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ForumIAS  
ACADEMY FIAS - 2019 - MGPEAS

TEST CODE: 22029

# ForumIAS

## ACADEMY

 ForumIAS  
 MGPQ14372

### GENERAL STUDIES

Name Of Candidate	Jangam Kuldeep		
Email Id.		Roll No.	1910030794
Mobile No.		Date:	11.08.2019

Maximum Marks: 250

Time Allowed: Three Hours

INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTION	
Q. No.	Max. Marks	Marks Obtained	1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Email, Roll No, Mobile). 2. There are TWO Sections. Each Section has FOUR topics printed in English and Hindi. You have to write on 1 topic from Each part. 3. One question in each part is compulsory. 4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. 5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. 6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. 7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum Answer Booklet must be clearly Struck off.	
Q.1				
Q.2				
<b>Total Marks:</b>				
<b>Remarks:</b>				
Start Time		01:45 PM	End Time	04:40 PM
Mode Of Examination :		Online <input type="checkbox"/>	Offline <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
ECN CODE:			Evaluation Date:	

2nd Floor, IAPL House, #19, Pusa Road, Karol Bagh, New Delhi - 110005

**MARKING SCHEME**

<i>Parameter/Criteria</i>	<i>Aspects Considered</i>	<i>Total Marks</i>	<i>Essay 1</i>	<i>Essay 2</i>
<i>Basic Format</i>	Introduction + Conclusion	10		
	Body	15		
<i>Content</i>	Data/Facts/Interpretation/ Analysis	25		
<i>Organisation</i>	Flow of ideas/ Absence of Deviation from the topic	25		
<i>Language Skills</i>	Punctuation/Grammar/ Sentence Formation/Spellings	25		
<i>Examiner's Discretion</i>	Perception/ Innovation/ Engaging	25		

<i>Parameters</i>	<i>Very Good</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Poor</i>
<i>Coherence</i>				
<i>Language</i>				
<i>Handwriting</i>				
<i>Pre-writing</i>				

<i>Very Good</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Average</i>
120 and above	100-120	Below 100



## SECTION - A

1. Asymmetric Federalism – Imposing Uniformity or Harvesting Unity in Diversity?
2. Philosophy of protectionism is the philosophy of war.
3. The separation of religion and state is a necessary but not a sufficient ingredient of a secular state.
4. Social Media in a post-truth world.

Asymmetrical Federalism – Imposing Uniformity or Harvesting Unity in Diversity ?

Gunnar Myrdal in his book Asian Drama has made a prophecy that India would soon be balkanized in number of countries, in the early decades after independence. Proving him wrong, India has stood strong against many such forces which threatened the integrity of nation.

Though India is described as Union of states, it is the inherent federal nature and the type of federalism that we followed, held us together, even now. Many other factors have also contributed the

Success of India's democracy.

But, it is essentially the federal nature and the policies followed in upholding the spirit of federalism, that contributed to India's success. Then, what exactly is federalism?

Federalism is based on the principles of contract, where two (or) more parties come together and desire to move away from the contract as and when needed.

According to B.R. Ambedkar, Federalism is when powers of different units are defined by the constitution and no unit is dependent on other, ~~no~~ no unit draws its authority from the other.

How is India's federalism different from that of others? Unlike USA, where states and centre came together to form indestructible union of indestructible states, India is an indestructible union of destructible states.

Though on the outside, it appears to be against the federal principles, it is to uphold the different

aspirations of various groups, this is needed. In India, Asymmetrical federalism is followed.

Asymmetrical federalism is a form of federalism where not all the units are treated equally, but all the units aspirations are fulfilled. As and when situation arises and issue demands, the aspirations of the units / states are fulfilled.

It is because of asymmetrical federalism, many issues of different states are being addressed effectively, even without challenging the integrity of the nation. Why did India follow asymmetrical federalism?

There are many reasons. Notable are the historical reasons like diverse nature of princely states, their people and aspirations which were to be reconciled during the independence and nation-building post independence.

India is home to varied races, religions, ethnicities, languages and people from various

other regions of the world making it their home. To hold them together, while fulfilling all their aspirations and at the same time, for territorial integrity a unique form of federalism, to reconcile opposing objectives was needed. This gave birth of Asymmetrical federalism.

Asymmetrical federalism in India is manifest in various forms. Notable are the different degree of autonomy and self governance rights given to Schedule Areas in schedule - 5 of the constitution. Even greater degree of autonomy is provided to the tribal areas under schedule - 6 of the constitution.

Considering the different socioeconomic conditions and relatively poor developmental standing of tribals compared to others, these measures were warranted. Apart from this, various states are provided different special provisions under Article 371 of constitution.

Many states are granted special provisions under the relevant provisions under 371. Another

interesting and unique feature because of the Asymmetrical federalism is the relationship of Jammu & Kashmir region with the Union.

Under Article 370 of the constitution, J&K has been accorded special status with separate constitution and flag, but with J&K as an integral part of India. It is because of such special provisions, Kashmir region remained part of India, despite the violence unleashed by Pakistan in the region.

Under Article 371, with ~~of~~ reorganisation of states and new states coming into existence, there arose a need to address the issues and need to handhold the new states to ensure a level playing field. It is because of such special provisions, the states prospered. From the above provisions, it can be said that Asymmetrical Federalism is where units desire unity without uniformity.

In this sense, asymmetrical federalism is nothing but unity in diversity. states desire unity without uniformity and they want to retain

their own distinctive identity while uniting with other units for the greater good.

Harnessing unity in diversity is the essence of asymmetrical federalism. It is inline with the conception of justice as propagated by contemporary political thinkers like communitarians. According to them, Justice is not homogenisation. It is nothing but art of differentiation and being able to fulfill all their aspirations.

Asymmetrical federalism also doesn't impose any such homogenisation (or) uniformity. It only facilitates development of all units or states even while maintaining the unity of the nation. It is in some ways referred to as cooperative federalism where in states and union cooperate with each other for greater good.

What are the advantages of such unity in diversity? Respecting their own identity while advocating unity will lead to building larger communities of people coming together. People of different religions,



regions, languages and cultures, traditions come together.

When such people from varied backgrounds come together and write, there is dismantling of many stereotypes and prejudices held for long periods of time. This will help in creation of brotherhood and toleration among people. Such communities will be accommodative of diverse interests and resilient to any external threats in the future.

What if asymmetrical federalism leads to imposing uniformity? When uniformity is imposed there are varied consequences further altering the future society. Imposing uniformity will lead to people shedding their long held customs, traditions altogether for new ones.

These new ones may not represent them and sometimes are monopoly of those who are in the power. There may be discontent among various groups

and such discontent will lead to disastrous consequences, at times to the survival.

People may revolt and social protests become a common thing. Similarly, regionalism, secessionist tendencies may increase which even threaten the territorial integrity of the nation. For example, when there was proposal to make Hindi as national language, there were wide spread protests. Many such incidents are bound to recur, if homogeneity is imposed.

Many a time, such movements turn violent and there is huge loss to lives and property. Some such problems even continue for decades and become a ~~major~~ persisting issue. These issues become a hurdle in the nation building.

Unless such issues are solved and their aspirations are fulfilled, within the framework so as not to threaten nation's unity, there will not be national integration. Only when there is such unity in diversity, nation can progress leaps and

bounds.

What is India's policy till now to deal with such contracting interests? India's policy on that matter any nation's policy depend on many factors including the resources available, leadership nature, constitutional principles etc.

For example, Nehru despite being in a position of strength, sought to deal with all the demands for linguistic reorganisation democratically. It is because of such democratic resolution, the new states which were carved out as the outcome of linguistic reorganisation, have developed on par and above earlier states.

Similar such issues persist especially in the North Eastern India, where there are demands of secession. Any solution to all such problems should be within the constitutional framework, but in consultation with all the stakeholders.

Successful resolution of such problems will lead to better progress and peace in the region. For example, the success of Tripura post formation of state and ending of violence is the best quoted. There exists a huge potential for development of these regions and there by national development.

Dealing with such issues requires not only the expertise but also principles inline with the constitution, where justice of social, economic and political sense is promised in the preamble itself.

In the present day world, even countries with almost homogenous population are also dividing and polarising among themselves. It is natural for a country with so much diversity to have people from various sections disagreeing with each other.

Though a consensus building approach is the ideal solution, it is necessary to start with the dialogue among different groups. There are some values which each and every group considers as

necessary. Many such values, which have been accepted by almost all the groups can be considered as core guiding principles before building consensus. For example, human dignity is one such principle, which almost all the groups agree as necessary for their wellbeing.

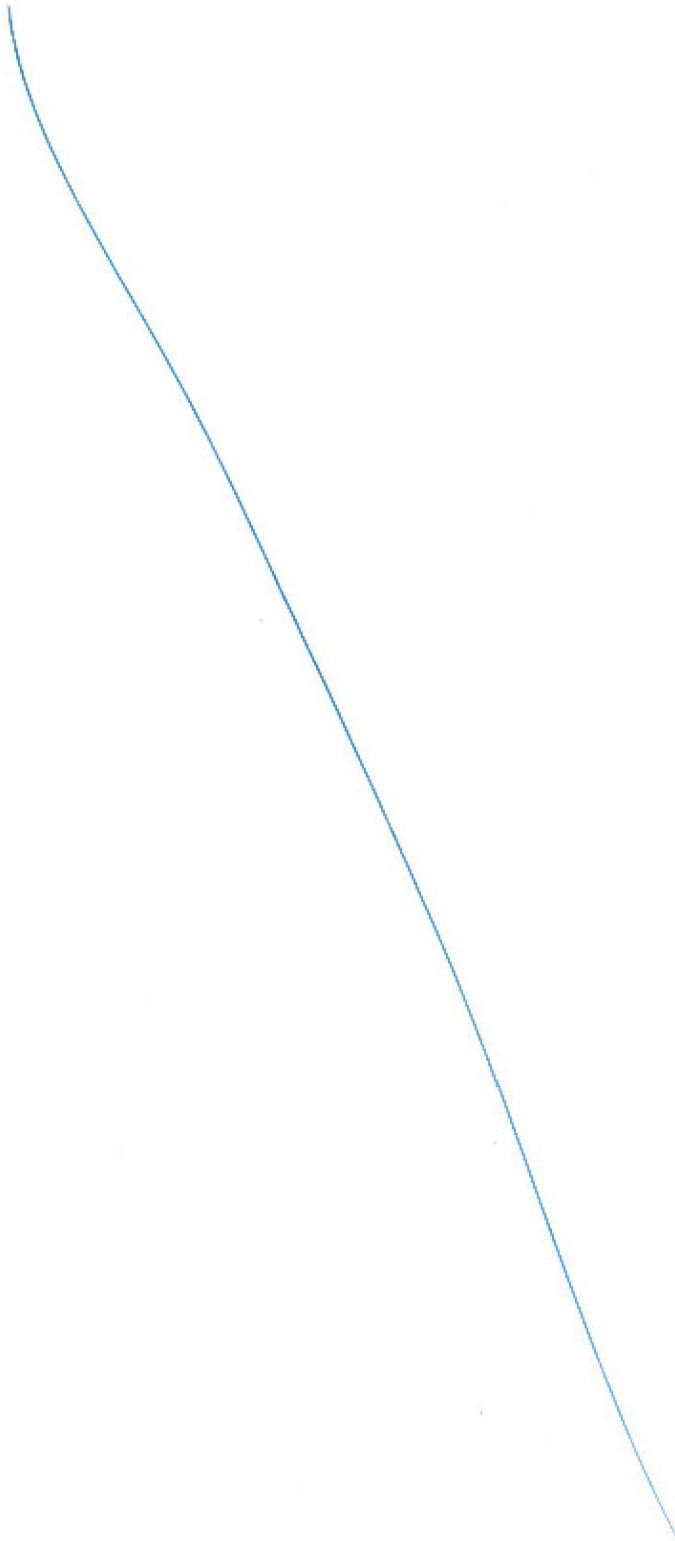
What should be India's approach in dealing with such problems? As said above dialogue between various groups should be the starting point. All groups should agree to disagree and then build on some consensus principles, while respecting their individual and unique identity.

Asymmetrical federalism should be to harness the unity amidst diversity rather than trying to impose homogeneity. Involving all stakeholders in the decision making will hold key to such unity without uniformity.

Else, it would be too long before

Gunnar Myrdal's prophecy becomes true. It is upto the common people as well as leadership to ensure that this doesnot happen while also building resilience to any such future threats.

It is asymmetrical federalism alone, that will help in fulfilling aspirations of such diverse units. Any opposition should be viewed as lack of development and fulfillment of aspirations rather than viewing it from the security point of view. Thus Asymmetrical federalism alone will help in reconciling such diverse units and realising the goal of nation building.



**Feedback**

Feedback to be provided in terms of (1) Introduction (2) Sentence Constructions (3) Paragraph Formation (4) Legibility (5) Deviation from Topic (6) Coverage of dimensions (7) Simplicity / ease of reading





## SECTION - B

1. Our predecessors endeavored to make men into machines; we are endeavoring to make machines into men
2. Even while they teach, men learn.
3. Integrity is telling myself the truth. And honesty is telling the truth to other people.
4. Ideologies separate us. Dreams and anguish bring us together.

'Our predecessors endeavoured to make men into machines ; we are endeavouring to make machines into men.'

Sophia, the humanoid robot has been received to much applause across the world, in each conference it attended. People all over the world were shocked and amused to see how it emulate human expressions including laughter and its humour. This happened, when we as people almost forget how to smile and joke around, while only driven by almost single goal of achieving prosperity.

It is irony that we , who created the

machines to make our lives simpler are amazed by how they emulate us, while we ourselves transformed into machine like objects. This explains how far we have come in the process of evolution and development, while also losing ourselves.

Machines essentially were created to make man's life easier and more productive, comfortable. Machines helped in achieving better results, with optimum resource utilisation and thereby prosperity to people all over the world. For most of the history, they have come to our aid, but only recently they are replacing men and increasingly acquiring capabilities to behave like men.

But, what is it that differentiates men from machines? Machines generally work on the prescribed logic and are purely objective in nature. They have no sense of self. On the other hand, men are not completely rational. Most often, they are also driven by passions and not entirely objective in nature.

Men differ from machines because they have conscience and sense of self. They have awareness about oneself and thus are also subjective in nature. Another important, unique feature which sets men apart from machines is the ability to believe in stories, as told by Yuval Noah Harari in his book 21 Lessons for the 21st century. This is because they are not always completely rational in nature.

What have our predecessors done so far? Most of our predecessors tried to convert men into machines. This is because, most of the earlier efforts were driven towards goal of excellence, prosperity mostly driven by science and logic.

All of these efforts have transformed man into machine. Man is now driven only by pursuit of excellence and prosperity. Most of the actions are now based on science and reason, purely objective in nature, like machines.

This has had consequences both good and bad. On the positive side, man is now deprived of the earlier stereotypes and prejudices to a large extent. He is only driven by material interests. Anyone (or) anything that helps in furthering his interests is valued and which hinders his growth are discarded.

For example, when man is purely driven by material instincts and want to achieve something, he will not stand still, considering the identity of those who help in achieving him his goal. This way many such stereotypes, prejudices are dismantled.

On the other hand, this single minded nature of man, has led to him behaving like a machine. This has led to man becoming one dimensional man, according to Herbert. Science has deprived man of his original nature and transformed him into a self oriented individual. It has transformed him into a beast, according to Rousseau. Similar views were also propogated by Nietzsche, who