



VAJIRAM & RAVI
Institute for IAS Examination

SMART

Prelims Current Affairs Programme



AIR

1

Shakti Dubey

**A Catalyst
to
Top Ranks!**

Date of Commencement

17th January 2026

Mode: Offline / Online



AIR

06

Komal Punia



AIR

97

Aditi Chhaparia



AIR

68

Saichaitanya Jadhav



AIR

123

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SMART Prelims Current Affairs Programme 2026

Embark on an empowering journey to the top ranks of the UPSC Civil Services exam with our SMART Current Affairs Program. **Current affairs form an integral part of the UPSC syllabus.** With more than **60% of the questions** related to current events appearing in both the Preliminary and Main Examinations directly or indirectly. Therefore, staying updated about current events is essential to score well in these exams.

S.M.A.R.T. Current Affairs Program by Vajiram & Ravi is a comprehensive program that aims to provide aspirants with a **Simple** yet **Strategic**, **Multi-dimensional**, **Advanced** and **Adaptive**, **Resourceful**, and **Targeted** approach to their Current Affairs preparation.

**One Expert is Never Enough for UPSC Current Affairs!
That's why we're giving you three.**



Dr. Jayant Parikshit
(IIM Lucknow, DSE)

Macro analysis and
economic perspectives



Srivatsan
(Ex-IRS)

Insights from governance
and public service



Abhinav Srivastav
(IIT Roorkee)

Analytical and data-driven
approach

SMART

Current Affairs Programme 2024



50+ Selections

Features of the SMART Current Affairs Program

SMART Current Affairs Program has been meticulously curated to redefine UPSC CSE preparation for aspirants. Thoughtfully created, it has the following distinguishing features:

CLASSES

RESOURCES

PRELIMS READY



Classes

- **Comprehensive Coverage** of multiple reliable sources like The Hindu, Indian Express, Economic Times, PIB, etc. (including Economic Survey, Budget, Schemes and Indices)
- **Interlinkages** of Current Affairs with static concepts.
- **Understanding the Examiner's Mindset** to gauge the kind of questions that might appear in exam.

Resources

- **Handouts** to support learning, revision and active recall during the exam. No additional study material required.
- **Value Addition** through comprehensive factual points across multiple subjects – usually asked in exam.

Prelims Ready

- **Prelims problem solving** skills based on PYQs to understand the examiner's mindset.

Dynamic Assessment & Feedback

- **Live MCQ Quiz:** Engage in regular, formative assessments through in-class live MCQ Quiz.
- **Fortnightly test:** To help the students with regular revision and assessment of their progress.
- **Full-length tests:** Comprehensive full-length tests for ultimate exam readiness.

Course Details

Phase I

- Course Start date: 17th Jan 2026
- Classes will be conducted 3 times a week.
- Mode: both Online and Offline
- Class duration will be 2.5-3 hours
- Class Handouts and Factsheets for Quick revision
- Live MCQ and PYQ sessions – For interactive learning, every class features MCQs to reinforce concepts and encourage active participation.
- Includes fortnightly tests to track progress and 2 comprehensive full-length tests for exam readiness.

Holistic Preparation: Our program combines the structured rigor of learning with the flexibility of an adaptive environment, ensuring comprehensive preparation and equipping you to face the challenges of the exam with confidence.

Why choose SMART Current Affairs Program?

As a renowned coaching institute for UPSC CSE, Vajiram & Ravi recognizes that despite a solid understanding of the static syllabus, certain aspirants encounter challenges in effectively incorporating and correlating current affairs. Their struggle lies in seamlessly applying this knowledge during both the Prelims and Main Examination stages, hindering their ability to answer questions and discern how a current issue might be framed as a question.



to take
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Key Challenges faced by aspirants in current affairs preparation are

- **Identifying important current affairs** for UPSC CSE Prelims and Main Examination.
- Avoiding the **deluge of current affairs material** and focusing on quality over quantity.
- **Understanding the UPSC current affairs question pattern** and the difference between news and issues. (News talks about an incident while Issues focus on ideas)
- **Analyzing and establishing connections** between the forward and backward linkages of a current affairs topic.
- **Covering and connecting** current affairs with the static syllabus.
- **Adopting an active and engaging approach** rather than a passive and superficial one

38 Direct Questions

Reflected from SMART Current Affairs Classes - in Prelims 2025

International Relations

2. (62) India is one of the founding members of the International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC), a multimodal transportation corridor, which will connect
- (a) India to Central Asia to Europe via Iran
 - (b) India to Central Asia via China
 - (c) India to South-East Asia through Bangladesh and Myanmar
 - (d) India to Europe through Azerbaijan

International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC)

Recent context: For the first time, in June 2024, Russia sent two trains laden with coal to India via INSTC.



About INSTC:

- First mooted in 2000.
- Multi-modal transportation route linking the Indian Ocean and the Persian Gulf to the Caspian Sea via rail and onward to northern Europe via St. Petersburg in Russia.
- Russia, India, and Iran signed preliminary agreements to develop the 7,200-km-long International INSTC in 2002.
- Now the agreement was eventually ratified by 13 countries: India, Russia, Iran, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Armenia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Oman.

Polity

4. (97) Consider the following statements:
- I. On the dissolution of the House of the People, the Speaker shall not vacate his/her office until immediately before the first meeting of the House of the People after the dissolution.
 - II. According to the provisions of the Constitution of India, a Member of the House of the People on being elected as Speaker shall resign from his/her political party immediately.
 - III. The Speaker of the House of the People may be removed from his/her office by a resolution of the House of the People passed by a majority of all the then Members of the House, provided that no resolution shall be moved unless at least fourteen days' notice has been given of the intention to move the resolution.
- Which of the statements given above are correct?
- (a) I and II only
 - (b) II and III only
 - (c) I and III only
 - (d) I, II and III

Speaker of the Lok Sabha

Recent Context: A Parliamentary Delegation from Madagascar recently met Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla.

About Speaker of Lok Sabha:

- Each House of Parliament has its own presiding officer.
- The Speaker of the Lok Sabha is the presiding officer of the Lok Sabha, the lower house of the Parliament of India.

Selection and Tenure of the Speaker

- **Article 93:** The Speaker is elected by the Lok Sabha from amongst its members on votes on day-to-day basis.
- When the office of the Speaker falls vacant, the Lok Sabha elects another member to fill the vacancy.
- The date of election of the Speaker is fixed by the President.
- **Usually, the Speaker remains in office during the life of the Lok Sabha.**
- **Article 94:** The Speaker vacates the office earlier in any of the following three cases:
 1. If he/she ceases to be a member of the Lok Sabha;
 2. If he/she resigns by writing to the Deputy Speaker;
 3. If he/she is removed by a resolution passed by a majority of all the members of the Lok Sabha.
- Such a resolution can be moved only after giving 14 days' advance notice.
- **Article 96:** When a resolution for the removal of the Speaker is under consideration of the House, he cannot preside at the sitting of the House, though he may be present.
 - However, he can speak and take part in the proceedings of the House at such a time and vote in the first instance, though not in the case of an equality of votes.
- **When the Lok Sabha is dissolved, the Speaker continues to hold office until the new Lok Sabha is elected.**

38 Direct Questions

Reflected from SMART Current Affairs Classes - in Prelims 2025

Science & Technology

3. (94) Consider the following statements:
- I. It is expected that Majorana 1 chip will enable quantum computing.
 - II. Majorana 1 chip has been introduced by Amazon Web Services (AWS).
 - III. Deep learning is a subset of machine learning.
- Which of the statements given above are correct?
- (a) I and II only
 - (b) II and III only
 - (c) I and III only
 - (d) I, II and III

Quantum computing

What is Quantum computing?

Quantum computing is a type of computing that uses quantum bits (qubits) instead of classical bits (0s and 1s). It is based on the principles of quantum mechanics, which allow qubits to exist in multiple states at once, enabling them to perform calculations much faster than classical computers.

Majorana 1 chip

The Majorana 1 chip is a quantum computing chip developed by Microsoft. It is the first commercially available quantum computing chip and is designed to be used in a variety of applications, including cryptography, optimization, and simulation.

Deep learning

Deep learning is a subset of machine learning that uses artificial neural networks to model complex patterns in data. It is used in a wide range of applications, including image recognition, natural language processing, and speech recognition.

Artificial Intelligence

Recent context: US President Donald Trump Announces StarGate, A \$500 Billion Artificial Intelligence Initiative.

About Artificial Intelligence (AI):

- AI is the simulation of human intelligence processes by machines, especially computer systems.
- Digital assistants, autonomous vehicles, and generative AI tools (like OpenAI's ChatGPT) are just a few examples of AI in our daily lives.
- **Top AI Techniques**
 - Machine Learning
 - Natural Language Processing
 - Computer Vision
 - Deep Learning
- **AI Initiatives:** India AI Mission, BharatGen, India AI

Environment

3. (94) Consider the following statements:
- Statement I:** Article 6 of the Paris Agreement on climate change is frequently discussed in global discussions on sustainable development and climate change.
- Statement II:** Article 6 of the Paris Agreement on climate change sets out the principles of carbon markets.
- Statement III:** Article 6 of the Paris Agreement on climate change intends to promote inter-country non-market strategies to reach their climate targets.
- Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?
- (a) Both Statement II and Statement III are correct and both of them explain Statement I
 - (b) Both Statement II and Statement III are correct but only one of them explains Statement I
 - (c) Only one of the Statements II and III is correct and that explains Statement I
 - (d) Neither Statement II nor Statement III is correct

Global Carbon Markets

Recent Context: COP29 aims to finalise global carbon market rules under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement.

Global Carbon Markets Mechanisms:

- The concept of a market-based mechanism to reduce emissions was first agreed upon in the 1997 Kyoto Protocol.
 - The Kyoto Protocol established a Clean Development Mechanism (CDM).
- **Paris Agreement:** Article 6 establishes a framework for international cooperation in achieving Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) through both carbon markets (Article 6.2 and 6.4) and non-market approaches (Article 6.8).
- **International Carbon Action Partnership (ICAP):** It brings together countries and regions with mandatory cap-and-trade systems.
 - It provides a forum for sharing experience.
- **United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia (SPECA) Multi-Partner Trust Fund:** A fund to support programmes implemented by participating UN organisations.
- **Paris Agreement Developments**
 - **Operationalisation of Article 6.4:** This will allow countries to trade carbon credits and issue Article 6.4 ER units.
 - **Guidance on Article 6.2, 6.4, and 6.8:** This includes guidance on authorization, first

How will our SMART Current Affairs Program help you?

We understand that students face difficulties in recalling or remembering current affairs/news that they regularly watch on YouTube channels and other such sources. The SMART Current Affairs Program by Vajiram & Ravi offers the solution to this problem. The program follows a multi-dimensional approach towards current affairs, which means that it covers all aspects of current affairs, including political, economic, and social events. This comprehensive approach ensures that you receive multi-level guidance that covers all aspects of your preparation, including time management and exam strategy.

1 Structured Approach

Divided into separate phases, our Current affairs program provides a structured and organised approach to cover the diverse range of Current Affairs for Prelims, Mains and Interview stages of examination.

2 Focused Coverage

The program focuses on the specific requirements of the UPSC exam, covering current affairs topics related to politics, economics, science, technology, environment, international relations, and more.

3 Time Efficiency

Scouring multiple newspapers, magazines, and online sources for current affairs information can be time-consuming. Our dedicated Current Affairs program streamlines this process, saves time and ensures comprehensive coverage of current affairs under one single program.

4 Integration with Syllabus

The program adopts an integrated approach, correlating current affairs with the static portions of the UPSC syllabus. This helps aspirants understand the interconnections between current events and broader subjects.

5 Improve MCQ solving skills

The regular MCQ tests within class hours will help aspirants assess their retention and knowledge of current affairs.

6 Improve Main Answer Writing Skills

Our Current Affairs program has been designed to impart the skill of seamlessly incorporating current affairs into the static syllabus when writing your answers in the UPSC Main Examination for GS Paper-I, II, III, and IV.

7 Boosts Essay and Interview Preparation

Being well-versed in current affairs is essential for essay writing and interview rounds. Our program aims to help aspirants develop the depth of knowledge needed to tackle these stages effectively.

8 Confidence and Clarity

Regularly attending our current affairs classes will boost confidence in one's knowledge of current events and provide clarity on complex issues. This confidence is advantageous for all stages of the UPSC CSE Examination.

9 Suitable for all Aspirants

Tailored for both fresher and senior aspirants, our program is uniquely structured. It not only enhances understanding for freshers but also equips seniors with the skills to integrate current affairs seamlessly into problem-solving during exams. Therefore, ensures a comprehensive approach for all, addressing the specific needs of each aspirant.



Fee: Rs 9,500/-

Scan to Watch

How Our SMART Mains Current Affairs Programme

Helped UPSC Toppers 2024

Real Stories. Real Ranks. Real Results.



Shakti Dubey
AIR 1



Priyanshu Agrawal
AIR 123



Akshat Koolwal
AIR 352

