

Topic Wise General Studies Preparation Guidelines

Civil Services Examination Paper-3 General Studies- 2

Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International Relations.

Before starting the preparation for this section prepare the following NCERT books.

NCERT Class 11th- Indian Constitution at Work

NCERT Class 12th – Political science II

NCERT Class 10th – Democratic Politics

Note: Keep your eyes and ears open for issues in everyday news, relating to these topics.

Functions and Responsibilities of the Union and the States, issues and challenges pertaining to the federal structure, devolution of powers and finances up to local levels and challenges therein.

What does the phrase FEDERAL STRUCTURE mean?

It literally refers to a structure of governance which is designed in a way to ensure wide distribution of responsibilities across various levels of popularly elected representatives, from Gram Sabhas to the Union Government.

In such a structure of governance, it is always the constitution that specifies what areas of public life the Union Government will take control over, what areas of public life the State Governments will take control over and so on.

Federal structure of governments is best used in large countries where there exists a diverse group of people with diverse needs but a common culture that unites them together.

The following is the best source for preparing this section.

The thirteenth report of the 2nd Administrative Reforms Commission (ARC) deals with exactly these topics. Here is the weblink.

https://darpg.gov.in/sites/default/files/org_structure_gov13.pdf

In addition to this, study the following:

[https://www.academia.edu/5142987/Fiscal Devolution to Local Governments in India-Issues and Challenges](https://www.academia.edu/5142987/Fiscal_Devolution_to_Local_Governments_in_India-Issues_and_Challenges)

Also study this “Centre-State Financial relationship- the constitutional precepts and practices: a study of the fiscal federalism under Indian constitution with special reference to the state of Kerala”; the weblink is provided below.

<http://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/handle/10603/6626>

In addition to these, study the chapter 2 and 3 from the link below:

<http://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/handle/10603/199105>

Finally In addition to the above three, prepare your notes from the below mentioned book:

Laxmikant’s Indian Polity.

Note: Though only few chapters of the book relate to this section of the syllabus, you need to make notes from the entire book, as it is very relevant for other sections of the CIVIL SERVICES EXAMINATION

Making notes doesn’t mean collecting bullet points in your notebooks, or collecting Xerox copies. Develop a habit of writing phrases, framing your own sentences, your paragraphs.

REMEMBER, WHILE MAKING NOTES, YOU ARE ALSO PRACTICING FRAMING YOUR OWN ANSWERS.

Again, make your own notes (**do not buy notes from market, somebody else’s hard work will not reap benefits for you**). Once you have covered all of it and made your notes, just keep revising it, repeating it, as much as possible, up till your exam.

“Your notes are your hard work, stay loyal to them”

If you are reading anything beyond the ones stated above, you are either wasting your time or over studying.

We will be providing you a list of reference books that you need to pick up and read, once you finish the ones we are mentioning here.

Note: Reading means understanding while pronouncing, do not move further unless you have understood a line of text.

Note: While reading anything during your civil services preparation, the moment you come across a new word, of which you don't know the meaning, look it up in the dictionary, once you understand the meaning of that word, use that word in your sentences while making your notes. This way, you will simultaneously **improve your vocabulary** and your answers in your GS mains paper will be more mature in language.

That's all, this topic is done, do not waste your time digging for any more data.