

# Indian Society and Social Justice

Time Allowed: 3 hr.

Max. Marks: 250

Q.	Marks	Instructions to Candidate
1.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• There are 20 questions.</li><li>• All questions are compulsory</li><li>• The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.</li><li>• Answer the questions in <b>NOT MORE THAN 200</b> words each. Contents of the answer is more important than its length.</li><li>• Answers must be written in the space provided.</li></ul> <p>Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.</p>
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Name Digvijay Bode

Roll No. \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile No. \_\_\_\_\_

Date 4/10/2015

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1. Invigilator Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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Remarks

Roll No. \_\_\_\_\_

Q1. "Values imparted in Indian Society are contributing to the elevation of many Indians to the leadership role in many Silicon Valley Firms." Explain. (12.5 Marks)

Many Indians <sup>see</sup> are ~~in~~ leadership roles in Silicon Valley firms. eg: Sunder Pichai is the CEO of tech giant Google.

This progress of Indians can be attributed to ~~values~~ imparted in Indian society like:

- Commitment & dedication to work

This value ensures people aspiring to make it big meet their deadlines in all spheres of life like work, family contributing to overall progress.

- Hardwork:

There is no substitute for hardwork & Indian society through its freedom struggle has learnt it.

- Management: co-ordination

Indian society imparts

This value to its individuals because of its diversity which requires working & living with different religions, social, linguistic groups together.

Cooperation  
Group Harmony  
Willingness to Sacrifice  
Communitarianism  
Approach

Punctuality:

This ensures a person effectively devotes his energy & focus in his work.

Hence Indian society along with personal ambitious endeavours is contributing to the elevation of India's leadership role in Silicon valley of world.

3

TIE and SIPA

Define and discuss the correlation

Q2. "In any society, Gender is fundamentally about power". Discuss in context with the Indian Society. (12.5 Marks)

In Indian society, gender can be considered as being linked to power because:

• Economic power:

This determines the control over the daily functioning. The fact that majority of Indian women aren't economically empowered renders them vulnerable.

• Social power:

This is determined by how the society views the gender. eg: In Indian society, women are considered subordinate to men, as a result of the <sup>lower</sup> social standing of women, they remain in social background.

• Physical power:

This determines the physical dominance of one gender over another. Men are biologically more strong than women & this explains why women are primarily sufferers of domestic violence. eg: Domestic Violence (Protection) Act explains the need to protect women.

These linkages between power & the way genders interact with each other is found in almost all societies. eg. In western societies, the women are economically as well as socially empowered because of which they're a lesser vulnerable group. ② Similarly in Arab societies, women are vulnerable in all aspects & hence deprived.

Discuss in context of Indian Societies -- Thus gender is fundamentally about power but here the role of state comes in to reduce the vulnerabilities of women & ensure them a life of dignity.

3

Q3. MGNREGA is being seen by many experts as an ideal blend of development and welfare programmes as compared to welfare programmes based on merely transfer of subsidies. Critically analyze?

(125 Marks)

MGNREGA is seen as an ideal blend of development & welfare programmes because:

- It guarantees employment to people who are in need & its demand driven nature ensures accurate targetting.
- Its flexible nature can be leveraged to produce developmental assets. eg: Recent decision to find convergence between MGNREGA & Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayi Yojana to develop irrigation assets.
- It can be a tool for insurance especially in dryland areas gives the evitable nature of monsoon.
- It can be converged with Skill India programme to increase skill levels, thus directly leading to developmental efforts.

MGNREGA is better than welfare programmes based on transfer of subsidies because.

Precisely its objectives and vision

Work related criticism

- Transfer of subsidies do not create any employment diversity.
  - Subsidies distort market especially price subsidies.
  - Subsidies keep the poor perpetually dependent on the government, hence not sustainable.
  - MNREGA involves scope for participation of people in governance. Ex: social audit of work carried out under it.
- Hence the criticisms of MNREGA being: waste of resources is not warranted because of its potential to transform rural economy.

3



Q4. "NGOs are the agents of the state when looked from the broader perspective of maintaining faith in the state." Comment.

(12.5 Marks)

Recently quite a few foreign funded NGOs have come under fire for violations of Foreign Contributions Regulatory Act, & for their alleged anti-developmental propoganda. However NGOs are an extended arm of governance because:

- NGOs help in providing the reach to many governmental developmental programmes in hard to reach regions without any proper infrastructure. eg. social security schemes.
- NGOs can be effective medium of providing extension service in agriculture, on which over half of our population currently depends.
- NGOs help in the rural & urban population in understanding the functioning of the government & how its decisions will affect their daily lives. Thus they are a medium of promoting accountability by keeping citizens informed.

These activities help in maintaining faith in the state because:

• People actually benefit from government's actions & since government's accessibility to common-sourced people is limited due to governance deficit, it instills a sense of confidence in the idea of welfare state.

• Moreover the faith in democracy is restored because people's voice amplified by civil society finds a positive reaction from the government.

Hence NGOs & civil society <sup>play</sup> an important role in the society & our democracy.

4

Ref. hints

Q5. Drug Abuse has become a major social ill in some of the most prosperous regions of India. Evaluate the social reasons for such widespread entrenchment of drugs in society, particularly in youth and suggest ways to reduce its demand among the targeted group?

(12.5 Marks)

Drug abuse has been widespread among Youth of Punjab & Haryana because of following social reasons:

- Easy availability: & affordability

Drugs are often smuggled in across the ~~Pakistan~~ <sup>India</sup> border & Punjab being along the boundary is vulnerable.

Moreover the wealth created in Punjab following the prosperity of Green Revolution makes ~~drugs~~ <sup>drugs</sup> affordable.

- Increasing individualistic tendencies:

As a result, youth are often detached from their parents who cannot then effectively provide them genuine parental advice.

This portrays the <sup>negative</sup> effects of development in a society. Moreover guaranteed incomes from the fields makes the youth idle & avenue to waste their time.

Moreover, it points out that the youth of the region do not

Related facts

Golden Crescent

NRI Remitt.

find careers through education attractive since low levels of education also ~~is~~ a factor ~~incouring~~ this menace.

Following can be done to reduce its demand:

- Border management

To stop smuggling by border fencing, increased vigil by Border Security Force (BSF).

- Increased police vigil to reduce availability

By punishing the offenders strictly & active surveillance to identify intra-state rackets.

- Rehabilitation & education centres.

To effectively help youth get rid of the addiction & educate them (including school children) about harmful effects so that demand is reduced.

4

Q6. How do you define "Justice" in context of India? What are the provisions in the Constitution for attaining "Social Justice"?

(12.5 Marks)

Justice in the context of India means observance of the principle of rule of law in political, economic & social sphere. It also means having essential mechanisms to ensure justice is done.

— In India, social justice ~~is~~ attains importance because of the gross social inequalities since ancient times due to caste system, poor status of women, etc.

Economic justice means ~~not~~ <sup>ensuring</sup> equality of opportunity in economic spheres & providing remedy if violated.

Following provisions in our Constitution "aspire to achieve "social justice":

- The preamble clearly mentions social justice as the aim of the constitution. Although not legally enforceable, ~~it~~ such ideals in it help courts to determine constitutionality of laws.

Political Justice

• The following fundamental rights  
to propagate social justice:

Article 17 - abolition of untouchability.

Article 19 - Right to Freedom of speech,  
expression, association, movement,  
residence, profession.

Article 25 - Right to Freedom of  
to 28 religion

Article 29 & - Cultural & educational  
30 rights.

Article 39 The ~~following~~ directive  
principles to try to achieve social  
justice.

Most importantly, the sub-clauses  
under fundamental rights provide  
adequate exemptions so as to  
ensure welfare of vulnerable  
sections like women, children,  
backward classes.

4

Q7. Globalization has brought out a structural transformation in Urban India, right at the level of family, increasing the social conflicts and their content. Discuss. (12.5 Marks)

Globalisation has caused following changes in family structure of families in Urban India:

- The institution of joint family is eroding with nuclear family structure on the rise.
- The individualistic tendencies are growing. eg: separate room for each member.
- The traditional roles performed in a family (eg: earning by the man & housework by woman) are changing. due to socio-economic empowerment as a result of globalisation & increased awareness about outside society.
- The elderly are not being cared as earlier, leading to increase in old age homes.

Globalisation has increased social conflicts & their content too in following ways:

- Economic disparities have risen because only those who had human capital invested in them earlier could take advantage of new

opportunities. eg: opportunities in I.T sector. These disparities have often translated into social disparities because of traditional social inequities in India due to caste system, leading to conflicts.

- The lower castes have become more assertive about their rights leading to more conflicts.

- The content earlier was mainly economic (eg: control over resources). But now it has expanded into following spheres:

- + Political (who controls political power)
- + Religious (who determines social & economic

power)  
Thus globalisation has structurally transformed Urban India.

4  
Include  
Fundamentalism  
Competitiveness  
Marginalization  
etc also



Q8. What are the delineating features of an aspirational society? Discuss the constraints and potentials of India as an aspirational society.

(12.5 Marks)

Following are the delineating features of an aspirational society:

• Economic sphere:

Society's aspiration to increase standard of living is seen in increasing labour force participation, willingness to travel to work,

• Social sphere:

Aspirations here are seen in increased education levels, & investments in other human capitals.

• Political sphere:

The society gets more aware about its rights & entitlements & also demands the same with more assertiveness.

Following are constraints of India as an aspirational society.

• Caste system:

This prevents inclusive growth & utilisation of human resource.

• Poor status of women:

This renders the institution of family weaker.

Play a crucial role in socialisation of an individual.

• Regional disparities:

This causes concentration of wealth & creates social divides.

Following is the potential of India as an aspirational society:

• Demographic dividend:

~~with 60% of population between the age of 15-59 years, economic aspirations of India have great potential.~~

• Increased openness

Traditional caste & gender barriers are getting weakened due to forces of modernisation & urbanisation & people are becoming open to diverse ideas.

• Strong civil society:

This enables the society to achieve its potential in multiple spheres.

Precisely discuss aspects in context of Indian Middle Class

3  
Ref. hints

Q9. 'Secularism in its true essence and not 'majoritarianism' or 'minoritarianism' would further the cause of Indian nation'. Comment.  
(12.5 Marks)

Secularism which has been declared as a basic feature of our constitution by the Supreme court has created a lot of controversy in independent India not because of the opposition to the ideal but because of the means by which it is sought to be achieved.

Some have labelled it as <sup>a</sup> means to promote appease minorities. This approach of minoritarianism is wrong because it gives minority communities a virtual veto in the decisions ~~of the~~ affecting them whereas the decision should be based on national interest.

Other hand, majoritarianism fails to further the cause of Indian nation because it neglects the diversity of India & is deleterious to national unity since such an

~~the~~ approach creates extremist tendencies amongst minorities.

Secularism in its true essence in Indian context means that state shall promote all religions equally. This approach not only recognizes India's cultural diversity

but also ensures decisions at national level are in public & national interest. Moreover, this approach does not create apprehensions about discrimination by state, enhancing faith in the constitution making our plural democracy stronger.

Elaborate the necessity in Indian scenario

32

Q10. "Food Security Act" may be a good plank for addressing the issue of poverty, but on the other side it seems that "hunger" is just basic to 'poverty' and not all of it. Discuss the aspects of poverty in India and their socio-economic consequences. (12.5 Marks)

Hunger is both a cause & consequence of poverty.

- Poverty → less income → less expenditure on food  
↓  
hunger.
- Hunger → less <sup>earnings</sup> investment → lower outcomes for children → employability  
↓  
lower incomes → poverty.

Although Food Security Act tries to address the issue of poverty, ~~poverty involves other aspects to:~~

- Gender aspects:  
Females being socio-economically disempowered are generally more poor.

- Caste system:  
The backward classes are generally more poor because

Precisely mention the aspects of Poverty

Traditionally caste has determined control over resources like land, water.

• Social aspects:

Poverty manifests in the form of education level & healthcare facilities available.

• Environmental aspect:

Poor quality of environment due to increased pollution levels renders us environmentally poor.

eg: Defhi.

Following are its socio-economic consequences:

• Increased inequalities & social tensions.

• Poor employability due to gross inadequacies in human capital.

• Health costs due to poor environmental conditions.

• Low productivity of population.

More and relevant  
socio-economic  
consequences  
required

3½

Q11. Is declining sex ratio among children in India occurring due to some deeply rooted problem? Discuss the measures initiated by the government to reverse this trend. (12.5 Marks)

Declining sex ratio in India is mainly because of sex selective abortion technologies being available at affordable costs. Although the root problem is the patriarchal attitudes in the society. Preference of male child is due to further deeper problems like:

- Dowry system, which is an economic cause of male child preference.
- The notion of 'paraya dhan' about female children perpetuates such attitudes.
- Low levels of education <sup>hence</sup> ~~is~~ modern ideas ~~are~~ have not penetrated Indian society much.
- Issue of sexual violence against women..... Women's honour is seen as honour of the family. ~~The~~ Since women are vulnerable

to sexual violence, the fear of loss of pride & honour develops negative attitudes towards girl child.

Government has initiated following measures to reverse this trend:

- Beti Bacho Beti Padho scheme to celebrate girl child & her education.
- Reconstitution of state & national committees under PCPNDT Act
- Prohibiting advertisements of sex selective abortions on Internet.
- Cooperate Dedicated PNDT cells to build a strong case against offenders of PCPNDT Act.

Give more space

4



Q12. 'Housing for All by 2020' is a pipedream, given the bias of housing sector in favour of the investors rather than the residents. Comment and discuss the ways through which the present government is planning to achieve this goal. (125 Marks)

The present deficit in housing sector in India is mainly because low cost housing has been neglected since it didn't bring good returns for investors. Housing sector has been seen as an investment destination more to satisfy the needs of the rich.

The current government plans to achieve the goal of Housing for All by 2020 through:

- Encouraging private players to develop low cost housing by giving them incentives like extra Floor Space Index (FSI), right to develop more area, extra Transferable Development Rights (TDR)
- Giving ~~upfront~~ subsidy to poor to encourage construction of permanent housing in the form of

Concessional interest rates.

- Engaging in Public Private Partnership (PPP) projects to ensure affordable housing.
- Bringing in Real Estate Developmental Bill to provide certainties to the real estate sector, protecting customers from fraudulent builders. This will also increase investments in real estate by big firms.

Government has <sup>relaxed</sup> increased the <sup>limits in</sup> ~~limits~~ in construction by reducing minimum builtup area requirement.

This goal can be achieved provided the government develops holistic planning of the sector not as a standalone issue.

Discuss the issue of reselling of allotted houses. Measures adopted by DDA and HUDA to curb it.

Q13. Globalisation has led to great convergence of desires and aspirations of people in developed and developing regions of the world. How does this change affect political and social behaviour of the people? Cite examples from India and abroad to explain it. (12.5 Marks)

Globalisation has led to Mixing of ideas across the world & hence people are wanting best of both worlds. This has affected social & political behaviour in following ways:

1) Developing countries:

1) Political: eg: People are getting more aware about rights & the need for increasing participation in democracy as was seen by second turnout in lok sabha elections in 2014 (66%)

2) Social: eg: movements for increased rights of women, for their better status.

② Similar movements for trans-genders.

③ Notion of gay, lesbian doesn't invite shocking facial expression.

Thus in these aspects the developing countries are learning towards developed countries.

B) Developed countries:

1) Political: ex: people in developed countries are raising a voice for the principle of common but differentiated Responsibility (CBDR) in climate change talks, showing solidarity with the cause of developing nation.

2) Social: ex: people have readily embraced soft power initiatives such as Yoga as was seen by remarkable success of international Yoga day on 21st June 2015.

This in these aspects the developed countries are leaning towards developing countries.

Q14. One of the most suffering lot in the rural and urban India today are the ageing people, mostly the parents of migrating skilled and unskilled workers. Enumerate some of the governmental and non-governmental initiatives to ameliorate their plight and suggest measures for their improvement. (12.5 Marks)

Ageing people are suffering in India because:

- They're left alone by children who've migrated away leaving them vulnerable & economically dependent.
- Their physical limitations make them feel disempowered in all aspects.
- The health problems at old age compound their misery.

Following initiatives have been taken to improve their conditions:

- Several old age homes have come up to provide care & treatment especially by NGOs.
- Government has started welfare schemes for aged e.g. schemes to provide old age equipment in Budget 2015.

Intro required

Mention govt. initiatives precisely

Following can be done to ameliorate their plight:

- Psychological counselling:  
To make them ~~realise~~ <sup>cope with</sup> the existing realities.
- Economic support:  
This can be done by increasing penetration of social security schemes - eg: Aral Pension Yojana.
- Social utility of the aged should be ensured so that they feel they've something to contribute to the society.

Affordable healthcare through schemes like Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY) & increasing healthcare infrastructure in rural areas.

Conclude

Q15. Women remain the 'second sex' even if they were economically empowered. Do you agree? Give arguments in favour of your opinion. (125 Marks)

Women are disempowered in Indian society in following ways.

- Economically
- Socially.  $\leftarrow$  Poor education, health, sexual violence.
- Historically - since ancient times.
- Politically - low political power; less number of women MP.

Thus, making them economically empowered won't alone improve their conditions completely because:

- The patrilachal attitudes which are root cause of above disempowerment still persists in Indian society.
- There Economic empowerment without social empowerment would mean her economic benefits are enjoyed by men.  
Women in rural areas submit their daily wage earnings to their husbands.
- Even in urban areas, where

women are economically empowered in the form of income, lack of property or assets in their name makes them vulnerable.

Hence women would remain second sex despite economic empowerment. To truly ensure gender equality, we must strive to change social attitudes, which can be done through increased education levels. Moreover, women should've physical safety to realise benefits of economic empowerment.

4

Ref. hints



Q16. SHGs are one of the most potent tool of the participatory development and democratic decentralization. Discuss with relevant examples. (12.5 Marks)

Self Help Groups (SHGs) are a potent tool for participatory development & democratic decentralisation because:

- They cater to the interests of like minded people interested in similar economic activities. Hence their collective voice attains more weight, increasing participation in development since they'll become assertive in those areas which affect them.

- They help in democratic decentralisation because micro level decisions taken at Panchayat levels are influenced by SHGs. eg: ~~instead~~ SHG in farm sector could want to know how fertilizer subsidy for seeds is distributed.

First explain problems with govt. programmes and policies

ex: SHGs involved in some MSMEs like cloth weaving would want to know how raw materials are priced and what are the processes behind it.

Thus SHGs help in economic empowerment which in turn translates into increasing assertiveness in the form of participatory development as SHGs are also being introduced to tools such as Social Audit which enhance accountability.

Q17. The Land Acquisition Bill has been a victim of political opportunism and further hindrance to it would delay public projects further. Outline the major issues of contention in the amendments to the previous bill and explain how they will affect infrastructure projects?

(12.5 Marks)

Following issues of contention are seen in the amendments to the previous land acquisition bill:

- Removal of Social Impact Assessment from select categories of projects.

— This, it is feared will lead to increased exploitation & vulnerabilities of the displaced since social impacts of acquisition won't be studied.

Moreover, the landless dependent on land would be severely affected.

- Removal of consent clause from select categories. This is feared will lead to forceful acquisition. It is seen as an anti-democratic step wherein people have a right to affect decisions which affect them.

- Issue of food security:

Amendments remove restrictions on acquisition of notified

Proper intro required

LARR 2013 provision

irrigated land, hence concerns about food production have been raised.

These amendments will have following effect on infrastructure projects:

- They'll make the time required for acquisition shorter.
- They will reduce costs of acquisition since no SIA is to be done.

Moreover, the opportunity costs will reduce, increasing viability of such projects.

However, removing consent clause could lead to end-user litigation, thereby stalling projects.

Thus, the amendments, although favour infrastructural projects have wider social implications.

Precisely discuss cost and delay issue with infrastructural projects in detail.

3

Q18. Growth is always accompanied by inequality, however, development is much more equitable and participatory. Do you agree and why? Explain with the help of examples. (12.5 Marks)

Growth essentially means economic growth i.e. rise in GDP of a nation.

Development on the other hand includes economic, social, political & inclusive growth.

Growth is often accompanied by inequality because the people that benefit from growth have often inherent socio-economic advantages leaving others impoverished.

Moreover growth is a capitalist or quasi-capitalist society & occurs on the base of class differentiation. eg: High Gini index of U.S.A.

However growth is not always accompanied with inequalities because the nature of growth matters. eg: Growth in Communist USSR had less inequality.

However development is more equitable because:

- Development tries to bridge the social inequalities which translate into income inequalities. eg increasing education levels to ensure better employment.
- Development involves distributive nature of the state. eg: Taxes are collected from rich to fund welfare programmes for poor.
- Development is generally inclusive because the state's non-partisan nature unlike that of markets.

Give example  
also.

Q19. 'A number of separate states have been carved out for Tribal population of India, ranging from northeast to central India, but these steps have not been able to address the real issues on ground'. Examine the major issues that affect Tribes of India and explain how the laws that were created to protect them have alienated them from rest of the society? (12.5 Marks)

Following issues still affect tribals despite creating separate states ostensibly to protect their interests:

- Land alienation (Jal-Jangal-Jameen)

Tribals have been displaced from their lands for developmental projects. This renders them socio-economically vulnerable. This

- occurs due to connivance of project developers & government officials. eg: Northeast India, mineral areas of Jharkhand

- Poor health & education:

This reduces their integration into mainstream since they lack basic infra social infrastructure. eg jobs created are not available to them.

- Poor infrastructure

This reduces their mobility & reduces chances of economic

Few related laws

Issue of land alienation and exploitation in spite of these laws in detail and analytically  
Eco. backwardness

upliftment since economic activities are not generated. ex: low power levels near low industrialisation

Several laws have been created to protect them ~~from~~ like Forests Rights Act, Panchayat Extensions to Scheduled - Areas Act.

These laws have alienated them from rest of the society because:

- It has perpetually created a distinct identity for tribals, this making integration with mainstream difficult.
- It has created suspicion in the minds of tribals due to poor implementation of such laws.

Thus such laws meant to protect them should be implemented in accordance with a spirit of the law.

Their dilemma of isolation and contact.



Q20. 'India's position hasn't improved in social indicators and its rank in HDI has also fallen over the year.' Given such a scenario, explain how the demographic dividend may become a liability for India in future? (125 Marks)

India flaunts a demographic dividend as about 60% of the population falls within the economically productive age group of 15-60 years.

However, given poor social indicators, it may become a liability for India because:

- Poor education level would mean low employability. This unemployment rates would rise exponentially.
- Such unemployment may create social tensions, hence crime rates could increase.
- Moreover, in near medium term, as the demographic dividend wanes, the proportion in old age group would increase. The availability of healthcare

Precisely explain with proper analysis and argument.  
Analysis of HDI related facts

facilities becomes a major concern. Moreover the government's burden on social security is bound to increase affecting the fiscal deficit scenario.

Hence to truly reap demographic dividend we must invest in social sector, focus on learning outcomes, skill development. Moreover the economy should produce adequate jobs to cater to the increased workforce.

3 1/2