

GS SCORE

An Institute for Civil Services

IAS TOPPER'S

TEST COPY

ACHYUTH ASHOK

AIR - 190

(CSE 2022)

GENERAL STUDIES

 **8448496262**  **iascore.in**

SOCIETY

Time Allowed: 90 min.

Max. Marks: 150

Q.	Marks	Instructions to Candidate
1.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are 10 questions. • All questions are compulsory. • The number of marks carried by a question is indicated against it. • Answer the questions in 250 words each. All questions carry equal marks. 15 x 10 = 150 Marks • Keep the word limit indicated in the questions in mind. • Answers must be written within the space provided. • Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
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Name Achyuth AshokRoll No. 42584

Mobile No. _____

Date _____

Signature 

1. Invigilator Signature _____

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REMARKS

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Q1. Though the caste system has been relatively weakened and the patterns of discriminations have come down, it still remains to a considerable extent and has even taken newer forms in contemporary times. Discuss. (15 Marks) (250 words)

Post-Ind. measure

The caste system of the Indian society have undergone much change since the four-fold varna classification of the Vedic times. When India gained independence from the British in 1947, the nation-builders took it upon themselves to alleviate the discriminations that arose over centuries due to its caste system.

good start

Constitutional Safeguards

- Article 14 ensures equal treatment of all citizens.
- Article 15 ensures that no one is discriminated based on their gender, age, caste, race or place of birth.
- Article 17 abolished untouchability.
- Article 23 abolishes all forms of bonded/forced labour.
- Right to life under Article 21 extends to all the inhabitants equally.
- Positive discriminations through reservations in job and educational institutions ensured through Article 16.
- National Commissions have been established for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward classes, and all have been given constitutional status.
- Reservations for SCs & STs in the parliament and state legislatures.

Irrelevant according to demand

Other Legal Safeguards

- Scheduled Caste & Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 to give strict punishment for crimes against SCs & STs.

Also, the western liberal ideas that became popular during the early 19th century, led to various social reform movements that tried to move the religious texts away from a system of oppression - as a way to modernise them.

But in spite of all these, there are still remnants of the old discriminative system.

Post-Independence cases of discrimination.

→ The land reforms brought in through the ceiling Acts led to the emergence of a 'dominant caste' - an upper or middle-caste group of landowners, with economic & political powers.

→ The industrial development and modernisation spree led to the development of various towns & cities - where the caste identity was not of the highest significance. But it was only the upper castes for whom the 'caste' became invisible and non-existent.

→ The slow paced development of the rural areas allowed the caste identity & discrimination culture to thrive.

→ Inter-caste marriages are still frowned upon. The extreme cases of these are the oft-reported 'honour killings' from rural areas.

Orissa Nadu.

→ Although technically, opportunities have been thrown open for all, the lower castes are the predominant working class in the urban areas - who have migrated from the villages to escape the oppression there.

→ Thus, although safeguards have been introduced to counter the caste-based discrimination, it still remains in many subdued forms, affecting the lives of millions.

Be the
Under
standing
about
demot
of
the
question
required

Divide
yourself
into 2

1 person
behind
change
in
Caste
&
system

Pattern
of
discrimination

2 forms
of
Caste
discrimination

in
rural
areas

(2.5)

Read
question
properly

Q2. Critically examine the evolution of women organization in India and issues they advocated. Also, discuss the challenges faced by women organizations in present times (15 Marks) (200 words)

The socio-reform movements ^{during} the first half of the 19th century were mostly led by upper-caste middle class males, who had been exposed to the 'modern' ways of rational thinking in the west. But, since the second ~~coming~~ half of 19th century, women-led organizations to tackle issues that concerned women & their rights have flourished.

Pre-independence Women Organizations.

→ Arya Mahila Samaj (1882) by Pandita Ramabai Saraswati.

→ Bharatkeeya Mahila Mahamandal (1910) by Sarla Devi Chaudhurani

→ All India Women's Conference (1927) by Margaret Cousins.

→ Women in India Association (1917)

→ National Council for Women in India (1926) by Melambai Taba

All these organizations touched upon, in one way or another, the major issues plaguing women in a post patriarchal

Society :-

→ Economic right : right to employment & independent livelihood

→ Educational rights : right to be educated

→ Social rights : widow remarriage, raising the marriageable age,
Inheritance rights

→ Rights against exploitation : Inhuman practices like Sati, Purdah etc. to be scrapped.

link these issues to women
rights against exploitation

But most of the early organisations were also led by upper-class & upper-class females. The national movement for independence added to it hundreds of millions of women from all sorts of back-ground giving them an exposure like never before.

Post Independence, movements and organisations have concentrated on the plight of the lower-class women and their economic rights. Political rights had been ensured by ~~the~~ the Indian constitution through universal adult suffrage.

→ Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA) by Ela Bhat have aided women taking on livelihood responsibilities in their own hands, since 1972.

→ The 1970s also saw women-led environmental & ecological movements like the Chipko Movement.

→ Since 1980s and beyond, women organisations have tackled a wide array of social discrimination:-

- Dowry & dowry-deaths.
- Domestic violence.
- Right to property

→ National Commission for Women have been set-up as an apex body under the Central Govt. to oversee the ~~the~~ various measures to help women lead a safe, productive life.

Challenges faced in present

→ Remnants of the patriarchal culture that bothers upon economic burden of women.

→ The glass ceiling of sex selective discrimination in the corporate arena.

→ Perpetrator against women (rape, murder, assault)

Also discuss forward

Nice

6

Add
lack of
benefit
women
growth

women organisations have come a long way since the 19th century reform movements, but possibly issues have necessitated their active involvement in today's society as well.

Q3. Analyze the trends of change and continuity in marriage and family system in India. How far is globalization responsible for these changes? (15 Marks) (200 words)

The institution of marriage is a universal social phenomenon, but different cultures have evolved in different ways leading to various systems. The Indian social system is predominantly influenced by the institutions of family & marriage.

Trends of continuity in the system

→ The rituals followed during the marriage function, by the different faiths, have not undergone much change. If anything, new rituals have been added keeping the core intact.

→ Monogamy is the preferred system, although polygamy is allowed in certain faiths.

→ The family system has retained its pre-patriarchal flavour even after centuries of social change.

→ Male preference is still prevalent: seen in declining sex ratios.

Trends of change

→ From the joint families of old, a shift has begun in favour of urban, nuclear families consisting of just one couple and their children. Earlier, multiple couples over multiple generations stayed together (mostly in the paternal family) as a single family.

good start

write this part in last

Nice

Missing part in your answer

→ Role of women in the family have undergone much change - there has been a change from viewing them as purely homemaker to having their own job of individuality.

→ Education is emphasized for all genders.

→ Large property holdings have been partitioned and split up among siblings.

→ People are no longer tied to their original natal home.

Effects of Globalization.

→ The opening up of our borders and economy to the world has affected the social structure of the family as well.

The urban middle class families that have cropped up in recent times are small nuclear families with mostly both parents employed.

→ The lack of work in traditional industries and in agriculture in the villages have led to an exodus of intra-country migrants to the cities and towns. This takes place in 2 ways :-

1) The male head moves away to the city for work, just to return 4-5 times a year. This places the emphasis of control over the house, land and savings to the women in the family.

2) The whole family moves to the new site of work. According to the Census 2011 statistics, most females are the major section of the intra-state migrants and inter-state migrants, except the rural-urban migration.

Thus, family structure has undergone changes over the centuries.

Major changes have been brought on by the urbanization and industrialization of the globalized world. But family structure have also

↑
separately discuss the changes in marital systems also

(5)

retained many of their features.

Q1. Before independence, communalism formed an integral part of the national discourse of India, in the light of the above statement, discuss the evolution of communalism in India. Also, how is it different in present times than it was in the past?

The British colonialists followed a policy of divide-and-rule to entrench their legitimacy in the administration of their colonies. This is especially true in the case of India, where they openly pitted one religion against another by the method of 'carrot-and-stick'. Communalism is not just having a religious identity - it is also believing that religion/faith is the dominant concern in one's life and that one's religion/faith is superior and is opposition to another's. Communalism is an aggressive political ideology based on religious identity.

Evolution of communalism in India

- British policy of divide-and-rule, through the partition of Bengal, communal awards, separate electorates and patronage appointments created tensions between Hindus & Muslims, the 2 major religions in India.
- The aggressive stance of the All India Muslim League against the Indian National Congress was perpetuated by the influence of Hindu nationalists and organisations like the Hindu Mahasabha.

good start
try to write small qns to past

Nice

- The joint Non-cooperation-Khilafat movement was the high watermark of Hindu-Muslim unity - but by openly associating the national movement with a religious cause, many Hindu nationalists emerged, drawing in the theory of Hindutva.
- The national movement ran in 2 tracks from there on, with the INC holding leadership one arm and the ~~the~~ Muslim League representing the Muslims.
- The communal award of Ramsay MacDonald in 1932 set the chain in stone.
- The Muslim League proclaimed the idea of a separate Pakistan for the Muslims, carved out of the Muslim majority provinces of United India.
- The strong leadership of Jinnah and the indifferent stance of the Congress to the Hindu nationalists, ultimately led to the idea of partition.
- Due to last-minute unprepared border changes, the partition was fraught with instances of violence, which alienated any chance of reconciliation.

Communalism in Modern India.

- India now is a Hindu-majority country with 79.6% of the population following Hinduism. Muslims constitute the next largest religious contingent with 14.6% of the population.
- Since the majority religion has more-than-five-fold numerical advantage over the next-largest, Indian communalism of recent times have mostly been Hindu communalism, wedded to the ideology of Hindutva.
- Other instances also exist like the Sikh pogrom of 1984.

Very good

Nice

→ Majority communalism is a precursor to fascism; while minority communalism leads to separatism or secessionism.

→ The major ~~only~~ political party of recent times have a strong religious ideological background. This has resulted in increased instances of communal conflicts.

→ Instances of mob lynching for alleged cow slaughters have risen in recent times.

→ Even the pandemic spread was given a communal colour in the early days, with the minority community slandered in national media for allegedly causing the spread.

→ Even a purely administrative measure like the J&K Reorganisation has a communal colour due to the religious disposition of the concerned parties.

Communalism has survived in Independent India despite the constitutional safeguards. In recent times, tensions have brewed to the surface more often than not.

fault on word limit

(7)

Q5. An ageing population can topple existing insurance & pension systems, strain the public-health-care system and fundamentally alter disease burdens, economies and trade, and human migration. Elaborate the statement in Indian context and what are the measures that are needed to tackle this situation successfully. (15 marks) (200 words)

Population, across the world, follow a pattern of transition from a high-birth rate, high-death rate stable population to a low-birth rate, low-death rate stable state with an expanding transitional phase of low-death rates & high birth rates in between. India is currently in the later stages of the transitional phase, where death-rates are historically low (6.5 deaths/1000) and birth-rates are decreasing (22.5/1000).

→ The fertility rate of whole India is currently at 2.35 (just over replacement level of 2.1), with several states like Kerala, HP below 2.1.

→ In the coming decades, India has to reap the benefits of the demographic dividend; with average age of population at 29.5 years & dependency rate of 48%.

→ In comparison, China has an average age of 37 yrs and Japan has 48 years. This shows the next stage, where low-birth rates

→ ~~that~~ ~~to~~ pull the average age up and reduce the proportion of working age populations, which can adversely affect the economy, if not countered properly.

Impact of an ageing population.

→ Higher dependency rate = more people to be supported by a shrinking working population.

relate it to problems faced by elderly population

talk about in respect of ageing population

write to the point

→ Higher government expenditure : social security benefits like Pension, Provident Fund increase govt. expenditure with no considerable increase in revenues.

→ Higher health expenditure : Like the COVID-19 pandemic has shown, the older population are adversely affected by the diseases and require efficient and affordable care.

→ Measures to tackle the situation.

→ Capital expenditure by government to be raised for job creation

→ Regulatory measures to ease investments

→ Control the rate of emigration by providing good economic climate in India, that nurtures jobs

→ Establish a culture of self-employment and skill up. Expansion of the quaternary & quinary sectors, whose export consultancies can comprise of experienced people of older ages as well.

→ Reforming agriculture in India : provide alternative employment to ~~lost~~ counter disguised unemployment.

→ Rationalise ~~Reduce~~ government subsidies, so that more resources are available for health- and social welfare.

The demographic dividend is an opportunity for India to develop quickly. But sufficient safeguards need to be built parallelly, so that when the current working age population age, their needs will be taken care of their as well. Also, the continued growth of the Indian economy needs to be ensured.

you need to discuss the measures related to ageing population

for whom 99

irrelevant

U.S

Q6. The urbanization process in India has witnessed a skewed growth towards particular regions of the country as well as within the cities itself. Discuss. (15 Marks) (250 words)

The industrial development emphasized in the early plans post independence resulted in rise of towns & cities in different parts of the country. Although the leaders tried to enforce a regionally equitable distribution, different operational constraints resulted in large scale regional inequality.

→ The urban population constitute 31% of the total population of India. More than 20% of this is concentrated in the big metro cities.

→ This regional inequality of urban spread has also permeated to other spheres like literacy, connectivity etc.

→ The literacy rate of India (average) is 73.4%, whereas states like Bihar and Andhra Pradesh are still at in the low sixties.

→ ~~The~~ People migrate towards the regions where they have employment opportunities and this has resulted in the skewed population distribution across different cities.

→ But also evident is the growth within these cities. The city centre, which is the site of employment is not the place of residence for the majority. Many ~~sub~~ suburban towns come up around such big cities and people commute to work.

→ Other people, mostly migrant labourers of the working class cannot afford the rent/house in these suburbs and thus reside in thickly populated slums around the city.

good start

Be specific with the reasons of this kind of skewed growth

- The standard of life in these cities slums are deplorable - no clean drinkable water or sanitation facilities, ramshackle huts that leak during rain, congested houses etc. They are ideal for spread of infectious diseases, which has resulted in India's high prevalence of malaria, TB etc.
- The children of these migrant labourers are not able to experience a balanced childhood development - they cannot reap the benefits or even experience the 'urban' life.
- These slums represent the dark underbelly of city life, which perpetuates criminal activities as well.

Although regulatory measures were introduced by the early governments for a balanced regional development, the very nature of industrial development with its urban agglomerations resulted in a skewed developmental structure. This has resulted in the wildly differing standards of living across the country.

NOT required

Instead of this ~~part~~ write ~~part~~ the way forward.

245

Q7. Wealth of linguistic richness exists outside what are known as the official languages of India. Analyze the statement showing how extremely rich is India in terms of linguistic diversity. (15 marks) (250 words)

India is home to about 1600 languages, of which only 22 are scheduled languages (added to the 8th schedule of the Indian constitution). The major language groups of India are :-

- 1) Indo-European (Aryan) : ~~80%~~ ~ 73% of population
- 2) Dravidian : ~ 20% "
- 3) Austroic : ~ 3% "
- 4) Sino-Tibetan : ~ 3% "

→ According to the report on Most Vulnerable Languages by UNESCO, as many as 197 languages in India are under threat of extinction.

→ The scheduled and official languages just scrape the surface of the extense of linguistic diversity of India.

→ The tribes of central India, North-east and the Andaman & Nicobar Islands hold the core of this diversity.

→ Over centuries, each tribe have developed a language of their own having significant originality - but these languages are the ones under threat too, since the number of speakers are low and newer generations do not fully learn / use it.

Good Start

Good demand is not about the threat

→ According to the Indian Constitution, only Hindi is the official language of the Union. English is a subordinate/ supplementary language (initially to be in use for 15 years ~~since~~ from Independence but later continued through the Official Languages Act (1963)).

→ Each state can have ~~an~~ its own official language(s), not necessarily ~~part of~~ the scheduled languages. For instance, official languages of Assam include English, Pondicherry includes French, Tripura includes Kokborok.

→ Indian constitution ensures linguistic rights as under Article 29 - which makes right to conserve the culture & language of a minority a fundamental right.

→ Article 350-B mandates the appointment of a special officer for linguistic minorities to take care of ~~the~~ such local and regional languages & their development and conservation.

→ The richness of India's linguistic diversity is also seen in the different dialects that a particular language is spoken in. Even a small state like Kerala with Malayalam as the denizens' mother tongue has different dialects in use in each district.

Official languages just represent the administrative sphere. The actual cultural impact of the linguistic diversity is at the core of the Indian society.

Nice

ALSO discuss how linguistic richness threat to diversity of

forward

5:5

Q8. India has high income inequality despite equalizing forces. Do you agree with this statement? Give examples in favour of your answer. (15 Marks) (250 words)

Income inequality is the unequal distribution of income among different sectors of the society. Income inequality results in widely varying standards of living within the country.

Extent of Income inequality in India.

- According to Oxfam reports, India has high income inequality. The income of the top 1% is equal to the income of the bottom 70%.
- The GINI Index of India is ~ 0.643 (0 is perfect equality & 1 is highly unequal)
- The pandemic has exacerbated this inequality. About 10 million people have lost their jobs and have plunged into poverty whereas the stock exchanges have hit record highs.
- The income of the top industrialists have actually grown during the pandemic.
- Only 1% of Indian population file income tax returns.

→ Constitutional provisions:

- Article 16 ensures positive discrimination in terms of reservation in jobs for counteracting income inequality.
- Article 21 ensures right to life, liberty & livelihood for all citizens.
- The Directive Principles of State Policy reiterate the ideals of social & economic justice in many articles.

good start

Nice

- Subsidies and Direct Benefit Transfers to the weaker sections.
- Easier credit availability for self-employment opportunities ensured through Priority Sector Lending scheme.
- Stand-Up India attempts to bridge the credit gap for SCs, STs & women entrepreneurs.
- PM-KISAN - Kisan Samman Nidhi is a kind of Universal Basic Income (UBI) measure, providing ₹ 6000/- per year for all farmers in the country.
- National Food Security Act (NFSA) 2013 ensures dry ration availability for poor households at subsidised rates.
- Progressive taxation system, with additional taxes like wealth tax, luxury tax and higher tax bracket under GST for luxury items, ensure turnover from the rich to poor.
- Cess levied on sale of luxury items used for GST compensation for states.

Notwithstanding the adjective 'socialist' in the preamble to our constitution, Indian society is unequal in the economic sphere. Of the regular salaried employees in India, 90% work in the unorganised sector, outside the social security blanket of the government. Since the economic reforms of 1991, the stance of successive governments have been pro-business rather than ~~pro~~ pro-poor, which has resulted in the improvement of our ranking in World Bank Ease of Doing Business Rankings. But at the same time, almost 60% of the population are below the lower-middle income bracket of World Bank (calculated as \$3.20 per person per day expenditure). Almost 24% of the population are below the \$1.90 line as well, giving India one of the largest poverty burden in the world.

Firstly discuss the reasons behind this kind of inequality. Then talk about way forward.

try to write to the point

④

Q9. "The tradition of accommodation, tolerance and interdependence of Indian society has been its existence in India for long and still present." elaborate. (15 marks) (20 words)

The oft-quoted adage of the Indian cultural ethos is 'Vasudeva Kutumbakam' - which in Sanskrit means 'The world is one family'. Thus, tolerance and accommodation have been welt into the Indian culture from ancient times.

This can be seen ~~for~~ in long range of dynasties that ruled India and became part of the Indian society. Foreign invaders like the Indo-Greeks, Kushans etc. became an integral part of the Indian society. This can be seen in the development of the Gandhara school of art via the

Gomara and the Mathura school via the latter. Even the Turkish Sultans of the Delhi Sultanate and the Hephthalites who came later did not rule India as outsiders - they were integrated into our society. India, thus is a melting pot of cultures. This interdependence has resulted in the syncretic nature of the present Indian society.

→ The development of Urdu as a language can be seen as an effect of the commingling of Hindi, Hindawi, Persian, Arabic influences.

→ It was only the Britishers that had the sense of being an outsider - a superior race colonising the backward areas.

→ Notwithstanding this, many of the western ideals, thoughts and philosophy permeated Indian society and effected reformist movements.

→ The early reformers had their eye on using the 'modern' to revitalize the 'traditions'.

try to write small parts

Use headings or subheadings to write your points

There is chance of spreading your answer please group revise

→ Ironically, the same western ideas resulted in the nationalistic consciousness that created 'India' as we know it today. But even then, the European influence has left its mark in many spheres - administration, architecture, judicial system, educational system, secular culture and many more.

A contradiction in this sequence of integration & assimilation was the discrimination that arose within our society - the caste-hierarchy. But even then, the system exists only in its entirety and not by its parts.

→ Also, the treatment of women in the traditional Indian society was not egalitarian. The influx of modern ideas of liberty, equality & fraternity have resulted in improving their conditions in the present society, though equality is still far away.

→ The Indian social change has mostly been 'integrationist' rather than 'assimilation' (where a large culture engulfs a smaller culture).

Social change is a never-ending continuous process. Indian society has added many leaves over the centuries of invasion, occupation, colonialisation. The latest in line of this change is the globalisation - we have jumped on this wagon as well. The urban population growth rate is higher than the rural rate resulting in decadal rise in proportion of urban population since independence. The western 'consumer culture' has also entered Indian society - which created opportunities for many, while at the same time many are biting the dust due to it.

(3)

four
↓
divide your answers into 3 parts
① tradition
② accommodation of tradition
③ tolerance of tradition
④ integration of tradition
⑤ foreign society from past to present

Q10. Road to social empowerment goes through breaking away from shackles of poverty, patriarchy & caste both in public and private spheres. Analyze. (15 marks) (250 words)

Social empowerment is a blanket term that is used to represent the expansion of choice, ~~open~~ opportunities & freedom to improve the living conditions of an individual & his community, whereby their lives are more productive and their voices are louder and heard better in the social, economic & political arenas. Multiple shackles restrict Indian society from empowering all its inhabitants.

Constraints on change.

- The entrenched system of caste and caste preferences is a wide variety of arenas - employment, marriage, political representation to name a few.
- The strictly patriarchal bias of our society, wherein the males are the perceived 'heads' of the families and the chief economic contributors. The labour force participation rate of women is much lower than that of men. This is the direct impact of widely varying literacy rates (81% for males & 64% for females).
- Even though restricted by law, child marriages are still prevalent in India. This is due to both the lacuna of the law itself (since child marriages are not void but 'voidable') and its lacklustre implementation.
- Male preference among offspring is closely interred from lowering child sex ratios (919 females/1000 male child) even when the overall sex ratio is on the rise (943 F/1000M)

→ Economic opportunities are also ~~widely~~ unevenly distributed, leading to rising inequality.

Empowerment track

→ Caste-based reservations have helped to uplift many from poverty. (According to UN reports, India lifted 271 million people from poverty between 2006 & 2016.)

→ Laws & constitutional rights to ^{improve} ~~protect~~ the status of women in our society has resulted in rising participation of women in public arenas. For example, the 17th Lok Sabha has the largest number of women representatives.

→ The Panchayati-Raj institutions have improved the social & political status of the lower castes (SCs) & tribes (STs) and women, through reservation & democratic participation.

→ The marriageable age of girls are proposed to be raised to 21 years - a notion in the right direction (although fraught with implementation difficulties).

→ Education & skills are the quickest path to empowerment and social upliftment, as the case of Kerala's model growth ~~str~~ track explains.

Independent India has broken or at least loosened many shackles that constrained sections of our society, But we are still a long way from achieving equality in public & private spheres. It is a long fight & the measures of successive governments have been on the right track.

X

5
good
mainly focus on social empowerment
breaks shackles

