

VTS Upgrade 2023

Schedule

Test No	Date	Subject	Syllabus
1	June 11 th , 2023	History	• 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 02 nd , 2023	Geography + Indian Society	• 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. • Effects of globalization on Indian society • Social empowerment, communalism, regionalism & secularism.
3	July 23 rd , 2023	Polity and Constitution + International Relations	• 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. • 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	• 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. • Issues relating to poverty and hunger.
5	September 3 rd , 2023	Economy and Agriculture + Internal Security	• 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. • 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.
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6	September 24 th , 2023	Science and Tech + Environment, Ecology and Biodiversity + Disaster Management	• 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
7	October 15 th , 2023	Ethics, Integrity and Aptitude (Philosophy & Social Psychology), Case studies	• 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 05 th , 2023	Ethics, Integrity and Aptitude (Ethics in governance), Case studies	- 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 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 1	Full-Length General Studies Paper I
10	December 17 th , 2023	General Studies 2	Full-Length General Studies Paper II
11	January 07 th , 2024	General Studies 3	Full-Length General Studies Paper III
12	January 28 th , 2024	General Studies 4	Full-Length General Studies Paper IV