

SHERLOCKING SIMULATOR · FULL-LENGTH TEST

General Studies — Paper III

SET B

Time Allowed : Three Hours | Maximum Marks : 250

Roll No. _____

Name _____

Date _____ Time _____

Medium of Writing _____

Signature of Candidate _____

INSTRUCTIONS

1. There are **TWENTY** questions in all. **All questions are compulsory.**
2. The number of marks carried by a question is indicated against it. Questions 1–10 carry 10 marks each (answer in about 150 words); Questions 11–20 carry 15 marks each (answer in about 250 words).
3. Answers must be written in the medium authorized, which must be stated clearly in the space provided above. No marks will be given for answers written in an unauthorized medium.
4. Word limit, wherever specified, should be adhered to.
5. Any page or portion of the page left blank in this booklet must be clearly struck off.



SCAN TO ENROL
Sherlocking Mains Comprehensive Module
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General Studies — Paper III — Set B

TIME ALLOWED : THREE HOURS | MAXIMUM MARKS : 250

Note: All questions are compulsory. The number of marks carried by a question is indicated against it. Answers must be written in the authorized medium. Q. 1–10 are to be answered in about 150 words each; Q. 11–20 in about 250 words each.

QUESTIONS 1–10 · 10 MARKS EACH

- Q1.** The Income-tax Act, 2025 recodifies India's direct-tax law. Discuss its rationale and gains in simplification, compliance, and dispute reduction. 10
- Q2.** Can asset monetisation (leasing public assets) and PPPs bridge India's infrastructure financing gap? Evaluate both instruments' effectiveness, and examine how PM Gati Shakti can improve their outcomes. 10
- Q3.** Examine the potential of natural farming to restore soil health and build climate resilience in Indian agriculture. What concerns does it raise for crop yields and food security? 10
- Q4.** India's water-stressed agriculture still relies on water-intensive, low-efficiency irrigation, with drip and sprinkler systems spreading slowly despite the 'Per Drop More Crop' push. Account for this persistence of inefficient water use. 10
- Q5.** With non-fossil sources now half of India's installed capacity, examine the challenges of integrating variable renewable power into grids, including storage and transmission. How far can green hydrogen address them? 10
- Q6.** Explain quantum computing and quantum-secure communication. Assess what India's National Quantum Mission seeks to achieve in building sovereign capability in this domain. 10
- Q7.** How can Ramsar wetlands and marine protected areas help India meet its 30x30 conservation target, and how can this be reconciled with a sustainable blue economy? Discuss. 10
- Q8.** Cyclones, sea-level rise and shoreline erosion together threaten India's coast. Account for this combined coastal and marine vulnerability. Is the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) framework adequate to address it? 10
- Q9.** India was declared free of Left-Wing Extremism, districts falling from over a hundred to nil. What challenges arise in holding and developing the cleared areas, and how can resurgence be prevented? 10
- Q10.** Explain how online radicalisation and the drugs-terror nexus reinforce each other, and discuss counter-measures to tackle them jointly. 10

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QUESTIONS 11–20 · 15 MARKS EACH

- Q11.** With major economies weaponising tariffs, how can India build a trade strategy resilient to such shocks? Examine with reference to FTAs, diversification of export markets and supply chains, and deeper GVC integration. 15
- Q12.** Can the Employment Linked Incentive scheme and gig worker welfare funds turn jobless growth into inclusive, quality employment? Comment. 15
- Q13.** Assess how institutional credit and crop insurance, especially KCC, PMFBY and Farmer Producer Organisations, stabilise farmer incomes. How far do they address risk vulnerabilities of small and marginal farmers? 15
- Q14.** Millets and other nutri-cereals are climate-resilient crops for a warming India. How can mainstreaming them in production and diets strengthen nutrition security? Discuss the major constraints limiting their wider adoption. 15
- Q15.** India depends on imported critical minerals and rare earths for energy transition and defence. Examine the vulnerabilities this creates and steps to secure supply, including NCMM, recycling and overseas acquisition through KABIL. 15
- Q16.** Assess the significance of biomanufacturing, genomics and indigenous vaccines under the BioE3 Policy for India's economy, health security and self-reliance. 15
- Q17.** Cloudbursts and glacial lake outburst floods (GLOFs) increasingly cascade into compound Himalayan disasters as unregulated construction pushes settlements past fragile slopes' carrying capacity. Analyse the causes. How far can early warning systems and resilient infrastructure reduce their impact? 15
- Q18.** Examine how far the Green Credit Programme and compensatory afforestation advance India's forest carbon-sink target, improving quality not merely green cover. 15
- Q19.** Cyberattacks on India's critical information infrastructure pose a serious threat to national security. Discuss. Suggest the key elements a comprehensive National Cyber Security Strategy must incorporate to safeguard it. 15
- Q20.** With defence production at a record Rs 1.5 lakh crore and exports near Rs 24,000 crore in FY25, distinguish the DRDO-DPSU public pillar from the private sector and assess self-reliance, weighing achievements against persisting capability gaps. 15

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Q1. The Income-tax Act, 2025 recodifies India's direct-tax law. Discuss its rationale and gains in simplification, compliance, and dispute reduction. **(10 marks)**

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Q2. Can asset monetisation (leasing public assets) and PPPs bridge India's infrastructure financing gap? Evaluate both instruments' effectiveness, and examine how PM Gati Shakti can improve their outcomes. **(10 marks)**

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Q3. Examine the potential of natural farming to restore soil health and build climate resilience in Indian agriculture. What concerns does it raise for crop yields and food security? **(10 marks)**

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Q4. India's water-stressed agriculture still relies on water-intensive, low-efficiency irrigation, with drip and sprinkler systems spreading slowly despite the 'Per Drop More Crop' push. Account for this persistence of inefficient water use. **(10 marks)**

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Q5. With non-fossil sources now half of India's installed capacity, examine the challenges of integrating variable renewable power into grids, including storage and transmission. How far can green hydrogen address them? **(10 marks)**

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Q6. Explain quantum computing and quantum-secure communication. Assess what India's National Quantum Mission seeks to achieve in building sovereign capability in this domain. **(10 marks)**

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Q7. How can Ramsar wetlands and marine protected areas help India meet its 30x30 conservation target, and how can this be reconciled with a sustainable blue economy? Discuss. **(10 marks)**

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Q8. Cyclones, sea-level rise and shoreline erosion together threaten India's coast. Account for this combined coastal and marine vulnerability. Is the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) framework adequate to address it? **(10 marks)**

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Q9. India was declared free of Left-Wing Extremism, districts falling from over a hundred to nil. What challenges arise in holding and developing the cleared areas, and how can resurgence be prevented? **(10 marks)**

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Q10. Explain how online radicalisation and the drugs-terror nexus reinforce each other, and discuss counter-measures to tackle them jointly. **(10 marks)**

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Q11. With major economies weaponising tariffs, how can India build a trade strategy resilient to such shocks? Examine with reference to FTAs, diversification of export markets and supply chains, and deeper GVC integration. **(15 marks)**

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Q12. Can the Employment Linked Incentive scheme and gig worker welfare funds turn jobless growth into inclusive, quality employment? Comment. **(15 marks)**

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Q14. Millets and other nutri-cereals are climate-resilient crops for a warming India. How can mainstreaming them in production and diets strengthen nutrition security? Discuss the major constraints limiting their wider adoption. **(15 marks)**

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Q18. Examine how far the Green Credit Programme and compensatory afforestation advance India's forest carbon-sink target, improving quality not merely green cover. **(15 marks)**

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Q19. Cyberattacks on India's critical information infrastructure pose a serious threat to national security. Discuss. Suggest the key elements a comprehensive National Cyber Security Strategy must incorporate to safeguard it. **(15 marks)**

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