



## Mains Practice Question

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close



- [Home](#)
- [Blogs](#)
- [Classroom Programme](#)
- [Interview Guidance](#)
- [Online Programme](#)
- [Drishti Store](#)
- [DLP](#)
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Language: EN

[Search](#)

[RSS](#)

[Cart](#)

[Classroom](#)

Menu

- [About us](#)
  - [General Introduction](#)
  - [Drishti - The Vision Foundation](#)
  - [Drishti Publications](#)
  - [Drishti Media](#)
  - [Managing Director](#)
  - [Infrastructure](#)
- [Prelims](#)
  - [About Civil Services](#)
  - [Syllabus & Strategy](#)
    - [UPSC Prelims Syllabus](#)
    - [GS Prelims Strategy](#)
  - [Prelims Analysis](#)
  - [Previous Years Papers](#)
    - [GS Paper-I \(Year Wise\)](#)
    - [GS Paper-I \(Subject Wise\)](#)
  - [CSAT](#)
    - [CSAT Strategy](#)
    - [CSAT MCQs](#)
    - [Previous Years Papers](#)
  - [Prelims Special](#)
    - [Sambhav - 2024](#)
    - [PT Sprint 2023](#)
    - [Sambhav - 2023](#)
    - [Path To Prelims](#)
    - [60 Steps To Prelims](#)
    - [Prelims Refresher Programme 2020](#)
    - [PT Sprint 2022](#)
  - [UPSC CSE Results](#)
- [Practice Quiz](#)



- [Daily Editorial Based Quiz](#)
- [Monthly Editorial Quiz Consolidation](#)
- [Path To Prelims](#)
- [60 Steps To Prelims](#)
- [CA Quiz Consolidation](#)
- [Current Affairs](#)
- [State PCS Quiz](#)
- [Previous Year Papers](#)
- [Economic Survey](#)
- [Weekly Revision MCQs](#)
- [Down To Earth](#)
- [Yojana / Kurukshetra](#)
- [NCERT BOOKS](#)
- [CSAT](#)
- [Mains & Interview](#)
  - [Optional Subjects](#)
  - [Mains Special](#)
    - [Sambhav - 2024](#)
    - [Mains Marathon 2023](#)
    - [Sambhav - 2023](#)
    - [Mains Marathon 2022](#)
    - [Be MAINS Ready](#)
      - [2021](#)
      - [2020](#)
      - [2019](#)
  - [Mains Syllabus & Strategy](#)
    - [Mains GS Syllabus](#)
    - [Mains GS Strategy](#)
  - [Mains Answer Writing Practice](#)
  - [Essay](#)
    - [Essay Strategy](#)
    - [Fodder For Essay](#)
    - [Model Essays](#)
    - [Previous Years Papers](#)
  - [Ethics](#)
    - [Ethics Strategy](#)
    - [Ethics Case Studies](#)
    - [Engage in Ethics](#)
    - [Ethics Previous Years Q&As](#)
  - [Mains Previous Years](#)
    - [Papers By Years](#)
    - [Papers By Subject](#)
  - [Mains Solved Papers](#)
    - [Papers By Years](#)
    - [Papers By Subject](#)
  - [Personality Test](#)
    - [Interview Strategy](#)
    - [Interview Guidance Programme](#)
  - [UPSC CSE Results](#)
- [Current Affairs](#)
  - [Daily News & Editorial](#)
  - [Daily CA MCQs](#)
  - [Weekly Revision MCQs](#)
  - [Sansad TV Discussions](#)
  - [Monthly CA Consolidation](#)
  - [Monthly Editorial Consolidation](#)
  - [Monthly MCO Consolidation](#)
  - [Monthly Editorial Quiz Consolidation](#)
- [Drishti Specials](#)



- [Inspirational Icons](#)
- [Manthan](#)
- [Sambhav](#)
  - [2024](#)
  - [2023](#)
- [To The Point](#)
- [Infographics and Maps](#)
- [Important Institutions](#)
- [Learning Through Maps](#)
- [PRS Capsule](#)
- [Summary Of Reports](#)
- [Gist Of Economic Survey](#)
- [Study Material](#)
  - [NCERT Books](#)
  - [NIOS Study Material](#)
  - [IGNOU Study Material](#)
- [Test Series](#)
  - [UPSC](#)
    - [Prelims Test Series](#)
    - [Mains Test Series](#)
  - [BPS](#)
    - [Prelims Test Series](#)
    - [Mains Test Series](#)
  - [UPPCS](#)
    - [Prelims Test Series](#)
    - [Mains Test Series](#)
  - [RAS/RTS](#)
    - [Prelims Test Series](#)
    - [Mains Test Series](#)
  - [MPPSC](#)
    - [Prelims Test Series](#)
    - [Mains Test Series](#)
  - [HPSC](#)
    - [Prelims Test Series](#)
    - [Mains Test Series](#)
  - [Other Competitive Exams](#)
    - [CAPF](#)
    - [EPFO](#)
- [State PCS](#)
  - [Bihar](#)
  - [Chhattisgarh](#)
  - [Rajasthan](#)
  - [Uttar Pradesh](#)
  - [Haryana](#)
  - [Jharkhand](#)
  - [Uttarakhand](#)
  - [Madhya Pradesh](#)
- [Videos](#)
  - [Important Institutions](#)
  - [Daily Editorial Analysis](#)
  - [YouTube PDF Downloads](#)
  - [Mindmap For UPSC](#)
  - [Daily Current Affairs](#)
    - [Science & Tech](#)
    - [International Relations](#)
    - [Indian Culture & Historical Events](#)
    - [Polity & Nation](#)
    - [Economic Development](#)
    - [Ecology & Environment](#)



- [Weekly Practice Questions](#)
- [Important Government Schemes](#)
- [Strategy By Toppers](#)
- [Ethics - Definition & Concepts](#)
- [Mastering Mains Answer Writing](#)
- [Places in News](#)
- [UPSC Mock Interview](#)
- [IFoS Mock Interview](#)
- [PCS Mock Interview](#)
  - [UPPSC](#)
  - [BPS](#)
- [Interview Insights](#)
- [Prelims 2019](#)
- [Study Plan](#)
- [Product Promos](#)
- [Quick Links](#)
- [Drishti Store](#)

close

- [Blog](#)

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- [Topper's Interview](#)

## Prelims

- [About Civil Services](#)
- [Syllabus & Strategy](#)
  - [UPSC Prelims Syllabus](#)
  - [GS Prelims Strategy](#)
- [Prelims Analysis](#)
- [Previous Years Papers](#)
  - [GS Paper-I \(Year Wise\)](#)
  - [GS Paper-I \(Subject Wise\)](#)
- [CSAT](#)
  - [CSAT Strategy](#)
  - [CSAT MCQs](#)
  - [Previous Years Papers](#)
- [Practice Quiz](#)
- [Weekly Revision MCQs](#)
- [60 Steps To Prelims](#)



- [Prelims Refresher Programme 2020](#)

## **Mains & Interview**

- [Mains Syllabus & Strategy](#)
  - [Mains GS Syllabus](#)
  - [Mains GS Strategy](#)
- [Mains Answer Writing Practice](#)
- [Essay](#)
  - [Essay Strategy](#)
  - [Fodder For Essay](#)
  - [Model Essays](#)
  - [Drishti Essay Competition](#)
- [Ethics](#)
  - [Ethics Strategy](#)
  - [Ethics Case Studies](#)
  - [Ethics Discussion](#)
  - [Ethics Previous Years Q&As](#)
- [Mains Previous Years](#)
  - [Papers By Years](#)
  - [Papers By Subject](#)
- [Mains Solved Papers](#)
  - [Papers By Years](#)
  - [Papers By Subject](#)
- [Be MAINS Ready](#)
- [Awake Mains Examination 2020](#)
- [Personality Test](#)
  - [Interview Strategy](#)
  - [Interview Guidance Programme](#)

## **Current Affairs**

- [Daily News & Editorial](#)
- [Daily CA MCQs](#)
- [Weekly Revision MCQs](#)
- [Sansad TV Discussions](#)
- [Monthly CA Consolidation](#)
- [Monthly Editorial Consolidation](#)
- [Monthly MCO Consolidation](#)

## **Drishti Specials**

- [To The Point](#)
- [Mind Map](#)
- [Important Institutions](#)
- [Learning Through Maps](#)
- [PRS Capsule](#)



- [Summary Of Reports](#)
- [Gist Of Economic Survey](#)

## Study Material

- [NCERT Books](#)
- [NIOS Study Material](#)
- [IGNOU Study Material](#)
- [Yojana & Kurukshetra](#)

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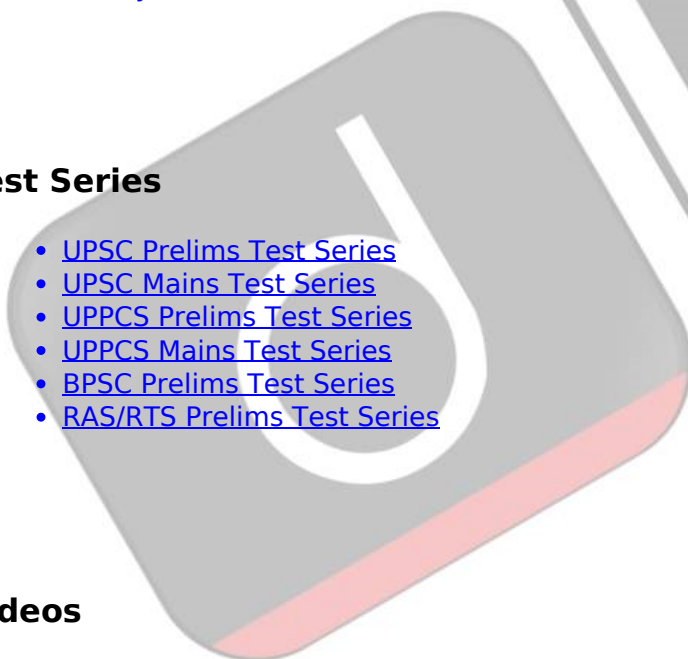
- [Bihar](#)
- [Chhatisgarh](#)
- [Rajasthan](#)
- [Uttar Pradesh](#)
- [Haryana](#)
- [Jharkhand](#)
- [Uttrakhand](#)
- [Madhya Pradesh](#)

## Test Series

- [UPSC Prelims Test Series](#)
- [UPSC Mains Test Series](#)
- [UPPCS Prelims Test Series](#)
- [UPPCS Mains Test Series](#)
- [BPSC Prelims Test Series](#)
- [RAS/RTS Prelims Test Series](#)

## Videos

- [Important Institutions](#)
- [Daily Editorial Analysis](#)
- [YouTube PDF Downloads](#)
- [Strategy By Toppers](#)
- [Ethics - Definition & Concepts](#)
- [Mastering Mains Answer Writing](#)
- [Places in News](#)
- [UPSC Mock Interview](#)
- [IFoS Mock Interview](#)
- [PCS Mock Interview](#)
- [Interview Insights](#)



- [Important Government Schemes](#)
- [Prelims 2019](#)
- [Study Plan](#)
- [Product Promos](#)

[Drishti Store](#)

## Mains Practice Questions

- [Home](#)
- [Mains Practice Questions](#)

filterHide Menu

[GS Paper 1](#) [GS Paper 2](#) [GS Paper 3](#) [GS Paper 4](#) [Essay](#) [Revision Tests](#)

- Filter By :
- [Polity & Governance](#)
- [International Relations](#)
- [Social Justice](#)

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[Q. The idea of Gram Swaraj has not materialized in its essence. Critically Examine \(250 words\)](#)

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**Approach**



- Give a brief about Gram Swaraj.
- Critically examine how it has not materialized in its essence

## Introduction

- The Idea of Gram Swaraj is that it is a complete republic, independent of its neighbours for its own vital wants, and yet interdependent for many others in which dependence is a necessity. Thus every village's first concern will be to grow its own food crops and cotton for its cloth.
- It should have a reserve for its cattle, recreation and playground for adults and children. Then if there is more land available, it will grow useful money crops, thus excluding ganja, tobacco, opium and the like.
- The village will maintain a village theatre, school and public hall. It will have its own water works ensuring clean water supply.

## Body

### Gram Swaraj has not materialized in its essence—

- **Adoption of western model of industrialization:** Gandhiji was conscious of the fact that far industrialization would destroy the Indian society by eliminating our decentralized rural industries. Gandhiji found the only way of bringing hope of good living to the rural people is by making the village the central place in the economic programme. But India adopted top down planning through Planning Commission.
- **Gram Swaraj not on priority after independence:** Gandhi wanted to revitalize village panchayata that would ensure direct democracy at the grassroots level. But in the Constitution of independent India revitalisation of village panchayat is primarily a matter of State Policy and it was mentioned only in the Directive Principles of State Policy (Article 40).
- **Lack of power with local institution:** The basic principle of village Swaraj as outlined by Gandhiji are trusteeship, swadeshi, full employment, bread labour, selfsufficiency, decentralisation, equality, Nai Talim etc. But true decentralization and inclusive development is still absent.
- **Khadi:** Khadi idea meant decentralization of production and distribution of the necessities of life. Khadi has to play an important role in the village economy of India. However this sector lags behind powerloom sector.

### However Gram Swaraj has materialized in its essence in many ways—

- **Constitutional status to Panchayat:** The 73rd Amendment Act 1992, which came into effect on April 24, 1993, is a watershed in the decentralisation process. The most significant aspect of this amendment is that it bestowed constitutional sanction to institution of Gram Sabha. This body can be effectively used as a stepping stone for attainment of gram swaraj or local self governance visualized by Gandhi.
- **Renewed focus on Khadi:** Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) has been announced on 15th August, 2008. It is launched for creation of employment in both rural and urban area of the country. Also SFURTI is a Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries has been launched in the year 2005 with the view to promote Cluster development.
- **Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA):** It is for developing and strengthening the capacities of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) for rural local governance to become more responsive towards local development needs, preparing the participatory plans that leverage technology, efficient and optimum utilization of available resources for realizing sustainable solutions to local problems

## Conclusion

- Gandhiji believed that India will have to live in villages, not in towns, in huts not in palaces. He held this conviction by saying that "If village perishes, India will perish too".
- The task before us is to strengthen and revitalize local institutions and gradually move

forward towards the Gandhi's concept of Gram Swaraj.

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- [Prelims Test Series 2022](#)
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- [Practice Quiz](#)
- [Mains Answer Writing Practice](#)
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Go

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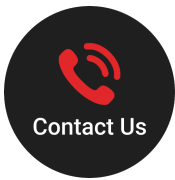
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$('#archivefrm button').click(function(e){ var year=$('#archiveyear').val(); var month=$('#archivemonth').val(); if(year!='' && month!=''){ location='https://www.drishtiias.com/archives/'+year+'-'+month; } }); $('#archivedtfrm button').click(function(e){ var start=$('#startdate').val(); var end=$('#enddate').val(); if(start=='') { $('#startdate').addClass('error'); $('.err').html('Please enter start date'); } else if(end=='') { $('#enddate').addClass('error'); $('.err').html('Please enter end date'); } else if(new Date(end)
```



```
function openForm() { var form = document.getElementById("myForm"); var opacity = 0;
form.style.display = "block"; // Gradually increase opacity to 1 var fadeInterval = setInterval(function ()
{ if (opacity >= 1) { clearInterval(fadeInterval); } else { opacity += 0.1; form.style.opacity = opacity; }
}, 20); // Adjust the interval as needed for the desired speed // Add click event listener to document to
close form when clicking outside document.addEventListener("click", closeFormOnClickOutside); }
function closeForm() { var form = document.getElementById("myForm"); var opacity = 1; // Gradually
decrease opacity to 0 var fadeOutInterval = setInterval(function () { if (opacity
```



```
screen_width_resize_before){ //Zoom out if(current_location > screen_middle){ box.style.left =
(screen_width_resize_after-xx) + 'px'; } else { box.style.left = x + 'px'; } } else { //Zoom in
if(current_location > screen_middle){ box.style.left = (screen_width_resize_after-xx) + 'px'; } else {
box.style.left = x + 'px'; } } var screen_width_resize_before = screen_width_resize_after; });
document.addEventListener('scroll',(event) => { var box_top=parseInt(box.style.top, 10); var
window_height=parseInt(window.innerHeight, 10); if((box_top >= window_height) || (box_top
screen_middle){ box.style.left = (screen_width-xx) + 'px'; } else { box.style.left = x + 'px'; } box.style.top
= (window_height*0.5)+'px'; } }, { passive: true } ); $('float-plus').draggable(); $(".float-
plus").css("position", "fixed"); $(".float-plus").css("z-index", "999"); $(".float-plus").click(function(){
show_social_float_icons(); }); var box = document.getElementById('float-plus'); $(".float-
plus").mousedown(function(){ const body = document.body; box.style.transition = "all 0s ease 0s";
body.style.overflow = "hidden"; body.style.pointerEvents = "auto"; }); $(".float-plus").mouseup(function(){
const body = document.body; body.style.overflow = "auto"; body.style.pointerEvents = "auto";
box.style.transition = "all 1s ease 0s"; var screen_width = window.innerWidth; var screen_width =
parseInt(screen_width, 10) var current_location = box.style.left; var current_location =
parseInt(current_location, 10) var screen_middle = (screen_width/2); var xx = (screen_width*0.04); var x
= (screen_width*0.009); if(current_location > screen_middle){ box.style.left = (screen_width-xx) + 'px'; }
else { box.style.left = x + 'px'; } }); // For MOBILE TOUCH - DRAGGABLE
box.addEventListener('touchstart', function(e) { box.style.transition = "all 0s ease 0s"; });
box.addEventListener('touchmove', function(e) { e.preventDefault(); box.style.transform =
"translate(-50%, -50%)"; var touchLocation = e.targetTouches[0]; box.style.left = (touchLocation.pageX-
window.scrollX) + 'px'; box.style.top = (touchLocation.pageY-window.scrollY) + 'px'; });
box.addEventListener('touchend', function(e) { box.style.transition = "all 1s ease 0s"; var screen_width =
screen.width; var screen_width = parseInt(screen_width, 10) var current_location = box.style.left; var
current_location = parseInt(current_location, 10) var screen_middle = (screen_width/2); var xx =
(screen_width*0.05); var x = (screen_width*0.05); if(current_location > screen_middle){ box.style.left =
(screen_width-xx) + 'px'; } else { box.style.left = x + 'px'; } }); function remove_social_float_icons() {
$(".float-fb").animate({ top: "-=8%", }, 500 ); setTimeout(function(){ $(".float-fb").hide("slow"); },500);
$(".float-tw").animate({ top: "-=16%", }, 500 ); setTimeout(function(){ $(".float-tw").hide("slow"); },500);
$(".float-rs").animate({ top: "-=24%", }, 500 ); setTimeout(function(){ $(".float-rs").hide("slow"); },500);
$(".float-ig").animate({ top: "-=32%", }, 500 ); setTimeout(function(){ $(".float-ig").hide("slow"); },500);
$(".float-pn").animate({ top: "-=40%", }, 500 ); setTimeout(function(){ $(".float-pn").hide("slow"); },500);
$(".float-wp").animate({ top: "-=48%", }, 500 ); setTimeout(function(){ $(".float-wp").hide("slow");
},500); var width = (window.innerWidth > 0) ? window.innerWidth : screen.width; if(width >= 700){
$(".float-tg").animate({ top: "-=56%", }, 500 ); setTimeout(function(){ $(".float-tg").hide("slow"); },500);
} setTimeout(function(){ $(".float-cross").hide("slow"); },500); setTimeout(function(){ $(".float-plus"
).show("slow"); },500); sessionStorage.setItem("remove_social_icons", "1"); } function
```

```
show_social_float_icons(){ setTimeout(function(){ $( ".float-plus" ).hide("slow"); },10);
setTimeout(function(){ $( ".float-fb" ).show("slow"); },10); setTimeout(function(){ $( ".float-tw"
).show("slow"); },10); setTimeout(function(){ $( ".float-rs" ).show("slow"); },10); setTimeout(function(){ $(
".float-ig" ).show("slow"); },10); setTimeout(function(){ $( ".float-pn" ).show("slow"); },10);
setTimeout(function(){ $( ".float-wp" ).show("slow"); },10); var width = (window.innerWidth > 0) ?
window.innerWidth : screen.width; if(width >= 700){ setTimeout(function(){ $( ".float-tg" ).show("slow");
},10); } setTimeout(function(){ $( ".float-cross" ).show("slow"); },10); $(".float-fb").animate({ top:
"+=8%", }, 500 ); $(".float-tw").animate({ top: "+=16%", }, 600 ); $(".float-rs").animate({ top: "+=24%",
}, 700 ); $(".float-ig").animate({ top: "+=32%", }, 800 ); $(".float-pn").animate({ top: "+=40%", }, 900 );
$(".float-wp").animate({ top: "+=48%", }, 1000 ); if(width >= 700){ $(".float-tg").animate({ top:
"+=56%", }, 1000 ); } sessionStorage.setItem("remove_social_icons", "0"); }
$(document).ready(function(){ var value = sessionStorage.getItem("remove_social_icons"); if(value ==
'1'){ remove_social_float_icons(); } }); // function to close the popup function closePopup() { var modal =
document.getElementById("myModal"); modal.style.display = "none"; } // function to open the popup
function openPopup() { var modal = document.getElementById("myModal"); modal.style.display =
"block"; } // Added the code - If user click on anywhere outside the popup $('body').click(function(e) {
$('#myModal').hide(); }); $('#popclose').on('click',function(e){ $('#myModal').css('display','none'); }); //
automatically open the popup on page load window.onload = openPopup; $(document).ready(function(){
if(screen.width { button.addEventListener('click', btnEvent => { // console.log(button.id); $.ajax({
method: "POST", url: "https://www.drishtiiias.com/search/", data: { 'id': button.id, 'search': search },
headers: { 'X-CSRF-TOKEN': $('[name = "_csrfToken"]').val() }, success: function(result) {
$('body').html(result); }, error: function(error){ console.log(error) } } }) } $(document).ready(function(){
//alert(getCookie('isLogin')); if(getCookie('isLogin')==1) { $('#myAccountDiv').css('display','inline-block');
$('#loginLink').css('display','none'); $('#registerLink').css('display','none');
$('#makeNoteLoginLink').css('display','inline-block'); $('#makeNoteLink').css('display','none');
$('#makeNoteOptionDiv').css('display','inline-block'); } else { $('#myAccountDiv').css('display','none');
$('#loginLink').css('display','inline-block'); $('#registerLink').css('display','inline-block');
$('#makeNoteLoginLink').css('display','none'); $('#makeNoteLink').css('display','inline-block');
$('#makeNoteOptionDiv').css('display','none'); } }); function getCookie(name) { var match =
document.cookie.match(RegExp("(?:^|\\s*)" + name + "=(.*)")); return match ? match[1] : null; } var
regex = /^[a-zA-Z0-9_+-.]+\@((([a-zA-Z0-9-])+\.)+([a-zA-Z0-9]{2,4})+)$/; var phonex = /^[0-9 ]+$/;
$('#newsletterfrm').submit(function(e){ var msg=true; var txtname=$('#txtname').val(); var
txtemail=$('#txtemail').val(); $('#nmsg').html(""); //$('#input-error').remove(); if(txtname.trim()=="")
$('#txtname').addClass('input-error'); msg=false; }else{ $('#txtname').removeClass('input-error'); }
if(txtemail.trim()==""){ $('#txtemail').addClass('input-error'); msg=false; }else
if(!regex.test(txtemail)){ $('#txtemail').addClass('input-error'); msg=false; }else{
$('#txtemail').removeClass('input-error'); } if(msg){ var form=$('#newsletterfrm').serialize(); $.ajax({
type: "POST", url: "https://www.drishtiiias.com/pages/newsletterfrm", data: form, success: function(data){
if(data=='already'){ $('#nmsg').html('Email address already in use'); }else if(data=='add'){
$('#nmsg').html('Thank you for subscribing to our newsletter. '); $('#txtname').val("");
$('#txtemail').val(""); }else{ $('#nmsg').html('Oops! something went wrong, Please try again'); }
//$('#nloader').hide(); }, error: function(error,errortype,errorstatus){ alert(errortype);
//$('#nloader').hide(); } }); } e.preventDefault(); }); $('#smsalertfrm').submit(function(e){ var msg=true;
var txtmobile=$('#txtmobile').val(); $('#nmmsg').html(""); //$('#input-error').remove();
if(txtmobile.trim()=="") { $('#txtmobile').addClass('input-error'); msg=false; }else
if(txtmobile.trim().length!=10){ $('#txtmobile').addClass('input-error'); msg=false; }else
if(!phonex.test(txtmobile)){ $('#txtmobile').addClass('input-error'); msg=false; }else{
$('#txtmobile').removeClass('input-error'); } if(msg){ var form=$('#smsalertfrm').serialize();
//$('#nmloader').show(); $.ajax({ type: "POST", url: "https://www.drishtiiias.com/pages/smsalertfrm", data:
form, success: function(data){ if(data=='already'){ $('#nmmsg').html('Phone number already in use');
}else if(data=='add'){ $('#nmmsg').html('Thank you for subscribing to our SMS Alerts. ');
$('#txtmobile').val(""); }else{ $('#nmmsg').html('Oops! something went wrong, Please try again'); }
//$('#nmloader').hide(); }, error: function(error,errortype,errorstatus){ alert(errortype);
//$('#nmloader').hide(); } }); } e.preventDefault(); }); $('#subscriptionfrm').submit(function(e){ var
msg=true; var txtname=$('#name').val(); var txtemail=$('#emailaddress').val(); var
txtmobile=$('#phone').val(); $('#contactmsg').html(""); //$('#input-error').remove();
if(txtname.trim()=="") { $('#name').addClass('input-error'); msg=false; }else{
$('#name').removeClass('input-error'); } if(txtemail.trim()=="") { $('#emailaddress').addClass('input-
error'); msg=false; }else if(!regex.test(txtemail)){ $('#emailaddress').addClass('input-error'); msg=false;
```

```
}else{ $('#emailaddress').removeClass('input-error'); } if(txtmobile.trim()==){
$('#phone').addClass('input-error'); msg=false; }else if(txtmobile.trim().length!=10){
$('#phone').addClass('input-error'); msg=false; }else if(!phonex.test(txtmobile)){
$('#phone').addClass('input-error'); msg=false; }else{ $('#phone').removeClass('input-error'); }
if($('#dailyupdates').prop("checked") == false && $('#examnewsletter').prop("checked") == false &&
$('#fullnewsletter').prop("checked") == false && $('#sms').prop("checked") == false) {
$('#contactmsg').css('display','block'); $('#contactmsg').addClass('error'); $('#contactmsg').html('No
option selected, please select at least one option. '); msg=false; } if(msg){ $('.loader').css('display','block');
var form=$('#subscriptionfrm').serialize(); $.ajax({ type: "POST", url:
"https://www.drishitias.com/subscription", data: form, success: function(data) {
$('.loader').css('display','none'); if(data=='success'){ $('#contactmsg').css('display','block');
$('#contactmsg').removeClass('error'); $('#contactmsg').html('Thank you for subscribing to our
subscription. You will hear from us soon. '); $('#name').val(""); $('#emailaddress').val(""); $('#phone').val("");
}else{ $('#contactmsg').css('display','block'); $('#contactmsg').addClass('error');
$('#contactmsg').html('Oops! something went wrong, Please try again'); } }, error:
function(error,errortype,errorstatus){ $('.loader').css('display','none'); alert(errortype);
//$('#nloader').hide(); } }); } e.preventDefault(); }); $('#testseriesfrm').submit(function(e){ var msg=true;
var txtname=$('#firstname').val(); var txtemail=$('#emailaddress').val(); var
txtmobile=$('#phonenumber').val(); $('#contactmsg').html(""); //$('.input-error').remove();
if(txtname.trim()==){ $('#firstname').addClass('input-error'); msg=false; }else{
$('#firstname').removeClass('input-error'); } if(txtemail.trim()==){ $('#emailaddress').addClass('input-
error'); msg=false; }else if(!regex.test(txtemail)){ $('#emailaddress').addClass('input-error'); msg=false;
}else{ $('#emailaddress').removeClass('input-error'); } if(txtmobile.trim()==){
$('#phonenumber').addClass('input-error'); msg=false; }else if(txtmobile.trim().length!=10){
$('#phonenumber').addClass('input-error'); msg=false; }else if(!phonex.test(txtmobile)){
$('#phonenumber').addClass('input-error'); msg=false; }else{ $('#phonenumber').removeClass('input-
error'); } if(msg){ $('.loader').css('display','block'); var form=$('#testseriesfrm').serialize(); $.ajax({ type:
"POST", url: "https://www.drishitias.com/test-series-registration", data: form, success: function(data){
$('.loader').css('display','none'); //alert(data); if(data=='success'){ $('#contactmsg').css('display','block');
$('#contactmsg').removeClass('error'); $('#contactmsg').html('Thank you for choosing our test series. You
will get an email and message soon. '); $('#firstname').val(""); $('#lastname').val("");
$('#emailaddress').val(""); $('#phonenumber').val(""); }else{ $('#contactmsg').css('display','block');
$('#contactmsg').addClass('error'); $('#contactmsg').html(data); } }, error:
function(error,errortype,errorstatus){ $('.loader').css('display','none'); alert(errortype);
//$('#nloader').hide(); } }); } e.preventDefault(); }); $('#allnotes').click(function(){
$('.fixbtn.notes').removeClass('open'); $('.fixbtn.mynotes').toggleClass('open'); });
$('.mynotes,.notelist').on('click','.readmore',function(){ var noteid=$(this).attr('data-noteid');
$('#note_id').val(noteid); $.ajax({ type: "POST", url: "https://www.drishitias.com/articles/setnote", data:
'note_id='+noteid, success: function(data){ if(data){ tinymce.get("mynote").setContent(data);
$('#mynotemsg').html(""); $('.fixbtn.notes').toggleClass('open'); }else{ alert('Oops! something went
wrong, Please try again'); } }, error: function(error,errortype,errorstatus){ alert(errortype); } }); });
$('.notelink').click(function(){ $.ajax({ type: "POST", url: "https://www.drishitias.com/articles/removenote",
success: function(data){ if(data=='removed'){ $('#note_id').val(""); tinymce.get("mynote").setContent("");
$('#mynotemsg').html(""); $('.fixbtn.notes').toggleClass('open'); $('.fixbtn.mynotes').removeClass('open');
}else{ alert('Oops! something went wrong, Please try again'); } }, error:
function(error,errortype,errorstatus){ alert(errortype); } }); });
$('.mynotes,.notelist').on('click','.removenote',function(e){ if(confirm('Are you sure want to remove
note?')) { $('.loader').css('display','block'); var noteid=$(this).attr('data-noteid'); $.ajax({ type: "POST", url:
"https://www.drishitias.com/articles/deletenote", data: 'note_id='+noteid, success: function(data){
$('.loader').css('display','none'); if(data=='removed'){ $('#note-list #' +noteid+',.notelist
#' +noteid).css('display','none'); }else{ alert('Oops! something went wrong, Please try again'); } }, error:
function(error,errortype,errorstatus){ $('.loader').css('display','none'); alert(errortype); } }); }
e.preventDefault(); }); $('#commentfile').change(function(){ $("#file-name").text(this.files[0].name); });
$(document).ready(function(){ $('.list-toggle').click(function(){ $('.list-category').toggleClass('active');
$(this).toggleClass('active'); $('.value').text(function(i, text){ return text == "Hide Menu" ? "Show Menu"
: "Hide Menu"; }); }); $('#aside button.close').click(function(){ $('.list-category').toggleClass('active');
$('.list-toggle').toggleClass('active'); }); $('.fixbtn .btn').click(function(){ $('.fixbtn
.btn').not(this).parents('.fixbtn').removeClass('open'); $(this).parents('.fixbtn').toggleClass('open'); });
$('.fixbtn a.close').click(function(){ $(this).parents('.fixbtn').removeClass('open'); }); $('#note-
```

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btn').click(function(){ $('#.fixbtn.notes').toggleClass('open'); }); $('#.viewmore a').click(function(){
$('#.hide').slideToggle('active'); $(this).text(function(i, text){ return text === "View More" ? "View Less" :
"View More"; }); }); $('#.learning-program .subheading').click(function(){ $(this).next().slideToggle();
$(this).toggleClass('open'); }); $(document).ready(function(){ $('#a.register-btn').colorbox(); });
$('#.interview-slider').slick({ autoplay: true, arrows: false, dots: true });
$('#bookSession').on('click',function(e){ $.ajax({ type: "POST", data: { 'course':
$('#bookSession').data('course') }, url: "https://www.drishtias.com/book-online-session", success:
function(json){ var obj = JSON.parse(json); if (obj.status==200) { alert(obj.message); } else {
alert(obj.message); window.location.reload(); } }, error: function(error,errorType,errorStatus){
alert(errorType); } }); e.preventDefault(); }); $('#.popup').colorbox({iframe: true, innerWidth: 790,
innerHeight: 530}); if(screen.width = 500) { $("#scroll-top").addClass("show"); } else { $("#scroll-
top").removeClass("show"); } }); // $('#.section-banner .wrapper > div').matchHeight(); $('#.slider').slick({
autoplay: true, arrows: false, dots: true, autoplaySpeed:3000 }); $('#.services-slider').slick({ arrows: true,
slidesToShow: 3, slidesToScroll: 1, prevArrow: 'Previous', nextArrow: 'Next', responsive: [ { breakpoint:
1025, settings: { slidesToShow: 2 } } ] }); $('#.loader1').css('display','none'); $('#.horizontal-
menu').css('visibility','visible'); $('#.banner').css('visibility','visible'); $(".editorial-scroll").niceScroll({
cursorcolor:"#c8c7c7", cursorwidth: "8px", autohidemode: false }); $('#.services-slider--mobile').slick({
autoplay: true, autoplaySpeed: 2000 }); /* $('#qa-form').steps({ headerTag: "h5", bodyTag: "section",
transitionEffect: "slideLeft" });*/ $('#tagcloud a').tagcloud({ size: {start: 14, end: 22, unit: "px"}, color:
{start: '#3498DB', end: '#46CFB0'} }); $(".popup-video").colorbox({iframe: true, innerWidth: 850,
innerHeight: 600}); $(".feedback").colorbox({iframe: true, innerWidth: 850, innerHeight: 600});
if(screen.width
```

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