

## ForumIAS

## GENERAL STUDIES

Name Of Candidate	Rammohan Meena		
Roll No.	1910050638	Date:	16/12/21

Time Allowed: Three Hours

Maximum Marks: 250

INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTION
Q. No.	Max. Marks	Marks Obtained	<p>1. Please do furnish Name, Email, Roll No and Mobile in the answer sheet.</p> <p>2. There are TWO Sections. Each Section has MULTIPLE topics printed in English &amp; Hindi. You have to write on 1 topic from Each part</p> <p>3. One question in each part is 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> <p><i>Any specific messages for ForumIAS Mentors/ Evaluators with respect to your copy? Write it here.</i></p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p>
Q.1			
Q.2			
<b>Total Marks:</b>			
<b>Remarks:</b>			
<b>For Student Only</b>			
Start Time   10:30 AM		End Time   1:30	
Mode Of Examination:		Online <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Offline <input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>For Office Use Only</b>			
ECN CODE:		EG:	Evaluation Date:

## MARKING SCHEME

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

<i>Parameters</i>	<i>Very Good</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Poor</i>
<i>Coherence</i>				
<i>Language</i>				
<i>Handwriting</i>				
<i>Pre-writing</i>				

<i>Very Good</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Average</i>
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

During covid 19 pandemic, India adopted a strategy of 'great lockdown' to buy time for preparation and to delay the transmission of the deadly 'COVID-19' virus.

'Great lockdown' had lead to sudden disruption in the supply chains and quashing down of economic activities, which lead to huge financial loss to the states.

States by law were guaranteed for a compensation for first five years of GST regime for their revenue shortfall by the union government. But during

COVID pandemic union refuse to give funds to states and asks them for taking loan from market & RBI.

The matter was later solved when few states protested and ~~gov~~ Union government became ready for conditional grant of funds.

In India this is the reality of the federalism, where states are equal partner not a subordinate to the union.

### Indian - Federalism - a Quasifederalism

Indian constitution provides for a 'Union of states'. i.e. It is a indestructible union of destructible states, where Parliament can change the boundary of states, can change a state to union territory.

Apart from this the states are independent and equal partner in Indian constitutional scheme. They have their own

legislative, executive and administrative power on the subject assigned to them in schedule VII. They are free to run their own business.

Governor, which is the head of state is appointed by President and can be removed by president. Governor acts as agent of Centre. He reserves bill for President and gives report to president about the functioning of state.

Art 356, of the constitution provides for President's rule in the state in case of failure of constitutional machinery or under Art 365, failure to comply with the centres directives.

Finance commission, under article 280 is a constitutional body of experts to decide for the devolution of funds between Centre and states. Its recommendations are important source of guidance for tax distribution

between union & states.

~~GST~~ Goods and Service tax (GST), is managed by GST Council, having members from union and states. It is an important body in federal structure, because states have laid their taxing powers into GST Council.

~~At~~ 73<sup>rd</sup> & 74<sup>th</sup> Constitutional amendment provides for rural and urban local bodies & democratic decentralisation.

Independent & integrated judiciary to resolve the matters of dispute. Supreme court has exclusive jurisdiction in case of dispute between state and union & state.

Indian constitution provided a scheme of bias against state and favour of union. States are specifically dependent on Union for finances. This Constitutional scheme is called ~~as~~ Quasifederal scheme by the experts.

In United states of America, (USA), which is a true federalism, states have separate judiciary, complete separation of power and indistructibility. Whereas Canada ~~are~~ has a quasifederal model having a bias toward Centre

### Federalism in India

There are several challenges in the federal scheme in India. Some are very contentious and remain in news over the year.

Role of Governor as a independent authority had been in question several times. He had acted in partisan manner and in favour of party in central government instead of acting as constitutional body. For example formation of Kedarappa government in Karnataka despite having a coalition with majority.

Governor had used Art 356 and to ~~impose~~ ~~press~~ recommend imposition of President's rule, without evaluation

of the material facts on ground. The Supreme Court had highlighted the absence of any convincing material in case of President rule in Arunachal Pradesh.

Governor in Tamil Nadu (West Bengal) had been constantly in news for tussle with Chief Ministers.

GST Council, were seen as instrument of fiscal federalism and cooperation between states and union. It had failed to live up to the expectation. Its meetings were delayed in pandemic and it had been divided on party lines.

This had left states in limbo and to apply heavy taxes on fuel and alcohol to sustain the revenue supply to run the government.

Due to the need of  $\frac{3}{4}$  majority to pass any resolution, Centre had a veto in the GST Council. It makes states



totally dependent on the union for finances.

The issues of cess and surcharges which are collected by union and are not shared by states creates further gap between states & union.

Finance Commission's recommendations which used the 4 census 2011 population had been a major disadvantage to the southern states, which complained about this punishment for their better work in the family planning activities.

Recently there is a new challenge to federal scheme by extension of BSFs jurisdiction from 15km to 50km inside the boundary to in some states to better tackle the security situation. It had been opposed by chief minister of West Bengal and Punjab.

Interstate river water disputes had been perennially a challenge to our federal scheme where there is a politicisation of issue, deliberate delay

in implementation of award of commission ethnic violence and use of AFSPA in the various states had created a situation of mistrust between citizen and state and human right violations

Agriculture had been a contentious issue, the passing of 3 Bills by Parliament on Agriculture, which is primarily a state subject and further passing of resolution against these Acts in various state assemblies, emerged as new challenge in federal scheme.

News paper reports of use of pegasus on the members of state legislative assemblies to topple the government, emerged as a serious concern in the life of the nation, SC had to create a committee of experts to look into this grave matter.

Having so many challenges in the federal relationship, the question of federalism in India - a paradox arises. Why are there so many challenges and what is its solution.

Answer lies in the responsibilities of union, which have a greater and wide responsibility to protect the security of country and to maintain financial stability.

In a democratic setup with the huge diversity, it is natural to have the difference of opinion and various pathways for the development.

One constitutional scheme provides enough space for the states and union. What is needed is to follow the constitutional scheme in letter and spirit. Avoid the tendencies to use the authority in constitutional bodies for political gains.

Democratic decentralization and further devolution of power to grass root level by implementation of the 73<sup>rd</sup> & 74<sup>th</sup> amendments. There is a urgent need to provide funds, function and functionaries to third tier of government democracy.

State finance commission should meet be constituted regularly and their recommendation followed in letter and spirit.

Recommendation of Shaskaria Commission regarding the appointment of governor, and the role of governor, where he should be a detached figure, outside from state, a person who is eminent in some walk of life, and testing of majority on the house are very essential in federalism

1st Council needs to be reformed to made it more deliberative and having a say of states in the decision. It should be convened regularly.

There is a need to reform the GST to improve compliance and achieving the aim of one nation one tax.

Interstate Council and Zonal Council were formed to foster cooperation between states & union. They should be constituted and their meeting should be held regularly.

Special role of Governor in the V Schedule & VI Scheduled area is need to be again reminded to prevent the tendency of alienation, Separatism, regionalism. It will enable to better serve the tribal rights enshrined in the constitution.

Parliament had been a major watchdog for federal scheme. Rajya Sabha had special responsibility towards states. There is a need of having improve functioning of parliament and its committee to pass better laws after discussion and deliberation, which

can promote federalism.

Niti Aayog had been an important institution to foster cooperation between union and states. Its bottom up approach and cooperative federalism are important pillars. Its role is increased when there are new programmes and improved thrust on reforms. Niti Aayog should live upto the expectations of common people in strengthening democracy and federalism in India.

Pandemic had provided an extremely important opportunity and lesson. Both union and state have a responsibility toward citizens and constitution. They should give up the partisan politics and strengthen democracy and protect Federalism instead of making Indian Federalism - a paradox.

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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

1. 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।

2. Fools multiply when wise men are silent.

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

3. 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।

4. Wars are poor chisels for carving out peaceful tomorrow.

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

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

In Christopher Nolan's movie 'The Dark Knight' two important characters of 'Batman' and 'Joker' are stark opposite to each other. 'Batman' had a principle of not killing anyone and 'Joker' had a aim to expose the shallowness of the people of world.

In order to achieve their target 'Batman' had to stop 'Joker' from doing violence. Everytime Batman

Captures Joker, he escapes and fails the 'Batman'. In this process Joker killed Batmans friend 'Raechel'.

In the end of movie when Joker ask Batman to Kill him (Joker) to end it, Batman refused. This story is a perfect example of integrity where both the characta are consistent in what they do, There is no difference between what they profess and what they practice.

Integrity is doing the right thing according to own conscience irrespective of the external situation and challenges. In the movie 'Batman' could have saved the world by killing the 'joker' but he choosed path of integrity to do the right thing, not killing anyone.

During non cooperation movement of Indian freedom struggle, Mahatma Gandhi had given the call of non-violence and satyagraha. Movement was on the path of achieving success, but violence erupted in Chauri-Chaura village, where satyagrahis had killed policemen and burned the police station.

Mahatma Gandhi had taken a call to withdraw the movement. He had faced a strong resistance from his followers and friends. They lost faith in his leadership but he remained firm to his principle of non violence and satyagraha. He practiced what he professed and created an example in the history of India.

Albert Einstein had once said that there is relativity in physics and not in ethics. There can be difference of opinion in physics but when it comes

to integrity and ethics, there is no difference, we must do what had to do. i.e. choosing the right path.

Practicing what we profess is extremely important. During the covid-19 pandemic India had supplied vaccine to many developing and developed nations. It is in stark contrast of the developed western countries, which had not only vaccinated their citizen but are also giving booster dosage, when people in Africa are still struggling to get first vaccine dose. India's behaviour is the example of integrity in the nation's behaviour.

It had lead India to not only gain leadership but also the respect from the citizen of poor countries.

Individual person can have a cognitive dissonance if his behaviour does not match with its attitude. In other words if there is a difference

in practice and what he professes. There would be internal conflicts. In order to reduce these conflicts there is a need of aligning behaviour to thoughts and morals.

In case of pandemic, if a doctor refuses to treat a patient he will not only be unhappy but also feel the pain of not being integral.

History is full of examples of the pain beared by the person to follow the right path. Ishwar chandra vidyasaagar had advocated the women education and widow remarriage. He had face the outlash of orthodox section of society.

Raja Ram Mohan Roy had struggled whole life to reform the Hindu religion and to stop practice like sati, which are inhuman. He had practiced what we professed and it lead to banning of sati, by William Bentinck.

Integrity is one of the cardinal value. It is an important part of one's character when a person choose not to loose his path or to change his path, irrespective of any lucration, opportunity. He choosed to be on integrity.

Neesaj Chopara, India's golden boy, who won gold medal in ~~are~~ ~~for~~ Tokyo olympics, had practiced so hard that he was way ahead of his opponent. In sports also integrity is important, it help you to stay focussed and on right track.

Magnus Carlsen, world champion in chess had defeated his opponent 5 day before schedule by getting the winning points. It is only possible by path of integrity. He practiced what he professed and practiced hard.

Path of integrity gives pain in short term but it beneficial in longer term. It may require sacrifice, courage and sometime prolonged incarceration. But a person with integrity will remain on his path.

Nelson Mandela, had fought apartheid system for two decade, he remained in jail, faced pain and misery but in the end he came out as a winner and became the first black president of South Africa.

What happens when there is a difference in what we practice and what we profess. In such conditions our behaviour is opportunistic, we do not have any moral force and we loose the trust of our fellow citizens or coworkers etc.

In condition when a person have these differences he is not able to live a life of high moral standards.

During pandemic, there was large scale migration of workers. Migrants had to face hardship and challenges, they were ridiculed and stigmatised as carriers of disease. In such condition people often failed to act on their belief of helping others. There was no action on their behalf.

But this was not with all, many people, NGO, policeman, doctor choosed the path of integrity and helped these migrants by ensuring food, shelter and safe travel.

Big nations having wealth and capabilities had choosed the path of not allowing 'Intellectual property rights waiver' ~~is~~ for vaccine technology when the world needed it the most.

These nations had lost their moral credibility and leadership to dictate the terms to the poor countries. Even in the case of fight against climate



Change the story is same, difference between action and words not choosing path of integrity.

How to choose the path of Integrity by practicing what we profess. This is a hard question, but its answer is simple choose the right path, in case if there is any confusion or dilemma use Gandhiji's Talisman to act as your moral guide.

Our constitution had the Directive principle of state policies and fundamental Duties, they will act as guide in choosing the right path.

In Bhagwad Gita, there is a philosophy of 'Niskama Karma'. It advocates that a person should only focus on the work without focussing on the fruits of work. It will help him to guide his life.

Indian philosophical schools of Vedant, Religious teachings of Buddhism and Jainism help us to choose the path of integrity.

In the famous example Bndha and Amrapali, Budha had decided to allow ~~Am~~ Amrapali to take Buddhist teachings. It was an example of following what we preach by Buddha.

It leads us to another question that why a life of integrity is important for an individual or a nation or a society.

Integrity is essential for justice in life and society. It will reduce the crime and corruption. It will help in development of the man of the last mile.

India is facing challenges of poverty and unemployment, there is a rise in violence and hatred. Social media, internet and digital world had provided an opportunity of anonymity to criminals.

In such a volatile environment, to explore the full potential of human capital. It is essential to have a

life of integrity.

It starts with leadership of the nation to practice what they profess and to live by example a life of integrity. It will be followed by the citizens.

There is a need to create an environment where a person can develop intellectually, have a culture of debate and discussion. People should have liberty to arrive at a conclusion after informed debate.

Social leaders, religious personalities and influential people from corporate & sports should motivate others to live a life of integrity.

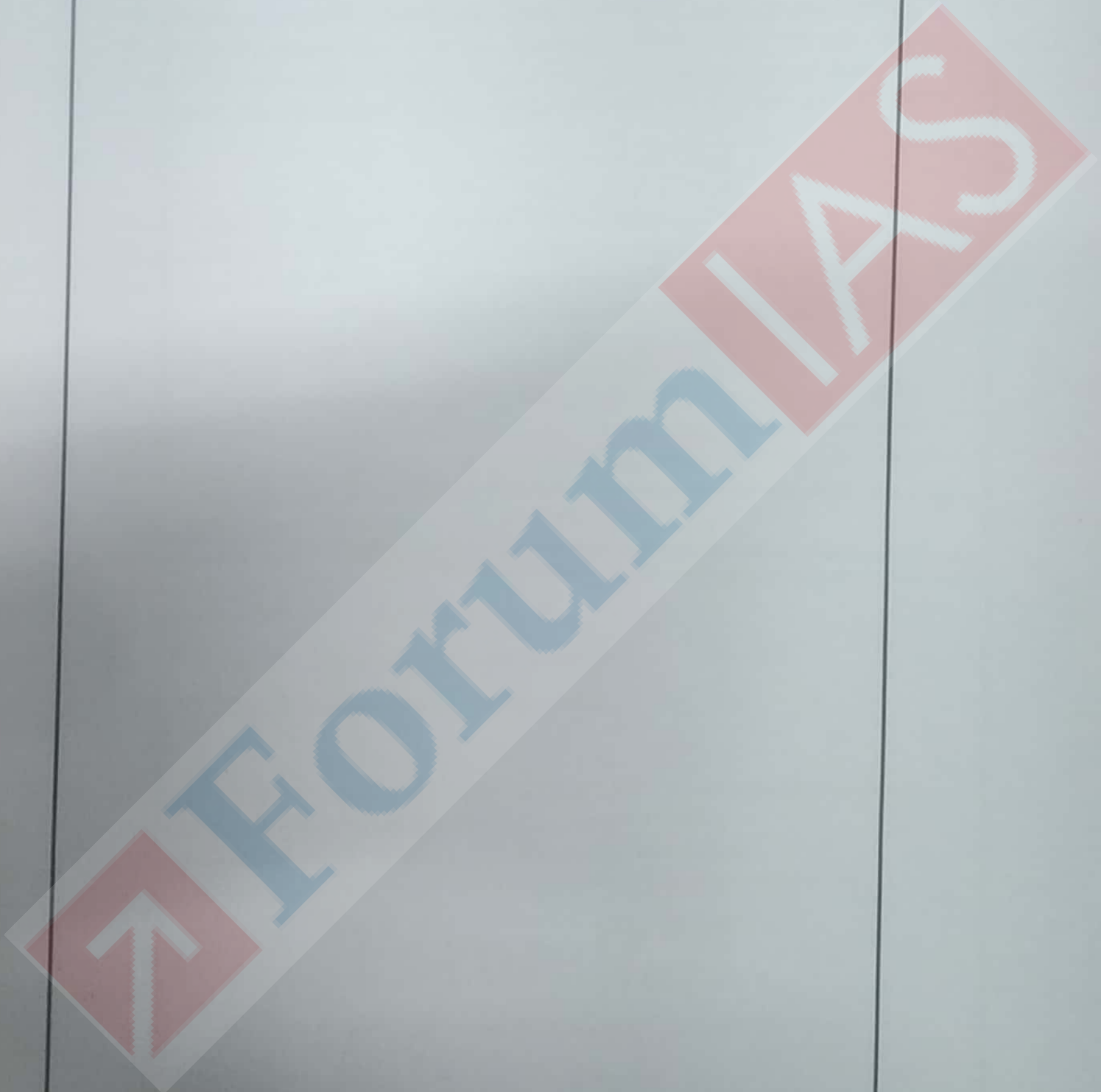
Anna Hazare, social activist had demonstrated that how a life of integrity can change the course of a nation's destiny.

In Mahabharat, during the episode of the trying to remove clothes of Draupadi, Every-body was doing their Dharma but still no one was able to save poor Draupadi. So she had to pray to lord Krishna to help her.

It is important that we should not get trapped into individual integrity when there is a greater injustice is happening around us. In such cases we have to adopt a greater path of courage to fight injustice.

As in the movie 'The Dark Knight', we cannot remain trapped in individual integrity when there is acute threat to the society. "

For the inclusive development of the country, better human capital formation and to reduce poverty, to fight pandemic, we should follow what we profess and practice it to live a life of integrity and saving the individual, nation and world together.



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

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