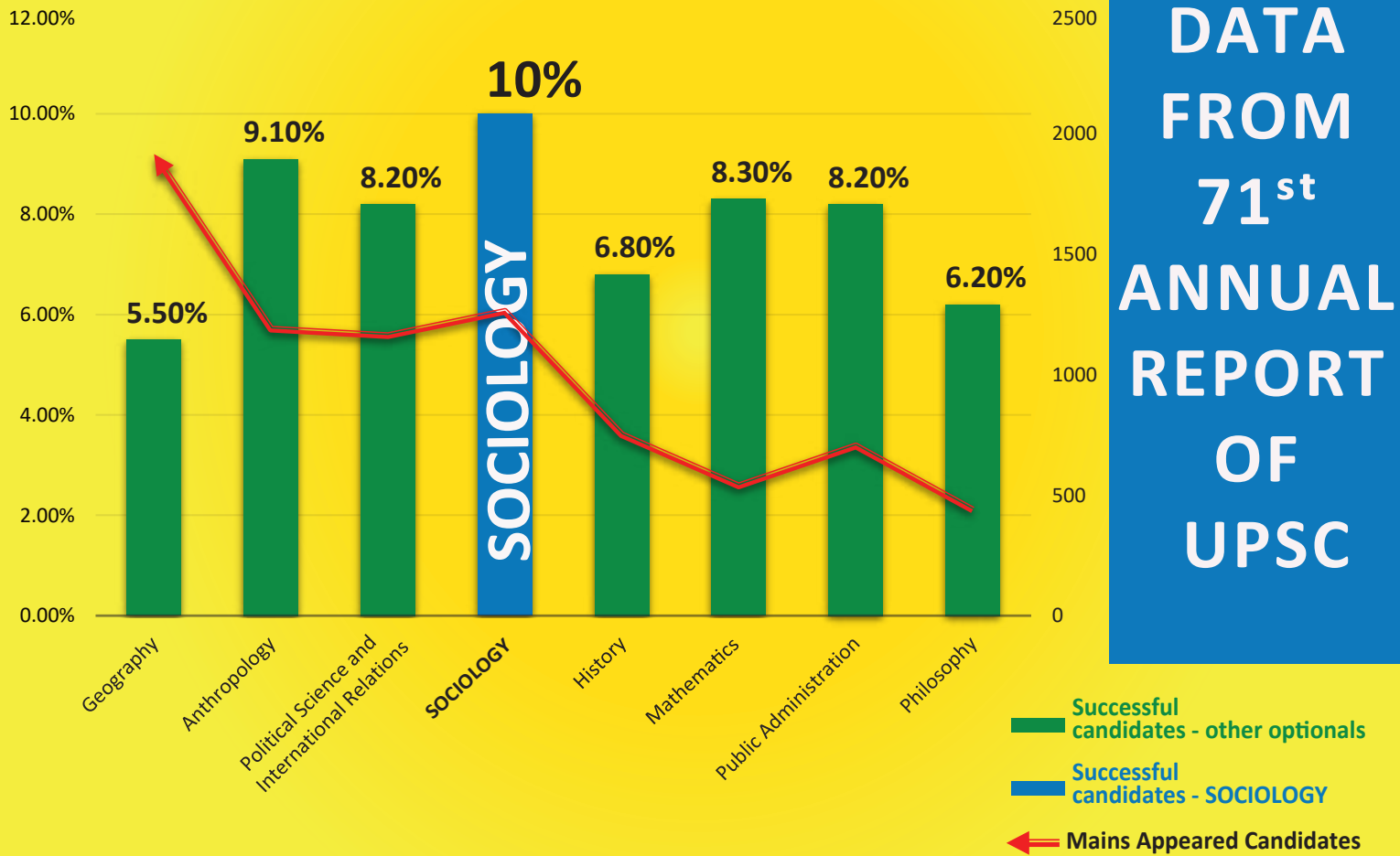




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ANGELINE RENITA IAS
SOCIOLOGY SCORE **256/500**
UPSC CSE 2021

Sivarajavel sir helped me to secure more marks in Sociology Optional. Standard introduction and Conclusion given by sir helped me to complete the paper on time in examination .

I never thought i could cross the 300+ mark barrier in Sociology, but with Sivarajavel sir's class, guidance, test series, discussion of answers and rewriting of answers i was able to score more than 300.



ANKIT ASOKAN IPS
SOCIOLOGY SCORE **303/500**
UPSC CSE 2016



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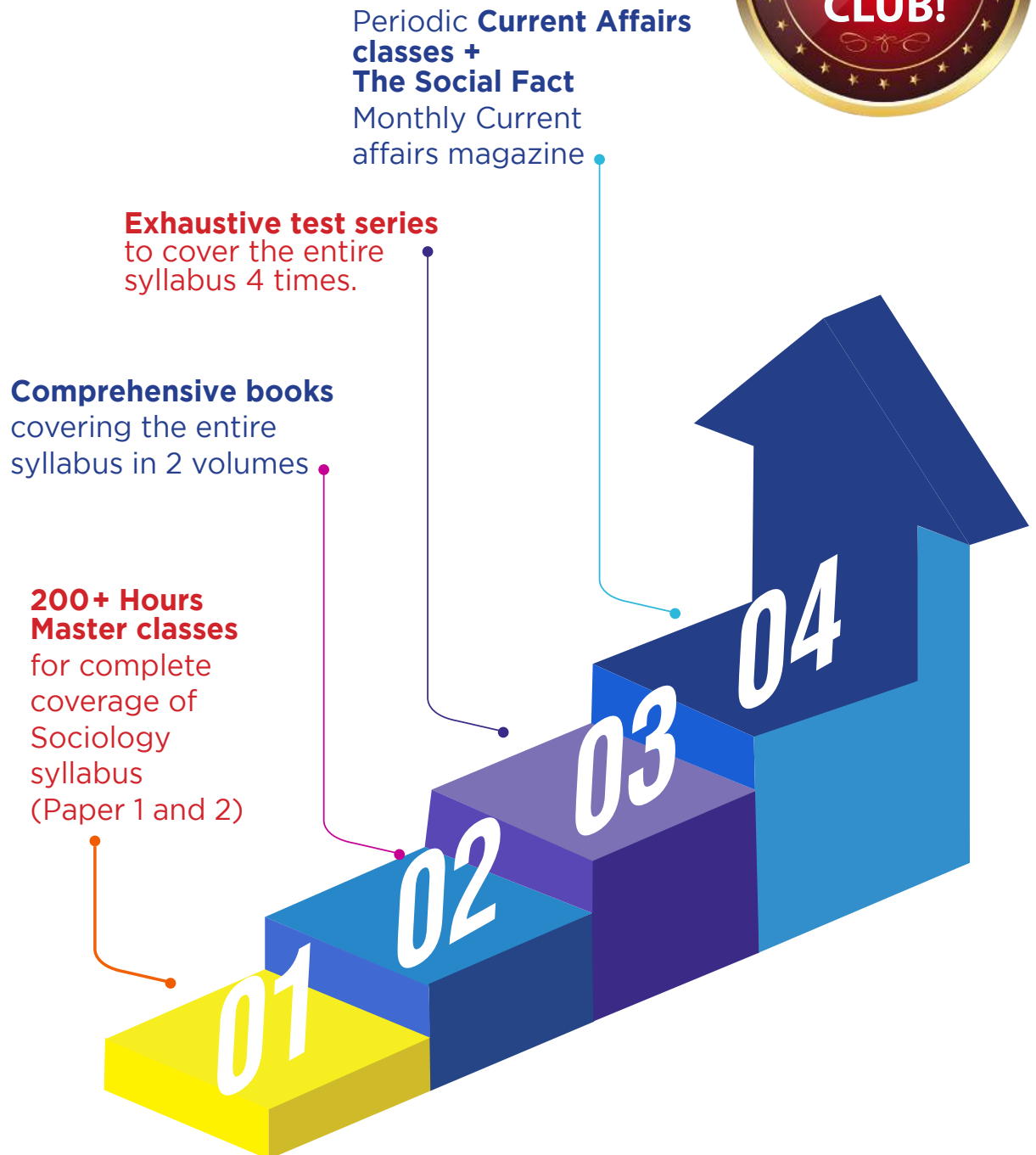
SHANMUGA VALLI IRS
SOCIOLOGY SCORE **303/500**
UPSC CSE 2020

Main reason for me clearing the Civil Service Exam is Sociology Optional. Thank you very much for Sivarajavel sir for guiding me to success.

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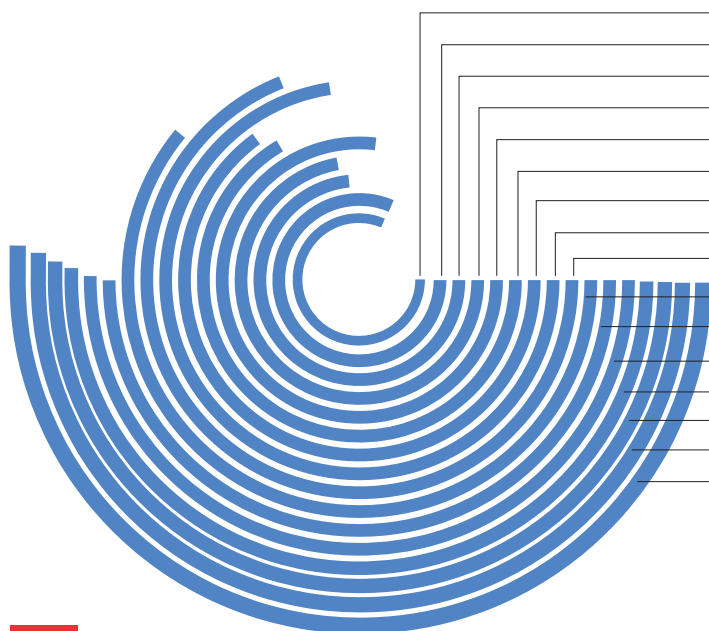
2. **Daily answer Writing** with Evaluation by the Mentor himself.
3. Mr.S.SIVARAJAVEL's **Personalized mentorship** till final selections
4. **Hit list** -Predicting UPSC Sociology >95% for 14 consecutive years
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PROFILE OF **S. SIVARAJAVEL**

Maker of all India Sociology
Toppers since 2011

1 HE HAS PRODUCED ALL INDIA SOCIOLOGY TOPPERS SINCE 2011



NAME	SOCIOLOGY MARKS	YEAR
Mr. S. Sai Murali, IFS	321/500	2019
Ms. E.G. Shunmuga Valli	303/500	2020
Mr. Ankit Asokan, IPS	303/500	2016
Ms. Priyanka Bothra, IRS	289/500	2017
Mr. Atul Kulkarni, IPS	286/500	2014
Mr. Vasanth Meshach, IIS	284/500	2017
Mr. T. Dhilipkumar, IDAS	283/500	2018
Ms. S.S. Shobika IAS	275/500	2019
Ms. M. Thamarai Priya	274/500	2020
Mr. G. Subramaniyan, IRS	272/500	2014
Dr. R. Vaithinathan, IAS	262/500	2015
Ms. Angelin Renita, IAS	256/500	2021
Ms. Sharanya Ari, IAS	256/500	2015
Mr. S. Selvanagarathinam, IPS	240/500	2013
Mr. T. Ramkumar, IFS	198/300	2011
Mr. R. Baskaran, IPS	197/300	2012

2 HE HAS PRODUCED TAMIL NADU TOPPERS IN 7 CONSECUTIVE YEARS

- Ms. Ms. Angeline Renita R, IAS 2021-2022 AIR -338/ Tamil Nadu Rank-6
- Ms. E.G. Shunmuga Valli, IRS 2020-2021 AIR -108/ Tamil Nadu Rank-5
- Ms. S. Swetha, IRS 2019-2020 AIR -251/ Tamil Nadu Rank-7
- Ms. S.S. Shobika, IAS 2019-2020 AIR -504/ Tamil Nadu Rank-10
- Mr. M. Manoj Prabakar, IPS 2018-2019 AIR -230/ Tamil Nadu Rank-5
- Ms. D. Dharmala Shri, IAS 2018-2019 AIR -409/ Tamil Nadu Rank-10
- Mr. M. Sivaguru Prabakaran, IAS 2017-2018 AIR -101/ Tamil Nadu Rank-3
- Mr. M. Pratap, IAS 2016-2017 AIR -21/ Tamil Nadu Rank-1
- Ms. Sharanya Ari, IAS 2015-2016 AIR -7/ Tamil Nadu Rank-1
- Mr. M. Vaithinathan, IAS 2015-2016 AIR -37/ Tamil Nadu Rank-2

3 HE HAS DEMYSTIFIED THE MYTH OF PREDICTING THE UNPREDICTABLE >95% DIRECT QUESTIONS IN UPSC SOCIOLOGY OPTIONALS FROM THE HIT LIST FOR CONSECUTIVELY FOR 14 YEARS

4 ONE AMONG THE FEW TEACHERS IN THE ENTIRE NATION TO HAVE MENTORED MORE THAN **9000+ STUDENTS SPANNING OVER 30,000+ HOURS** IN UPSC CSE SOCIOLOGY OPTIONAL.

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RegularBatch-I

Day	Class Timing
Monday to Thursday	5:30 PM to 8:00 PM
Starts On	3 rd July 2023
Mode	Offline / Online

Weekend Batch-I

Day	Class Timing
Saturday & Sunday	9:00 AM to 2:00 PM
Starts On	19 th Aug 2023
Mode	Offline / Online

RegularBatch-II

Day	Class Timing
Monday to Thursday	11:30 PM to 2:00 PM
Starts On	October 2 nd week 2023
Mode	Offline / Online

Fees Details : New Students : ₹ 40,000/-, Old Students : ₹ 35,000/-
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Phase 2	June 2023 to September 2023 (12 tests)
Fees	10,000
Valid	Only upto September 30th 2023

TEST BATCH-II

Phase 1	July 2023 to October 2023 (12 tests)
Phase 2	June 2024 to September 2024 (12 tests)
Valid	Upto september 30th 2024

TEST BATCH-III

Phase 1	October 2023 to December 2023 (12 tests)
Phase 2	June 2024 to September 2024 (12 tests)
Valid	Only upto September 30th 2024

TEST BATCH-IV

Phase 1	November 2023 to January 2024 (12 tests)
Phase 2	June 2024 to September 2024 (12 tests)
Valid	Only upto September 30th 2024

Test Batch Deliverables:

- UPSC standard Model answers will be provided through classroom/Online Discussion of our tests for Test Batch -I & II
- For Test batch III & IV discussion will be via recorded videos only
- Pointers to be mailed for all the answers

Fees Details for Phase-I & Phase -II

New Students : ₹ 20,000/-, Old Students : ₹ 18,000/-

Fees inclusive of GST & Study materials

Sociology Optional Syllabus

Paper - I

FUNDAMENTALS OF SOCIOLOGY

1. **Sociology - The Discipline:**

- (a) Modernity and social changes in Europe and emergence of sociology.
- (b) Scope of the subject and comparison with other social sciences.
- (c) Sociology and common sense.

2. **Sociology as Science:**

- (a) Science, scientific method and critique.
- (b) Major theoretical strands of research methodology.
- (c) Positivism and its critique. (d) Fact value and objectivity.
- (e) Non- positivist methodologies.

3. **Research Methods and Analysis:**

- (a) Qualitative and quantitative methods.
- (b) Techniques of data collection.
- (c) Variables, sampling, hypothesis, reliability and validity.

4. **Sociological Thinkers:**

- (a) Karl Marx- Historical materialism, mode of production, alienation, class struggle.
- (b) Emile Durkheim- Division of labour, social fact, suicide, religion and society.
- (c) Max Weber- Social action, ideal types, authority, bureaucracy, protestant ethic and the spirit of capitalism.
- (d) Talcott Parsons- Social system, pattern variables.
- (e) Robert K. Merton- Latent and manifest functions, conformity and deviance, reference groups.
- (f) Mead - Self and identity.

5. **Stratification and Mobility:**

- (a) Concepts- equality, inequality, hierarchy, exclusion, poverty and deprivation.
- (b) Theories of social stratification- Structural functionalist theory, Marxist theory, Weberian theory.
- (c) Dimensions – Social stratification of class, status groups, gender, ethnicity and race.
- (d) Social mobility-open and closed systems, types of mobility, sources and causes of mobility.

6. **Works and Economic Life:**

- (a) Social organization of work in different types of society- slave society, feudal society, industrial/capitalist society.
- (b) Formal and informal organization of work.
- (c) Labour and society.

7. **Politics and Society:**

- (a) Sociological theories of power.
- (b) Power elite, bureaucracy, pressure groups, and political parties.
- (c) Nation, state, citizenship, democracy, civil society, ideology.
- (d) Protest, agitation, social movements, collective action, revolution.

8. **Religion and Society:**

- (a) Sociological theories of religion.
- (b) Types of religious practices: animism, monism, pluralism, sects, cults.
- (c) Religion in modern society: religion and science, secularization, religious revivalism, fundamentalism.



9. Systems of Kinship:

- (a) Family, household, marriage.
- (b) Types and forms of family.
- (c) Lineage and descent.
- (d) Patriarchy and sexual division of labour.
- (e) Contemporary trends.

10. Social Change in Modern Society:

- (a) Sociological theories of social change.
- (b) Development and dependency.
- (c) Agents of social change.
- (d) Education and social change.
- (e) Science, technology and social change.

Paper - II

INDIAN SOCIETY: STRUCTURE AND CHANGE

A. Introducing Indian Society:

(i) Perspectives on the study of Indian society:

- (a) Indology (GS. Ghurye).
- (b) Structural functionalism (M N Srinivas).
- (c) Marxist sociology (A R Desai).

(ii) Impact of colonial rule on Indian society:

- (a) Social background of Indian nationalism.
- (b) Modernization of Indian tradition.
- (c) Protests and movements during the colonial period.
- (d) Social reforms.

B. Social Structure:

- (i) Rural and Agrarian Social Structure:
 - (a) The idea of Indian village and village studies.
 - (b) Agrarian social structure - evolution of land tenure system, land reforms.

(ii) Caste System:

- (a) Perspectives on the study of caste systems: GS Ghurye, M N Srinivas, Louis Dumont, Andre Beteille.
- (b) Features of caste system.
- (c) Untouchability - forms and perspectives.

(iii) Tribal communities in India:

- (a) Definitional problems.
- (b) Geographical spread.
- (c) Colonial policies and tribes.
- (d) Issues of integration and autonomy.

(iv) Social Classes in India:

- (a) Agrarian class structure.
- (b) Industrial class structure.
- (c) Middle classes in India.

(v) Systems of Kinship in India:

- (a) Lineage and descent in India.
- (b) Types of kinship systems.
- (c) Family and marriage in India.
- (d) Household dimensions of the family.
- (e) Patriarchy, entitlements and sexual division of labour.



(vi) Religion and Society:

- (a) Religious communities in India.
- (b) Problems of religious minorities.

C. Social Changes in India:

(i) Visions of Social Change in India:

- (a) Idea of development planning and mixed economy.
- (b) Constitution, law and social change.
- (c) Education and social change.

(ii) Rural and Agrarian transformation in India:

- (a) Programmes of rural development, Community Development Programme, cooperatives, poverty alleviation schemes.
- (b) Green revolution and social change.
- (c) Changing modes of production in Indian agriculture.
- (d) Problems of rural labour, bondage, migration.

(iii) Industrialization and Urbanisation in India:

- (a) Evolution of modern industry in India.
- (b) Growth of urban settlements in India.
- (c) Working class: structure, growth, class mobilization.
- (d) Informal sector, child labour.
- (e) Slums and deprivation in urban areas.

(iv) Politics and Society:

- (a) Nation, democracy and citizenship.
- (b) Political parties, pressure groups, social and political elite.
- (c) Regionalism and decentralization of power.
- (d) Secularization

(v) Social Movements in Modern India:

- (a) Peasants and farmers movements.
- (b) Women's movement.
- (c) Backward classes & Dalit movement.
- (d) Environmental movements.
- (e) Ethnicity and Identity movements.

(vi) Population Dynamics:

- (a) Population size, growth, composition and distribution.
- (b) Components of population growth: birth, death, migration.
- (c) Population policy and family planning.
- (d) Emerging issues: ageing, sex ratios, child and infant mortality, reproductive health.

(vii) Challenges of Social Transformation:

- (a) Crisis of development: displacement, environmental problems and sustainability.
- (b) Poverty, deprivation and inequalities.
- (c) Violence against women.
- (d) Caste conflicts.
- (e) Ethnic conflicts, communalism, religious revivalism.
- (f) Illiteracy and disparities in education.



SOCIOLOGY IN GENERAL STUDIES (MAINS)

General studies (Mains) New Syllabus	Sociology (Mains) Syllabus
Paper I	Paper I Unit – 1
Industrial revolution, world wars	Modernity and social changes in Europe and emergence of sociology.
Political philosophies like communism, capitalism, socialism etc. - their forms and effect on the society.	Paper I Unit – 4 Karl Marx
Salient features of Indian Society, Diversity of India.	Paper II B. Social Structure
Role of women and women's organization,	Paper II (C) (V) (b) Women's movement. (C) (VII) (c) Violence against women.
Population and associated issues	Paper II (C) (VI) Population Dynamics
Poverty and developmental issues	Paper II (C) (VII) Challenges of Social Transformation (a) Crisis of development: displacement, environmental problems and sustainability. (b) Poverty, deprivation and inequalities.
Urbanization, their problems and their remedies.	Paper II (C) (III) Industrialization and Urbanisation in India: (b) Growth of urban settlements in India. (c) Working class: structure, growth, class mobilization. (d) Informal sector, child labour. (e) Slums and deprivation in urban areas.
Effects of globalization on Indian society	Paper - I Unit – 4 Sociological Thinkers: (a) Karl Marx (b) Emile Durkheim (c) Max Weber (d) Talcolt Parsons
Social empowerment, Communalism, regionalism & secularism.	Paper –II (C) (IV) Politics and Society: (c) Regionalism and decentralization of power. (d) Secularization. (C) (VII) Challenges of Social Transformation: (e) Ethnic conflicts, communalism, religious revivalism.
Paper II Pressure groups and formal/informal associations and their role in the Polity	Paper II (C) (IV) Politics and Society: (a) Nation, democracy and citizenship. (b) Pressure groups.



Welfare schemes for vulnerable sections of the population by the Centre and States and the performance of these schemes; mechanisms, laws, institutions and Bodies constituted for the protection and betterment of these vulnerable sections.	<p>Paper II (B) (III) Tribal communities in India:</p> <p>(B) (VI) Religion and Society:</p> <p>(b) Problems of religious minorities.</p> <p>(C) (II) Rural and Agrarian transformation in India:</p> <p>(a) Programmes of rural development, Community Development Programme, cooperatives, poverty alleviation schemes.</p> <p>(d) Problems of rural labour, bondage, migration.</p> <p>(C) (VI) Population Dynamics:</p> <p>(d) Emerging issues: ageing</p>
Issues relating to development and management of Social Sector/Services relating to Health, Education, Human Resources.	<p>Paper II (C) Social Changes in India:</p> <p>(I) Visions of Social Change in India:</p> <p>(c) Education and social change.</p> <p>(VI) Population Dynamics:</p> <p>(d) Emerging issues: sex ratios, child and infant mortality, reproductive health</p> <p>(VII) Challenges of Social Transformation:</p> <p>(f) Illiteracy and disparities in education.</p>
Issues relating to poverty and hunger	<p>Paper II (C) (II) Rural and Agrarian transformation in India:</p> <p>(a) Programmes of rural development, Community Development Programme, cooperatives, poverty alleviation schemes.</p>
Paper III	
Inclusive growth and issues arising from it.	Paper II in General
Environment	<p>Paper II (C) (VII) Challenges of Social Transformation</p> <p>(a) Crisis of development: displacement, environmental problems and sustainability.</p>
Land reforms in India	<p>Paper II (B) (I) Rural and Agrarian Social Structure:</p> <p>(b) Agrarian social structure - land reforms.</p>
Linkages between development and spread of extremism.	<p>Paper II (C) (VII) Challenges of Social Transformation</p> <p>(a) Crisis of development: displacement,</p>
Human Values – lessons from the lives and teachings of great leaders, reformers and administrators; role of family, society and educational institutions in inculcating values.	<p>Paper I Unit - 9.</p> <p>Systems of Kinship:</p> <p>Paper II (B) (V) Systems of Kinship in India:</p>
Contributions of moral thinkers and philosophers from world.	<p>Paper I Unit - 1</p> <p>Modernity and social changes in Europe and emergence of sociology.</p>
Ethical issues in international relations and funding.	<p>10. Social Change in Modern Society:</p> <p>(b) Development and dependency</p>



SOCIOLOGY IN ESSAY (MAINS)

Year	Questions
2022	History is a series of victories won by the scientific man over the romantic man
2021	Philosophy of wantlessness is Utopian, while materialism is a chimera.
	Your perception of me is a reflection of you; my reaction to you is an awareness of me.
	History repeats itself, first as a tragedy, second as a farce.
	The real is rational and the rational is real.
2020	Culture is what we are, civilization is what we have
	There can be no social justice without economic prosperity but economic prosperity without social justice is meaningless
	Patriarchy is the least noticed yet the most significant structure of social inequality
2019	Best for an individual is not necessarily best for society.
	Neglect of primary health care and education in India are reasons for its backwardness
	South Asian societies are woven not around the state, but around their plural culture and plural identities
	Biased media is a real threat to Indian democracy
2018	Poverty anywhere is a threat to prosperity everywhere
	Customary morality cannot be a guide to modern life
2017	Farming has lost the ability to be a source of subsistence for majority of farmers in India.
	Fulfillment of 'new woman' in India is a myth.
2016	If development is not engendered, it is endangered
	Innovation is the key determinant of economic growth and social welfare
	Near jobless growth in India: An anomaly or an outcome of economic reforms
2015	Is India really getting intolerant ?
	Are social media websites spoiling the youth?
2014	With greater power comes greater responsibility.
	Is the growing level of competition good for the youth?
	Was it the policy paralysis or the paralysis of implementation which slowed the growth of our country?
2013	Is the Colonial mentality hindering India's Success?
	GDP(Gross Domestic Product) along with GDH(Gross Domestic Happiness) would be the right indices for judging the well being of a country.
2012	Science and Mysticism: Are they compatible?
	Managing work and home – is the Indian working woman getting a fair deal?



2011	Creation of smaller states and the consequent administrative, economic and developmental implications.
	Does Indian Cinema shape our popular culture or merely reflect it?
	Credit-based higher education system – status, opportunities and challenges
2010	Geography may remain the same; history need not.
2009	“The focus of health care is increasingly getting skewed towards the ‘haves’ of our society”.
	‘Globalism’ vs. ‘Nationalism’.
2008	National identity and patriotism
	Urbanisation and its hazards
	Is an egalitarian society possible by educating the masses?
2007	Evaluation of Panchayati Raj Systems in India from the point of view of eradication of poverty to power to people.
2006	Women’s Reservation Bill Would Usher in Empowerment for Women in India.
	Increasing Computerization Would lead to the Creation of Dehumanized Society.
2005	Justice must reach the poor
	If women ruled the world
2004	Whither Women’s Emancipation?
	Globalisation and Its Impact on Indian Culture
2003	As civilization advances culture declines.
	Spirituality and Scientific temper.
2002	Modern Technological Education and human values
	Privatization of Higher Education in India.
	Responsibility of media in a democracy.
2001	What have we gained from our democratic set-up?
	The march of science and the erosion of human values
	Empowerment alone cannot help our women
2000	Indian culture today: a myth or a reality?
	The implications of globalization for India?
	Modernism and our traditional socio-ethnic values.

SOCIOLOGY QUESTIONS ASKED IN PREVIOUS YEARS IN GENERAL STUDIES (MAIN) PAPERS (2013 - 2022)

GS Paper I

1. Explore and evaluate the impact of 'Work From Home' on family relationships.
(GS Paper I - 2022)
2. How is the growth of Tier 2 cities related to the rise of a new middle class with an emphasis on the culture of consumption? **(GS Paper I - 2022)**
3. Given the diversities among the tribal communities in India, in which specific contexts should they be considered as a single category? **(GS Paper I - 2022)**
4. Analyze the salience of 'sect' in Indian society vis-a-vis caste, region and religion.
5. Are tolerance, assimilation and pluralism the key elements in the making of an Indian form of secularism? Justify your answer. **(GS Paper I - 2022)**
6. Elucidate the relationship between globalization and new technology in a world of scarce resources, with special reference to India. **(GS Paper I - 2022)**
7. Examine the uniqueness of tribal knowledge system when compared with mainstream knowledge and cultural systems. **(GS Paper I - 2021)**
8. Examine the role of 'Gig Economy' in the process of empowerment of women in India. **(GS Paper I - 2021)**
9. Discuss the main objectives of Population Education and point out the measures to achieve them in India in detail. **(GS Paper I - 2021)**
10. What is Cryptocurrency? How does it affect global society? Has it been affecting Indian society also? **(GS Paper I - 2021)**
11. How does Indian society maintain continuity in traditional social values? Enumerate the changes taking place in it **(GS Paper I - 2021)**
12. Has caste lost its relevance in understanding the multi- cultural Indian Society? Elaborate your answer with illustrations. (Answer in 150 words) 10 **(GS Paper I - 2020)**
13. COVID-19 pandemic accelerated class inequalities and poverty in India. Comment. (Answer in 150 words) 10 **(GS Paper I - 2020)**
14. Do you agree that regionalism in India appears to be a consequence of rising cultural assertiveness? Argue. (Answer in 150 words) 10 **(GS Paper I - 2020)**
15. What makes the Indian society unique in sustaining its culture? Discuss.
(GS Paper I - 2019)
16. "Empowering women is the key to control population growth." Discuss.
(GS Paper I - 2019)
17. What are the challenges to our cultural practices in the name of secularism?
(GS Paper I - 2019)
18. Explain how the foundations of the modern world were laid by the American and French Revolutions. **(GS Paper I - 2019)**
19. Do we have cultural pockets of small India all over the nation? Elaborate with examples.
(GS Paper I - 2019)
20. What are the continued challenges for women in India against time and space?
(GS Paper I - 2019)
21. Are we losing our local identity for the global identity? Discuss. **(GS Paper I - 2019)**
22. "Caste system is assuming new identities and associational forms. Hence, caste system cannot be eradicated in India." Comment." **(GS Paper I - 2018)**
23. 'Despite implementation of various programmes for eradication of poverty by the government in India, poverty is still existing.' Explain by giving reasons.
(GS Paper I - 2018)



24. How the Indian concept of secularism is different from the western model of secularism? Discuss. **(GS Paper I – 2018)**
25. Discuss whether formation of new states in recent times is beneficial or not for the economy of India. **(GS Paper I – 2018)**
26. 'Women's movement in India has not addressed the issues of women of lower social strata.' Substantiate your view. **(GS Paper I – 2018)**
27. 'Globalization is generally said to promote cultural homogenization but due to this cultural specificities appear to be strengthened in the Indian Society. Elucidate. **(GS Paper I – 2018)**
28. 'Communalism arises either due to power struggle or relative deprivation. Argue by giving suitable illustrations.' **(GS Paper I – 2018)**
29. In the context of the diversity of India, can it be said that the regions form cultural units rather than the States? Give reasons with examples for your view point. **(GS Paper I – 2017)**
30. What are the two major legal initiatives by the State since Independence addressing discrimination against Scheduled Tribes (STs)? **(GS Paper I – 2017)**
31. The spirit of tolerance and love is not only an interesting feature of Indian society from very early times, but it is also playing an important part at the present. Elaborate. **(GS Paper I – 2017)**
32. The women's questions arose in modern India as a part of the 19th century social reform movement. What are the major issues and debates concerning women in that period? **(GS Paper I – 2017)**
33. Distinguish between religiousness/religiosity and communalism giving one example of how the former has got transformed into the latter in independent India. **(GS Paper I – 2017)**
34. "The growth of cities as I.T. hubs has opened up new avenues of employment, but has also created new problems". Substantiate this statement with examples. **(GS Paper I – 2017)**
35. Has the formation of linguistic states strengthened the cause of Indian unity? **(GS Paper I – 2016)**
36. To what extent globalisation has influenced the core of cultural diversity in India? Explain. **(GS Paper I – 2016)**
37. "An essential condition to eradicate poverty is to liberate the poor from the process of deprivation." Substantiate this statement with suitable examples. **(GS Paper I – 2016)**
38. Why are the tribals in India referred to as 'the Scheduled Tribes'? Indicate the major provisions enshrined in the Constitution of India for their upliftment. **(GS Paper I – 2016)**
39. What is the basis of regionalism? Is it that unequal distribution of benefits of development on regional basis eventually promotes regionalism? Substantiate your answer **(GS Paper I – 2016)**
40. Debate the issue whether and how contemporary movements for assertion of Dalit identity work towards annihilation of caste. **(GS Paper I – 2015)**
41. Discuss the positive and negative effects of globalization on women in India? **(GS Paper I – 2015)**
42. Discuss the changes in the trends of labour migration within and outside India in the last four decades. **(GS Paper I – 2015)**
43. How do you explain the statistics that show that the sex ratio in Tribes in India is more favourable to women than the sex ratio among Scheduled Castes? **(GS Paper I – 2015)**
44. Critically examine whether growing population is the cause of poverty OR poverty is the main cause of population increase in India. **(GS Paper I – 2015)**

45. Describe any four cultural elements of diversity in India and rate their relative significance in building a national identity **(GS Paper I – 2015)**
46. Why did the industrial revolution first occur in England? Discuss the quality of life of the people there during the industrialization. How does it compare with that in India at present times? **(GS Paper I – 2015)**
47. How does patriarchy impact the position of a middle class working woman in India? **(GS Paper I -2014)**
48. Why do some of the most prosperous regions of India have an adverse sex ratio for women? Give your arguments. **(GS Paper 1 -2014)**
49. The life cycle of a joint family depends on economic factors rather than social values. Discuss. **(GS Paper 1 -2014)**
50. Discuss the various economic and socio-cultural forces that are driving increasing feminization of agriculture in India. **(GS Paper 1 -2014)**
51. How do the Indian debates on secularism differ from the debates in the West ? **(GS Paper 1 -2014)**
52. Discuss the various social problems which originated out of the speedy process of urbanization in India. **(GS Paper I -2013)**
53. Male membership needs to be encouraged in order to make women's organization free from gender bias. Comment. **(GS Paper I -2013)**
54. Critically examine the effects of globalization on the aged population in India. **(GS Paper I -2013)**

GS Paper II

1. While the national political parties in India favour centralisation, the regional parties are in favour of State autonomy." Comment. **(GS Paper II – 2022)**
2. Do you agree with the view that increasing dependence on donor agencies for development reduces the importance of community participation in the development process ? Justify your answer. **(GS Paper II – 2022)**
3. The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 remains inadequate in promoting incentive-based system for children's education without generating awareness about the importance of schooling. Analyse **(GS Paper II – 2022)**
4. Discuss the desirability of greater representation to women in the higher judiciary to ensure diversity, equity and inclusiveness. **(GS Paper II – 2021)**
5. "Pressure groups play a vital role in influencing public policy making in India." Explain how the business associations contribute to public policies. **(GS Paper II – 2021)**
6. "Besides being a moral imperative of Welfare State, primary health structure is a necessary pre-condition for sustainable development." Analyse. **(GS Paper II – 2021)**
7. Can the vicious cycle of gender inequality, poverty and malnutrition be broken through microfinancing of women SHGs? Explain with examples. **(GS Paper II – 2021)**
8. The jurisdiction of the Central Bureau of Investigation(CBI) regarding lodging an FIR and conducting probe within a particular state is being questioned by various States. However, the power of States to withhold consent to the CBI is not absolute. Explain with special reference to the federal character of India. **(GS Paper II – 2021)**
9. "Though women in post-Independent India have excelled in various fields, the social attitude towards women and feminist movement has been patriarchal." Apart from women education and women empowerment schemes, what interventions can help change this milieu? **(GS Paper II – 2021)**



10. Can Civil Society and Non-Governmental Organizations present an alternative model of public service delivery to benefit the common citizen. Discuss the challenges of this alternative model. **(GS Paper II – 2021)**
11. “The incidence and intensity of poverty are more important in determining poverty based on income alone”. In this context analyze the latest United Nations Multidimensional Poverty Index Report. (Answer in 250 words) **(GS Paper II – 2020)**
12. “Micro-Finance as an anti-poverty vaccine, is aimed at asset creation and income security of the rural poor in India”. Evaluate the role of Self-Help Groups in achieving the twin objectives along with empowering women in rural India. (Answer in 250 words) **(GS Paper II – 2020)**
13. What are the methods used by the Farmers organizations to influence the policy- makers in India and how effective are these methods? **(GS Paper II – 2019)**
14. What can France learn from the Indian Constitution’s approach to secularism? **(GS Paper II – 2019)**
15. Despite Consistent experience of High growth, India still goes with the lowest indicators of human development. Examine the issues that make balanced and inclusive development elusive. **(GS Paper II – 2019)**
16. There is a growing divergence in the relationship between poverty and hunger in India. The shrinking of social expenditure by the government is forcing the poor to spend more on Non- Food essential items squeezing their food – budget.- Elucidate. **(GS Paper II – 2019)**
17. “The reservation of seats for women in the institutions of local self- government has had a limited impact on the patriarchal character of the Indian Political Process.” Comment. **(GS Paper II – 2019)**
18. Performance of welfare schemes that are implemented for vulnerable sections is not so effective due to absence of their awareness and active involvement at all stages of policy process – Discuss.**(GS Paper II – 2019)**
19. Appropriate local community-level healthcare intervention is a prerequisite to achieve ‘Health for All ‘ in India. Explain **(GS Paper II – 2018)**
20. Assess the importance of 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. **(GS Paper II – 2018)**
21. How do pressure groups influence Indian political process? Do you agree with this view that informal pressure groups have emerged as powerful than formal pressure groups in recent years? **(GS Paper II – 2017)**
22. Hunger and Poverty are the biggest challenges for good governance in India still today. Evaluate how far successive governments have progressed in dealing with these humongous problems. Suggest measures for improvement. **(GS Paper II – 2017)**
23. ‘Poverty Alleviation Programmes in India remain mere show pieces until and unless they are backed by political will’. Discuss with reference to the performance of the major poverty alleviation programmes in India. **(GS Paper II – 2017)**
24. Initially Civil Services in India were designed to achieve the goals of neutrality and effectiveness, which seems to be lacking in the present context. Do you agree with the view that drastic reforms are required in Civil Services. Comment **(GS Paper II – 2017)**
25. “The Indian party system is passing through a phase of transition which looks to be full of contradictions and paradoxes.” Discuss. **(GS Paper II – 2016)**
26. Professor Amartya Sen has advocated important reforms in the realms of primary education and primary health care. What are your suggestions to improve their status and performance? **(GS Paper II – 2016)**

27. In the integrity index of Transparency International, India stands very low. Discuss briefly the legal, political, social and cultural factors that have caused the decline of public morality in India. **(GS Paper II – 2016)**
28. Traditional bureaucratic structure and culture have hampered the process of socio-economic development in India.” Comment. **(GS Paper II – 2016)**
29. Examine the main provisions of the National Child Policy and throw light on the status of its implementation. **(GS Paper II – 2016)**
30. “Demographic Dividend in India will remain only theoretical unless our manpower becomes more educated, aware, skilled and creative.” What measures have been taken by the government to enhance the capacity of our population to be more productive and employable? **(GS Paper II – 2016)**
31. Though there have been several different estimates of poverty in India, all indicate reduction in poverty over time. Do you agree. Critically examine with reference to urban and rural poverty indicators. **(GS Paper II – 2015)**
32. Public health system has limitation in providing universal health coverage. Do you think that private sector can help in bridging the gap? What other viable alternatives do you suggest? **(GS Paper II – 2015)**
33. The quality of higher education in India requires major improvement to make it internationally competitive. Do you think that the entry of foreign educational institutions would help improve the quality of technical and higher education in the country. Discuss **(GS Paper II – 2015)**
34. How can be the role of NGOs be strengthened in India for development works relating to protection of the Environment? Discuss throwing light on the major constraints. **(GS Paper II – 2015)**
35. The Self Help Group (SHG) Bank Linkage Program (SBLP), which is India’s own innovation , has proved to be one of the most effective poverty alleviation and women empowerment programme. Elucidate **(GS Paper II – 2015)**
36. Khap panchayats have been in the news for functioning as extra – constitutional authorities, often delivering pronouncements amounting to human right violations. Discuss critically the actions taken by the legislative, executive and judiciary to set the things right in this regard **(GS Paper II – 2015)**
37. In the absence of well – educated and organised local level government system, Panchayats and Samitis have remained mainly political institutions and not effective instrument of governance. Critically Discuss **(GS Paper II – 2015)**
38. Discuss the possible factors that inhibit India from enacting for its citizen a uniform civil de as provided for in the Directive Principles of State Policy **(GS Paper II – 2015)**
39. The Penetration of Self Help Groups (SHGs) in rural areas in promoting participation in development Programmes is facing socio-cultural hurdles. Examine. **(GS Paper II -2014)**
40. Growing feeling of regionalism is an important factor in the generation of demand for a separate state. Discuss **(GS Paper II -2013)**
41. Pressure group politics is sometimes seen as the informal face of politics. With regards to the above, assess the structure and functioning of pressure groups in India. **(GS Paper II -2013)**
42. The legitimacy and accountability of Self Help Groups (SHGs) and their patrons, the micro-finance outfits, need systematic assessment and scrutiny for the sustained success of the concept. Discuss. **(GS Paper II -2013)**



GS Paper III

1. Naxalism is a social, economic and developmental issue manifesting as a violent internal security threat. In this context, discuss the emerging issues and suggest a multilayered strategy to tackle the menace of Naxalism. **(GS Paper III – 2022)**
2. How did land reforms in some parts of the country help to improve the socio-economic conditions of marginal and small farmers? **(GS Paper III – 2021)**
3. What are the salient features of the National Food Security Act, 2013? How has the Food Security Bill helped in eliminating hunger and malnutrition in India? **(GS Paper III – 2021)**
4. Analyse the complexity and intensity of terrorism, its causes, linkages and obnoxious nexus. Also suggest measures required to be taken to eradicate the menace of terrorism. **(GS Paper III – 2021)**
5. Explain intra-generational and inter-generational issues of equity from the perspective of inclusive growth and sustainable development. (Answer in 150 words) **(GS Paper III – 2020)**
6. What are the determinants of left-wing extremism in Eastern part of India? What strategy should Government of India, civil administration and security forces adopt to counter the threat in the affected areas? (Answer in 250 words) **(GS Paper III – 2020)**
7. It is argued that the strategy of inclusive growth is intended to meet the objectives of inclusiveness and sustainability together. Comment on this statement. **(GS Paper III – 2019)**
8. Explain various types of revolutions, that took place in Agriculture after Independence in India. How these revolutions have helped in poverty alleviation and food security in India? **(GS Paper III, 2017)**
9. What are the salient features of 'inclusive growth'? Has India been experiencing such a growth process? Analyze and suggest measures for inclusive growth. **(GS Paper III, 2017)**
10. How globalization has led to the reduction of employment in the formal sector of the Indian economy? Is increased informalization detrimental to the development of the country? **(GS Paper III – 2016)**
11. Comment on the challenges for inclusive growth which include careless and useless manpower in the Indian context. Suggest measures to be taken for facing these challenges **(GS Paper III – 2016)**
12. Discuss the role of land reforms in agricultural development. Identify the factors that were responsible for the success of land reforms in India. **(GS Paper III – 2016)**
13. Rehabilitation of human settlements is one of the important environmental impacts which always attracts controversy while planning major projects. Discuss the measures suggested for mitigation of this impact while proposing major developmental projects. **(GS Paper III – 2016)**
14. The persisting drives of the government for development of large industries in backward areas have resulted in isolating the tribal population and the farmers who face multiple displacements. With Malkangiri and Naxalbari foci, discuss the corrective strategies needed to win the Left Wing Extremism (LWE) doctrine affected citizens back into mainstream of social and economic growth **(GS Paper III – 2015)**
15. Religious indoctrination via social media has resulted in Indian youth joining the ISIS. What is ISIS and its mission? How can ISIS be dangerous to the internal security of our country. **(GS Paper III – 2015)**
16. The nature of economic growth in India in recent times is often described as a jobless growth. Do you agree with this view? Give arguments in favour of your answer **(GS Paper III – 2015)**

17. Capitalism has guided the world economy to unprecedented prosperity. However, it often encourages short-sightedness and contributes to wide disparities between the rich and the poor. In this light, would it be correct to believe and adopt capitalism for bringing inclusive growth in India? Discuss. **(GS Paper III -2014)**
18. The diverse nature of India as a multi-religious and multi-ethnic society is not immune to the impact of radicalism which is seen in her neighbourhood.” Discuss along with strategies to be adopted to counter this environment. **(GS Paper III -2014)**
19. The Central Government frequently complains on the poor performance of the State Governments in eradicating suffering of the vulnerable sections of the society. Restructuring of Centrally sponsored schemes across the sectors for ameliorating the cause of vulnerable sections of population aims at providing flexibility to the States in better implementation. Critically evaluate **(GS Paper III -2013)**
20. Identify the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) that are related to health. Discuss the success of the actions taken by the Government for achieving the same. **(GS Paper III -2013)**
21. Establish the relationship between land reform, agriculture productivity and elimination of poverty in Indian Economy. Discussion the difficulty in designing and implementation of the agriculture friendly land reforms in India. **(GS Paper III -2013)**

GS PAPER IV

(Sociological perspectives would enrich the quality of answers in Ethics papers both in theories as well as case studies because Philosophy is the foundation stone of Sociology)

1. Wisdom lies in knowing what to reckon with and what to overlook. An officer being engrossed with the periphery, ignoring the core issues before him, is no rare in the bureaucracy. Do you agree that such preoccupation of an administrator leads to travesty of justice to the cause of effective service delivery and good governance? Critically evaluate. **(GS Paper IV - 2022)**
2. It is believed that adherence to ethics in human actions would ensure in smooth functioning of an organization/system. If so, what does ethics seek to promote in human life? How do ethical values assist in the resolution of conflicts faced by him in his day-to-day functioning? **(GS Paper IV - 2022)**
3. In contemporary world, corporate sector's contribution in generating wealth and employment is increasing. In doing so, they are bringing in unprecedented onslaught on the climate, environmental sustainability and living conditions of human beings. In this background, do you Responsibility (CSR) is efficient and sufficient enough to fulfill the social roles and responsibilities needed in the corporate work mandated? Critically examine. **(GS Paper IV - 2022)**
4. Identify ten essential values that are needed to be an effective public servant. Describe the /ways and means to prevent non-ethical behaviour in the public servants **(GS Paper IV - 2021)**
5. Life doesn't make any sense without interdependence. We need each other, and the sooner we learn that, it is better for us all.” -Erik Erikson word **(GS Paper IV - 2021)**
6. “Refugees should not be turned back to the country where they would face persecution or human right violation.” Examine the statement with reference to ethical dimension being violated by the nation claiming to be democratic with open society. **(GS Paper IV - 2021)**
7. Discuss the role of ethics and values in enhancing the following three major components of Comprehensive National Power (CNP) viz. human capital, soft power (culture and policies) and social harmony. **(GS Paper IV - 2020)**
8. “Education is not an injunction, it is an effective and pervasive tool for all round development of an individual and social transformation”. Examine the New Education Policy, 2020 (NEP, 2020) in light of the above statement. **(GS Paper IV - 2020)**



9. What are the main factors responsible for gender inequality in India? Discuss the contribution of Savitribai Phule in this regard.
10. "The current internet expansion has instilled a different set of cultural values which are often in conflict with traditional values." Discuss. (150 words)
11. What are the basic principles of public life? Illustrate any three of these with suitable examples. **(GS Paper IV - 2019)**
12. What is meant by the term 'constitutional morality'? How does one uphold constitutional morality? **(GS Paper IV - 2019)**
13. What is meant by 'crisis of conscience'? How does it manifest itself in the public domain? **(GS Paper IV - 2019)**
14. With regard to the morality of actions, one view is that means are of paramount importance and the other view is that the ends justify the means. Which view do you think is more appropriate? Justify your answer **(GS Paper IV - 2018)**
15. Suppose the Government of India is thinking of constructing a dam in a mountain valley bond by forests and inhabited by ethnic communities. What rational policy should it resort to in dealing with unforeseen contingencies **(GS Paper IV - 2018)**
16. Explain the process of resolving ethical dilemmas in Public Administration **(GS Paper IV - 2018)**
17. Increased national wealth did not result in equitable distribution of its benefits. It has created only some "enclaves of modernity and prosperity for a small minority at the cost of the majority." Justify **(GS Paper IV - 2017)**
18. Discipline generally implies following the order and subordination. However, it may be counter-productive for the organisation. Discuss. **(GS Paper IV - 2017)**
19. Without commonly shared and widely entrenched moral values and obligations, neither the law, nor democratic government, nor even the market economy will function properly **(GS Paper IV - 2017)**
20. Explain how ethics contributes to social and human well-being. **(GS Paper IV - 2016)**
21. Why should impartiality and non-partisanship be considered as foundational values in public services, especially in the present day socio-political context? Illustrate your answer with examples. **(GS Paper IV - 2016)**
22. How could social influence and persuasion contribute to the success of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan? **(GS Paper IV - 2016)**
23. "Max Weber said that it is not wise to apply to public administration the sort of moral and ethical norms we apply to matters of personal conscience. It is important to realize that the state bureaucracy might possess its own independent bureaucratic morality." Critically analyse this statement? **(GS Paper IV - 2016)**
24. Law and ethics are considered to be the two tools for controlling human conduct so as to make it conducive to civilized social existence. **(GS Paper IV - 2016)**
25. Our attitudes towards life, work, other people and society are generally shaped unconsciously by the family and the social surroundings in which we grow up. Some of these unconsciously acquired attitudes and values are often undesirable in the citizens of a modern democratic and egalitarian society. Discuss such undesirable values prevalent in Today's educated Indians. **(GS Paper IV - 2016)**
26. How can such undesirable attitudes be changed and socio-ethical values considered necessary in public services be cultivated in the aspiring and serving civil servants? **(GS Paper IV - 2016)**

27. Two different kinds of attitudes exhibited by public servants towards their work have been identified as bureaucratic attitude and the democratic attitude
(GS Paper IV – 2015)
28. Distinguish between these two terms and write their merits and demerits
(GS Paper IV – 2015)
29. Is it possible to balance the two to create a better administration for the faster development of our country? **(GS Paper IV – 2015)**
30. Social values are more important than economic values. Discuss the above statement with examples in the context of inclusive growth of a nation **(GS Paper IV – 2015)**
31. “A mere compliance with law is not enough, the public servant also have to have a well developed sensibility to ethical issues for effective discharge of duties” Do you agree? Explain with the help of two examples where (i) an act is ethically right, but not legally and (ii) an act is legally right, but not ethically **(GS Paper IV – 2015)**
32. Discrimination and preferential treatment **(GS Paper IV – 2015)**
33. What is meant by ‘environmental ethics’? Why is it important to study? Discuss any one environmental issue from the viewpoint of environmental ethics **(GS Paper IV – 2015)**

Note: Sociology gives a clear edge in dealing GS Main Paper IV questions as the subject overall deals with the intricacies of ethical questions in private and public life of individuals and moral responsibility of public institutions.

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