

TEST CODE : 4 1 0 8 9

FIAS – MGP 2021 (C-10) – GS TEST #5

ForumIAS

GENERAL STUDIES

Name Of Candidate

AYUSH VENKAT VATS

Roll No.

Date:

23/12/21

Time Allowed: Three Hours

Maximum Marks: 250

INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTION	
Q. No.	Max. Marks	Marks Obtained	1. Please do furnish Name, Email, Roll No and Mobile in the answer sheet.	
1			2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI, all questions are compulsory.	
2			3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.	
3			4. 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.	
4			5. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum Answer Booklet must be clearly Struck off.	
5			<i>Any specific messages for ForumIAS Mentors/ Evaluators with respect to your copy? Write it here.</i>	
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Total:	250			
Evaluator's Discretion:			For Student Only	
			Start Time 22:00 am	End Time 2:00 pm
Total Marks:			Mode Of Examination:	Online <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Offline <input type="checkbox"/>
Evaluator's Discretion: This is the marks awarded at the discretion of the evaluator based on your overall impression, on the basis of (but not limited to) your handwriting, presentation, use of diagrams, flowcharts, facts and figures or absolutely anything that he/she liked in your copy.			For Office Use Only	
			ECN CODE:	EG:
			Evaluation Date:	

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

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Q.1)

Article 19 of the Indian Constitution guarantees the right to freedom of speech and expression.

It also includes

- (i) Right to form organisation
- (ii) Right to move anywhere
- (iii) Right to protest
- (iv) Right to take up any occupation.

Rights of citizens are not absolute

- (i) ~~Right~~ Free speech and expression doesn't mean promoting enmity b/n sections eg:- hate speech
- (ii) It should be ^{against} ~~in~~ the interest of the sovereignty of the nation.
- (iii) It should not disrupt public order
- (iv) It does not live in isolation and should not harm

fundamental rights of others

Power to impose restriction not absolute

- 1) Restrictions should not be used to suppress dissent
eg: Section law
- 2) National security can't be used as a shield to suppress domestic freedoms
- 3) ~~Constitutional~~ Restrictions should not suppress voice of marginalised sections
- 4) State should not attack freedom of press

Way forward

- 1) Shahen Bagh Judgement: need to strike a balance between fundamental rights
- 2) Those in power should exercise tolerance

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.2) Constitution of India has provided for a concurrent list in which both the Centre and States have legislative competence

Concurrent list against federal spirit

(i) In a federation states should have the maximum legislative power

(ii) Concurrent list provides a way for centre to interfere in affairs of state.

However,

(i) Some subjects like education also require co-ordination in policy throughout nation

(ii) Laws made by centre help in bringing out quick reforms at the national

level
Therefore concurrent list is not against federal spirit

Doctrines of pith and substance

When centre and state both make a law which has conflicting provisions then Supreme Court applies doctrine of pith and substance to break the deadlock

eg: Law banning loud speaker although it seems has ~~pub~~ maintenance of public health and prohibition of noise pollution at its core and hence should be the competence of States

Way Forward

Punchhi Commission: Laws on concurrent list should be made only after consultation between centre and states

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.3) Constitution of India provides for ordinance making power to the executive to bring about legislations in urgent situations

Art 123: ordinance making power of president

Ordinance making for governance reforms

- 1) Farm laws: Initially promulgated through ordinance
- 2) Environmental commission for Delhi
- 3) Protection of Human Rights Act, RTI amendment ordinance

Ordinance diluting accountability to legislative

- 1) Laws brought about by ordinances are not subjected to debate in house
- 2) Laws brought in this way are not

Scrutinised by parliamentary
Committees

3) Research on such laws done
wholly by executive

4) Stakeholders were not consulted
and ^{consensus} ~~accountability~~ is not
built

Way forward

(i) Ordinance making power
should be exercised sparingly

(ii) Debates and scrutiny
by parliament should
be encouraged

(iii) All stakeholders need to
be consulted before any
reforms

Therefore although ordinance making
power is needed, it should be
an exception and not the norm

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

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Q.4)

BR Ambedkar had said that CAG is perhaps the most important post to ensure accountability of the executive

Art 148 : Deals with the establishment of CAG who is to be head of Indian Audit and Accounts Department

~~Issues~~ Criticisms of CAG

- (i) Its analysis is post-mortem in nature after expenditure has already occurred
- (ii) CAG doesn't have all relevant information to conduct properly audit
- (iii) Paul H Appleby "Deputy of department knows more than CAG and his staff"
- (iv) CAG cannot audit intelligence expenditure

(V) CAG is only an auditor
and not controller general
Comptroller

Suggested Reforms

- (i) CAG should rope in more
experts of various domains
- (ii) CAG should pay greater
attention to social audit
- (iii) Greater use of emerging
tech such as Big data
and AI in audit.

Therefore there is a need for
CAG to evolve its functioning
with time

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

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Q.5) Pressure groups are organisations which represent the interest of small function groups and pressure government to adopt policies for their welfare

Methods used

- 1) Lobbying: corporates lobby with politicians and bureaucrats
- 2) Activism and protest by social groups
- 3) Political participation: Some groups even participate in elections
- 4) PILs: In India pressure groups often challenge public policy in court rooms

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5) Ground level and grassroots political work

6) social media campaigns.

Pressure groups broadening democracy

- (i) act like functional constituent
- (ii) Resonate voice of marginalised

Suppressing

- (i) using money power to influence policy
- (ii) Interests of a narrow group overriding needs of masses

Pressure groups although help broaden participation but they need to be regulated

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

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Question Interpretation		Total :	

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anything in this Area)

Q.6)

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Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

7) The police and Judicial system of India have long been considered as roadblocks slowing country's economic progress

Inter relation of governance and economic reforms

- (i) good governance help in attracting foreign investment and FDI
- (ii) Governance reforms can significantly improve ease of doing bussiness
- (iii) Help in enforcing contracts
- (iv) ~~to~~ Easy resolution of economic disputes

Bad governance can lead to projects getting delayed and economic losses

~~Relation of governance &~~
economic

Police & Judicial system as hurdle

- (i) 3.9 cr cases pending with judiciary
- (ii) Bribery and corruption rampant in police
- (iii) Land disputes takes years to resolve causing economic losses
- (iv) Judicial activism caused losses during 2011-13 period

Way forward

Judicial pendency needs to be reduced and police should be remodelled to provide boost to economy

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

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Q.8)

Civil Services in India is plagued with many structural problems.

Some are :-

- (i) More focus of following rules rather than good governance
- (ii) Political interference in every day decisions
- (iii) Favoritism and political ideology playing a big role in transfer and postings of the bureaucrats
- (iv) Strict procedures take away independence in decision making.

However

- (i) rules are necessary to control corruption
- (ii) objectivity in governance

can only be ensured through
only and regulations

way forward

- (i) 2nd arc recommendations should be implemented
- (ii) Civil servants should be provided autonomy within bounds of Code of Ethics

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.9)

Sri Lanka is the region where India faces all types of emotions such as acceptance, support, ~~opposites~~ ^{challenges} and even opposition.

~~Sigm~~ Sri-Lanka can be used to display neighbour hood first and SAGAR

- (i) Sri-Lanka is one of the closest nations with historical and cultural ties to India
- (ii) Sri-Lanka lies in IOR where SLOC pass from
- (iii) India aspires to be a net security provider in the region including Sri-Lanka
- (iv) 60% of India's trans-shipment cargo passes

through SL

Way forward

- (i) India should focus on resolution of disputes like bottom trawling and Tamil issue amicably
 - (ii) Should invest in developing social infra in SL
- ∴ SL is the perfect place for both neighbourhood first and SAGAR policy

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Indo - Pacific is geo political construct.

Inter-dependence

- (i) economic → RCEP, ASEAN
- (ii) Important SLOC passes through region
- (iii) source of agricultural and manufacturing products.

Multipolarity

- ↳ India
- ↳ Japan
- ↳ China
- ↳ US (Diego Garcia)
- ↳ Australia.

way forward

- ↳ Development of economic and cultural ties in

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the region

(i) open and free Indo pacific
according to India's
vision

(ii) Development of multi-polar
organisation and world order

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.11)

Criminalisation of politics is becoming more and more apparent. In the 2019 Lok Sabha, 49% of MPs have criminal cases against them

Existing mechanisms for controlling money & muscle power

- 1) Sec 77, RPA 1951 : Imposes an expense ceiling of ₹ 77 lakh for LS & ₹ 30 lakh for RS election
- 2) Sec 125, RPA 1951 : candidates have to file affidavit with information of their assets
- 3) Sec 8, RPA 1951 : disqualifies candidates on being convicted of certain offences.
- 4) PIF v/s UOI 2018 : Parties have to publish the criminal antecedents of candidates

in news paper and media

5) Civil Society activism: Also helps in controlling ~~own~~ money & muscle power.

Why criminals find it easy to succeed

- 1) financial power: criminals have large amounts of black money
- 2) Influence on voters: due to muscle power
- 3) Local popularity
- 4) Nexus between police - criminals and politicians
- 5) Lack of social awareness and scrutiny

How to reverse trend

- 1) Under sec 125, filing wrong information in affidavit should be $\&$ leading to disqualification under sec(8)
- 2) More finances and human resources to ECI
- 3) Use of Big tech etc in audit of accounts
- 4) Bringing political parties under RTI
- 5) Social education campaign

Steps should immediately be taken to halt political criminalisation

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.12) Reservation is a tool to ensure participation of marginalised sections in society and economy

Art 15 → Reservation for socially and economically backward classes in education

Art 16 : Reservation in govt jobs

330, 332 : Reservation in legislature

Reservation morphing into populist exercise

1) Private sector reservation : Recent example in Karnataka, Maharashtra etc. where reservation is being demanded before every election

2) Dominant class reservation : Reservation to jats, patels etc.

Causes for rising demand for caste census and private reservation

- 1) Agriculture distress : very low agri. income
- 2) Unemployment : eg. Haryana had 25% unemployment in Feb 2021
- 3) In-migration : Haryana, Maharashtra etc top the list of migration destinations
- 4) Political : vote bank politics
- 5) Lack of educational opportunities
- 6) growing population

Impact

- 1) Such policies will disproportionately impact MSMEs
- 2) Further increase distress among migrants

like "one nation

3) Harm concepts

one market"

4) delay pandemic recovery

way forward

1) Economic solutions to economic problems: States should focus on attracting investment to fight unemployment

2) Reservation limit of 50% in Indira Sawney judgement should be respected

3) Dereservation through social mapping

Indian states should focus on creating plural society

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.13)

The constitution 73rd and 74th Amendment acts laid the foundation of local governance in India. However progress hasn't been much so far

administrative decentralisation not accompanying political

- 1) Top-down decision making : local planning decisions are still taken at top and imposed on bottom
- 2) Financial autonomy : very few taxes are decentralised to the local level.
- 3) low capacity and training : local government representatives don't have adequate training or knowledge
- 4) 12th, 11th schedule : Have not been fully under control

of local representatives

Critical administrative challenges
faced by local institutes

- 1) Lack of spatial planning experts : local institutes don't have UR specialised in planning
- 2) Unable to raise loan : Municipal performance index says only 20/222 cities could raise loans
- 3) Lack of power w.r.t to cadres of All India Services
- 4) Low representation with ^{state} central governments
- 5) Panchayats at all levels are unwilling to impose taxes
- 6) low levels of training with elected candidates

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Way forward

- 2) more financial decentralisation
- 24) capacity building of local representatives
- 3) Increase in devolution of powers w.r.t to all India services
- 4) Ensuring accountability and democracy

Steps should be taken to improve grass root democracy

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
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Q.14) India follows a collegium system of appointment of judges identified after 3rd Judges case.

Art 124, 217 deal with appointment of judges to Supreme court and High court

to ~~Merits~~ Collegium system striking a balance

- 1) It ensures independence of judiciary and makes it free from executive interference
- 2) Decisions are taken by a plurality of judges eg: 4 in case of Supreme court.
- 3) Judges are the best experts to select suitable candidates for other posts
- 4) Principle of seniority has been upheld for appointment

of CJI

5) So far the system has worked well

Collegium not with holding democratic principles

- 1) Transparent and open selection process and deliberations don't see light of day
- 2) Against principle of checks and balances as executive and legislative not participating
- 3) Makes judiciary unaccountable to common people
- 4) Low representation to women in Judiciary → only 12% in Supreme court
- 5) High vacancies in High courts and lower courts

Steps to make collegium more transparent

- 1) Transparency: Logic for selection / rejection of candidates should be made known
- 2) Executive should be allowed to suggest names
- 3) More representation to women
eg: CJI Ramanna recently talked for 50% women reservation
- 4) Representation to all minorities
- 5) Functional grievance Redressal mechanisms

Judicial independence is necessary for a democracy, but judiciary itself should also be democratic

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
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UAPA stands for Unlawful Activities (prevention) Act. It is India's go-to anti-terrorism law. However many issues have been highlighted with it recently

Sections making it a threat to democracy

- 1) Terrorism has not been defined anywhere under the act
- 2) A ~~dead~~ person can be punished based on prima-facies investigation of police officer
- 3) Bail under the act It is a non-bailable offence and only an FIR with preliminary enquiry can be used to deny bail
- 4) After 2019 amendment, not only individual organisations but

individuals can also be labelled as terrorists.

Issues

- 1) Act is being used increasingly to curb dissent
- 2) Bail Its provisions make it very difficult for a person to obtain bail
- 3) Conviction rate under the Act is very low
- 4) Cases registered under the act have gone up sharply since 2015
- 5) Overburdened judiciary further prolongs the misery of the ~~under~~ accused

Need of the Act

- 1) Terrorism : Terrorist insurgency still remain a threat

1) Naxal and maoist insurgences : They are still very active

3) valuable tool for police and intelligence agencies
way forward

1) Terrorism should be clearly defined under the act.

2) Bail norms need to be liberalised

3) Police reforms to free it from control of state government

4) Judicial activism to cancel ~~out draconian~~ sections freedom of speech

Although UAPA is necessary, it should not be at the cost of fundamental rights of citizens

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

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Q.16)

The Comprehensive National Nutritional Survey has indeed painted a grim picture of nutrition in India.

1) Child Stunting → 23.4%

2) Under nutrition in children → 19.4%

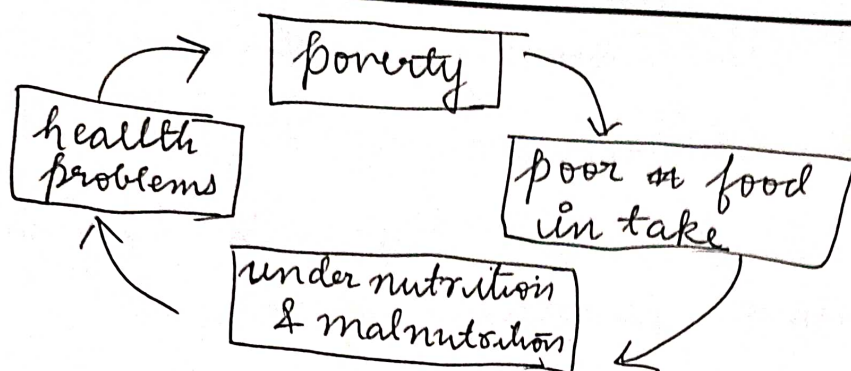
3) Obesity → 4.7%

4) 57% of women in India are anemic

These stats show worrying levels of nutritional security in India.

Effects of intergenerational poverty on nutrition and health

2) Poverty leads to poor nutritional status in a mother which she passes on to the child of next generation



- 2) Vicious cycle of poverty and malnutrition
- 3) Poverty causes poor sanitation and WASH, which adversely impacts health and nutrition of children
- 4) Poverty causes low education levels. According to Angus Deaton, ~~it is~~ an important cause of malnutrition in India is poor education of mothers
- 5) Under nourished children further ^{give birth to} become malnourished children and perpetuate the cycle

Ways to break - poverty under nutrition cycle

- 1) focus on poverty-alleviation programs
eg: Dibao program of China
- 2) Food Fortification : to combat hidden hunger
- 3) Proper implementation of ICDS and mid-day meal schemes
- 4) Increasing marragable age of girls
- 5) Focussing on health & nutrition of women
- 6) Increasing economic growth in long term

Only Under Nutrition needs to be combated urgently for healthy India

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
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Q.17)

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According to World Bank Civil society organisations are not for profit organisations that have been working for social service delivery, poverty alleviation etc.

Role of CSO in extension of rights and liberties

- 1) CSOs have been working to combat social issues such as caste discrimination, child marriages where govt are not active
- 2) Their efforts led to to passing of RTI act, forest rights act etc.
- 3) They have mobilised for marginalised sections of society like Transgenders, sex workers etc.
- 4) Their efforts have brought

about regulations to control criminalisation of politics in India

5) Throughout the world, CSOs have been leading the fight against climate change and pollution

CSO emerging as new frontier of war

1) Intelligence Bureau ~~IB~~ report argues like CSO have been causing damage of 2-3% of GDP annually

2) CBI report says only 20% of NGOs have been filing tax returns

3) Many NGOs have been using foreign funding to enforce obnoxious conversions in India eg: missionary activities

- 4) NGOs have been used to funnel black money
- 5) NGOs & CSOs are being used by terrorist organisations for money laundering

Way forward

Although CSOs help in monitoring human rights, greater control on their funding is required

- 1) database for NGOs should be created.
- 2) NGOs should file regular tax returns.

NGO regulation should thus be balanced.

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Structure		Content	
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Q.18)

Begging means relying on the grace of others to fulfill your basic needs. It is a sign of extreme poverty in a society.

Reasons for problem of begging

- 1) Low employment generation : In India economic growth has not translated into more jobs.
- 2) Failure of low education & skill
It creates a situation of person having no marketable skill.
- 3) Physical and mental handicaps :
Only 36% of handicapped people could find employment.
- 4) Marginalisation by Society :
eg: Transgenders and orphans.
- 5) Organised crime : Many begging rackets are also being run in the country.

Criminalising poverty is a failure of state

- 1) Begging is a result of failure of social security apparatus of state
- 2) It is the state's duty to ensure basic needs of food water and shelter
- 3) Art 39 clearly states, ~~the~~ ^{govt} should take measures to combat inequality. Begging is failure of state to implement this
- 4) Begging is a result of state ~~not~~ being unable to deliver its promise of Right to Education

Suitable measures to combat begging

- 1) Public mess and kitchen to provide food to beggars

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- 2) Skill development : eg - program of Delhi govt to make beggars job ready
- 3) Education to every child
- 4) Cracking down on begging squads
- 5) Focussing on employment generation

State should focus on delivering promises rather than criminalising begging

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

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In the recent years the conflict and sourness in Indo China relations has increased

Indo-china tensions

- 1) Border incursions : Eg recent galwan valley clash and standoffs
- 2) Disputed nature of Border : Whole of LAC is contested
- 3) China's support to Pakistan : Through supply of arms and in various international forums including Afghanistan
- 4) Opposition in international forums eg: membership of NSG & P5 to India
- 5) Trade : campaigns to boycott Chinese products and banning of Chinese apps in India

According to Bramha Chellany, China wants a Bipolar world and a unipolar Asia.

Real Reason for Tensions

- 1) China's ambition: It wants to be only pole of power in Asia eg: keeping India out of Afghan Crisis
- 2) India's political system: Democracy which is closer to west than Chinese model threatens China politically
- 3) Potential of India: India has the potential to become an economic powerhouse and challenge China.
- 4) India as balancer: India is being used as bulwark ^{by} ~~against~~ west to counter Chinese rise. eg: D10 group, Quad
- 5) Military prowess: ~~India~~ India being a nuclear power is not liked by China as it can

be counter to its dominance
 eg: (i) India's joining of Quad
 (ii) Military exercises with west

Way forward

- (i) India must continue its rise and economic growth
- (ii) India needs to follow a policy of multi alignment to counter China
- (iii) India must look for common ground in relations
 eg: WTO, climate change
 SCO

only a stable India-China relationship can help India become a superpower

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
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Q.20)

WTO was established to ensure free and open trade between nations. However it has become plagued with problems

eg:

WTO becoming victim to developed v/s developing nation

- 1) food security peace clause under AoA of WTO
- 2) IP rights waiver issue for Covid vaccines
- 3) Dispute Resolution mechanism not being functional
- 4) Growth of plural plurilateral organisations among respective blocs eg: TPP & RCEP
- 5) Failure to work on Doha Development agenda

Role of G20

G20 nations account for almost ~~70%~~ 70% of the world's economy

- 1) G20 can be a forum since all main leading nations of WTO are members
- 2) G20 can offer common ground for all members
- 3) G20 can create greater consensus on divisive issue.

Therefore G20 should be used as a platform by countries to resolve contentious issues of WTO

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Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	