

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES BASED PRACTICE QUESTIONS FOR UPSC MOCK INTERVIEW

Social issues

1. Do you agree that vigilantism is a good method of social control?
2. Easy access to pornographic media on mobile telephone has led to new and increasing phenomenon of sexual violence against women and children. Given this situation, how can this menace be curbed?
3. Anthropological or ethnic tourism is a kind of cultural trespass. Do you agree? Should such tourism be banned?
4. Do you think that this is high time formal sex education be a part of educational curriculum? Why?
5. Violent reaction against emigrants in different Indian states is a new and increasing tendency. Why is this happening? What needs to be done to curb this?
6. The increasing trend of Mcdonaldisation is leading to loss of immunity and health issues like obesity and disabilities? In this light how do you see government's desire to popularise indigenous dishes and food habits?
7. Do you agree that increasing popularity of computer games and digital avenues have shrunk space for natural childhood and development often leading to addiction and suicides? What measures should be taken to attract children to real sports? How do you see "Aaokhelein" initiative of government in this regard?
8. Organic food should be the rule rather than a speciality. How do you react to this proposition?
9. The present political culture has degenerated into a sludge fest due to irresponsible and dishonest media, especially social media. Do you agree? How can the situation be improved?
10. The rising intolerance against journalists, authors and film makers is not only against freedom of speech but also against change and progress? Do you agree? Why is it happening in India more in recent times and how can it be curbed?

National issues

11. What do you think about reservation genie coming out of bottle every time in a new avatar in India? Why is the issue frequently raked up by different communities? Why governments are ever keen to oblige? What is the constitutional position and vision in this regard?
12. Does Triple Talaq bill really aim gender equality in minority community?
13. Should faith prevail in the Sabarimala Temple issue over gender equality and constitutional provisions?
14. Will it be a good set a good idea to bring ordinance or law by government because courts are inordinately delaying judgement on the issue of Ram temple?
15. What are the advantages and disadvantages of populist visions to address farmers indebtedness?
16. Beautiful visions like Ayushmann Bharat and loans in 59 minutes are "quick fix" approaches to big problems. Don't you think that health, education and employment need much more rational, realistic and sound strategy?

17. What do you mean by Urban Naxals? Do they really exist or they are political creations?
18. Is absolving the perpetrators of gruesome crimes like riots or stage-managed encounter killing a shameful failure of prosecution system and judiciary?
19. Should it be allowed to make a biographical movie on a political figure on the basis of a book whose facts are not verifiable and which might have a bearing on electoral results?
20. Will a proactive police or armed forces action against the misguided youth of Jammu and Kashmir be able to end anti-India forces or leave permanent scars inspiring and attracting more youths to anti-Indian sentiments?
21. Should the recruitment in Judiciary be assigned to a National Judicial Commission or be left to courts?
22. Should there be a minimum qualification for nominations for assembly or parliamentary elections?
23. The National Citizens Register of Citizen may be a good idea but given the combined geography and history and distress movements in the past especially in border regions at the times of partition and wars, it needs to give ample scope to the settlers to claim their citizen's rights. Do you agree?
24. Kartarpur corridor has all potential to become a terrorist gateway. What is your comment?
25. Will death sentence to child rape criminals stop the menace?
26. Demand for the status of "special state" should not be trashed altogether, but we need a detailed and transparent criteria for that. Comment.
27. River water disputes in a federal country like India occurs not because there is no provision in Constitution but because politicians ignite and aggravate such feelings. Do you agree?
28. Renaming of places or buildings for furthering political agenda of ruling parties is a crime against historiography and identity of the place and its people. Do you agree?
29. Elections are very costly affair, therefore state assembly and national parliament election should take place together. What is your stand?
30. Is India's lower ranking in gender inequality index due to poor representation of women in parliament and assemblies? Should we reserve half the seats of parliament and assemblies for women?
31. Should career politicians be stopped to be nominated as governors of state because they play to the tunes of the ruling party?
32. Do you think that defense procurements should not be scrutinised by the opposition parties and public?
33. What is the implication of court's judgement on sphere of power of Delhi's elected government?
34. Should the use of public space for doing 'Namaj' be completely banned and prohibited?
35. Utterances of senior defense officials should be measured and non-political, but in recent times this is not the case with India. Do you agree?

Indian Economy

36. Does India need Statue of Unity? What do you think whether the Statue of Unity is economically viable or it is just a politics or political event?
37. Give an example of dual economy in Indian context. On one hand we see higher GDP, higher ranking in Ease of Doing Business and on another hand we see low ranking in Hunger Index, HDI ranking. Why?

38. If government follows the provision of Universal Basic Income to eradicating poverty instead of poverty alleviation programmes, will it provide a better solution or not?
39. Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) or NSSO? Which source you would prefer is better to collect data; to estimate jobs growth in India?
40. Do you think loan waiver can be used as a long term solution to overcome agrarian distress ? If you have any better prescription please suggest
41. Why India's balance of trade has a tendency to be adverse notwithstanding higher or lower international POL prices?
42. The debate on back series GDP data is turning political; it should rather be rational and economic to know the truth. What is your take?
43. What are the advantages and disadvantages of present government's efforts to shift subsidies from consumption to investment?
44. Why automation could be a threat to India's growth. Should India prevent industrial revolution 4.0 to realize its demographic dividend?
45. Which option will work in India's favour a few but more realistic welfare programmes or having multiple programmes which have poor outcomes?
46. How can India benefit from space left by China as it rises in value chain in next level of industrialization?
47. Will it be appropriate to say that India has been the stumbling block in realizing the consensual conclusion of WTO's Doha round?
48. What are the main reasons of NPAs in the banking system of India? Who is to be blamed? What are the measures taken by government to address these problems in recent times?
49. Should the cash reserves of the Reserve Bank of India be released to realize the goal of fiscal consolidation?
50. Do you think that the autonomy of the central bank of India, i.e. the RBI has come under unprecedented duress? Why do people think so?
51. Demonetization was a monumental mistake? Do you agree?
52. Explain the economic and political implications of a hasty GST regime adopted by India?
53. On what basis the Prime Minister of India did promise to double the income of the farmers by 2022? Do you think that it a hollow or unrealistic promise?
54. Do you think that India should adopt Basel 3 to resolve its NPA problem and restore the health of its banking system? Give reasons.
55. Given the protectionist wave in the present times, will you endorse domestic demand led growth strategy for India rather than export led growth?
56. Do you agree that India should not go for bullet rail project until and unless the general railways improve their access, quality and services?
57. Despite knowing well that non-farm activities and especially progress of food processing and agro-based industries can improve the plight of rural areas, why successive governments have failed in doing so?
58. What is the comparative state of Research and Development in India vi's-a-vi's other emerging economies? Why India has failed to be a leader in this regard?
59. How has the third generation of economic reforms fared in recent years? What is desirable to be done additionally on priority basis in this regard?

60. Undue focus on fiscal consolidation in India has jeopardised rural and infrastructure projects in India. Do you agree?
61. Why does India need a second green revolution? What can be done in the second green revolution in India to make development more sustainable and environmentally responsible?
62. Do you agree that the issues of black money and money laundering are still marring the prospects of capital formation and development in India? What needs to be done?
63. Why the twin deficit problem is lingering in India? How can India come out of these problems?
64. What are the compelling issues before the 15th Finance Commission in India?
65. What has been the improvement in India with regard to competitive and cooperative federalism?
66. Do you think there is an urgency in India to shift from a 1-dimensional measurement of poverty to a multi-dimensional measurement of poverty? What development has taken place so far in India in this regard?
67. Why despite a very high share of the services sector in GDP of India, the sectors quality and outcomes are immensely poor?
68. Make in India remains a running horse on paper while skill India remains a pipe dream. Do you agree?
69. Do you agree that Environmental Pollution in India has mainly resulted from haphazard industrialisation and urbanisation? What are the steps taken by government to improve energy mix and waste management to reduce environmental pollution?

International issues

70. What is the truth in China's debt trap diplomacy? Will BRI suffer a setback due to impression of debt trap diplomacy?
71. Why has US referred to Indo-Pacific strategy in place of Asia-Pacific strategy in its official documents? What does it mean for India strategically?
72. What are the issues involved in the South China Sea? Can it be described a hot spot with possibility of a full-fledged military conflict? Why?
73. What is the prospect of US-North Korea agreement? Will it be able to mitigate the nuclear danger in the region?
74. Britons are immensely divided on Brexit and so are the British politicians as well as the international community including the US. What is your assessment of the prospects of Brexit?
75. Why is the crisis in Syria continuing despite concern expressed by the world powers?
76. Who are fighting in Yemen and for what?
77. What are the implications of shifting US embassy to Jerusalem? Is it a good move?
78. What are the new reforms expressed with regard to China's strategic vision and so called "new normal" in the nineteenth congress and Xi Jinping's recent addresses?
79. Do you agree that Chinese vision of becoming a super power would crumble due to its unviable projects under Silk Road and Maritime Silk Route?
80. What is the reason behind a big migration stream moving from Central America to the US? Do you think US reactions and responses are unbecoming of a super power?
81. What is your take if it is said, " US is a waning power while China is a rising power?"
82. Why Jamal Khashoggi was recently in news? Why is there rising trend of intolerance against journalists throughout the world? How the world has responded in this regard?

83. Who got Nobel Peace Prize 2018 and for what? What do you understand by use of sexual violence as weapon of war? Give some examples?
84. What is Yellow Vest movement and what are its reasons?
85. What is Northern Corridor? Will this corridor be possible and if it becomes a reality, what will be its strategic and environmental impacts?
86. What were the main themes of the latest World Economic Forum?
87. What were the issues which marred the latest APEC summit?
88. Will Africa ever be prosperous given its huge natural resources? In this regard can you compare the extent and nature of Western and Chinese interventions in the continent?
89. What were the achievements of COP24 in Katowice in 2018?
90. What were the points discussed in the November 2018 ASEAN Summit?

India and World

91. What steps have been taken by India to counter increasing sphere of influence of China in the Indian Ocean region?
92. What are the potential advantages of RCEP to India? Instead won't it be better to join comprehensive and progressive TPP?
93. The neighbourhood first policy of India has largely failed to counter Chinese influence in its backyard? Why?
94. India's inability to take the SriLankan economic crisis and new government in Maldives would have severe strategic implications. Evaluate.
95. The Chabahar project would open new trading routes and strategic access to India. How?
96. Why has Pakistan dithered from giving MFN status to India?
97. Why SAFTA has not achieved its potential as a free trade area? What could be done to realise its potential?
98. How can India cope with an economic ban on Iran, its one of the largest source of oil imports? Should the US dictates be accepted?
99. In recent times India's drift towards US in strategic collaboration has pushed Russia to collaborate with Pakistan. What are the implications of this drift? How should India counter- balance its strategic dilemmas?
100. BIMSTEC could be a counter to China's increasing influence in South and Southeastern regions, but its sluggish progress leaves no space for any hope? Do you agree?
