

**GENERAL STUDIES - PAPER II**

Time Allowed: 3 hrs.

Max. Marks: 250

Q.	Marks	Instructions to Candidate
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Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.


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**REMARKS****GS SCORE**  
MOCK TEST SERIES 2017

- Q1. "A government with an absolute majority will see a conformist judiciary". To what extent is this applicable in Indian perspective. Critically examine; whether the confrontation between powerful legislature and judiciary affects the constitutionalism?.(12.5 Marks)

It is said that if ~~the~~ a Govt. has absolute majority even the judiciary conforms to its ways and pressures. This was seen under P.N. India, Gandhi ruling 1975 emergency.

However Indian Constitution grants several safeguards and envisages independence of judiciary as the most significant ideal.

Legislature is powerful and judiciary exercises their functions in their respective domains but sometimes this may overlap and result into confrontation.

#### JUDICIAL ACTIVISM

- ① When Judiciary utilizes special leave Petition U/A 142 as its discretionary power and extends its jurisdictional domain through mechanism of Judicial Review & Public Interest Litigations.
- ② enforcing transparency and accountability in Judiciary - the recent confrontation on ensuring a transparent

Remarks

and efficient mechanisms for appointment of judges with judiciary striking down ~~NTAC~~ is unconstitutional.

~~Bringing judiciary under RTI~~ however in a mature democracy where citizens are politically active engaged with legislature and judiciary can complement each other in the interest of the citizens.

(i) often ~~legislature~~ finds it necessary but difficult to take unpopular actions for the fear of losing political leverage. ~~because~~ - judiciary with the onus of responsibility of safeguarding the rights of the people and ~~people~~ ensuring Rule of law bridges this gap eg. striking down of the practice of Triple Talaq.

(ii) constitution provides for separation of power and ~~both~~ judiciary from interfering in several activities of legislature eg. exercise of privileges and adjudication of civil water disputes etc.

District both  
& negatives

Remarks

- Q2. "Though the Cauvery and Ravi-Beas Water Disputes Tribunals have been in existence for over 26 and 30 years, respectively, they have not been able to make any successful award till date". What are the deficiencies of the existing tribunals for inter water disputes? Mention the important provisions of Inter-State River Water Disputes (Amendment) Bill, 2017 and explain in detail the pros and cons of the bill. (12.5 Marks)

The existing mechanism under Inter-State River Water Disputes Act suffers from several inadequacies.

- (i) ~~multiple tribunals which often take years to announce their decision~~
- (ii) ~~enforceability of their decision is not monitored~~
- (iii) ~~after the decision is appealed against by one state in Supreme Court by the other state to redress its perceived disadvantage~~

On this account govt has envisaged some changes under Inter-State River Water Disputes (Amendment) Bill, 2017 which includes

- (i) single tribunal which will have regional divisions to resolve inter-state river water disputes

Remarks

(ii) there shall be a time bound delivery of judgement and it cannot be appealed against in the court.

(iii) Oversight mechanism for monitoring the and enforcement.

not this is expected address the of shortcomings in existing mechanism.

(iv) but only to a certain extent as the idea of having a single tribunal with regional benches is not significantly different from the current framework. Often such waiver rules are mixed with regional charismas and bring unrest was seen in the case of Cauvery judgement in Karnataka. This will do little to address that.

Remarks

- Q3. Indian constitution presents India as a compromise between the British Sovereignty of Parliament and American Judicial Supremacy. What are the arguments for and against the statement; elaborate with examples. (12.5 Marks)

Indian constitution was framed by adopting the best principles across the world's other nations and accommodating to Indian needs.

British sovereignty of the Parliament cannot be challenged ~~by~~ and therefore keeps it at a higher pedestal in comparison to the Judiciary.

However American Judiciary enjoys absolute supremacy and functions according to the principle of 'due process of law' where it also examines if the law is just whereas, judiciary in the British constitutional mechanism does not have the power to question the parliamentary 'laws' which are sacrosanct.

In ~~the~~ India, while supremacy of Judiciary is upheld it has to adjudicate in accordance with the laws enacted by the legislature.

Remarks

This ensures that in principle the will of the popular sovereign that is the legislature is respected as it holds people's mandate. At the same time with the provisions of Judicial Review and separation of powers to ensure its independence and autonomy Judiciary plays a proactive role in safeguarding the rights of the people and upholding the Rule of Law. In India Judiciary functions in accordance with the principle of procedure established by law.

Better answer like question  
same way  
is asked

- Q4. Does Supreme Court's Judgement on liquor ban on highways subject to judicial overreach and violate doctrine of separation of powers? Substantiate your arguments. Also mention the benefits of such directives. (12.5 Marks)

Supreme court used its discretionary power under article 142 of the constitution in the judgement to ban selling of liquor on highways.  
 U/A 142 ~~Judges~~ SC can pass such decree as it may deem necessary in the interest of the people, is important so as to achieve complete justice.

However this has some negative implications:-

- (i) violates the principle of separation of powers as judiciary steps into the domain of legislature to pass such judgement.
- (ii) being arbitrary and uncessive it is cited as the case of Judicial overreach due to lack of exercise of restraint.
- (iii) ~~so~~ liquor ban created disruptions in businesses, lead to unemployment

Remarks

This such steps can have implications on the rights of the people.

(iii) the ban was based on inconclusive data of road impact of drunk driving on increase in road accidents, thus, impacting ~~and~~ the efficiency and credibility of policy environment.

However, judiciary has played a positive role by utilizing its power under special leave petition in the past such as releasing of Taj Mahal

42 being the guarantee of the rights of citizens. a pro-reactive judiciary only highlights seeks to complement the role of various legislatures which often ~~often~~ ~~is~~ invited by populism and parliamentary benefit of such directives. -  
lacunas and inefficiency that we are witnessing currently in parliamentary functioning.

Remarks

Q5. What is integrated case management information system (ICMIS)? With fast growing IT system, India needs to cope with the changing world. Do you think ICMIS would help Indian judiciary be digital court. Critically comment. (12.5 Marks)

Integrated case management information system (ICMIS) adopts modern case management practices in Judiciary. It enables use of IT for facilitation of filing of cases, reminding of dates for hearing and other administrative functioning of Judiciary thereby increasing its efficiency.

ICMIS can have benefit judiciary immensely by digitalising its processes.

- ① Indian Judiciary is resource and fund constrained as a result highly burdened. This will reduce workload.
- ② No of backlog are extremely high. Therefore adoption of ICT can result in speedier adjudication of cases.
- ③ Create transparency in the court functioning.
- ④ Convenience for people as the data and information will be easily accessible.

Remarks

However, the ~~despite~~ notwithstanding the ICJ RIS has only been implemented in the higher judiciary. Replicating it across all levels poses severe challenges.

- (i) infrastructural gaps: as lower judiciary is highly underresourced.  
 (ii) aversion to technology: prevents its transition to e-governance. Often in the guise of e-office in offices, use of files & of ~~e-mail~~ in offices, use of files & paper continues. It just adds another layer but doesn't replace it completely.

However, in order to ~~no~~ address the current challenges in justice delivery system in the form of delays and increasing backlog creation of e-courts & the need of the hour must be pursued under e-governance mission.

How would it facilitate  
a litigant?

Remarks

- Q6. Do you think criminalizing marital rape may destabilize the institution of marriage and is more prone to be misused? Justify your opinion. Why India needs a law against marital rape? (12.5 Marks)

Recently Supreme court through its recent judgement to harmonise IPC with the POSCO Act held that sexual intercourse with a minor i.e. a girl under 18 years of age shall be considered as rape.

In Puthuswamy vs. UOI case Supreme court recognized right to privacy as a fundamental right under article 21 of the constitution.

The above mentioned judgments reflect the changing paradigm within which the issue of marital rape must be seen. As marital rape is criminalized in India because it may violate the institution of marriage.

However such a stand disrespects the <sup>newspaper</sup> recently held judgement of

Remarks

recognizing the dignity and right against bodily harm of a woman. Marital rape is also a real reality in India which is a reflection of pervasive misogynistic culture under the patriarchal setup.

However there are several issues that may occur while defeating the purpose of criminalizing marital rape which include:

- (i) monitoring and establishment of crime off is very challenging
- (ii) can be misused against the male in the relationship
- (iii) goes against Indian cultural ethos and may create dissent
- (iv) enforcement may not be possible

Remarks

Q7. "Risk Profiling of the bureaucrats would result in improved accountability towards public services". Analyze in the context of 2nd ARC recommendations, how "risk profiling" can be done and its ramifications for administrative improvements? (12.5 Marks)

*Remarks*

### Remarks

Q8. "Grievance redressal is the weakest link in the justice delivery in India". Evaluate the role of institutions of grievance redressal in India and their limitations?... (12.5 Marks)

Grievance Redressal <sup>system</sup> ~~complaints~~ enables addresses the concerns of people/citizens that may arise as a result of ~~lack~~ factory or absence of public service delivery.

While India is moving towards a culture of RIGHTS in the form of Right to Education sought to feed MGNREGA. The universality envisaged in such an approach remains a mere ~~to~~ rhetoric if it is not accompanied by grievance redressal.

lack of grievance redressal mechanism makes participatory governance through processes like social audit, citizen report card untenable thus preventing citizen engagement in achieving developmental goals.

Remarks

It also is an integral part of EVIDENCE BASED policy making and a shift towards outcomes and attainment of goals. That the current dispensation strives to achieve through public policy delivery and redistribution measures.

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Thus, role of public grievance redressal is very significant. The recent initiatives in the form of PRAGATI programs to address the concerns of people.

In violation to its citizen charter and institutions such as hakayuktā can be strengthened. Police reforms to incorporate grievance redressal.

(How various institutions do not have its investigative agency like NHRc?)

Remarks

Q9. Labour reforms are very significant in the light of automation of Industries and for mass manufacturing. To what extent has India been successful in implementing labour reforms. Suggest alternative measures to be implemented by the government.

(12.5 Marks)

Labour reforms ~~are~~ <sup>one of</sup> considered to be the most significant determinants of ensuring ease of doing business with bring about increase in industrial activity and manufacturing. At present labour laws pose several impediments:

- ① India suffers from multiplicity of labour laws which are difficult to comply with though at the same time with the intention of safeguarding the welfare of the labourers they are perceived to be excessive and thus discourage industries from becoming large.
- ② Strict laws pertaining to firing has lead to greater reliance on contractual workforce and temporary workers.
- ③ Increasing automation is seen as a result of the same. e.g. recently

Remarks

car aggregators announced moving towards self-driven cars.

India has taken several measures in the form of UAN (Universal Account Number) under Shram Shiksha Raayakarom.

Promotion of online compliance of labour laws.

Adoption of a single portal for creating an interface between employers and job seekers in unorganized sector.

But adoption of a comprehensive labour code at the need of the hour is these provisions have shown only marginal results.

Discuss various steps taken by government recently.

by government recently.

Remarks

Q10. Is there a relationship between lack of innovation in India with the level of quality of education in India? Elucidate with examples. How does India Innovation Index provide impetus to Indian states to drive the innovative spirit? (12.5 Marks)

Indian higher education suffers from crisis of credibility with poor quality, employability, unregulated proliferation, lack of autonomy, it also suffers from poor innovation and research contributions.

There seems to be a correlation between poor quality and innovation in India.

(i) Poor infrastructure in terms of labs and research facilities leads to administrative capacity issues into decline in motivation of children causing poor learning outcomes & research.

(ii) Rigidity in curriculum, excessive political interference and low autonomy prevent higher educational institutes to realize their potential.

(iii) Poor learning outcomes discourage industry participation. This correlates

Remarks

Discuss the role of vocational study in this regard.

with industry, academia and industry  
entity collaboration to achieve research  
and innovation.

India innovation index seeks to  
motivate states and universities  
to achieve higher ranking on  
identified parameters.

This in convegence with Govt.  
initiatives like

(i) Higher education financing  
agency - market linked mechanism  
to raise finances to augment  
university resources

(ii) ~~establish~~ identifying institutes of  
excellence - with greater  
autonomy and multi-disciplinary  
approach

Remarks

Q11. Minimizing food loss has the potential to be transformative in multiple ways for India and the world. Analyze the statement. Why effectively dealing with food wastage can lead to development in India? (12.5 Marks)

Food wastage across the world amounts to 50% of the food produced with the rise in population and global consumption. Reducing food waste is the singlemost challenge to ensure food security. It will also prevent loss of excessive and indiscriminate exploitation of land and other resources which are increasingly under threat due to climate change for increasing food production.

Effectively dealing with food wastage can help in

(i) achievement of Goal '2' of SDGs 2030

of eliminating hunger.

ii) address the need of food security of all with around 80% living in poverty the access to food is a dire concern.

(iii) most of the food wastage at

Remarks

Supply

all levels of food chain due to  
adequate cold storage facilities for  
perishables.

eliminating this can ensure agri-  
becoming more remunerative for  
farmers.

(iv) lead to sustainable agriculture  
and address the needs of development  
which conflict with each  
other for land needs.

(v) decline of productivity in the  
years to come due to impact  
of climate change.

(vi) behaviour change on the part  
of the consumers and food nots  
can cause prevent wastage of  
food.

(vii) creation of food banks and  
networks to supply food from  
surplus to sufficient households  
can help in achieving  
equitable growth.

Remarks

Q12. Explain what is Track-II diplomacy, and analyze, why it doesn't work in India-China context, with particular reference to Doka-la pass and Doklam plateau confrontation? (12.5 Marks)

Track II diplomacy is when the non-governmental players seeks to receive and negotiate independent of the part played by the government.

India and China do not display track II diplomacy to address challenges like the recent Doklam standoff because:

- (i) they have ~~business~~ poor good business to business ties but only in the commercial sense. They fail to be strong enough to endorse matters of national interest.
- (ii) ~~as~~ species cultural affinity and difference in language roots, poor people to people linkages.

②

Elaborate it.

Remarks

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*Remarks*

Q13. Discuss the significance of Indian Ocean naval presence in overall Indian foreign policy?  
How it affects India's bilateral and multilateral relations? (12.5 Marks)

**Remarks**

*Remarks*

Q14. Discuss the contribution and failures of United nations bodies in preventing major global crisis, since cold war? (12.5 Marks)

The world after world war II was characterised by two super powers however, the contemporary world is ~~is~~ multi polar with emerging nations ~~and~~ as a major power centre.

United Nations suffer from multiple weaknesses:

- ① not reflective of the current geopolitical reality.
- ② non-democratic nature with no representation of any 3rd African country preventing effective multilateralism.
- ③ old western countries control the governance structures which prevents efficient functioning.
- ④ non-consensus arising out of opposing nations USA and Russia via P.S.

All these aspects have lead to non-resolution of conflicts ~~that~~ in west Asia, leading to rise of ISIS.

Proxy wars by major powers in the region to safeguard their

Remarks

national self interest; non-resolution and poor coordination in the issues of European refugee crisis.

However, some achievements of ~~EU~~ persisted with:

- (i) supra-national legal and Constitutional architecture to harmonize actions on trade, peace, human rights and climate change;

(ii). mobilizing agents on complex issues which cannot be resolved by unilateral actions like climate change, terrorism -

Thus, the current need is to strengthen these institutions to become more effective & ~~more~~ <sup>more</sup> effective in its role.

What about its role in disarmament?

- Q15. In an ever-changing geo-political global scenario, new alignments and axis develop for self and motivated interests. In this reference what should be India's foreign policy approach taking consideration of China-Russia-Pakistan axis, the West Asian Theatre and changing South Asian parameters? (12.5 Marks)

Global geo-political scenario has undergone a significant change in the last few years in the context of ~~increasingly~~ ~~increasingly pursuing transactional~~ diplomacy.

India's foreign policy in this era of uncertainty is characterised by strategic security. It is developing closer relationship with Japan as a result of deepening of China-Pak-Russia axis.

(i) countering of expansionist policies of assertive China through USA's Asia First Policy e.g. South China Sea India sees

(ii) India seeks to deepen its ties with its neighbours and emerge as a net security provider in the Indian Ocean Region.  
e.g. assistance support by India

Remarks

to in the issue of South China Sea.

(iv) In west Asia India seeks ~~not~~ to balance its relations with all these powers. Iran, Saudi Arabia and Israel.

(v) Capitalise on its cultural and spiritual prowess to emerge as a more persuasive nation relying on soft diplomacy and capitalizing on its ~~as~~ such clout.

(vi) engaging with Japan, USA, etc in naval exercises - Malabar exercise

India should make foreign policy as per the need of hour.

Remarks

- Q16. The recent standoff at Doklam Plateau shows the strong relationship between India and Bhutan. Why is Bhutan special to India? In the month long, high tension confrontation, India's real test was to assure Bhutan, to not crumble under Chinese pressure. Examine. (12.5 Marks)

Bhutan is India's closest ally with close cultural, economic and geographic integrations.

India and Bhutan have a Friendship Treaty which ensures that Bhutan's external diplomatic relations are in accordance with India's security needs.

- Bhutan's close relationship with India is visible from:
  - (i) Bhutan's support to India during Doklam standoff by allowing Indian troops to confront with Chinese forces along its borders historically, Bhutan has resisted Chinese pressure to negotiate the claimed boundary instead of India's interest.
  - (ii) Added further, apart from India, Bhutan was the

Remarks

only country to not send a representative to One Belt and Road forum and is not a part of OBOR.

Not  
Content  
with

However India is sometimes accused of 'Big Brotherly' attitude towards its closest ally. It has been resisted on several occasions by Bhutan e.g. Bhutan recently intended to move out of Motor vehicles Act.

However, Bhutan's place holds special significance to India.

- (i) strategic position as it is a buffer state between India and China.
- (ii) dependence on Bhutan for cheap hydro electricity which has been developed by India. Thus ensure energy security.
- (iii) Bhutan's cooperation in International forum.

Better focus on specific content which is asked

Remarks

Content

- Q17. Does having close relations with Israel compromises India's historical support (along the UN lines) for Palestinian cause? Discuss critically in the light of the recent visit? (12.5 Marks)

India recently announced de-hyphenation of its relations with Israel and Palestine with the first ever prime ministerial visit to Israel since the establishment of diplomatic relations in the last 25 years.

It is said that this step may compromise India's policy towards Palestinians' two nation theory as India seeks to establish strategic relations with Israel. It will hamper however India has not changed its stance on Palestine. It continues to support Palestinians' right to self-determination and against Israel's expansionist policy in West Bank.

Close diplomatic ties with Israel is reflective of current geopolitical realities and India's dependence on Israel in the field of defence.

Remarks

technology; Through closer relation  
 in agricultural <sup>productive</sup> and irrigation India  
 seeks to address its domestic challenges.

Though deepening of relations with  
 Israel has been going on from the  
 past few years it is now that a high  
 profile visit has been made. Thus,  
 these changes had ~~been~~ been taking  
 place ~~from the past~~ for 1990s and

India continued to offer solidarity  
 to Palestinian issue

What change was noticeable  
 during recent visit of  
 the prime minister?

Q18. Is global ban of nuclear weapons feasible? Examine how effective will the ban be in making nuclear disarmament a reality? (12.5 Marks)

Nuclear weapons pose a grave threat to humanity. Previous negotiations and treaties such as NPT do have major limitations and thus failed to achieve a nuclear weapon free world.

The current negotiations on Nuclear weapon prohibition Treaty (NNPT) under UNGA has been adopted by 120 countries thus paving the way towards making a ban a reality.

This will ensure:

However, a complete ban on making nuclear weapons faces several challenges:-

① world security which is defined by use of ISIS, radicalism and nuclearised though nuclear war b/w Korea posing a threat to peace in the world.

② Reasons of nuclear deterrence by those countries which face imminent threat against neighbours etc thus

Remarks

that nuclear weapons ensure balance and stability.

(3) lack of consensus in P5

(4) pose monitoring and surveillance safeguards.

However NWPT will provide for absolute ban and monitoring mechanisms unlike the past treaties. It will also be binding on member nations thus paving way for a nuclear weapon free world.

Highlight the advantages  
of banning the same

Remarks

Q19. What is Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction? With the rise in trans-national marriages and complexities involved in modern day relationships, do you think India should sign this? Critically analyze. (12.5 Marks)

*Remarks*

**Remarks**

- Q20. China and Pakistan have invited India to join CPEC (China - Pakistan Economic Corridor), which is a part of OBOR (One Belt One Road) initiative of China. Should India join it or not, while having already declined to be part of OBOR forum? What regional implications CPEC is going to have in South Asia? (12.5 Marks)

China-Pakistan economic corridor under China led One Belt & One Road initiative poses several challenges to India.

These include:

- ① Sovereignty issue - OBOR under CPEC passes through Pakistan occupied Kashmir region raising concerns over violation of sovereignty and integrity of India.
- ② As a result of CPEC ~~and~~ Pakistan's claim over the region can get greater legitimacy.
- ③ Security dimension: Gwadar port is located in the Arabian sea region and in the times of war China and Pakistan can mobilize forces posing security threat to India.
- ④ Under its string of pearls policy, China may develop Gwadar as a military base like Djibouti.

Remarks:

This ~~process~~ CPEC poses several security and geo-political challenges to India.

But India must take a carefully calibrated approach.

Analysts cite certain positive outcomes ~~too~~ of joining CPEC:

(1) development of the region can enhance regulation and prevent it from ~~being~~ ~~as~~ a sanctuary for terrorist organization.

(2) Nebraska wife has called for making <sup>India</sup> Kashmir as the center of inter-regional and regional trade and in energy and goods thus paving the way to its economic development.

(3) India's ~~factual~~ rhetoric of isolating ~~China~~

(4) deeper regional integration with benefit ~~and~~ being ~~sustainable~~ development

Given ~~the~~ India must diplomatically articulate its security concerns

Remarks

Discuss its effect  
on other nations too