



CURRENT AFFAIRS 2025

ROUND UP FOR UPSC

Also useful for State PSC and other Government Exams

Chapter 1: Introduction to Current Affairs



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PREFACE

Dear UPSC Aspirants,

The UPSC Civil Services Examination demands not just knowledge but a deep understanding of current events and their implications. To aid aspirants in this challenging journey, we present the Current Affairs Round-Up 2025—a meticulously curated resource covering current affairs from May 2024 onwards, designed exclusively for the UPSC 2025 exam.

This book is the result of an exhaustive analysis of trusted sources like The Hindu, Indian Express, PIB, Yojana, Kurukshetra, government portals, and other diverse publications. Our team has carefully sifted through vast information streams to present only the most relevant, exam-oriented content.

Key highlights of this book include:

- **Comprehensive Coverage:** A thorough exploration of national and international events, government policies, economic developments, social issues, and environmental concerns.
- **Static and Dynamic Integration:** While current affairs remain dynamic, we have interwoven essential static elements to build a robust conceptual foundation.
- **Exam-Focused Presentation:** Information is distilled into concise, easy-to-revise pointers, facilitating better recall during the exam.
- **One-Stop Revision Guide:** The entire year's current affairs are consolidated into a single resource, saving time and effort while ensuring holistic preparation.

The content structure aligns with the demands of UPSC Prelims, Mains, and Interview stages. Our approach ensures that aspirants can connect contemporary developments with historical context and core concepts—an indispensable skill for success in this examination.

We hope this book becomes an invaluable asset in your preparation journey and brings you closer to your goal of serving the nation as a civil servant.

Best wishes,
Team Oswaal



CONTENTS

1. January 2025	1
2. December 2024	17
3. November 2024	34
4. October 2024	50
5. September 2024	70
6. August 2024	83
7. July 2024	101
8. June 2024	115
9. May 2024	131
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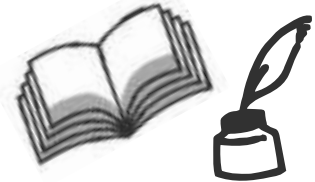
Positive Affirmations

An affirmation is a positive statement or phrase that individuals repeat to themselves with the intention of fostering a positive mindset, self-confidence, or personal development. The practice involves affirming desired beliefs or qualities, often in the present tense, to reinforce a positive self-image and encourage a more optimistic outlook.

“ EMBRACE YOUR UNIQUENESS, NOURISH SELF-CARE, AND PRESS FORWARD RELENTLESSLY. TO ACHIEVE FLIGHT, UNLOAD THE BAGGAGE THAT SLOWS YOUR ASCENT.”



I strongly trust in my vision and work diligently towards making it a reality.



I am capable of learning and growing everyday.



I embrace my mistakes, learn from them and use them to fuel my growth & resilience.

I am not defined by grades & test scores. My true worth lies in my character, compassion and positive impact I have on others.



I celebrate my quirks, for they make me beautifully unique.



My voice matters and I believe in the power of my words to shape the world around me.

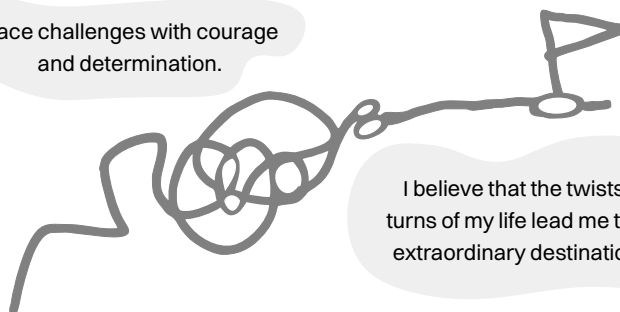


I face challenges with courage and determination.

I am not the product of circumstances, I am the product of my own choices.



I celebrate the achievements of others without diminishing my journey.



I believe that the twists & turns of my life lead me to an extraordinary destinations.

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Just in case you have forgotten today, takedown your notes!

But why is it so important?

Tools for the hands are tools for the brain writes Hetty Roessingh.

Handwritten notes are a powerful tool for encrypting embodied cognition and in turn supporting the brain's capacity for recuperation of information. If that sounds so scientific then in simple words:

Writing notes by hand help you in:

- ◆ Increasing your comprehension ◆ Strengthening your memory ◆ Igniting your creativity
- ◆ Engaging your mind ◆ Increasing your attention span

Are these reasons enough to get you started?

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Current Affairs Round Up

JANUARY 2025



ONE NATION ONE SUBSCRIPTION

The One Nation One Subscription (ONOS) initiative represents a significant move towards democratising access to global scholarly resources in India.

Key Highlights:

- The Information and Library Network (INFLIBNET), an autonomous inter-university centre under the University Grants Commission (UGC), will oversee the central management and distribution of subscriptions, ensuring smooth digital access to resources.
- A unified platform will streamline access and minimise administrative complexities.
- ₹6,000 crore has been allocated for the first phase of the initiative (2025–27).
- Phase I (2025–27) will focus on establishing the framework, providing access to research materials and negotiating Article Processing Charges (APCs) for Indian researchers.
- The initiative will ensure equitable access to international research materials, especially for researchers in tier-2 and tier-3 cities, addressing regional imbalances in research opportunities.



WILLOW CHIP

Google has unveiled its latest quantum processor, named 'Willow,' marking a significant milestone in the development of quantum computers for solving practical problems.

Key Facts:

- Willow features 105 physical qubits and operates at extremely low temperatures.
- It offers superior error correction and faster performance compared to other quantum computers.
- The processor operates at near absolute zero temperatures (-273.15°C), ensuring optimal stability.
- Willow performed a standard benchmark computation in under five minutes that would take one of today's fastest supercomputers 10 septillion (that is, 10^{25}) years.
- Willow's data qubits have a coherence time of around 100 microseconds, enhanced by advanced error correction protocols.

- Its architecture is designed to support more qubits with lower error rates.
- Google tested Willow with Random Circuit Sampling (RCS), a computationally challenging task, which Willow completed in minutes, far outpacing classical computers.



INDIA'S FIRST GLASS BRIDGE

India has opened its first glass bridge over the sea in Kanyakumari, Tamil Nadu, connecting two major landmarks.

Key Facts:

- The bridge links the Thiruvalluvar statue and the Vivekananda Rock Memorial in Kanyakumari.
- Its inauguration coincided with the 25th anniversary of the Thiruvalluvar statue.
- The statue, also known as the 'Statue of Wisdom,' represents the 133 chapters of the masterpiece Thirukkural.
- Spanning 77 m in length and 10 m in width, the bridge offers a safe route between the landmarks while providing stunning views of the sea below.
- The glass bridge was constructed to resolve issues faced by ferries, which often struggle to dock near the Thiruvalluvar Statue due to rough seas and low tides.



BUSINESS READY (B-READY) 2024 REPORT

India may face challenges in improving its performance in the World Bank's Business Ready (B-READY) report.

Key Highlights:

- The B-READY report, introduced by the World Bank, assesses the business environment and investment climate across various economies.
- It evaluates regulatory frameworks, public services and their effectiveness in supporting business operations, replacing the previous ease of doing business index.
- India's moderate scores are due to multiple steps involved in business entry and incomplete digital integration.
- While four new labour codes have been introduced, their uneven implementation across states has resulted in slow progress and moderate to low scores.
- High logistics costs, customs delays and inconsistent enforcement of trade regulations undermine efficiency.