



Duration: 1.30hrs

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English ✓

Assamese ☐

INDEX NUMBER			INSTRUCTIONS
Q.NO.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained.	Please read each of the following instruction carefully before attempting the questions: • There are 10 questions and printed in ENGLISH. • All questions are compulsory. • The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. • The answers must not exceed 150 words for 10 marks and 250 words for 15 marks. • Content is more important than the number of words. • Answers must be written in the medium authorised in the Admission Certificate which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other than the authorised one. • Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off
1	10		
2	10		
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10	15		



Brief report of Performance Evaluation of student in the paper

	Poor	Average	Good	Very good	Excellent
Understanding the context and demand of the questions					
Relevancy of the content					
Structure and flow of the answer					
(a) Introduction					
(b) Body					
(c) Conclusion					
Subject knowledge					
Language of the answer					
Presentation					
(a) Underline to the keywords					
(b) Use of flowcharts or diagrams					
(c) Paragraph limits and overall					
Understanding of directives					
Factual correctness					
Overall performance					

1.

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Indian socialism is described as a unique brand of socialism. Explain.

The Constitution of India describes it as a socialist country. The origin of socialism can be traced to the inequality among classes that was prevalent in Europe.

- The idea of socialism is that the wealthy section of the society share the profits and earnings with the working class.
- Without the working class, there would not be any production or wealth creation, therefore it is justified that all sections of society get equal benefits.
- Socialism, thus, can be called the first step towards a classless society.

However, in context of India, our founding fathers wanted to be cautious with the idea of socialism before adding to the constitution as the meaning of socialism in Indian context and its scope was bit different —

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- 'Socialism' word was not added in original preamble.
- In India, the welfare model of socialism is practiced, where the state tries to reduce inequalities by means of welfare schemes.
- Private property is still prevalent, but state owns the important resources like railways, defence, roadways, etc.
- Right to property is removed from Fundamental Rights and given status of legal right only.
- Gandhi's idea of socialism can be seen in his trusteeship ideology.
- DPSPs direct the state to promote social and economic equality.

Thus, in India, the idea of socialism deviated more towards the welfare system.

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DPSP in Indian Constitution was labelled a veritable dustbin of sentiment. Has DPSP become obsolete in present times? Argue.

The Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP) directs the state to form policies for welfare of the people.

- As the resources are limited, the Constitution provided for DPSP which are ideals that need to be achieved in due course of time.
- DPSPs provide many essential features necessary for all round development, such as,

Art - 39 -

- (a) adequate means of livelihood
- (b) equitable distribution of resources
- (c) avoid concentration of wealth,
- etc.

Art 41 - Social Assistance

Art 45 - Education of children

Art 46 - Development of SC/ST/B.C.

and so on.

- These are essential for a life of dignity and choice, as provided under Article 21.

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- However, the implementation of DPSP is left to the state's discretion.
- These are not enforceable in court and thus not guaranteed.

Due to this, DPSPs can remain as mere hopes unless the state intervenes.

However, as we have seen the government is showing the right intent towards implementing DPSPs and have provided constitutional and legal backing to many DPSPs, e.g. Right to education (Article 21A), free legal aid, reservation for weaker sections, Wildlife protection act, 1972, Local governments - 73rd CAA - (Article 243A).

Dr. B. R. Ambedkar called DPSP as novel features and these have proved to be the guidelines of policy formation at many instances.

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The Sedition Law must be revised but retained in India's statute book.
Comment:

Sedition defined any act that can be considered against national interests or the sovereignty of a state.

- This was introduced during British Raj as a weapon to suppress any revolt or mutiny.
- Sedition law has continued to be part of Indian legal system even 75 years after British left.

Arguments in favour —

- 1) This helps to maintain law and order.
- 2) Anti-national activity should be handled with an iron-fist, especially in today's age of information and reach.
- 3) India's sovereignty is above all. Nation comes before individuals.

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However, those in favour of
repealing this law argue -

- 1> During British rule, we were under foreign rule, but in today's democratic set-up, sedition law is unnecessary.
- 2> Misuse of sedition law for personal vendetta or political reasons.
- 3> The provisions, rules and regulations of this law are unclear.
- 4> Article 19, 20, 21, 22 provide the citizens freedoms regarding expression and also protection against conviction and detention.

Keeping both the points of view in mind, we can recommend -

- 1> The sedition law should be amended to fit per democratic form of government.
- 2> Provisions, rules and regulations must be in line with Article 19, 20, 21, 22.
- 3> Sedition laws should apply only during situations such as emergency.
- 4> Law Commission needs to review and put their recommendations forward.

4.

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What is the significance of Bangladesh for India? Mention the irritants in India - Bangladesh relation?

India helped in the liberation and separation of Bangladesh from Pakistan in 1971.

- Recently, 50 years of India - Bangladesh cooperation has completed.

Relations —

- 1> India shares longest land border with Bangladesh.
Many enclaves were exchanged and handed over recently to conclude border-disputes peacefully.
- 2> Trade relations - There is high trade volume between both countries. Bangladesh is among top 5 export destinations.
- 3> The waterways of India and Bangladesh together provide long navigable routes for goods and people. e.g. Ganga Vihar cruise
- 4> Access to north-east India through Bangladesh is simpler. Roads and railway connectivity is being extended.
e.g. BBIN MV Agreement

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Irritants -

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- 1) Porous borders - Illegal immigration of Bangladeshis to West Bengal, Assam and other states.
- 2) Cross border law smuggling.
- 3) Human trafficking network from Nepal to Bangladesh via India.
- 4) Growing influence of China over Bangladesh - This can be a security concern for India.
- 5) Political scenario - The relations depend on which political party is ruling in Bangladesh. Current, Sheikh Hasina govt. is having good relations with India but the opposition may not.
- 6) Religious tensions - Hindus living in Bangladesh have been facing religious attacks.

Bangladesh is economically progressing and a cultural ally of India. Therefore, having strong relations is an important part of India's neighbours first and Act East policy.

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What is foreign policy? Mention the role of culture in foreign policy.

The broad guidelines and the vision for the relations that India wants to have with foreign countries can be termed as the foreign policy.

- It includes economic, security, people-to-people relations and the general goodwill of the nation towards other countries.
- In today's globalized world, no country can be isolated or cut off from the rest of the world.

Indian Foreign Policies

- NAM. Non Aligned Movement
- Aid East Policy
- Panchsheel.
- Neighbour's first.
- Indo-Pacific and global world order.

India has managed to maintain good relations overall keeping the interests of its people at the top.

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- 1> India - South Korea relations have a historical significance - Ayodhya and Gimhae as sister cities.
- 2> India - Japan - held closely by the culture of Buddhism.
- 3> India - ASEAN - Indian mythology and history such as Ramayana, Mahabharata is revered in South Asian countries.
- 4> Indian leaders and leaders of other nations offer exchange greetings of festivals and strengthening the ties.
- 5> Cultural ties makes the relations stronger, and gives a sense of connected.
- 6> Apart from these, the similarities in food practices, festivals, etc. strengthen people-to-people relationship between countries.

6.

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Fundamental duties are keys to social transformation. Discuss.

Rights without duties would be meaningless. Thus, by the 42nd Constitutional Amendment, 1976, the Fundamental Duties were added to Constitution under Part IV A : Article 51A.

Social transformation can be directly implied from the duties —

- 1> Respect the national flag, anthem and symbols — Patriotism, respect.
- 2> To follow the ideals that inspired the national movement.
- 3> To uphold the sovereignty and integrity of the nation.
— Nationalism.
- 4> To foster spirit of brotherhood and renounce practices derogatory to women. — Fraternity, Women empowerment.
- 5> To embrace our rich culture and heritage. — Pride, confidence and emotional connection.

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- 6) To protect public property.
 - Responsibility,
Accountability.
- 7) Scientific temperment.
 - Scientific thinking
Reason & logical
thinking.
- 8) To protect the environment,
wildlife, etc.
 - Conservation
and sustainable
development.
- 9) To strive for excellence
 - Aspiration,
Ambition.
- 10) Defend the country and render
national service when required.
 - Bravery, Sacrifice,
patriotism.
- 11) Education of children — knowledge
& development
through education.

Thus, we see social transformation is directly correlated with our fundamental duties. There is no binding to follow these, but in order for society to progress and reach the goal of social, economic and political justice, the FDs can serve as the blueprint of our actions.

7.

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Combative federalism in India has its own
pros and cons. Comment.

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Combative federalism encourages
states to compete against each other
as well as with centre for the
greatest benefit or highest
performance of one's state.

Pros -

- 1) Competition helps every state to
try and achieve higher, accelerating
development.
- 2) It boosts the federalism by
strengthening states to take
proactive actions in policy
implementation.
- 3) NITI Aayog has launched a number
of indexes such as - Climate Index,
SDG Index, Logistics Index etc.
to boost combative federalism.
- 4) States being classified as -
Front Runners, Achievers, Fast
Movers, etc. creates pressure
for improving performance and
also highlight the shortcomings.
- 5) States can learn from each
other's success and failures.

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Cons -

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- 1> Competition can lead to bitterness between states, ~~weakening~~ & weakening federalism.
- 2> Inter state disputes related to rivers and water sharing often leads to delay in development projects.
- 3> Boundary disputes can get aggravated in the combative federalism.
- 4> Centre may show bias against states, based on political dynamics.
- 5> Politics makes combative federalism more complicated with accusations, blame-games, etc.
- 6> Smaller states may suffer in the highly competitive environment and would require special attention of centre and support of other states.

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Thus, we see where on one side
combative federalism can improve
performance, it can also destroy
inter state relationships.

Inter state matters like
river disputes, border disputes, GST
sharing, etc. require cooperation
between states and therefore, there
should be balance between cooperative
and combative federalism for growth
and development of each and every
state.

8.

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What are causes of Russia-Ukraine war?
Mention its repercussions on India.

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Russia and Ukraine were formed out of the disintegration of USSR towards the end of 20th century.

The war is a culmination of years of disputes and geopolitical reasons —

- 1) Russia under Vladimir Putin wants a re-establishment of the USSR.
- 2) Ukraine separated Russia from Western Europe. If Ukraine goes with Western Europe, Russia would have them at their gates.
- 3) Most West European countries have allied with US over NATO. Ukraine is yet to become member of NATO. Russia cannot allow that to happen.
- 4) The reason mentioned by Moscow for occupation is that the residents of Ukraine want to be with Russia.

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- 5) Ukraine provided Russia access to the Black Sea, which is necessary for all-weather trade, especially when the Arctic Sea freezes.
- 6) The immediate reason for war is Ukraine's tendency to join NATO.

Repercussions in India -

- 1) India and Russia have been old allies. India has not condemned Russia for the war.
- 2) PM Modi has stated " This is not the age of war " and asked for dialogue and peace.
- 3) India is getting cheap oil from Russia due to the conflict.
- 4) Operation Ganga was executed to rescue Indians from war-torn Ukraine.
- 5) Ukraine is a major exporter of wheat. The war has created a gap in wheat supply across the world which India can fill.

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6> The war has given India opportunity to strengthen ties with Russia.

7> Many medical students of India studying in Ukraine have returned and looking for means to complete the course.

Thus, we see the war has given new dimensions to India in matter of geopolitics. But, as PM Modi has said, the war should come to a healthy conclusion to avoid loss to life and livelihoods of innocent civilians.

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What are the drivers of India-Russia
relation. Discuss.

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India-Russia relations go back
a long time, back when Russia was
part of USSR.

Russia had helped India during
the 1971 Indo-Pakistan war when
the US had sent their battleship
in Indian ocean against India.

The relationship can be
seen in following dimensions -

1) India - Russia - USA :

- Russia - USA have been old rivals.
Russia needs India's help to
counter USA.

2) Russia - China - USA - India :

- Russia and China are allies,
with common communist ideology.
- This complicated India's position
as India is neither communist
nor is an ally of China.

3) Indian Ocean -

Russia needs India for having
influence over Indian Ocean and
Indo-Pacific region, which is the
new hub of geopolitics.

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4) Trade -

India-Russia have healthy trade relations and India can rely on Russian oil in case of any crisis in Middle East.

5) New World Order -

India, China, Russia are all growing fast and US hegemony over world is declining. This is a critical point in the history of international relations.

6) Climate change -

India and Russia's stand on climate change has differences as well as similarities also. Both have coal dependent economies and therefore resist the 'No coal' movement by other European nations.

7) India as mediator -

The world sees India as a mediator while dealing with Russia, e.g. Russia-Ukraine war - World expects PM Modi to ~~isnt~~ discuss with Vladimir Putin on a solution.

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It is widely believed that
21st century will be India's
century and therefore the Indo-
Russia relationship dynamics might
change - for better or for worse
depending on how things progress.

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What is strategic autonomy? How is it important in maintaining India's national interests?

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Strategic autonomy is independence in policies and actions with respect to world events for the national interest.

- In today's polarizing world, new powers are rising - China is trying to establish its hegemony over the world and the US trying to protect its hegemony.
- As such, often a question arises - whether India is on US's side or China's side.
- As it is said, in geopolitics, there is no permanent enemy or ally, only permanent interests.
- Thus, it does not make any sense trying to put India in any one particular side, as India's interests lie both ways - either economic or strategic.

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- Both US and China are large trade partners of India. Therefore strategic autonomy is required
- to balance economic and strategic sides.
- India, itself is growing fast and is capable of independent decision making.
- Case — During Russia - Ukraine war, US had put sanctions on Russia, but India imported crude oil from Russia. This may not sit well with US, but for India it is a good deal considering cheap oil prices in Russia and global high oil prices. Here, national interest is given higher preference than taking sides.

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