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*C – Chennai; B – Bengaluru; T – Thiruvananthapuram ; D – Delhi
The Odisha model

Odisha's emphasis on political and economic empowerment

Political empowerment ↔ political participation

↑ no. of women in politics → more gender-specific policies and planning

17th LS elections

| No. of women contested - 715 | huge gap |
| No. of men contested - 7334 |

↑ in no. of women Mps from 11% in 2014 to 14% in 2019

Global average - 24.3%
**SHGs** - Linked to Odisha Livelihood Mission + Odisha Rural Development & Marketing Society

*SHGs* - participation in fairs and exhibitions organised by states

**Advantages**

1. SHGs sell their products
2. Opportunity to travel across the state
3. Greater exposure

⇒ SHG leader Pramila Biso’s victory in 2019 LS election

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<th>Pak. allows special group of pilgrims for Nankana Sahib</th>
<th>Pakistan gave visa for 500 Sikh pilgrims to visit Nankana Sahib</th>
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<td>Group will begin process for festivities at Kartarpur Sahib</td>
<td>Occasion : 550th birth anniversary of Baba Guru Nanak : founder of Sikhism, 1st Sikh Guru</td>
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<td>“Cultural, religious, and social celebrations of the Sikhs will begin on 8 November”</td>
<td>Celebrations from Nankana Sahib (birthplace of Guru) to Kartarpur Sahib (Guru died here)</td>
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<td>Types of visa to be issued</td>
<td>Visas - Issued by Pak High Commission under “Ind-Pak Protocol on Visits to Religious Shrines – 1974”</td>
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**Part A—Preliminary Examination**

- Current events of national and international importance.

**Part B—Main Examination**

**PAPER-III**

- Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations.
- India and its neighborhood-relations.
  - Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India’s interests.

**Timeline**

- Nov 2018 → India & Pakistan agreed to build Kartarpur Corridor
- July 2019 → Pak agreed for visa free travel
What is the potential of Kartarpur Corridor?

- Ind-Pak bilateral relations → low
- Kartarpur corridor - potential to minimize bilateral tensions
- Effective use of 1974 Protocol to visit Religious Shrines

Important Hindu holy sites in Pak

- Katas Raj Temples, Punjab province
- Shavapala Tej Singh temple, Sialkot
- Sun Temple - Multan, etc.

Important Muslim holy places in India

- Jama Masjid, Delhi
- Tomb of Meinuddin Chishti, Ajmer

⇒ Develop tourist & religious circuit → ensure hassle free travel & access

Advantage

1. ↑ In people to people contact & interaction
2. ↓ in hatred and prejudices against each other
3. ↑ gov. to gov't cooperation

Pg 8 - C; B; T  Pg 10 - D

Beyond talaq

India needs a non-sectarian, gender-neutral law that addresses desertion of spouses. Both Houses of Parliament have passed a Bill making instant triple talaq an criminal offense, making its enforcement stricter and it may be treated as a crime or just a civil case. It is true that the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Bill, 2019, is a diluted version of the Bill on the same subject 2016, it was thoroughly revised. Further, it did not specify a maximum fine or the law to impose. Now the offence is cognizable only if the affected wife, or her relative, refuses to live with the marriage. A man arrested under this law may face jail, after the magistrate grants a hearing to the wife. Thirdly, the offence is punishable with 3 months to the parts of the law. The government says to revoking the law in the event of the Supreme Court's 2017 verdict declaring instant triple talaq illegal. In 2018, the court upheld the validity of the law, saying that triple talaq is a crime and that an employee of a company who was fired after his wife divorced him for practising triple talaq was entitled to reinstatement.

 Govt. promised scrutiny of triple talaq Bill: Azad

"We were in the dark and hence could not inform our MNAs," said a government spokesman. After being told that the government has decided to introduce a new Bill, Minister of State for Minority Affairs at the Ministry of Law and Justice, Mr. Azad said, "The government has decided to give a fresh look to the Bill. The government has been very clear that the Bill will be introduced in Parliament and we will work on it in the next session of Parliament."

Part A—Preliminary Examination

Paper I - (200 marks)

- Current events of national and international importance.

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.

- 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.
Muslim women (Protection of Rights of Marriage) Bill 2019 - passed in RS - Triple Talaq
1. Pronouncement of talaq by word - spoken/ written / electronic form - Illegal (Section 3)
2. Pronouncement of triple talaq - a cognizable offence (Section 7(c))
3. Magistrate - power to grant bail - after hearing the woman (Section 7(c))
4. Provision to compound the case at the request of woman (Section 7(b))
5. Aggrieved woman entitled to subsistence allowance (Section 5)
6. Married Muslim woman entitled to custody of minor children (Section 6)

Controversies Surrounding the Bill
1) Marriage - a ‘civil’ contract
   - Revoking it - can it be a criminal offence?
2) Triple talaq - void & illegal
   - even if a man pronounces - marriage remains valid
   - women can seek maintenance & custody of children - Unclear
3) Husband - pronounced triple talaq - imprisoned
   - How will he provide maintenance?
4) Comparison of triple talaq with dowry harassment - wrong
5) Govt. should take imp bills for the consideration of the Select Committees / apt. Parliamentary scrutiny

In other religions
1) Hindu Marriage Act 1955 - Hindus, Jains, Buddhists
2) Anand Marriage Act 1909 - Sikhs
3) Parsi Marriage & Divorce Act - 1936 - Parsis
4) Indian Christian Marriage Act 1872 - Christians
5) Muslim Personal Law (Shariat) Application Act, 1937

Conclusion
* Need for a gender-neutral, non-sectarian law to deal with desertion of spouses
Plan for single water disputes tribunal
New Bill stipulates two-year deadline

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.
- Functions and responsibilities of the Union and the States
- Statutory, regulatory and various quasi-judicial bodies.
- Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation.

News
Lok Sabha has passed the Inter State river water disputes (amendment) bill, 2019 by voice vote

Important provisions of the Bill
* Sec 4 - Central Government can establish ‘Inter-state river water disputes tribunal’
  - All existing inter-state river water dispute tribunals will stand dissolved
  - Different benches for resolving disputes
* Sec 4A - Central Govt → Disputes Resolution Committee

→ Composition
  - Chairperson
  - Expert members (not less than 15 years of experience)
  - One member from each state (party to the dispute)

→ Time period for resolving disputes
  - 1 year + 6 months

→ Disputes resolution mechanism
  - negotiation
  - Falls
  - refer C-Govt

* Sec 5(2A) - Time period of decisions
  - within 2 years + 1 year (due to unavoidable reasons)
* Sec 6 – Decision of the bench of the tribunal is final, and it shall be binding on the parties to the dispute

Decison of Same Order/Decree of tribunal Force Supreme Court

* Sec 4B(2) – Composition of Inter-State river water disputes tribunal

⇒ Chairperson (Judge of SC/ CJI- HC)
⇒ Vice – chairperson
⇒ Not more than 3 judicial members
⇒ 3 expert members

⇒ Appointment based on recommendations of Selection Committee

* Sec 4B(z) – Selection Committee

⇒ Prime Minister or any other minister nominated by him ⇒ Chairperson
⇒ Chief Justice of India or a judge of Supreme Court nominated by him
⇒ Minister of Law and Justice
⇒ Minister of Jal Shakti

* Sec 9A – Data Bank and Information System shall be maintained at the national level for each river basin

⇒ C. Govt may appoint an agency for the purpose

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**Advantages**

* Two-tier dispute resolution mechanism
* Regularisation of functioning of the Tribunal
* Resolving disputes in a time bound manner
* Creation of data bank – keep track of the ecological and land pattern changes in the river basins

**Concerns**

* Influence of the executive in selecting the Members of Tribunals

⇒ Existing 15RND Act, 1956 – CJI
⇒ Amendment Bill, 2019 – Selection Committee (PM – Chairperson)
Motor Vehicles Bill won't usurp rights of States: Gadkari

Rajya Sabha clears Bill that calls for increase in penalties

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Union Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari on Wednesday asserted in the Rajya Sabha that the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill, 2019 did not in anyway infringe on the rights of State governments. The Rajya Sabha cleared the Bill.

The legislation seeks to improve road safety through multifold increase in penalties for traffic violations, it also aims to streamline the licensing and road permit process. It has already been passed in the Lok Sabha, but the government has introduced two new amendments and it will now return to the Lower House again.

Introducing the Bill, Mr. Gadkari said the maximum road accidents in the world occurred in India. He said five lakh road accidents take place in the country, causing 1.5 lakh deaths.

He lauded the Tamil Nadu government as road accidents were down by 20% in the state. He said the Centre would emulate the Tamil Nadu model across the country.

Opposition's charge
The Opposition criticised the Bill on two issues — increased privatisation of the transport sector, from registering of vehicles by auto dealers to driving schools, and infringement of rights of States. The Minister clarified that there was no plan to shut down any of the State transport corporations. Seventeen lakh passenger buses were running in the country of which only 1.30 lakh were State-run buses. "We do not have any plan to take over the State's rights in any way," Mr. Gadkari assured.

Earlier, joining the debate, B.K. Hariprasad, Congress MP from Karnataka, said that out of the 52 clauses in the Bill, only five speak of road safety. "I admit that there is corruption in the Regional Transport Offices but you are handing it over to the dealers. The issue of tax collection should be with the government and not with private bodies," he said.

CPIM member Elamaram Karun said the Bill would encourage on State governments’ powers. DMK MP, Sharmanna said road accidents could not be reduced by amending the Motor Vehicles Act.

News
- Motor vehicles (Amendment) Bill of 2019
  - Proposes to amend Motor Vehicles Act, 1988
- MoRTH - Bill does not infringe the rights of State governments
- Amendments Proposed
  - Increase in penalties for traffic violations
  - Seeks to improve road safety
  - Streamlining the license process
  - Sec 25A
  - Central Government Shall maintain a National Register of Driving Licenses
- State Registers will subsume under National Register of Driving Licenses
- Issuing unique driving license number
- Streamlining the road permit process
  - Sec 66A
- Central govt may develop a National Transportation Policy
  - Establish a framework for grant of permits & schemes
  - Enhance private participation and public-private partnership in the transport sector
Q. Consider the following statements, with reference to the Baba Guru Nanak Dev ji.

1. He is the founder of Sikhism.
2. He is the first among the 10 Sikh gurus.
3. Kartarpur Corridor is constructed by India and Pakistan as part of his 550th birth anniversary celebrations.

Select the correct answer from the codes given below,

a) 1 only 
b) 1 and 2 
c) 1 and 3 
d) 1, 2 and 3

Q. Consider the following statements with respect to Inter-State River Water Dispute Act, 1956.

1. The Central Government shall constitute a Water Disputes Tribunal for adjudication of the water disputes that arises between the states.
2. The Chairman of the tribunal is nominated by the President of India.
3. The decision of the tribunal is non-binding on the parties to the dispute.

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

a) 1 only 
b) 1 and 2 only 
c) 1 and 3 only 
d) 2 and 3 only
Q. It has been widely acknowledged that women’s empowerment will help in the achievement of critical development goals of a country. How Indian women can be politically and financially empowered. Discuss it in the light of Odisha model of women empowerment.