



Important Current Affairs Topics for CAT GD-PI

This PDF was created by curating the top 60 important topics/events that made it to the news from the past one year. It is very important to learn about these topics if you are preparing for the WAT-GD-PI process of any B-school.

Important things to remember while reading up on a topic:

1. Always cover all the facts before forming an opinion.
2. Know about both the sides of an issue before forming your own opinion.
3. It is not a crime to have an opinion.
4. Do not sit on the fence – no neutral opinion
5. The topics covered here are roughly chronological from January 2020 to December 2020. Ensure that you pay attention to the latter half of the list.
6. The topics here are of varying degree of relevance for CAT GDPI Prep. There are some topics which you must know about, while other topics are generic. Prepare based on your perception of importance.

Sl. No	TOPIC NAME
1	Anti-CAA protests – link with NRC, NPR – concerns and impacts
2	Kashmir lockdown – Article 370 – reasons, protests, results
3	Andhra Pradesh 3 capitals – decentralization
4	Origin of COVID-19 – effects of human-animal conflicts and deforestation, wet markets
5	ICJ ruling on Rohingya Issue – what is the issue? Crimes involved.
6	US-Iran relations – What is JCPOA? General Suleimani killing
7	Indian economy pre-COVID-19 – cyclical vs structural issues
8	Violence in Delhi – communalism, influence of political parties, link to government policies
9	US-India relations – Trump-Modi connect, relationship under Trump vs relationship under Biden
10	Nirbhaya case – why delay in hanging? Death sentence relevant in modern world? Quantum of punishment vs crime rate
11	Adjusted Gross Revenue – what is the issue? Concerns of monopoly? Government relief and court ruling
12	Sedition cases – what is sedition? Increase in frequency; necessary or draconian?
13	Section 144 – where was it used? Security of the nation vs right to protest; misuse by different governments
14	Permanent Commission for Women in Army, Navy – debates involved, govt concerns and court judgement
15	Gogoi nomination to RS – who was he? protests against nomination; Concerns about collusion between judiciary and executive
16	Merger of banks – economic rationale; disadvantages
17	BS VI fuel standards – what is it? Importance for environmental protection
18	PM-CARES fund – concerns raised; relation to Corporate Social Responsibility
19	RBI loan moratorium – helpful in times of COVID-19?
20	Indian government's early lockdown – severity of the lockdown; how does lockdown affect economy? Which industries were worst hit?
21	Migrant labour crisis – food security; idea of One Nation One Ration card and how it links to the crisis; where do migrant labourers originate and where they work; Working conditions?
22	Lockdown and domestic violence – why a correlation? Women empowerment in times of COVID-19
23	Epidemic Diseases Act – what is it? Common rules and penalties during the pandemic; different stages where rules were eased
24	COVID-19 testing – what are the symptoms of COVID-19; different types of sampling and testing; effectiveness of tests; approach towards testing the population
25	Rise in cyberattacks – correlation with lockdown; how serious is the threat?
26	Mineral laws (amendment) act 2020 – easing of the coal sector; development and removal of regulatory hassles vs environmental impact
27	Effect of COVID-19 in Europe and US – Why US has the highest number of cases? Why death rate in Europe high? Effect of the virus on the Indian population
28	Economic measures by State governments – spending cuts; impact of the lockdown on their revenue

29	Centre-State financial disputes – extent of revenue crunch in the first few months of pandemic; how is revenue shared between Centre and States; what is GST compensation?
30	Group discrimination – Tablighi Jamaat, Islamophobia, branding COVID-19 as the ‘China virus’; spread of misinformation and fake news; online polarization
31	International measures for COVID-19 – what can the World Bank, IMF, ADB and other banks do to help poor countries? Economic stimulus by rich countries for themselves
32	20 lakh crore economic package by the government – what were the 5 tranches about? Focus areas? Immediate relief vs policy relief; effect on the economy
33	Indian stock market – strong performance overall despite COVID-19 – why?
34	Fall in most economic indicators – GDP, employment indices, industrial indices; sectoral performance – which sectors fared better and which ones suffered?
35	‘Yes Bank’ crisis – why do banks fail? What were the frauds involved in this case? How to avoid?
36	Vizag gas leak – what was the issue? Relation to Industrial Safety; major accidents in India’s history
37	Labour laws – dilution by multiple state governments; concerns raised by labour groups, politicians and international observers; how does it affect workers?
38	Locust attacks in many states – what are they and how they impact agriculture? Where do they come from? Seasonal event or rare? How to stop the menace?
39	India-China border clash – names of different places involved; present state of the border and its ill-defined nature; geopolitical implications of the clash and prospects of peace
40	Kalapani border dispute with Nepal – where is it located and why Nepal claims it? Background on India-Nepal relationship; implications of the dispute on future relations
41	International travel – visa curbs by many countries; travel bubble concept; effect of travel curbs on business; stranded Indians and the Vande Bharat missions
42	Cyclones in India – where did they hit? Impact and preparation; how are they influenced by Climate change?
43	Pandemic and impact on education – exams postponed; syllabi reduction; education yearly cycle affected; online education benefits and disadvantages
44	Conflict with China – Apps ban by India – retribution vs security issue; stress by government on self-reliance; present state of dependence on China; India and China comparison of different industries
45	Oil and Energy industry in times of COVID-19 – 2020 oil price crash: Saudi – Russia conflict; Energy demand and supply during lockdown – immediate and future trends
46	Hong Kong Security Act – how is HK related to China and how is it different from China? What does China intend to do? Protests in 2019 and 2020
47	National Education Policy – state of education in India; vision and goals of the policy; organizational and structural changes proposed
48	Privatization of railways – economic reasoning; advantages and disadvantages; government trend towards disinvestment from PSUs
49	Pregnant elephant killed in Kerala – man-animal conflicts at the edge of forests; how do we solve it?

50	Contempt of Court – what does it mean? Stifling resistance? Archaic or relevant?
51	COVID-19 Vaccine development – multiple vaccines in development; different types of vaccines; how do vaccines work? Vaccine nationalism; cost of vaccines; how are vaccines to be administered to the population
52	Farm bills – what are the 3 bills? What are the key features? Why are the farmers worried? Which farmers are protesting in Delhi?
53	TRP case – what is the issue? How and why does TRP matter? Relation to society's consumption of content
54	Nagorno-Karabakh conflict – which countries were involved? What are they trying to control?
55	Global biodiversity loss – concerning report by WWF; how is it related to human activity? Effect of loss on human beings
56	Economic slowdown – negative GDP growth; recession; projections for 2020-21 and beyond; impact of GDP growth on market and industrial performance
57	US elections – increased polarization; Trump's policies vs Biden's promises; how US elections may impact India; implications of the election result on the world; violence in Washington DC; Trump impeachment efforts
58	Missions to Mars – China, US and UAE rovers/orbiters; importance of space exploration; why target Mars? India's immediate space plans
59	Central Vista Project – need for a new Parliament complex? Environmental concerns and arguments of the government
60	Anti-conversion laws of UP, Uttarakhand – love jihad issue; background of the bill; impact on some communities