Current Affairs
Classes
(Mains)
2020
Issue based Current Affairs Program for Civil Services Examination

STARTS | 04 JULY, ’20 | ONLINE ONLY
Toppers Testimonial

“I joined Current Affairs Classes by ForumIAS, which helped me immensely in my preparation and helped me succeed in the Civil Services Examination.”

- Pratham Kaushik, IAS Rank 5, CSE 2017

“I am grateful to ForumIAS for their valuable Current Affairs program which has benefited me immensely in GS Paper 2 & 3 and in Essay also.”

- Varun Reddy, IAS Rank 7, CSE 2018

“The Current Affairs at ForumIAS really helped me with it especially organization and presentation of notes which was mirrored in my own answers in the Exam.”

- Saloni Khemka, IAS Rank 27, CSE 2018

“I am grateful to ForumIAS for setting my priorities right in GS 2 & GS 3 which saved precious time during preparation. Answer writing practice in class added value to my writing technique.”

- M Naveen, IAS Rank 75, CSE 2018
Current Affairs for Civil Services Examination is a Mains 2020, robust Online Course for preparation of Current Affairs by ForumIAS.

If there is just one Course you would like to take for your Civil Services preparation – it is this.

The MGP + Current Affairs Combination has been the winning combination for almost all our successful students – be it first timers, or those seeking rank and service improvement.

**Goal of the program**

The Program will focus on three things:

- **Completeness:** Ensure complete coverage of Current Affairs from PIB, Hindu, Indian Express, Times of India, and magazines such as EPW, Frontline. No issues will be left out.

- **Content Differentiation:** Ensure that value addition beyond common sources is done so that there is content differentiation in answers written by our students vis-à-vis other candidates.

- **Consolidation:** Ensure that there is complete consolidation of content on various topics that are important for Mains examination. Thus, preparation is not scattered.
Phases of the Current Affairs program

The Current Affairs Program by ForumIAS is likely to commence from 04th July 2020. 3-4 classes will be held every week. It is conducted in 2 phases.

**Phase 1:** It covers Mains Focused Current Affairs classes up to Feb’20. Around 22 Classes will be provided in the Phase 1.

**Phase 2:** Phase 2 commences about 2 weeks after the Prelims, and issues covered are completely from that year’s Mains Exam Perspective. Around 22 to 25 Classes will be provided in the Phase 2.

**Course Schedule:**
Classes will be uploaded every Tuesday, Saturday and Sunday, starting from 04th July, by 9 AM. Apart from this, classes will be on Thursday if required. Each class will be of 3 hours duration. The lecture videos will be available in your student portal till Main 2020 examination.

**Note:** The Current Affairs Program of ForumIAS is NOT a Newspaper class. It does not follow monthly newspaper updates but focuses on issue-based preparation. The Objective is to have 1-2-page crisp notes on every Mains topic so that it is easy to revise before the exam.

**Design of the program (Handouts | Lectures | Answer Writing)**

- Handouts of the topics to be covered will be provided in the soft copy and will be uploaded before the class. Refer to Annexure 1 for Sample Handout

- In every class important issues will be covered comprehensively. Thus, the classes will have coverage for Mains with respect to topic discussed in the class.

- Answer Writing Component: Students will be required to solve some subjective questions as assignments.
Fees and Concessions

The program fee is Rs. 20,999 (inclusive of all taxes). The Program is available at a 10% concession for existing and all ForumIAS Students, subject to first 100 seats. Old Students of ForumIAS Current Affairs are provided 40% concession – subject to 100 seats. Write to admissions@forumias.academy for availing concessions. No other concession will be granted on any other ground.

Fee Payment & Enrollment

Students can enroll in the program by paying the fees through the below means

A. By visiting the website: https://academy.forumias.com and making payment through Net Banking / Debit / Credit Card / UPI etc.
B. By Visiting the Offline Guidance Center* and making payment through Credit Card / Debit Card / Cheque / DD
C. By doing a NEFT / Cash Deposit in HDFC bank Accounts. For this Option, please email us at admissions@forumias.academy

For any query you can call us at +91 – 9821711605 or write to us at admissions@forumias.academy

Admissions to the program are subject to acceptance of Terms & Conditions mentioned below.

*Offline Center in New Delhi is not operational for the duration of government lockdown instructions to fight Covid-19.

Terms & Condition

- All fees once paid are non-refundable in nature. The course is also non-transferable in nature to another person.
- Each program of ForumIAS is linked to ForumIAS Account with a fixed mobile number. No sharing of any programs is allowed. If candidates are found sharing programs, ForumIAS shall be free to terminate that or all program access to the candidate without any refund to the candidate. The company may initiate legal proceedings against candidates found sharing and selling such content.
- ForumIAS shall have full rights to close admissions as per its capacity. ForumIAS shall be free to amend its schedule in case of any exigencies that may arise.
- Force Majeure : Flaviant Network Pvt Ltd ("FNPL") will deliver this program on best effort and good faith basis. By subscribing to the program, you understand that in the case of a force majeure event, such as natural disaster, calamity, outbreak of a pandemic, accident, bodily harm, sickness to any persons directly involved in delivery of the program FNPL reserves right to modify, change or discontinue the program and shall not be liable for any financial obligations arising out of it. All disputes will be subject to jurisdiction of Delhi High Court.

Covid-19 Clause: The Program is being planned for and will be provided on a best effort basis to ensure that students preparation is not disrupted. In the event of unforeseen turn of events there could be changes to the program deliverables without prior notice. The plan details are completely flexible and program validity will be till the actual date of the Mains Examination 2020.
Annexure – 1

Sample Handout
Economic slowdown

1) Context
   The GDP growth rate has fallen to six year low of 5.4% in the first quarter of FY 2020.

2) Terms
   1) Economic slowdown
      It means the pace of the GDP growth has decreased.
   2) Cyclical slowdown
      A period of slow economic activity that occurs at regular intervals.
   3) Structural slowdown
      It is a more deep-rooted phenomenon that occurs due to inherent disruption or shift from an existing way things were happening.

3) Manifestation
   1) Fall in investment
   2) Rising unemployment
   3) Shrinking agriculture and allied sectors
   4) Stalled housing projects in many cities
   5) Slowdown in automobile sector
   6) Slowdown affected manufacturing and service sector
   7) Decline in wage growth

4) Issues
   1) Decline in
      1) Household consumption expenditure
      2) Savings and investment rate
      3) Net-exports
   2) GST related
      1) High GST rates is believed to be one reason for the moderation of private consumption and decline in the growth of sectors like manufacturing, hotel, automobiles etc.

Diagram 1: Graph showing GDP growth rate
2) Issues related to the structural transformation due to GST. For eg compliance issues and criminal penalties

3) Low employment generation

4) Spending come down as employment generation has been limited and incomes are not rising

5) Informal economy related

6) Demonetisation affected the informal sector

7) Regulatory burden has constrained this sector

8) Policy related

9) Policy paralysis in the past

10) Faulty policies

11) Lack of monetary policy transmission

5) Consequences

i) Vicious cycle

- Fall in consumption
  - Fall in output
    - Fall in growth rate

- Fall in income
  - Fall in employment
  - Fall in investment

ii) Reduced tax revenue

- Economic slowdown

- Fall in govt spending
  - Fall in tax collection
3) lowers infrastructure development
   - Decline in investment \(\rightarrow\) Decline in infrastructure development

4) Affects technological development
   - Low investment in R&D \(\rightarrow\) Stagnation in technological advancement

5) Affects government spending on social sector

6) Increased government borrowing and crowding-out of put investment

7) Demand for tax cuts and fiscal stimulus

8) Widening inequality

9) Social conflicts

6) Challenges
   - Uncertain global environment
   - de-globalisation and trade war
   - Policy uncertainties
   - Limited impact of the monetary policy

7) Steps taken
   - Reduction in corporate tax
   - Setup cabinet committees to attract investment and create jobs
   - FDI norms relaxed for coal mining, contract manufacturing
   - Reforms in Banking sector
   - Reforms in GST
   - Initiatives in Agriculture sector
   - Labour market reforms
   - Export sector- schemes to boost exports
   - Steps to boost logistics sector
   - Boost to MIME sector