

Test Code: 21095

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

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MGPQ13249**ForumIAS**
ACADEMY

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ACADEMY**GENERAL STUDIES**

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Time Allowed: Three Hours

Maximum Marks: 250

INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTION	
Q. No.	Max. Marks	Marks Obtained	<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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Parameters	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor
Language						
Structure						
Presentation						
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Attempt						

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS



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 inserted in the Tenth schedule through 52nd Amendment Act of 1985.

It was brought to check the practice of legislators changing parties after election.

The major provisions involve :-

- 1) A legislator can be disqualified if he
 - willfully resigns from his party to join another party.
 - Acts against the whip of the party or abstains from voting without prior permission.
- 2) Independent member - if ^{she}/he joins ~~another~~ a political party
- 3) Nominated member - if he/she joins a political party after 6 months of joining office

- This was done to prevent horse-trading of legislators after election by political parties to ensure majority.
- To ensure legislators stay disciplined and committed to party ideology to which they subscribed before elections.

But it ~~was~~ has been misused and needs reforms:

- Hinders freedom of speech and expression
- Limits capacity of legislator to dissent
- Cant always represent the diversity of their constituency due to conforming to a broader ideology / manifesto of party.
- The provisions have been misused to make numbers favourable in house for securing majority as in Karnataka recently.

Thus, it need reforms, such as it should be invoked only rarely during confidence votes & major issues to strike a balance between Freedom of speech and anti defection

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)

Development is a gradual process which involve progress of all the components of society, in various spheres like social, economic, psychological, environmental.

Democracy sometimes acts as a hindrance in development [as perceived]:

- It causes delays in developmental projects due to
- 1) Environmental Impact Assessment
 - 2) Social Impact Assessment
 - 3) Protests and hindrances due to opposition in land acquisition.
 - 4) Stringent labour laws.

and so on.

But ~~does~~ in reality democracy - gives ~~platform~~ platform for a more inclusive and sustainable development

- 1) by protection to environment and wildlife it avoids negative externalities
- 2) Promotes well being of all the sections of society and ~~is~~ enhances inclusivity through assessing social impact.
- 3) It makes the developmental process everyone's share and promotes justice and facilitates rights ~~an~~ based approach. such as right to rehabilitation & compensation.
- 4) Promotes sustainable development such that our future generation can also get the share of progress

Thus development is more fixed lined by democracy rather hendering it.
 A more sustainable & inclusive with everyone's participation is ensured in a democracy.

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)

Surgical attack is a military attack on defined legitimate targets on foreign ~~soil~~ ~~soil~~ soil planned in a way such that there is no or minimal collateral damage.

As in recent past surgical strikes have been conducted by Indian army and airforce in two different events, in border areas of Pakistan.

Why are surgical strikes necessary :-

- 1) Increasing infiltration of terrorists in Kashmir valley. evident by recent attacks in Pathankot, Uri, Baramulla, Shopian districts.
- 2) Tendency of guerrilla style of warfare inflicting enormous damage on lives & property.

- 3) Jidayeen style of attacks as seen in suicide crash attack on CRPF envoy
- 4) Challenging the peace of Kashmir valley through radicalisation and fueling sepration.
- 5) Pakistan's reluctance to take strong steps to curb terrorist havens in its soil. imparting training
- 6) No effect of international pressure

In such scenarios surgical strike like instances are favourable to tufflict an immidiate response and answer to wrongdoings.

- To send a message that terror activities would not be tolerated by us.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



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

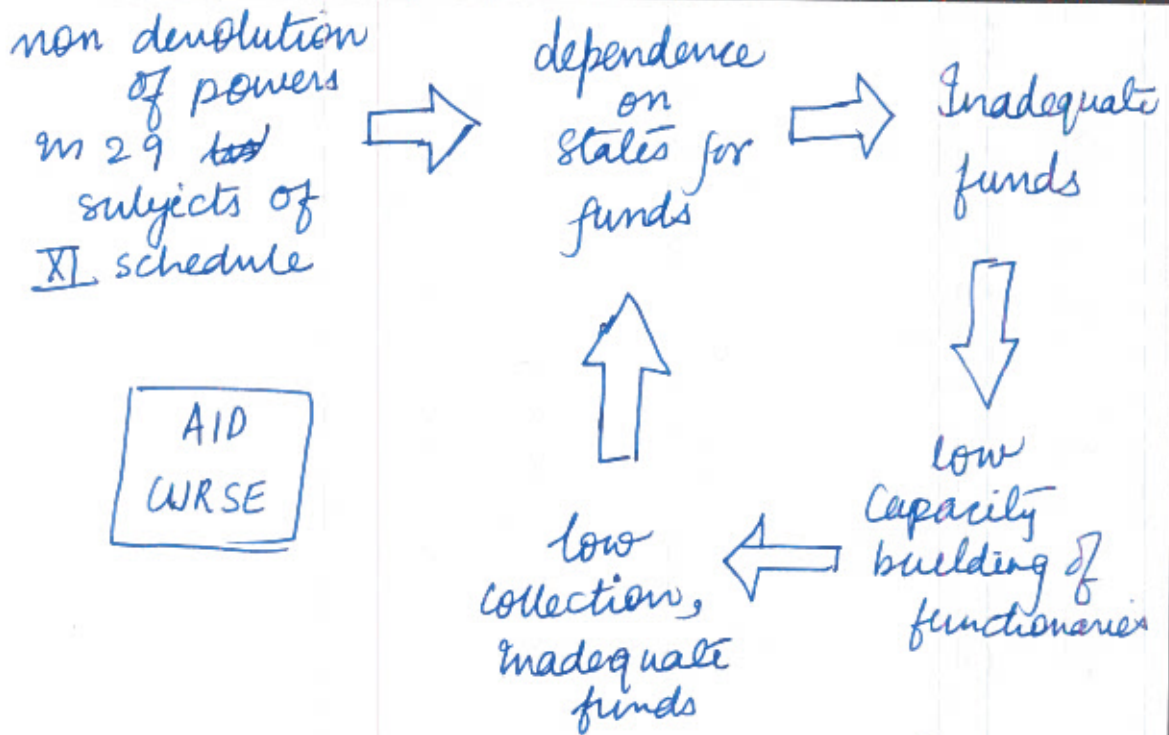
(10 Marks, 150 Words)

73rd and 74th amendment Act made provision for democratic decentralisation of power to ensure self governance by communities.

But the local governance in our country suffered from issues in Funds Functions and Functionaries.

In Funds, it suffers from AID curse.

- Our constitution made provisions directing the state legislatures to devolve powers with respect to ~~state~~ 29 subjects mentioned in state list.
- But states have hardly devolved power to collect funds to local bodies.
- This leads to low funds with local bodies which have to depend on state for funds which in turn leads to low capacity of functionaries.



→ This hampers the entire spirit of 73rd & 74th Amendment Act for local governance.

→ Low capacity and lack of alternate avenues of fund collection is detrimental to communities.

Thus there is a need to secure independence of local bodies in finances through devolution of powers to collect taxes.

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)

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)

Open data ~~source~~ is the content, data information available freely to common public. This kind of data is not locked, encrypted or password protected.

Open data can ensure transparency and accountability in governance :-

→ Accessibility of information empowers citizen in better decision making and electoral choices.

Open data about expenditure in constituency can make citizens aware of progress of schemes.

→ Open data will enhance capacity of citizens for social audit and scrutiny of finances & expenditure.

→ This will help in knowing & accessing information, similar to the concept of proactive

publishing of data under RTI.

- An informed citizenry can check corruption and reduce criminalisation of politics.

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)

Afghan peace process is a long pending issue in the backyard of India. Afghanistan where terror and violence have claimed many lives and crossed peace for decades. due to way between Afghan military forces, American forces and Taliban terror groups.

Recent development and USA's changing South Asia policy, which entails withdrawal of troops from Afghanistan and proceed towards a peaceful regime, has invited 'Taliban' to table talks.

The Quad comprising of USA, Afghanistan, China and Pakistan have made Taliban one of the stakeholders of the peace process.

India's all time stand on Terrorism has been that it doesnot differentiate between good and bad terrorism and donot compromise with terrorist groups.

As such invitation of 'good elements' of Taliban for peace building in Afghanistan by Quad is not in consonance with Indian principles.

The Quad countries ^{are} desperate for peace & regional security :

USA - due to troop removal, second term of US Presidential elections

China & Pakistan - regional stability, needed for CPEC, and Belt and road initiative.

Thus this is the reason why Indian stand has not many others with the Quad group.

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)

Abraham Lincoln said, a democracy is for the people, by the people. In first past the post system of election of our country not everyone gets leader according to votes share. The opposition is their voice.

- 1) Opposition plays a major role in constructive criticism of the policies and projects of government, thus bringing out the demerits or lacunae.
- 2) Opposition initiates scrutiny of government finances and allocation thus maintaining financial checks and balances!
- 3) They are a part of various standing committees which scrutinize the bills in Parliament & State legislatures.

- They are the base of discussion, deliberation and dissent in Parliament and their opinion gives a different perspective.
- They are constant source of information and scrutiny in corruption related issues.
- They are appointing members of various institutions eg. CBI, CVC. maintaining their impartiality.

Thus they play a critical role in democracy. Recent issues involve.

- A weak opposition cannot provide an alternative to citizens.
- Frequent disruptions in Parliament.

Thus for a strong democracy, a strong opposition is a must.

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)

Social stability and tranquility are pre-requisites for a stable democracy.

~~Components~~ of social stability and public tranquility ~~involve~~ hampered by

1) Communal harmony :- India being a multireligious country, the need for harmony between different religious communities is necessary. ~~It is~~

2) Law and Order Problems :- Due to issues like trafficking, strikes, violence, stone pelting, riots.

3) Terror attacks - as in border districts

4) Regional disharmony due to illegal immigrants and son of the soil politics, racial discrimination.

5) Left wing extremism

6) New challenges like Fake news, mob lynching etc.

governance and administration relying on temporary knee jerk reactions to solve such issues lead to temporary relief and peace in society. For the effects to be long lasting, long term measures are to be taken :-

- 1) Promoting awareness against racism.
- 2) Deradicalisation of communities through religious heads, role models
- 3) Improvement in governance and confidence building measures in LWE affected areas.
- 4) Promoting communal harmony and check disruptive forces.
- 5) ~~Develop~~ Socio economic development & skill training of communities.

Overall development & long term measures are necessary to ensure social order, peace & tranquility.

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 Concurrent list is the third list of schedule VII which consists of subjects of legislation.

Both Centre and State can make laws on these subjects. But in case of any discrepancy and dispute, the central law will prevail over the state law.

Such an arrangement was constituted by the constitution makers:-

- To ensure some amount of unity and uniformity in laws.
- Subject which can have impact on the entire country but state specific laws are required due to diversity eg. Education, Environment
- To guide the states to evolve laws in a particular direction.

- But there has been a constant tussle between centre and states regarding
- reduction in the subjects of state list and transferring them in Concurrent list.
 - This is seen as an encroachment in the federal power sharing structure.
 - Specially after 42nd Amendment Act, many subjects were transferred to Concurrent list.
 - The precedence of Union law over State law is seen with distrust and imposition of mandate by Centre.
- Thus, there is a need to stick to the spirit of making of Concurrent list rather than using it as an instrument to dominate states with laws.
- also it should be sparingly in certain conditions only

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)

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)

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)

Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) by UNDP is a comprehensive measure of regressive global poverty levels. It takes into account Health & Nutrition, Education and living Standards.

Global MPI Report 2019 states that India has reduced its poverty from more than 50% of the the ~~popu~~ population ~~for~~ at the time of independence to 1/4 th now.

This has been possible due to several government-initiatives such as :-

1. Health & Nutrition.

- National Food Security Act - ensuring food to every household.
- POSHAN abhijan - to fight child stunting, wasting and malnutrition.
- Mid day meal scheme :- to ensure food security to school going children.

- ICDS - to impart healthcare facilities, nutrition and awareness through Anganwadi workers
- Janani Suraksha Yojana - for decreasing infant mortality rate, institutional delivery & Post partum care & immunization.

2) EDUCATION

- Right to Education as a fundamental right.
- Ashram schools, Eklayra schools for tribal education.
- Improved infrastructure - Sarva Shiksha Abhyasan

3) LIVING STANDARDS

- Housing For All by 2020 - provide basic amenities and ventilated house and credit and slum rehabilitation.
- Saubhagya scheme - for last mile electricity supply.
- Digital India - to connect masses through digital infrastructure.
- Jam Dham Yojana - for financial inclusion.
- Aadhar - for effective delivery of services.

apart from these many other initiatives have been taken to ensure empowerment of people.

More steps to be taken -

- Streamline measures for skill development to make it more effective.
- Strengthening rural infrastructure to control migration & regional growth imbalance.
- Eradicating fundamental deficiencies of the welfare programmes & better implementation
- Proactive governance
- Addressing agrarian distress
- Moving towards Health for All as enshrined in National Health Policy & through Ayushman Bharat Abhyaan.

Eradicating poverty needs multidimensional approach and multisectoral interventions and enormous political will.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



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)

Indian judiciary is playing a pioneering move in ensuring gender justice through its various judgements in the recent past.

This can be seen in these recent judgements :-

- 1) Sabarimala Case : Indian judiciary ensured gender justice by discarding the notion of "pollution" due to a biological phenomenon of menstrual periods. It ensured right to religion, right to equality under article 14 and right to dignity under article 21. by allowing women ~~to~~ of all ages to temple shrine.

2) Repealing ~~law~~ clause of Law on adultery - which stated ^{implicitly} that woman are property of husband and a man will be punished of adultery if he engages in any relation without the consent of woman's husband.

3) Triple Talaq : SC's judgement on abolition of triple talaq led to an end of exploitation of muslim woman, due to ~~immediate~~ divorce due to immediate pronouncement of talaq.

All these judgements are transformative and progressive but the real empowerment comes with change in social attitudes:

1) Laws and Regulations reflect the collective conscience of society. Many a times these laws don't get social acceptance due to their progressive

impact on society.

- 2) B. R Ambedkar said laws are meaningless if there is a social sanction involved.
- 3) social attitudes can change only with increase in education levels and positive upbringing of children to enculcate positive attitudes towards all genders.
- 4) social attitudes can change through role models spreading progressive message to society as they have huge impact on masses.

Way Forward :-

Modernity and progressive attitudes can't go along with rudimentary thinking. It is necessary for a society to change attitude and move towards egalitarianism.

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)

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 simultaneous election envisions the conduct of both general elections to Parliament and elections to state assemblies together. This idea is still being talked and analysed for future implementation.

Simultaneous elections not doubt have many advantages :-

- 1) It will lead to saving time which is spent on conducting two rounds of elections.
- 2) It will drastically reduce the expenditure both on election pole campaigning by political parties and expenditure by Election Commission of India in conducting polls, arrangement for security etc.

3) It will lead to coherence in policies as ruling parties will not have to resort ~~go~~ to populism before every state assembly election.

But its implementation is not free from issues:

- 1) It will lead to more authoritarian government, due to absence of checks and balances in the form of assembly elections.
- 2) In case of one elections, public might find it difficult to focus on both national and regional issues.
- 3) But the biggest impediment is the implementation relating to no confidence motion & coalition politics.
→ In such a case and an early fall of government due to lack of confidence, & there

~~is no mechanism on how bye elections~~
~~clarity~~
~~will be conducted.~~

→ is no clarity if elections will be conducted for the Parliament or the entire nation.

→ In the former case, the entire purpose of one nation one election will be defeated.

thus this idea needs a lot of deliberation before its realisation. Its feasibility will depend on mechanisms to address such issues. ~~which~~

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)

Public Interest litigation is an innovative tool of Indian Judiciary to ensure social justice to masses. Such litigations should entail an issue affecting public at large and cannot be against a private person.

It has a value as a tool as :

- 1) It helps to draw attention towards issues which are generally ignored.
- 2) It is a great tool for people & masses who don't have access to legal aid.
- 3) Useful for masses who are illiterate, due to simplicity of process and procedure of PIL application.
- 4) Ensure social justice through making judiciary welfare based and accessible to all.

- 5) Many examples include plight of
industrial, environmental issues,
Vishaka judgement etc.
- 6) It has empowered NGOs and Civil
society organs to seek justice.

But it ~~is~~ suffers from the issues of
frivolous cases and misuse ~~is~~
for personal vendetta.

In most of such case the Judiciary
asks the governments to frame laws
and regulations to give effect to the
judgement.

- This is done to ~~maintain~~ ^{against} separation
of Powers, and judicial non interven-
-ion in legislative & executive
domain.
- Legislatures & Executive are tasked
with resources to deal with such
judgements & its feasibility can be
known/assessed by Govt. only.

But such cases defeat the outcomes of PIL sometimes :

- 1) Due to lack of political will, legislation bringing effect to such judgements are delayed.
- 2) Administrative apathy ~~and as far as~~ leads to non implementation of directives at ground level.

Thus the way forward lies in ~~with~~ harmony of all the organs of Administration, executive, legislature and judiciary ~~to~~ in bringing Justice to society.

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)

Our Constitution is a dynamic instrument and have been ~~an~~ designed by our leaders so that it can be amended by various instruments to get along the needs of future societies.

The dynamic nature of Constitution is maintained through amendments :-

- Our Constitution can be amended in various ways through a legislative process.
- Such a bill to amend the Constitution can be introduced in both the houses of Parliament, thus both houses of legislature are empowered to bring changes.
- The amendment procedure is both rigid and flexible depending on the subject.

→ The constitution can be amended in three ways.

1. By simple majority
2. By special majority under Article 368
3. By special majority under Art 368 and ratification by half of the states.

→ The more general provisions like salaries, allowances, name of states can be amended by simple majority

→ The ones involving federal issues ~~with~~ will require ratification of states, thus maintaining federalism.

The dynamic nature is also ensured through progressive interpretation of Constitution by § Judiciary.

→ Various judgements of Supreme Court & High Court has ensured that the

- Constitution is followed in both letter & spirit.
- Basic nature of Constitution :- The doctrine evolved in Keshavanand Bharti case ~~was~~ reflected the Constitutional Supremacy and involved wide interpretation of Constitution.
- Right to ~~Privacy~~ ^{life & liberty} under Art 21 : This involve broadening of the scope of the fundamental right to involve various dimensions like to - right to clean environment, education, privacy etc.
- Due process of Law : Originally not present in Constitution, but judiciary interpreted it to bring Due process of law in Maneka Gandhi vs Union of India case.

Thus, the progressive nature of Constitution is ensured through amendments by Legislature & Judiciary.

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)

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)

US - Iran tussle started over again recently after US President decided to withdraw from JCPOA, an agreement to limit Iran's nuclear enrichment Programme. This was negotiated between Iran and other European countries along with USA.

The reason for withdraw as stated by USA is Iran's non compliance to the agreement and enrichment of nuclear elements to fuel its nuclear programme.

This tussle might have the following implications :-

1. A possible conflict situation between USA and Iran, which might lead to unrest in West Asia.

2. Possible inclusion of allies of both sides into it, thus Israel, Saudi Arabia and many other other countries might be roped in.
3. Adverse effect on regional stability and trade through strait of Hormuz.
4. Dissatisfaction to other countries involved in the agreement, due to unilateral decisions of USA
5. Sanctions by US affecting world trade.
6. Iran is a major ^{ex}porter of oil to India, as it is geographically & economically convenient for India to import oil for India.
7. A war in West Asia will lead to surge in oil prices affecting India's import bill.
8. Tension in West Asia is not good for Indian diaspora living in West Asia.
9. Iran is the gateway to Central Asia by passing Pakistan, for India and

Projects like 'Chabahar Port' might get affected.

India should maintain strategic autonomy and a balance between both the countries because of its interests in both the countries.

- Put pressure for solving disputes lawfully by initiating talks rather than resorting to violence.
- Promoting a peaceful, rule based international order is favourable to all parties
- Flourishing trade is necessary in the time of slow global growth rate.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	