

SHANKAR IAS ACADEMY

QUESTION WISE ANALYSIS OF 2018 GS 2 MAINS

#	Questions asked in GS 2 – 2018	Area in Mains Syllabus	Nature of question	Why asked?
1	In the light of recent controversy regarding the use of Electronic Voting Machines (EVM), what are the challenges before the Election Commission of India to ensure the trustworthiness of elections in India?	Functions and Responsibilities of Various Constitutional Bodies	Current Affairs	Issues related to the credibility of EVMs were frequently in news
2	Whether National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC) can enforce the implementation of constitutional reservation for the Scheduled Castes in the religious minority institutions? Examine.	Statutory, Regulatory and various quasi judicial bodies	Static	Static
3	Under what circumstances can the Financial Emergency be proclaimed by the President of India? What consequences follow when such a declaration remains in force?	Indian Constitution – Features, Significant provisions	Static	Static
4	Why do you think the committees are considered to be useful for parliamentary work? Discuss, in this context, the role of the Estimates Committee.	Parliament – Conduct of Business	Static	Static
5	“The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) has a very vital role to play.” Explain how this is reflected in the method and terms of his appointment as well as the range of powers he can exercise.	Appointment to various Constitutional posts, powers, functions and responsibilities	Current Affairs	2G Spectrum Verdict
6	“Policy contradictions among various competing sectors and stakeholders have resulted in inadequate ‘protection and prevention of degradation to environment.” Comment with relevant illustrations.	Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation	Static	Static
7	Appropriate local community level healthcare intervention is a prerequisite to achieve ‘Health for All’	Issues relating to development and management of Social	Current Affairs	Announcement of Ayushman Bharat in this year’s

SHANKAR IAS ACADEMY

	in India. Explain.	Sector/Services relating to Health, Education, Human Resource		Budget
8	E-governance is not only about utilization of the power of new technology, but also much about critical importance of the 'use value' of information. Explain.	e-governance-applications, models, successes, limitations, and potential	Static	Static
9	"India's relations with Israel have, of late, acquired a depth and diversity, which cannot be rolled back." Discuss.	India and its neighbourhood- relations	Current Affairs	Mutual Bilateral visits by both Heads of State
10	A number of outside powers have entrenched themselves in Central Asia, which is a zone of interest to India. Discuss the implications, in this context, of India's joining the Ashgabat Agreement, 2018.	Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India's interests	Current Affairs	India joins the Ashgabat Agreement
11	Whether the Supreme Court Judgement (July 2018) can settle the political tussle between the Lt. Governor and elected government of Delhi? Examine.	Issues and challenges pertaining to the federal structure, devolution of powers	Current Affairs	Supreme Court Judgement
12	How far do you agree with the view that tribunals curtail the jurisdiction of ordinary courts? In view of the above, discuss the constitutional validity and competency of the tribunals in India.	Statutory, regulatory and various quasi-judicial bodies	Static	Static
13	Indian and USA are two large democracies. Examine the basic tenets on which the two political systems are	Comparison of the Indian constitutional scheme with that of other countries	Static	Static

SHANKAR IAS ACADEMY

	based.			
14	How is the Finance Commission of India constituted? What do you know about the terms of reference of the recently constituted Finance Commission? Discuss.	Powers, functions and responsibilities of various Constitutional Bodies	Current Affairs	Changes in the provisions of the New Finance Commission
15	Assess the importance of the Panchayat system in India as a part of local government. Apart from government grants, what sources the Panchayats can look out for financing developmental projects?	Issues and challenges pertaining to the federal structure, devolution of powers and finances up to local levels and challenges therein.	Static	Static
16	Multiplicity of various commissions for the vulnerable sections of the society leads to problems of overlapping jurisdiction and duplication of functions. Is it better to merge all commissions into an umbrella Human Rights Commission? Argue your case.	Statutory, regulatory and various quasi-judicial bodies	Static	Static
17	How far do you agree with the view that the focus on lack of availability of food as the main cause of hunger takes the attention away from ineffective human development policies in India?	Issues relating to poverty and hunger	Static	Static
18	The Citizen's Charter is an ideal instrument of organisational transparency and accountability, but it has its own limitations. Identify the limitations and suggest measures for greater effectiveness of the	Citizens charters, transparency & accountability and institutional and other measures	Static	Static

SHANKAR IAS ACADEMY

	Citizen's Charters.			
19	What are the key areas of reform if the WTO has to survive in the present context of 'Trade War', especially keeping in mind the interest of India?	Important International institutions, agencies and fora- their structure, mandate.	Current Affairs	Diplomatic tussle between USA and China
20	In what ways would the ongoing US-Iran Nuclear Pact Controversy affect the national interest of India? How should India respond to its situation?	Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India's interests	Current Affairs	Controversy surrounding the US – Iran Nuclear Deal

OVERALL TREND ANALYSIS

Trends in Polity

- The importance of Polity in Paper II has increased dramatically in the last four years. It holds 11 questions in 2018 paper.
- 5 out of 11 questions were related to Constitutional, Statutory and Regulatory bodies
- For the first time in four years, a question from World Constitution has been asked.
- It has a balance of questions derived from both Static and Current Events

Trends in Governance

- The number of questions from Governance is 5 down from 9 in 2015 paper.
- Rather than Current Events, questions which were based on Static areas dominate which is quite unconventional for Governance

Trends in International Relations

- International Relations continue to hold 4 questions consistently in the last four years.

SHANKAR IAS ACADEMY

- All the Questions from the domain are related to Current Events

Overall

- The importance of Polity has increased in Paper II consistently.
- The paper has an almost equal balance of both Static areas and Current Events.







