

Test Code: 21049

FIAS – MGP2019 – 10B

ForumIAS
ACADEMY

GENERAL STUDIES

Name Of Candidate	NAVNEET MANN		
Email Id.		Roll No.	19100 33358
Mobile No.		Date:	17/1/2019

Time Allowed: Three Hours

Maximum Marks: 250

INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTION	
Q. No.	Max. Marks	Marks Obtained	<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 	End Time
			Mode Of Examination :	Online <input type="checkbox"/> Offline <input type="checkbox"/>
			ECN CODE:	Evaluation Date:

ForumIAS Offline Guidance Centre

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

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS



Q.1) Feminization of ageing in India is a double edged sword. Discuss.

(10 Marks/150 Words)

Feminisation of Ageing is a phenomenon wherein increasingly more number of women will be above 60 years of age.

According to the UN Population Fund, India's elderly population will triple from 2011 to 2050. In this, more than half will be females.

On one hand, feminisation of ageing is a positive sign because :

- it indicates that increasingly greater number of women are able to live ~~to~~ a safer, healthy life to reach old age
- indicator of improving sex-ratio numbers

Contrarily, feminisation of ageing has various pitfalls as well :

- ~~no~~ will increase dependency on family members for livelihood → making them vulnerable for exploitation
- stigma associated with widowhood
- more prone to crimes, violent abuse

Way forward →

- government should provide adequate support like as done by Integrated Oldage Population Programme
- NHRC's idea of "Time Bank" model can be explored. In this, people take care of elderly. In return, when they get old, young volunteers will similarly help them.

Thus, proper care and support is the answer to the emerging phenomenon.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure	
Question Interpretation	
Content	
Total	



Q.2) What ² factors act as hindrance to the ¹ secular fabric of India? Suggest ³ measures to strengthen peace and harmony in Indian society.

(10 Marks/150 Words)

Indian secularism is a form of positive secularism which provides equality of religions along with special rights for the minorities.

Factors hindering our secular fabric

- ① Communalism = use of religion in politics only fuels passions leading to violence (eg → Babri Masjid case, Gujarat Riots)
- ② Recommendations to adopt the Western idea of secularism
 - Some oppose the idea of special rights to minorities
 - But Western secularism today itself is under threat
- ③ Vote-bank politics due to which minorities face the double burden of

of favour and of neglect

Measures to strengthen Peace & Harmony

- organising joint community meets and festivals
- political and religious leaders should promote sense of tolerance, harmony
- encourage students at schools to participate in various cultural programmes
- stringent action against communal elements
- regulation of social-media to prevent cases of rumour-mongering.

Thus, an atmosphere free from prejudices and misconceptions will protect India's secular fabric.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure	
Question Interpretation	
Content	
Total	



Q.3) While overcrowding is a fact, it does not indicate a failure of family planning practices. Comment.

(10 Marks/150 Words)

India is not just one of the most populated countries but also one of the most overcrowded ones with population density more than 380 people per sq km.

Failure of family planning is considered as ~~one~~ of the major cause of overcrowding. However, it is wrong to consider it as the only reason. Given that India's Total Fertility Ratio ~~is~~ is approaching towards replacement levels (2.1) shows that ^{lack of} family planning alone is not the ~~only~~ culprit.

Other factors causing overcrowding

P.T.O. →

- increased migration to urban centres
- lack of planning in development of urban infrastructure
- disparity in distribution of population (while majority of highly populated districts lie in North)

Thus, the way forward to the problem of overcrowding is long-term, sustainable planning of urban centres. This is because by 2050, more than 60% of Indians will be residing in cities.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure	
Question Interpretation	
Content	
Total	



Q.4) For all our unity in diversity claims, India has not been able to accept people with disabilities. Critically examine.

(10 Marks/150 Words)

India has a sizeable population of person with disabilities (PWDs) at 26.8 million according to latest census figures.

However, this ~~part~~ section of India's population continue to remain marginalised as they face hurdles:

- lack ~~to~~ of access to public services
- lack of access to proper education
- limited employment opportunities
- social stigma, isolation
- lack of adequate care facilities

In this context, the government has taken various steps to improve conditions of PWDs.

→ Rights of PWDs Act

◦ provides for reservation of seats for PWDs in public employment

→ Access India Campaign

to increase access of PWDs to government infrastructure and platform

→ India became first nation to ratify

Marrakech Treaty - to provide greater literary access to the visually challenged

→ National Child Policy (2013) & provides for special care to children with disabilities.

Thus, slowly and steadily the voices of the PWDs have begun to be heard.

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Structure	
Question Interpretation	
Content	
Total	



Q.5) "Microfinance has immense potential for achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)". Comment

(10 Marks/150 Words)

Microfinance is the practice of providing small-sized loans to ~~low~~ ~~sections~~ the poor sections with the aim of financial inclusion and providing adequate livelihoods.

Microfinance and Achieving SDGs

SDG1 → End Poverty → Microfinance provides funds to SHGs to open their own ventures thus providing livelihood.

SDG2 → End Hunger → Microfinance increases the poor's access to minimum food requirements.

SDG3 → Healthcare for All → microfinance by means of insurance packages provides for healthcare in times of need

SDG4 → Access to Education for all → microfinance can provide loans to poor to educate their wards

SDG5 → Achieve gender equality for all → microfinance to women SHGs aids in their empowerment

SDG7 → Clean water & sanitation for all → extend microfinance to households to construct toilets, septic tanks

Thus, microfinance holds immense potential to achieve @ SDGs.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure	
Question Interpretation	
Content	
Total	



Q.6) The changing pattern in intimate relationships in Indian society, poses a challenge to traditional institution of marriage. Comment.

(10 Marks/150 Words)

With the advent of globalisation and modernisation, the Indian society has undergone a fundamental change including the institution of marriage.

Changing Patterns of Relationships

in India is seen as:

- preference given to secondary relations (ex colleagues, neighbours)
- ~~are~~ rising divorce rates
- increasing nuclearisation of family
- increasing generation gap b/w parents and children

This poses a challenge for the institution of marriage as

- now people give importance to their professional life, not personal life
- increasing distances, aloofness due to lack of family time.

However, at the same time one cannot dismiss the positive changes in this regard like people today are much more open to inter-caste, inter-religious marriages.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

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Question Interpretation	
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Q.7) Process of urbanisation have played a significant role in reinforcing the role of manual scavengers in urban areas. Discuss.

(10 Marks/150 Words)

The Employment of Manual Scavengers and Construction of Dry Latrines Act declares the practice of employing manual ~~scavengers~~ scavengers as illegal.

However, the practice continues. According to Census 2011, more than 2.6 lakh Indian households continued to be engaged in it.

The practice even continues in urban areas as seen by the recent deaths of a few manual scavengers in a specific tank in Delhi.

Urbanisation indirectly reinforces

manual scavenging as:

- urban centres create need for cleaning sewerage, but lack of proper disposal system, the burden falls on manual scavengers
- lack of adequate jobs, means of livelihood, forces the poor to become manual scavengers
- lack of proper urban governance leads to neglect of proper safety measures for those engaged in it

WAY FORWARD

- Rehabilitation, Economic Empowerment of Manual Scavengers
- Sub-scheme under Swachh Bharat Abhiyan to develop ~~pro~~ proper sewerage system and eliminate Manual Scavenging

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure	
Question Interpretation	
Content	
Total	



Q.8) Has it not been for globalization, the rights granted to LGBT community in India would have been a distant dream? Critically Examine.

(10 Marks/150 Words)

The LGBTQ community are considered as one of the most neglected and marginalized sections of the Indian society.

It is said that globalisation has provided new hopes to the community to assert their rights as:

→ globalisation has increased ^{people's} ~~sexual~~ awareness about the rights of the sexual minorities

→ access to social media, internet provided LGBTQ people a newer space to express their voices and concerns.

However, it is wrong to consider globalisation as the panacea for the discrimination faced by the sexual minorities as :

→ The recently decriminalised Sec 377 of the IPC was itself a British colonial legacy, not the product of Indian culture

→ Moreover, historical evidences show that people in the past were receptive to the ideas of sexual minorities, transgenders as shown by our art and culture

Thus, it is a fallacy to consider globalisation is a new gateway for the LGBT community.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure	
Question Interpretation	
Content	
Total	



Q.9) How has socio-cultural hurdles impacted the penetration of Self Help Groups (SHGs) in rural areas and prevented effective grassroots participation?

(10 Marks/150 Words)

SHGs in rural areas have multiple benefits:

- increase grassroots, people participation
- financial inclusion
- women empowerment.

However, socio-cultural hurdles impacting SHGs include:

- lack of awareness
- traditional view of women ^{not} participating in public matters - SHGs

- the neglected sections → unimproved to be deprived of benefits as most benefits are cornered by the more affluent sections.

Thus, a more inclusive approach is required to improve SHG penetration in rural areas. This can be done by linking dispersal of performance grants to panchayats by state governments with level of SHG penetration especially to women and Dalits.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure	
Question Interpretation	
Content	
Total	