

CC/M/EXAM.
2020
GENERAL STUDIES
PAPER—II

Time : 3 hours]

[Full Marks : 250

All questions are to be attempted. The number of marks carried by a question is indicated against it.

1. "Constitution is workable; it is flexible and it is strong enough to hold the country together both in peace time and in war time," (Dr. B.R. Ambedkar). Substantiate the statement with suitable examples. (150 words) 10
2. Has India's response to Covid-19 pandemic shifted the balance of its federal structure? Justify your arguments. (150 words) 10
3. What does separation of powers mean and how does it work in practice? (150 words) 10
4. Some of the key features of Ireland's Constitution were incorporated in the Constitution of India. Identify those features and examine their significance. (150 words) 10
5. How does the Indian Parliament exercise control over the Executive? Discuss. (150 words) 10
6. "Farmers groups/associations have limited role in shaping India's agricultural policy." Discuss. (150 words) 10
7. Examine the importance of Article 326 of the Constitution and the Representation of the People Act 1950 and 1951, which are regarded as the key pillars of electoral exercises. (150 words) 10
8. Discuss the role and functions of the Information Commissions, as per the Right to Information Act, 2005 and identify the constraints the commissions confront in implementing RTI Act. (150 words) 10

9. Analyse the powers of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) and critically examine its role in upholding human rights in the country. (150 words) 10
10. "Utility of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in public distribution system has created both benefits and challenges for the beneficiaries." Elaborate. (150 words) 10
11. "The positive intervention by the Self-Help Groups (SHG) has transformed the socio-economic development of rural India." Comment. (250 words) 15
12. The atrocities against SCs and STs are increasing in the country and even the conviction rates remain low. Identify the reasons and suggest measures to end atrocities against SCs/STs. (250 words) 15
13. Compare and contrast India's National Education Policy (NEP) of 1986 and 2020. Also examine the main challenges for the successful implementation of NEP-2020. (250 words) 15
14. As per the Global Hunger Index Report 2020, India is positioned 94th among the 107 countries. Identify the reasons for India trailing and suggest measures to eliminate hunger in the country. (250 words) 15
15. The 'Electoral Bonds' are regarded as victory for transparency. However, it is alleged by certain political parties that it has resulted in money laundering and destroyed transparency in funding of the political parties. In this context, discuss the merits and demerits of Electoral Bonds. (250 words) 15
16. Is a strong civil servant, a threat to democracy? Discuss. (250 words) 15
17. Although, Narendra Modi led government made a promising start with 'Neighbourhood first policy', but it is increasingly confronted with resentment in the South Asian Region. Discuss. (250 words) 15
18. Do you agree with the view that, India not signing the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) in November 2020, was a short sighted decision? Justify your arguments. (250 words) 15
19. China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), is regarded as a game changer for the world economy. However, India has not joined the BRI and in this regard, examine the arguments in favour and against India's joining BRI. (250 words) 15
20. To certain extent, the United States has undermined the role of United Nations (UN). Despite this, UN matters more than ever before for the United States. Elaborate. (250 words) 15