of Maritime Cooperation in the Indo Pacific" agreement was signed when Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Indonesia.
- ▶ Subsequently, Indian Navy and Indonesian Navy have been hosting bilateral "Samudra Shakti" naval exercise since November 2018 including in Java Sea and Andaman Sea.
- ▶ These exercises are significant enhancement of operational engagement between these two navies after their 2002 "Ind-Indo Corpat" agreement.
- ▶ India and Indonesia are also jointly developing Sabang Deep sea Port, and Indian naval ships have been regularly visiting this port after the signing of the agreement.
- ▶ Several Indian navy ships undertook naval exercises and visits to Indonesia e.g. a destroyer INS Rana in 2002, INS Sumitra in July 2018, INS VIJIT in 2019.

\*\*\*\*\*

# GSSCORE

An Institute for Civil Services

IAS  
2021



# Target PT 2020

# QUICK REVISION NOTES



**ORDER NOW**

on



**www.iasscore.in**