“Don’t judge me by my Success. Judge me by how many times I fell down and got back up again.”

What’s Inside:
- MCQs (Economics)
- G.S. MAINS Question
- News Editorials discussion
- News of the Day
- Map Study
MCQs

Question 1. A “closed economy” is an economy in which

(a.) the money supply is fully controlled
(b.) deficit financing takes place
(c.) only exports take place
(d.) neither exports nor imports take place
**MCQs**

**Question 2.** Both Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and Foreign Institutional Investor (FII) are related to investment in a country. Which one of the following statements best represents an important difference between the two? (2011)

(a.) FII helps bring better management skills and technology, while FDI only brings in capital  
(b.) FII helps in increasing capital availability in general, while FDI only targets specific sectors  
(c.) FDI flows only into the secondary market, while FII targets primary market  
(d.) FII is considered to be more stable than FDI
**MCQs**

**Q3.** Microfinance is the provision of financial services to people of low-income groups. This includes both the consumers and the self-employed. The service/services rendered under micro-finance is/are:

1. Credit facilities
2. Savings facilities
3. Insurance facilities
4. Fund Transfer facilities
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Question for Mains</th>
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<tr>
<td>Q. Analyse the functioning of RTI. What are the roadblocks that are seen in its implementation of late?</td>
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<td>Answer in 250 Words</td>
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## Editorial : In Largesse We Trust

- **Problems with such an approach**  
  **[A post-mortem Approach]**
  
  (i) No mention of a bigger plan to ramp up the farm sector, {U.P. invested just 2.3% of total exp. in 2016-17.}
  
  (ii) A worrying trend for a country that wants to double agricultural incomes by 2022.
  
  (iii) Madras High Court has clearly reached into the domain of the executive.
(iv) Criticised the cap of ₹1 lakh on farm loans that will attract relief.

(v) Questionable Timing → Unusual (Good Monsoon).

(vi) Glosses over the Govt’s incapability to make agriculture a sustainable economic activity with efficient linkages to formal markets. {APMC Act}

Eg- FDI of up to 100% was allowed in food retail trading but investments are stuck over the reluctance to allow a small proportion of non-food sales.
Editorial 2: Syrian Chemical Weapons Tragedy

**OPCW:** Chlorine's use as a weapon is banned under the Chemical Weapons Convention, which Syria joined in 2013. February 28, 2017: Russia and China banned Sanctions against Syria in U.N. Security Council.

**UNSC Member Countries:** Sweden, Bolivia, Ethiopia and Kazakhstan to serve on the world body’s Security Council for a period of two years, starting from 1 January 2017. Total 10 Members:???
BREXIT- Gibraltar and Spain

**Issue:** When the U.K. joined the European Economic Community, it got the principle accepted that Gibraltar was in effect part of the U.K.’s accession to the EU.

→ The U.K. used EU membership to normalise the situation and not make it anomalous in anyway

→ When Spain did join the union, it implicitly recognised the status of Gibraltar.

**NOW,** failure to include Gibraltar in “triggering letter” highlighted the lack of recognition being given to it by Britain.
### Gibraltar

- **EU’s draft negotiating guidelines reads:**
  “After the United Kingdom leaves the Union, no agreement between the EU and the United Kingdom may apply to the territory of Gibraltar without the agreement between the Kingdom of Spain and the United Kingdom.”

- In reality, the document simply states facts: when it comes to negotiating any post-Brexit deal for the U.K. and its territories, **Spain, as a member of the EU, would have always had a veto.**
Map of E.U.
Gibraltar

The Strait is an important shipping route from the Mediterranean to the Atlantic.

**Other Imp British Overseas territories:-**

1. Ascension Island
2. Falkland Islands
3. British Virgin Islands
4. British Indian Ocean Territory (Indian Ocean)
Comment: AIDS Free by 2030

- In July 2000, the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) adopted Resolution 1308→ As the first disease to be the subject of a UNSC resolution.

- **Funding Cuts:**
  (i) Overdependence on International funding and
  (ii) At the same time neglect of other diseases like malnutrition, and maternal and child health care.
  (iii) Boom in India and China, then why Donations?

So, sustainability of future national HIV/AIDS programmes is in doubt.
Integration into Health Systems:

• An integration of HIV/AIDS interventions + primary health-care systems has taken place in India from 2010 onwards.

Exmaple: 6 components of National AIDS Control Programme (NACP)-III merged with the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) in 2010.

1. Integrated Counselling and Testing Centres (ICTC);
2. prevention of parent-to-child transmission (PPTCT);
3. Blood safety;
4. Sexually transmitted infections (STI) services;
5. Condom programming together with antiretroviral treatment (ART).-→ Carried forward in NACP IV as well.
Now about India and AIDS: **UN General Assembly**

- India **ending HIV/AIDS** as a public health threat in the next 5 years, & ending the epidemic by 2030. Is it visible in Approach: Let's see—

1. Evidence - two-thirds of the budget for the NACP-IV by Govt of India.

2. Less dependent on foreign assistance.

**What more needs to be done:**

(i) Continuous integration of HIV/AIDS progs. into a larger health system
What’s needed

(ii) Public expenditure on health care in India as a proportion of GDP is among the world’s lowest.

- Health expenditure in India was **just 1.3% in 2015-16**.
- Norway, Canada and Japan \(\rightarrow\) 9% of GDP to health.
- India’s health-care expenditure less than other BRICS countries.
Awareness Drive

- A UN report—India has the third largest number of people living with HIV/AIDS in the world—2.1 million at the end of 2013—and
- India accounts for about 4 out of 10 people living with HIV/AIDS in the region
- NGOs are a helping hand to Govt—homosexuals, sex workers, drug users, trans-genders, prisoners, women and children.
- They focus on offering direct care to people suffering from HIV/AIDS, general awareness campaigns and t
The dispute in this zone is over territory south of the McMahon Line in Arunachal which includes Tawang.

McMahon Line was the result of the **1914 Simla Convention**, between British India and Tibet, and was rejected by China.
# Lines and paradoxes for India

1. **Mcmohan Line**: It extends for **890 km** from Bhutan in the west to **260 km** east of the great bend of the Brahmaputra River in the east, largely along the crest of the Himalayas. China rejects the Simla Accord (Tibetan government was not sovereign and therefore did not have the power to conclude treaties.  

   Simla Accord - who signed it?

1. **The Radcliffe Line** was published on 17 August 1947 as a boundary demarcation line between India and Pakistan upon the Partition of India. It was named after its architect, Sir Cyril Radcliffe.  

2. The Durand Line international border between Pakistan and Afghanistan. It was established in 1896 by Sir Mortimer Durand.
Rail Regulator gets green nod:

UPSC 2014 Question: “The setting up of a Rail Tariff Authority to regulate fares will subject the cash strapped Indian Railways to demand subsidy for obligation to operate non-profitable routes and services. Taking into account the experience in the power sector, discuss if the proposed reform is expected to benefit the consumers, the Indian Railways or the private container operators.”
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<td>• Rail Development Authority (RDA), with an initial corpus of ₹50 crore and will be set up through an executive order (Article ? of Constitution).</td>
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<td>• Bibek Debroy Committee and Rakesh Mohan Committee.</td>
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<td>• <strong>The Authority’s functions</strong> will be to recommend tariff “commensurate with costs,” frame principles for social service obligation, and ensure a level playing field for stakeholders by suggesting <strong>policies for private investment</strong>.</td>
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<td>• Keeping rail fares within affordable limits has led to <strong>cross-subsidisation</strong></td>
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WhatsApp case for Constitution Bench

Giving FB access to personal details of users is a violation of privacy; plea

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL
NEW DELHI

A Constitution Bench of five judges will decide on April 18 whether a larger denomination of judges should hear a petition for a declaration that a 2016 policy of instant messaging app – WhatsApp – to give Facebook access to information and personal details shared by millions of its users is a violation of their privacy and free speech.

Having at first meant to hear the case during the summer vacation, Chief Justice of India J.S. Khehar on Wednesday advanced the date for the Constitution Bench hearing to April 18, saying it is a “serious issue.”

The case is based on a petition by two students – 19-year-old Karmanya Singh Sareen and 22-year-old Shreya Sethi – to challenge the contract entered into between the two Internet giants to provide access to calls, photographs, texts, videos and documents shared by users despite the fact that privacy is prized and guaranteed by WhatsApp.

IIHC decision

The duo were aggrieved by the Delhi High Court decision to uphold the contract. The High Court took a nuanced position by confirming the legality of the policy effective from September 25 through directing WhatsApp to “delete completely” from its server information/data/details of all users who choose to delete their account.

On appeal, the Supreme Court responded by directing Facebook, WhatsApp, the Centre and the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Trai) to file responses and roped in Attorney-General Mukul Rohatgi to assist it in the case.

When the hearing began, senior advocate K.K. Venugopal, for Facebook, raised the contention that if the WhatsApp-Facebook contract is going to be challenged as a violation of the right to privacy, then a larger Bench than five judges should hear the case.

He referred to the 1954 eight-judges Bench verdict in M.P. Sharma’s case and the six-judges Bench judgment of 1962 in Kharak Singh case on the right to privacy. Both judgments had categorically rejected the existence of privacy as a guaranteed right under Article 21 of the Constitution.

Mr. Venugopal argued that any future debate on the question of right to privacy should be decided by a larger Bench of at least nine judges. However, advocate Madhavi Divan, assisting the court, intervened to submit that the Supreme Court should not only hear the question of violation of right to privacy under Article 21 but also the right to free speech under Article 19 (1) (a) of the Constitution.

Senior advocate Kapil Sibal contended that privacy cannot be construed as a fundamental right guaranteed under Article 21. What is under contention here is the terms of a simple contract between two companies – WhatsApp and Facebook.
Centre submits NGO guidelines to S.C.

- NITI Aayog appointed as the nodal agency for the purpose of registration and accreditation of VOs/NGOs seeking funding from the Government of India
- Portal at NITI Aayog (NGO-Darpan) shall be strengthened
- New guidelines framed for accreditation of nearly 30 lakh NGOs and voluntary organisations
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<tr>
<td><strong>1. Amendments to RTI</strong></td>
<td>Sections 3, 4 and 5 of the Rules.</td>
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<td>2. EVMs issue: In a democracy, there should be no doubt</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>3. Constitutional status to NCBC. 123rd Amendment</strong></td>
<td>Majority: Features- 2/3rd Majority reqd. NCST, NCSC (Article?) (Names)</td>
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<td>4. Cong. seeks privilege motion against Jaitley</td>
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• North Korea tops agenda as Trump set to meet Xi

- Military options to neutralise North Korea’s nuclear capability were on the table.

- Trump has repeatedly blamed China for not taking effective measure.

- China has tightened sanctions on North Korea in recent months but it has not touched the oil supply to it
**Key issues**  The One-China policy and trade will be the other two issues: What China wants-

**First**, the official level of U.S. representation to the government in Taipei must not be upgraded in any way; **Second**, the U.S. must refrain from any sale of sophisticated arms to Taipei.
China Taiwan
PMGKY: Income Declaration Scheme II- Centre collects only Rs 2300 Crore. Department expected Rs 1lakh crore

IDS-II: 12700 were collected.

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