

GENERAL STUDIES – II
SOCIAL JUSTICE
MAINS PREVIOUS YEAR QUESTIONS

| No. | Topics | 2019 | 2018 | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 | 2014 | 2013 |
|-----|-----------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 1 | Government Policy/Schemes | 3 | 2 | 1 | - | - | - | 3 |
| 2. | NGOs | - | - | - | - | 2 | - | - |
| 3. | Self-Help Groups | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 4. | Vulnerable Sections | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | - | 1 | 1 |
| 5. | Education | - | - | - | 1/2 | 1 | 1 | - |
| 6 | Health | - | 1 | - | 1/2 | 1 | - | 1 |
| 7 | Human resource (including Sports) | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | - |
| 8 | Poverty and Hunger | 1 | 1 | 2 | - | 1 | - | - |
| | Total | 5 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 6 |

1. **Government policies and interventions for development** in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation.
2. **Development processes and the development industry** - the role of NGOs, SHGs, various groups and associations, donors, charities, institutional and other stakeholders.
3. **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 sections.
4. **Issues relating to development and management of Social Sector/ Services** relating to **Health, Education, Human Resources**.
5. Issues relating to **poverty and hunger**.

PREVIOUS YEAR QUESTIONS

2019

1. Despite Consistent experience of high growth, India still goes with the lowest indicators of human development. Examine the issues that make balanced and inclusive development elusive. **(150 words) 10**
2. There is a growing divergence in the relationship between poverty and hunger in India. The shrinking of social expenditure by the government is forcing the poor to spend more on non-food essential items squeezing their food-budget. – Elucidate. **(150 words) 10**
3. 'In the context of neo-liberal paradigm of development planning, multi-level planning is expected to make operations cost-effective and remove many implementation blockages.' ---- Discuss. **(250 words) 15**
4. The need for cooperation among various service sectors has been an inherent component of development discourse. Partnership bridges the gap among the sectors. It also sets in motion a culture of 'collaboration' and 'team spirit'. In the light of statements above examine India's development process. **(250 words) 15**
5. Performance of welfare schemes that are implemented for vulnerable sections is not so effective due to absence of their awareness and active involvement at all stages of policy process. ---Discuss. **(250 words) 15**

2018

1. Appropriate local community-level healthcare intervention is a prerequisite to achieve 'Health for All' in India. Explain. **(150 words) 10**
2. Multiplicity of various commissions for the vulnerable sections of the society leads to problems of overlapping jurisdiction and duplication of availability functions. Is it better to merge all commissions into an umbrella Human Rights Commission? Argue your case. **(250 words) 15**
3. How far do you agree with the view that the focus on lack of availability of food as the main cause of hunger takes the attention away from ineffective human development policies in India? **(250 words) 15**
4. Mention core strategies for the transformation of aspirational districts in India and explain the nature of convergence, collaboration and competition for its success. **(GS-1) (250 words) 15**
5. "Access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy is the sine qua non to achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)." Comment on the progress made in India in this regard. **(GS-2) (150 words)10**

2015

1. Examine critically the recent changes in the rules governing foreign funding of NGOs under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA), 1976. **(12.5)**
2. The Self-Help Group (SHG) Bank Linkage Programme (SBLP), which is India's own innovation, has proved to be one of the most effective poverty alleviation and women empowerment programmes. Elucidate. **(12.5)**
3. How can the role of NGOs be strengthened in India for development works relating to protection of the environment? Discuss throwing light on the major constraints. **(12.5)**
4. The quality of higher education in India requires major improvements to make it internationally competitive. Do you think that the entry of foreign educational institutions would help improve the quality of higher and technical education in the country? Discuss. **(12.5)**
5. Public health system has limitations in providing universal health coverage. Do you think that the private sector could help in bridging the gap? What other viable alternatives would you suggest? **(12.5)**
6. Though there have been several different estimates of poverty in India, all indicate reduction in poverty levels over time. Do you agree? Critically examine with reference to urban and rural poverty indicators. **(12.5)**

2014

1. The penetration of Self Help Groups (SHGs) in rural areas in promoting participation in development programmes is facing socio-cultural hurdles. Examine. (200 words) **(12.5)**
2. Do government's schemes for uplifting vulnerable and backward communities by protecting required social resources for them, lead to their exclusion in establishing businesses in urban economies? (200 words) **(12.5)**
3. An athlete participates in Olympics for personal triumph and nation's glory; victors and showered with cash incentives by various agencies, on their return. Discuss the merit of state sponsored talent hunt and its cultivation as against the rationale of a reward mechanism as encouragement. (200 words) **(12.5)**
4. Should the premier institutes like IITs/IIMs be allowed to retain premier status, allowed more academic independence in designing courses and also decide mode or

criteria of selection of students. Discuss in light of the growing challenges. (200 words) **2013** **(12.5)**

1. The concept of Mid-Day Meal (MDM) scheme is almost a century old in India with early beginnings in Madras Presidency in pre-independent India. The scheme has again been given impetus in most state in the last two decades. Critically examine its twin objectives, latest mandates and success.[200 words] **(10)**
2. The legitimacy and accountability of Self Help Groups (SHGs) and their patrons, the micro-finance outfits, need systematic assessment and scrutiny for the sustained success of the concept. Discuss.[200 words] **(10)**
3. The Central Government frequently complains on the poor performance of the State Governments in eradicating suffering of the vulnerable sections of the society. Restructuring of Centrally sponsored schemes across the sectors for ameliorating the cause of vulnerable sections of population aims at providing flexibility to the states in better implementation. Critically evaluate.[200 words] **(10)**
4. Electronic cash transfer system for the welfare schemes is an ambitious project to minimize corruption, eliminate wastage and facilitate reforms. Comment.[200 words] **(10)**
5. The basis of providing urban amenities in rural areas (PURA) is rooted in establishing connectivity. Comment [200 words]. **(10)**
6. Identify the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) that are related to health. Discuss the success of the actions taken by the Government for achieving the same. [200 words]. **(10)**