TEST: 7 - BASICS OF SOCIETY & GOVERNANCE

02 NOVEMBER, 2019

INDIAN SOCIETY

UPSC Syllabus

- Salient features of Indian Society
- Diversity of India
- Effects of globalization on Indian society
- National Integration, communalism, regionalism & secularism
- Role of women and women’s organization
- Social empowerment, poverty and developmental issues
- Welfare schemes for vulnerable sections of the population by the Centre and States and the performance of these schemes; mechanisms, laws, institutions and Bodies constituted for the protection and betterment of these vulnerable section
- Issues relating to development and management of Social Sector/Services relating to Health, Education, Human Resources
- Issues relating to poverty and hunger
- Inclusive growth and issues arising from it.

Sub-Topic Listing

UNITY IN DIVERSITY

(1) Concepts of Unity and Diversity
(2) Forms of Diversity in India
(3) Reasons for so much Diversity
(4) Bonds of Unity in India
  - Geo-political Unity
  - The Institution of Pilgrimage
  - Tradition of Accommodation
  - Tradition of Interdependence
  - Role of Sensitive Leaders
  - Constitutional Safeguards – Role of Constitution Framers
(5) Challenges of Diversity to Unity
    (Challenges to National Integration)
    - Diversity of Constituents
(6) Basic Sociological Concepts
(7) The Family and Kinship
(8) Concept of Patriarchy in India

SECULARISM, REGIONALISM AND COMMUNALISM

(1) Secularism And Secularization
  - Western and Indian Concept
Process of Secularization
Secularism and Forced Conversion in India

(2) Communalism, Fundamentalism And Communal Violence

(3) Regionalism
- Regionalism in India
- Types of Regionalism
- Effects of Regionalism
- Regionalism: Demand for Smaller States
- Strategies to tackle Regionalism
- SONS OF SOIL CONCEPT

SOCIAL EMPOWERMENT

(1) Constitutional Provisions Relevant to Social Justice & Empowerment of Scheduled Caste & Scheduled Tribes

(2) Status Of Minorities In India

(3) The Scheduled Castes: From Untouchable To Dalit
- Population of the Scheduled Castes
- Types of Disabilities of the SCs
- From Untouchables to the Dalits: The Process of Identity Formation
- Combating Mechanism against Caste Atrocities and Violence
- The State Efforts for Dalit Emancipation

(4) TRIBALS IN INDIA
- Chronic Indebtedness
- Forest Related Problems
- Destruction of the Forest Environment and the Tribal People
- Development and Displacement
- Analysis of Forest Rights Act

(5) WOMEN MOVEMENTS
- 19th Century Women Movements – Under Social Reform Movements
- Women's Issues DuringGandhian Era
- Issues in Post Independence Era
- Violence Against Women
- Developmental Movement
- Uniform Civil Code

(6) SOCIAL JUSTICE
- Concept of Casteism in India
- Caste and Politics
- The Reservation Policy Debate
- Social Justice and Social Development

(7) SOCIAL SECURITY IN INDIA
- Concept
- Social Security System in India
- Organized Sector and Social Security
- Unorganized Sector and Social Security
- Centrally Funded Social Assistance Programmes
- Public Initiatives
- Review of the implementation of Social Security Laws in the Country
- Suggestions for Improving the Social Security Matrix

(8) UNDERSTANDING POVERTY
- Dimensions of Poverty
- Linkage between Poverty and Development
- Recommendations of Rangarajan Committee Report
- Poverty Alleviation Strategy Since Independence
- Programmes for Poverty Alleviation
- Concept of Inequality

GLOBALIZATION

(1) Meaning of Globalization

(2) Reasons for Globalization

(3) Dimensions/Impact
- Political
- Cultural and Social
- Economic

(4) Anti-Globalization Movement

(5) New Localism

URBANIZATION & CENSUS 2011

(1) Urbanization
- Trend and pattern of Urbanization
- Issues Related to Urbanization in India
- Status of Service Delivery and Governance
- Urban Development Projects
- Critical Analysis of Smart City Mission
## Conceptual Tests

### Census 2011
- Highlights of 2011 Census
- Analysis of Sex Ratio Data
- Impact of Skewed Ratio
- Laws related to Prevent Female Infanticide
- Recent initiatives
- Trend and Current Scenario of Literacy in India
- Literacy Challenges in India as Whole
- Efforts to Improve the Literacy in Country
- Child Health Indicators and Maternal Health
- Initiatives taken by the Government
- Why the Health schemes fail to bring change?
- Family Planning and Population Policy of India
- Analysis on Status of Old Age Population: Issues & Policy Initiative
- Socio-Economic Caste Census 2011

### Contemporary Issues

#### Secularism, Regionalism & Communalism
- Secularism and Anti Conversion
- Regionalism: Demand for Smaller States
- Socio-Economic Caste Census, 2011
- Gender Discrimination in the Corporate Sector

#### Issues Related to Women
- Gender Discrimination in Corporate Sector
- Female Genital Mutilation
- Bill on Banning Triple Talaq
- Adultery No Longer a Crime: SC
- Unwanted Girls in India
- Altruistic Surrogacy in India
- Women in Panchayats
- Women Participation in Economy
- # Me Too Movement
- Draft National Policy for Women, 2016
- Laws Related to Stalking in India
- Debate on the Issue of Marital Rape
- India’s Maternity Laws need Serious Tweaking
- Women in Judiciary Matters
- SC’s Judgment on Dowry
- Gender Budgeting: Critical Analysis

#### Issues Related to Children
- Issues Faced by Children in War Zone
- High Dropout Rate of Girls in India
- Child Trafficking
- Safety of Children in Schools
- Issue of Malnutrition in India
- Amendments Proposed in Child Labour Act

#### Other Issues
- Plight of Street Children
- Juvenile Justice System
- Child Marriages in India
- Death for child Rape
- Draft National Child Protection Policy
- India’s Family Planning Programme: Critical Analysis
- Demography and Policy Planning
- India’s Ageing Report
- Legalising Same Sex Marriage
- Domestic Workers: Issues and Laws
- Development Leading to Displacement
- Moral Policing
- Euthanasia and Living Will
- Inadequacies in existing Human Trafficking laws in India
- Transgender Bill passed in Lok Sabha with Amendments
- Mental Health Care Bill
- Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act
- Manual Scavenging
- Mob lynching and Rule of Law
- Issue Related to Undertrials
- Income Inequality in India
- Indigenous People in India: An Analysis
- Debate Over Death Penalty
- Global Slavery Index Report
- Right to Privacy Judgement
- SC Verdict on SC/ST Atrocities Bill
- Social Stigma Attached with HIV
HEALTH & EDUCATION
- Allied Health Care Professions Bill, 2018
- Ahead on Malaria: On reduction in cases in India
- India and Neglected Disease Treatment
- TB Status in India and Bedaquiline Patent Challenge
- Status of E-Pharmacies in India
- Changes Proposed in No Detention Policy
- National Policy on Education
- Capacity Building for Primary Health Care
- NITI Aayog on Privatisation of Urban Health Care
- National Health Policy, 2017
- Regulating Private Healthcare
- India’s Nutrition Challenge
- Food Fortification
- Sanitation and Nutrition Linkage
- Ayushman Bharat

MISCELLANEOUS
- Is social media polarizing society?
- Draft Social Security Code
- Uniform Civil Code
- Critical Analysis of Stand Up India Scheme
- SC Suggests for Prison Reforms
- Statue of Unity

ETC.

GOVERNANCE

UPSC Syllabus
- Pressure groups and formal/informal associations and their role in the Polity
- Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation
- Development processes and the development industry the role of NGOs, SHGs, various groups and associations, donors, charities, institutional and other stakeholders
- Important aspects of governance, transparency and accountability
- e-governance- applications, models, successes, limitations, and potential
- Citizens Charters, transparency & accountability and institutional and other measures
- Role of civil services in a democracy
- Appointment to various Constitutional posts, powers, functions and responsibilities of various Constitutional Bodies
- Statutory, regulatory and various quasi-judicial bodies?

Sub-Topic Listing

(1) Governance
- Concept of Good Governance
- Issues Concerning Governance
- Right Based Approach in Policy Making
- Public Policy Making and Policy Implementation
- How to Establish Good Governance

(2) Transparency & Accountability
- Right to Information
  - Information sharing and transparency in government

- RTI and Official Secret Act: Who’s winning and why Judiciary wants to remain isolated

- Citizen’s Charters
  - Benefits of Citizen Charter
  - Citizen Charter in India: An Evaluation
  - Problems Faced in Implementing the Charters
  - Steps to improve Citizen Charters
  - Indian Approach to Citizen Charter: Sevottam Model
Administrative Reforms Commission's Seven Step Model for Citizen Centricity
Right to Service

Extent of regulations and openness of media and social networking sites
T.K. Visanathan Committee On Hate Speech
Role of MEDIA in bringing Transparency and Accountability
Social Media and Accountability

E-Governance
Role of E-Governance in bringing Transparency and Accountability
Major E-Governance Projects and challenges in their implementation

Role of civil services in a democracy
Linkage of Civil Services and Democracy
Debate on Lateral Entry in Civil Services
Relation between Civil Servants and Political Executives
Performance Appraisal System in Bureaucracy
Reforms Needed In Indian Bureaucracy

Codes of Ethics and Code of Conduct
Paid news abuse by social media a poll menace
Model code of conduct

Utilization of Public funds
Significance of Public Accounts Committee
Challenges of corruption and incompetence

Regulatory Structure and Governance Reforms
Functions and responsibilities of various Bodies
Analysis of Autonomy and functioning of CAG, CBI, CVC and NHRC
Lokpal and rise of Ombudsman era: a critical evaluation of journey traveled so far
State and operational effectiveness of Local governments in India
Corporate Governance in India - Why is it so critical

Police Reforms in India
Curb On VIP Culture
Prison Reforms in India
Improving Governance In Public Systems

(4) DEVELOPMENT PROCESSES AND THE DEVELOPMENT INDUSTRY
Role of Self Help Group in Development
Shortcomings and Recommendations to Improve Self Help Group
Role and functions of NGOs in the Development
Challenges Faced by NGOs in India
Issue of Fund Mismanagement
Role of Microfinance Institutions in Development Process
Issues Related to Microfinance Institutions and Recommendations
Role of Foreign aid in Development
The role and function of pressure groups in India
Changing Pattern of Pressure Group Politics in India

(5) Socio-Economic Development
Concept of Human Development
Economic Growth and Human Development: Two-Way Link
Measurement of Human Development

Understanding Poverty
Dimensions of Poverty
Linkage between Poverty and Development
Recommendations of Rangarajan Committee Report
Poverty Alleviation Strategy Since Independence
Programmes for Poverty Alleviation
Concept of Inequality
Income Inequality in India
Recommendations to Reduce Inequality

HUNGER
Manifestations of Hunger and its causes
Challenges to Food Security
Global Hunger Index Report, 2018
Recommendations

Institutional Measures for Welfare of Vulnerable Sections
Issues Related to the Weaker Sections & Vulnerable groups in India
Constitutional Provisions for the Welfare of Society
- Institutional Measures for the Welfare of the Society
- Issues with the Institutional Mechanisms

**HEALTH**
- Public Health System of India
- Shortcomings of the Healthcare Sector
- Urgency of achieving Universal Health Coverage
- Evaluation of SWACHH BHARAT MISSION
- Global Nutrition Report 2018
- Initiatives Taken In Health Sector: Ayushman Bharat
- National Health Policy

**EDUCATION**
- Challenges of Education sector in India
- Right to Education and Challenges to EWS Children
- Initiatives by Government

(6) **Role of civil services in a democracy**
- Concept of civil services
- Need for civil services
- Different role of civil services
  - Law making
  - Policy formulation
  - Policy implementation
  - Policy evaluation
  - Civil services as protector of democracy
  - To protect minorities (religious and linguistic)
  - To promote Inclusive and sustainable growth

(7) **Pressure groups and formal/informal associations and their role in the Polity**
- What are pressure groups?
- Types of pressure groups
- Significance of pressure groups in India
- Differentiate between a pressure group and a political party
- Evaluation of pressure groups role

(8) **Appointment to various Constitutional posts, powers, functions and responsibilities of various Constitutional Bodies**
- Appointment of CAG (procedure of appointment)- composition of CAG
- Functions and responsibilities of CAG
- Powers and privileges of CAG (provided by constitution and different Acts of Parliament.)
- Appointment of ECI (procedure of appointment)- composition of ECI
- Functions and responsibilities of ECI
- Powers and privileges of ECI (provided by constitution and different ACTs of Parliament)
- Appointment to UPSC (procedure of appointment)- composition of UPSC
- Functions and responsibilities of UPSC
- Powers and privileges of UPSC (provided by constitution and different ACTs of Parliament)
- Appointment to Finance commission (procedure of appointment)- composition of Finance commission
- Functions and responsibilities of Finance commission
- Powers and privileges of Finance commission (provided by constitution and different ACTs of Parliament.)
- National commission for SCs and STs.

(9) **Statutory, regulatory and various quasi-judicial bodies**
- SEBI, CVC, CBI, Planning CommissionNDC, PMO
- TRAI, IRDA
- National Human Rights Commission
- State Human Rights Commission
- Central Information Commission
- State Information Commission
- National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission
- Medical Council of India
- Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority
- Biodiversity Authority of India
- Press Council of India
- Forward Markets Commission
- Inland Waterways Authority of India
- Role of CAG
- 14th Finance Commission: Analysis
- 7th Pay Commission Report and Repercussions
- AFSPA and Second ARC
- Inter-State River Water Dispute: Cauvery dispute
- Role of NitiAayog
# CONTEMPORARY ISSUES

## (1) Second ARC REPORT
- Functions of Government
- Issues in Organizational Structure of GOI
- Good Governance and Citizen Centric Administration
- e-Governance
- Ethics in Governance

## (2) Initiatives for Transparency & Accountability
- Public Accountability Concept
- Virtual ID for AADHAR
- Social Media & Accountability
- Accountability & Transparency in NGOs
- Autonomy of CBI
- Analysis of Functioning Of CAG
- People Centric Governance
- Pro-Active Governance & Timely Implementation (PRAGATI)
- Right Based Approach in Policy Making
- Direct Benefit Transfer
- Issues Related to Making Aadhaar Mandatory
- Reforms Needed In Indian Bureaucracy
- Performance Appraisal System In Bureaucracy
- Curb on VIP Culture
- Social Audit Law

## (3) Organisation/Bodies
- 14th Finance Commission Analysis
- 7th Pay Commission Report & Repercussions
- AFSPA & Second ARC
- Role of NITI Aayog
- Significance of Public Accounts Committee
- Right to Information
- Accountability & Transparency in NGOs

## (4) Scheme
- Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojana (PMJDY)
- Swachh Bharat Mission
- National Skill Development Mission
- National Food Security Act, 2013
- Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana
- Smart City Mission
- Subhagya Plan
- NAMAMI GANGE
- Critical Analysis of Stand up India scheme
- MGNREGA

## (5) POLICIES
- NITI Aayog’s Report on Rationalization of Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS)
- Law Commission’s 268th Report on Bail Reforms
- Model Land Leasing Law Prepared by NITI Aayog
- T K Visanathan Committee on Hate Speech
- Law Commission Report on Tribunals in India

## (6) Miscellaneous
- Inter-State Water Dispute
- Debate on Directly Elected Mayor
- Debate on the Issue of Lobbying in India
- Media Role & Censorship Issue
- The Role of States in India’s Foreign Policy

## (7) Etc.