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I have used the last edition of this book (21 years IAS Prelims CSAT General Studies Topic-wise Solved Papers), in preparation of my own lectures for Prelims and found the answers and explanations to be appropriate for CSAT aspirants. I recommend every new aspirant to begin preparation with NCERT Text Books and Disha's Solved Papers.

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The Book is also helpful for those preparing for CDS and CAPF exams simultaneously.

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PREFACE

I'm most delighted to present the latest edition of Disha's Paperset for UPSC CSAT (Prelims, Mains, Essay) for following reasons:

1. It contains 2016's General studies paper-1 answer key and analysis prepared by me.
 2. Added section: Topicwise Mains Essay papers of last 23 years (1993-2015)
 3. Added section: Topicwise Mains General Studies papers ever since latest the syllabus changed in 2013.
 4. Added Ready Reference Official Syllabus of UPSC civil services exam- this helps aspirants to ensure their preparation doesn't deviate from exam oriented topics and areas.
 5. Its previous edition (21 years paperset upto Prelims-2015) has succeeded in giving the taste of questions that appeared in 2016's exam. Refer to analysis section for more.
- And all these, in such neat printing, binding at a very low price. It's simply comparable ! I recommend it to every new aspirant of civil services.

Preface to Previous edition (21 years)

For systematic preparation of any competitive exam, first a candidate should analyze the syllabus, variety and difficulty level of the questions asked in the previous examinations. But, given the paucity of time, resources and limited exposure, this is a tedious task for the new players- especially those from small towns and without access to coaching classes.

In this context, a topicwise paperset is a must requirement in the bookshelf of any aspirant of civil services preliminary and mains examination. Among all the papersets available in market by various publications, I'm happy to admit that Disha's paperset, because of following reasons:

1. Both paper-1 and paper-2 questions are compiled topic wise, with answers and explanations in a single book, at a very reasonable price.
2. I've used previous edition of this book, in preparation of my own Economy lectures for prelims and found no errors in the answers and explanations.
3. Often, new candidates tend to read too many books, newspapers and magazines; and feel frustrated for not being able to finish syllabus in time. This compilation should help them get clarity about which points to focus and which points to ignore from prelims MCQ point of view for economy, polity, history, geography, science, current affairs and aptitude. I advise all new candidates to begin preparation with NCERT textbooks and Disha's paperset.
4. Answers are not given immediately at the bottom of a question but at the end of the chapter. Therefore, can be used for self-practice after you've prepared a topic from other books.
5. They've added shortnotes and infographics for various current affairs topics in this latest edition, along with topicwise Mains papers for essay and general studies, that really is icing on the cake.
6. This book will also help those simultaneously preparing for CDS and CAPF examinations, given the similarity in difficult level of their MCQs with Civil services prelims.
7. In its content, presentation, accuracy, binding, paper-quality and pricing, I've found Disha's book far better than similar "solved question paper" titles released by other publication houses.

Mrunal Patel,

Mrunal.org

Faculty at SPIPA-Ahmedabad; PDP-CC-E-Gandhinagar

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G

UNIT

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2. Indian Panorama 17-34
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H

UNIT

CURRENT AFFAIRS

H-1-H-40

1. International 1-12
2. National 13-28
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Essays Topic-wise List (1993-2015)

I-1-3

GS-1 to 4 Main Exam (2013-2015)

I-4-17

Case Study (2013-2015)

I-18-23

Why do we need GST?

Evolution of businesses has lead to blurred Taxation lines between Centre & State, leading to double taxation

Cascading effect due to multiplicity of taxes & their non-creditable nature

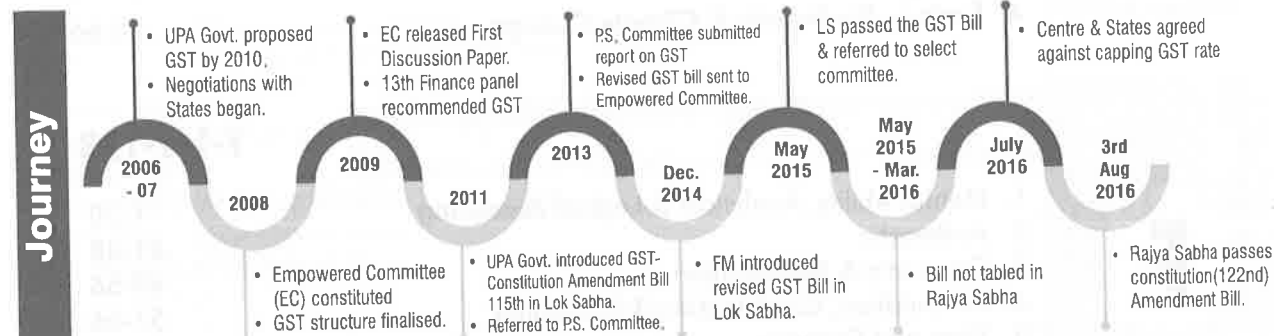
Extreme disparities in the rate of taxes levied by states

Amendments in state VAT laws, leading to multiple compliance requirements

Tax System needs to be destination based, rather than origin based

• Setup within 60 days of enactment of GST.
• Be a recommendatory body
• FM as chairman with State Govts. nominees as members.
• Recommends on GST rates, exemptions of limits, etc.
• Recommends adoption & implementation by Centre & States.

GST - Council



Features

- Uniform regime of taxes across India
- Common market of goods & services across India
- States will collect service taxes.
- Centre will collect Integrated Goods & Service Tax (IGST) on inter-state suppliers.
- IGST rate will be equal to CGST plus SGST.
- It will subsume 16 central & state's taxes.

GST - 2016 Goods & Service Tax

GST Replaces

States Taxes

- VAT/Sales Tax
- Entry Tax/ Octroi
- Local Tax
- Entertainment Tax
- Purchase Tax
- Mandi Tax/ Local Levies
- Luxury Tax
- Tax on Lottery & Betting
- Inter-state Sales Tax

Central Taxes

- Central Excise Duty
- Excise Duty on Medicinal & Toilet
- Additional Custom Duty
- Sp. Add. Custom Duty
- Countervailing Duty
- Service Tax
- Cesses & Surcharges

Impact

Economy

- Dual monitoring by the Centre & States will reduce tax-evasion.
- Speed up in time matching of supplier & purchaser, i.e. transaction.
- ₹ 1.8 lakh crore recovery due to cut in excise duty exemptions.
- ₹ 1.5 lakh crore recovery to States due to cut in tax exemptions.

Companies

- Lower tax burden improve profit margin.
- No distinction between product & service tax
- Uniform tax across India to ease business.
- Smooth movement of products across states.
- One time increase in compliance cost likely.

Consumer

- Suggested 3 tax rates 12%, 17-18% & 40% beneficial for all.
- Most products will be less expensive over time.
- Most services (restaurant, travel, mobile bills, insurance premium) to cost more.
- Mobiles, jewellery, readymade wear to cost more in some states

Price Impact

- Impact on prices is unknown.
- Inflation may rise in 1st year.
- Most services will be costlier.
- Agricultural goods costlier by 0.61% to 1.18%.
- Manufactured items cheaper by 1.22% to 2.53%.
- Over all tax inputs will lower.
- Exports will be competitive.
- Logistics, FMCG, automobiles & consumer durables will benefit.
- Jewellery will be costlier by 2-6%.

General Impact

- India will be a common market facilitating good's movement from one state to another
- Will make compliance easier with simplified tax regime.
- Reduction of production costs due to input credits.
- No cascading taxes.
- Widening of tax base & interested revenue collection.

Exclusion

Alcohol

Remains as states monopoly

Petroleum

Out for 2 years with states

Real Estate

- Stamp duty with States
- Service tax with GST

GST-Abroad

165 countries have GST/ VAT

Country	Introduces	GST/ VAT	Country	Introduces	GST/ VAT
Germany	1968	19%	Japan	1989	08%
Italy	1973	22%	Canada	1991	05%
South Africa	1973	14%	Russia	1991	18%
Argentina	1975	21%	China	1994	17%
Korea	1977	10%	Australia	2000	10%
New Zealand	1986	15%	Malaysia	2015	06%

Implementation Drive

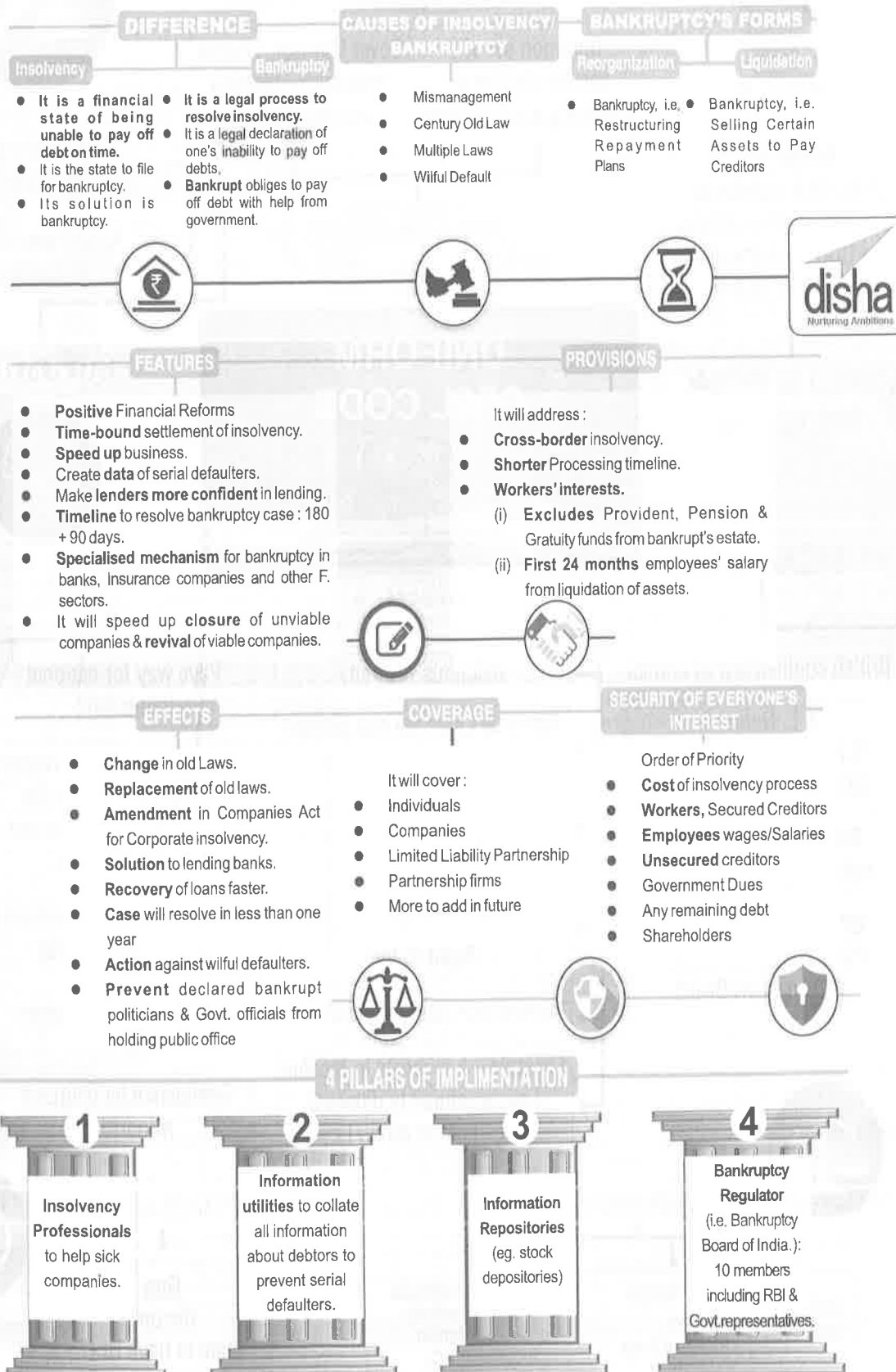
Hardware/ Manpower

- 60,000 Centre & States officials to be trained on GST & IT-Framework.
- Workshops to organise across country.
- Training has started at Hyderabad & Jaipur.
- Training to be completed by March 2017.

Software/ GST-network

- GSTN is a Pvt. Ltd. Company-2013.
- GSTN is a Infosys bi-product of ₹ 1360 Crore worth.
- GSTN-System is 60% completed & will be ready by December 2016.
- Its chairman is Nandan Nilekani.
- GSTN will help tax-payers in:-
 - Registration, Return filing, handle invoices, Inter-states tax settlement & Linking Centre & States for two-way data flow
- GSTN Company will build & maintain the technology network.
- GSTN will be a portal naming, "gstindia"
- Traders/manufacturers, services providers will get GST-ID Code.

Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code-2016





What is Uniform Civil Code?



Common set of secular civil laws governing every citizen

Cover Marriage, Divorce inheritance, adoption and maintenance

Dialogue with all religious communities

Accept good dogma of all groups

MEANING

Article 44:

State shall endeavour to secure for the citizens a UCC throughout the territory of India

CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISION

BACKGROUND

British codified law of crimes

J. L. Nehru & B.R. Ambedkar wanted UCC to be implemented

SUPPORTERS - Hindu right wing BJP & the left

OPPONENTS - Congress Party & All India Muslim Personal Law Board

NEED

Religious diversity

Personal Laws various groups are inherently unequal

Personal Laws are inconsistent with morality and human rights

Constitutional guarantees to every Indian - Equality, Justice, Right to life

Personal laws pose a contradiction

Example - A divorcee in Muslim Law is entitled to different things than in Hindu Law.

EFFECT

Pave way for national integration

Each person will be treated equally & everyone be protected by just, fair and predictable laws.

Remove the contradictions based on ideologies

Interference in religious dogma

Resistance by religious minorities

Positive

Negative

JUDGMENT

Shah Bano Case 1985

Sarla Mudgal vs. Union of India

Kerala Priests challenged constitutional validity of S.118 of Indian succession Act.

IMPLEMENTATION

Goa the only state to have UCC



BREXIT

The Ins and Outs of Brexit

The U.K. is the first major country to decide to leave the bloc. Brexit is expected to heighten global volatility. Brexit may have a lot of consequences. This scenario can lead to important changes in the UK and European economy, employment, trade, investment, politics, and many more.

Global Consequences of BREXIT

Consequences for India

Economic Impact

Political Impact

Social Impact

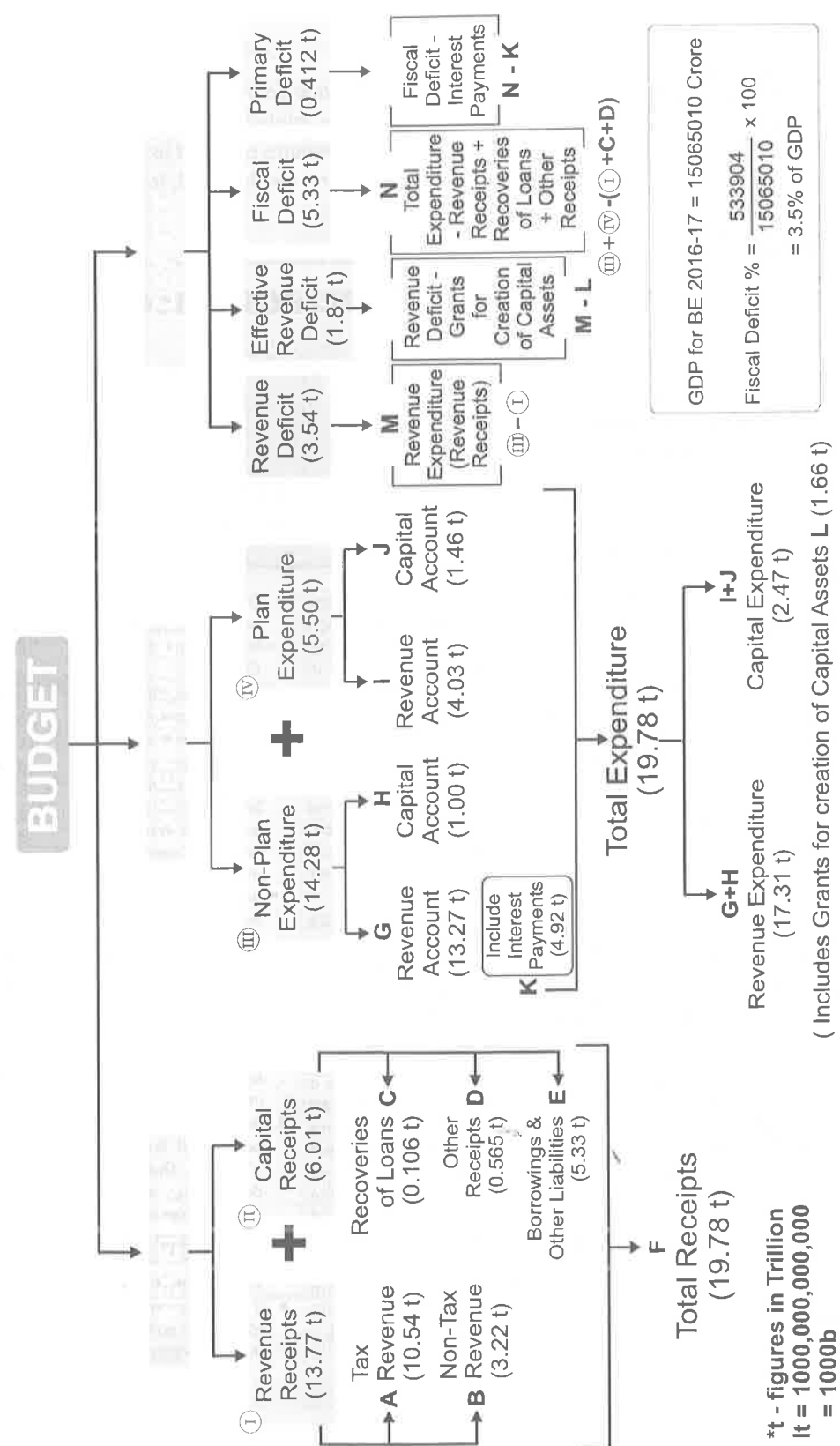
- Brexit is the strongest repudiation of the post World War II consensus. It will increase protectionism and anti-immigrant sentiment worldwide.
- The EU is the largest trading partner for countries such as India and China, it could undermine global growth prospects.
- Investors are likely to rush to safety and precipitate unpredictable moves in global markets as capital moves from risky assets to safer havens.
- More nations contemplating exit from the EU. Greece, for example, held a referendum last year when its citizens overwhelmingly rejected EU's bailout norms.
- Many Britons working within the vast EU bureaucracy would have to look for alternate employment.
- Many Indian companies are listed on the London Stock Exchange and many have European headquarters in London. Brexit will take away this advantage.
- India has been negotiating a free-trade agreement with the EU since 2007. Now India will need to negotiate a separate pact with the UK.
- Brexit can affect India's flagship IT sector given that the UK accounts for 17% or one-sixth of the sector's global exports that topped \$100 billion (approximately Rs.6.70 lakh crore). Now, Brexit will increase overhead costs, setting up new headquarters, perhaps in both Europe and Britain.
- There may be an advantage for skilled migration from India to Britain.
- It will hit India's talks for free trade pact with EU bloc. Govt. will have to rework strategy.
- Drop in the value of pound will benefit Indian Students & tourists

- Decline in direct foreign investment and foreign trade of the UK which can cause a drop in GDP to 2-2.5% per year.
- The certain international companies will avoid investing in the UK and the money flow from these companies will move to other countries.
- The Brexit may shake the EU's stability and undermine the credibility of the single European currency and the stability of the bloc's economy.
- The result could be a slowdown in economic growth by 0.5% per year over the next 15 years. According to some forecasts, the pound sterling could drop by 5-10% against the dollar and the euro
- EU, without Britain would be economically dominated by Germany

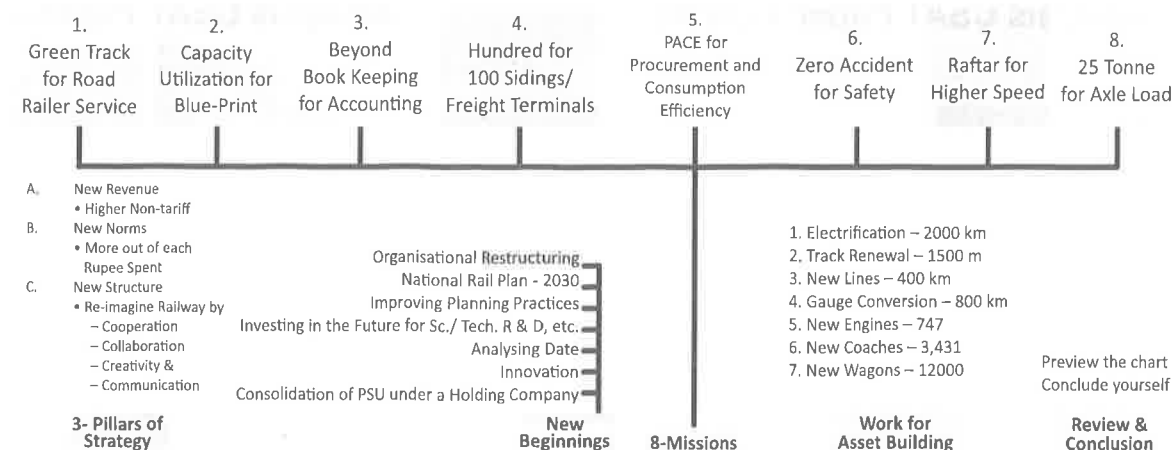
- David Cameron announced resignation. He will leave the post in October.
- It may lead other union member countries for the same referendum.
- It will strengthen the hand of separatists in Scotland. That could lead to an independent Scotland, which would most likely petition for admission to the EU in its own right.
- Managing the economy without any requirements from the "others" will be easy, introducing protective policies, and so on may bring advantages to UK in the long run.
- Brexit will strengthen the position of Russia and weaken the USA's dominating leadership in global scenario.
- On political ground Germany will get strengthened in EU.
- It will also impact US election on both political and economic grounds.

- The nation's generational divide, the baby boomers - as predicted - voted almost entirely opposite to how their children and grandchildren did.
- National health services will be affected either positively in the absence of European immigrants or negatively due to economic crisis.
- Britain can restrict migration from non-EU countries but is bound by European treaties and European law to accept migrants from other member states.
- EU citizens are likely to be forced out of the UK.
- Brexit will affect young Britons from jobs to travel and study in EU.

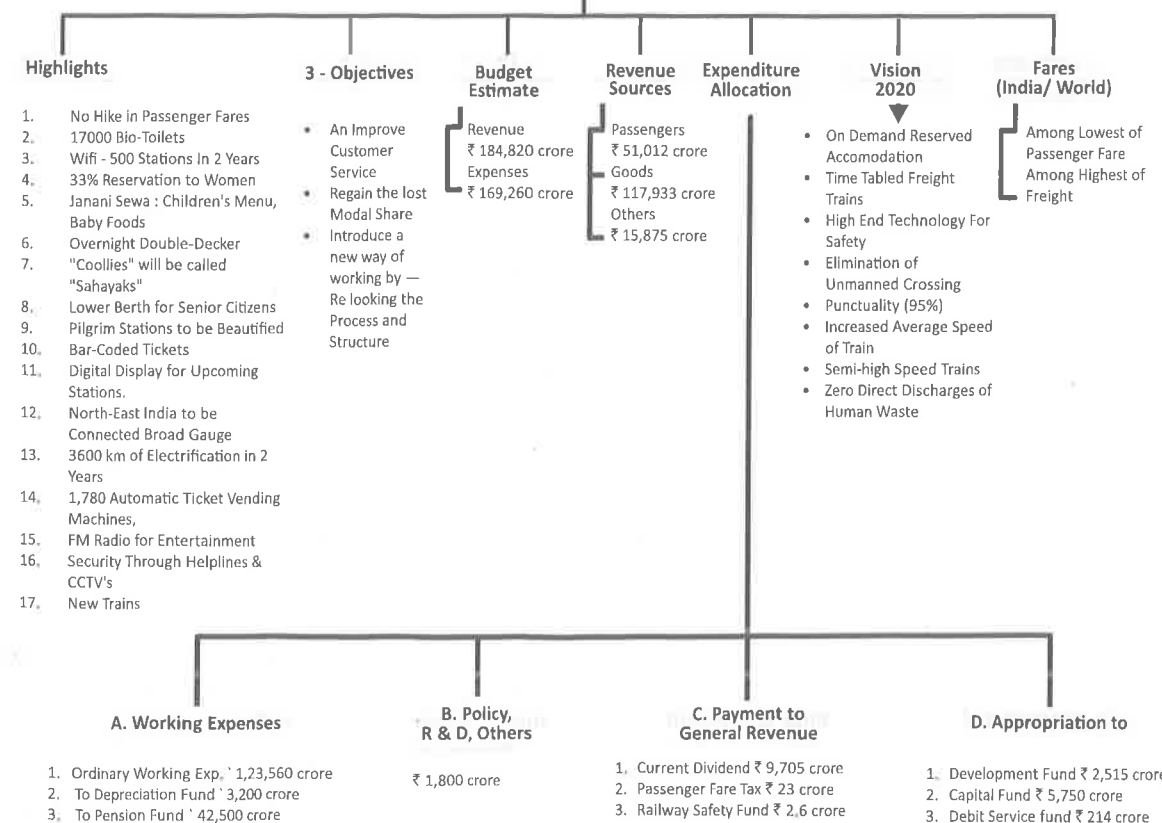
Union Budget 2016



Railway Budget 2016

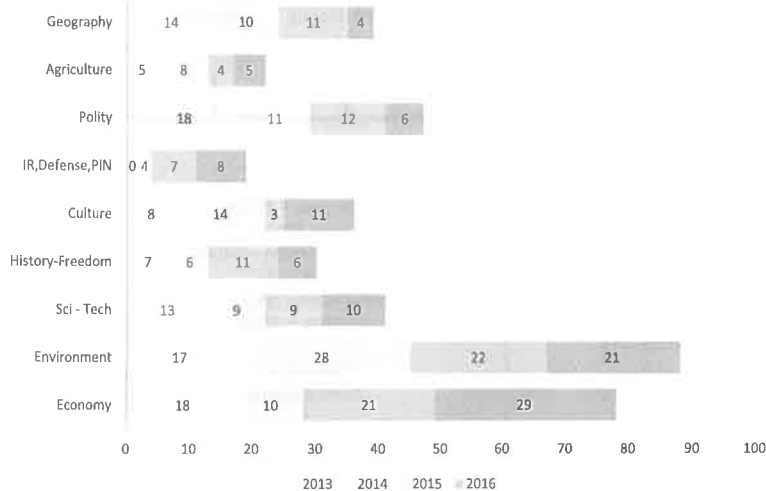


Rail Budget 2016-17



Analysis of CSAT Paper -1 & 2 (2016)

Analysis CSAT Paper-1 (2016)



Topic	2013	2014	2015	2016
IR, Defense, PIN (Persons in News)	0	4	7	8
Science	13	9	9	10
Culture	8	14	3	11
History	7	6	11	6
Polity	18	11	12	6
Economy	18	10	21	29
Agriculture	5	8	4	5
Geography	14	10	11	4
Environment	17	28	22	21
Total MCQ (Duration: 2 hrs, Each MCQ worth 2 marks -0.66 marks for negative answer)	100	100	100	100

Observations

- Total 37 from current affairs and 63 from theory. But paper rather appeared difficult because theory questions- were of factual nature and beyond the traditional areas of Geography, Polity and freedom struggle.
- Economy- focus towards recent developments on startup schemes, payment banks etc. and plenty of direct questions from this year's economic survey by government of India.
- Environment - significant focus on treaties and summit, including current affairs related to Paris Summit, SDG-goals.
- History- less MCQs from freedom struggle and main focus was on culture. While prima-facie they appear unconventional and tough, but most of these culture questions are directly from (new) NCERTs- check the history section of this book.
- In International relations, defense and persons in news- almost entirely current affairs focus.
- Polity - reduced by half than 2015' paper. Hardly 6 question, otherwise it used to be the main thrust of preparation among students.
- Science technology- almost evenly spread among Medicine, ICT and Space-missions- mostly from the Hindu newspaper.

Continuation of MCQ Pattern

Observe the following comparison of MCQs asked in 2015 vs 2016.

Year	2015	2016
Economy	The terms 'Agreement on Agriculture', 'Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures' and 'Peace Clause' appear in the news frequently in the context of the affairs of the (a) Food and Agriculture Organization (b) United Nations Framework Conference on Climate Change (c) World Trade Organization (WTO) (d) United Nations Environment Programme	In the context of which of the following do you sometimes find the terms 'amber box, blue box and green box' in the news? (a) WTO affairs (b) SAARC affairs (c) UNFCCC affairs (d) India-EU negotiations on FTA
Science	1 ISRO MCQ asked: Use of IRS satellites 1 Non-ISRO type Space MCQ: Goldilock zones 1 international. collaboration research: Ice-cube detector .	2 ISRO MCQs asked: Astrosat features, MARS Missions 1 Non-ISRO type Space MCQ: Nasa's GL-10 1 intl. collaboration research MCQ: Thermo-nuke experimental reactor .
History	1 MCQ on which movement led to split among Moderates vs. Extremist. (Ans. Swadeshi movement)	this time two MCQ from the same topic- 1) why split between Moderates and extremists 2) Swadeshi & Boycott movements started from when?
International	Amnesty international is (ans. Human rights NGO)	Doctors without border is (Ans. Medical
Relation (IR)	Term/initiative vs. who they're associated with 1. Fortaleza declaration? Ans. BRICS 2. Beijing platform? Ans. Women Empowerment	Belt and road initiative is by whom? Ans. China
Geography	Consider the following rivers: 1. Vamsadhara 2. Indravati 3. Pranahita 4. Pennar Which of the above are tributaries of Godavari? (a) 1, 2 and 3 (b) 2, 3 and 4 (c) 1, 2 and 4 (d) 2 and 3 only	3. Which of the following is/are tributary tributaries of Brahmaputra? 1. Dibang 2. Kameng 3. Lohit Select the correct answer using the code given below. (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

Due to paucity of space, I'm not giving more examples of similarity of MCQs between 2015 vs 2016's prelims My point being- if a student had solved 2015's paper in topicwise manner, then he'd have got rough idea about what type of information UPSC will ask in particular topic in 2016's paper- because there is continuity in the pattern. **Therefore, I advise all to go through Disha's topic wise papers at home, at the beginning of their preparation.**