

Test Code: 21095

FIAS - 2019 - GS2G/6E/18C/26B

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ACADEMY

GENERAL STUDIES

Name Of Candidate	SHUBHAM AGUARNAL		
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Mobile No.		Date:	17/08/2019

Time Allowed: Three Hours

Maximum Marks: 250

INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTION
Q. No.	Max. Marks	Marks Obtained	
1			<p>1. Please do furnish Name, Email, Roll No and Mobile in the answer sheet.</p> <p>2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH, all questions are compulsory.</p> <p>3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.</p> <p>4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided.</p> <p>5. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum Answer Booklet must be clearly Struck off.</p> <p><i>Any specific messages for ForumIAS Mentors/Evaluators with respect to your copy? Write it here.</i></p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p>
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Total Marks:			
Remarks:			Start Time 5:00 PM
			End Time 8:00 PM
			Mode Of Examination : Online <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Offline <input type="checkbox"/>
			ECN CODE:
			Evaluation Date:

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Parameters	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor
Language						
Structure						
Presentation						
Handwriting						
Content						
Attempt						

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

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Q.1) The Anti-Defection law is against the principles of representative democracy and needs to be reformed. Evaluate. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

Anti-defection law was brought into the Indian Constitution via an Amendment Act in 1985 due to the crisis of stability of Coalition governments termed as "Ayazam - Gayaram Syndrome"

→ The law effectively provided usurers by which, a person switching political parties post election victory would be disqualified if the speaker of the house finds suitable.

→ The amendment in the Act in 2002 further strengthened it by increasing the provision from 1/3rd to 2/3rd of the legislators to account for a legitimate split & merger.

→ However, the act has curtailed voice of



elected representatives in two following ways →

- ① party wipe - not allowing individual stand
- ② local constituency needs ignored in favour of party politics
- ③ Party seen as the only loyal force
- ④ reduces the essence of Parliamentary democracy by reducing representatives as mere members in the house

⑤ large scale disjunction to two speakers
 ⇒ Though anti-defection law solved the purposes of two vote centring, to solve the needs of modern-day legislatures & expert advice, the law needs breaking.

→ National Commission on Review of the Working of Constitution (NCRWC) recommended limiting the law to questions of survival of the Govt. only. Perhaps this needs to be implemented.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.2) Do you agree that democracy and development do not go hand in hand? Substantiate your answer with relevant examples. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

Democracy is a form of running a socio-political government where the power to run the nation is by the people, of the people to for the people.

⇒ This means that a sense of ownership is established in the political system and an in-built accountability is engrained via periodic elections.

→ The counter-parts to democracy are { Monarchy
Communism
Dictatorship
Tyranny

→ The argument that democracy and development do not go hand-in-hand, is flawed. This is substantiated by the following examples →

① The oldest democracy of the world (U.S.A.) is also the most developed country on the

face of the planet.

② India, which opted for democracy right after two centuries of colonial rule has just emerged as the 6th largest economy in the world.

=> However, to say that democracy is without its flaws would also be incorrect →

(i) Democracy tends to lead to sectarianism and vote bank politics leading to exclusion of some from the development cycle.

(ii) Heads are counted and not brains so where individual effort is required, equity is hard to achieve in democracy.

=> despite this, democracies are the only thriving states on the face of earth & it is the best solution we have for development, if not the best one.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.3) Political theatre, similar to "surgical strikes" are more important and effective response to Pakistan asymmetrical warfare. Discuss. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

India has faced asymmetrical warfare from its western neighbour - Pakistan ever since the partition of the two countries and lightened action since the 1980s in the state of J&K.

→ This is due to the following reasons →

- ① Lack of conventional war powers of Pakistan
- ② want of some sort of strategic depth
- ③ policy of bleeding India with a thousand cuts
- ④ control of Pak military over the democratically elected governments

→ This has necessitated India to resort to political theatres like "surgical strikes" in the recent past - one in 2016 and another in 2019 post Pulwama Terrorist attack - these are important & effective due to following reasons →

- ① The place and time of attack is on India's choosing & not as a response
 - ② The theatre of attack is pre-determined & limited - it is quick attack to customs
 - ③ minimizes loss of lives on the Indian side
 - ④ within the nuclear threshold of the two nations
 - ⑤ Pre-emptive ~~terror~~ anti-terror strikes (eg. Balakot in Feb 2019) will force Pakistan to think twice before infiltrating terrorists via the LOC in India.
- Hence, given the asymmetrical warfare India faces, these actions are the correct way forward. These needs to be complemented with diplomatic measures & cyber-attack capabilities.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.4) Local self-governance in India is suffering from "AID CURSE". Examine.

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

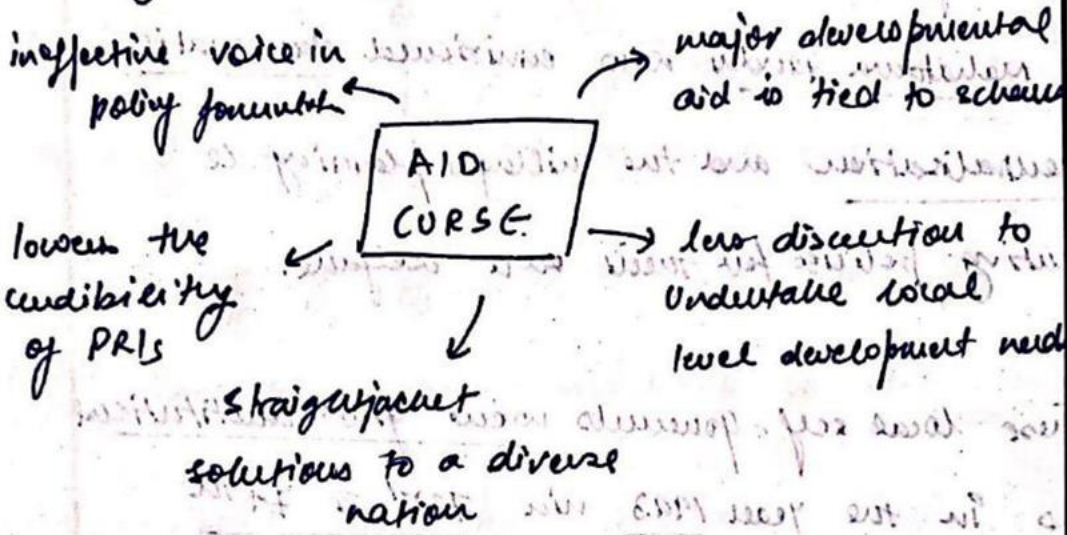
Local self-governments in India were a dream of Mahatma Gandhi who envisioned democratic decentralisation and the villages planning & executing policies for their own welfare.

→ These local self-governments were given constitutional status in the year 1993 via 73rd & 74th Constitutional Amendment Acts years after they were set-up as per Baldevsinhji Committee report.

→ The PRTs & Municipalities were given authority & responsibility to execute 120 subjects in the state list of the concurrent schedule subject to approval of state legislatures.

→ However, the financing capabilities of PRTs & MLBs has been way below the desired level thus leading to a "low equilibrium" of

Governance & Accountability as per Economic Survey, 2018.



→ The 2nd ARC report mentioned recommendations to strengthen the self-financing of PRIs & MLAs.

- issue of Municipality Bonds
- effective collection of property & land taxes
- capacity building of PRIs

→ These measures are imperative to ensure actual political & democratic decentralisation in India.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.5) Explain the concept of charter city. How it can help in tackling the problem of over-urbanization. Also highlight the challenges associated with it. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

Charter cities are satellite cities, which are planned to come up at the outskirts of the main city so as to ease the population burden on the main centres of the economic powerhouse.

→ In India, roughly 35% of the population is urbanised and this is expected to shoot up to 60% by 2050 due to various push & pull factors of migration.

→ Our cities are not able to cope up with this explosion of urbanisation & hence Charter cities are a thoughtful way forward.

→ How do they help?

① easing the requirement of living space in main city, thus reducing proliferation of slums



② having demand over some resources

like water, sewage, etc.

③ lowering the disposal waste / sewage

of the main city.

④ overlapping other regions alongside as

financial & economic hubs. eg. Guangan.

Challenges involved

① daily commuting cause of pollution

② Increased infrastructure requirements

③ Challenges to maintain law & order.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.6) Discuss with examples of how open data can improve transparency and accountability in governance? (10 Marks, 150 Words)

Transparency and Accountability are considered to be cardinal values of Good Governance along with Citizen Centricity.

→ These values are ensured by availability, accessibility & dissemination of government data and information to the citizens in a real-time manner.

→ The Right to Information Act, 2005 was a step in this direction but it stopped before making it mandatory to release data on a suo-moto basis.

⇒ OPEN DATA refers to a source-point where the meta-data (data about data) is uploaded for the usability of citizens to further the cause of transparency and accountability.



Some successful examples are →

① e-tendering of govt. contracts, leading to complete transparency.

② Government open data websites providing real-time data on economic indicators.

③ MyGov platform disseminating important data sets & calling for suggestions from the citizens.

⇒ Considering that an informed citizen is an empowered citizen who can hold executive accountable; the strength towards open data policies is important to ensure good governance

& ensure Sabka Saath - Sabka Vishwas & Sabka Vishwas!

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.7) India's stand towards Afghan Peace process has no takers among the Quad Grouping.
Elaborate.
(10 Marks, 150 Words)

Afghanistan, which is celebrating its 100th
independence day on 19th August 2019 is ~~anyway~~
experiencing anything but independence.

⇒ The "Afghan war" has been the longest in the
US history, when it invaded the country in 2001
to oust the Taliban regime which took over
due to instability post soviet - pull out in 1989.

⇒ This shows the GREAT GAME being played
& there have been no winners in this war.

⇒ Now, the US itself wants to oust-out this
transferring the power to the "Afghan locals".

⇒ India has long stood for this "Peace Process" to
be "Afghan-owned, Afghan-led and Afghan-controlled"
however, the Quad countries i.e., USA, China, Russia



PoK restricts India's direct access to the Afghanistan nation.

and Pakistan seem to be ignoring this call for their own national interests. Even though China

swears by the same argument as India's, it is more concerned about radicalism in its ringjiaq province. USA wants a face-saver

used & is ready to hand-over the power for new provinces by the Taliban and Pakistan has

its own means to have a puppet regime in Afghanistan which will give it strategic benefit.

⇒ India has taken a principled position & might only have to manoeuvre as per the ground realities of the "Great Game"

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.8) Strength of a democracy can be judged, not by the strength of the government, but by the strength of the opposition. Elaborate. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

• Democracy is a socio-political form of running a government where the people or the citizens are in charge and elect their representatives to govern them as a social contract.

→ In a Parliamentary form of democracy, the government is a matter of numerical majority in the house of the parliament and those who are not part of such majority, take form of the opposition to the government.

→ It is rightly noted that the strength of the opposition is an important gauge of the strength of a democracy for it is the opposition which holds the government of the day responsible and accountable on the floor of the house of the parliament.



⇒ A strengthened opposition provides the necessary checks & balances which are required to bring out the best of parliamentary democracy.

⇒ However, certain measures taken by the opposition are dis-service to the nation. These include →

- ① Obstructionism in the legislative bodies
- ② Misleading the general public
- ③ mere playing to the galleries instead of constructive criticism & suggestion

⇒ Hence, even though oppositions are imperative for a democracy to strengthen, the role of such opposition should be facilitative in nature so that the government, which represents the will of the people can undertake tasks necessary for development of the people with required checks & balances.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.9) For maintaining social stability and public tranquility, governance has to go beyond the daily dose of crisis management and administration has to rise above merely a "holding the fort". Elaborate. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

Governance refers to all the set of actions the state takes to reach the benefits to its citizens.

→ However, for the purpose of social stability and public tranquility, the state has usually degenerated into a passive position where it only reacts to instances.

→ The mindset is "why fix something if it's not broken" which is misplaced as in a diverse country like India, social fissures are always underlying cause and can cause havoc by a trigger.

→ Hence, a Pro-Active approach needs to be taken to ensure public order & stability.



is the name and the state & Pre-emp le
Prevent any harm to such order.

→ Following changes need to follow →

- ① Active annihilation of people from diverse groups by the "Nudge" of the state
- ② Religious public holidays to be motivated to be celebrated by all to create a feeling of brotherhood.

hence, in our country, actions in so called "peace time" will matter more to build the bridges which can be effectively used to decrease tensions at times of need.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.10) The concurrent list incorporates fields that require collective wisdom of both the states and the centre and should not become another way of the centre's interference into state affairs. Discuss.

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

The Indian Constitution borrowed the idea of having three separate lists of governance topics from the Government of India Act, 1935 and enshrined in

the seventh schedule

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graph LR
    A[seventh schedule] --> B[Central list / Union list]
    A --> C[state list]
    A --> D[concurrent list]
  
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→ Where the central list & state list include areas of exclusive legislation (some exceptions prevail), the concurrent list includes subjects which can have laws made by both levels but the supremacy of a central law prevails.

→ Some such fields include education, natural environment, etc. which requires a fine balance between localized solutions \rightleftharpoons national uniformity.

→ However; over the years, we have witnessed a general erosion of the state list & enlargement of the concurrent list as well as the



Union list which hints towards increased centralisation and want for national uniformity in laws.

⇒ This has led to some states' CM, (like Telangana) to call for abolition of the concurrent list to clear delineation of the powers.

⇒ Concurrent list must maintain the fine tune of collective wisdom as in a diverse nation like India, straight-jacket solutions can seldom be the answer.

⇒ The Punchhi Commission report on Centre-State relations recommended that the Centre must hold wide-spread consultations with states before legislating on the concurrent list. Perhaps this policy needs to see light of the day sooner rather than later.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.11) "Equality, quality and quantity are the "elusive triangle" of Indian education". In the context of the above statement evaluate the education policies in India. Discuss the impediments faced by the education policies in India. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

Education, along with health and skill development is rightly considered as the basic tenets of human development of citizens of any nation.

→ However, even after 70+ years of Indian independence, the level of education & learning outcomes in the country are far from satisfactory. The ASER report of Pratham says that only 50.4% Indian children of class I can read text of class II.

→ Even though the literacy rates are up to 74% from an abysmal 18% in 1947, the elusive triangle of equality, quality & quantity of Indian education still remains well established.

Equality → the urban-rural divide is wide with the divide between social communities (Gen, OBC, SC, ST) also growing.

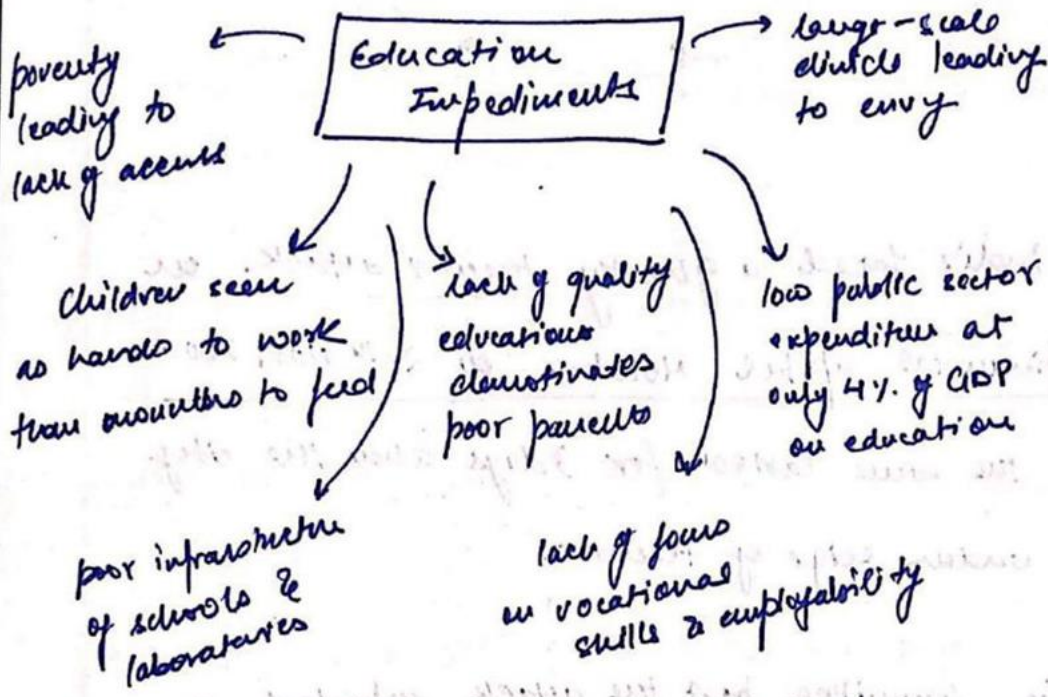
Quality → the learning outcomes are poor accompanied with low teacher capabilities.

Quantity → even with 100% enrollment ratio, drop-outs are common at various stages due to many cumulative causes.

⇒ The Right to Education, 2009 → looked into the quantity & equality aspect of education

⇒ The Teacher Education Programme → solves the quality aspect of it

⇒ Mid-day meal scheme → motivates children to stay enrolled into schools → quantity aspect



→ The Draft National Education Policy, 2019 is a step in the right direction which sees education as a continuum from primary to tertiary & focuses on vocationalisation of education to ensure employability.

→ For India to cash-in on its demographic dividend & increase HDI (2016:130), focus on education would be to happen on war footing.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.12) The recently passed NIA (National Investigation Agency) Act Amendment Bill makes NIA a truly federal agency. In this context, discuss the mandate of NIA, what are the impediments in functioning and how they can be addressed: (15 Marks, 250 Words)

- ⇒ India faced a quasi terrorist attack on its financial capital, Mumbai, on 26th Nov, 2008 and the same lasted for 3 days when the city was under siege of terror.
- ⇒ The committee post the attack reported a big loophole/gap in India's anti-terror mechanism which lacked a national-wide operational capability.
- ⇒ As a result, the National Investigation Agency (NIA) was set-up as a statutory body in 2008 to undertake anti-terror investigations in India.
- ⇒ The law was a step in the right direction evident from the many successful attempts of the body to curtail terror

activities in Indian Union. However, it was not a perfect piece of legislation.

⇒ Ambedkar rightly noted that no law is perfect.

There is a law & there is a subsequent concerted effort to move in the direction of perfection.

→ The recent amendment to the NIA Act 2008 is a step in that direction. Earlier, the NIA could not attach properties of people under investigation in different states & hence had to request the state Police Machinery (OCs) to do so.

→ This had ~~been~~ led to huge war for influence and political prurios & considerations kept in, in what was a core national interest task of Anti-terrorism.

→ The recent amendment allows the NIA director to attach properties in any state to the investigation.



This issue was welcomed by past NIA directors who lamented on the lack of power evasion and hence, ineffectiveness of NIA functioning.

→ This issue shows that India has a federal structure with centralising tendencies.

→ However, some challenges still remain →

① Lack of transparency in functioning of NIA

② Political pressures leading to spurious investigations & charges

③ Lack of a prosecution wing of the NIA

→ These impediments can be addressed by making the NIA an independent body which functions on the strong tenets of Rule of Law. The post of directors must have a fixed tenure.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.13) Recent Global MPI 2019 Report says that India has made visible gains in reducing poverty. What government measures have helped in reducing poverty and what more needs to be done to eliminate it? (15 Marks, 250 Words)

It is rightly quoted that "Poverty anywhere is a threat to prosperity everywhere." Poverty is the lack of ability of people to make choices in life and hence live each day on a transitory basis.

→ Since long, India has been home to the largest absolute population under poverty in the world which was a result of both colonial history of two centuries and a set of unhelpful policies post independence.

→ However, the Multi-dimensional Poverty Index of the World Bank which sees poverty as a set of many factors than just income has stated that India has lifted 280+ million out of poverty in the last decade.

⇒ This kind of visible gain in uplifting of the poor is unprecedented in the human history with the only exception of China in early 2000s.

⇒ The government measures which helped in such achievement are as follows →

- ① MGNREGS Act, 2005 — providing around 100 day employment to willing rural resident
- ② strengthening of food procurement policy via the PDS
- ③ National Food Security Act leading to availability of food grains to BPL families at affordable prices
- ④ Mandating mid-day meal with rigor to education leading to nutritional enrichment

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(Don't Write anything in this Area)

However, despite this success, the war on poverty in India is far from over. Concurred efforts of the Government need to be continuously taken in the following areas →

- ① Health as out-of-pocket expenditure drags families into BPL - Ayushman Bharat is a step in the right direction
- ② Sanitation - Swachh Bharat Abhiyan is going to pay huge dividends in poverty reduction by economic prosperity along with WASH programme.
- ③ Education to ensure employability of citizens
- ④ Agricultural reforms & non-farm sector income opportunities to avert the rural agrarian distress.

of India is to achieve the 1st SDG of No Poverty by 2030, an all-round policy framework is required to build on the gains of the last decade.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

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Q.14) Though the Indian judiciary has set the wheel moving for realization of women's right to integrity, the real change will occur only with change in societal attitudes. In the light of recent judgements of Supreme Court analyse the above statement.

(15 Marks, 250 Words)

The role of the India's Judiciary is seldom seen only as an adjudicator of disputes but also as a social change agent in the Indian Society.

⇒ The judiciary, which is integrated in nature has upheld the expectation of its time & again since independence, the most recent one being by emancipation of women by amending various laws.

⇒ Some of the recent judgements of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in this regard are as follows

① Making section 497 of the IPC, 1860 gender neutral, thus removing the notion of wife being at the behest of their husbands.

② Abolishing the Triple Talak law of the Muslim Personal Law by declaring it unconstitutional (Art. 14, 15 & 21) and saying it as ultra-vires.

③ The Lal Bahadur Shastri judgment which allowed the entry to women to the Temple of Lord Ayyappa which was earlier prohibited due to the natural phenomenon of menstruation → ultra-vires. Art. 14 & 15.

→ These measures & judgments rightly indicate that the supreme court has set the ball rolling for women's right to integrity. However, many challenges still remain in our society.

① The violence of Patriarchy is still prevalent in both private & public places.

② The representation of women at the political offices of the highest order is still abysmal, viz. in the 17th Lok Sabha.

③ The archaic laws of personal laws of various

religions are still prevalent in the society.

- ④ The gender remuneration gap is a reality in the organized as well as unorganized sector.
- ⑤ spate of domestic violence against women. Cases of rape and sexual harassment are not coming down despite tough acts & penalties.

Hence, despite the Judiciary seeming as a catalyst of change in the societal position of women in India, the real-substantial change towards wider integrity will come only with change in societal attitudes.

⇒ The SDG-5 mandates India to reduce Gender-based Inequalities by 2030.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.15) Robust anti-corruption and grievance redress framework will do more good than measures like demonetisation and mandatory use of Aadhaar in combating corruption. Critically Examine. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

Corruption is like a termit to the efficient governance of a society which keeps hollowing the internal wholesomeness of efficient functioning.

→ Given how corruption is a big deterrence to inclusive growth and doing business in a country, adequate response to it is imperative.

→ Robust anti-corruption and grievance redress framework are the linchpins to solve the menace of corruption. Subsequently, various acts in India provide for such framework like the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, the wistleblowing mechanism under the CVC act of 2003, the Lokpal and Lokayukta Act of 2013, etc.

whereas, these acts and frameworks provide incremental steps to root-out corruption from the society, they are slow in justification and pace, call for certain big-bang changes and reforms.

⇒ This is where the policy decisions like demonstration and roadmap linking of schemes to the end goal.

⇒ To have a total mindset change of the citizenry and a mental revolution against the acceptance of corruption, certain steps need to be taken. However, such initiatives also have disproportionate amounts of collateral damage like economic slowdown post demo and failure of some schemes.

initially leading to even deaths due to mandatory Aadhaar linking.

Thus, even though establishing a robust framework of anti-corruption mechanisms which will eventually ensure a corruption-free India is imperative and continuous process, some measures which bring about a structural change are also welcome.

=> The only point of caveat has to be to limit the collateral damage due to such initiatives.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.16) The idea of "One Nation, One Election" has several advantages, but the biggest impediment in its implementation is constitutional provision relating to no-confidence motion and coalition politics. Critically Analyse. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

The idea of "One Nation, One Election" or subsequent elections is not a new one for Indian political democracy. This was very much the case right after independence until the late 1960s when regional parties started to take control of the governments at the states.

⇒ This debate has been re-ignited when the then PM Modi suggested his appreciation of the concept.

⇒ Simultaneous elections have the following advantages →

① Shorter duration of elections thus savings on the exchequer

② Non-judgment elections - thus parties not always in poll-mood but in governance-mood

③ savings on the Armed Forces deployment during such elections

④ Reduction in social tensions like casteism, sectarianism, communalism as these ignite during electioneering.

⑤ Lack of policy paralysis due to shorter duration implementation of the Model Code of Conduct

=> However, the very reason India had to shift away from such simultaneous elections is Article 83 and Article 172 of the Constitution, which say that the duration of a Lok Sabha and state legislatures will be for 5 years respectively.

Moreover, the presence of collective responsibility via Article 75 in Lok Sabha and similarly for states, provides imminent legality of no-confidence motion which can fall a government for not having a majority in the house.

⇒ Thus, an ingenious solution to this constitutional hurdle to simultaneous elections need to be found out. Perhaps having two sets of elections in 5 years is the way forward.

⇒ Moreover, the extent of coalition politics in last few decades has not increased the instability of governments.

⇒ The call for simultaneous elections is the right step but a broad based consensus needs to be found out to solve some of the pending issues in going ahead with one Nation, one election.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.17) Public interest litigation has value as a tool, but is unlikely to succeed if it asks courts to give directions to the government, or if it asks for amendments to the law. Critically Examine. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

Separation of Powers between the three bodies

of the state $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Legislature} \\ \text{Executive} \\ \text{Judiciary} \end{array} \right.$ have been noted as a

part of the basic structure of the Indian Constitution.

⇒ Public Interest Litigation (PIL) is rooted into the concept of Judicial Activism where the locus standi requirement of a petitioner is relaxed for a larger common good of the society.

⇒ This tool of PIL finds value and has merit in directing the socio-political structure in the way of social reform. This is evident from the many success cases like increased declaration of criminal history of election candidates, mandating Kodis to regulate air and water pollution, saving the wildlife etc.

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natural resources, etc.

However, the tool of PIL and Judicial Activism tends to trend into the Part of

Judicial over-reach where it asks the

Judiciary to direct action to Govt (executive)

or to direct change in law (legislation) which is

in direct breach of the stated basic structure.

⇒ Moreover, successive chief justices of India have warned against such action by the

Judiciary as the fine balance between bodies

needs to be cherished and preserved.

⇒ Hence, in such cases, PIL tool is not likely to succeed.

⇒ Not only this, PIL is also warned by other critics, like being obstructionist.

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in nature, filed with ulterior motives, frivolous demands. This is evident from the large amounts of such Petitions rejected by the courts.

⇒ Finally, though PILs have sought to prove of good purpose to strengthen the Indian Constitution and its democracy by making necessary legitimate interventions, the will of the People which is via representation in Executive and Legislature in a parliamentary democracy needs to be given space for effective working. A fine balance is not only desirable but also sustainable.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.18) "One of the strengths of Our Constitution is that it is a dynamic instrument that can evolve with time either by its interpretation or amendment". Analyze with specific reference to judiciary and legislative. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

Shri Krishna Kumar Aiyar, one of the members of the drafting committee had noted in the Constituent Assembly. — "This constitution is not sacrosanct. It is a dynamic document. Much of its implementation will depend on how the supreme court of the land interprets it." This shows that Indian constitution is a LIVING DOCUMENT.

⇒ The very powers given to the higher courts of the land to interpret the constitutional provisions and to the legislature to amend the provisions via Art. 368 of the constitution are testimony to this fact.

=> Judicial Interpretation

- ① The concept of basic structure evolved in 1973 in the Kesavananda Case thus giving a new interpretation.
- ② The matters of appointment of judges has seen many different interpretations via the 1st - 4th Judges case.
- ③ The interpretation of Art. 15 & Art. 14 over Art. 25 led to allowing women the entry to Sabarimala Temple.

However, it is rightly noted that the Judiciary should interpret the constitution not on the basis of the weather of the day but the climate of the era.

=> Legislative Amendments

- ① The inclusion of Socialist, Secular, etc. to the preamble & subsequent changes made to the Art. 38 - Art. 39 of Part IV.

- ② The abrogation of Art: 370 as per the constitutional provisions.
- ③ The inclusion of Tenth schedule via an amendment act in 1985.

The will of the people in India is expressed in its legislature & hence, the constitution provides enough mechanisms for such legislature to re-impose the current will of the people.

→ Hence, unlike many other democracies' constitutions, the Indian document is a dynamic force which moves along with time. The constructive cooperation between the legislature & the judiciary has only made this mechanism more robust.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question, Interpretation		Total :	



Q.19) The hard fought election of Justice Bhandari to International Court of Justice and the verdict on Kulbhushan Jadhav case reflects triumph of India's multilateral diplomatic outreach. Comment. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

India has always remained committed to multi-lateralism in global diplomacy by being an active and constructive member of various international forums.

=> However, as it is rightly noted that a nation's standing in global diplomacy is rooted in its inherent domestic strength. Thus, the fact that India has a strong economic growth track record, a strong government & a robust democracy, increases its stand at the international stage.

=> But, this is not to undermine the success of India's multilateral diplomatic outreach in the recent decade or so. Due to its inherent strengths, its stand usually stands unindicated.

at the international setting.

⇒ This was evident from the election of Justice Bhandari to ICJ by defeating a British candidate and the successful ruling on Kulbushan Inlhar at the same forum.

⇒ Not only this, India's voice is increasingly heard at forums like WTO (where it stands for the rights of the developing world) and the UNFCCC (where it postures itself as a responsible nation).

⇒ Moreover, the recent entry of India into agreements like MTCR, Wassenaar Agreement, the Australia Group, etc. shows the triumph of successful diplomacy & outreach.

⇒ However as it is said that diplomacy is a game of nuance, some testing issues/

Challenges still remain for India to overcome :

- ① Permanence representation at UNSC and overall expansive foreign policy
- ② Entry into two NGO grouping
- ③ making state-sponsored terrorism an internationally recognised threat to peace

→ Perhaps, India is the only country which can posture itself as a member of AIC.

(Russia - India - China) and also as a member of JAI (Japan - America - India).

in the same G20 summit. This balancing act

is in India's interest and due credit must be given to the political leadership and diplomatic missions to play the soft game of diplomacy with equipped soft skills.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.20) Discuss implications on India due to US - Iran tussle. Also, elaborate how India's foreign policy should be guided by strategic autonomy, respect to sovereignty, and international law? (15 Marks, 250 Words)

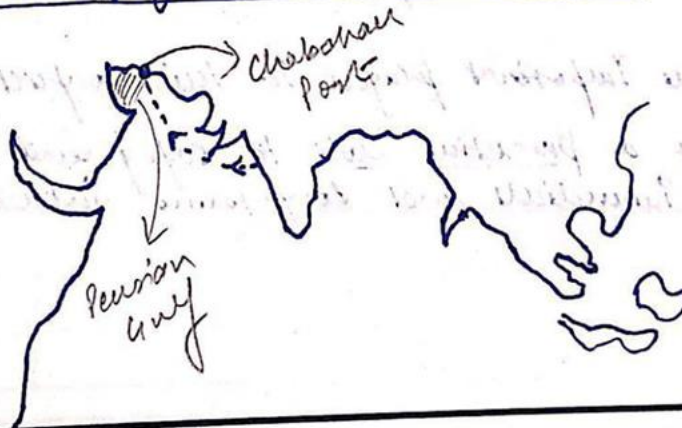
The P5 + Germany nations entered into the Iran Nuclear deal or JCPOA in 2015, however, the US under President Trump unilaterally pulled out his nation from the deal in May 2018. This has been the major cause of recent Iran-US tussle.

⇒ The implications of such a tussle are far reaching for the entire world (and especially for India whose extended neighbourhood includes Iran & the Persian Gulf).

→ The implications on India are as follows →

① Iran until recently was the 2nd largest exporter of oil to India accounting for 11% of total imports.

- ② Strategic importance of the Chabahar Port being developed by India to reach Afghanistan.
- ③ Persian Gulf blockade will affect global oil supplies → shooting up prices → hurting the Indian economy.
- ④ Taking sides in this tussle is not in best interest of India due to strategic relationship with both countries.
- ⑤ Increased tensions in the Gulf region is harmful for the 4 million + Indian community diaspora.
- ⇒ Hence, India's response has to be rooted in the long-cherished principles of Strategic autonomy, respect to sovereignty & international law.



- ① India sent a strong signal by announcing unilateral sanctions & reiterating its backing of only multilateral sanctions.
 - ② Continued oil imports by getting a sanctions waiver (until recently) by the US.
 - ③ Reminding the world of respect of international laws & agreements.
 - ④ Upholding national interest by traveling the path as required by the situation.
 - ⑤ Playing a balancing act by reminding the warring parties of the consequences of instability in the region.
- India is an important player in this conflict and needs to play a pro-active role to safeguard its immediate and long-term interests.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Mentor Feedback Questions

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

Test Goal

- 1
- 2
- 3

Outcomes

-
-
-
-

Marking Scheme

Marks	Good	Average	Below Average
10 Marker	3.75 – 5.0	3.0 – 3.5	< 3.0
15 Marker	5.75 – 7.0	4.0 – 5.5	< 4.0

*Subject to change without prior notice.

For any suggestions and/or grievances regarding evaluation, please mail to :
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