No joint statement, MoUs or agreements are expected after informal summit

Narendra Modi and Xi Jinping in Wuhan during their informal meeting on April 27, 2018

- No MoUs or agreements are likely to be signed in Mamallapuram, only a joint communiqué is expected.
- After the informal summit, meetings are likely between the Special Representatives of the countries on boundary talks and between trade ministers, counter-terrorism exercises "Hand-in-Hand" will commence in December.
- Extending "India-China plus one" diplomat training programme in Afghanistan, and joint projects for capacity building in other countries.
- Enhancing Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar infrastructure project.

The country is expected to put the regions under the spotlight for a smooth transition in power and the upcoming Lok Sabha elections.

The Indian side will be prepared to discuss issues on Kashmir at a minimum basis.

Much will depend on the "personal chemistry" between the two leaders, say officials, who expect the discussions to be tough.

No joint statement is expected after the talks, nor have any MoUs or agreements been prepared as the outcome, officials involved in the planning said. They suggested that the Indian side will hope to keep discussions on the issue of Kashmir at a minimum.

The officials are non-commital on when mobile phone connectivity and the Internet will be restored in the Valley, which has been

11-OCTOBER-2019
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No</th>
<th>News Articles</th>
<th>Page Number*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>It is still an amber light for road safety (Editorial)</td>
<td>10 8 10 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>India slams Turkey for Syria action</td>
<td>1, 10 1, 10 1, 10 1, 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Late diagnosis a concern in treating myeloma</td>
<td>5 - - -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Trade, border dispute likely to dominate Modi-Xi talks</td>
<td>1, 12 1, 10 1, 12 1, 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>SC to examine plea for better fire services</td>
<td>9 7 9 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Practice cum Revision - MCQs</td>
<td>@end of the video</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*C – Chennai; B – Bengaluru; D – Delhi; H – Hyderabad; T – Thiruvananthapuram*
It is still an amber light for road safety

In spite of the ambitious provisions in the amended Motor Vehicles Act, safe road behaviour is still miles away. The Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill, 2019 passed by the Lok Sabha on July 23 and by the Rajya Sabha on July 30 has 68 clauses with the aim of reducing road traffic fatalities and injuries in India. The amended Act has several new provisions: dians of juvenile offenders to be penalised. While there have to be penalties for offenders, there does not seem to be any correlation between stricter and higher penalties and a reduction in road traffic crashes in countries where road traffic deaths have reduced over the years; examples being West Europe, the United States, Japan and Australia.

The idea of higher fines as a deterrent to traffic crashes is based on the assumption that a driver is careless and that the fear of a higher penalty will encourage “careful” behaviour while on the road. Traffic safety theories of the last 50 years, safety interventions have to be based on three important principles: recognition of human frail-

cility, acceptance of human error.

Part A—Preliminary Examination

Paper I - (200 marks)  Duration: Two hours

- Current events of national and international importance.
- Indian Polity and Governance- Constitution, Political System, Panchayati Raj, Public Policy, Rights Issues, etc.
- Economic and Social Development- Sustainable Development, Poverty, Inclusion, Demographics, Social Sector Initiatives, etc.

Part B—Main Examination

PAPER-III

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

- Functions and responsibilities of the Union and the States, issues and challenges pertaining to the federal structure, devolution of powers and finances up to local levels and challenges therein.
- Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation.
- Welfare schemes for vulnerable sections of the population by the Centre and States and the performance of these schemes; mechanisms, laws, institutions and Bodies constituted for the protection and betterment of these vulnerable sections.
- Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India’s interests.

PAPER-IV


- Infrastructure: Energy, Ports, Roads, Airports, Railways etc.
Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019

* Road Safety → Sustainable Development Issue

- SDG Target 3.6
  - reduction of global traffic deaths and injuries by 50% by 2020
- SDG Target 11.2
  - To provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all by 2030

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>SECTION</strong></th>
<th><strong>PENALTY</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>THEN</strong></td>
<td><strong>Now</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| 1. Section 177  
  - Violating provisions of the Act  
    ₹ 100 & ₹ 300 | ₹ 500 & ₹ 1500 |
| 2. Section 194 (1)  
  - Carrying overweight in a transport  
    ₹ 2000 + ₹ 1000 / tonne of excess load | ₹ 20,000 + ₹ 2000 / tonne of excess load |
| 3. Section 194 C  
  - Violation of safety measures for motor cycle drivers & pillion riders  
    Section did not exist | ₹ 1000 + 3 months disqualification for holding licence |

⇒ "Penalties as deterrence"
Author's View:

1. No correlation between higher penalties and reduction in road traffic crashes
   - Ex: Research & data in West Europe, USA, Japan and Australia

2. Against current scientific understanding
   - Road design are responsible not road users
   - Road safety experts
     • Road designs influence driving behaviour
       (Road width, shoulder presence, no. of lanes, median design)

3. Highways:
   - Density of small towns & villages along highways
   - Traffic mix → tractors, 2-wheelers, car, bus, truck, etc.

- Straight & monotonous road → Driver falls asleep or boredom or fatigue
What needs to be done

* Road Safety interventions → 3 principles
  1. Recognition of human frailty
  2. Acceptance of human error
  3. Creation of a forgiving environment and appropriate crash energy management

* Data driven approach
  → MoORTH annual report 2018-19
    ▶ no. of persons killed in road → 1,47,000 accidents
    ▶ 2 wheelers → highest share (30%) in total no. of accidents in 2017

  → WHO → 3 lakh fatalities

  → Study by Registrar General & Census Commissioner, India
    ▶ 50% under reporting of traffic fatalities
    ▶ Road Traffic Collision victims
      → high share of pedestrians & 2-wheelers

* Author’s View:
  → amendment act does not address reliability of crash estimates
Importance of Crash Estimates:

* Basis for designing preventive strategies
* Analysis of road safety data
  - Understanding of reasons for accidents
  - Conclusion can be drawn → to reduce accidents & fatalities
* Scientific and evidence-based interventions

Conclusion:

* Need a system or institutional structure that enables the generation of “New knowledge - New road standards.”
India slams Turkey for Syria action

'Ankara's campaign is unilateral'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI
India on Thursday described Turkey's military action in Syria as "unilateral" and asked Ankara to respect Syria's territorial integrity and sovereignty. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) called upon Turkey to exercise restraint.

"We are deeply concerned at the unilateral military offensive by Turkey in northeast Syria. Turkey's actions can undermine stability in the region and the fight against terrorism. Its action also has the potential of causing humanitarian and civilian distress," the MEA said in a release.

Turkey on Wednesday launched a military campaign, Operation Peace Spring, targeting the Kurdish

Turkey-backed fighters heading to Tal Abyad in Syria on Thursday... AP

killing 40,000 civilians.
Tough diplomatic exchanges between Turkey and India have intensified in recent weeks following India's decision to end the special status of Kashmir. India issued a strong statement expressing "deep regret" after Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan took up the Kashmir issue in his speech at the UN General Assembly.

Part A—Preliminary Examination
Paper I - (200 marks) Duration: Two hours

- Current events of national and international importance.

Part B—Main Examination
PAPER-III

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

- Effect of policies and politics of developed and developing countries on India's interests, Indian diaspora.

PAPER-IV


- Security challenges and their management in border areas - linkages of organized crime with terrorism.
Turkey Shares border with
- Mediterranean Sea - Azerbaijan
- Black Sea - Armenia
- Greece - Iran
- Bulgaria - Iraq
- Georgia - Syria

- Syria shares border with
  - Turkey - Israel
  - Iraq - Lebanon
  - Jordan - Mediterranean Sea

Why India criticised Turkey?
- Turkey’s President referred Kashmir issue in UNGA
- India has asked Ankara to respect the territorial integrity and Sovereignty of Syria
- India feels that Turkey’s actions can undermine the regional stability and fight against terrorism
* Partiya Karkaren Kurdistan (PKK)
  Kurdish People’s Protection Units (YPG)
  • Militia group
  • Ally of U.S. in the battle against Islamic State
  • Security threat to Turkey

* Way Forward:
  • Immediate ceasefire
  • Declaration of conflict zone as a “no fly zone”
  • To promote dialogue and discussion to resolve all issues
Late diagnosis a concern in treating myeloma

STAFF REPORTER

Late diagnosis remains the major cause of concern in treating cases of myeloma, a type of blood cancer caused by malignancy of plasma cells originating in the bone marrow, said doctors who attended a conference on myeloma at MIOT International hospital on Thursday.

Vincent Rajkumar, Professor of Medicine and Haematology-Oncology, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, United States, a pioneer in the treatment of myeloma, said it was likely that only around 10 to 15% of cases in India are detected. Kishore Kumar, haematologist and bone marrow transplant physician, MIOT International, Chennai, said myeloma presents itself through symptoms that may be diagnosed for other problems.

Cheshtian Subash, head, Haematology, Haematology-Oncology and Bone Marrow Transplant, MIOT International, said myeloma can now be treated through a combination of oral medication and bone marrow transplants.

"Affordability is not a major issue due to availability of inexpensive drugs and government-sponsored insurance schemes," he said.

Part A—Preliminary Examination

Paper I - (200 marks)      Duration: Two hours
• General Science.

Part B—Main Examination

PAPER-III

General Studies—II: Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations.
• Issues relating to development and management of Social Sector/Services relating to Health, Education, Human Resources.

Pg. 5 → Chennai Edition
News:

★ Diagnosis of → Major concern in treating Myeloma
★ India → Only 10% to 15% cases likely to be detected

Myeloma:

★ Also Multiple Myeloma (MM)
★ Cancer of Plasma Cells (abnormal plasma cells)
★ Crowds normal cells present in bone marrow
★ forms tumours in many bones
**Cause**
- No single cause until now
- Age is a risk factor
  - People younger than 45 years – rarely develop
- Men more likely to develop the disease than women
- Rare cases → exposure to X-rays or other ionizing radiation

**Symptoms**
- Sometimes no symptoms
- High level of protein found during blood / urine test

**Advanced myeloma**
- Bone pain, easily breakable bones
- Fever for no reason
- Frequent infections
- Bruising or bleeding easily
- Trouble breathing, etc.

Also found in other health conditions

**Treatment**
- Combination of oral medication
- Bone marrow transplant
Trade, border dispute likely to dominate Modi-Xi talks

No joint statement, MoUs or agreements are expected after informal summit

Trade issues, boundary disputes and multilateral cooperation are expected to dominate the “informal summit” at Mamallapuram as the seaside resort on the outskirts of Chennai prepares to host Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping on Friday and Saturday.

Mr. Xi will land in Chennai past 2 p.m. – about two hours after Mr. Modi. He will head to the Mamallapuram temple complex for an evening with Mr. Modi, which will

Pgs. 1, 10 → B, H, T

Pgs. 1, 12 → C, D
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>China - India Informal Summit at Mamallapuram</th>
<th>China - Pakistan relations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wuhan Summit - 2018</td>
<td>Jammu and Kashmir issue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No joint statement or Memoranda of Understanding → Other important topics to dominate the Summit are</td>
<td>China's all weather support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1) Trade Deficit for India - Trade Surplus for China</td>
<td>4) India- China Counter-terrorism exercise-Hand in hand - December 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bangladesh - China- India- Myanmar Corridor (BCIM Corridor)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2) Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership</td>
<td>6) Speeding up of road and infrastructure project in the eastern side</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Bangladesh - China - India - Myanmar Corridor (BCIM Corridor)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3) 5G trials in India:</td>
<td>7) Strengthen India- China Plus One Program</td>
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<td>Support to Afghanistan</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Other countries in the Subcontinent</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Security concerns</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
SC to examine plea for better fire services

58 people die in fires every year: plea

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI
The Supreme Court has agreed to examine a petition to direct the Central and State governments to improve fire and emergency services nationwide.

A Bench, led by Justice Arun Mishra, has recently issued notice to the government on the petition filed by Sanjay Garg, who said 58 people die in fires every year. Any apathy towards improving the fire services would amount to a violation of the fundamental right to life under Article 21 of the Constitution, the petition said.

part A—Preliminary Examination
Paper I - (200 marks) Duration: Two hours

- Current events of national and international importance.

part B—Main Examination
PAPER-III
General Studies- II: Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations.

- Functions and responsibilities of the Union and the States, issues and challenges pertaining to the federal structure, devolution of powers and finances up to local levels and challenges therein.

PAPER-IV
General Studies-III: Technology, Economic Development, Biodiversity, Environment, Security and Disaster Management

- Disaster and disaster management.
* Supreme Court to look into a petition - to direct Central and State governments to improve fire and emergency Services

* National Crime Records Bureau
  - 18,450 fire accidents - 17,700 deaths
  - 48 people killed everyday

* India Risk Survey - (FICCI + Pinkerton)
  - Fire outbreak - 3rd biggest risk to businesses

* Lacuna in firesafety measurements + causes of fire outbreaks and solutions:
  1) Faulty electrical equipment → short circuits
     Residential and commercial fires

2) Urbanization
  - Construction of high rise buildings
  - Lack of in-built fire protection systems
  - Lack of compliance to rules

  - Recommendations - not mandatory
  - Safety measures overlooked

4) Fire Service
  - 12th Schedule - functions of municipality
  - No uniform policy in India
  - 2017 - Model Bill for Maintenance of Fire and Emergency for the State - not utilised
| 5) Lack of fire fighting resources + less funding for firefighters |
| 6) Fire Safety Audit |
|   - ineffective implementation |
|   - make it mandatory |
| 7) Increase awareness to use firefighting equipment |

* Apathy by authorities - Violation of Right to Life (Article 21)
Practice Question – Prelims
Q. Consider the following countries.
   1. Syria
   2. Bulgaria
   3. Iraq
   4. Armenia
   5. Azerbaijan
Which of the above countries share border with Turkey?
(a) 1, 2, 3 and 4
(b) 1, 3, 4 and 5
(c) 1, 2, 3 and 5
(d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

Practice Question – Prelims
Q. Consider the following statements with reference to the United Nations’ 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
1. There are 17 goals and 169 targets under the agenda.
2. The Sustainable Development Goals are legally binding on the member countries on United Nations.
3. It has a target for the reduction of global road traffic deaths and injuries by 50 per cent by the year 2020.
Which among the above statements is/are correct?
a) 2 only
b) 1 and 3
c) 2 and 3
d) 1, 2 and 3
Practice Question – Mains

GS – II

Q. “Increased penalties alone will not have the intended effect of reducing traffic accidents”. In the light of the above statement, discuss the criticism with respect to the stringent provisions of Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019.

GS – III

Q. According to National Crime Records Bureau 17,700 people died due to fire accidents in 2015. Discuss the required measures to prevent high frequency of fire accidents in India.

Practice Questions – Prelims

11-10-2019

1.(d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5
2.b, 1 and 3
LIKE, COMMENT & SHARE

SUBSCRIBE