<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No</th>
<th>News Articles</th>
<th>Page Number*</th>
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<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>U.S. House impeaches President Donald Trump</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Not unimpeachable (Editorial)</td>
<td>8</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Impeached Trump faces trial in Senate</td>
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<td>What’s next for President?</td>
<td>12</td>
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<td>RBI to conduct ‘Operation Twist’ to manage yields on Dec. 23</td>
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<td>Pact to open door for U.S. defence firms</td>
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<td>Visa fee waiver scheme for SL refugees yet to catch on</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Practice cum Revision - MCQs</td>
<td>@end of the video</td>
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*C – Chennai; B – Bengaluru; D – Delhi; T – Thiruvananthapuram; H – Hyderabad*
U.S. House impeaches
President Donald Trump

Voting was largely along party lines: Senate trial next month

WASHINGTON

Donald Trump on Wednesday became the third U.S. President to be impeached, as the House of Representatives formally charged him with abuse of power and obstruction of Congress. The move sets up a trial in the Senate, the last stop in a longstanding history that will ultimately end in Trump’s removal from office.

The House of Representatives, dominated by Democrats, voted Tuesday by a margin of 232-196 to impeach Trump. A Senate trial will then begin next month, with a decision expected by January. The trial could be the first for a sitting president to face charges in the Senate.

What’s next for President?
Trump will face a Senate trial in January, but the outcome is uncertain. Republicans already hold a majority in the Senate, which could provide a two-thirds vote to acquit him. However, the case has raised questions about the constitutionality of impeaching a president in a post-presidential year, as Trump will leave office in January 2021.

Not impeachable

Trump is not likely to be removed as President, but the political impact will be significant. The impeachment process is a major setback for Trump’s efforts to reshape the political landscape in the United States. It also underscores the divide between the political parties, with Democrats seeking to remove the sitting president and Republicans opposing any action.

Impeached Trump faces trial in Senate

This week’s impeachment is a major political setback for Trump, who was already facing strong opposition from some in his own party. The trial will likely be closely watched and could have implications for the 2020 elections.

Part—Preliminary Examination

Paper I - (200 marks)

- Current events of national and international importance.
- Indian Polity and Governance-Constitution, Political System, Panchayati Raj, Public Policy, Rights Issues, etc.

Part—Main Examination

PAPER-III

General Studies II: Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations.

- Indian Constitution—historical underpinnings, evolution, features, amendments, significant provisions and basic structure.

Comparison of the Indian constitutional scheme with that of other countries.
House of Representatives impeached U.S. President

Timeline:

* Joe Biden – Leading Democrat for 2020 elections
* Trump pressured Ukrainian President to investigate corruption charges against Biden

- $391 million security aid withheld
- White House meeting

Articles of

- Abuse of power
- Obstructing probe by US Congress

Impeachment Procedure

* Article 2, Section 4 of US Constitution
  - Grounds for impeachment are treason, bribery, high crimes and misdemeanors

US President – Impeachment & Removal

House of Representatives (Investigation)
Article 1(2)&(5) of US Constitution

- Impeachment Inquiry
  - Announcement on impeachment inquiry
  - 6 House committees investigate
- After investigating, committees will report findings to House as a whole
- Vote on Impeachment
  - Vote on impeachment resolution
  - Simple Majority

Senate (Trial)
Article 1(3)&(6) of US Constitution

- House Managers (Prosecution), Senate (Jury), CJ of S. Court (Judge), President (defendant)
- Deliberation (Senate meets in closed session)
- Vote on Conviction
  - Votes on each article of impeachment separately
  - Requires 2/3rd majority to convict
No US President impeached till now
- House of Representatives impeached 3 Presidents
  1) Andrew Johnson - 1868
  2) Bill Clinton - 1998
  3) Donald Trump - 2019
- 1974 - Richard Nixon resigned

Removal of President of India
- Article 61 - Impeachment of President
- Ground - violation of Constitution

**Procedure**
1) Charges can be initiated by either Rajya Sabha or Lok Sabha
   - Signed by 1/4th of members
   - 14 days notice
   - Need 2/3rd of total membership
2) If passed - it will go to the other House
3) 2nd House - investigate charges
   - 2/3rd of total membership to get it passed
   - If passed → President is removed
     If failed → President stays
RBI to conduct ‘Operation Twist’ to manage yields on Dec. 23

Bank to simultaneously buy and sell government securities

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will conduct an ‘Operation Twist’ in the open market by simultaneously buying and selling government securities on December 23 to manage yields.

Part A—Preliminary Examination

Paper I - (200 marks)

- Current events of national and international importance.
- Economic and Social Development, Sustainable Development, Poverty, Inclusion, Demographics, Social Sector Initiatives, etc.

Part B—Main Examination


- Indian Economy and issues relating to planning, mobilization of resources, growth, development and employment.

Bond

- Debt Instrument: Investor → Loans → Entity
  - Owns of bonds are also known as
    - Debt holders
    - Creditors
  - Tradable Instrument that is issued by the Central Govt. / State governments
  - Acknowledges Government’s debt obligation

Types

- Short term
  - Treasury Bills
    - Maturity period → < 1 year
  - Long Term
    - Government Bonds / Dated Securities
      - Maturity period → > 1 year
- Also called as risk-free gilt-edged instruments
- Issued through auctions conducted by RBI
- Conducted in E-Kuber (CBS platform of RBI)
- RBI issues
  - Indicative auction calendar
  - Notifications
  - Press Communiques
  - Auctions

Open Market Operations

- Buying / selling of government securities to/from open market
- Purpose → To adjust the Liquidity conditions in the market
- Liquidity Conditions
  - Excess → RBI Sells G-Secs to Open Market
  - Tight → RBI Buys G-Secs from Open Market
- Repurchase or buyback of G-Secs
- Buying back the existing securities that are sold in Open Market
- Premature Redemption of G-Secs
Possible objectives

- Reduce the cost of a particular G-Sec
- Reduce the number of outstanding G-Secs and improve liquidity
- Infuse liquidity in the system
- Effective Cash Management, in case of C.Govt.

Usual Procedure

- Separate options of buying and selling

News

- Simultaneous process of buying & selling G-Secs
- Buy back → Long-term securities
  Sell → Short-term securities
- Simultaneous process of buying & selling G-Secs → "Operation Twist" by U.S Fed Reserve
Pact to open door for U.S. defence firms

They can cooperate with Indian private sector for future agreements, including the one on fighter jets

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**Foundational Agreements on Defence between USA and India**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No</th>
<th>Agreement</th>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Status of Agreement</th>
<th>Today’s News (20-12-2019)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement</td>
<td>LEMOA</td>
<td>Signed (2016)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Communications Compatibility and Security Agreement</td>
<td>COMCASA</td>
<td>Signed (2018)</td>
<td>Review to operationalise COMCASA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement for Geospatial Cooperation</td>
<td>BECA</td>
<td>Not signed yet</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GSOMIA</strong></td>
<td><strong>COMCASA</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>------------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Enables sharing of military intelligence between India - USA</td>
<td>* India specific version of the Communication and Information on Security Memorandum of Agreement (CISMOA)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* India &amp; USA have to protect each others’ classified information</td>
<td>Signed in 2018 → Valid for 10 years</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ISA - Industrial Security Annex</strong></td>
<td>* India can procure and transfer specialised equipment from USA for encrypted communications</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>* Add-on to GSOMIA</td>
<td>* Steps to operationalise COMCASA will be discussed in Military Cooperation Group meeting → India’s Defence Minister</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Enable transfer of key high end technology from US defence firms to its Indian partners</td>
<td><strong>Military Cooperation Group</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 * State of the art* defence technology will be available to Indian defence firms</td>
<td>* Sub-group of Defence Policy group</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Boost to Indian private sector involved in defence manufacturing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Defence Policy Group</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>* Primary Mechanism that guides USA - India Strategic defence partnership</td>
<td></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Information Fusion Centre for Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR)</strong></th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>* To strengthen the maritime security in the Indian Ocean Region</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Maritime Information hub for the Indian Ocean Region</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Established at Gurugram</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Visa fee waiver scheme for SL refugees yet to catch on

Only 1,230 non-camp refugees have received the benefit over the last four years.

A scheme offering a waiver of visa fee and overstaying penalty proves the cumulative impact of the government's decision to waive visa fees and overstaying penalty for non-camp Sri Lankan refugees has been falling short of expectations.

Over the last four years, 1,230 non-camp refugees from Sri Lanka have received the benefit under the scheme. The scheme, however, was expected to attract a larger number of beneficiaries.

Variables at play:
- The acceptance rate of Sri Lankan refugees for the scheme has been low.
- Many refugees have opted not to register under the scheme.
- The government has faced challenges in registering and processing refugee applications.

Incentive to return:


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2016-17</th>
<th>2017-18</th>
<th>2018-19</th>
<th>2019-20TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number</td>
<td>348</td>
<td>254</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Asked about the time taken by the panel to scrutinise the applications, he said it varied, as the cases were addressed on a case-by-case basis.

As of now, the scheme is in its initial stages, and the government is working on improving the implementation process.

Pakistan and India's neighborhood relations:
- India and its neighborhood relations:
  - Bilateral, regional, and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India's interests.

Ethnic violence and disturbed conditions in Sri Lanka:
- Many Sri Lankan Tamils have become refugees in India.
- Camp refugees, Non-camp refugees
- Non-camp refugees:
  - Those who do not have camp registration
  - Whose camp registration has been removed
  - Who have chosen to live outside the refugee camp
- Refugees who are staying outside camps, if they intend to return to Sri Lanka, will be levied visa fee and overstaying penalty from the day they have been living there without registration.

Rule 7(2)(c) of RFR 1992:
- Any foreigner to present 'registration report' immediately after the expiry of authorised period of stay in India.
- FRRO / FROI

Incentive for voluntary repatriation, based on proposal of Govt. of T.N.
- Visa fee and overstaying penalty waiver for Sri Lankan Refugees
- Applicable for those refugees who came to India prior to 9th January 2015 and opt to voluntarily return to Sri Lanka.
 meant for expediting the voluntary repatriation process of Non-camp refugees

application scrutinised by a committee

Secretary rank officer (Principal Secretary)

IG of Police

FRRO

decided on case-to-case basis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Applied</th>
<th>Rejected</th>
<th>Granted</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015-16</td>
<td>29</td>
<td></td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016-17</td>
<td>455</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>444</td>
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<td>2017-18</td>
<td>394</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>393</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018-19</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>217</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019-20</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>1,257</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>1,230</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Reasons for limited response to the scheme

- Lack of awareness
- Complex / cumbersome process
- Desire of refugees to become Indian Citizens
- Challenges to safety in Sri Lanka in short and long run

Assisting agency (other than Govt.)

UNHCR

based in Geneva, Switzerland

India has constructed or repaired more than 45,000 houses in Sri Lanka

Northern & Eastern Provinces in Sri Lanka

Special support for Indian-origin Tamils
Practice Question – Prelims
Q1. Consider the following about Open Market Operations.

1. The objective is to adjust the liquidity conditions in the open market.
2. The above objective is achieved only by selling of Government Securities to the open market.

Which of the above statement/s is/are incorrect?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

Practice Question – Prelims
Q2. Consider the following statements regarding impeachment of President of India.

1. Only Lok Sabha can initiate charges of impeachment against the President.
2. The impeachment resolution will get passed in a House if it gets 2/3rd majority or more of the total membership of that House.

Select the correct statement(s) from the codes given below.

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

Practice Question – Prelims
Q3. Consider the following.

1. Treasury Bills
2. Government Bonds
3. Dated Securities

Which of the above is/are long-term government securities?

a) 1 only
b) 1 and 2 only
c) 2 and 3 only
d) 2 only

Practice Question – Prelims
Q4. ‘Industrial Security Annex’ which is often seen in news, is a pact signed between India and which of the following countries?

a) Iran
b) Russia
c) European Union
d) United States of America
Practice Questions – Prelims
20-12-2019

Answers
1. Option – b
2. Option – b
3. Option – c
4. Option - d