

Test Code: 11035

FIAS – 2018 – GS PAPER 3

ForumIAS

ACADEMY

GENERAL STUDIES

Name Of Candidate	DHATRI REDDY		
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Mobile No.		Date:	16/9/2018

Time Allowed: Three Hours

Maximum Marks: 250

INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTION
Q. No.	Max. Marks	Marks Obtained	
1			<p>1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Email, Roll No, Mobile).</p> <p>2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH.</p> <p>3. All questions are compulsory.</p> <p>4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.</p> <p>7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum Answer Booklet must be clearly Struck off.</p>
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Total Marks:			
Remarks:			Start Time 10
			End Time 1
			Mode Of Examination : Online <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Offline <input type="checkbox"/>
			ECN CODE:
			Evaluation Date:

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

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

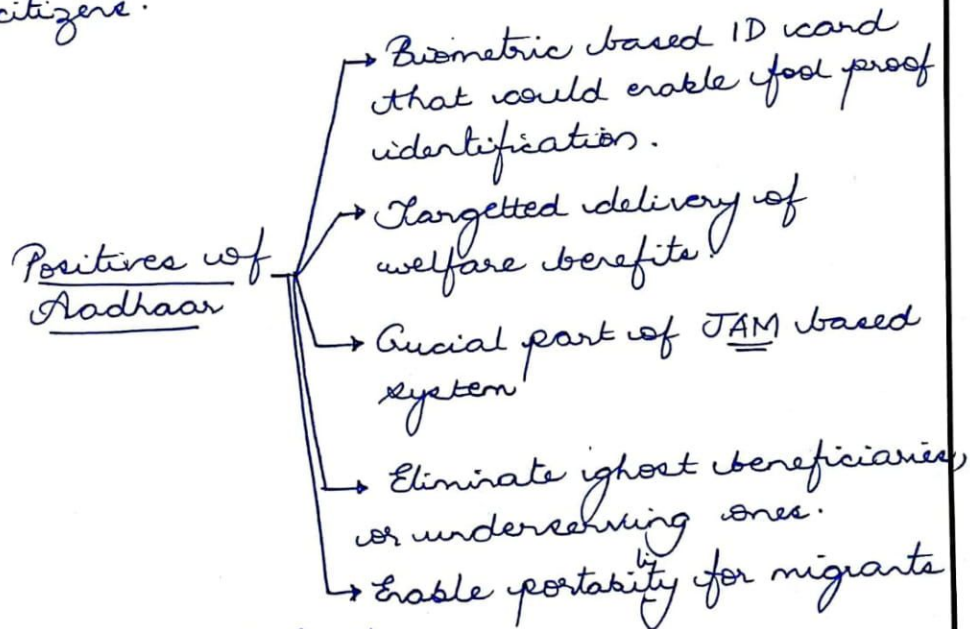


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1. The system of Aadhaar has been under continuous criticism for depriving the most vulnerable people of their rights-based entitlements. Discuss, while suggesting potential solutions.
(10 Marks, 150 Words)

Over 1.2 billion Indians now hold Aadhaar - to enable universal identification of Indian residents and citizens.



Criticism of Aadhaar:

(i) Delay and exclusion of vulnerable.
Ex: Death of Manthoshi - a tribal girl from starvation due to delay in entitlements.

(ii) Biometric verification may not be effective

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for sections like manual labour (chipped fingers), old age (eye) etc.

- (iii) Requires multiple systems to operate simultaneously - database, verification equipment etc
- (iv) Lack of requisite infrastructure and internet connectivity.
- (v) Threat of data loss, cyber attacks, privacy & etc.

Way forward:

- Develop ethical hacking capabilities to check robustness of systems.
- Create offline verifiability of credentials.
- Be flexible in allocations until systems become fool proof.

Radhacn is a great tool for delivery of public services despite loopholes. System needs to be improved through inputs from private sector and civil society.

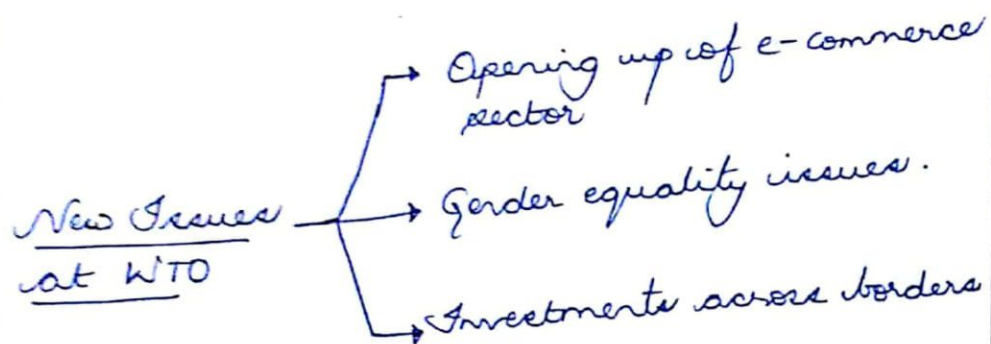
Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure	
Question Interpretation	
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3. "Aspirational India cannot ignore 'New Issues' in WTO but it has to articulate its position without sacrificing core matters which are important". Critically examine the above statement. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

WTO has been a platform for free and open trade. However, India has been facing the dilemma of Doha commitments vs. New Issues raised.



India's objections:

- (i) India first wants the conclusion of Doha commitments.
- (ii) It is important for developing countries like India to secure their nutritional and food security first.
- (iii) Unresolved issue of agricultural subsidies. Developed countries extending much higher subsidies in per capita terms.

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(iv) Conditions against public procurement could hinder our hunger alleviation programs.

(v) Flooding of India with agricultural imports - threat to domestic sector.

Why India must cooperate?

(i) Ecommerce and service sector have become widespread and mature in India.

(ii) Could boost growth.

(iii) Obstructing new agenda cannot go on forever.

(iv) Potential for more productive employment in India.

India needs to handle the issue of WTO discussions in a scientific manner based on planned consensus along with other developing partners.

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Structure	
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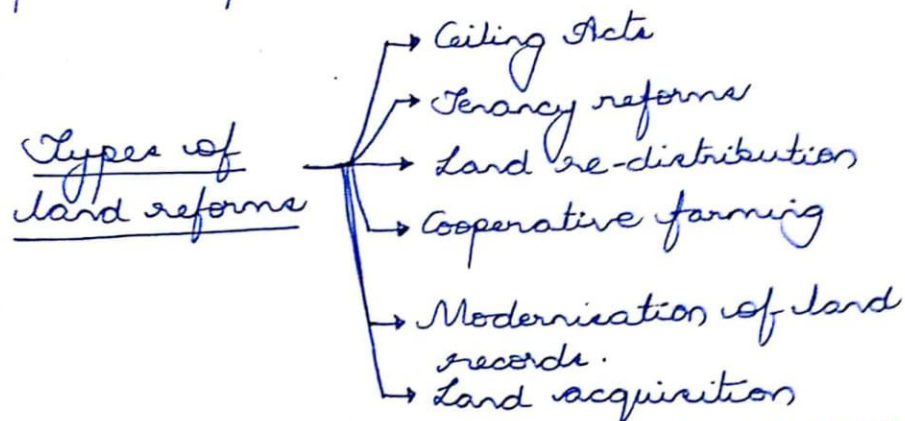


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5. Explain various types of land reforms that have taken place in India since Independence. How these land reforms have helped in poverty alleviation and food security in India?
(10 Marks, 150 Words)

Land reforms refer to the adjustments made in land relations by post-independent India.



Evaluation of land reforms : ACHIEVEMENTS.

- (i) Redistribution of land to rural landless
- (ii) Many beneficiaries belonged to SC, ST and vulnerable sections.
- (iii) Consolidation of land holdings allowed Green revolution → food security.
- (iv) Intensive agriculture by small and tenant farmers.

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FAILURE :

- (i) Miniscule redistribution of land.
- (ii) Fragmentation of land holdings.
- (iii) Benami transfers to evade ceiling laws.
- (iv) Incomplete recording of land records.
- (v) Ejection of tenants to prevent confiscation of land.
- (vi) Land acquisition methods for development are opaque and not scientific.
- (vii) Green revolution hasn't become a pan-India effect.

MS Swaminathan had referred to land reforms as "an incomplete agenda".
Need proactive steps and political will to see better results.

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6. Reiterating the goal of doubling farmers' income by 2022, the Union Budget 2018-19 gave a big thrust to agriculture and the related Agri-tech sector. Analyse the measures proposed in the Budget 2018-19 to achieve the given objective.
(10 Marks, 150 Words)

The government has taken up ambitious target of doubling farmers income by 2022.

Measures proposed in Budget 2018-19:

- (i) Accepting Swaminathan committee report of fixing MSP at 150% of production costs.
- (ii) GOBAR-Dhan: Galvanizing Organic Bio-agri resources. To create manure and energy security.
- (iii) Solar ~~roof~~ ~~top~~ power generation in farms (under KUSUM scheme) and facility for connection to grid for selling excess power.
- (iv) Expansion of organic and zero budget farming.

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(v) Encouragement to decentralised systems of irrigation.

Several recommendations of Ashok Dalwai Committee have been implemented to give impetus to doubling farmers income.

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7. Discuss the adverse impacts of rapid increase in municipal solid waste due to expansion of urbanization in India. In what ways, this waste can be converted into a sustainable source of energy in India? (10 Marks, 150 Words)

Only 80% of municipal solid waste is collected and less than 30% of it is treated.

India produces 1.5 lakh tonnes of solid waste/day and this has been rapidly increasing.

Adverse impacts of increase:

- (i) Proliferation of landfills.
- (ii) Entry of drainage system → choke and flood.
- (iii) Unscientific disposal → air pollution, soil pollution.
- (iv) Contamination of ground water due to leaching.
- (v) Entry of water bodies leads to eutrophication and contamination.
- (vi) Breeding grounds for mosquitoes and infections.

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(vii) Toxic and hazardous wastes could enter food cycle.

(viii) Aesthetic issues.

Waste to energy conversion:

- ① KASTURIRANGAN REPORT on waste to energy recommended source segregation of wastes, door to door collection and formalisation of rag pickers.
- ② Tap landfill gas emissions
- ③ Pelletisation of wastes for use as fuel
- ④ Establish waste to energy plants for large industrial wastes.

Chindwad of Pune has a sustainable model for waste to energy conversion. This needs to be replicated across cities.

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8. The installed capacities of solar and wind, at present, are far from the combined target of 160 GW to be achieved by 2022. In this light, examine the significance of 'National Wind-Solar Hybrid Policy'. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

India's commitments to Paris Treaty include 175 GW from renewable energy sources by 2022 - out of which 100 GW is through solar and wind.

Issues with solar and wind capacities:

- (i) Lack of viability of energy sources.
- (ii) Issues of investments from private sector.
- (iii) Land acquisition problems.
- (iv) Unreliability and gaps in power supply from solar or wind.
- (v) Technological gaps - lack indigenous.
- (vi) Inadequate technology transfers and collaborations from developed countries.
- (vii) Funding problem by international environmental groupings.
- (viii) No grid connectivity - unreliable.

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Significance of National wind-solar hybrid policy:

- (i) Improve reliability of power.
- (ii) Decrease burden of land acquisition.
- (iii) Scope to achieve targets of Paris Agreement.
- (iv) Can join grid connectivity.
- (v) Enter into power purchase agreements due to more continuous power generation.
- (vi) Prevent disruptions.

Need to resolve challenges of development of domestic equipment to relieve import dependence. This can make solar-wind-^{power} generation more reliable and cheap.

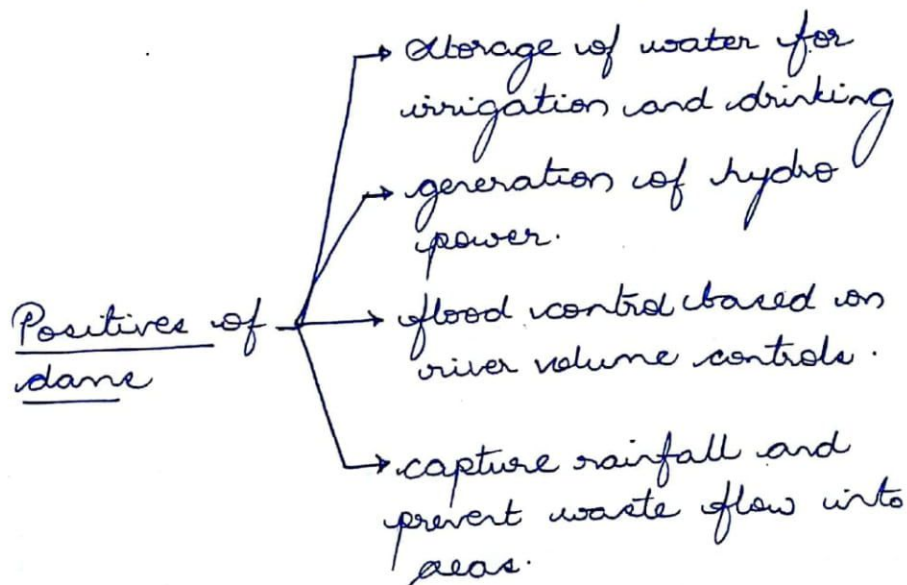
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9. According to several geologists and hydrologists, dams represent short-lived victories of engineering over natural sciences. Do you agree? Give reasons using suitable examples. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

Dams were envisioned as 'temples of modern India' but gradually became the 'disease of greatness'.



Issues with dams:

- (i) Obstructed natural river flows ⇒ adverse impact on river ecology.
- (ii) Death of river flora and fauna.
- (iii) Dam mismanagement → floods. Ex recent Kerala floods.

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anything in this Area)

- (iv) Absence of coordination. Ex opening of Mullaperiyar dam by Tamil Nadu worsened Kerala floods.
- (v) Dam induced seismicity. Ex Damodar river valley corporation.
- (vi) Heavy siltation and dredging costs.
- (vii) Displacement of vulnerable people.
- (viii) Climate change has made rainfall patterns more unpredictable.

Government steps like Dam Rehabilitation Infrastructure Project are welcome. But greater stress on decentralised local water management systems is required.

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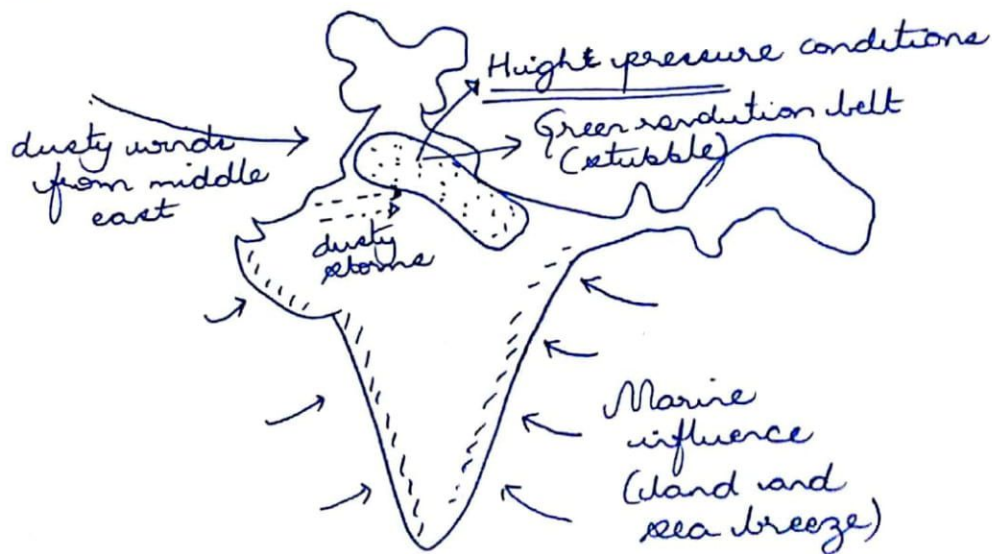
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10. Why Air pollution in India is a cause of concern in North but not in South? Discuss. Also, highlight, the measures taken so far to tackle the menace of air pollution in India with focus on Particulate Matter (PM). (10 Marks, 150 Words)

WHO estimated that India has 14/15 of the most polluted cities in the world. Most of them are concentrated in the North.

Reasons for more prevalence in North India:



- ① Continentality of North India
- ② Stubble burning
- ③ Delhi at lower pressure than surrounding
⇒ convergence of polluted winds.
- ④ Frequent dust storms, traffic and industry.

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- ⑤ Construction industry.
- ⑥ Deforestation, lack of barriers to dust.

Measures taken to control PM :

- (i) Graded response action plan by EPCA.
- (ii) Ban on stubble burning.
- (iii) Introduction of happy seeder to weed out stubble.
- (iv) Spraying water on high PM level days.
- (v) Regulation of construction sector.
- (vi) Ban on unregistered and bypass road trucks into Delhi.

The need is for long term sustainable methods such as afforestation, urban green spaces etc. to prevent PM pollution.

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Structure	
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11. How the failure to stop the degradation of Western Ghats worsened Kerala floods? Is it time to revisit the Gadgil committee recommendations on conservation and protection of Western Ghats to ensure more sustainable construction? Discuss. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

Recent Kerala floods are estimated to have caused a direct damage of over 20-40,000 crores. Degradation of fragile Western Ghats is cited as a main cause behind the floods.

Floods due to failure of conservation:

- (i) Gadgil Committee had suggested to recognise entire Western Ghats as Ecologically sensitive. However government accepted Kasturirangan Report and recognised only 37%.
- (ii) Unregulated mining and quarrying led to landslides.
- (iii) Deforestation has led to flooding with no barriers for flood water.
- (iv) Expansion of industries in fragile ecosystem.



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→ Recommendations of Gadgil Committee :

1. Categorise entire region as Ecologically sensitive.
2. Bar mining, quarrying and other such activities.
3. Decentralised management. Give power to local bodies to regulate activities.
4. Avoid allocation of SEZs and industries.
5. Afforestation etc.

→ Need for accepting the recommendations:

- (i) Between 1990-2005, Western Ghats has lost 40% of its original vegetation.
- (ii) Western Ghats is one of the world's biodiversity hotspots - hence the need to conserve it.
- (iii) Huge concentration of population along the coasts and western ghats states would be vulnerable.