

## **!! 36 MAINS QUESTIONS FROM IQRA IAS MAINS TEST SERIES 2023 !!**

### **GS-1**

**Q7. The tribal people, spread over a large part of India, organized hundreds of militant outbreaks, and insurrections during the 19th century. British response to these uprisings were brutal and exploitive. Comment.**

*How did the colonial rule affect the tribals in India and what was the tribal response to the colonial oppression?*

**Test 12 Q17. What are the characteristics features of India's caste system? What changes we have witnessed in the caste system in the contemporary times?**

**Test 17 Q5. Do you agree that division of Indian society into castes and communities is ineradicable feature of Indian society?**

*Why is caste identity in India both fluid and static?*

**Test 13 Q15. It was not only the political sphere into which Turks invaded, there presence is also felt in the cultural sphere. Explain the statement with reference to new architectural innovations brought by Turks in India.**

*What were the major technological changes introduced during the Sultanate period? How did those technological changes influence the Indian society.*

**Test 11 Q12. According to a recent study level of groundwater extraction is the lowest in 18 years. Highlight the status of groundwater extraction in India. Suggest some long-term solution to sustainably manage out groundwater resource.**

**Q14. Declining availability of water in India precursor of disaster that needs to be managed effectively and immediately. Analyse.**

**Test 25 Q18. Ground water extraction has been one of the major challenges for India to meet the Sustainable Development Goal 6. Comment. How the recently held U.N. water conference seeks to address the issue of water crisis?**

*Why is the world today confronted with a crisis of availability of and access to freshwater resources?*

**Test 20 Q4. The idea of patronizing Indian products (self-reliance) gathered momentum during Swadeshi Movement. Analyse the role played by Rabindranath Tagore and Prafullachandra Ray in the movement for self-reliance.**

**Test 24 Q4.** Although Gandhi was an Indian and a staunch nationalist, there was a profound influence of the West on him. Discuss the statement with special reference to John Ruskin, Leo Tolstoy and David Thoreau.

*What was the difference between Mahatma Gandhi and Rabindranath Tagore in their approach towards education and nationalism?*

**Test 25 Q14.** "Capitalism fuels urbanization, but also breeds socioeconomic inequalities within cities." (15 Marks, 250 Words)

*Does urbanization lead to more segregation and/or marginalization of the poor in Indian metropolises?*

**Test 34 Q7.** Taking a rights-based approach reflects the idea that development work needs to go beyond issues of material resources. Comment. (10 Marks 150 Words)

*Why did human development fail to keep pace with economic development in India?*

## **GS-2**

**Test 6 Q16.** Strengthening of local governance in India require holistic approach as there are multiple fronts on which local bodies have performed sub-optimally. Discuss.

**Test 21 Q1.** How far "Municipal Finances is a key factor determining the success of achieving the goals of development and economic growth by municipal governance"? Elaborate.

**Test 35 Q3.** "Though the 74th amendment act has bestowed powers to the urban local bodies. At the same time, it also gives state, the liberty to impose their own choice, which has at times created more confusion." Critically analyse. (10 Marks 150 Words)

*The states in India seem reluctant to empower urban local bodies both functionally as well as financially. Comment. (GS-2)*

**Test 35 Q11.** The composition of Higher Judiciary reflects the gender discrimination which is prevalent in Indian society. Comment. Do you think that reserving seats for women in Higher Judiciary is viable solution to bring diversity in judiciary? (15 Marks 250 Words)

*Explain the constitutional perspectives of Gender Justice with the help of relevant Constitutional Provisions and case laws. (GS-2)*

**Test 35 Q16.** SHGs have a positive effect on women economically, socially and politically, empowering them through various pathways. Discuss. (15 Marks 250 Words)

*Discuss the contribution of civil society groups for women's effective and meaningful participation and representation in state legislatures in India.*

**Test 4 Q10.** Why independence of judiciary is cardinal for India's democracy? Elaborate the tools which upholds the independence of judiciary in India.

**Test 2 Q1.** What do you mean by democracy? Highlight the features of Indian polity that make it a democratic country.

*"Constitutionally guaranteed judicial independence is a prerequisite of democracy". Comment.*

**Test 7 Q5.** Do you think there is any relevancy of NATO in the contemporary times? Give arguments to support your answer.

*'The expansion and strengthening of NATO and a stronger US-Europe strategic partnership works well in India.' What is your opinion about this statement? Give reasons and examples to support your answer.*

**Test 3 Q16.** What do you understand by Human capital? Highlight the determinants of human capital formation.

**Test 21 Q18.** The development and management of social sector/services is an essential aspect of India's overall development. However, there are multiple issues that plague this sector. Comment.

*The crucial aspect of development process has been the inadequate attention paid to Human Resource Development in India. Suggest measures that can address this adequacy.*

**Test 26 Q3.** What is the role of District Legal Service Authorities in providing justice to the economically poor undertrials, and thus ensuring that their fundamental rights are guaranteed?

*Who are entitled to receive free legal aid? Assess the role of the National Legal Services Authority(NALSA) in rendering free legal aid in India.*

**Test 26 Q5.** Compare the salient features of the Indian Constitution with the British Constitution, focusing on their structures, sources of authority, and approaches to protecting fundamental rights.

*Compare and contrast the British and Indian approaches to Parliamentary sovereignty.*

**Test 26 Q10.** How has digital India campaign contributed to the success of e-governance in India? What should be the way forward?

**Test 27 Q4.** How does the integration of e-governance systems facilitate enhanced performance and efficiency in the realm of administrative functioning? Kindly elucidate with pertinent illustrations.

*e-governance, as a critical tool of governance, has ushered in effectiveness, transparency and accountability in governments. What inadequacies hamper the enhancement of these features?*

## GS-3

**Test 5 Q5. "India had been providing minimum support prices to its farmers in violation of WTO rules". Critically Examine.**

*What are the direct and indirect subsidies provided to farm sector in India? Discuss the issues raised by the World Trade Organization (WTO) in relation to agricultural subsidies.*

**Test 5 Q7. "The future of the Indian manufacturing sector is bright and more importantly packed with innovation and potential to scale." Analyse.**

**Test 29 Q8. How do the key factors influence the export competitiveness of India's manufacturing sector compare to its existing weaknesses?**

**Test 36 Q13. Indian MSMEs are the powerhouse of the country with a significant contribution to our GDP. Elaborate.**

*Faster economic growth requires increased share of the manufacturing sector in GDP, particularly of MSMEs. Comment on the present policies of the Government in this regard.*

**Test 14 Q2. Do you agree that soft measures are as important as hard measures to deal with Kashmir situation?**

*Winning of 'Hearts and Minds' in terrorism affected areas is an essential step in restoring the trust of the population. Discuss the measures adopted by the Government in this respect as part of the conflict resolution in Jammu and Kashmir.*

**Test 14 Q18. What are the security threats due to Unmanned Aerial Vehicles? Also enumerate the steps taken by the Government and suggest other defensive measures to counter such security challenges?**

*The use of unmanned aerial vehicles(UAVs) by our adversaries across the borders to ferry arms/ammunitions, drugs, etc., is a serious threat to the internal security. Comment on the measures being taken to tackle this threat.*

**Test 17 Q20. Artificial Intelligence (AI) is opening up new avenues for humankind. Define AI and discuss its probable applications. Highlight the steps taken by India to leverage the technology of Artificial Intelligence.**

**Test 36 Q 18. With the rise of artificial intelligence tools like ChatGPT the number of cyber-attacks is bound to increase. Evaluating the existing cyber security architecture of India, suggest further measures that need to be taken in this regard.**

*Introduce the concept of Artificial Intelligence (AI). How does AI help clinical diagnosis? Do you perceive any threat to privacy of the individual in the use of AI in the healthcare?*

**Test 29 Q2. The widespread adoption of electric vehicles presents a promising and harmonious scenario where environmental conservation and economic prosperity go hand in hand. Comment.**



*The adoption of electric vehicles is rapidly growing worldwide. How do electric vehicles contribute to reducing carbon emissions and what are the key benefits they offer compared to traditional combustion engine vehicles?*

**Test 28 Q5. To maintain the sustainability in the agricultural sector, it is essential to spread the awareness of Farm Mechanization among the farmers. Comment.**

**Test 36 Q11. Effective use of agriculture machinery helps to increase productivity & production of output, undertake timely farm operations and enable the farmers to quickly rotate crops on the same land. Discuss.**

*How does e-Technology help farmers in production and marketing of agricultural produce? Explain it.*

**Test 28 Q15. What is the significance of crop diversification in trans-gangetic plains? What are the challenges in the implementation that still the paddy-wheat cycle is prevalent in Punjab Haryana region?**

*Explain the changes in cropping pattern in India in the context of changes in consumption pattern and marketing conditions.*

**Test 29 Q6. Is it necessary for India to rely on large dams to minimize the carbon footprint associated with electricity generation? Provide compelling evidence and relevant examples to support your viewpoint.**

*Dam failures are always catastrophic, especially on the downstream side, resulting in a colossal loss of life and property. Analyze the various causes of dam failures. Give two examples of large dam failures.*

**Test 29 Q20. Terrorism financing not only threatens the internal security, but can also undermine economic development and financial market stability of the country. Elaborate. (15 Marks, 250 Words)**

*What are the internal security challenges being faced by India? Give out the role of Central Intelligence and Investigative Agencies tasked to counter such threats.*

**Test 1 Q9. Climate change is altering the dynamics of Indian Ocean in multiple ways. Discuss.**

*The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change(IPCC) has predicted a global sea level rise of about one metre by AD 2100. What would be its impact in India and the other countries in the Indian Ocean region?*

**Test 1 Q15. Analyse the threat posed by climate change on the wetland ecosystem. Suggest some corrective measures to conserve wetlands**

*Comment on the National Wetland Conservation Programme initiated by the Government of India and name a few India's wetlands of international importance included in the Ramsar Sites.*

**Test 8 Q10. Enumerate the major land reforms taken by India after Independence. List out the reforms that are still needed in the land sector in India.**

State the objectives and measures of land reforms in India. Discuss how land ceiling policy on landholding can be considered as an effective reform under economic criteria.

## GS-4

**Test 19 Ques 3(b)** Are there any downsides of being very emotionally intelligent? Elaborate with examples.

**Test 30 Ques 1 (b)** Explore the interconnection between emotional intelligence and organisational performance, and investigate the methods organisations can employ to nurture a culture that values emotional intelligence. Furthermore, discuss the diverse benefits that stem from fostering such a culture in the workplace.

*What really matters for success, character, happiness and lifelong achievements is a definite set of emotional skills – your EQ- not just purely cognitive abilities that are measured by conventional IQ tests.” Do you agree with this view ? Give reasons in support of your answer.*

**Test 19 Ques 6 (b)** “International aid is important for human development, but it is not without conditionalities”. In the light of the statement, discuss the ethical issues in international funding.

*‘International aid’ is an accepted form of helping ‘resource-challenged’ nations. Comment on ‘ethics in contemporary international aid’. Support your answer with suitable examples.*

**Test 23 Ques 2(b)** “Probity aims to maintain the integrity of organisations by avoiding improper practices and minimizing conflict”. Explain with suitable examples.

*‘Probity is essential for an effective system of governance and socio-economic development.’ Discuss.*

**Test 23 Ques 5(b)** “Spread love everywhere you go. Let no one ever come to you without leaving happier.”

*Do not hate anybody, because that hatred that comes out from you must, in the long run, come back to you. If you love, that love will come back to you, completing the circle.” – Swami Vivekanand.*

**Test 30 Ques 3 (b)** Examine the impact of social media addiction on Indian youth and its potential role in eroding the values of the younger generation. Provide a critical analysis of the situation.

**Q4.** The power of a tool is only as good as how we use it. Elaborate the statement with regard to impact of social media on Indian society.

*(a)Based on the above case study, discuss the ethical issues involved in the use of social media.*

(b) Discuss the pros and cons of using social media by you to put across the facts to counter the fake propaganda against your family.

**Test 34 Q19. Closing gender gaps benefits countries as a whole, not just women and girls. Discuss.**

*“To awaken the people, it is the women who must be awakened. Once she is on the move, the family moves, the village moves, the nation moves.” – Jawaharlal Nehru*

**Test 30 Case 3:** In the coastal district of Sunderpur, located in a region prone to cyclones and flooding, disaster management is a critical concern. The district's vulnerability to natural disasters has necessitated a robust and coordinated approach to preparedness, response, and recovery. The District Magistrate, Mr. Rajesh Kumar, finds himself at the forefront of these efforts as he faces the challenges posed by an impending cyclone.

As the cyclone approaches, Mr. Kumar activates the Disaster Management Committee, a multi-agency body comprising representatives from various government departments, non-governmental organizations, and community leaders. Their first task is to assess the potential impact of the cyclone and determine the necessary measures to ensure the safety of the district's residents.

Recognizing the importance of communication, Mr. Kumar coordinates with meteorological experts to provide timely and accurate updates to the public. Evacuation plans are swiftly put into action, with vulnerable communities identified and shelters prepared to accommodate those in need. Mr. Kumar works closely with the police department to maintain order and facilitate the smooth transition of residents to safer locations.

As the cyclone makes landfall, extensive damage is caused to infrastructure, homes, and livelihoods. Mr. Kumar's role shifts to overseeing relief operations. Food, clean water, medical supplies, and temporary shelter are provided to the affected population. In collaboration with humanitarian organizations, he ensures that aid reaches those most in need, including marginalized communities that are often disproportionately impacted by disasters.

In the aftermath of the cyclone, Mr. Kumar's focus turns to recovery and rebuilding. He coordinates the assessment of damage, facilitates the distribution of financial assistance to affected families, and oversees the reconstruction of essential infrastructure. He works closely with central government agencies to secure funding for long-term rehabilitation projects and to implement measures aimed at reducing the district's vulnerability to future disasters.

Throughout this crisis, Mr. Kumar's leadership and decision-making skills are put to the test. He must navigate the complexities of disaster management, balancing the immediate needs of the affected population with the long-term goals of building resilience and sustainability. His ability to coordinate multiple stakeholders, make informed judgments, and maintain a strong presence in the community plays a pivotal role in shaping Sunderpur's response to the cyclone and its path to recovery. (20 Marks, 250 WORDS)

**(a) What is the role of the District Magistrate in disaster management? How does Mr. Kumar's leadership contribute to the effective coordination of preparedness, response, and recovery efforts in Sunderpur?**

**(b) Discuss the challenges Mr. Kumar faces in providing relief and aid to affected communities. How does he ensure that vulnerable and marginalized groups receive the necessary support?**

**(c) Explain Mr. Kumar's role in the long-term recovery and rebuilding phase after the cyclone. How does he collaborate with central government agencies and local organizations to enhance the district's resilience to future disasters?**

*Q8. A landslide occurred in the middle of the night on 20th July, 2023 in a remote mountain hamlet, approximately 60kilometers from Uttarkashi. The landslide was caused by torrential rains and has resulted in large-scale destruction of property and life. You, as district magistrate of the area, have rushed to the spot with a team of doctors, NGOs, media and police along with numerous support staff to oversee the rescue operations.*

*A man came running to you with a request for urgent medical help for his pregnant wife who is in labor and is losing blood. You directed your medical team to examine his wife. They return and convey to you that this woman needs blood transfusion immediately. Upon enquiry, you come know that a few blood collection bags and blood group test kits are available in the ambulance accompanying your team. Few people of your team have already volunteered to donate blood.*

*Being a physician who has graduated for AIIMS, you know that blood for transfusion needs to be procured only through a recognized blood bank.*

*Your team members are divided on this issue; some favor transfusion while some others oppose it. The doctors in the team are ready to facilitate the delivery provided they are not penalized for transfusion. Now you are in a dilemma. Your professional training emphasizes on prioritizing service to humanity and saving lives of individuals.*

*(a)What are the ethical issues involved in this case?*

*(b) Evaluate the options available to you, being District Magistrate of the area.*

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