Kerala

Uttar Pradesh placed at bottom of NITI Aayog's School Education Quality Index

Top scorers
Among big States, Kerala topped the charts in NITI Aayog's School Education Quality Index for 2016-17, while UP scored the least

Top scorer

Following SC directions, HC judge visited observation home

VIRAJTA SINGH
NEW DELHI

After August 5, only four boys below the age of 18 were detained by the police, and they are now lodged at a Juvenile Observation Home in Srinagar's Harwan, a senior government official said.

In all, there are 21 boys at the observation home.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No</th>
<th>News Articles</th>
<th>Page Number*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Kerala tops education ranking</td>
<td>1,12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Creating jobs for young India (Editorial)</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Current account deficit shrinks</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Scientists excavate ‘ancient river’ in U.P.</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Centre agrees to appoint AFT chief</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Practice cum Revision - MCQs</td>
<td>@end of the video</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*C – Chennai; B – Bengaluru; D – Delhi; T – Thiruvananthapuram; H – Hyderabad;
Kerala tops education ranking

Uttar Pradesh placed at bottom of NITI Aayog's School Education Quality Index

Top scorers

Among big States, Kerala topped the charts in NITI Aayog's School Education Quality Index for 2016-17, while UP scored the least.

The Centre plans to collaborate with the World Bank to offer performance-linked grants as incentives for the States with high rankings, which can be used to improve school infrastructure and facilities, and to reduce the师生 ratio.

The first edition of the SEQLI was based on the National Achievement Survey and the Unified District Information on School Education data of 2016-17.

Part A—Preliminary Examination

Paper I - (200 marks)

- Current events of national and international importance
- Economic and Social Development

Part B—Main Examination

GENERAL STUDIES II: Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations.

- Issues relating to development and management of Social Sector/Services relating to Health, Education, Human Resources.
First edition of School Education Quality Index (SEQI) by NITI Aayog
- Reference Year → 2016-17
- Base Year → 2015-16

*SEQI*: Evaluates the performance of States and UTs in education sector
- policy intervention to rectify weaknesses
- competitive and co-operative federalism
- based on 30 critical indicators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Domain</th>
<th>Number of indicators</th>
<th>Total weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Outcomes</td>
<td>1.1 Learning Outcomes</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.2 Access Outcomes</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.3 Infrastructure &amp; Facilities for Outcomes</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.4 Equity Outcomes</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Governance Processes Aiding</td>
<td>Covering student and teacher attendance, teacher</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outcomes</td>
<td>availability, administrative adequacy, training,</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>accountability and transparency</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
<td>965</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
* **Classification:** Large states, Small states and Union Territories (UTs)

* **Large States:**
  - **Top**
    - Kerala - 76.6%  
    - Rajasthan  
    - Karnataka  
    - Andhra Pradesh  
  - **Bottom**
    - Uttar Pradesh - 36.4%  
    - Jammu & Kashmir  
    - Punjab  
    - Bihar

* **Equity Outcomes** 
  - topped by Tamil Nadu

* **Learning Outcomes** - topped by Karnataka
  - highest weightage

* **Infrastructure and facilities** - topped by Haryana
  - lowest weightage

* **Small States:**
  - Top - Manipur - 68.8%
  - Bottom - Arunachal Pradesh - 24.6%

* **Union Territories:**
  - Top - Chandigarh - 82.9%
  - Bottom - Lakshadweep - 31.9%

* Centre to collaborate with World Bank
  - performance linked grants
  - incentives for States & UTs

* SEQI - based on National Achievement Survey (NAS) of NCERT 2017-18
  + Unified District Information System for Education (UDISE)
  + Self-reported data of States
Creating jobs for young India

If India does not make effective use of the strengths of its youth now, it may never do

JAYAN JOSE THOMAS

Amartya Sen had once quipped that India’s unemployment figures were low enough to put many developed countries to shame. Professor Sen was, of course, not commending the country’s record in employment creation, but instead, highlighting the difficulties involved in measuring employment and unemployment in a developing country.

Unemployment has been at the centre of public debates in India recently. The government’s Periodic Labour Force Survey carried out in

"New employment opportunities in construction created in rural India was 18.9 million between 2005 and 2012, and fell sharply to 1.6 million between 2012 and 2018." Workers at a construction site in Kolkata. - kolkata

Pg. 11 → C, D, H, T
Pg. 13 → B

Part A—Preliminary Examination

Paper I - (200 marks)

- Economic and Social Development-Sustainable Development, Poverty, Inclusion, Demographics, Social Sector Initiatives, etc.

Part B—Main Examination

PAPER-II

General Studies-I: Indian Heritage and Culture, History and Geography of the World and Society.

- Role of women and women’s organization, population and associated issues, poverty and developmental issues, urbanization, their problems and their remedies.

PAPER-III

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

- Issues relating to development and management of Social Sector/Services relating to Health, Education, Human Resources.

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.
Periodic Labour Force Survey (2017-18)

- Unemployment Rate (UR) - 6.1%.
- UR → percentage of unemployed persons in the labour force.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE 11. Official Unemployment Rates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Usual (principal)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- 2018
  - 30.9 million → unemployed
  - 21.1 million → unemployed young men (68.3%) aged 15-29 years

Labour Supply:

1. Size of labour supply → increasing
   - rapid expansion of working age population

2. Nature of labour supply → changing
   - Educated young → job aspiration according to education
     - 15-29 year females attending School/colleges
       - 2018 → 31%
       - 2005 → 16.3%

3. Workforce engaged in agriculture & allied sector → declining
   - 2005 → 258.8 million
   - 2018 → 197.3 million
   a) 'Push' from low-productive agriculture
   b) 'Pull' from new opportunities in urban areas
   c) Disguised unemployment in agriculture

* Increase in supply of potential workers to non-agri sectors
**Labour Demand:**

- New employment opportunities in construction
  - 2005 - 2012 → 18.9 million
  - 2012 - 2018 → 1.6 million

- Inadequate job creation in industry, construction and Services Sector

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Job Creation</th>
<th>Job Seeker</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005 - 2012</td>
<td>6.3 mn/yr</td>
<td>14.2 mn/yr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012 - 2018</td>
<td>4.5 mn/yr</td>
<td>17.5 mn/yr</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Mismatch between no. of job creations and job seekers

- Women and Young men Suffered from lack of job opportunities
  - Women → Stopped participating in LF
    - 2005 → 42.8% employed
    - 2018 → only 23% employed
  - Young men → increase in no. of (15-29 yrs) job seekers
    - 2012 → 6.7 million
    - 2018 → 21.1 million

- Main contributor to sudden increase in overall unemployment in India
Suggestions:
* Investments in Human Capital
* Revival of productive sectors
* New programmes to stimulate entrepreneurship
Current account deficit shrinks

RBI data shows CAD narrowed to 2% of GDP in Q1 FY20 from 2.3% in Q1 FY19

Good tidings
The CAD contracted on a year-on-year basis, primarily on higher invisible receipts at $3.3 billion, says the RBI.

"Trade deficit has been lower due to lower crude oil prices.

Also, I think the demand has come down. It is a combination of both," Mr. Sabaivas added.

RBI data showed net inflow on account of external commercial borrowings was $6.3 billion against an outflow of $5.5 billion a year ago.

Net services receipt
Net services receipts rose 7.8%, mainly on the back of a rise in net earnings from travel, financial services and telecommunications, computer and information services.

"In Q1 of 2019-20, there was an accretion of $14 billion to the foreign exchange reserves (on RoP basis) as against a depletion of $6.3 billion in Q1 of 2018-19," the RBI said.
**Current Account:**

**Context:** Shrinking of CAD in Q1 of 2019-20

**Definition:**
Measures the difference between the value of net imports and exports of goods & services in a Financial Year

⇒ RBI’s methods of representation: two ways

**First Method:**

**Current Account**

- Net Merchandise
  - POL (Petroleum, Oil, Lubricants)
  - Vehicles, Hardware, etc.

- Net Invisibles
  - Services
  - Transfers
  - Income

**Second Method:**

**Current Account (Net)**

- Goods
- Services
- Primary Income
- Secondary Income

- POL
- Travel
- Transport
- Software, etc.
- Profits
- Interest
- Dividends
- Remittances

**Q1 of CAD:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FY 2018-19</th>
<th>FY 2019-20</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CAD</td>
<td>$15.86 bn</td>
<td>$14.3 bn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% GdP</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: RBI Data
Reasons for favourable CAD:

- Higher Net Invisibles
- Lower Primary Income Outflows
- Better Secondary Income Inflows
- Moderate Crude oil prices

Challenges:

- Sharp increase in gold imports
- Higher Component of POL
- Global Trade Wars
Scientists excavate ‘ancient river’ in U.P.

Paleochannel that linked Ganga and Yamuna near Prayagraj, developed to recharge groundwater

JACOB KONYHY
NEW DELHI
The Union Water Ministry has excavated an old, dried-up river in Prayagraj (former
ly Allahabad) that linked the Ganga and Yamuna rivers. The aim is to develop it as a
potential groundwater recharge source, according to officials at the National Mis-
ion for Clean Ganga (NMCG), a body under the Union Jal Shakti Ministry that coor-
dinates the cleaning of the Ganga.

“Buried river.”
The “ancient buried river” as it was described at a confer-
ence organised by the Ministry, is around 4 km wide,
45 km long and consists of a 15-metre-thick layer buried
under soil.

According to Executive Di-
rector, NMCG, D.P. Mathura,
the discovery was made last
December by a team of
scientists from the CSIR-
NGRI (National Geo-
physical Research
Institute) and the
Central Groundwater
Board during a helicopter-borne
geochemical survey covering
the Prayagraj and Kausham-
bhi region in Uttar Prades-
h. These paleochannels re-
veal the course of rivers that
have ceased to exist.

This happens when the course of a river changes and
its surface flow adopts new
paths.

Lidar mapping:
However, the groundwater
components of these rivers
tend to change course rela-
tively more slowly and, de-
pending on the depth, their
location can be traced
through digs or Lidar map-
ing, a remote-sensing
method.

The newly discovered riv-
er, according to Mr. Mathu-
ra, was a “buried paleo-
channel that joins the
Yamuna river at Dargapur
village, about 25 km south
of the current Ganga-Yamna
course at Prayagraj.

2015 report:
The genesis of the paleo-
channel’s discovery followed
a 2015 report of a seven-
member committee, headed
by Professor S.S. Vaidya of
the Jawaharlal Nehru Centre
for Advanced Scientific Re-
search (JNCASR), commissioned
by the Water Resources
Ministry. This report con-
curred that evidence from paleo-
channels suggested that the
mythological Saraswati river
did indeed exist.

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.

• General issues on Environmental ecology, Bio-diversity
  and Climate Change - that do not require subject specializa-

Part B—Main Examination

PAPER-II

General Studies-I: Indian Heritage and Culture, History and
Geography of the World and Society.

• Important Geophysical phenomena such as
  earthquakes, Tsunami, Volcanic activity, cyclone etc.,
  geographical features and their location-changes in
  critical geographical features (including water-bodies
  and ice-caps) and in flora and fauna and the effects of
  such changes.

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.
**News:**

* Ministry of Jal Shakti → excavated an old, dried-up river at Prayagraj (Allahabad) linked River Ganga and Yamuna
* Finding by National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRIP) & Central Groundwater Board (CGWB)

**Palaeochannel:**

* Palaeochannel → “ancient buried river”
  * Width - 4 km
  * Length - 45 km
  * Thickness - 15 m
  * buried under 10-15 m thick soil
  * 40 - 50% of water → can be used as groundwater reserve storage through managed aquifer recharge

**Palaeochannel:**

* Remnants of once active rivers or streams
* Some channels lie buried under the cover of younger sediments
* Commonly occur → alluvial landscapes
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>* Remains part of flow regime</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>‣ evidence → river transformation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‣ future significant changes in flow regimes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>* Economic Significance:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>‣ Used in exploration of fresh water resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‣ Used as artificial recharge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‣ Used as storage for ground water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‣ Locating &amp; assessing mineral deposits</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>LIDAR Mapping:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>* Light Detection and Ranging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Remote Sensing Method</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Determines distance to an object by transmitting laser beam and measuring time taken by light to return to transmitter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Generates precise and 3-D information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‣ Shape of earth &amp; its surface &amp; sub surface characteristics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* helps in examining - manmade &amp; natural environments (accurate, precise &amp; flexible)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Centre agrees to appoint AFT chief

Chief Justice of India (CJI) suggested - former Delhi HC Chief Justice - as the Chairperson of Armed Forces Tribunal (AFT) → Centre agreed

Armed Forces Tribunal:

- AFT Act, 2007
- Adjudication: Disputes related to
  - Appointment
  - Conditions of Services of defence Personnel
  - Army Act, 1950
  - Navy Act, 1957
  - Air Force Act, 1950
- Not for Coast Guard + Paramilitary
- Qualification:
  - Chairperson - retired SC judge or retired Chief Justice of HC
  - Judicial Members - retired HC judges

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.
  - Statutory, regulatory and various quasi-judicial bodies.
- PAPER-IV
- General Studies-III: Technology, Economic Development, Biodiversity, Environment, Security and Disaster Management
  - Various Security forces and agencies and their mandate.
- Administrative Members:
  - Retired members of Armed Forces - Major General (equivalent) or above for minimum 3 years
  - Judge Advocate General - for minimum 1 year

* Appointment & Removal:

**Chairperson & Members**
- appointed by President → after Consultation with CJI
  - resignation letter → President
  - removal grounds → Proved misbehaviour/ incapacity by President → Inquiry by sitting SC judge

* Salary, allowances, terms & conditions
  - Prescribed by Centre
PRACTICE QUESTIONS
DISCUSSION
Practice Question – Prelims

Q1. Consider the following statements with reference to School Education Quality Index (SEQI).

1. Its important domains are Learning outcomes, Access outcomes, Infrastructure and Facility for outcomes and Equity outcomes.
2. It is released by NITI Aayog.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Practice Question – Prelims

Q2. Consider the following components of Current Account

1. Net goods
2. Net services
3. Net primary and secondary income
4. Net FDI

Which of the above component(s) is/are part of Current Account?

a) 1 and 2 only
b) 2, 3 and 4 only
c) 1, 2 and 3
d) 1, 2, 3 and 4
Q3. The term ‘Palaeochannel’ recently seen in news is related to which among the following?

a) Period between Cretaceous period and Jurassic period.
b) Recently discovered largest flying animal.
c) Remnants of once active rivers.
d) New Palaeolithic site in Tamil Nadu.

Q4. Consider the following statements with reference to Armed Forces Tribunal.

1. Its Chairperson and members are appointed by the President after consulting the Chief Justice of India.
2. It has jurisdiction over Indian Coast Guard.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

a) 1 only 
b) 2 only 
c) Both 1 and 2 
d) Neither 1 nor 2
Practice Questions – Prelims
01-10-2019

1. c, Both 1 and 2
2. c) 1, 2 and 3
3. c, Remnants of once active rivers.
4. a, 1 only

Practice Question – Mains
GS 3

Q1. “Raising Unemployment rate is one of the major problems in our country”. Discuss the changing trends in labour supply and demand in the context of the above statement.

GS - III

Q2. Discuss the difference between Primary income and Secondary income components of Current Account. Analyse the factors influencing the Current Account Deficit and also the challenges in order to sustain favorable Current Account Deficit for India. (150 words) - 10 Marks
LIKE, COMMENT & SHARE

SUBSCRIBE