

IAS Mains General Studies 2008

Paper - I

1. Answer any two of the following (in about 150 words each) : $15 \times 2 = 30$

- (a) "The emergence of new social classes in British India was the direct consequence of the establishment of new social economy, new state system, administrative machinery and Western education." Discuss.
- (b) "British vision of India had no single coherent set of ideas. On the contrary, the ideas were shot through with contradictions and inconsistencies." Discuss.
- (c) "Non-Cooperation Movement gave new direction and energy to the National Movement." Explain.

2. Write about the following (not exceeding 20 words each): $2 \times 15 = 30$

- (a) Lakshmi Bai, Rani of Jhansi
- (b) Ilbert Bill
- (c) Lala Hara Dayal
- (d) Vaikam Satyagraha
- (e) Indian States Commission
- (f) Bodhisattva
- (g) Megasthenes
- (h) Brihadeshwara Temple, Tanjore
- (i) Perini Shivatandavam
- (j) Allasani Peddana
- (k) Golkonda Fort
- (l) Chishti Silsila
- (m) Chouth and Sardeshmukhi
- (n) Poona Sarvajanik Sabh
- (o) 'Rama Sethu'

3. Answer any two of the following (in about 150 words each) : $15 \times 2 = 30$

- (a) The winter rains in North India are largely related to Jet Streams and Western Disturbances. Bring out the relationship.
- (b) Agricultural Productivity in India remain low. Explain the reasons for this situation.
- (c) Bring out the pros and cons of Special Economic Zones.

4. Write about the following (not exceeding 20 words each): $2 \times 5 = 10$

- (a) Buckingham Canal
- (b) Terai Region
- (c) Organic Farming

- (d) Demographic Dividend
- (e) Nor westers

5. Answer any one of the following (in about 250 words): 30

- (a) What is meant by 'Judicial Activism' ? Evaluate its role in the context of the functioning of Indian polity.
- (b) Discuss the major extra-constitutional factors influencing the federal polity in India.

6. Answer any two of the following (in about 150 words each) : 15 × 2 = 30

- (a) Enumerate the Fundamental Duties incorporated in the Constitution after the 42nd Amendment.
- (b) Examine the demand for greater state autonomy and its impact on the smooth functioning of Indian polity.
- (c) Discuss the composition and functions of the Union Public Service Commission.

7. Answer the following (in about 20 words each): 2 × 5 = 10

- (a) What is a Censure Motion ?
- (b) Distinguish between the auditing and accounting functions of the CAG of India.
- (c) Distinguish between a starred question and an unstarred one asked in the Parliament.
- (d) What is contempt of Parliament ?
- (e) What were the two major considerations to have the Governor appointed and not elected ?

8. Answer any one of the following (in about 250 words): 30

- (a) What, in your opinion, are the causes of terrorism ? Suggest suitable measures to deal with the threat of terrorism in India.
- (b) Do you think there is a need for a review of the Indian Constitution ? Justify your view.

9. Answer any two of the following (in about 150 words each) : 15 × 2 = 30

- (a) Examine the role of caste in Indian politics.
- (b) Discuss the problems in achieving National Integration in India.
- (c) Examine the impact of Regional Political Parties in Indian politics.

10. Answer any one of the following (in about 250 words) : 30

- (a) "Globalization has brought about a distinct class divide in India instead of ushering in a classless society." Critically examine this argument.
- (b) "The conditions of the urban poor are more deplorable than that of their rural counterparts." Give your views.

11. Answer any two of the following (in about 150 words each) : $15 \times 2 = 30$

- (a) Examine whether rural women in India have been empowered by their active participation in Panchayat Raj System.
- (b) "Decline in the sex ratio in India is an alarming sign for India's future social development." Discuss.
- (c) What should be the role of the media to project mass reality' in place of 'illusion of reality' ?

12. Write about the following (in about 20 words each) : $2 \times 5 = 10$

- (a) MTP Act
- (b) Supreme Court on Ragging
- (c) New Seven Wonders of the World
- (d) M. M. Punchi Commission
- (e) Lakshmi Mittal

