



An Institute for Civil Services

INTERVIEW GUIDANCE SERIES

IAS
2024

SELF MOCK QUESTIONS

GOVERNANCE
& SOCIAL ISSUES (PART-1)

for UPSC INTERVIEW PREPARATION



An Institute for Civil Services

INTERVIEW GUIDANCE PROGRAMME 2024

Give **Mock Interview** with the **India's Most Eminent Panel**
of **Acclaimed Civil Servants & Academicians**



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GOVERNANCE & SOCIAL ISSUES (PART-1)

1. STRENGTHENING RIGHT TO INFORMATION (RTI) FOR TRANSPARENT GOVERNANCE

- Q. Why is the Supreme Court's directive to fill vacancies in the CIC and SICs crucial for the effectiveness of the RTI Act?
- Q. Discuss the recent exemptions under section 24(2) of the RTI Act and their implications for transparency.
- Q. What measures can be taken to address the challenges of poor record-keeping and lack of infrastructure in RTI implementation?
- Q. In what ways can extensive awareness campaigns contribute to the success of the RTI Act, especially in rural India?

2. ADVANCING ACCESSIBILITY: EMPOWERING PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES THROUGH INCLUSIVE URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE

- Q. How do recent court judgments contribute to reshaping attitudes towards Persons with Disabilities?
- Q. Discuss the economic aspects of inclusion, highlighting the potential increase in GDP by involving PwDs in employment.
- Q. What are the challenges faced by the Accessible India campaign, and how can these be addressed for more effective outcomes?
- Q. Explain the significance of introducing accessibility professionals and codifying their roles in model building bye-laws.
- Q. How can the government enhance awareness among Persons with Disabilities regarding their rights under the RPwD Act, 2016?

3. NURTURING PARENTHOOD: SUPREME COURT'S VERDICT ON SURROGACY IN INDIA

- Q. How does the recent Supreme Court decision protect the rights of intending parents in surrogacy?
- Q. Discuss the challenges associated with conflicting laws in the regulation of surrogacy.

- Q. In what ways can the surrogacy regulation ecosystem be improved to protect the privacy of all parties involved?
- Q. Explain the significance of the Supreme Court's observation that gestational surrogacy is "woman-centric."
- Q. What measures can be taken to increase awareness among surrogate mothers about their rights and potential risks associated with surrogacy?

4. CRIMINALIZATION OF POLITICS IN INDIA: CHALLENGES AND REFORMS

- Q. How does the criminalization of political parties adversely impact inner-party democracy?
- Q. In what ways does corruption thrive when the rule of law is disregarded, and politicians with criminal backgrounds hold public office?
- Q. What legislative and judicial measures have been taken to address the criminalization of politics, and how effective have they been?
- Q. Discuss the proposed reforms and measures to curb criminalization in politics, emphasizing their potential impact on the electoral system.

5. LEVERAGING TECHNOLOGY FOR EFFICIENT PUBLIC SERVICE DELIVERY IN INDIA

- Q. How can the integration of technology in public service delivery benefit citizens in terms of time and cost savings?
- Q. Discuss the challenges hindering the widespread adoption of technology in public service delivery and propose solutions.
- Q. In what ways can data integration contribute to better public policy formulation and implementation?
- Q. What measures can be taken to bridge the digital divide and enhance digital literacy among the population?
- Q. Elaborate on the significance of a legal framework for data protection in ensuring citizen trust in digital government services.

6. STRENGTHENING CONSUMER PROTECTION IN INDIA

- Q. Discuss the role of certification marks in ensuring quality standards and protecting consumers from substandard products.
- Q. What challenges exist in the current consumer protection framework, and how can these challenges be addressed?
- Q. How can the government enhance consumer awareness about their rights and the mechanisms available for grievance redressal?
- Q. Elaborate on the initiatives and measures that can be undertaken to strengthen consumer protection in India.

7. FOREST RIGHTS ACT, 2006: ADDRESSING LAND CLAIMS AND CHALLENGES

- Q. What are the types of rights recognized under the Forest Rights Act, and how do they address the historical marginalization of forest-dwelling communities?
- Q. Discuss the challenges associated with land claims under the Forest Rights Act and propose solutions to overcome them.

8. THE 'SERIOUS' SITUATION OF HUNGER IN INDIA

- Q. Why is India experiencing an alarming rate of hunger, considering the data findings of the Global Hunger Index 2024?
- Q. India is among the largest producers of critical staples globally, yet the population faces nutrition and food deprivation. Why is this the case?
- Q. Do you believe India's real food problem lies in food wastage? Provide solutions to this problem.
- Q. What is the micronutrient deficiency among children under a certain age group in India?
- Q. How does climate change impact world hunger, and what is its specific impact on India as a developing country?

9. CASTE CENSUS

- Q. Why is the recent caste survey in Bihar sparking discussions on the history and implications of caste census in India?
- Q. How does caste census align with constitutional provisions related to backward classes, and what challenges does it pose?
- Q. Explain the potential benefits and challenges associated with conducting a caste census in India.
- Q. Why might there be concerns about the political misuse of caste data, and how can they be addressed?
- Q. In what ways can technology be employed to analyze and assess caste-based data effectively?
- Q. Are you in favour of Caste Census?

10. DIGITAL DIVIDE IN INDIA

- Q. What is the current scenario of the digital divide in India, and how does it impact different regions?
- Q. Analyze the factors contributing to the urban-rural disparity in digital connectivity.
- Q. How does the digital divide affect education, especially in rural areas?

- Q. Evaluate the government's initiatives to bridge the digital gap and the challenges associated with them.
- Q. Propose measures to enhance digital literacy and connectivity in rural India.

11. LGBT RIGHTS IN INDIA

- Q. Describe the evolution of India's legal stance on LGBT rights, highlighting key milestones.
- Q. How does societal perception impact the challenges faced by the LGBT community in India?
- Q. Analyze the economic and social challenges faced by LGBT individuals, especially in the workplace.
- Q. What measures can be taken to address the need for comprehensive policies supporting LGBT rights?
- Q. Discuss the role of civil society in advancing awareness and inclusivity for the LGBT community in India.

12. NARI SHAKTI VANDAN [CONSTITUTION (106TH AMENDMENT)] ACT, 2023

- Q. Analyze the importance of the Constitution (106th Amendment) Act, 2023, in addressing the under-representation of women in Indian legislatures.
- Q. Critically evaluate the concerns raised against the Act, such as its potential impact on voter choices and the argument against meritocracy.
- Q. Discuss the significance of timely implementation and capacity building in ensuring the success of women's reservation in legislatures.
- Q. Assess the Act's limitations, especially regarding the absence of provisions for reservation in Rajya Sabha and Legislative Councils.
- Q. How can civil society contribute to the effective training and mentorship of women leaders as envisioned by the Act?

13. PERSONALITY RIGHTS

- Q. Examine the legal components of personality rights and their significance in protecting individuals from unauthorized use.
- Q. Discuss the judicial interpretations, such as the Titan Industries case, that contribute to defining and safeguarding personality rights in India.
- Q. Analyze the challenges associated with enforcing personality rights, considering conflicts with freedom of expression and emerging technologies.
- Q. Explore the implications of the recent Delhi High Court ruling on personality rights for the broader legal landscape in India.
- Q. Propose measures to address the challenges of regulating personality rights in the era of deceptive internet techniques and Generative AI.

14. UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE

- Q. Explain the importance of Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and its potential impact on human capital, economic growth, and Sustainable Development Goal 3.
- Q. Analyze the challenges India faces in achieving UHC, with a focus on healthcare spending, out-of-pocket expenditure, and access to healthcare in rural areas.
- Q. Propose measures to address the challenges outlined in achieving UHC in India, considering the recommendations from the report.
- Q. Discuss the role of primary healthcare, financial protection, and international commitments in advancing progress toward Universal Health Coverage.

15. ADDRESSING DRUG ABUSE IN INDIA: CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS

- Q. What are the major substances contributing to the prevalent issue of drug abuse in India?
- Q. India's geographical location has been identified as a hub for drug trafficking. How does this contribute to the challenges in curbing drug abuse?
- Q. Discuss the significance of the NDPS Act, 1985, in addressing drug-related problems in the country.
- Q. How can the stigma associated with drug abuse be minimized to encourage individuals to seek medical help?
- Q. In the context of drug abuse prevention, elaborate on the role of modern technology and legal actions in reducing drug trafficking.

16. NAVIGATING THE GUIDELINES FOR INFLUENCER ADVERTISING IN DIGITAL MEDIA

- Q. Explain the significance of the recent guidelines for influencer advertising in digital media released by ASCI.
- Q. How do the guidelines ensure transparency in influencer advertising and protect consumers from misleading claims?
- Q. What role does the Consumer Protection Act play in enforcing the guidelines, and what penalties can influencers face for violations?
- Q. Why is it essential for influencers, especially those in the health and financial domains, to adhere to specific guidelines?
- Q. Discuss the potential impact of these guidelines on the influencer marketing landscape and consumer trust.

17. EVALUATING THE NATIONAL CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK FOR SCHOOL EDUCATION (NCFSE)

- Q. Examine the key provisions of the National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCFSE) and their implications for the education system.

- Q. Discuss the significance of the NCFSE in promoting linguistic diversity and providing flexibility in the secondary stage of education.
- Q. What are the challenges associated with the NCFSE, particularly in terms of centralization, logistical hurdles, and manpower shortage?
- Q. How can higher education institutions align themselves with the new framework, and what measures can address concerns related to discriminatory practices?
- Q. Evaluate the role of increased public investment in realizing the goals outlined in the National Education Policy 2020 through the implementation of the NCFSE.

18. ASSESSING THE NATIONAL SOCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME (NSAP): CAG REPORT INSIGHTS

- Q. Discuss the constitutional mandate of the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) and its objectives as a centrally sponsored scheme.
- Q. What are the key issues highlighted in the CAG report on the Performance Audit of NSAP, and how do they impact the effectiveness of the program?
- Q. Examine the recommendations provided by CAG to address challenges in NSAP implementation, particularly in beneficiary data management and financial oversight.
- Q. How can the integration of digital technologies, such as Aadhaar/biometric authentication, improve the disbursement process of NSAP?
- Q. Evaluate the importance of establishing social audit and grievance redressal mechanisms for ensuring transparency and accountability in social assistance programs like NSAP.

19. STRENGTHENING MULTI-STATE CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES: THE NEED FOR AMENDMENT

- Q. How does the Multi-State Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 2023, align with the constitutional framework?
- Q. In what ways do the amendments address the governance issues in Multi-State Co-operative Societies?
- Q. How does the establishment of a Co-operative Election Authority contribute to the democratic functioning of these societies?
- Q. Explain the significance of including Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe, and women members on the board of Multi-State Co-operative Societies.
- Q. How can the proposed Co-operative Rehabilitation, Reconstruction, and Development Fund contribute to the revival of financially distressed co-operative societies?

20. EMPOWERING CITIZENS THROUGH A RIGHT-BASED APPROACH TO DEVELOPMENT

- Q. Explain the significance of a rights-based approach in promoting inclusive development, citing examples from existing initiatives like MGNREGA.

- Q. What challenges could arise in implementing a right-based approach, and how can these challenges be addressed?
- Q. How can technology play a role in ensuring effective implementation and monitoring of right-based development initiatives?
- Q. Discuss the role of citizen participation in a rights-based approach and its impact on government accountability.

21. TACKLING GLOBAL FOOD CRISIS: WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME'S IMPERATIVE ROLE

- Q. How has the global food crisis intensified, and what role does the World Food Programme play in addressing this challenge?
- Q. Discuss the significance of efficient logistics management in the context of the World Food Programme's efforts to combat hunger.
- Q. How can empowering local communities contribute to the sustainability and effectiveness of food security initiatives?
- Q. Explain the role of technological innovations in data collection and analysis for addressing the global food crisis.
- Q. What specific initiatives has the World Food Programme undertaken in India to enhance food security and nutrition?

22. URBANIZATION AND AGRI-FOOD SYSTEMS: NAVIGATING CHALLENGES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

- Q. How does urbanization impact food choices and consumption patterns, as highlighted in the State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World (SOFI), 2024?
- Q. Discuss the adverse consequences of urbanization on agri-food systems and propose strategies to mitigate these challenges.
- Q. Explain the role of urbanization in creating diverse employment opportunities along the food value chain.
- Q. How can policy approaches leverage the connectivity between urban, peri-urban, and rural areas for sustainable development?
- Q. What measures can be taken to ensure the affordability and accessibility of nutritious foods, especially for vulnerable populations, in the context of urbanization's impact on agri-food systems?

23. STRENGTHENING GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL MECHANISMS: A CRITICAL ASSESSMENT

- Q. How does the Grievance Redressal Assessment & Index (GRAI) contribute to improving public grievance redressal mechanisms?
- Q. In what ways can the government address the challenge of low awareness among citizens regarding the existence of redressal mechanisms?

- Q. Discuss the role of artificial intelligence in enhancing the efficiency of grievance redressal systems.
- Q. How can the government ensure uniformity across ministries in terms of frameworks, processes, and capacity for handling grievances?
- Q. Evaluate the impact of the Centralized Public Grievance Redressal and Management System (CPGRAMS) reforms on reducing the average disposal time of grievances.

24. REGULATING OTT PLATFORMS FOR RESPONSIBLE DIGITAL CONTENT

- Q. How does the co-regulation approach benefit the regulation of OTT platforms in India?
- Q. Evaluate the effectiveness of the three-level grievance redressal mechanism established for OTT platforms.
- Q. Discuss the role of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in overseeing the content standards of OTT platforms.
- Q. What measures can be taken to create a national broadcasting policy to standardize regulations across various broadcasters, including OTTs?
- Q. How can awareness campaigns contribute to making viewers more informed about the grievance redressal mechanisms available for OTT content?

25. ADVANCING SOCIAL JUSTICE THROUGH DECENT WORK

- Q. How does decent work contribute to the elimination of poverty and inequality?
- Q. Discuss the challenges faced in achieving social justice globally, as highlighted in the ILO report.
- Q. What strategies can be implemented to ensure a fair transition to technology while promoting social justice?
- Q. Evaluate the role of social dialogue in restoring trust in public institutions for the advancement of social justice.
- Q. How can a global coalition for social justice contribute to policy coherence and multilateral cooperation?

26. CHALLENGES IN COMBATING INTERNET SHUTDOWNS

- Q. What legal provisions govern internet shutdowns in India, and how do they impact constitutional rights?
- Q. In what ways do internet shutdowns affect the economy, and what measures can be taken to minimize economic losses during such incidents?
- Q. How can the government balance the need for security during emergencies with the protection of fundamental rights, especially freedom of speech and expression?
- Q. Discuss the role of the judiciary in safeguarding constitutional rights during internet shutdowns, referring to specific cases and judgments.

- Q. Considering the global context, what best practices can India adopt to address the challenges associated with internet shutdowns?

27. TACKLING SEXUAL HARASSMENT AT WORKPLACE: ISSUES AND REFORMS

- Q. How does the PoSH Act, 2013, define sexual harassment, and what are the key provisions related to grievance redressal?
- Q. Discuss the challenges in implementing measures to prevent workplace sexual harassment, considering cultural contexts and subjective definitions.
- Q. Evaluate the proposed reforms in the article, including gender-neutral laws and amendments to the PoSH Act.
- Q. What role can public awareness play in addressing workplace sexual harassment, and how can organizations encourage reporting without fear of retaliation?
- Q. How can future strategies, such as the establishment of ICCs and effective grievance redressal, contribute to a safer workplace environment?

28. ADDRESSING THE GLOBAL POLYCRISIS: COMBATING CHILD MARRIAGE

- Q. How do factors like gender inequality, social norms, and poverty contribute to the prevalence of child marriages globally?
- Q. Discuss the role of legislative measures, including the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act and Beti Bachao Beti Padhao scheme, in combating child marriages.
- Q. What are the key findings of UNICEF's analysis regarding the impact of global crises on child marriage rates?
- Q. Evaluate ongoing initiatives and legislative measures in India to prevent child marriages.
- Q. How can future strategies, including legislative reforms and community engagement, contribute to ending child marriages globally?

29. MODERNIZING LAND RECORDS IN INDIA: A PATH TO CONCLUSIVE TITLING

- Q. How does NGDRS contribute to the vision of One Nation One Software in land transactions?
- Q. Explain the significance of ULPIN in minimizing land disputes and ensuring transparency in land records.
- Q. What challenges does India face in its current system of presumptive land titling, and how does the shift to conclusive titling address these challenges?
- Q. Discuss the role of DILRMP in standardizing land records across states and promoting transparent land management.

- Q. How can advanced technologies like Artificial Intelligence and Blockchain contribute to the efficiency of land record modernization?

30. 34. REGULATING ONLINE GAMING IN INDIA: NAVIGATING THE DIGITAL LANDSCAPE

- Q. How do the recent amendments aim to enhance due diligence in online gaming and combat misinformation related to government affairs?
- Q. Discuss the role of Self-Regulatory Bodies in verifying online games and ensuring user safety.
- Q. What are the additional obligations imposed on Online Gaming Intermediaries involved in real-money games, and how do they contribute to user protection?
- Q. Explain the challenges associated with distinguishing between games of skill and games of chance in the context of Indian laws.
- Q. How can a collaborative approach involving state and union governments contribute to the effective regulation of the online gaming industry in India?

31. 35. MENACE OF FAKE NEWS

- Q. Assess the key amendments introduced in the Information Technology Rules to combat fake news in India.
- Q. Explore the challenges posed by fake news, including its impact on communal harmony, national security, and organizational reputation.
- Q. Discuss the role of existing legal provisions and fact-checking units in countering fake news and misinformation.
- Q. Propose strategies for addressing challenges related to information overload and high-speed dissemination of fake news on social media.
- Q. Examine the implications of doctored content on elections, political polarization, and post-truth politics, and suggest measures to mitigate these effects.

32. 36. FOUNDATIONAL LITERACY AND NUMERACY (FLN)

- Q. Can you elaborate on the key findings of the FLN report and their implications for India's education system?
- Q. In what ways can the government address the challenges identified in achieving foundational literacy and numeracy?
- Q. How can the FLN mission contribute to bridging the gender gap in educational outcomes?
- Q. Share your views on the importance of incorporating children's nutrition education in schools, as suggested in the report.
- Q. What role do you think technology can play in improving educational outcomes, especially in the context of the digital divide highlighted in the report?

33. PARTICULARLY VULNERABLE TRIBAL GROUPS (PVTGS)

- Q. What are the socio-economic challenges faced by Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) in India?
- Q. How can the Pradhan Mantri PVTG Development Mission contribute to the overall well-being of PVTGs?
- Q. Discuss the significance of recognizing habitat rights for PVTGs and its impact on their development.
- Q. Explain the criteria used for identifying PVTGs and the process involved in declaring a tribal group as PVTG.
- Q. What role can international conventions play in the upliftment of PVTGs, and how can India align its policies with these conventions?

34. MANUAL SCAVENGING

- Q. Discuss the reasons for the persistence of manual scavenging in India despite its prohibition in 1993.
- Q. How can technology and innovative solutions contribute to the eradication of manual scavenging?
- Q. What role does public awareness play in eliminating the practice of manual scavenging?
- Q. Analyze the challenges in implementing laws against manual scavenging and suggest measures for more effective enforcement.
- Q. How can community-based rehabilitation contribute to the successful eradication of manual scavenging?

35. URBANIZATION AND ITS IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT

- Q. How does urbanization contribute to environmental degradation, and what are the key areas affected?
- Q. Discuss the role of sustainable urban planning in mitigating the environmental impact of urbanization.
- Q. How can cities balance the need for infrastructure development with the conservation of natural habitats and biodiversity?
- Q. Analyze the relationship between urbanization and climate change, highlighting both contributions and vulnerabilities.
- Q. What are some successful examples of smart urbanization, and how can these practices be scaled up for widespread impact?

36. THE RISE OF DIGITAL CURRENCIES: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

- Q. Discuss the opportunities and challenges associated with the rise of digital currencies in the global financial system.
- Q. How can digital currencies contribute to financial inclusion, and what challenges need to be addressed to achieve this goal?
- Q. What role do central bank-backed digital currencies (CBDCs) play in the evolution of the financial sector?
- Q. Analyze the regulatory considerations for digital currencies and their impact on global financial stability.
- Q. How can the environmental concerns associated with cryptocurrency mining be addressed while promoting innovation in the digital currency space?
