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★★Only 6 Months Left in UPSC Prelims 2017 , on 18th June★★



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UPSC Prelims 2017 will be on 18th June [6 Months From Now]
XAAM IAS prelims 2017 Online Test Series [English and Hindi]

1. 24 Current Affair Bi monthly tests
2. 24 Modular tests covering total static syllabus
3. 12 Full length Mock Test
4. 11 Current Affair Test Based on VISIONIAS Current Affair Mag
5. 30 Test Based on Previous Year Questions Static Syllabus Subject wise [50 Question Each]

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Source: xaam.in

Aadhaar must for MGNREGS work

From April 1, workers in rural areas enrolled under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), which mandates 100 days of work for a household a year, must have an Aadhaar card.

Those who have registered under the scheme will be required to furnish proof of possession of Aadhaar or undergo the enrolment process till March 31, a senior official in the Cabinet Secretariat said. However, till an Aadhaar card is obtained, ration card, driving licence, voter identity card, Kisan passbook with photo, job card issued under the MGNREGS and a certificate issued by a gazetted officer or a tehsildar will be admissible as proof of identity to get the benefits.

Those who have applied for Aadhaar can produce their enrolment slip or a copy of the application for getting the 12-digit unique identification number. which acts as proof of identity and address anywhere in the country.

The government has invoked Section 7 of the Aadhaar Act, 2016, which mandates that when the government gives subsidy, benefit or service from the Consolidated Fund of India (CFI), an individual can be asked to undergo authentication or furnish proof of possession of Aadhaar.

The expenditure for the MGNREGS is met from the Consolidated Fund of India. A sum of Rs. 38,500 crore has been allocated for the MGNREGS in the current fiscal.

The move to make Aadhaar mandatory for the MGNREGS will prevent leakages of subsidies and ensure that the beneficiaries get their due, according to another official who is part of the wing looking after the implementation of the

Aadhaar-linked Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) scheme.

The DBT scheme, aimed at checking leakages of welfare funds, was launched on January 1, 2013 to cover 24 schemes of eight Ministries. Under the DBT, all cash benefits are transferred to the beneficiary's bank account. The Centre has asked its departments and the State governments to widen the scope of the DBT scheme to include all monetary and in-kind transfers. To spread the scheme further, it was shifted to the Cabinet Secretariat last year, and its implementation is being monitored by the Prime Minister's Office.

The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation has also made it mandatory for 50 lakh pensioners and four crore subscribers to provide either the Aadhaar number or proof that they have applied for it.

Source: xaam.in

Current Affairs Questions & Answers (Jan to December 2016)

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Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on UPSC 2017

Since UPSC has updated its 2017's examination calendar, students are rushing with their doubts under our umbrella of experts.

Are you confused as well?

Don't worry, sit back, but don't relax! Not enough that you forget how important these dates are – for you and your years of ambition. Let's settle some of your most frequent questions. But, first, let's update you with the most important notifications coming directly from UPSC.

22nd February 2017 – Notification of UPSC Prelims (Civil

Services)

17th March 2017 – Last Date to Submit UPSC Application

18th June 2017 – Date of Preliminary Exam

28th October 2017 – UPSC Civil Services Mains Exam

Here is a link to cross check:

http://www.upsc.gov.in/exams/calendar/2017/Annual_Calender_2017_Engl.pdf

FAQs

1. **Has there been any change to the pattern of [Civil Services Examination in 2017](#)?**

Ans. No. Civil Services Examination still has 3 stages:

1. Preliminary Exam (18th June 2017)
2. Main Exam
3. Interview or Personality Test

2. **What is the Preliminary Exam?**

Ans. It's a good one to start with – Preliminary Exam is the first stage of UPSC exam model. It is an objective exam. It has Multiple Choice Questions (MCQ) that holds 400 marks in total. The bad part is, there is a negative marking for every wrong answer. On the brighter side, you can skip those confusing questions if you're not sure enough, and you know when you're not, so save your time to work on the answers you know or have an idea about.

Preliminary Exam is divided into two parts Paper 1 and Paper 2.

Paper 1 – General studies, 2 hours, 200 Marks

Paper 2 – CSAT (Civil Services Aptitude Test), 2 hours, 200 Marks

It's qualifying in nature and requires you to score at least 33% of the total. Easy, right? At least it sounds easy. But, it's not.

Coming to the more challenging part of it – there are Mains and Interview.

3. What is Main Examination?

Ans. As the name suggests, it's a major Exam. The Main Exam is subjective in nature and in total holds 1750 Marks. It consists of 9 papers which are held in the stretch of 5-7 days, usually, and it falls somewhere early in the December month.

Following is the current pattern:

Paper A – 300 Marks – English Language (it's a qualifying paper and its marks are not included in main exams)

Paper B – 300 Marks – Indian Language (It's a qualifying paper as well. You might think – too many qualifiers, we know right!)

Paper 1 – Essay Paper – 250 marks

General Studies

250 Marks – GS Paper 1 (Indian heritage and culture, history and geography of the world and society) – 3 hours

250 Marks – GS Paper 2 (Governance, constitution, polity, social justice, and international relations) – 3 hours

250 Marks – GS Paper 3 (Technology, economic development, biodiversity, environment, security and disaster management) – 3 hours

250 Marks – GS Paper 4 (General Studies-IV (ethics, integrity, and aptitude) – 3 hours

Optional Subject

250 Marks – Paper 1 (3 Hours)

250 Marks – Paper 2 (3 Hours)

4. What is the Personality Test or the Interview?

Ans. Well, it should be understood by the name itself, somebody is going to interview you – and it's not going to be a cake walk.

Students who qualify for Interviews on the basis of Main Exam are called by the UPSC in March or April, usually two weeks after the Main Results. It goes for around 60 days, and it's a nerve-racking time, brace yourself for it.

5. When does the UPSC declare the Final Result?

Ans. The Final result, the result of all your hard-work, is usually declared in May. The result is computed on the basis of your total marks in Main Exam and your interview, combined. The final ranking is given with combined marks of both the exams and on the basis of your preferences at the time of Main Examination Application form.

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