GS SCORE

GS MAINS TEST SERIES 2014

TEST - 4

Indian Society

Time Allowed: 3 hr. *Max. Marks: 250*

Instruction to Candidates

- There are 25 questions.
- All questions are compulsory
- The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
- Answers must be written in the medium arthorized in the Admission Certificate which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question -cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other than the authorized one.
- 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.

Name Ramdas Kale

Mobile No. 8373917396

Date 27/9/14

Signature Ram

1. *Invigilator Signature* _____

2. *Invigilator Signature* _____

Q 1. Without inclusive growth, social empowerment will remain a pipe dream. Comment. (200 Words)

Inclusive growth as defined by planning commission is growth which includes everybody especially marginalized and vulnerable sections. It is equitable and regionally balanced. It is in keeping with constitution's DPSP and socialist ethos

- Social empowerment is empowerment of vulnerable sections of society such as
  - women
  - SC
  - STs
  - backward classes
  - poor
- Inclusive growth and social empowerment are complimentary.
- Inclusive growth
  ↓
  improved economic condition
  ↓
  reduced poverty
  ↓
  good quality of life
  ↓
  improved social status
  ↓
  dignity of human rights
  ↓
  social empowerment

- Inclusive growth
  ↓
  economic independence of women
  ↓
  less dependency
  ↓
  improved powers of decision-making
  ↓
  check on misogyny and patriarchy
  ↓
  social empowerment of women.
- similarly for SCs and STs socio-economic rights will be realized. Their oppression will end.

<u>However</u>

- concerted efforts to remove patriarchal, caste discrimination communalism are needed
- protection and security
- legal aid

  ↓ without this social empowerment can't be possible.

Q 2. "Minority in India is not minority in terms of their absolute number, but their social, economic and political stakes". Elucidate the statement with reference to Muslim Community in India. (200 Words)

→ Minority in constitution is defined on two grounds — religion
— language and culture

Art 29, 30

→ Minority in absolute number will mean those groups with 49% of population will also be minority

→ but Indian constitution makers refrained from such measures

→ they were aware of diversity of culture, language, faith, etc in India

→ they wanted to establish modern nation

↓

hence minority rights were of critical nature

↓

rights in terms of social, economical and political justice, equality, freedom

↓

In these terms Muslims are still disadvantaged

According to sachar committee National minority commission Muslims form approx 13% of population but their ~~HDI~~ HDI indicators worse than national avg

— low literacy
— less representation politically
— less share in formal economy
— Social evils like communal riots and fear of insecurity

Thats why govt is taking special efforts through ministry of minority affairs schemes and inclusive growth strategy

Q 3. What is SEWA? What has been its contribution to women empowerment? (200 Words)

SEWA : self employed women's association

- founded by Ila Bhat
- operates in Gujarat primarily
- consists of women members only
- runs various programs for women empowerment like
  - → skill training
  - → cottage industry
  - → women self help groups
  - → encouragement to women entrepreneurs
  - → legal support to women run businesses
  - → emotional support to women members in distress
  - → facilitating credit flow to women run enterprises
  - → Guidance regarding marketing of products made by women (e.g. Lijjat papad)
- SEWA also engaged in advocacy of women rights.
- SEWA is at forefront at

demanding ~~for~~ greater political representation to women through reservation in legislature.

→ Actively leading women rights movements in India

→ Campaign and protest against social evils like
- female foeticide and infanticide
- dowry
- domestic violence
- sexual assaults on women
- gender discrimination at every level.

→ SEWA does not preach but follows through its actions.

Q4. Indian women are the main victims of poverty and malnutrition? Explain. (200 Words)

National commission on women, 12th plan, UN women and several organizations pointed out the dismal indicators of poverty and malnutrition among Indian women.

→ Share of women in property, in employment is lower than male counterparts

→ It is often women who is left out first if there is any stress in the family. Her nutritional needs are fulfilled always after all other members

→ Neglect ~~in~~ leads to poor health → Almost 50% of women are anaemic in India

→ high MMR (212 in 2011) is indicator of it

→ ~~In~~ In old age also they are left at the mercy of other family members and abandoned in many cases.

→ Patriarchy, gender discrimination are the root causes
→ Though position of women is improving still a long way to go.
→ Due to poverty and traditional son preference girls are not educated. Belief of Paraya dhan and social evil of dowry also causes vulnerability to women.
→ due to poverty women are deprived from quality medical care.
→ poverty also forcing women to go for surrogacy with disastrous health consequences

Q5. What are the main causes of inter-personal and inter-regional inequality in India? Enumerate the measures taken during five year plans in India to alleviate these maladies. (200 Words)

Causes of interpersonal inequality

→ traditional caste hierarchies and oppression of lower castes

→ lack of education, legal literacy among vulnerable sections like SC, ST, etc.

→ gender discrimination, patriarchy ↓ women are treated unequally

→ concentration of economic resources in select few.

Causes of inter regional inequality

→ historical reasons like princely states → their rulers not reformative → no spending on public welfare

→ geographical reasons like hilly areas, mineral resource distributions, access to coasts, water scarcity, soil quality, etc.

→ disaster prone areas like cyclone, floods, earthquakes

→ Internal security reasons like naxalism, insurgency

→ lack of capacity building at state level

→ globalization, liberalization benefitting already rich states. FDI being cornered by certain states.

Measures

1) Equitable distribution of resources among states through planning commission

2) Centrally sponsored schemes like – Integrated action plan
– backward region grants fund

3) special category states to backward states.

4) focus on region strengths and developing suitable industries like food processing in Himachal Pradesh.

5) Tribal Area development program
Hill area dev prog
Desert area dev prog
Drought prone area dev prog

Q6. **Differentiate between uni-dimensional and multi-dimensional measurement of poverty? Which of them offers a better measure and why? (200 Words)**

Unidimensional	multidimensional
- only income level is included	- income, education, health indicators are included
- narrow focus	- Focus is wide
- shows limited understanding of poverty as lack of income	- shows poverty as deprivements of all those things which are necessary to meaningful life
- easy to measure	- difficult to measure
- e.g. GDP per capita	- e.g. HDI MPI

Multidimensional is a better measure as it covers different dimensions of poverty. Many times, higher income level does not result into higher quality of life due to factors like caste and gender discrimination. Higher income is no guarantee of security and safety e.g. of minority community

Q7. What are the main indicators of quantity and quality of population of a country? On the basis of standard indicators, evaluate India's demographic progress. (200 Words)

Quantity indicators

1) Total population
2) Decadal growth rate
3) Female sex ratio
4) Total fertility rate
5) Crude birth rate
6) Crude death rate.

Quality indicators

1) Infant mortality rate
2) Maternal mortality rate
3) Life expectancy
4) Rate of literacy
5) Child sex ratio
6) Percentage of population in different age groups

India's demographic process

→ Population in 2011 increased to 1.21 billion
→ Female sex ratio improved to 940
→ child sex ratio declined to 914
→ TFR decreased to 2.5
→ Literacy at 74%
Female 66%
male 82%
→ Life expectancy : 64 to 68 years improved

- decrease in IMR to 44
  MMR to 212
- decadal growth rate down to 17% from 21%
- widespread regional variation especially EAG states lagging behind national average
- 65% of population in 15-59 years age → demographic dividend
- feminization of old age a concern
- India ~~is~~ is in moving from explosive growth stage to stable population growth stage gradually a

Q8. Evaluate India's achievements with regard to MDGs. What are the factors which came in the way of achievement of MDG? (200 Words)

① Infant ~~rate~~ mortality rate

MDG Target : 30

current status : 44 (in 2011)

② MMR

	Target	current (in 2013)
	130	190

③ Sanitation target not met with approx 50% Indians defecating in open.

④ Drinking water target of clean 100%, was not met. It is at 88% currently

⑤ Regarding MDG 1, poverty reduction is achieved. current poverty estimates are at 29% according to planning commission. Elimination of hunger is achieved through provisions of PDS ⟶ no famines

⑥ Challenge of malnutrition is severe with 42% children under 5 being underweight (HungamA report)

⑦ literacy improved but gender gap of 16% is there.

⑧ Reduction of HIV epidemic through NACO is achieved. Incidence of TB, Malaria is also decreased.

⑨ Polio is eradicated.

⑩ Progress towards sustainable development is being made through national action plan on climate change.

⑪ India is actively promoting efforts towards global cooperation and partnership in various fields.

Q9. What are the main goals of Family Planning in India today? What are the major constraints in family planning in India? (200 Words)

Goals are outlined in national population policy 2000

1) Increase the marriagable age to 18 and above
2) Total fertility rate target at 2.1 replacement level
3) Encourage appropriate spacing between births
4) Reduction in infant and maternal mortality
5) Provision of contraceptive services
6) Awareness creation
7) Stabilize the population growth
8) Provide family planning counselling at public health facilities
9) Promote institutional deliveries

Constraints:

1) Early marriages
2) Inadequate availability of contraceptives
3) ~~Inade~~ lack of ~~literacy~~ awareness about family planning
4) close spacing of births.

5) High IMR and MMR due to indequate access to institutional care

6) stigma attached due to compulsory program carried out in 1976-77.

7) traditional son preference
→ births continue till boy child

8) ~~less~~ Family planning surgeries less preferred due to lack of awareness.

Q10. Discuss various government initiatives to address the urban crisis? Do you think our city could sustain additional population pressure? (200 Words)

Govt initiatives

1) Arrest rural - urban migration through programmes like PURA, MGNREGA, NRLM, etc.
2) develop smart cities and satellite towns
3) Jawaharlal Nehru national urban renewal mission to provide for urban infrastructure
4) Rajiv Awas Yojana for slum dwellers
5) Real Estate investment trusts to boost housing sector.
6) Inclusion of housing into priority sector lending
7) Interest subvention scheme for urban poors
8) National Urban livelihood mission
9) Solar city initiatives
10) Wastewater recycling plants
11) waste to energy projects
12) solar city concepts
13) MoU with China, Japan on sister city project.

Existing cities are very congested due to haphazard development and large scale urbanization. They will find difficult to support higher population due to reasons

1) congestion in urban transport
2) environmental pollution and decrease in quality of life.
3) burden on public utilities like water, electricity is very high.
4) Governance: municipal bodies are still not adequately empowered financially, functionally, technically, and lack of skilled Human resources.
5) waste management crisis
6) lack of spaces for recreation
7) Increasing rates of crime.

Unless drastic reforms are undertaken, cities will be difficult to live in.

Q11. The idea of globalization is under threat due to political and economic crisis in the world. Do you agree? Give reasons in favour of your stand. (200 Words)

Globalization refers to increased interdependency among peoples of different nations in terms of economy, politics, culture, security, global challenges of climate change, etc.

- Globalization has been going on since ages and it will go on. Its pace may increase in future due to revolution in information technology. bringing people closer than ever.
- All nations started realizing that they can be complimentary to each other.
- Global multilateral bodies like UN, WB, IMF, WTO are playing significant role which will be expanded in future.

However there are threats also

- economic slowdown after 2008 and tendency of protectionist policies
- stringent visa norms for labour movements

- ineffectiveness of WTO
- political and military crisis like syria, Libya, Ukraine → rivalaries in shia Vs sunni in west Asia and USA Vs Russia
- emergence of extremist movements like ISIS, Al-qaeda and several other in north Africa
- reforms of institutions of global governance still pending
- flow of trade, capital, labour still faces many challenges

But these threats can be tackled with collective action. Globalization can be used to their advantage by both poor and rich nations.

Q12. We have two Indias -'India and 'Bharat', and they are more in conflict rather than symphony. Illustrate. (200 Words)

Two Indias 'India and Bharat' is though imaginary construct, it highlights contradictions in India and gives the impression of internal conflict situation.

For e.g. Bharat is considered consisting of those who are poor. It also consists of unwesternized sections of society with pride in Indian culture, tradition.

Proponents of this idea have tried to impose many conservative attributes on it. It was also declared that Bharat is more moral and spiritualistic and ~~fast~~ treats its women and elders respectfully.

India is supposed to consist of rich and westernized sections ~~is~~ It is portrayed that they have no pride in Indian culture and traditions. India also blamed for being materialistic and hence crimes rates are higher.

It was also said that rapes of women happen in India and not in Bharat.

But these are mere perceptions. India is a developing society where there is co-existence of traditionality and modernity. It is a fused society and hence contradictory values appear simultaneously. Rather than spending creative energies on these imaginary constructs, we should address the challenges before our nation which is India that is Bharat (as said in constitution).

Q13. Critically examine government's programmes for socio-economic empowerment of weaker sections in India. (200 Words)

Q14. Discuss the labour welfare measures in Independent India. (200 Words)

Q15. Discuss the impact of media on Indian society? How media could play a constructive role in bringing communal harmony? (200 Words)

Q16. What are the basic tenets of secularism? Do you think secularism is a potential slogan than constitutional necessity, not only in India but in many other countries too? Critically Examine. (200 Words)

Secularism

→ It is state treating all religions equally

→ state neutrality towards religion

→ mentioned in preamble

→ Art 25 – 28 guarantee freedom of religion

→ It is absence of discrimination on grounds of religion, faith, worship

→ India is multireligious, diverse and secular country.

It is not only constitution necessity but is a potential slogan as well

→ Globalization
↓
cultural exchange
↓
multiculturalism

→ fight against religious extremism, communalism

→ promotion of human rights and dignity.

Q17. Briefly discus the trends of internal migration in India. Discuss the efforts made at policy level to deal with the problem of migration? (200 Words)

Trends of internal migration

→ rural – urban

→ urban – urban

→ to foreign land

→ migration is on the rise due to push factors in source areas and pull factors in destination area

→ popn of cities have increased to · 32 % of total due to migration.

→ migration is ~~also~~ to metro cities, economic hubs, industrial centres

→ lack of quality services, unemployment in rural area forcing migration

→ Efforts

1) PURA

2) MGNREGA to arrest rural- urban migration

3) Aajivika to promote self employment in rural area
4) decentralized development
5) Inclusive development
6) balanced regional develop-ment.

Q18. Assess the roles of voluntary organizations in resolving social problem in India. How untapped potential of voluntary sector could be fully utilized? (200 Words)

Voluntary organization's role

→ 1) promotion of rights awareness

2) campaign against caste and gender discrimination

3) campaign for rights of SCs, STs, disabled, widows, senior citizens ~~and~~

4) undertaking measures for socio economic empowerment through provision of skill training and capacity building.

5) advocacy of political, civil and economic rights

6) promotion of communal harmony

7) promotion of self help groups and microfinance

8) help in marketing products made by vulnerable sections of population.

Q19. Explain policies & legislations enacted for the regulation of child labour? Do you think we have adequately enforcement mechanism for the legislation? (200 Words)

→ constitution Art 23-24 prohibits employment of children in hazardous industries as well as their trafficking and bonded labour,

→ Currently ~~₹~~ child labour act. regulates child labour & it outlines no of working hours, time for leisure, provisions regarding workplace security, consent of parents and guardians, etc.

— Enforcement mechanism consists of district child welfare boards

— district SP is entrusted with special responsibility to identify violations of this law.

— still there are gaps in the implementation as evident from practice being still rampant.

- Despite RTE mandating free and compulsory education in the age group 6-14 many children are out of its ambit.
- Amendment to child labour act is pending in parliament.
- There ~~are~~ is National commission on protection of rights of children which is performing good work.

Q20. Critically discussed the government policies on unemployment in India. How we can move from manual employment to quality employment? (200 Words)

Govt policies to promote employment are

1) Skill development through skill India mission, NSDC, NVEQF, ITI, Aajeevika, Udaan, Roshni, ☒
   ↓
   focus is on training and placement

2) Labour exchange bureaus

3) MGNREGA to provide wage employment in rural India

4) National manufacturing policy to create 100 million jobs in 10 years.

5) Promotion of MSMEs, Village entrepreneurship program, district level incubators to generate employment.

6) Labour law reforms

7) Apprenticeship Law reforms

8) Make in India program

The policies on skill development will help more from manual employment to quality employment apart from all above points.

Q21. Assess the extent & nature of women's work participation in India. Is it correct to say that our colonial labour laws are coming as hindrance in women employment? (200 Words)

Q22. Describe poverty as a social problem and list out its consequences on Indian society. (200 Words)

- Poverty is just not an absence of economic resources. It is not only inadequate income but is a social problem.
- Poverty is always relative and results from skewed distribution of resources
- Poverty in India is social problem also because large no of poor are from backward classes
- Poverty deprives access to education and health
- It is vicious cycle. Poverty reenforces poverty.
- Poverty results into less dignified life. It can result into exploitation by powerful.
- Inclusive growth will remain a distant goal with poverty as high as 29% in India.
- Poor are always most vulnerable and voiceless and always last in the queue.

→ Poverty results into lack of access to food → leads to malnutrition

→ Poverty also can destabilize harmony in the society

→ It can result into conflicts, crimes, inter regional inequality.

→ Poverty also breeds extremism as people get disillusioned and seek violent means.

→ It violates the right to life in our constitution.

Q23. Discuss the impact of deforestation on the tribes of India. Do you think that PESA can play a successful role in asserting deforestation? (200 Words)

- Tribes of India
  - ↓
  - traditionally dwelling in forested areas, hilly and highlands, etc
  - ↓
  - derive livelihood from forest
  - ↓
  - food, fodder, timber, medicine needs are met
  - ↓
  - forests form part of their culture. Some even worship them as deities
  - ↓
  - All this will be negatively affected due to deforestation

→ Rights of tribal will be violated. Their exploitation will be aggravated by their lack of legal literacy and little contact with outside world.

→ Tribals have been conserving forests and following sustainable development path since ages. Their role in instrumental in maintaining India's forest cover.

→ Deforestation will badly affect all aspects of their life.

PESA can play a successful role in checking deforestation along with Forest Rights act

→ Tribals will be responsible for decisions regarding their future. → Autonomy will help them avoid undue outside influence
↓
consistent with India's tribal panchsheel.

→ Inclusive and sustainable development

→ protection and conservation of environment can be accelerated through lead by tribal themselves

→ Enable capacity building of political, social and economic empowerment of tribals

→ will check the growth of naxalism.

Q24. What is the social legislation relating to urban and rural housing? Why urban housing policy has not succeeded in the way rural has succeeded? (200 Words)

Urban policy not succeeded as compared to rural because

1) haphazard and unplanned urbanization and expansion of cities
2) Improper land use pattern
3) high pace of migration to urban areas creating demand larger than supply
4) lack of regulation in real estate business
5) high cost of housing making it unaffordable to many urbanized citizens
6) Absence of long term, scenario and perspective planning
7) high cost of land purchase
8) Nexus between builder - developer - neta - babu and widespread corruption

Q25. What are the main determinants of social empowerment? Bring out some of the steps taken by Union Government regards to empowerment of women in India? (200 Words)

- Main determinants of social empowerment is the empowerment of sections of society which are on its fringes and are marginalized, vulnerable and find it difficult to enjoy their rights as mentioned in our constitution.
- Social justice is its very imp dimension apart from political and economic.
- The status of dignity and equality is critical to social empowerment
- GoI has been taking various legislative, administrative, economic measures for upliftment of vulnerable sections like SC, ST, disabled, old age person, women, etc.
- Literacy and health indicators are also determinants of sereal empowerment
- level of skill development, protection from violence representation in institutions of

governance are some other determinants.

steps for women empowerment

1) Special provision for women in Art 15(3) and in art 16 of constitution.
2) Gender budgeting practice
3) Promotion of women self help groups
4) Various schemes of ministry of women and child development like — SABLA
   — Nirbhaya
   — Swadhar griha
   — Swayam siddha
5) establishment of National and state commission on Women
6) Reservation of minimum 33% in local governance bodies
7) Sexual harassment at workplace (Prevention and protection) Act
8) criminal law amendment act 2013 to deal with crimes against women.