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<td>C 1 B 1 D 1 H 1 T 1</td>
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<td>Despite massive victory, Boris Johnson faces a battle for Britain</td>
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*C – Chennai; B – Bengaluru; D – Delhi; H – Hyderabad; T – Thiruvananthapuram;
Part A—Preliminary Examination

Paper I—(200 marks)

- Current events of national and international importance.
- Indian and World Geography—Physical, Social, Economic Geography of India and the World.
- 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.

- Comparison of the Indian constitutional scheme with that of other countries.
- 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.
# Polity of UK vs India

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Features</th>
<th>United Kingdom</th>
<th>India</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>Parliamentary form</td>
<td>Parliamentary form</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>System</td>
<td>Constitutional monarchy</td>
<td>Republic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head of the State</td>
<td>King/Queen</td>
<td>President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Constitution</td>
<td>No written constitution</td>
<td>Written Constitution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Power of Parliament</td>
<td>Sovereign</td>
<td>Limited and Restricted powers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legislature</td>
<td>Upper house</td>
<td>Rajya Sabha (RS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lower house</td>
<td>Lok Sabha (LS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prime Minister</td>
<td>Member of House of Commons only</td>
<td>Member of RS or LS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>Shadow Cabinet</td>
<td>No Shadow Cabinet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political Party System</td>
<td>Multi-party</td>
<td>Multi-party</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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## Despite massive victory, Boris Johnson faces a battle for Britain

![Brexit Promise](image)

**Winning on Brexit promise**

- **Withdrawal of UK from European Union**
- **UK - member of EU since 1973**
- **Timeline of Brexit**
  - 2016 - Referendum on Brexit - UK to leave EU (Majority - Conservative party)
  - 2017 - Conservative party - Minority Govt.
    - Resistance to reach deal
    - Need to be approved by UK & EU Parliaments
  - Dec 2019 - Conservative Party forms majority Gov't; to push Brexit.
The day of Boris

Labour lost because it fought a Brexit election as if it were just another general election

The decision victory the Conservative Party clinched in Thursday’s elections in Parliament gives British Prime Minister Boris Johnson, who built his campaign around the promise to “get Brexit done”, a clear mandate to take the U.K. out of the European Union without further delay. Initial results show that his party is set to win 364 seats in the 650 member House of Commons, the largest performance of the Conservatives in over three decades. The Labour, led by veteran socialist Jeremy Corbyn, is expected to win 203 seats, its worst performance in decades. It is Mr. Johnson’s victory. He is the one who called for an early election after reaching a new divorce deal with the EU. He turned the poll into a de facto Brexit referendum, arguing that only a stable Conservative government could take the U.K. out of the EU quickly and end the debilitating political standoff. His strategy was to consolidate the pro-Brexit vote, get a fresh mandate in Parliament and then quickly the divorce process. The Labour Party, on the other side, has been ambivalent on the question of

Britain votes for Brexit

With a thumping win, Boris Johnson gets opportunity to fulfill the U.K. according to his beliefs

The British decision makers are the political equivalent of an old Beauvoir. It is an ominous news signal that in the months and years ahead, the United Kingdom will become a very different country. The U.K., quite reasonably but curiously in terms of its international standing, often strikes a delicate balance of week on occasion to themselves.

Despite massive victory, Boris Johnson faces a battle for Britain

Civilspedia Team - Powered by Shankar IAS Academy

EU warns of ‘challenging’ timeframe for U.K. trade deal

Member states will not accept it blindly, says EU council

Civilspedia Team - Powered by Shankar IAS Academy
Britain votes for Brexit
With a thumping win, this is Boris Johnson’s opportunity to refashion the U.K., according to his beliefs

The initial election results are the political equivalent of an earthquake. It is an earth
shaking signal that in the months
and years ahead, the United Kingdom will become a very different country — politically, economically, possibly territorially but cer
tainly in terms of its international stature. After almost a decade of
unrest or coalition prime ministers,
times it is the best outcome since 1975. More significantly, the party has made major gains in Labour
strongholds in the north, northeast, and northwest. Tony
Blair’s Sedgfield has fallen to
them. More tellingly, Stoke-on-
Trent and Great Grimsby, which
have never been won by the To
rours, are now in their possession.
In addition, the swing from La
bour to Tories was an astounding
16%. Even London constituencies
such as Kensington, which voted
70% to remain in 2016, have gone
their way. No it is not exaggeration
to say the Conservatives have
transformed from a party of the
dilute to one that also represents
the working classes and London.

INDIA - UK Relations - post Brexit
- Indian companies will be affected if there is no deal Brexit
  - Capital outflows from UK
  - Vulnerable to changes in
    - demand
    - currency values
- UK has identified India as a major trading and
  investment partner
  - India - UK Free Trade Agreement likely to be signed in future
    - But based on terms and conditions of Brexit
- Indian food and agro products sector will be benefitted
  because of Brexit
Targets missed, Accessible India campaign’s deadline extended

It aims at making public spaces friendly for the disabled

DAMINI NATHI
NEW DELHI

The deadline for the government’s Accessible India campaign that aims at making public spaces friendly for persons with disabilities has been extended due to “slow progress,” the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has informed the Lok Sabha. Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment Krishnapal Gaur said due to slow progress, revised deadlines have been extended to March 2020.

The decision was taken by the Central Advisory Board chaired by Social Justice and Empowerment Minister Thawar Chand Gehlot.

Answering a question from Shiv Sena MP Dhairnyashree Shambhaviro Munge, Mr. Gauri said State-wise details of the facilities for the disabled at railway stations were not maintained, but the Indian Railways was committed to making its stations accessible.

Short-term facilities like standard ramps, non-slippery walkways, signage, disabled-friendly toilets and help desks are included in the plan.

In the long-term, inter-platform transfer and engraving on the edges of the platforms are proposed.

Regarding Central government buildings maintained by the Central Public Works Department, the reply said 211 CPWD buildings had been made accessible. In all, a total of £54.45 crore had been released for making 1,058 public buildings accessible around the country, the reply said. Under the Rights of PwD Act, 2016, all existing and new public buildings have to follow the accessibility standards notified on June 15, 2017. The existing buildings were given five years to comply.

The original deadlines under the Accessible India campaign were July 2016 for conducting an accessibility audit of 25-50 of the most important government buildings in 50 cities and making them completely accessible and March 2018.

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.

- Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation.
- 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.

Accessible India Campaign: Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan - 2015

- Dept. of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
- Based on Principle of Social model of disability
  - Physical, social, structural and attitudinal barriers
- Campaign
  - To build an inclusive society
  - Equal opportunities
- 3 Pillars
  1. Built environmental accessibility
  2. Transport system accessibility
  3. Information and Communication Technology Ecosystem accessibility
- Deadline extended to March 2020 due to slow progress
Civilspedia Team - Powered by Shankar IAS Academy

**Twin troubles**

Low growth and high inflation pose questions about the root cause of the crisis. Economic data released by the government on Thursday suggest that India may be stepping closer to stagnation. The index of industrial production (IIP) contracted 3.6% in October, a second straight month of decline. Industrial output, which had grown by 4.5% in September, has now fallen for two consecutive months. A sharp jump in food prices, which accounts for nearly one third of total inflation, is now the upper bound of the inflation range targeted by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) but might drop as food prices ease off the market. Low growth combined with high core inflation is sure to cause further headaches for policymakers. However, growth has declined for six consecutive quarters now, making it one of the longer downturns in recent history. With inflation remaining high, the RBI, which had no choice but to raise policy rates in recent months, is unlikely to cut rates aggressively in the next few months at least. It is extremely close to the government now to find ways to boost growth. Given the sensitiveness of the slowdown, the government cannot delay reform.

For a long time, the government maintained that the economy’s growth rate was held back by the tight monetary policy stance adopted by the RBI under its previous governor, but with the benchmark rate being cut five times so far this year, the government can no longer shift blame on to the RBI. The latest data from the government’s right now is that the slowdown in growth is merely a cyclical one that will end sooner than later, but regardless of the nature of the current slowdown, it cannot be denied that the current has fallen short on its promise of bringing about major structural reforms to the economy. Except for the recent cut in corporate tax rates, the government has not come up with any other significant reform to address the slowdown. Furthermore, the government’s low growth growth and high inflation also cause questions about the root cause of the slowdown, which has been attributed to a chaotic fall in consumer demand. The aggressive rate cut by the RBI that has extended over most of the year cannot nullify the continuous slide in growth since it may not lift supply side issues to its full extent. The answer to the current slowdown lies in economic reforms that can lift both potential growth rate of the economy. Otherwise, further rate cuts by the RBI will only add to the government’s troubles by making inflation in the wider economy.

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**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**

**General Studies-III**: Technology, Economic Development, Biodiversity, Environment, Security and Disaster Management

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

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**State of economy**

- Index of Industrial Production
  - Performance of 3 sectors
    - Manufacturing
    - Mining
    - Electricity
  - Single representative figure to measure the general level of industrial activity in the economy

- Contraction of 3.8% (Nov 2019)

- Sep 2019 — Contraction of 4.3%

- Output decline in 3 sectors

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Retail Inflation risen to 5.5% (Nov 2019)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Higher food prices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• In upper band of inflation target of RBI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Author's view might drop when fresh supplies hit market</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decline in economic growth → 6 Consecutive quarters</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Author's view**

- India stepping closer to Stagflation
- Stagflation → combination of high inflation and low growth

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Steps normally taken to revive economy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• RBI → increase liquidity in economy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Banks → provides easy credit</td>
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**Current scenario**

- RBI did not cut repo rate → may not do so in next few months

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Actual root cause of slowdown</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Current reason stated → fall in consumer demand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Author's conclusion → supply-side constraints also</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Govt. should not delay reforms
- Recent structural reform → corporate tax rate cut

**Conclusion**

- Economic reforms is the solution, otherwise further RBI rate cut will fuel inflation
Exports contract for fourth month in a row

Imports see steeper decline at 12.7%

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI
India's exports contracted for the fourth month in a row in November, dipping 0.34% to $25.98 billion, mainly on account of poor shipments of petroleum, gems & jewellery and leather products.

Imports too declined by 12.71% to $38.11 billion in November, narrowing the trade deficit to $12.12 billion, according to government data released on Friday.

Gold imports increased by 6.59% to $2.94 billion in the month. Trade deficit stood at $17.58 billion in November 2018. Out of the 30 key sectors, as many as 17 segments showed contraction in exports during the month under review.

Shipments of petroleum products, gems and jewellery, fruits and vegetables, leather and leather products and readymade garments of all textiles contracted by 13.12%, 8.14%, 15.10%, 5.29% and 6.52%, respectively. In November, oil imports declined 18.17% to $11.06 billion, while non-oil imports contracted 10.26% to $27.04 billion.

Cumulatively, during April-November 2019, exports declined 1.99% to $211.93 billion while imports contracted 8.91% to $318.78 billion.

Trade deficit for the period narrowed to $54.06 billion as against $82.47 billion in April-November 2018-19. EEPC India Chairman Rav Sehgal said though engineering exports had put up a reasonably good show with 6.32% growth in November 2019, the external trade environment remains challenging and subdued.

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

General Studies-III: Technology, Economic Development, Biodiversity, Environment, Security and Disaster Management

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

• Balance of Payment (BoP)

- Record of economic transactions between residents of a country and the rest in a year.
- Managed by RBI
- Two accounts
  - Current
    - Export and import of goods & services
    - Capital
      - Transactions resulting in changes in assets or liabilities
      - Financial transfers
  - Current account
    - Goods account/visible items
    - Service account/invisible items

- Two conditions
  - When receipts > Payments - Trade surplus
  - When receipts < Payments - Trade deficit
    - Balance of Trade
      - Positive - surplus
      - Negative - deficit

- Exports dip by 0.34% in November
- Total export in November - $25.98 billion

- Import declined by 12.71% in November
- Total imports in November - $38.11 billion
  - Trade deficit = $12.12 billion, Nov 2019
  - $17.58 billion for November, 2018
Practice Question – Prelims
Q1. Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan is a national campaign to
a) End malnutrition among pregnant women and lactating mothers.
b) Minimise the air pollution in the state capitals.
c) Eradicate the practice of manual scavenging and rehabilitate the manual scavenger.
d) Achieve universal accessibility for Persons with Disabilities

UPSC Prelims Question – 2016
(For Reference only)
Q2. ‘Rashtriya Garima Abhiyaan’ is a national campaign to
(a) rehabilitate the homeless and destitute persons and provide them with suitable sources of livelihood.
(b) release the sex workers from their practice and provide them with alternative sources of livelihood.
(c) eradicate the practice of manual scavenging and rehabilitate the manual scavengers.
(d) release the bonded labourers from their bondage and rehabilitate them.
Practice Question – Prelims

Q4. Consider the following statements with reference to Balance of Payment (BoP).

1. It is the systematic record of all economic transactions, both current and capital, between the residents of the country and the rest of the world in a year.

2. The current account of BoP includes both visible and invisible trade.

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

UPSC Prelims Question – 2012
(For Reference only)

Q3. In India, in the overall index of Industrial Production, the Indices of Eight Core Industries have a combined weight of 47.90%. Which of the following are among those Eight Core Industries?

1. Cement  
2. Fertilizers  
3. Natural Gas  
4. Refinery products  
5. Textiles  

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

(a) 1 and 5 only  
(b) 2, 3 and 4 only  
(c) 1, 2, 3 and 4 only  
(d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

Practice Question – Mains

Q1. India’s political system is largely the remnant of the UK’s political system. Do you agree? Compare the political system of India and UK. (150 words, 10 marks)

UPSC Mains Question – 2018

Q2. India and USA are two large democracies. Examine the basic tenants on which the two political systems are based.

UPSC Mains Question – 2019

Q3. What can France learn from the Indian Constitution’s approach to secularism?

Practice Question – Mains

GS-III

Q4. What do you mean by Stagflation? Discuss the measures to overcome the situation of stagflation in an economy. (10 marks, 150 words)
### UPSC Mains Question – 2019

**GS-III**

Q5. Do you agree with the view that steady GDP growth and low inflation have left the Indian economy in good shape? Give reasons in support of your arguments.

### Practice Question – Prelims Answers

Q1. Option ‘d’ - Achieve universal accessibility for Persons with Disabilities

Q2. Option ‘c’ - eradicate the practice of manual scavenging and rehabilitate the manual scavengers.

Q3. Option ‘c’ – 1, 2, 3 and 4 only

Q4. Option ‘c’ - Both 1 and 2

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