

# ForumIAS

ACADEMY

## GENERAL STUDIES

Name Of Candidate	Sulhantha Gupta		
Email Id.		Roll No.	1910050330
Mobile No.		Date:	03/09/19

Time Allowed: Three Hours

Maximum Marks: 250

INDEX TABLE		
Q. No.	Max. Marks	Marks Obtained
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
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   2:00 PM	End Time   5:00 PM
	Mode Of Examination :	Online <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Offline <input type="checkbox"/>
	ECN CODE:	Evaluation Date:

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

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Q.1) "The recent judgement of the Supreme Court on Section 377 of IPC presented a new vision of equality that is truer and more faithful to the Constitution's transformative character." Comment. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

The SC in Navtej Singh Vs UoI 2018 case declared that sec 377 criminalizing gay, lesbian community is unconstitutional

The judgement is based on a broader concept of social justice which is open-minded and inclusive.

This idea of social justice is the basis of the new 'Equality' order/vision

The judgement has following aspects which reflect the Constitution's true transformative character:

- (i) Art 38 : Socio-Economic development of all sections of society
- (ii) Art 15 : Non-discrimination on the basis of sex only.



(iii) Preamble's ideals of social justice and Equality of status and opportunity

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(iv) Art 21 : Right to privacy, right to choose, right to self-determination of the LGBT community.

By incorporating these transformative components of constitution the judgement upholds the 'organic', flexible, 'modern' nature of our constitution based democracy. ~~The It~~ reflects that ~~the~~ the constitution ~~is able~~ <sup>enables</sup> the system to accept changes in society, social mindset and norms

Feedback ( For OFFICE use only )

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.2) "Gender justice, as a value, seems to have become vulnerable to pragmatic politics." In light of the recent controversy, critically evaluate the statement.

(10 Marks, 150 Words)



Q.3) Special provisions given to various states and region in our constitution signifies the principle of federalism which is unique to India. Discuss.

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

India's federalism structure has been often termed as a unique framework with names such as Quasi-Federal, federalism with unitary centralization.

There are <sup>special</sup> provisions which make it unique:

- ① Art 370: special status to Jammu & Kashmir : with separate constitution and laws : was part of our federal structure for 70 years
- ② Art 371(A-I) (i) special ~~provisions~~ <sup>provisions to</sup> Nagaland, Sikkim, Manipur to protect their local culture and diversity
- (ii) special boards for development of regions like Telangana, Vidarbha
- ③ Schedule 5 : (Scheduled Areas)  
It gives special provisions like

non-application of certain laws,  
strict regulation of transfer of lands to  
protect them from exploitation.

(4) Schedule 6 (Tribal areas)  
Special provisions like Autonomous District  
Councils for Assam, Meghalaya

(5) Local Bodies with exemptions like  
Gorkhaland Territorial Administration  
(Darjeeling), Manipur hills Council

These special provisions  
for specific states, regions is unique  
to Indian federal structure and enables  
it foster local growth and development

Feedback ( For OFFICE use only )

Structure

Content



Q.4) Reservations has become a mere tool for employment generation and power-sharing rather than a means of social justice as envisaged in the Constitution. Discuss with reference to reservation policy in India. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

The Constitution provides for following reservations :-

- (i) Art 338: Reservation for SC/ST in parliament
- (ii) Art 16: Reservation for SC/ST/OBC in public employment
- (iii) 73/74 AA: Reservation of women in PRI & ULB

Reservation as a tool of social Justice

① The Educationally and socially backward classes ~~are~~ inherited no social capital and were subject to centuries of discrimination

This made reservation a tool for ~~their~~ providing a level playing field

- ② Increasing representation in govt agencies
- ③ More inclusive socio-economic and political development



## Reservation as tool of Employment generation and power sharing

- (i) Lack of non-farm and skilled job opportunities has forced dominant castes like Jats, Patidars, Marathas to have reservation
- (ii) Reservations are seen as anti-merit, discriminatory and important aspect of vote-bank politics: The dominant castes want to share these benefits
- (iii) Increased public employment for lower castes → Increased power in society → more social conflicts: The dominant castes see the <sup>reservations</sup> as a source of power

Thus, there is a need to change/review the reservation policy by

- (i) review of status of castes
- (ii) creamy layer in all sections

To make it more inclusive and achieve the ideals of constitution.

Feedback ( For OFFICE use only )

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

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Q.5) Do you agree that exposure to media especially social media has affected voting behaviour and political preferences in India?  
(10 Marks, 150 Words)

Social media is the online platform involving microblogging (Twitter), information sharing (Facebook), news reading platforms (Quint, Reddit) and communication platforms (WhatsApp).

## Impact on voting behaviour

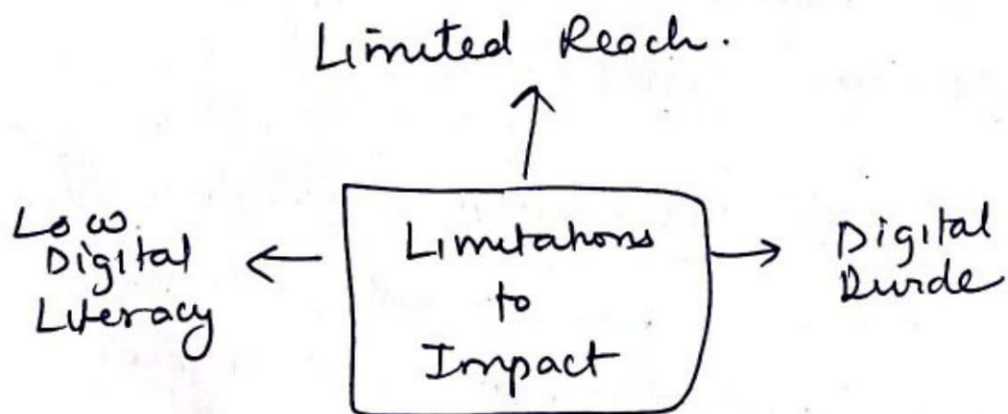
- (i) spread of Fake News and increase of Post-Truth politics
- (ii) spread of communal content on social media to lure voters on religious lines
- (iii) case of Cambridge Analytica in USA where behaviour patterns were changed due to continuous exposure.
- (iv) The platforms have also helped in informed decision making :-



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Ex: Google's 'Know Your MP' Platform  
Facebook's 'Find Nearest Polling Booth'

- (v) Political parties and leaders who have large online following and presence have larger impact in elections
- (vi) Leaders also engage in twitter debates which is conducive for public to know opinions of leaders
- (vii) political parties have resorted to creation of IT armies to create content, defamation of rivals on social media.
- (viii) Platforms like Logical India, Better India has helped the voters know more about the performance of previous govt



Feedback ( For OFFICE use only )

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.5) A special emphasis has been given to the private sector in the major health programmes of India. Examine the role of the private sector in achieving the goal of a healthy India. What are the steps taken by the government in this regard?  
(10 Marks, 150 Words)

Recently, NITI Aayog released the draft PPP model in healthcare document. It acknowledges that 70% of healthcare is delivered by private institutions in India.

Emphasis on private sector

- (1) Programmes like National Health Mission envisage active role of private providers
- (2) Public health schemes like 'Santhusti' for sterilization based population control
- (3) Earlier Rashtriya Swastha Bima Yojana empanelled ~~has~~ private hospitals for insurance

Role of Private sector in goal Healthy India

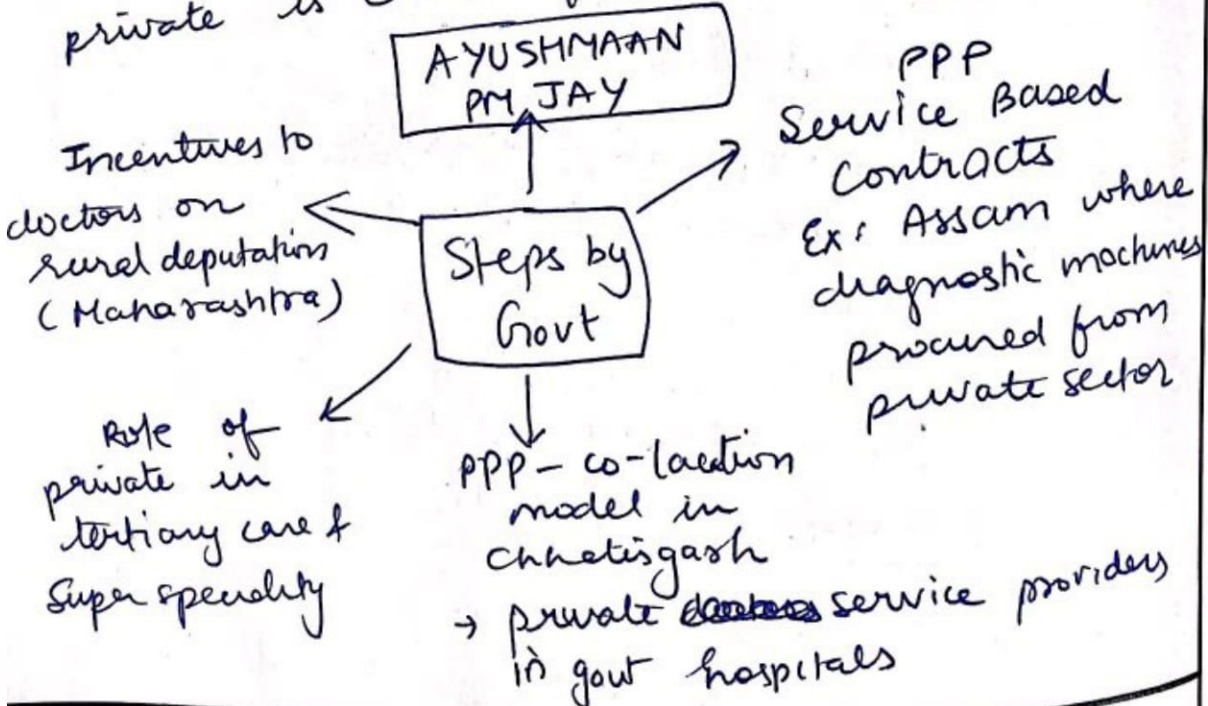
(1) The public expenditure is very low at ~ 1.6% of GDP. Private investment in primary care, hospitals, research, teaching is necessary



(2) Public infra in terms of primary health centre, diagnostic machines, tertiary care devices etc is poor. ~~Private~~ Private role is ~~poor~~ and expertise is required

(3) Public health human resources is Doctor (1:1500), Mid level practitioners (1:900) is very inadequate; Dependence on private doctors, nurses, physicians is high

(4) Private medical institutions provide ~50% medical seats every year. India needs to double the quantity: role of private is crucial for augmenting capacity



Feedback ( For OFFICE use only )

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

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Q.7) The recently amended the Motor Vehicle Act prioritises road safety by fixing accountability for not just an individual driving the vehicle but all the stakeholders involved in road safety. Comment. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

~~The~~ India faces around 1.5 lakh deaths in road accidents every year. The motor vehicle act amendments aim at reducing it.

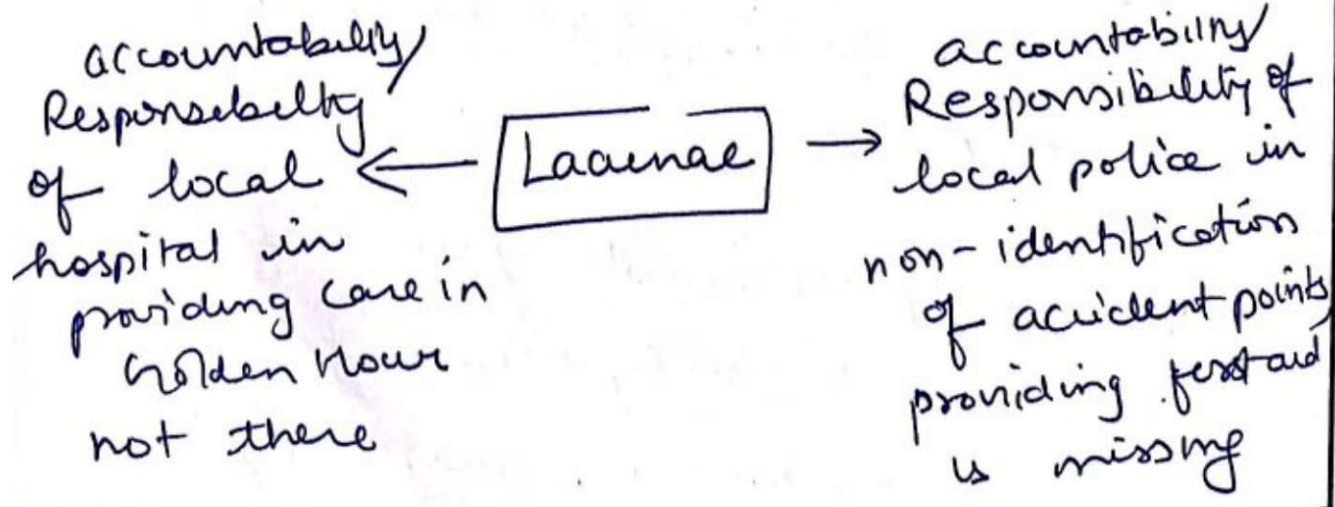
### Fixing Accountability of the driver

- (1) Higher fines, penalties  
Ex: Drunken driving from ₹1000 to ₹10,000
- (2) a transparent driving license system where each traffic violation will be graded on points.  
after certain points, the license will be cancelled.
- (3) Higher imprisonment punishments for death due to negligence, fast, rash driving by minor (guardian / parent will also be prosecuted)



# Fixing accountability of stakeholders

- (1) If accident due to faulty road design then road engineers, contractors will also be prosecuted and pay fine to Road Safety Fund
- (2) The contractor has the responsibility to ensure road safety standards in designing and construction
- (3) Recognizes goodwill behaviour of good samaritans : police will not prosecute them in the case.
- (4) Police themselves violating rules will be subject to double penalty.



### Feedback ( For OFFICE use only )

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		<b>Total :</b>	



Q.8) India's need for energy security and connectivity to Eurasia, requires India's engagement in the Central Asia region not only at the bilateral level but also at a collective level. Analyse. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

India currently ~~exports~~ <sup>imports</sup> 70% of its energy needs, 50% of which comes from middle East. Thus there is need for diversifying the energy import basket to less tapped regions like Eurasia

This need for energy diversification has been coupled with need for connectivity to Eurasia also:

- (i) To bypass Pakistan in reaching Afghan, Uzbek, Kazakhstan markets
- (ii) ~~to have more access to reduce~~ costs of imports through air corridors

India's engagement at individual level

- (1) Kazakhstan ideal for uranium, rare earth like zirconium
- (2) Uzbekistan ideal for uranium,
- (3) TAPI - oil pipeline with Turkmenistan



## Extension to collective level

- ① Engage with Eurasian Economic Union (EEU) to tap the large oil, gas reserves in the region where ONGC-Videsh can hold strategic oil reserve assets.
- ② Collective Bargaining for decrease of tariffs, non-tariff trade barriers for energy imports.
- ③ Collaboration in implementation of International North-South Transport Corridor.
- ④ Invitation to invest in Chabahar port and industries.

This will help India in fulfilling its Connect Central Asia Policy and also meeting energy, connectivity needs.

Feedback ( For OFFICE use only )

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



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 Shanghai Cooperation Organisation with China and Russia as dominant powers have different views on defining terrorism, views about India - Pakistan bilateral issue and engagement with western countries. In this context, discuss how India can use SCO as an effective platform to address her needs.

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation is a security - economic grouping of Eurasian nations along with India, Pakistan and China.

The platform has the RATS framework for tackling regional terrorism collectively.

Effective Platform for India

- (1) Raise the issues of Pakistan sponsored cross border terrorism, asymmetric warfare in Kashmir region
- (2) It can present Pakistan's inaction in prosecution of Mumbai 2008 terrorist cases, harboring of



terrorists like Masood Azhar  
 (3) It can put pressure on China and Russia to review their financial aid to Pakistan

### Limitations of SCO for India

(1) China as an all-weather ally has blocked all attempts to malign or accuse Pakistan or designation of some of its citizens as terrorists.

(2) Russia views Kashmir as a bilateral issue whereas China views it as an international border dispute with involvement of UN.

(3) This has hindered the consensus building in SCO

Despite these limitations, ~~But~~ India was able to score diplomatic victory at SCO where it reprimanded Pakistan

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure

Content

Q.10) India requires a productive multilateral forum. Evaluate.

Net security provider is a military arrangement where the nation provides full military assistance, military capacity building and engagement in conflicts to its smaller nations in the neighbourhood.

The Issues in Indian Ocean Region has prompted India to assume the role in the region:-

- (i) piracy
- (ii) maritime terrorism
- (iii) disaster management
- (iv) growing influence of China

Steps Taken by India

- (1) Naval logistics and refuelling berths at Singapore
- (2) Maritime exercises like MALABAR in IOR
- (3) Acquisition of Dugm port in Oman for naval operations