

## Mains GS -I,II,III Question Papers generated by ChatGPT-5 Thinking

### General Studies – Paper I (Indian Heritage & Culture, History & Geography of the World & Society)

Time Allowed: 3 Hours      Maximum Marks: 250

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**Q1.**

How did the Bhakti and Sufi traditions democratise literature, music and architectural patronage? Discuss the continuities you notice in modern devotional/popular culture. *(150 words, 10 marks)*

**Q2.**

Did colonial institutions such as the railways, courts and census simultaneously enable exploitation and incubate nationalism? Examine with reasoned arguments. *(150 words, 10 marks)*

**Q3.**

Critically assess the complementarity and tensions between mass civil disobedience and revolutionary/underground movements in the national movement. *(150 words, 10 marks)*

**Q4.**

To what extent did linguistic reorganisation (1953–1966) strengthen federalism while containing sub-regional aspirations? Analyse. *(150 words, 10 marks)*

**Q5.**

“The Industrial Revolution’s diffusion owed more to institutions than to inventions.” Do you agree? Substantiate with comparative examples. *(150 words, 10 marks)*

**Q6.**

Urbanisation and migration are reshaping caste and kinship. Do these processes weaken endogamy or merely reconfigure it? Discuss. *(150 words, 10 marks)*

**Q7.**

Does globalisation homogenise Indian culture or trigger vernacular resurgence? Evaluate with reference to media, cuisine and language. *(150 words, 10 marks)*

**Q8.**

Is India experiencing a **reorganisation** rather than a rise of women’s work—via self-help groups, platforms and unpaid care transfers? Analyse the implications. *(150 words, 10 marks)*

**Q9.**

Is contemporary Indian secularism moving from “principled distance” to “egalitarian engagement”? Critically examine the social consequences. *(150 words, 10 marks)*

**Q10.**

Explain how plate tectonics and mantle plumes generate hotspot chains and island arcs. Briefly relate their geomorphology to associated hazards. *(150 words, 10 marks)*

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**Q11.**

From temple canons (Nāgara, Drāviḍa, Vesara) to Indo-Saracenic and post-Independence sacred/public architecture, trace the changing **patronage, materials and symbolism** of Indian architecture. What does this reveal about the relationship between power, piety and public space? *(250 words, 15 marks)*

**Q12.**

“The economic critique of colonialism evolved from Drain Theory to Swadeshi to Planning.” Examine this intellectual trajectory and its imprint on late-colonial and early post-colonial policy choices. *(250 words, 15 marks)*

**Q13.**

Assess the role of **women, peasants and adivasi communities** across different regions in the freedom struggle. Did the Congress-led mainstream effectively integrate subaltern agendas or instrumentalise them? *(250 words, 15 marks)*

**Q14.**

Evaluate the twin projects of **political consolidation and state-building**: integration of princely states, linguistic reorganisation, centre–state bargains, and the evolution from centralised planning to cooperative federalism. What tensions persist? *(250 words, 15 marks)*

**Q15.**

How did the **World Wars and the Cold War** reorder boundaries and ideologies, shaping decolonisation and state formation in Asia and Africa? Contrast at least two trajectories and draw out societal consequences. *(250 words, 15 marks)*

**Q16.**

Discuss India’s demographic transition: fertility decline, youthful bulge, regional divergence and migration. What policy mix (education, skilling, care economy, social security) can convert this into sustained social empowerment? *(250 words, 15 marks)*

**Q17.**

Algorithmic media, transnational labour markets and diasporic networks are recoding identities. Do these forces **amplify** polarisation or **enable** hybridity and social mobility in India? Provide a balanced assessment. *(250 words, 15 marks)*

**Q18.**

Critically examine the **geography of critical resources**—energy, rare earths, phosphates and freshwater. How do their uneven distributions, chokepoints and environmental limits shape national strategies, with reference to South Asia and India? *(250 words, 15 marks)*

**Q19.**

Why do some industrial clusters (e.g., autos, electronics, textiles, pharma) thrive while others stagnate? Compare classical factors (raw materials, energy, transport) with **ecosystem factors** (skills, standards, services, agglomeration, digital infra). *(250 words, 15 marks)*

**Q20.**

Analyse the growing **compound risks** from geophysical phenomena—earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanic activity and tropical cyclones—in the context of changing cryosphere, oceans and river basins. How do such changes alter geomorphology, hydrology and biodiversity patterns? *(250 words, 15 marks)*

## General Studies – Paper II (Polity, Governance, International Relations)

Time Allowed: 3 Hours      Maximum Marks: 250

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**Q1. (10 marks, 150 words)**

To what extent has the **Basic Structure doctrine** transformed Parliament's amending power from a legal rule into a **constitutional ethic**? Illustrate with key milestones and contemporary amendment debates.

**Q2. (10 marks, 150 words)**

"India's federalism is evolving from **cooperative** to **negotiated federalism**." Analyse with reference to the GST Council experience, inter-State fiscal transfers, and the fiscal autonomy of local bodies.

**Q3. (10 marks, 150 words)**

Do the growth of **tribunals**, special courts and delegated legislation signal a dilution of **separation of powers** or a pragmatic institutional adaptation? Evaluate in light of recent judicial scrutiny.

**Q4. (10 marks, 150 words)**

Critically examine whether trends such as frequent **suspensions/expunctions**, shrinking committee scrutiny, and **fast-tracking complex Bills** undermine deliberative law-making in Parliament and State Legislatures. Suggest rule-based correctives.

**Q5. (10 marks, 150 words)**

"In the digital era, India's **pressure groups** are more **networked than organised**." Discuss how platform mobilisation, PILs, and think-tank advocacy shape agenda-setting and accountability.

**Q6. (10 marks, 150 words)**

Why do well-designed **government interventions** stumble at the street level? Using the '**implementation gap**' lens, assess recent experiences with DBT, outcome-based financing, and last-mile delivery.

**Q7. (10 marks, 150 words)**

"**Targeting without enabling** is exclusion by design." Evaluate India's **welfare architecture** with reference to portability (e.g., migrants), disability inclusion, and gender budgeting.

**Q8. (10 marks, 150 words)**

Do **data protection** and **open-data transparency** pull in opposite directions? Analyse a balanced framework that reconciles DPDP obligations with social audits and AI-enabled governance.

**Q9. (10 marks, 150 words)**

India's neighbourhood policy oscillates between '**security-first**' and '**connectivity-first**' approaches. Critically examine with reference to recent developments in **Maldives, Myanmar, and Sri Lanka**.

**Q10. (10 marks, 150 words)**

How do major-economy **climate and industrial policies** (e.g., carbon border adjustments, subsidy regimes) reshape India's trade strategy and **diaspora diplomacy**? Discuss opportunities and risks.

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**Q11. (15 marks, 250 words)**

“India’s Constitution is a **hybrid by design**—neither purely Westminster nor Washington.” Compare India’s parliamentary-federal scheme with at least **two democracies** to evaluate how constitutional borrowing has influenced accountability and stability.

**Q12. (15 marks, 250 words)**

Is the **judicialisation of governance** an inevitable response to executive/legislative inaction or a symptom of institutional imbalance? Examine trends in continuing mandamus, guideline-making, and oversight of appointments/administration.

**Q13. (15 marks, 250 words)**

Do the **Representation of the People Act** and allied rules ensure a **level playing field** in elections—especially regarding **political finance**, candidate eligibility, and campaign practices? Critically assess in the aftermath of recent judicial rulings on electoral funding and disclosure.

**Q14. (15 marks, 250 words)**

How can we simultaneously strengthen **independence** and **accountability** of constitutional offices (ECI, CAG, UPSC, CVC/CIC)? Propose a principles-based framework for **appointments, tenure, and removal**.

**Q15. (15 marks, 250 words)**

**Tribunalisation** promised specialisation and speed but has often produced **fragmentation and forum shopping**. Analyse design flaws in India’s tribunal system and outline a coherent architecture consistent with judicial independence and access to justice.

**Q16. (15 marks, 250 words)**

From welfare delivery to **co-production of public services**: evaluate the changing role of **NGOs, SHGs and CSR** in India’s development ecosystem. What safeguards (fiduciary, ethical, data) are essential for legitimacy and measurable impact?

**Q17. (15 marks, 250 words)**

India’s **human capital trap** is less about aggregate spending and more about **state capacity**. Analyse with reference to learning outcomes, public-health surveillance, and skilling—education alignment for a digital economy.

**Q18. (15 marks, 250 words)**

Should India move from a predominantly **career-based** to a more **position-based** civil service? Critically assess implications for neutrality, expertise, lateral entry, and performance management (including mission-mode delivery units).

**Q19. (15 marks, 250 words)**

Do **minilateral coalitions** mark a pragmatic turn in India’s multilateral strategy? Evaluate with examples such as **QUAD, I2U2, IPEF** and **BRICS expansion**, noting complementarities, capacity constraints, and strategic trade-offs.

**Q20. (15 marks, 250 words)**

Global reform has stalled in the **UN, IMF/World Bank, WTO** and climate fora. What **leverage** can India realistically deploy to shape agendas and rule-making? Identify feasible pathways and **non-negotiable red lines**.

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## General Studies – Paper III

Time Allowed: 3 Hours      Maximum Marks: 250

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### Q1. (10 marks, 150 words)

Is India's recent growth becoming **less employment-intensive**? Examine in light of resource mobilisation choices, sectoral capex, and labour market formalisation.

### Q2. (10 marks, 150 words)

Does **inclusive growth** require universalism in basic services and **targeted** transfers elsewhere? Critically assess the trade-offs for equity, efficiency, and administrative capacity.

### Q3. (10 marks, 150 words)

Should India adopt a **binding medium-term fiscal framework** with credible escape clauses tied to **public investment quality** rather than headline deficit limits? Argue your case.

### Q4. (10 marks, 150 words)

Cropping patterns in many regions are **water-misaligned**. Evaluate how micro-irrigation, groundwater governance, and **digital agri-markets** can shift incentives more effectively than MSP alone.

### Q5. (10 marks, 150 words)

Are rising **agri-subsidies** crowding out productivity-enhancing public goods? Propose a glide path that protects **food security/PDS** while improving nutrition, buffers, and **animal-rearing** economics.

### Q6. (10 marks, 150 words)

Is **indigenisation** about owning the entire stack or mastering **critical nodes** (design, materials, standards)? Answer with examples from space launch, vaccines/biotech, and chips.

### Q7. (10 marks, 150 words)

Do current **EIA** practices function as ex-ante environmental safeguards or post-hoc legitimations? Suggest a shift to **strategic environmental assessment** and compliance monitoring.

### Q8. (10 marks, 150 words)

Urban floods and heatwaves expose **risk governance** gaps. Outline a framework combining early warnings, **risk financing/insurance**, and municipal capacity.

### Q9. (10 marks, 150 words)

"Development deficits fertilise **extremism**." Assess this claim with reference to land/forest rights, public goods, and trust-building in affected districts.

### Q10. (10 marks, 150 words)

Design an accountability architecture to counter **disinformation, encrypted coordination and money-laundering** without chilling free speech or undermining strong encryption.

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**Q11. (15 marks, 250 words)**

Do India's **second-generation land reforms** (secure tenancy/land leasing, digitisation, land pooling, speedy dispute resolution) reconcile equity with productivity and investment? Critically evaluate.

**Q12. (15 marks, 250 words)**

Food processing promises **farmer incomes, jobs, and exports**, yet scales slowly. Analyse bottlenecks in cold chains, standards/compliance, finance, and logistics. Propose a **cluster-cum-value-chain** strategy.

**Q13. (15 marks, 250 words)**

From liberalisation to **industrial policy 2.0**: have instruments like PLI, trade remedies, and standards accelerated **total factor productivity** and MSME upgrading, or encouraged selective protection? Give a balanced assessment.

**Q14. (15 marks, 250 words)**

Infrastructure financing is shifting from classic PPPs to **HAM, TOT and asset monetisation**. Compare these models on risk allocation, project governance, and lifecycle O&M. What mix best fits India's needs?

**Q15. (15 marks, 250 words)**

Are **FPOs, contract farming, and platform-based aggregation** viable investment models to reduce agri price risk and improve market access? Evaluate design features that prevent side-selling and ensure fair contracts.

**Q16. (15 marks, 250 words)**

Can India's **IPR regime** simultaneously enable affordable access and incentivise frontier R&D? Discuss with reference to **TRIPS flexibilities**, SEPs/FRAND in telecoms, and public funding/mission-mode R&D.

**Q17. (15 marks, 250 words)**

Translate frontier tech to **everyday productivity**: Assess how AI/robotics, space-based services, nanotech and biotech can diffuse into MSMEs, health, and agriculture. What ecosystem changes (skills, standards, testing, procurement) are essential?

**Q18. (15 marks, 250 words)**

A credible **just transition** must balance energy security, regional livelihoods and climate goals. Propose a pathway using carbon markets, **nature-based solutions**, and EIA/CRZ reforms that protect ecosystems while enabling growth.

**Q19. (15 marks, 250 words)**

How have **external state and non-state actors** exploited grey-zone methods (drones, cyber, finance) to challenge internal security? Outline responses combining technology, diplomacy, and community resilience, including **border management** against organised crime-terror linkages.

**Q20. (15 marks, 250 words)**

Critically examine the mandates and coordination of India's **internal security architecture** (police, CAPFs, NIA, intel and financial-probe agencies). Propose reforms that improve interoperability and accountability while safeguarding civil liberties.

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