



ANALYSIS GS PAPER II MAINS 2018

Year wise weightage → Category ↓	2015	2016	2017	2018
Polity	100	100	90	125
Welfare	37.5	50	60	60
Governance	62.5	50	50	15
IR	50	50	50	50
Total marks	250	250	250	250

Topic	Subtopic	2015	2016	2017	2018
Polity	Basic Str.	37.5	12.5	15	15
	Executive	0	0	0	45
	Legislature & Elections	0	12.5	40	10
	Power Sep.	12.5	12.5	10	15
	Fed-Local	25	37.5	10	0
	Bodies	25	25	15	40
Weightage in marks		100	100	90	125 ↑

Welfare	Welfare & Protection	0	0	10	25
	Poverty & Hunger	12.5	0	25	25
	Edu, Health, HDI	25	37.5	10	10
	Eco. Reform	0	12.5	15	0
Weightage in marks		37.5	50	60	60

Governance	Accountability	25	25	10	15
	NGO, Pressure groups, bureaucracy	37.5	25	40	0
Weightage		62.5	50	50	15

IR	Neighbours	25	12.5	10	0
	Non-Neighbours & Diaspora	12.5	12.5	30	35
	Inst., Group and Agreements	12.5	25	10	15
Weightage in marks		50	50	50	50

**ANALYSIS OF GS II QUESTION PAPER
(MAINS-2018)**

1. In the light of recent controversy regarding the use of Electronic Voting Machines (EVM), what are the challenges before the Election Commission of India to ensure the trustworthiness of elections in India?

BEFORE PRE 2018 TEST 7, QUES. 5

Q. The recent allegations related to tampering of EVMs and other related developments have recast doubt on the capability of the Election Commission to conduct free and fair elections which are considered as basic tenet of democracy. Can use of Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) would make election process more transparent?

**BEFORE PRE 2018 ED 5 TOPIC 1: RELIABILITY OF EVMS: WITH OR WITHOUT VVPAT
BEFORE PRE 2017 ED 17 TOPIC 1: CREDIBILITY OF EVMS INTACT OR TAMPERED WITH?**

2. Whether National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC) can enforce the implementation of constitutional reservation for the Scheduled Castes in the religious minority institutions? Examine.

AFTER PRE MOCK TEST 2, QUES. 1

Q. The issues and problems of social and educational backwardness are going to be more effectively addressed by the National Commission for Backward Commission as it now enjoys equal status vis a vis the SC ST Commission. Examine.

3. Under what circumstances can the Financial Emergency be proclaimed by the President of India? What consequences follow when such a declaration remains in force?
4. Why do you think the committees are considered to be useful for parliamentary work? Discuss, in this context, the role of the Estimates Committee.

BEFORE PRE TEST 5, QUES. 19

Q. Differentiate the Parliamentary Standing Committees from that of the Cabinet Committees. Discuss their significance in the functioning of their respective organs.

5. "The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) has a very vital role to play." Explain how this is reflected in the method and terms of his appointment as well as the range of powers he can exercise.

BEFORE PRE TEST 6, QUES. 14

Q. "The CAG's role is not to question the government's mandate to formulate policies but to see if these policies are being implemented in right manner." Critically Examine.

BEFORE PRE TEST 7, QUES. 15

Q. What do you understand by the term social audit? Why it has become popular? How it is different from CAG's audit?

2015 ED 27 TOPIC 1: THE DEBATE ON MAKING CAG MORE ACCOUNTABLE

6. "Policy contradictions among various competing sectors and stakeholders have resulted in inadequate 'protection and prevention of degradation to environment.'" Comment with relevant illustrations.

BEFORE PRE 2018 TEST 8, QUES. 12

Q. Critically comment on the role of the National Green Tribunal in administering environmental justice. Is there any issue of accountability and over activism? Explain.

AFTER PRE 2018 TEST 5, QUES. 7

Q. "More than a Green Tribunal, India needs a separate regulatory body for effective regulation of environment and promotion of environment governance." Argue the statement in the light of worsening conflicts between environment and development.

2018 ED 4 TOPIC 6: DELHI–MUMBAI INDUSTRIAL CORRIDOR: ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

2018 ED 16 TOPIC 7: ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE INDEX 2018: INDIA AT THE BOTTOM OF LIST

7. **Appropriate local community level healthcare intervention is a prerequisite to achieve 'Health for All' in India. Explain.**

BEFORE PRE TEST 8, QUES. 10

Q. "India cannot have "health for all" unless traditional health system is integrated with modern health system." Do you agree with the statement? Give justification to your view.

2018 ED 15 TOPIC 6: HEALTHCARE CRISIS IN INDIA: IS NHPS RIGHT WAY TO MOVE FORWARD?

2018 ED 27 TOPIC 1: THE SOCIAL GRADIENT TO HEALTH

8. **E governance is not only about utilization of the power of new technology, but also much about critical importance of the 'use value' of information. Explain.**

BEFORE PRE TEST 7, QUES. 3

Q. The success of e governance depends on bridging digital divide in the country. Elucidate.

AFTER PRE TEST 5, QUES. 1

Q. Discuss how 'Digital India' is transforming e governance challenges into opportunities?

2017 AFTER PRE ED 1 TOPIC 1: THE BIG DATA AND GOVERNANCE

2016 ED 14 TOPIC 5: TECHNOLOGY AND POLITICS

9. **"India's relations with Israel have, of late, acquired a depth and diversity, which cannot be rolled back." Discuss.**

AFTER PRE TEST 6, QUES. 16

Q. "India's policies towards Israel and Palestine are shifting from mere symbolism towards one driven by substantial outcomes". Discuss with examples.

2018 ED 10 TOPIC 6: INDIA-ISRAEL RELATIONS GATHERING MOMENTUM

2017 AFTER PRE ED 2 TOPIC 9: PM MODI VISIT TO ISRAEL

10. A number of outside powers have entrenched themselves in Central Asia, which is a zone of interest to India. Discuss the implications, in this context, of India's joining the Ashgabat Agreement, 2018.

2018 ED 22 TOPIC 8: SCO SUMMIT IN QINGDAO: INDIA'S PATH TO EURASIA

11. Whether the Supreme Court Judgement (July 2018) can settle the political tussle between the Lt. Governor and elected government of Delhi? Examine.

AFTER PRE TEST 4, QUES. 4

Q. "The office of Governor remains continuously a bone of contention between centre and states and therefore, its solution doesn't lie in merely laying down guidelines, but rather changing the design of the Constitution." Comment.

Note: In discussion, it was clearly mentioned by Sir that SC judgement would not be sufficient for the resolution of this tussle

12. How far do you agree with the view that tribunals curtail the jurisdiction of ordinary courts? In view of the above, discuss the constitutional validity and competency of the tribunals in India.

BEFORE PRE TEST 5, QUES.15

Q. The role of tribunals as quasi-judicial bodies has not been satisfactory. Examine.

BEFORE PRE TEST 6, QUES. 19

Q. Recently government has merged eight tribunals (quasi-judicial bodies) to rationalise their working. Discuss the need and impact of such reorganisation of tribunals.

2018 ED 7 TOPIC 5: MERGER OF TRIBUNALS: PANACEA TO MALFUNCTIONING?

2015 ED 14 TOPIC 13: COURT AND TRIBUNAL IN SYNC

13. Indian and USA are two large democracies. Examine the basic tenets on which the two political systems are based.

14. How is the Finance Commission of India constituted? What do you know about the terms of reference of the recently constituted Finance Commission? Discuss.

BEFORE PRE TEST 5, QUES. 2

Q. The road ahead for 15th Finance Commission is to strengthen cooperative federalism and improve the quality of public spending in the wake of coming of the GST regime in the union state fiscal relations. Discuss.

AFTER PRE TEST 4, QUES. 16

Q. It is not the methodology of the Finance Commission rather its term of reference which creates differences and conflict between union and states. Critically Examine.

2018 ED 6 TOPIC 2: 15TH FINANCE COMMISSION

2018 ED 22 TOPIC 6: THE NORTH SOUTH DIVIDE ON 15TH FINANCE COMMISSION

15. Assess the importance of the Panchayat system in India as a part of local government. Apart from government grants, what sources the Panchayats can look out for financing developmental projects?

2018 ED 24 TOPIC 1: EVALUATING THE PANCHAYATI RAJ INSTITUTIONS AT 25

16. Multiplicity of various commissions for the vulnerable sections of the society leads to problems of overlapping jurisdiction and duplication of functions. Is it better to merge all commissions into an umbrella Human Rights Commission? Argue your case.

AFTER PRE TEST 4, QUES. 9

Q. For achieving the objectives like equality and social justice in letter and spirit, is it imperative to constitute an Equal Opportunity Commission? Justify your view.

2015 ED 20 TOPIC 4: EQUAL OPPORTUNITY LAW A MUST

Note: In discussion, it was specifically mentioned by Sir that in ultimate sense, all the commissions should be merged under one umbrella commission to improve effectiveness and efficiency

17. 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?

BEFORE PRE TEST 6, QUES. 6

Q. Highlight the reasons for India's poor ranking in Global Hunger Index. Examine the recent steps taken by the government for improving its performance on this Index.

AFTER PRE TEST 6, QUES. 4

Q. India is improving on the Ease of Doing Business but not on the Global Hunger Index. Explain this paradox and discuss strategies to address the poor performance on the Hunger Index.

2018 ED 3 TOPIC 3: GLOBAL HUNGER INDEX 2017

18. The Citizen's Charter is an ideal instrument of organisational transparency and accountability, but it has its own limitations. Identify the limitations and suggest measures for greater effectiveness of the Citizen's Charters.

BEFORE PRE TEST 7, QUES. 7

Q. "Citizen's charter aims for citizen friendly administration." In the light of this statement, discuss the hindrances in achieving such aim.

AFTER PRE TEST 5, QUES.10

Q. "The aim of citizen's charter is to establish citizen friendly government that remains more an ideal than a reality." Argue.

19. What are the key areas of reform if the WTO has to survive in the present context of 'Trade War', especially keeping in mind the interest of India?

BEFORE PRE TEST 8, QUES. 19

Q. The WTO's Doha Development deadlock threatens to end globalisation. Give your argument.

2018 ED 6 TOPIC 5: WTO 11TH MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE

2018 ED 18 TOPIC 7: THE GLOBAL TRADE WAR

20. In what ways would the ongoing US Iran Nuclear Pact Controversy affect the national interest of India? How should India respond to its situation?

2018 ED 1 TOPIC 7: DECERTIFICATION OF THE IRAN NUCLEAR DEAL & ITS IMPLICATIONS

2018 ED 23 TOPIC 4: THE ISSUE OF IRAN NUCLEAR DEAL