



# MADE EASY

India's Best Institute for IES, GATE & PSUs

## ESE-2017 : Prelims Exam

UPSC Engineering Services Examination

## GENERAL STUDIES & ENGG . APTITUDE

### Answer Key & Solutions

Test 18: Part Syllabus Non-Technical  
Current Issues: National & International

- |         |         |         |         |         |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1. (a)  | 11. (b) | 21. (d) | 31. (c) | 41. (c) |
| 2. (d)  | 12. (d) | 22. (c) | 32. (d) | 42. (c) |
| 3. (b)  | 13. (d) | 23. (b) | 33. (a) | 43. (b) |
| 4. (a)  | 14. (a) | 24. (b) | 34. (b) | 44. (a) |
| 5. (b)  | 15. (c) | 25. (a) | 35. (c) | 45. (d) |
| 6. (c)  | 16. (a) | 26. (c) | 36. (a) | 46. (b) |
| 7. (c)  | 17. (c) | 27. (a) | 37. (b) | 47. (c) |
| 8. (d)  | 18. (c) | 28. (b) | 38. (b) | 48. (b) |
| 9. (c)  | 19. (d) | 29. (b) | 39. (d) | 49. (a) |
| 10. (d) | 20. (c) | 30. (d) | 40. (c) | 50. (b) |

**DETAILED EXPLANATIONS**

1. (a)
  - As per Indus Waters Treaty, the control over Ravi, Beas and Sutlej rivers was given to India, while Pakistan to control Indus, Jhelum and Chenab rivers.
  - Though Indus originates from Tibet, China has been kept out of the treaty.
3. (b)

The International Solar Alliance (ISA) is headquartered in the campus of National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE) in Gurugram, Haryana.
4. (a)

Under the Setu Bharatam Project, Andhra Pradesh will have maximum number of rail over-bridges (ROBs) to be constructed (33).
5. (b)

Project Sunrise seeks to improve interventions against Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) infection and Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) among People Who Inject Drugs (PWID) in 8 North-eastern states.
7. (c)

The Uniform Civil Code is mandated upon the State under Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP).
8. (d)
  - The Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia – People’s Army (FARC–EP) is a left wing military organization established in 1964. It is Colombia’s largest rebel group and Latin America’s oldest left-wing insurgency. The group is also active in Venezuela, Panama and Ecuador.
  - Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos has been awarded Nobel Peace Prize 2016 for his resolute efforts for peace accord with FARC. However, the peace accord was later rejected by Colombian voters with 50.2% opposed the accord while 49.8% supported it.
9. (c)
  - Recently Ethiopia, Bolivia, Sweden and Kazakhstan have been elected as non-permanent member of United Nations Security Council for two-year term starting from 1 January, 2017 till 31 December, 2018.
  - Italy and the Netherlands were contesting for the fifth seat but due to same number of votes, they agreed to split the two-year term by one year for each.
11. (b)

Zika Virus is primarily transmitted to people through the bite of an infected mosquito from the Aedes genus, mainly Aedes aegypti in tropical regions.
14. (a)

The 22<sup>nd</sup> session of the Conference of the Parties (COP-22) on climate change was held in Marrakech, Morocco from 7–18 November 2016.
15. (c)

The Governor of Reserve Bank of India will be ex-officio chairperson of Monetary Policy Committee (MPC).

16. (a)

- Greenfield projects are those projects in which a parent entity begins a new venture by constructing new facilities in a country outside their headquartered country.
- Brownfield projects are those projects in which an entity purchases an existing facility to begin new production.

17. (c)

- The Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) is a trade agreement among 12 Pacific Rim countries which aims to cut trade tariffs and sets common standard.
- The member countries of TPP are Australia, Canada, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, United States, Vietnam, Chile, Brunei, Singapore and New Zealand.

18. (c)

Ease of Doing Business is an index published by the World Bank.

19. (d)

- MUDRA is for developing Micro industries and not for heavy industries. It stands for Micro Units Development & Refinance Agency Ltd (MUDRA).
- MUDRA is for re-financing and not for direct financing to organizations engaged in manufacturing sector. It is responsible for supporting the finance Institutions which are in the business of lending to micro/small business entities engaged in manufacturing, trading and service activities.
- MUDRA would partner with Banks, Micro Finance Institutions and other lending institutions at state level/regional level to provide financial support to the micro enterprise sector in the country.

20. (c)

The eight core infrastructure supportive industries namely coal, crude oil, natural gas, refinery products, fertilizers, steel, cement and electricity with a total weight of 37.90 percent in the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) have registered a growth of 3.7 percent during 2014-15 as compared to 4.2 percent during 2013-14. During the year 2014-15, the growth in the coal sector was 8.4 percent, 8.1 percent in electricity, 5.6 percent in cement, 1.3 percent in steel and 0.4 percent in refinery products sector. Crude oil, natural gas and fertilizers sectors have shown negative growth during 2014-15.

21. (d)

Padhe Bharat Badhe Bharat is a nationwide sub-programme under the Sarva Siksha Abhiyaan. This programme has been planned in a twin track approach:

- (i) To improve language development by creating an enduring interest in reading and writing with comprehension; and
- (ii) To create a natural and positive interest in mathematics related to their physical and social world.

22. (c)

- The Parliament has recently passed the Constitution (122nd Amendment) (GST) Bill, 2014 after it was unanimously passed by the Lok Sabha by approving all the amendments made by Rajya Sabha earlier.
- The Bill requires approval of half of the States as per Article 368 of Constitution as it is a constitutional amendment bill dealing with changes in the features of fiscal federalism.

23. (b)
- Inflation targeting refers to the monetary policy strategy where an inflation target is set and policy formulation is done in such a way so as to achieve that specified target. The Reserve Bank of India officially adopted inflation targeting as a monetary policy strategy in February 2015.
  - The inflation target is to be revisited once in every five years.
  - In order to meet the inflation target, the RBI raises or lowers interest rates.
24. (b)
- The Wassenaar Arrangement is for export controls of Conventional Arms and Dual-Use Goods & Technologies.
  - The Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) is for the control of nuclear related technology.
  - The Australia Group is for control of chemical and biological technology that could be weaponized.
25. (a)
- Swachh Yug campaign is a collaborative effort of Union Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation; Union Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation; and Union Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. It aims to make villages located along the Ganga, open defecation-free. So, it is not for all the districts in the country, but is to bring about behavioural change among people staying in villages along the holy river.
  - As part of the campaign, the Ministry of Youth Affairs, under the coordination of the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan, will enlist support of youth agencies such as the Bharat Scouts and Guides, Nehru Yuva Kendras and National Service Scheme.
26. (c)
- United Payment Interface (UPI) is a payment system that allows money transfer between any two bank accounts by using a smartphone.
  - UPI allows a customer to pay directly from a bank account to different merchants, both online and offline, without the hassle of typing credit card details, IFSC code, or net banking/wallet passwords.
  - For using UPI, users need to create a Virtual Payment Address (VPA) of their choice and link it to any bank account. The VPA acts as their financial address and users need not remember beneficiary account number, IFSC codes or net banking user id/password for sending or receiving money.
27. (a)
- National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF) has been registered as category II Alternative Investment Funds under the SEBI regulations. Initial authorized capital of the Fund is set at ₹ 20000 crore. An initial allocation of ₹ 4000 crore was made under the Union Budget 2016-17.
  - Alternate Investment Funds (AIFs) are regulated by the Securities and Exchange Board of India under (Alternative Investment Funds) Regulations, 2012, and classified under three categories - Categories I, II and III, from the angle of tax treatment under provisions of Income Tax Act.
  - Both Greenfield and Brownfield projects can be financed out of NIIF.
28. (b)
- **Cash Reserve Ratio:** It is a specified minimum fraction of the total deposits of customers, which commercial banks have to hold as reserves either in cash or as deposits with the RBI. This minimum ratio is stipulated by the RBI.

- **Statutory Liquidity Ratio:** Every bank is required to maintain at the close of business every day, a minimum proportion of their Net Demand and Time Liabilities as liquid assets in the form of cash, gold and un-encumbered approved securities. The ratio of liquid assets to demand and time liabilities is known as Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR).

29. (b)

- AMRUT stands for Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation.
- The components of the AMRUT consist of capacity building, reform implementation, water supply, sewerage and septage management, storm water drainage, urban transport and development of green spaces and parks.

31. (c)

- Aerogel is a synthetic porous ultralight material derived from a gel, in which the liquid component of the gel has been replaced with a gas.
- Aerogel is a solid with extremely low density and low thermal conductivity.
- Aerogels are produced by extracting the liquid component of a gel through supercritical drying. This allows the liquid to be slowly dried off without causing the solid matrix in the gel to collapse from capillary action, as would happen with conventional evaporation. The first aerogels were produced from silica gels.

32. (d)

- Scramjet stands for Supersonic Combustion Ramjet. It breathes air and uses high speed vehicle to forcefully compress the incoming air before combustion. Conventional aircraft engines on the other hand, compresses air using fan before combustion. It is also called the air breathing engine as it uses atmospheric oxygen to burn the hydrogen fuel.
- Scramjets are efficient only at supersonic speed.
- ISRO used an Advanced Technology Vehicle (ATV), a sound rocket for the test.

33. (a)

Pakistan became an Associate Member of CERN in 2014.

36. (a)

The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has recently launched Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan to improve health care facilities for pregnant women. Under the scheme, pregnant ladies will be given free health check-up and required treatment free of cost on 9th of every month. The scheme will be applicable for pregnant women in all Government hospitals across India.

37. (b)

Dr. Bindeshwar Pathak, the founder of Sulabh International, an India-based social service organization has been appointed as a Brand Ambassador for Swachh Rail Mission of Indian Railway to promote cleanliness at rail premises. As a pilot project, Sulabh International has started cleaning and maintenance of five important railway stations namely Gorakhpur, Old Delhi, Jaipur, Ahmedabad and Gwalior.

38. (b)

Andhra Pradesh and Telangana have jointly topped the All-India State/Union Territory-wise list of Ease of Doing Business rankings 2016 which was conducted by the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) and the World Bank. The rankings are on the basis of a 340-point business reform action plan and their implementation by the States. This covers the period from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016.

39. (d)  
L. Narasimha Reddy Committee, the one-man judicial committee on One Rank One Pension (OROP) has submitted its report to the Union Defence Ministry. The Centre had appointed the committee, under the Chairmanship of retired Chief Justice of Patna High Court L. Narasimha Reddy, to look into the anomalies, if any, arising out of implementation of OROP.
40. (c)  
Jammu and Kashmir has the highest life expectancy in India for all ages, barring life expectancy at birth, as per recently data released by the Registrar General of India. However, Kerala has the highest overall life expectancy at birth, followed by Delhi, and Jammu and Kashmir.
41. (c)  
Antarctica's Ross Sea has been declared as world's largest Marine Protected Area (MPA) after the landmark international agreement among 24 countries and the European Union in the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) meeting in Hobart, Australia. The Ross Sea is one of the last intact marine ecosystems in the world, which covers 1.6 million square kilometers. It is home to penguins, seals, Antarctic tooth fish and whales.
43. (b)  
Recently, Kerala has become the 3rd Open Defecation Free (ODF) state in India under the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) - Gramin. With this, Kerala has become first high density populated state in India to achieve ODF status. Earlier, Himachal Pradesh and Sikkim had declared themselves ODF states.
44. (a)  
India's first railway university will be set up in Vadodara, Gujarat, which will help in carrying out innovation and modernization for the Indian Railways.
45. (d)  
Stand-up India initiative aims to support entrepreneurship among women, SC and ST communities.
47. (c)  
Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS) consists of seven satellites to provide real time data on the position of objects to aid road, air and maritime traffic apart from providing mapping and tracking services. Out of the seven satellites of the system, three are geostationary and four are non-geostationary.
49. (a)
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has recently identified public sector lender State Bank of India (SBI) and private sector lender ICICI Bank as Domestic Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs) in 2016. SIBs are perceived as certain big banks in the country.
  - Since the national economy is dependent upon these banks, they are perceived as 'Too Big To Fail (TBTF)' because of the expectation of government support for these banks at the time of distress.

