

VTS - EXCEL 2023-24

Detailed schedule with Syllabus:

Phase I			
Test No	Date	Subject	Syllabus
1	June 11 th , 2023	History, Indian Society, Social Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Indian culture will cover the salient aspects of Art Forms, Literature and Architecture from ancient to modern times.● Modern Indian history from about the middle of the eighteenth century until the present-significant events, personalities, issues.● The Freedom Struggle – its various stages and important contributors /contributions from different parts of the country.● Post-independence consolidation and reorganization within the country.● History of the world will include events from 18th century such as industrial revolution, world wars,● Redrawing of national boundaries, colonization, decolonization, political philosophies like communism, Capitalism, socialism etc. - their forms and effect on the society.
2	July 2 nd , 2023	Geography + Indian Society	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Salient features of world's physical geography.● Distribution of key natural resources across the world (including South Asia and the Indian subcontinent);● factors responsible for the location of primary, secondary, and tertiary sector industries in various parts of the world (including India)● Important Geophysical phenomena such as

			<p>earthquakes, Tsunami, Volcanic activity, cyclone etc.,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 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. ● Salient features of Indian Society, Diversity of India. ● Role of women and women's organization, population and associated issues, poverty and ● Developmental issues, urbanization, their problems and their remedies. ● Effects of globalization on Indian society ● Social empowerment, communalism, regionalism & secularism.
3	July 23rd, 2023	Polity and Constitution + International Relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Indian Constitution- historical underpinnings, evolution, features, amendments, significant provisions and basic structure ● Functions and responsibilities of the Union and the States, issues and challenges pertaining to the federal structure, devolution of powers and finances up to local levels and challenges therein. ● Separation of powers between various organs dispute redressal mechanisms and institutions. ● Comparison of the Indian constitutional scheme with that of other countries ● Parliament and State Legislatures – structure, functioning, conduct of business, powers & privileges and issues arising out of these.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Structure, organization and functioning of the Executive and the Judiciary Ministries and Departments of the Government; pressure groups and formal/informal associations and their role in the Polity. ● Salient features of the Representation of People's Act. ● Appointment to various Constitutional posts, powers, functions and responsibilities of various Constitutional Bodies. ● Statutory, regulatory and various quasi-judicial bodies. ● India and its neighbourhood-relations. ● 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. ● Important International institutions, agencies and fora-their structure, mandate.
4	August 13 th , 2023	Governance + Social Justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Important aspects of governance, transparency and accountability, e-governance-applications, models, successes, limitations, and potential; citizens charters, transparency & accountability and institutional and other measures. ● Role of civil services in a democracy ● Development processes and the development industry- the role of NGOs, SHGs, various groups and associations,

			<p>donors, charities, institutional and other stakeholders.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 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. ● Issues relating to the development and management of Social Sector/Services relating to Health, Education, Human Resources. ● Issues relating to poverty and hunger.
5	September 3 rd , 2023	Economy and Agriculture + Internal Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Indian Economy and issues relating to planning, mobilization of resources, growth, development and employment. ● Inclusive growth and issues arising from it. ● Government Budgeting. ● Major crops cropping patterns in various parts of the country, different types of irrigation and irrigation systems storage, transport and marketing of agricultural produce and issues and related constraints; e-technology in the aid of farmers. ● Issues related to direct and indirect farm subsidies and minimum support prices; Public Distribution System- objectives, functioning, limitations, revamping; issues of buffer stocks and food security; Technology missions; economics of animal-rearing. ● Food processing and related industries in India- scope and

			<p>significance, location, upstream and downstream requirements, supply chain management.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Land reforms in India. ● Effects of liberalization on the economy, changes in industrial policy and their effects on industrial growth. ● Infrastructure: Energy, Ports, Roads, Airports, Railways etc. ● Investment models. ● Linkages between development and spread of extremism. ● Role of external state and non-state actors in creating challenges to internal security. ● Challenges to internal security through communication networks, the role of media and social networking sites in internal security challenges, basics of cyber security; money-laundering and its prevention. ● Security challenges and their management in border areas; linkages of organized crime with terrorism. ● Various Security forces and agencies and their mandate.
6	September 24 th , 2023	Science and Tech + Environment, Ecology and Biodiversity + Disaster Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Science and Technology-developments and their applications and effects in everyday life. ● Achievements of Indians in science & technology; indigenization of technology and developing new technology. ● Awareness in the fields of IT, Space, Computers, robotics, nanotechnology, biotechnology and issues relating to intellectual property rights.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation, environmental impact assessment. ● Disaster and disaster management
7	October 15 th , 2023	Ethics, Integrity and Aptitude (Philosophy & Social Psychology), Case studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ethics and Human Interface: Essence, determinants and consequences of ethics in human actions; dimensions of ethics; ethics in private and public relationships. Human Values – lessons from the lives and teachings of great leaders, reformers and administrators; role of family, society and educational institutions in inculcating values. ● Attitude: content, structure, function; its influence and relation with thought and behavior; moral and political attitudes; social influence and persuasion. ● Aptitude and foundational values for Civil Service, integrity, impartiality and non-partisanship, objectivity, dedication to public service, empathy, tolerance and compassion towards the weaker sections. ● Emotional intelligence-concepts, and their utilities and application in administration and governance. ● Contributions of moral thinkers and philosophers from India and the world. ● Case Studies on the above issues.
8	November 5 th , 2023	Ethics, Integrity and Aptitude (Ethics in governance), Case studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Public/Civil service values and Ethics in Public administration: Status and problems; ethical concerns and dilemmas in government and private

			<p>institutions; laws, rules, regulations and conscience as sources of ethical guidance; accountability and ethical governance; strengthening of ethical and moral values in governance; ethical issues in international relations and funding; corporate governance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Probity in Governance: Concept of public service; Philosophical basis of governance and probity; Information sharing and transparency in government, Right to Information, Codes of Ethics, Codes of Conduct, Citizen's Charters, Work culture, Quality of service delivery, Utilization of public funds, challenges of corruption. ● Case Studies on the above issues.
9	November 26 th , 2023	General Studies I	Full-Length General Studies I
10	December 17 th , 2023	General Studies II	Full-Length General Studies II
11	January 7 th , 2024	General Studies III	Full-Length General Studies III
12	January 28 th , 2024	General Studies IV	Full-Length General Studies IV
Phase II			
13	June 16 th , 2024	History, Indian Society, Social Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Indian culture will cover the salient aspects of Art Forms, Literature and Architecture from ancient to modern times. ● Modern Indian history from about the middle of the eighteenth century until the present-significant events, personalities, issues.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Freedom Struggle – its various stages and important contributors /contributions from different parts of the country. ● Post-independence consolidation and reorganization within the country. ● History of the world will include events from 18th century such as industrial revolution, world wars, ● Redrawing of national boundaries, colonization, decolonization, political philosophies like communism, Capitalism, socialism etc. - their forms and effect on the society.
14	June 23 rd , 2024	Geography + Indian Society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Salient features of world’s physical geography. ● Distribution of key natural resources across the world (including South Asia and the Indian subcontinent); ● factors responsible for the location of primary, secondary, and tertiary sector industries in various parts of the world (including India) ● 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. ● Salient features of Indian Society, Diversity of India. ● Role of women and women’s organization, population and associated issues, poverty and ● Developmental issues, urbanization, their problems and their remedies.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Effects of globalization on Indian society ● Social empowerment, communalism, regionalism & secularism.
15	July 7 th , 2024	Polity and Constitution + International Relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Indian Constitution- historical underpinnings, evolution, features, amendments, significant provisions and basic structure ● Functions and responsibilities of the Union and the States, issues and challenges pertaining to the federal structure, devolution of powers and finances up to local levels and challenges therein. ● Separation of powers between various organs dispute redressal mechanisms and institutions. ● Comparison of the Indian constitutional scheme with that of other countries ● Parliament and State Legislatures – structure, functioning, conduct of business, powers & privileges and issues arising out of these. ● Structure, organization and functioning of the Executive and the Judiciary Ministries and Departments of the Government; pressure groups and formal/informal associations and their role in the Polity. ● Salient features of the Representation of People’s Act. ● Appointment to various Constitutional posts, powers, functions and responsibilities of various Constitutional Bodies.

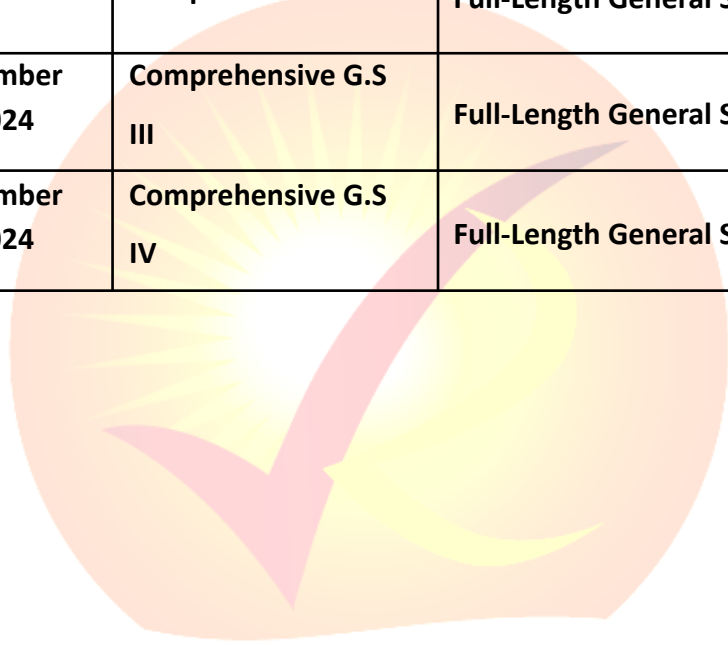
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Statutory, regulatory and various quasi-judicial bodies. ● India and its neighbourhood-relations. ● Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India's interests. ● Effect of policies and politics of developed and developing countries on India's interests, Indian Diaspora. ● Important International institutions, agencies and for- their structure, mandate.
16	July 14 th , 2024	Governance + Social Justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Important aspects of governance, transparency and accountability, e-governance-applications, models, successes, limitations, and potential; citizens charters, transparency & accountability and institutional and other measures. ● Role of civil services in a democracy ● Development processes and the development industry- the role of NGOs, SHGs, various groups and associations, donors, charities, institutional and other stakeholders. ● 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. ● Issues relating to the development and management of Social Sector/Services relating to Health, Education, Human Resources.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Issues relating to poverty and hunger.
17	July 28 th , 2024	Economy and Agriculture + Internal Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Indian Economy and issues relating to planning, mobilization of resources, growth, development and employment. ● Inclusive growth and issues arising from it. ● Government Budgeting. ● Major crops cropping patterns in various parts of the country, different types of irrigation and irrigation systems storage, transport and marketing of agricultural produce and issues and related constraints; e-technology in the aid of farmers. ● Issues related to direct and indirect farm subsidies and minimum support prices; Public Distribution System- objectives, functioning, limitations, revamping; issues of buffer stocks and food security; Technology missions; economics of animal-rearing. ● Food processing and related industries in India- scope and significance, location, upstream and downstream requirements, supply chain management. ● Land reforms in India. ● Effects of liberalization on the economy, changes in industrial policy and their effects on industrial growth. ● Infrastructure: Energy, Ports, Roads, Airports, Railways etc. ● Investment models. ● Linkages between development and spread of extremism.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Role of external state and non-state actors in creating challenges to internal security. ● Challenges to internal security through communication networks, the role of media and social networking sites in internal security challenges, basics of cyber security; money-laundering and its prevention. ● Security challenges and their management in border areas; linkages of organized crime with terrorism. ● Various Security forces and agencies and their mandate.
18	August 4 th , 2024	Science and Tech + Environment, Ecology and Biodiversity + Disaster Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Science and Technology-developments and their applications and effects in everyday life. ● Achievements of Indians in science & technology; indigenization of technology and developing new technology. ● Awareness in the fields of IT, Space, Computers, robotics, nanotechnology, biotechnology and issues relating to intellectual property rights. ● Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation, environmental impact assessment. ● Disaster and disaster management
19	August 11 th , 2024	Ethics, Integrity and Aptitude (Philosophy & Social Psychology), Case studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ethics and Human Interface: Essence, determinants and consequences of ethics in human actions; dimensions of ethics; ethics in private and public relationships. Human Values – lessons from the lives and teachings of great leaders, reformers and administrators;

			<p>role of family, society and educational institutions in inculcating values.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Attitude: content, structure, function; its influence and relation with thought and behavior; moral and political attitudes; social influence and persuasion. ● Aptitude and foundational values for Civil Service, integrity, impartiality and non-partisanship, objectivity, dedication to public service, empathy, tolerance and compassion towards the weaker sections. ● Emotional intelligence-concepts, and their utilities and application in administration and governance. ● Contributions of moral thinkers and philosophers from India and the world. ● Case Studies on the above issues.
20	August 18 th , 2024	Ethics, Integrity and Aptitude (Ethics in governance), Case studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Public/Civil service values and Ethics in Public administration: Status and problems; ethical concerns and dilemmas in government and private institutions; laws, rules, regulations and conscience as sources of ethical guidance; accountability and ethical governance; strengthening of ethical and moral values in governance; ethical issues in international relations and funding; corporate governance. ● Probity in Governance: Concept of public service; Philosophical basis of governance and probity; Information sharing and

			<p>transparency in government, Right to Information, Codes of Ethics, Codes of Conduct, Citizen's Charters, Work culture, Quality of service delivery, Utilization of public funds, challenges of corruption.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case Studies on the above issues.
21	August 27th, 2024	Comprehensive G.S I	Full-Length General Studies I
22	August 27th, 2024	Comprehensive G.S II	Full-Length General Studies II
23	September 2nd, 2024	Comprehensive G.S III	Full-Length General Studies III
24	September 2nd, 2024	Comprehensive G.S IV	Full-Length General Studies IV



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