Test Code: 11034

FIAS – 2018 – GS PAPER 2

ForumIAS
ACADEMY

GENERAL STUDIES

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Mobile No.		Date:	25/08/2018.

Time Allowed: Three Hours

Maximum Marks: 250

INDEX TABLE		
Q. No.	Max. Marks	Marks Obtained
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
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10		
11		
12		
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20		
Total Marks:		

INSTRUCTION

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Email, Roll No, Mobile).

2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH.

3. All questions are 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.

Remarks:	**Start Time|** / **End Time|**
	Mode Of Examination : **Online** ☐ **Offline** ☐
	ECN CODE: / **Evaluation Date:**

Parameters	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor
Language						
Structure						
Presentation						
Innovation						
Handwriting						
Content						
Attempt						

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

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Q.1) The Montague–Chelmsford Reforms became the basis for the Government of India Act, 1935 and ultimately, the Constitution of India. Substantiate giving suitable arguments.

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

Ans1. The 1919 Government of India Act or the Montague - Chemsford Reforms came at the backdrop of the the meagre conversions of a rudimentary responsible government after the first World War and the Home Rule League Movement

Some of the significant features of these reforms were:

1. Continuation and expansion of separate electorates.
2. Responsible Governments at provinces.
3. Transfered - Reserved lists → DUAL GOVERNMENT at Provinces.
4. List system : Division of powers at Centre and state levels.

(Don't Write anything in this /

5. Governor as an agent of the Centre in the States. This continued even in our Independent India's Constitution.

Provisions continued in 1935 GOI Act:

1. Simon Commission was made to evaluate the 1919 reforms. Result was 1935 Act.
2. Separation of powers - list system stayed.
3. Separate electorates expanded.
4. Dual-Govt - DIARCHY shifted from provinces to the Centre.

Constitution of India - adopted the Centre-State relations (Schedule 8) from the 1919 reforms. Also the current nature of the office of governor, Ordinance making power.

Our Constitution represents both change and Continuity

Feedback[For OFFICE use only]

Structure	
Question Interpretation	
Content	
Total	

Q.2) Our Constitution doesn't acquire its secular character merely from the words in the Preamble, but from a collective reading of many of its provisions. Elucidate. Should India have a non-establishment principle like that of the U.S. Constitution?

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

Ans-2 The 26 January 1950 Constitution did not have the ~~world~~ word Secular in its preamble. It was added with the 42nd Amendment in 1976.

This shows that merely mentioning of 'secular' in preamble did not make the Constitution SECULAR, but a collective of provisions like:

Article 14 ↔ Right to Equality.

Article 16 → No discrimination based on religion among other factors.

Article 25-28: Freedom to profess, practice and preach religion.

- The state did not have a religion rather, we had a policy of equidistance

and equal respect for all religions.
[Article 29-30]

4 Cultural and minority rights - to establish and administer institutions to preserve one's own culture: (eg: Madrasas, Minority educational institutions, Vedic Pathshalas, Khalsa College, etc).

Non-establishment principle of US Constitution:

India's evolution of ideals like secularism in polity and in the Constitution is unique to its own specific context. We do not need the non-establishment principle of the U.S.

Feedback(For OFFICE use only)

Structure	
Question Interpretation	
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Q.3) Competition between states is becoming a powerful dynamic of change and progress, and that dynamic must extend to competition between states and cities, and between cities. Elaborate. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

Ans-3. The competitive federalism is envisaged to shift from the second tier of governance - States to the third level the cities. This is suggested by the ECONOMIC SURVEY.

Benefits

1. Cities - some of them like Delhi and Mumbai with over 10 million populations are larger than many small countries like Bhutan, or Maldives.

↓

This signifies demand for development at the level of Cities.

It is estimated that by 2050 nearly 50% of our population will be living

in cities.

2. Competition - such as NITI Aayog's
   - Cleanliness Index (Indore)
   - Ease of Living Index (Pune)

spur debates and interest to shift dynamism to the level of cities.

Addressing the gaps:

1. Urban governance reforms: empowering the local bodies. Making them more financially viable. Currently only a few cities like Ahmedabad, Indore, etc ~~too~~ are able to raise finances through instruments like MUNI Bonds.
2. Investment in urban infrastructure and making way for planned and sustainable urbanisation

Feedback(For OFFICE use only)

Structure	
Question Interpretation	
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Q.4) How coordinated action between government and judiciary would not only help reduces the pendency of litigation in Indian courts but also facilitate ease of doing business? Discuss. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

Ans The Economic Survey of India for the current year flagged this issue of:

judicial pendency

↓

Weak contract enforcement

↓

Lack of ease of doing business.

↓

Reasons

- Legal Costs
- Delays → Costs of projects rise
- Lack of quality judgements by tribunals

Our overall rank improved by 30 places in the Ease of doing business but on the 'enforcement of contracts' front we are near the bottom.

This brings up the case for Government - Judiciary coordination to address this issue. This can be done as follows:

1. Filling up of the huge numbes of vacancies in the higher judiciary. The numbes is around staggering 400.
2. Clarity on judicial appointment process after the scrapping of NJAC Act.
3. Congruence on Memorandum of Procedure.

Institutional (Parliament).

1. Reduce the deadwood laws. Like around 1700 statutes already repealed.
2. More efficient and clear laws. Make ~~com~~ parliamentary committee scrutiny mandatory.
3. Avoiding retrospective taxation like in the case of Vodafone.

Judiciary →

1. Internal reforms - more expertise on business related laws; Use of ICT systems and smart management to dispose cases.

Feedback(For OFFICE use only)

Structure	
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Q.5) What are the factors due to which there is a strong demand of judicial accountability and transparency in higher judicial system? How can it be ensured? Discuss.

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

Ans 5. With the evolving democratic process in India, two out of 3 organs of the state → Executive and Legislature have come under strong accountability nets such as RTI, Supreme Court judgements on disclosure of assets, educational qualifications, etc of the MP/MLA candidates.

However, Judiciary has avoided such accountability:

1. Not under RTI.
2. No video telecast of proceedings.
3. No disciplinary action avenues except transfer or finally impeachment. Even these are extremely difficult.
4. Cases of higher judiciary corruption.
   Eg: The medical college case, Ex Arunachal Pradesh CM's suicide note, etc.

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Hence a strong demand for accountability.

It can be ensured in following ways:

1. Transparent Appointments [something on lines of the NJAC ~~bill~~ Act, which was in line with international best practices].
2. Bringing the administrative side of ~~high~~ judiciary under RTI, ~~on~~ at ~~line~~ par with the executive. This will curb petty corruption atleast.
3. Open courts and live telecasts of court proceedings. atleast SC and HCs. As is done in most ~~advanced~~ democracies.
4. Use of ICT systems to track cases.
5. Passing of Judicial Accountability Bill.

Judicial reforms at a large level without compromising with its independence are needed. It would be best if they come from within.

Feedback(For OFFICE use only)

Structure	
Question Interpretation	
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Q.6) In the Global Hunger Index, India stands very low. Discuss briefly the socio-economic & Politico-Cultural factors that have caused the man-made starvation in India.
(10 Marks, 150 Words)

Ans6. India ranked a dismal and thought provoking 119 in the Global Hunger Rankings. More than 30% children below 5 years are stunted or wasted.

Observation:

- Despite India having the largest Net Sown Area and surplus production of grains, fruits and vegetables, we performed poorly.
- Problem of nutrition, rather absolute hunger

Factors responsible

1. Social : . discrimination against girl child. → anemia
   - Women eat in the end.
   - Excessive fasting.
   - Lack of access.
2. Economic : . Lack of affordibility, specially of the protien rich diet. Grains are accessible ⇒ imbalanced diet.

- Low per capita incomes.
- Inefficient welfare schemes such as leakages in PDS and faulty targeting.

3. Political : • Faulty policies such as market distortionary MSP. It excluded pulses - the mainstay protien source.
• Focus on prevention of famines and fire fighting rather than a long term policy on eradication of hunger. [Amartya Sen].

4. Cultural : Largely vegetarian population. This excludes various protien sources.
↳ Vegetarian sources, expensive in recent times → stunting & wasting.

Solution : popularise breastfeeding, consistent MSP support for Pulses. Focus on nutritional security along with food security.

Feedback(For OFFICE use only)

Structure	
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Content	
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Q.7) Does The Trafficking of Persons (Prevention, Protection and Rehabilitation) Bill, 2018 ensure effective mechanism for empowerment and protection of the intended sections in the society? Discuss. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

Feedback(For OFFICE use only)

Structure	
Question Interpretation	
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Total	

Q.8) What are the main functions of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)? Explain how far it has been effective in accomplishing its mandate.

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

Ans 8. UNESCO was formed in the background of the destruction during the Second World War.

The main functions being:

1. Preservation of international heritage - both tangible (like Taj Mahal) and intangible (like theatre forms - Chhau).
2. International cooperation on educational, scientific and cultural domains, such as protecting heritage sites in conflict zones eg: UNESCO re-constructed the Bamiyan Buddhas and made the world focus on the large scale destruction of ancient libraries and temples in Syria.

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3. Other functions include development of weaker groups like women.

Example - Unesco aligned with ~~Gone~~ Government of India to launch skill and leadership programmes for women in Thailand.

Evaluation

Done fairly well :

1. Like listing and recognising sites of civilizational importance.
2. Developmental activities in the third world.

Behind realising it's mandate :

- Could not prevent the distruction of world heritage sites - like the Mosul library or Aleppo's medieval monuments
- Lacks clear mandate and approach on education and science, as compared to WHO on health.

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Structure	
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Q.9) Guided by their desire for strategic autonomy, India and France have been traditional partners and have adapted well to the changing global context. Comment.

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

Ans 9. Strategic Autonomy refers to preservation of national sovereignty and national interests.

India and France have been traditional partners, since the days of India's Independence. France has supplied crucial military supplies and nuclear energy systems when we needed the most. This was despite France being in the NATO fold and India following a Non-Alignment approach in the pre-liberalisation era.

We have adapted ✓ with time →

1. France opposed our 1974 nuclear tests.
2. It did not oppose the 1998 ~~pot~~ Pokhran tests.
3. One of our biggest arms supplier [eg: Rafale].
4. Recent times demanded more focus on renewable energy.

India-France initiative of International Solar Alliance is yet another example of our partnership evolving and adapting.

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Structure	
Question Interpretation	
Content	
Total	