

APSC

**2016 MAINS GENERAL STUDIES
QUESTION PAPER ANALYSIS**

**90% QUESTIONS ARE REFLECTED FROM
THE CLASS NOTES OF BORTHAKURS IAS ACADEMY**

**FOCUS AREAS THIS YEAR :
POLITY,HISTORY & SCIENCE TECH**

**OUR CLASS NOTES IS THE SOLUTION
TO QUALIFY THIS PREMIER EXAM**

Answer 1.

A Constitution can be defined as body of rules ,written or unwritten acc. to which the Govt. Of state is carried on.

Aristotle an Ancient Greek philosopher speak of the constitution as "**THE ARRANGMENT OF POWERS IN A STATE, ESPECIALLY OF SUPREME POWER**".

SALIENT FEATURES OF INDIAN CONSTITUTION :-

- 1. THE BULKIEST CONSTITUTION OF THE WORLD:-**
The Constitution Of India is one of blukiest Constitutions of the world. The Orginal Constitution Of India was consiting of 395 Articles and 8 Schedulesnow consists of 450 and 12 Schedules.
- 2. FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS:-** The Constitution contains an elaborate list of Fundamental Rights. The state can't make law which take away or abridge any of the fundamental rights of citizens.

3. **FUNDAMENTAL DUTIES:-** The Constitution also contain a list of 11 fundamental duties of citizens. While ten of these duties were added to constitution by 42th amendment in 1976,the eleventh duty was added by the 86th amendment act 2002.
4. **COMBINATION OF RIGIDITY AND FLEXIBILITY:-** The Indian Constitution neither Rigid Nor Flexible. It is mixture of both. Some provision of Indian Constitution can be amended by the Parliament by a Simple majority, Other require Two-Third majority of the members of the Parliamenet as well as a majority in state legislatures.
5. **QUASI-FEDRAL STATE:-** The Constitution provide for a federation with strong centre. It is noteworthy that the Constitution has not used the word 'Federation', anywhere, and has described India as a 'UNION OF STATES' , which implies that the Indian Federation is not the result of any agreement among the units and units cannot secede from it.
6. **DIRECTIVE PRINCIPLES OF STATE POLICY:-** The Constitution outlines certain Directive Principles of State Policy which government has to keep in mind while formulating any policy. The principles seek to provide social and economic basis for democracy and establishment of a welfare state. Unlike thr Fundamental Rights,the Directive Principles of State Policy are not-justifiable.
7. **PARLIAMENTARY SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT:-** The constitution provides for a parliamentary system of government under which the real executive power rest with the Council of Ministers headed by the Prime Minister and the president is only nominal ruler. The Council of Ministers stay in office as long as they enjoy the confidence of the Parliament.
8. **SINGLE CITIZEN:-** I provides a single citizenship. All the personal residing in different parts of the country are treated as Indian citizen and are entitled to the same right of citizenship. There is no separate citizenship of different states.
9. **SECULAR STATE:-** a secular state a secular state a secular state meAnswer that state which has no religion of its on I like that of the theocartic state. The secular state neither favours any religion nor disfavour any religion. It neither encourages nor discourages any religion. This meAnswer that there is no state religion and the state is completely detached from religious dogmas..
10. **INDEPENDENT JUDICIARY:-** The constitution provides an independent Judiciary which ensures that the government is carried on in accordance with the provision of the constitution. It Act as the guardian of the Liberties and fundamental rights of the citizens. It also determines the limits of the powers of the Union and States.
11. **FEDERAL CONSTITUTION:-** Indian Constitution is a only constitution for both Union and States. Unlike, the United States of America where states has there own Constitutions.
12. **EMERGENCY PROVISION:-** The Constitution vest extraordinary powers in the president during emergencies arising out of Armed Rebel or external aggression; Emergency due to the breakdown of constitutional machinery in the state; and financial emergency when the credit of the countries threatened. Infacr,during emergency and the Federal Constitution can virtually be converted into Unitary Constitution.
13. **PEOPLE AS SOURCE OF AUTHORITY:-** The constitution draws its authority from the people and has been promulgated in the name of the people. This is evident from Preamble Of Constitution which states '**we the people of India ...do hereby adopt, enact and give to ourselves the Constitution**'.
14. **UNIVERSAL ADULT FRANCHISE:-** The constitution introduces Universal adult franchise and accords the right to vote to all citizen above the age of 18 years without discrimination.

15. **BICAMERAL LEGISLATURE:-** It provides a bicameral legislature at Union consisting of the Lok Sabha And Rajya Sabha. The former contains Representatives Of The People, while the latter contains Council Of States.
16. **STRIKES BALANCE BETWEEN CONSTITUTIONAL SUPREMACY AND PARLIAMENT SOVEREIGNTY:-** The Indian Constitution combines two seemingly contradictory principles of Supremacy Of Constitution and Parliamentary Sovereignty. The Supreme Court through its power of judicial review can declare the laws passed by the parliament as unconstitutional. On the other hand, the parliament can amend major portion of the Constitution.
17. **PROVISION OF INDEPENDENT BODIES:-** Apart from the three traditional org Answer of Govt. Viz. Legislature, Executive and Judiciary, the Constitution Of India provides for certain bodies which work as bulwarks of democratic system. These include (i) The Election Commission which ensures free and fair election;(ii) Comptroller and Auditor General Of India which audits the accounts of Union and States Governments and act as guardian of public money; (iii) Public Service Commission both at Union and States Level.
18. **RULE OF LAW:-** The concept of “**Rule Of Law**” was borrowed from Britain. It implies that no man is above law and all individuals are subject to the jurisdiction of ordinary Courts. There are basically Three postulates of Rule Of Law:
- No person can be punished except for breach of an existing law.
 - All citizens are equal before law and no one is above the law.
 - The Constitution is the Supreme law of the land and all laws passed by the Parliament must be keeping with the provision of the Constitution.

Answer 2.

1. Right to freedom of religion (Arts. 25-28)
2. Cultural and educational rights (Arts. 29-30)
3. Right to constitutional remedies (Arts. 32-35)

- **Fundamental Rights: Are they against the state or individual or both?**

Fundamental rights available against state and not private individuals

The conflict between individuals and state is as old as our history.

The individuals need personal liberty and state has the power to decide those liberties. Thus, if the state has absolute power to cut down those liberties of an individual, it would be tyranny. Thus, the individuals need constitutional protection against the state. The rights which are given to the citizens by way of fundamental rights are a guarantee against state action as distinguished from violation by the ordinary law of land. Thus, Fundamental rights are against the state for the protection of individual.

- **Are all fundamental rights self executory?**

Please note that there are certain rights in Indian constitution which don't need any legislation to make them enforceable. For example there is no need to enact a separate legislation to make the Right to Equality enforceable. These are called self executory. At the same time, there are certain rights which are imperfect in just being inscribed to the constitution and need further legislation to make them enforceable. Such rights are Art. 17 (untouchables) Article 21A (right to free & compulsory education); Article 23 (traffic in human beings; and Article 24 (child labour).

- **Legal Rights versus Fundamental Rights**

The legal rights are protected by an ordinary law, but they can be altered or taken away by the legislature by changing that law. Fundamental Rights are protected and Guaranteed by the Constitution and they cannot be taken away by an ordinary law enacted by the legislature. If a legal right of a person is violated, he can move to an

ordinary court, but if a fundamental right is violated the Constitution provides that the affected person may move to High court or Supreme Court. Here we should note that the Rights to Property was a fundamental right before 1978. The Constitution (Forty-fourth Amendment) Act, 1978, taken away the Right to property (Article 31) as a Fundamental Right and was made a legal right under new Article 300 A.

- An ordinary right generally imposes a corresponding duty on another individual (and, state in some cases) but a fundamental right is a right which an individual possess against the state.
- Fundamental rights are protected against invasion by the executive, legislature and the judiciary. All fundamental rights are limitations on legislative power. Laws and executive actions which abridge or are in conflict with such rights are void and ineffective.
- Our constitution guarantees the right to move the Supreme Court for the enforcement of fundamental rights. Thus the remedy itself is a fundamental right. This distinguishes it from other rights.
- The Supreme Court is the guardian of fundamental rights. Please note that all constitution rights not fundamental rights e.g. right not to be subjected to taxation without authority of law (art. 265), right to property (art. 300a), and freedom of trade (art. 301).
- A fundamental right cannot be waived. An ordinary legal right can be waived by an individual.
- **Restrictions or suspension of fundamental rights**
If the individual is allowed to have absolute freedom of speech and action, the result would be chaos and disorder. Thus, absolute and unrestricted individual rights do not, and cannot exist in any modern state.
Our constitution permits reasonable restriction to be imposed on individual's liberties in the interest of society. The possession and enjoyment of all rights are subject to such reasonable conditions as

may be deemed by the governing authority essential to the safety, health peace, general order and morals of the community. In fact, for the very protection of these rights the society must arm itself with certain powers. What the constitution therefore attempts to do by declaring the rights of the people is to strike a balance between individual liberty and social control.

- **Suspension of Fundamental Rights**

The constitution of India provides for the suspension of fundamental rights in certain circumstances. Article 358 provides that when the proclamation of emergency is made by the president under Article 352, the freedoms guaranteed by Article 19 (Freedom of Speech etc.) are automatically suspended for the period of emergency. Then, Article 33 empowers parliament to modify the application of fundamental rights to the armed forces or forces charged with maintenance of public order, etc. In the interest of discharge of duties and maintenance of discipline, under art. 34, parliament may by law indemnify any person for anything done in contravention of fundamental rights for maintenance of order during the operation of martial law.

Answer 3.

● **Election Commission of India**

For the conduct of free and fair elections an independent Election Commission has been provided for in Article 324. Constitution of India has provided a separate chapter for elections and has not left the elections to jurisdiction of the executive and legislative departments of the government. This is mainly because the makers of the constitution had been very serious to safeguard this political right as an integral part of the constitution itself. Election commission of India is a permanent body entrusted for the following matters:

- Election of President
- Election of Vice-President
- Election of Lok Sabha as well as Rajya Sabha
- Elections to State Legislatures as well as Legislative Councils
- Reservation of Seats in Lok Sabha and State Legislatures
- Qualifications of the MPs and MLAs
- Determination of population for purposes of election The powers of the election Commission are as follows
- Superintendence, direction and control of all the elections mentioned above
- **Power of appointing election tribunals** for the decisions of doubts and disputes in connection with the elections.
- Appointment of Election Commissioners
- Independence of ECI
- Other functions of Election Commission
 - Preparation of Electoral rolls
 - Recognition of political parties and allotment of symbols
 - Scrutiny of the nomination papers
 - Monitoring of Election Expenses
- **Appointment of Election Commissioners**

India has a three member election commission. These all are appointed by the President for a term which is fixed by the President. However, conditions of service and tenure of office of the chief election commissioner and other election commissioner are

determined by an act of parliament titled The Chief Election Commissioner and Other Election Commissioners (Conditions of Service) Act, 1991. This act has fixed the following:

- The chief election commissioner or an election commissioner shall hold office for a term of 6 years or age of 65 years, whichever is earlier.
- The chief election commissioner and other commissioners are paid a salary equal to the salary of a judge of the Supreme Court. On retirement they are entitled to a pension payable to a judge of the Supreme Court.
- All business of the election commission shall, as far as possible, be transacted unanimously. If the chief election commissioner and other election commissioners differ in opinion on any matter, such matter shall be decided according to the opinion of the majority.
- **Independence of ECI**

The constitution of India has ensured that the commission shall act as an independent body. Independence is secured by some of these provisions:

 - The chief election commissioner shall not be removed from office except in like manner and on like grounds as a judge of the Supreme Court. A judge of supreme court can be removed only by an order of the President passed after an address by each House of Parliament supported by a majority of the total membership of that House and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of that House present and voting has been presented to the President in the same session for such removal on the ground of proved misbehavior or incapacity.
 - The other election commissioners cannot be removed from office without recommendation of the CEC.
 - Their conditions of service shall not be varied to their disadvantage after their appointment.
 - It is the duty of the president or the governor of a state to make available to the commission , when so requested, such staff as may be necessary for the conduct of its functions.

- **Other functions of Election Commission**

- **Preparation of Electoral rolls**

- One of the most important functions of the election commission is to prepare for identification the up-to-date list of all the persons who are entitled for voting at the poll.

- **Recognition of political parties and allotment of symbols**

- Election commission gives recognition of parties and allotment of symbols via the authority vested in it via the Representation of The People (Amendment) Act, 1951. Section 29A of this act provides for registration of the political parties with the commission, of associations and bodies of individual citizens of India as political parties for purpose of recognized political party has been classified either as a national party or a state party under paragraph 7 of the elections symbol order, 1968.

- **Scrutiny of the nomination papers:**

- The election Commission of India examines the nomination papers of the candidates. These papers are accepted if found in order, but rejected otherwise. This duty is performed by the returning officer who notifies to all the contesting candidates the date, time and place for the formal scrutiny of nomination papers.

- **Monitoring of Election Expenses**

- Scrutinizing the accounts of election expenses submitted by contestants in elections. In India every contesting candidate is required to maintain and file the accounts of his election expenses within a prescribed period after publication of the result of his election.

Answer 4.

India has come a long way since its independence 70 years ago. Back then, a hard-fought independence came with besetting problems-partition, communal riots and a refugee crisis.

By 15 August 1947, the process of integration of princely states was almost complete but the holdouts-Hyderabad, Kashmir and Junagadh-were the toughest nuts to crack.

Vallabhbhai Patel, India's first deputy prime minister and the minister of home affairs, would not just handle these problems with dexterity but would go on to truly become-in the words of Shashi Tharoor-"the man who saved India".

By integrating more than 560 princely states, Patel and his secretary of the ministry of states V.P. Menon imparted geographic coherence to India and prevented its Balkanization, a fate which many predicted would befall the newborn state sooner than later.

Patel would use all the tricks in the bag-including the use of force, as Hyderabad and Junagadh show-to integrate the princely states with the Indian dominion.

An administrator by instinct, Patel sought to **protect the privileges of the Indian Civil Service officers** who were deemed to be compromised on account of their previous services to the Raj.

Patel argued against nationalization of industries and was for letting "those who have the knowledge and experience manage the industries and increase the country's wealth". He was a major driving force behind the liberal industrial policy resolution of 1948.

Patel was among the few to see the dangers from China's imminent takeover of Tibet. One of the foremost chroniclers of Sino-India relations, John W. Garver records: "Patel advocated a series of practical measures designed to strengthen India's position: accelerated road building in the frontier areas, strengthening of India's military capabilities, moves to better integrate the northeastern territories into India." Garver goes on to say: "Had India adopted Patel's recommendations in early 1951, history might have been very different."

On Kashmir, the realist Patel had advised Nehru against going to the UN. With this it can be safely concluded that, Sardar Vallabhai Patel's contribution to the Integration of India, his vision of a newly born state was unmatched and none of the contemporaries could have lived up to the requirements of the time better than him.

Answer 5.

- **Summary of Buddha's Teachings**

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- The Buddhavamsa mentioned total 29 Buddhas of which 27 preceded Gautam Buddha and Maitreya is future Buddha to come. The current Kalpa has five Buddhas viz. Kakusandha, Ko??gamana, Kassapa, Gautama and Maitreya.

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- Buddha's Teachings o Four Noble Truths
- Eight Fold Path or Astangika marg
- Two Most Important Questions focused by Buddha
- Buddha's analogy to a Great Physician
- **Buddha's Life**
- Gautam Buddha was born as Siddhartha. His father Shuddodhana was a leader of Shakya clan which was a republic with capital at Kapilvastu. His mother Mahamaya was princess of another such principality called Devadaha. His mother died soon after his birth and he was raised by Prajapati Gautami.
- He was born in Lumbini in modern-day Nepal, around the year 563 BC and raised in Kapilavastu. The main evidence that Buddha was born in Lumbini, Nepal is the Ashoka Pillar which is still at Lumbini.
- Buddha's Birth is celebrated as Vesaka in some countries while in India, it is celebrated as Buddha Purnima, which falls in month of Vaishaka / April or May.
- He was married to Yashodhara at the age of 16 who gave birth to his son Rahula. He left house at age of 29 years after encountering with human sufferings and due to the truth that human life is momentary and one has to suffer a lot. The objective of leaving home was to overcome the sufferings due to
- old age, illness and death. This leaving home is called the Great Departure or Mahaabhinashkramana.

- While wandering as ascetic he subjected himself to austerity. But austerity did not bring him desired results. He studied under two hermits Allara and Udaka to achieve knowledge, but that knowledge also did not satisfy him. He did several experiments for five years. Meanwhile, he concluded that neither the path of austerity nor the extreme luxury is correct way. Finally, he started moving away from ascetics and imbibed himself into meditation.
- At the age of 35 years, while meditating under a Pipal tree on the bank of river Niranjana at Gaya, he came across the desired truth. He now became Shakyamuni Buddha or the Buddha of Shakya Clan.
- His first followers were two merchants Tapussa and Bhallika. With other followers he gave his first sermon dealing with Four Noble Truths and the Noble Eightfold Path at Deer Park in Sarnath near Varanasi. This first sermon was called Dhammacakkappavattana Sutta. The four noble truths and Noble Eightfold Path became the core pillars of Buddhist teaching.
- Buddha and his teaching (Dhamma) along with the first union of his five disciples (Sanhga) formed the three gems (Triratna) of Buddhism.
- For rest of his life, Buddha travelled to many places and spread the Dhamma. He spent most of his monastic life in Sravasti. His parinirv??a happened at Ku?inagara at the age of 80 years.
- **Symbols associated with Buddha's Life**
- **Buddha's birth:** Lotus and Bull
- The Great Departure (Mahabhinishkramana) : Horse
- Enlightenment Bodhee tree {Peepal}
- First sermon (Dhammachakraparivartana) : Wheel
- **Death (Parinirvana):** Stupa Buddha's Teachings
- **Four Noble Truths**
- 1. **Dukkha :** World is full of sorrow and everything from birth to death brings sorrows
- 2. **Dukkha Samudaya (Cause of sorrow):** Desire is the cause of sorrow
- 3. Dukkha Nirodha (Prevention of sorrow): Triumph over desires leads to prevention of sorrow.

4. Dukkha Nirodha Gamini Patipada Magga or The path of Prevention of Sorrow: Man can avoid Dukkha by avoiding extremes of life and following middle path or Madhyam Patipada. The life of moderation and self control along with pursuance of 8 fold path is essential to prevent the Dukkha.
 - **Eight Fold Path or Astangika marg**
 - The eight fold path was recommended to eliminate the human misery. It comprises of three basic divisions of wisdom (Pragya Skanda), ethical conduct (Sheel Skanda) and meditation (Samadhi Skanda).
 - **Two Most Important Questions focused by Buddha**
 - Gautama Buddha is known to have concentrated on two most important questions about existence. These were (1) How can we minimize suffering-both our own and that of others? and (2) How can we attain inner peace?
 - **Buddha's analogy to a Great Physician**
In the Buddhist tradition, the Buddha is often compared to a great physician, and his teachings are compared to medicine. The teachings on the four noble truths in particular are related to a medical diagnosis, as follows:
 - **Dukkha:** identifying the illness and the nature of the illness (the diagnosis)
 - **Dukkha Samudaya:** identifying the causes of the illness (the etiology)
 - **Dukkha Nirodha:** identifying a cure for the illness (the prognosis)
 - **Magga:** recommending a treatment for the illness that can bring about a cure (the prescription)

Answer 6.

Indian influence on South-East Asia can be traced back since ancient times. India established trade relations with the kingdoms present in Cambodia, Malay Peninsula, Thailand and Burma. The spread of Hinduism and Buddhism to these areas can be directly attributed to the soft power status of India. In ancient Indian literature, the land was known as 'Suvarnabhumi' and trade routes were established from several Indian ports the prominent ones being Gopalpur, Masulipatnam. In Cambodia, the now world famous Angkor Wat was established by Khmer regime king Jeyavarman II and the development peaked under the patronage of Jeyavarman VI. In Thailand, the religion of Buddhism was propagated by monks sent by the Indian emperor Asoka the Great and the religion was adopted as the State religion of Thailand with suitable local modifications added to the religion. The warm trade and cultural relations that existed between the Sailendra Dynasty of Indonesia and Chola Dynasty are well documented. Hence, it can be concluded that the relations between South East Asian nations and India is not a relatively new development but had existed and in fact flourished since ancient times.

Answer 7.

● **Salient Features of Indian Agriculture**

- Subsistence Type
- Dependent on unreliable monsoon (60 %)
- India's vast relief, varying climate and soil conditions produce a variety of crops
- All tropical, subtropical and temperate crops are grown
- Predominance of food crop → 2/3rd of total cropped area
- Poor electricity, storage, water, credit & marketing
- Less Mechanization; Inadequate Agricultural research
- 1st rank in Milk (17% of world production), Mango, banana, coconut, cashew, papaya, peas, cassava and pomegranate
- Largest producer and exporter of spices, Millets, Pulses, Dry Bean, Ginger
- Overall, second largest producer of vegetable, fruits and fishes
- Have three main cropping seasons viz. Kharif, Rabi & Zaid

- Also known as Monsoon / Summer Crops
- Requires plenty of water
- Require long hot weather for growth
- Sown → May - July , Harvest → Sep - Oct
- Major Crops → Paddy, Sugarcane, Maize, Jowar, Bajra, Cotton,

Kharif Crops

Pulses, Groundnut, Soybean, Sunflower, Tea, Coffee, Rubber, Sesame, Guar etc.

Rabi Crops

- Also known as Winter Season Crops
- Requires less water
- Require cold weather for growth
- Sown → Oct - Nov, Harvest ? Feb - April
- Major Crops ? Wheat, Gram, Potato, Peas, Oil seeds (Rapeseed, linseed), Mustard etc.

- Sown between Rabi & Kharif crops i.e. from March to June
 - Requires warm dry weather for growth & longer day length for flowering
- Zaid**
- Major Crops → Seasonal fruits & vegetables (Musk melon, Water
- Crops**
- melon, Cucumber, China Paddy, Gourds, Fodder crops)

Answer 8.

Developments in Indus Valley Civilization

- Citadel / Acropolis at cities for member of ruling class (west side) & brick houses below citadel in town for commoners
- Remarkable grid system of roads ? Roads cutting at right angle to each other
- Large scale use of burnt bricks & total absence of stone buildings
- Remarkable underground drainage system connecting all houses & streets covered by bricks / stone slabs
- Agriculture technology was well developed (But no use of ploughshare) : Wheat, Rice, Barley, Peas etc. + Domesticated large scale of animals
- Cotton was 1st produced by Indus people hence Greeks called it Sindon which is derived from Sindh
- Harappan were 1st to produce silver in the world + wore gold, silver & beads Jewelry
- Practiced boat making, seal making, Bronze smith, Weavers etc.
- Granaries & seals show Harappan carried on considerable trade but only through Barter system
- No temples has been found at any of the site hence can be said that it was ruled by merchants not priests
- Worshiped Goddess Earth, Pipal Tree, Pashupati Mahadeva & Animals (Bull / Unicorn Rhino)
- 1st to invent the art of writing - Right to left - (Pictographic only → Not deciphered so far)
- Used weights for trade (Mostly in multiple of 16) & Bronze made marked sticks for measurements
- Were expert in Potter's wheel & pottery making
- Their greatest artistic creation was " Seals"
- Mostly limestone was used for sculptures.

**Indus Valley
Civilization Site**

Remarkable Feature

Mohenjodaro	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Great Bath (Largest Brick Work)• Great Granary (Largest Building)• Impressive drainage system• Bronze image of dancing girl• Image of steatite bearded man• Piece of woven cotton• Seal of pashupati• Prepared Garments• Skeletons on stairs of well (Mount of the dead)
Lothal	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Artificial Dock (Manchester of Harappan civilization)• Art of double burial• Cotton cultivation• Granary & Wooden plough• Wells in every house
Kalibangan Harappa	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Camels Bone• 2 rows of 6 granaries• Lancashire of India• Only city without citadel• Bangles Factory
Chanhudaro Rakhigarhi	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Beads Factory• Biggest Site

Theory of Decline of Indus Valley Civilization

- Natural Calamities such as floods, Earthquakes etc.
- Decrease in Land fertility
- Outbreak of an epidemic
- Decline of trade & Invasion of Aryans reported in Ashoka's times from Persia. There is abundant evidence of stone masons mark similar to those at Persepolis (Persia).

Answer 9.

Post-Mauryan Culture and Art

Contribution of Sungas

- The period saw a flowering of the visual arts, including small terracotta images, larger stone sculptures, and architectural monuments such as the chaitya hall at Bhaja, the stupa at Bharhut, and the renowned Great Stupa at Sanchi.
- Under Shunga patronage, the core of the Great Stupa, thought to date from the era of the Mauryan emperor Ashoka (273-232 B.C.), was enlarged to its present diameter of 120 feet, covered with a stone casing, topped with a balcony and umbrella, and encircled with a stone railing.
- Four famous gateways, each about thirty-five feet high, were carved during the first half of the first century A.D. Decorated with images of auspicious fertility spirits, known as yakshas and yakshis, the gateways also feature narratives depicting moments from the past lives and final existence of Siddhartha Gautama, the founder of Buddhism.
- Motifs such as wheels, thrones, and footprints are used to symbolize the Buddha, who is not represented in human form until later.

Contribution of Satvahanas

- The Satavahanas patronized Buddhism and Brahmanism and built chaityas and viharas. They also made grants of villages and lands to Buddhist monks.
- Vashishtaputra Pulamayi repaired the old Amaravathi stupa.
- Their architecture in Nagarjunakonda was also notable.
- Brahmanism was revived by the Satavahanas along with the performance of asvamedha and rajasuya sacrifices.

Sculptural Art during Kushan Kings

Under the patronage of the Indo-Greek, Indo Scythian and Kushan kings emerged a distinct style of sculpture, popularly known as the Greco-Roman, Buddhist or Gandhara art and Mathura Art.

Gandhara Art

- It was a combination of Hellenistic, West Asiatic and native elements. Greek and Roman techniques, modified according to Indian requirements, were employed in fashioning the Gandhara sculpture which truly represents Indian culture in a Western garb.
- Its area extended from Takshila in India to the Swat Valley in Pakistan and northwards to areas in Afghanistan.
- The Gandhara sculptors made images of Lord Buddha in the Greco-Roman style. The images of Buddha resembled Greek God Apollo. It gave more stress to the bodily features and external beauty.
- In all the Buddha depicted in the Gandhara Art is shown making four types of hand gestures and this is a remarkable feature in this art. The gestures are as follows:
 - (a) *Abahayamudra* : Don't fear
 - (b) *Dhyanamudra* : meditation
 - (c) *Dharmachakramudra*: a preaching mudra
 - (d) *Bhumisparshamudra*: Touching the earth.

Mathura Art

- Mathura School of art is purely indigenous style. Mathura art developed during post Maurya period (mainly during Shunga period) and reached its peak during the Gupta period (AD 325 to 600).
- The traditional centre, Mathura, remained the main art production site whereas Sarnath and Kosambi also emerged as important centres of art production. Spotted red sandstone has been used in this school.
- Themes in the Mathura Art vary from Buddhist to Brahmanical to sometimes secular. More stress was given to the inner beauty and facial emotions rather than bodily gesture.
- Under the Mathura Art images of Vishnu and Shiva, Buddha, Yakshas, Yakshinis, Shaivite and Vaishnavite deities were found.

- In these sculptures, Buddha was depicted as Human and the main theme was Buddha and Bodhisattavas. Both sitting and standing posture of Buddha's statues were carved out in the Mathura school.
- The art of Mathura also featured sexual imagery.
- The characteristics of the idol of the Buddha are: (a) Buddha sitting under a Bodhi tree with right hand in Abhaya posture, (b) Dharma Chakra and Triratna chiselled in palms and at the bottom of the feet, and (c) Except for one lock, the entire head is shaven.

The Amravati School of Art

- The Amravati school of Art evolved during Satavahna period.
- This school of art developed at Amravati, on the banks of the Krishna River in modern Andhra Pradesh.
- This school of art had great influence on art in Sri Lanka and South-East Asia as products from here were carried to those countries.
- It is Completely indigenous in nature
- Lord Buddha is depicted in the form of `Swastika` mark. This has been carved out on the cushioned seat over a throne that is situated under the Bodhi tree.
- They used white sandstone to construct the images.
- At a later stage the Amravati School depicted Buddha in the human form.
- The figures of Amravati have slim blithe features and are represented in difficult poses and curves.

Gandhara	Mathura	Amravati
1. High influence of helenistic and greek art features.	1. Indigenous in nature	1. Indigenous in nature
2. Grey-sandstone is used. (we also find images made of stucco with lime plaster)	2. Spotted red sandstone	2. White marble
3. Mainly Buddhist images are found	3. Buddhism, Jainism and hindu images are found.	3. Mainly Buddhism
4. Patron- kushana	4. Kushana	4. Satavahanas
5. Found in north-west india	5. North india. Mainly region of Mathura	5. Deccan region near Krishna-godavari delta.
6. Spiritual Buddha images. Very stylish with wavy hair.	6. Delighted Buddha and not spiritual look	6. Mainly depicts stories of jatakas.
7. Has beard and moustache.	7. No beard and moustache	
8. Lean body.	8. Strong muscular feature	
9. Both seated and standing images are found.	9. Most of them are seated.	
10. Eyes are half closed and ears are large	10. Eyes are open with small Ears.	

Answer 10.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a collection of 17 global goals set by the United Nations. The broad goals are interrelated though each has its own targets to achieve. The total number of targets is 169. The SDGs cover a broad range of social and economic development issues. These include poverty, hunger, health, education, climate change, gender equality, water, sanitation, energy, environment and social justice.[1] The SDGs are also known as "Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" or Agenda 2030 in short.

- 2.1 Goal 1: No Poverty
- 2.2 Goal 2: Zero Hunger
- 2.3 Goal 3: Good Health and Well-Being for people
- 2.4 Goal 4: Quality Education
- 2.5 Goal 5: Gender Equality
- 2.6 Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation
- 2.7 Goal 7: Affordable and Clean Energy
- 2.8 Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
- 2.9 Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
- 2.10 Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities
- 2.11 Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
- 2.12 Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production
- 2.13 Goal 13: Climate Change
- 2.14 Goal 14: Life Below Water
- 2.15 Goal 15: Life on Land
- 2.16 Goal 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
- 2.17 Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals

Answer 11.

Genesis of Indian Space Programme

The space research activities were initiated in India during the early 1960's, when applications using satellites were in experimental stages even in the United States. With the live transmission of Tokyo Olympic Games across the Pacific by the American Satellite 'Syncom-3' demonstrating the power of communication satellites, Dr. Vikram Sarabhai, the founding father of Indian space programme, quickly recognized the benefits of space technologies for India.

As a first step, the Department of Atomic Energy formed the INCOSPAR (Indian National Committee for Space Research) under the leadership of Dr. Sarabhai and Dr. Ramanathan in 1962. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) was later formed on August 15, 1969. The prime objective of ISRO is to develop space technology and its application to various national needs. It is one of the six largest space agencies in the world. The Department of Space (DOS) and the Space Commission were set up in 1972 and ISRO was brought under DOS on June 1, 1972.

Since inception, the Indian space programme has been orchestrated well and had three distinct elements such as, satellites for communication and remote sensing, the space transportation system and application programmes. Two major operational systems have been established - the Indian National Satellite (INSAT) for telecommunication, television broadcasting, and meteorological services and the Indian Remote Sensing Satellite (IRS) for monitoring and management of natural resources and Disaster Management Support.

Major milestones in Indian Space Programme

1. Indian Space Programme began at Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station (TERLS) located at Thumba near Thiruvananthapuram. Thumba was selected for being rocket launching station because geomagnetic equator of the earth passes over Thumba. The geomagnetic equator of the earth passes over Thumba.
2. On November 21, 1963, the first sounding rocket was launched from TERLS. The first rocket, a Nike-Apache was procured from the US. A sounding rocket is a rocket, which is intended for assessing the physical parameters of the upper atmosphere.
3. The Satellite Telecommunication Earth Station was set up at Ahmedabad on January 1, 1967.
4. India's first indigenous sounding rocket, RH-75, was launched on November 20, 1967.
5. Aryabhata - First Indian Satellite was launched on April 19, 1975. It was launched from the former Soviet Union. It provided India with the basis of learning satellite technology and designing.
6. During 1975-76, ISRO along with NASA developed an answer of using space communications system for TV broadcasting. This resulted in the creation of the project Satellite Instructional Television Experiment (SITE). It was a one-year program covering Indian villages and districts. The main purpose of SITE was to experiment usage of satellite broadcasting to educate the masses. SITE, hailed as 'the largest sociological experiment in the world' benefited around 200,000 people, covering 2400 villages of six states and transmitted development oriented programmes using the American Technology Satellite (ATS-6).
7. During January 1, 1977 - January 1, 1979, Satellite Telecommunication Experiments Project (STEP), a joint project of ISRO and Post and Telegraphs Department (P&T) using the Franco-German Symphonie satellite was taken up. Conceived as a sequel to SITE which focused on Television, STEP was for telecommunication experiments.
8. Bhaskara-I - an experimental satellite for earth observations was launched on June 7, 1979.
9. First Experimental launch of SLV-3 with Rohini Technology Payload on board (August 10, 1979). Satellite could not be placed in orbit. Satellite Launch Vehicle-3 (SLV-3) is the first launch vehicle of India.
10. Second Experimental launch of SLV-3, Rohini satellite successfully placed in orbit. (July 18, 1980).
11. Ariane Passenger Payload Experiment (APPLE), an experimental geo-stationary communication satellite was successfully launched on June 19, 1981. It became the forerunner for future communication satellite system.
12. Indian National Satellite system (INSAT)-1A was launched on April 10, 1982. This system was for the communication, broadcasting and meteorology.
13. On April 2, 1984, the first Indo-Soviet manned space mission was launched. Rakesh Sharma became the first Indian citizen to go into space. He flew aboard in the Soviet rocket Soyuz T-11, as part of a three member Soviet-Indian crew.
14. The first operational Indian Remote Sensing Satellite, IRS-1A was launched on March 17, 1988.
15. On March 24, 1987, the first developmental launch of Augmented Satellite Launch Vehicle (ASLV) that supported a larger payload than the SLV-3 and was meant to be low-cost happened.
16. Launch of first operational Indian Remote Sensing Satellite, IRS-1A happened on March 17, 1988.
17. Second developmental launch of Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) with IRS-P2, on board took place on October 15, 1994. Satellite successfully placed in Polar Sun synchronous Orbit. PSLV went on to become a favoured carrier for satellites of various countries due to its reliability and cost efficiency, promoting unprecedented international collaboration.

18. The first developmental launch of Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV)-D1 with GSAT-1 on board took off from Sriharikota on April 18, 2001. It was developed keeping in mind the heavier and more demanding Geosynchronous communication satellites.
19. INSAT-4CR weighing 2130 kg and launched by GSLV-F04 on September 2, 2007 is the heaviest satellite launched from India.
20. PSLV-C11 successfully launches CHANDRAYAAN-1 from Sriharikota on October 22, 2008. Chandrayaan-1 is a scientific investigation - by spacecraft - of the Moon. The name Chandrayaan means "Chandra- Moon, Yaan-vehicle", -in Indian languages (Sanskrit and Hindi) , - the lunar spacecraft. Chandrayaan-1 is the first Indian planetary science and exploration mission. Chandrayaan-1 was operational for 312 days till August 28, 2009.
21. November 5, 2013 - PSLV - C25 successfully launches Mars Orbiter Mission (Mangalyaan) Spacecraft from Sriharikota.
22. On February 15, 2017, PSLV-C37, the 39th mission of the workhorse launch vehicle of ISRO, injected ISRO's Cartosat-2 Series Satellite weighing 714 kg and two ISRO Nano-satellites namely INS-1A (8.4 kg) & INS-1B (9.7 kg) and 101 Nano-satellites, from six foreign countries into a Sun-Synchronous Orbit (SSO) at an orbit of 506 km above earth, with an inclination of 97.46°. The mass of nano-satellites varied from 1 to 10 kg. The total weight of all the 104 satellites carried on-board PSLV-C37 was 1378 kg.
23. PSLV-C38/Cartosat-2 Series Satellite Mission was launched on June 23, 2017 from SDSC SHAR, Sriharikota. India's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle, in its 40th flight (PSLV-C38), launched the 712 kg Cartosat-2 series satellite for earth observation and 30 co-passenger satellites together weighing about 243 kg at lift-off into a 505 km polar Sun Synchronous Orbit (SSO).
24. India's latest communication satellite, GSAT-17 was inducted into the INSAT/GSAT system on June 29, 2017 from Kourou,

French Guiana by Ariane-5 VA-238. Weighing 3477 kg at lift-off, GSAT-17 carries Payloads in Normal C-band, Extended C-band and S-band to provide various communication services. GSAT-17 also carries equipment for meteorological data relay and satellite based search and rescue services being provided by earlier INSAT satellites.

Answer. NITI Aayog: The Institutional Structure First Published: December 13, 2015 | Last Updated: January 27, 2018 NITI Aayog (Policy Commission) or National Institution for Transforming India was established via a Union Cabinet resolution on January 1, 2015 as a premier Policy Think Tank of the Union Government. It's an extra-constitutional, non-statutory and advisory body. Contents [hide]

- Aims and Functions of Niti Aayog
- Composition of NITI Aayog
- Current Key Officers of NITI Aayog
- Two Hubs of NITI Aayog
- Offices Attached To the NITI Aayog
- DMEQ
- NILERD Aims and Functions of Niti Aayog The key objectives to establish NITI Aayog were as follows:
- To work as an advisory body to give directional and strategic inputs to Union Government and also State governments on request.
- Put an end to the slow and tardy implementation of the policy by fostering inter-ministry, inter-state and centre-state coordination.
- To foster cooperative federalism on the principle of Strong states make a strong nation.
- To replace the top-down development approach with bottom-top development approach.
- To design policy framework for weaker section of society that may not have benefited from economic progress.

- To create a knowledge, innovation and entrepreneurial support system via a community of national and international experts, practitioners and partners.
- To serve as a platform for resolution of inter-sectoral and inter-departmental issues in order to accelerate the implementation of the development agenda.
- To monitor and evaluate the implementation of programmes, and focus on technology upgradation and capacity building. On the basis of above, functions of NITI Aayog can be divided into four categories viz. (1) To act as a Resource Centre & Knowledge Hub (2) Design Policy & Programme Framework (3) Foster Cooperative Federalism (4) Monitoring and Evaluation.

Composition of NITI Ayog

- Chairperson-Prime Minister
- Governing Council- Its members are Chief Ministers and Administrators of the Union Territories
- Regional Councils-These are created as per need and its members would be chief ministers and administrators of UTs of respective regions.
- Vice-Chairperson- The Vice-chairperson of the Niti Aayog is appointed by Prime Minister. Further, the NITI Aayog has full time members (number unspecified), part time members (maximum 2, these would be scholars from universities and research institutions), Ex-officio members (maximum 4, these are ministers from Union Council of Ministers), Special Invitees (appointed by PM for fixed tenure. Finally, there is a Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Niti Ayog, who is appointed by Prime Minister and has a rank similar to Secretary to the Government of India.

Current Key Officers of NITI Aayog

- Chairperson: Prime Minister Narendra Modi
- Vice Chairperson: Dr. Rajiv Kumar

- Full-Time Members: Dr. Bibek Debroy; V.K. Saraswat; Prof. Ramesh Chand and Dr. V. K. Paul
- Chief Executive Officer: Amitabh Kant

Two Hubs of NITI Aayog

At the core of NITI Aayog's creation are two hubs viz. **Team India Hub (KIH)** and the Knowledge and Innovation Hub (KIH). These two components were created by an order in August, 2015. Further, the Task force under Sindhushree Khullar had proposed to restructure NITI aayog into three components viz. TIH, KIH and a Flexi pool. The third component is currently under progress as the recruitment rules were not finalised. The objective of flex pool was to augment institution's capacity to take on new assignments.

Difference between Niti Ayog and Planning Commission

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 Planning Commission was an advisory body, and so is Niti Ayog. But the key difference between them is that while the former had powers to allocate funds to ministries and states; this function will be now of finance ministry. Niti Ayog is essentially a think tank and a truly advisory body. Other differences are as follows:

- The role of states in the planning commission era was limited. The states annually needed to interact with the planning commission to get their annual plan approved. They had some limited function in the National Development Council. Since Niti Ayog has all chief ministers of states and administrators of UT in its Governing Council, it is obvious that states are expected to have greater role and say in planning/ implementation of policies.
- The top down approach is reversed in Niti Ayog. It will develop mechanisms to formulate credible plAnswer to the village level and aggregate these progressively at higher levels of government.
- The provision of regional council is there in Niti Ayog to address local / regional development issues.

- One of the new functions of Niti Ayog is to address the need of the National Security in the economic strategy. How this is to be done - is yet to be watched.
- While the planning commission formed Central Plan, Niti Ayog will not formulate them anymore. It has been vested with the responsibility of evaluating the implementation of programmes. In this way, while Niti Ayog retains the advisory and monitoring functions of the Planning commission, the function of framing Plan and allocating funds for Plan assisted schemes has been taken away. The governing council, which has all chief ministers of states and administrators of the Union Territories sounds much like the National Development Council.