

TEST CODE : 4 2 0 6 1

FIAS - MGP 2021 - Essay Simulator Test #1

ForumIAS

GENERAL STUDIES

Name Of Candidate

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Roll No.

1910046593

Date:

21/11/21

Time Allowed: Three Hours

Maximum Marks: 250

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Max. Marks	Marks Obtained
Q.1		
Q.2		
Total Marks:		

INSTRUCTION

1. Please do furnish Name, Email, Roll No and Mobile in the answer sheet.
2. There are TWO Sections. Each Section has MULTIPLE topics printed in English & Hindi. You have to write on 1 topic from Each part
3. One question in each part is 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.

Any specific messages for ForumIAS Mentors/ Evaluators with respect to your copy? Write it here.

For Student Only

Start Time | 2:00 pm

End Time | 4:55 pm

Mode Of Examination:

Online Offline

For Office Use Only

ECN CODE:

EG:

Evaluation Date:

MARKING SCHEME

Parameter/Criteria	Aspects Considered	Total Marks	Essay 1	Essay 2
Basic Format	Introduction + Conclusion	10		
	Body	15		
Content	Data/Facts/Interpretation/ Analysis	25		
Organisation	Flow of ideas/ Absence of Deviation from the topic	25		
Language Skills	Punctuation/Grammar/ Sentence Formation/Spellings	25		
Examiner's Discretion	Perception/ Innovation/ Engaging	25		

Parameters	Very Good	Good	Average	Poor
Coherence				
Language				
Handwriting				
Pre-writing				

Very Good	Good	Average
120 and above	100-120	Below 100

SECTION - A

1. India's missing women
भारत की गुमशुदा महिलाएं
2. Social media- a tool for engineering consent
सोशल मीडिया- सहमति को निर्मित करने का एक उपकरण
3. Are big tech undermining state sovereignty?
क्या बिग टेक राज्य की संप्रभुता को कम कर रही है?
4. Federalism in India - a paradox.
भारत में संघवाद . एक विरोधाभास के रूप में

Federalism in India - a paradox

Article 1 of the Constitution

of India starts with "India, that is Bharat, shall be a Union of states..."

But before the term "union of states" was inserted into the Constitution, there was a fierce debate in the Constituent Assembly. On the one hand were those supporting the usage of "federation of

States against those who supported the usage of "union of states." The debate finally ended through the intervention of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar who supported the use of the latter.

Dr. Ambedkar's argument to support the use of the word "union" against the word "federation" as used in the United States was, unlike in the USA, the ~~free~~ states in India have not come together under a contract and secondly the states in India do not have the power to leave the union, solidifying India's establishment as an indestructible union.

Dr. Ambedkar had to give these arguments because when it

comes to a federal model of polity, the model of USA has been seen as a paradigm and hence every other model of federalism is compared on the pedestal of US model. Hence, it is not surprising that the scholar KC Wheare called India as "quasi federal state", meaning it has only some elements of federalism.

Does that mean India's federalism is a paradox? Is it federal only in the name? ~~Does~~ states in India are nothing but subsidiary of the Centre?

Before we answer the above questions, it is important for us to understand what federalism means and how in the first place did it enter India's political

Lexicon.

Federalism: Meaning and History

Federalism comes from the word "foedus" meaning contract. Hence federalism is a government by contract. The contract [constitution in our case] divides the power between the centre and its constituent units.

In case of India, the number of constituent units increases because of its linguistic, cultural, ethnic and religious diversity. This was well understood by the British that they could not manage such a diverse country through a hegemonic centre. Hence through successive government of India Acts, they started local representation

and devolution of powers. This was also done to placate the demands of Indian National Congress for 'self rule'.

The skeletal structure of India's federalism got its blood and flesh through the GoI Act of 1919 that established bicameral legislature [Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha] at the Centre and the GoI Act of 1935 that established a bicameral legislature at the states. It also made three lists — Union list, State list and the Concurrent list, thus clearly delineating legislative powers of the Centre and the states.

The British legacy was more or less preserved by adopting the above political structure. But then how did India's federalism come to be called as a

paradox?

The answer to this million dollar question lies in the ~~fact~~ provisions of the constitution that need a nuanced analysis.

India is called an indestructible union of destructible states.⁴ This is because the states in India have no right over territorial integrity. Under Article 2 and Article 3 of the Constitution, the Centre can change the borders of a state, even without its concurrence, that too with a simple majority. Recently Jammu and Kashmir was converted into two Union territories.

Similarly Telangana was separated from ~~the~~ Andhra Pradesh even though Andhra Pradesh Assembly passed a resolution ~~to~~ to

the contrary.

Another provision is the institution and office of the Governor. Even though the Governor was envisaged to act as link between state and Centre, we have instances where the Governor has displayed instincts of being an "agent of the Centre". In Manipur and Goa, the party with highest number of seats was not called to form the government. In Maharashtra, the governor called the leader of a party at 5:00 am in the morning to take the oath of Chief Minister, even though he did not have the requisite number.

In Uttarakhand, Article 356, "state emergency" was imposed on the recommendation of the governor without assessing the majority of the government

on the floor of the house, as directed by Hon'ble Supreme Court in the SR Bommai judgement, 1994. The provision of Article 356, which was inserted as a precautionary measure and termed as "dead letter" by Dr. Ambedkar has become a potent tool in the hands of the Centre to keep the states on tanterhooks.

This insecurity in the minds of the states has further increased due to Centre's initiatives like "one nation one tax" [GST], "one Nation one ration card", "one nation one election". For many states, these are seen as attempts to decrease their legislative powers.

Recent laws like the "three farmers laws" and the "labour codes"

were resented by some states. Their argument was, that agriculture is a state subject and labour falls under the concurrent list. The

issue of GST compensation cess made the states doubt whether they did the right thing by parting away with their taxation powers that got subsumed under the GST.

Loss of taxation powers and the advent of COVID19 dealt a heavy blow to states' coffers. ~~But~~ States also complain of the tied funds given under centrally sponsored schemes that limits their discretion on how to spend money. Further, the financial devolution from Centre to states has further reduced from 42% to 41% as per 15th finance commission.

COVID19 added another layer to this paradox. Under the Disaster

Management Act, 2005, Centre assumed full powers on managing COVID lockdowns. This was eventually relaxed, realising the localised nature of infection curve.

Attached to this came the problem of vaccine procurement, wherein a paradoxical situation emerged. Rather than Centre buying the vaccines and distributing to the states for free, the states were asked to buy at market price at a time when their fiscal deficits were already running high. This too was eventually corrected.

The paradox not just exists at the Centre-State level but also at State-Local body level. The same charges which the states accuse the centre of, are the charges they themselves

are accused by the local bodies who are always devoid of funds, functions and functionaries from the state.

Solution to this paradox

Commissions like Sarkaria, Punchi Second Administrative Reforms Commission have recommended the centre to adopt the "subsidiarity principle" wherein centre should only solve those issues that states cannot handle. They have also recommended to limit the use of Article 356 and the office of governor for toppling governments in the state.

From Paradox to Paradise

Mechanisms like the Inter-State Councils, Zonal Councils, NITI Aayog, etc. have been formed for constructive engagement

between the Centre and the states. Even in the GST council, it is the states that have two-thirds voting power.

Central government is pushing for a "competitive and co-operative model" of federalism through initiatives like Swachh rankings, Innovation Index, LEADS Index, etc.

India's federalism is not a paradox.

It is a federalism suited for a diverse country like India wherein the central government does not play the role of "Big Brother," but of "Elder Brother."

India's federalism is not a paradox. It is built on the vision of "sabke sath, sabke vikas, sabka vishwas and sabka prayas."

(Don't Write anything in this Area)

Rough work issues & Student

Who
Body
Center
of states
B & Suburban

- Governor
- State
- State
- State
- State
- State
- State
- State

Under
Panel
talking to
State
Cms.
High
letters

Q1 what is federalism

Q2 history of federalism

Q3 why did we

adopt such model

& difference with

USA. 2

Q4 now it is a paradox.

more powers to

Q5 why more power

Q6 that a paradox.

Sub-federalism
from states to
PRIs.

Elder Brother to
Younger Brother
committed

→ Sarkar's one nation
→ Prudh
→ Mandpur Sahib
→ Deb Menuradar

of fed & covid 19.

→ Inter State
dispute
→ Role of judiciary
→ Intra State
conflict

→ use of
principle
→ Aradi from the
Abachler of
international
fed.

→ 55th Act
WB.
Jagc
App of merit
fed

we national
one top.

→ ~~State~~
~~elections~~

→ Like
2 women
break
his son
difficultly.

→ ~~State~~
Rajya Sabha

Sabka Jodi - Anurag
Aradi ka Mahasud



Feedback

Feedback to be provided in terms of (1) Introduction (2) Sentence Constructions (3) Paragraph Formation (4) Legibility (5) Deviation from Topic (6) Coverage of dimensions (7) Simplicity / ease of reading

SECTION - B

Leaders become great not because of their power, but because of their ability to empower others.

नेता अपनी शक्ति के कारण नहीं, बल्कि दूसरों को सशक्त बनाने की अपनी क्षमता के कारण महान बनते हैं।

Fools multiply when wise men are silent.

बुद्धिमानों के चुप रहने पर मूर्खों की संख्या बढ़ जाती है।

It's not what we profess but what we practice that gives us integrity.

यह वह नहीं है जो हम दावा करते हैं बल्कि हम जो अभ्यास करते हैं वह हमें सत्यनिष्ठा प्रदान करता है।

Wars are poor chisels for carving out peaceful tomorrow.

शांतिपूर्ण कल को बनाने के लिए युद्ध एक कमजोर उपकरण है।

Wars are poor chisels for carving out peaceful tomorrow

What is common between countries like Iraq, Afghanistan, Yemen, Ethiopia, Sudan, etc.? They are all countries that figure in the bottom of Global Happiness Index. They are also the countries that figure in the bottom of

Global Hunger Index rankings. Rankings and indexes apart, what is one more thing that is common between these countries? They all are at war! Some have been at war in history, some are currently, some with their neighbours, some with their own citizens, called as civil war, but they are at war.

What does it tell you about the nature of war? The straightforward answer is that war breeds misery, destruction, poverty and destitution.

In short- "war are poor chisels for carving out peaceful tomorrow."

The above maxim, though sounds like an obvious truism, still

breeds evidences to the contrary.

Time travel : Historical evidences

If there is one continent that has been the epitome of wars, it is Europe. It became the battleground for both the world wars. The first world war occurred to treat Germany a lesson. The victors - UK, France and Russia imposed heavy penalties on Germany through the Treaty of Versailles, in the hope that a crippled Germany would not be able to rise, and peace would endure in Europe.

but wars yield misery and havoc. During these times, people look to the ray of hope, even the tiniest one, to alleviate them from their ditch.

of destitution. But this hope and emotion is harnessed by demagogues who use people's emotions to rise to power. They use the tool of ultra-rationalism and utopia to win people's trusts and promise them that the next war would be theirs, it would be the next war that would finally bring peace. But does that happen?

Just one more war! Please!

Hitler in Germany and Benito Mussolini in Italy rose on people's aspiration for a peaceful tomorrow. They promised peace after war. But to their dismay, after the second world war, Europe's socio-economic situation further worsened.

Wars are great equalizers. There is no victor in war, than the

was itself. The war wins, while its participants lose.

But it would take more time for nations to realise this.

Enter the cold war era

US and Soviet Union were smart enough to understand that direct war brings miseries. So they started indulging in indirect wars. But such is the nature of war, direct or indirect, what you sow, so you reap.

The Korean wars in 1950s and the Vietnam wars in 1970s were fought by promising its people a peaceful tomorrow. But it was power hiding behind the veil of promise. The legacy of Korean war is, that today

countries like Japan and South Korea are always under a threat of nuclear attack from ~~South Korea~~ North Korea. So the Korean war, rather than bringing a peaceful tomorrow, brought a "nuclear tomorrow".

The cold war ended, but it ended by destroying the Balkan countries, eventually led to break up of Yugoslavia, the Korean peninsula was divided by the 36th parallel, Vietnam was destroyed to the hilt, the Soviet Union collapsed and the world ended up drawing more arms and nuclear weapons than it previously had.

So when the world entered the 21st century, it ~~ended~~ entered amidst a nervous state of affairs.

wherein a country could deploy nuclear weapons to overpower the other. Remember all the wars fought in twentieth century were fought on the vision of a "peaceful tomorrow?"

New kind of wars

In West Asia, the US was blamed for all the wars across the world and hence a man named Osama Bin Laden promised to his comrades that an attack on USA would finally bring peace.

The 9/11 happened and it brought US into Afghanistan. In 2003, the US invaded Iraq. Both invasions ~~were~~ took place on the premise of "war against terror." The US promised that it would bring "peaceful tomorrow in Middle East."

The US recently left Afghanistan, battered and bathed in blood. Afghanistan

is now under the Taliban and how peaceful their tomorrow is anybody's

guess work. Similarly, US' promise to bring peace in Iraq, led to the rise of ISIS, the effect of which was seen in Syria.

In 2011, people across West

Asia began a war against state in the name of "Arabs Spring." Though the purported aim was to bring democracy and with it, eventually peace from the despotic rule of tyrants, the current state of Libya, Yemen, Syria, etc is nothing but a basket case of humanitarian crisis. Because how could a war bring peace?

This is something our neighbouring country Pakistan too has never understood. Successive leaders from Yahya Khan to Zia-ul-Haq to Bhutto to Pervez Musharraf have promised their Awam [people] that once they take Kashmir, Pakistan would finally witness the "dawn of a peaceful tomorrow".

What Pakistan is actually witnessing is poverty, radicalism, FATF greylist and IMF bailouts to sustain its economy.

Four wars with India have not brought any peace between the two nations and hostility remains at all time high. India too has learnt ~~the~~ its lesson the hard way. In attempting to rein in the LTTE in Sri Lanka, India ~~is~~ intervened

militarily through IPKF in Sri Lanka, in the hope that its war against ~~the~~ LTTE ~~would~~ would bring a peaceful tomorrow for the Tamils of Jaffna. Ultimately India had to pay for it by losing its Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi.

The wars within

A similar promise of a "peaceful tomorrow" is made by the Maoists in Central India and the insurgents in the North East to the people who have been left in the development process. But their efforts of war against the Indian state are not just going in vain, but the people in

These regions continue to suffer from poverty and developmental deficit.

Peace, Cooperation, Development: The ultimate chisel

It was with the establishment of European Union that peace came to Europe. ~~By the~~ The establishment of United Nations led to peace and co-operation the world over and countries started to resolve their differences not through war, but through dialogue.

The establishment of ASEAN led to it becoming a "zone of peace." Countries like South Korea and Singapore focussed on development and for a peaceful tomorrow. No doubt they are called as "Asian Tigers."

The world is still grappling with challenges like poverty, climate change, nuclear proliferation, etc. Without tackling them, we cannot dream of a peaceful tomorrow.

And if past is any prologue, wars do not yield a peaceful tomorrow, they yield a "dreadful tomorrow."

Why has India never in its history invaded any country? Why do Nordic countries top the Global Happiness Index, because they understand that going to war in search of peace is an "impossible misadventure" and nothing short of an "illusion." Wars don't bring peace, because you don't expect rose flower by sowing a babool tree.

Rough work

Intro Happen & co-relation

Body

Peace came ~~was~~ after formation of EU

Q. why conflicts go down way
way notion of war

Ex. from ~~history~~ history
Ex. from today

problems with war & After effects

What is really needed.

current-challenges that need co-operation

WWI, WWII

~~European War in Europe~~

~~1st world wars~~

~~2nd world wars.~~

~~fight against west.~~

~~US' interest in Africa, Libya, Syria, Yemen, Iraq.~~

~~1 year long 10 year~~

~~to die - late~~

~~Vietnam war.~~

~~refugee crisis, power by ideology crisis.~~

~~India - China war.~~

~~Agrees/ unilateral
rise of
democracy,
nationalism,~~

Zones of peace

~~AS Enab
→ Substant
→ Nuclei
Court~~

~~Happiness
index~~

~~→ Wars
co-relat~~

Challenges now!

~~→ Nucle
→ Clint
eng.~~

~~→ Disrupt
tech~~

~~→ Big tech
→ glob.~~

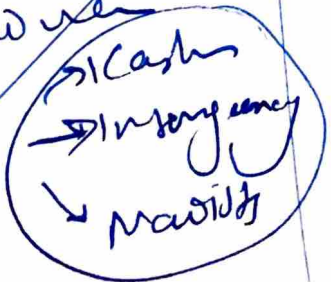
~~→ COVID-19~~

~~Wars within state~~

~~→ civil wars.~~

~~→ Ethnic violence~~

~~→ in India~~



~~Conclusion~~

~~IPIC is failed~~

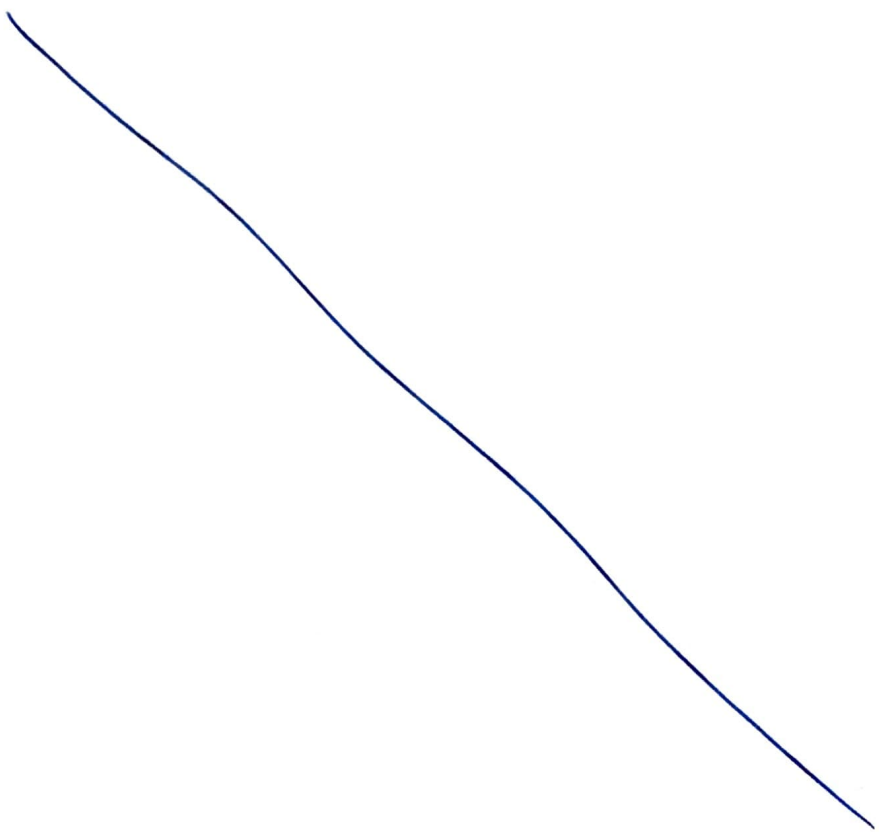
~~No peace but - only~~

~~Some necessary steps for peaceful turn~~

~~→ Struggle for independence~~

~~→ Against colonialism~~

~~→ civil wars for~~



Feedback

Feedback to be provided in terms of (1) Introduction (2) Sentence Constructions (3) Parapgraph Formation (4) Legibility (5) Deviation from Topic (6) Coverage of dimensions (7) Simplicity / ease of reading