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GS Advanced Program 2023

Generic Booklet

Test Name/Code/No. : 697.009

Name			
Email ID.			
Roll No.			
Mobile No.		Date	

Allotted Time : 60 Minutes

Instructions to Candidates -

- There are 7 Questions in this Question paper.
- All Questions are Compulsory.
- For all updates, please visit the noticeboard - https://noticeboard.forumias.com/gsap-2023/

Important -

- Answers must be attempted in the QCA Booklet only.
- To upload the Answer Copies please visit to "My Course" section on - https://academy.forumias.com/
- Only those copies will be evaluated which will be submitted before the next class.

Q. No.	Grade/Score
1	
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Overall Grade/Score	

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Q.1)

According to the 2011 Census, child labour constitutes 13% of the workforce in India and 10.1 million children are engaged in child labour.

Child labour is usually seen as a consequence of poverty, that is poor parents send their children to work instead of school to earn extra money.

Poverty is both the cause and consequence of child labour.

However, it is not the sole factor. Child labour is born out of myriad and complex multitudes of challenges

Demand Side
→ Child labour is cheap and cost effective.
→ Informal economy aids in it.

Supply Side
→ Due to lack of g. schools and ignorance of parents.

Gender
→ Girl children often work as maids as their education is deemed unimportant.

Social
→ SC/ST children are kept outside formal education. Hence, work as labourers

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Thus, child labour is not just a consequence of poverty, it has various social, cultural, gender, caste-based causes as well.

As it is a complex problem, there can not be a simple solution. Some positive measures can be —

Supply Side → Put penalties on erring industries that employ children
↳ Attempts should be made to formalise the economy and prevent unorganised labour.

Demand side → Need to make parents aware and raise the consciousness of society.

Gender and SC/ST → Need to ensure targetted implementation of affirmative action. Factors that prevent such children from accessing education need to be identified and tackled.

Childhood is supposed to be the happiest part of an individual's life. Child Labour robs it. If we want to ensure a happy India with happy citizens in future we need to protect our children.

Overall Grading (√)

Poor			Average			Good		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

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Q.2)

The Supreme Court in NALSA vs Union of India (2014) upheld the right of trans-genders to self-identify. The court ~~at~~ dire-cted ~~them~~ to that they be treated as Third Gender and their rights under Part III of the constitution be protected.

Pursuant to this, the Parliament passed the Transgender (Protection of Rights) Act 2019. The Act has been criticised for undermining the trans-rights as—

- NOT-CONSULTATIVE → The Act was passed without due consultations and inputs from the transgender community. Even the NCT (National Commission for Transgenders) does not have a Transgender representative

- GOES AGAINST SPIRIT OF NALSA JUDGMENT
The right to self identify was upheld by the SC. But it finds no place in the Act. Instead it provides for Certificate of Identity that a transgender person needs to apply for.

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And the person would be given this certificate only if ~~he~~ he/she/they ~~goes~~ undergo SRS (Sex Reassignment Surgery).

Thus the Act infact undermines the crucial right to self identify. It also does not provide for Affirmative Action

• RESTRICTIVE DEFINITION → Presently, gender and sexuality is understood as spectrum. The Act while defining transgenders still relies on gender binary

• NO STRINGENT PUNISHMENT → The punishment for compelling transgenders into forced labour, abusing them etc is not stringent enough to act as deterrent.

In Navtej Johar v/s Union of India (2018), the SC had commented that "denial of self expression is like death." By denying the transgenders the right to self-identify without SRS undermines their rights and goes against NALSA Judgment.

Overall Grading (√)

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Q.3)

Communalism is an ideology which states that society is divided into religious communities whose interests differ and are sometimes antagonistic to each other.

Indian economy has grown leaps and bounds post independence. Despite this, the forces of development have not been able to overcome communal forces —.

MAJOR POLITICAL TOOL

→ Communalism continues be a political tool.

→ easy to mobilise people

→ It is an easy way out for parties as they do not need to work hard to get votes.

→ All important issues are given communal colour like CAA, UCC, etc.

→ Use of hate speech in election rallies is common.

→ Post independent political party framework has seen religion based vote-bank politics.

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ECONOMIC FACTORS → Unemployment - Indian growth is a jobless growth that leaves frustrated unemployed youth prone to propaganda.

Illiteracy (unable to identify fake news)

Poverty → leads to distrust as development is seen as zero-sum game.

SOCIAL → The skewed development as resulted in Trust Deficit and increase in us v/s them mentality.

RELIGIOUS → There has been rise in fundamentalism. ~~The~~ As there is Skyboxification on religious lines, the discord between groups is increasing.

MEDIA → Both mass media and social media help in disseminating fake news and perpetuate stereotypes that fuel communalism.

Thus, despite development, the forces of communalism are still strong as there is lack of political will as well as skewed nature of our development.

Overall Grading (√)

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Q.4)

Juvenile Delinquency is the participation of minors in illegal activities. The conduct of a Juvenile Delinquent does not conform to the legal and moral standards of society.

According to NCRB's Crime in India Report, the incidents of Juvenile Delinquency have risen more than 60% in last 15 years.

Some reasons for that are:-

ECONOMIC → Poverty pushes minors to petty crimes to fulfil their basic needs

↓

Lack of opportunities and failure to get gainful employment can push some minors into delinquency.

FAMILY → Family is the first agent of socialisation. A child in a family full of discord, fighting, alcoholism, crime, abuse etc will be likely to end in life of crime.

SOCIAL → The company of the minors and

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their peer group can determine their behaviour.

MENTAL HEALTH → Social Media paints a rosy picture of affluence which children may resort to crime to attain

→ Exposure to violence in form of games, movies can increase delinquency.

→ children with behavioural disoiderslike Conduct disoider;

→ children addicted to illicit drugs are more likely to be delinquents.

Some MEASURES to deal with it —

↳ Provide assistance to underprivileged children

↳ Teach families/parents the importance of happy childhood and giving attention

↳ Prevent unsupervised social media access

↳ Provide mental health facilities and counsellors in schools who can help identify delinquency early and prevent it

↳ Strengthen after care system to prevent repeat offenders.

The current state of Juvenile Delinquency is alarming. But it can be checked ~~and~~ by simple and timely social and individual interference.

Overall Grading (√)

Poor			Average			Good		
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Q.5)

According to the UN World Population Prospect Report 2022, the population of older persons is increasing in absolute numbers as well as proportion of population. The share of global population aged 65 years or more ~~will~~ ~~it~~ is projected to rise from 10% in 2022 to 16% in 2050.

This rise can be attributed to better living standards and improved health and medical facilities.

But it will also lead to a myriad of new challenges for the elderly population —

ECONOMIC →

As most of the elderly will be out of ~~wor~~ work force, they will be economically and financially dependent on others for their expenses.

This will lead to a kind of Dependency Anxiety where the elderly feel the need to limit their dependency by either not asking for help or limit their expenses.

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→ A remedy to this is to establish a robust social security net in form of old age pension and schemes.

SOCIAL →

Most senior citizens who live alone feel isolated and lonely. They lack companionship. There are not enough avenues ~~fo~~ in India for senior citizens to interact freely. They ~~are also~~ have limited mobility due to health. Most senior citizens who live alone rely on ~~provide~~ domestic help which also raises a security concern.

→ A remedy to this could be to create institutional retirement and old-age homes where senior citizens can interact with their peers freely.

SAFETY →

Senior citizens are also prone to domestic violence, economic abuse, etc, mostly from their own children.

→ Though laws like Maintenance of Senior Citizens Act, 2007 are welcome, they are not sufficient. There is also need to create proactive emergency services that can respond to such incidents effectively.

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HEALTH →

[Availability, Affordability, Accessibility] of health care to senior citizens is limited. Most of them are one hospital visit away from wiping their life savings.

→ A remedy ~~is~~ would be to provide affordable health care that is easily accessible and is available to senior citizens. Introducing special Geriatric wards at all levels of health institutes could help.

CULTURAL

Most senior citizens could be females so it'll lead to feminisation of elderly. Widows are not treated well in ~~India~~ some parts of India. So there is need to provide safe spaces to them.

Similarly as Indians move to nuclear family set up, traditional family structures will break leading to empty nests.

A remedy would be to provide good institutional care. ~~to~~ Elderly ~~people~~ population will increase as its normal population growth. We need to build institutional framework to help the elderly citizens of India live rest of their lives with dignity

Overall Grading (√)

Poor			Average			Good		
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Q.6)

Patriarchy is a social system in which men hold primary power and are predominant in roles of authority. This system is based on the ill-founded gender stereotypes and belief in inherent inequality of the sexes.

There have been numerous interventions to change this patriarchal attitude in terms of -

→ WOMEN EDUCATION like Beti Bachao, Beti Padho schemes.

→ WOMEN ~~AFFIRM~~ EMPOWERMENT like affirmative action in education, government jobs, ~~etc~~ corporate houses etc.

But, there is a need to tackle this institution of patriarchy from the root itself. The factors that perpetuate ~~this~~ and maintain this system need to be tackled to change societal attitude.

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SYLVIA WALBY has identified six patriarchal structures that maintain patriarchy. Dismantling these structures can help transform the society from patriarchal to egalitarian -

- Male domination in workplace

There is a gender imbalance (in favour of men) in both public and private employment. This can be corrected by introducing quota systems, blind interviews (to prevent gender bias), providing maternity benefits, menstrual leaves etc.

- Attaching beauty with females

The society does not expect a woman to be aspirational and career-minded. Most women are just trained to be good wives and just look pretty. This mindset needs a hard reset to change women's identity from just a beautiful thing to an individual. It can be done via

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stereotype free curriculum and enshrining gender equal values at early age in children.

Labelling Sexuality → Women are seen as sex objects, but if a woman tries to claim and own her sexuality, she is seen characterless. Though, it is changing but there needs to be a watchdog to prevent objectification and gratuitous sexuality in U-Rated movies.

Violence → Though there are laws, women are subjugated via violence. (Shadow Pandemic during covid). This needs to be corrected by ensuring harsh punishment and teaching women to speak. Past initiatives like Bell Bajao have succeeded.

Lack of government efforts in past → Women need to provided equitable treatment to counter past injustices. There needs to be intervention in all spheres especially in form of campaigns, awareness, PSAs etc.

WOMEN IN HOUSEHOLD → Women is subjugated the most in her household. To ensure equality from birth itself, parents need to be made aware of their unconscious bias. Women need to understand their rights in marriage. Thus, the whole system needs modification.

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Q.7)

The social system of Patriachy manifests itself in all walks of life. It leads to social inequality between the sexes, and as a corollary leads to inequality in the workplace.

Patriarchy impacts the position of working women in India →

• VELVET GHETTO and PINK COLLARISATION

The gender stereotypes lead to belief that women are better in certain types of work. These jobs are less paying and usually in sphere of ~~a~~ caretaking, beauty, ~~etc~~ teaching, domestic help etc.

This classification leads to other phenomenon

Glass Ceiling	Glass Escalator	Glass Cliff
Women are unable to rise beyond a certain level in the job. They seldom get high corporate positions	Men are paid more when they join traditionally feminine jobs like chef etc.	Women are put in charge in times of crisis to gain sympathy

• GENDER WAGE GAP

According to ILO's Global Wage Report of 2020-21 women in India are paid 34% less than

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men for same work. India ranked 135 out of 146 countries. This is an alarming statistic. It is also violative of Right to Equality. Though recent steps like BCCI's equal pay for equal play are appreciable, the issue still persists especially in informal sector.

LOW FEMALE LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE (FLFPR)

According to CMIE, the FLFPR has declined considerably due to economic shocks like Covid, GST, demonetisation etc. According to Periodic Labour Force Survey 2020-21, conducted by NSO, the FLFPR is 25.1%. This shows that only 1/4th of the working age women are contributing to economy. This low rate can also be attributed to Patriarchy – women need to do household work, stigma against working women, workplace violence, gender wage gap etc.

~~There is a U-sh~~

U-SHAPED HYPOTHESIS → There is a U-shape relation between women labour force and level of development. As economy is less developed, women work for subsistence. When it develops, incomes

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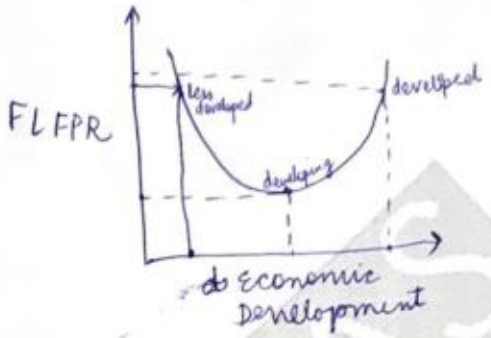
rise, women are asked to stay in homes as the men earn. With further development, there is increase in education, awareness, access to child care etc. and women join the workforce.



This is also due to patriarchal attitudes

UNPAID LABOUR → The idea that a woman is working woman when she is gainfully employed is misnomer. Most women work hours in unpaid labour in form of chores, child care, household duties etc. They do not get any monetary or societal recognition for it as it is the norm in patriarchal society.

SC has recognised the value of unpaid labour of women in KIRTI v/s ORIENTAL INSURANCE (2021).

But on ground the situation stays abysmal.

The core reason for most issues of gender inequality is Patriarchy. It has ruled the Indian society for centuries and continues to do so. To ensure egalitarian and gender equal society, it is imperative to dismantle the structures of patriarchy.

Overall Grading (√)

Poor			Average			Good		
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