

General Studies: Paper III

Total questions: 20

Maximum Marks: 250

Time: 3 hours

1. Fundamental rights form an integrated scheme under the constitution and they can't be interpreted and enforced in isolation. Their waters must mix to constitute the grand flow of unimpeded and impartial justice. Discuss.
2. The doctrine of separation of powers envisaged by the Constitution has not yet taken a firm and final shape. The recent amendment to the Constitution to form the National Judicial Appointment Commission and its repeal by the Supreme Court bears testimony to this. Do you agree? Comment.
3. In India, large constituencies of voters that include the NRIs and domestic migrant laborer have been denied of this right due to practical difficulties in ensuring their participation in the democratic exercise. How do you view this issue? Is there a way out to address this fundamental problem? Discuss.
4. The decline of healthy parliamentary culture is one of the most disappointing aspects of Indian polity post-independence. What implications does it have for a developing country like India? Discuss.
5. Grassroot democracy and decentralized governance become redundant in absence of adequate financial devolution and meaningful delegation of powers to the grassroot institutions. Discuss.
6. Encompassing of cities and other local bodies within the embrace of cooperative and competitive federalism is the policy challenge in India. Do you agree? Discuss.
7. The vacuum in the regulatory space for media and advertising is hurting the common people the most. In light of this statement, examine the key issues related to media ethics and advertising standards.
8. Pressure and interest groups are indispensable in a democratic polity. However, it is not their interests or agenda but their methods of extracting benefits from the state are questionable sometimes. Do you agree? Comment.
9. The biggest challenge with the SHG model is their replicability and scalability. What do you understand by this statement? Elucidate.

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10. Rule of law must govern the functioning of the NGOs in matters of financing and objectives. In light of the controversy and debates surrounding the voluntary sector, analyse the statements given above.
11. India's discourse on reservations hinges not on whether it should exist, but on who should benefit from it. Discuss.
12. The juvenile criminal jurisprudence in India needs to strike a balance between retributive and reformatory approaches. Critically examine.
13. The need to adopt a uniform civil code stems more from the need to protect women rights than any other priority. Do you agree? Critically comment.
14. The JAM number trinity holds the key to 'wiping every tear from every eye'. Assess the potential, challenges and limitations of JAM number trinity to achieve the desired vision.
15. Mere possibility of any state provision being misused can't be a ground to do away with as an ambitious initiative as the Aadhar project. Do you agree? What are the real fears that the state ought to address in this regard? Analyse.
16. In light of the vision of 'Asia of Unity', India should be a proactive participant in China's One Belt, One Road initiative. Critically comment.
17. The upgradation of India from an observer state to a permanent member of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization is a golden opportunity to forge strategic ties and open dialogues with its members to address issues of common interest, challenges and opportunities.
18. The recent outreach to hitherto neglected countries in India's foreign policy is a game changer for India's diplomacy and its future role in world geopolitics. Do you agree? Discuss.
19. The recent Myanmar election is a step in the right direction. However, from India's standpoint, several irritants remain in Myanmar before true and meaningful democracy becomes a reality. Discuss.
20. The rise of fundamentalist groupings like the ISIS is a serious threat to the Indian Diaspora in the Arab world. What initiatives can be taken to ensure their safety and security in this region?