

Test Code: 31086

FIAS - 2020 - GS Paper 2

ForumIAS

ACADEMY

GENERAL STUDIES

Name Of Candidate	VIDHU SHEKHAR		
Email Id.		Roll No.	1910003026
Mobile No.		Date:	7/12/2020

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>
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			
Total Marks:			
Remarks:			Start Time 1:30 AM
			End Time 4:30 AM
			Mode Of Examination : Online <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Offline <input type="checkbox"/>
ECN CODE:			Evaluation Date:

69179_31086_1910003026_(2020-12-09 01:22:24)

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

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Q.1) 'Without an independent judiciary, the constitution is little more than a statement of empty promises.' Discuss. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

The constitution provides for a policy of 'checks and balances' and in this regard Judiciary independence is of critical importance.

INDEPENDENT JUDICIARY IMPORTANCE

- ① Keeps the executive accountable
Eg Via formulating the basic structure doctrine in Kesavananda Bharati case (1973) it provided limitations on parliament's amending powers
- ② Helps check legislative overreach
Eg It struck down section 66A of IT Act in Shreya Singhal case as it was having chilling effect on free speech guaranteed by article 19(1)
- ③ Helps drive socio-economic transformation

Independent judiciary has helped

ForumIAS

(Don't Write anything in this Area)

directed societal change by outlawing outdated and arbitrary practices like Triple Talak (Shayra Bano case), Temple entry ban of women (Sabarimala) etc

④ Guardian of personal liberty

Eg SC held right to privacy as fundamental right in Puttaswamy case (2017)

Provisions for Judicial Independence

- Art 124 (impeachment only by special majority)
- Art 121 (no discussion in parliament on conduct of Judge)
- 3rd judges case: Appointment by collegium of judges recommended

Way Forward

→ Salaries charged on consolidated fund

Thus judiciary has been provided with sufficient safeguards and immense authority (eg art 142 (any decree for complete justice)) to continue its role as custodian of constitution

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.2) Critically examine the various issues involved in the functioning of the Lokpal.

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

Lokpal is the office of an ombudsman created by an act of parliament.

Structure and Safeguards

- Lokpal + 8 members (half judicial and half belong to SC/ST/OBC/Minorities)
- Lokpal to be appointed by high powered collegium involving PM, ^{PM, header of} opposition, speaker etc
- Salaries to be charged on consolidated fund of India

MANDATE

- Jurisdiction broad include PM, MPs, Group A, B, C, D employees of Union
- Superintendence over any agency including CBI
- Officers of CBI can be transferred only with Lokpal permission when investigating
- Special courts provided

- Investigation to be done within 6 months

ISSUES

- Prior consent needed of government before investigation
- Dependence on state / central investigative agencies, lack of own investigating nucleus.
- Can't take suo motu cognizance
- lack of operationalization due to delay in formulation of rules
- Time limit of 7 years to look into cases

WAY AHEAD

lokpal needs to be further empowered by allowing to take suo motu cognizance of corruption cases and provided secretariat support to help achieve ~~the~~ goals of maximum probity in governance.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.3) The All-India Judicial Service is an idea whose time has come. Analyse. What are the challenges in its implementation? (10 Marks, 150 Words)

The All India Judicial services is provided for in the constitution under Article 312 added via 42 amendment) for appointing district level judges.

IDEA WHOSE - TIME HAS COME

- ① Shortfall in judges : 5000 judges posts are vacant in lower judiciary
- ② Attracting best talents : Currently lower judiciary unable to attract finest minds due to poor service conditions
- ③ Uniformity in judicial functioning
- ④ Reduction in judicial backlog : Currently 3-4 crore cases pending, with better judges \Rightarrow lesser appeals \Rightarrow \downarrow backlog
- ⑤ Ripple effect on standards upto higher judiciary : As they will be promoted to HC / SC.

CHALLENGES

- ① Resistance from States : Currently appointments done by governor of district judge
- ② Language / Customs issue : local judges are more tuned to local culture
- ③ May hamper promotion avenues of subordinate judiciary

WAY AHEAD

To improve the quality of judicial functioning it is now high time to realize the AJS. However rigorous training according to states should be provided and selection should be done via independent commission on lines of UPSC.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.4) Though "cooperative federalism" is increasingly emphasized in recent times, it is very much inherent in the design of the constitution. Examine.

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

Cranville Austin while analyzing the Indian constitution commented that the structure of its polity has inherent basis for cooperative federalism

Recent Emphasis → Handling Covid pandemic
→ GST Council
→ Forums like NITI Aayog

INHERENT IN DESIGN OF CONSTITUTION

① Article 263 : Provides for inter-state council for coordination amongst the states

② Articles 301 to 305 : Provide for free inter-state commerce throughout territory of India

- ③ Article 280 : Provides for Finance Commission which recommends devolution to bridge gap between states
- ④ Article 256 : States shall act in compliance with Central administrative Directions
- ⑤ Article 250 : Two or more states can pass resolution for center to legislate on state list item
- ⑥ ~~GS~~ Article 279A : Provides for a GST council

CONCLUSION

Thus constitution by design is quasi federal with unitary bias but contains sufficient provisions to allow states and center to collaborate.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.5) "India must put the civil society at the centre of its Covid-19 control strategy". In light of the statement, how far do you agree that that Civil society is missing in the action of COVID-19 control strategy? (10 Marks, 150 Words)

The Corona pandemic was brought unprecedented disruption in the socio-economic system of the country and saw active participation of civil society in the crisis.

ROLE OF Civil Society in COVID

- ① In the first 15 days of lockdown NGOs fed 30 lakh people as compared to 54 lakh people by states
- ② SHGs played active role in producing masks: Over 1 crore produced by 14,000+ SHGs
- ③ NGOs helped create shelter homes and aided migrants
- ④ Civil society groups helped keep government accountable Eg

highlighting police excess, questioning on fund usage

② NGOs helped in identifying hotspots

Issues in NGO functioning during COVID

① Lockdown made mobility difficult

② Often lack of sympathy faced from police, administration

③ Difficulty in accessing funds/resources due to supply line disrupt

CONCLUSION

Thus NGOs and Civil Society as a whole played critical role during COVID and subsequent lockdown phase. Thus need of the hour is to strengthen collaboration between CSO and government

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.6) What do you think should be role of Civil Service in strengthening of grass root democracy?
(10 Marks, 150 Words)

Civil Services are part of the permanent executive and play critical role in formulation as well as execution of policies.

ROLE IN STRENGTHENING GRASS ROOT DEMOCRACY

- ① Building social capital in the community by fighting social ills like casteism, communalism, gender discrimination
- ② Administrative justice: should be ensured by acting with impartiality, objectively and with transparency
- ③ Citizen centric in approach
 - ↳ involve public in social auditing eg as provided in MGNREGA
 - ↳ Usage of egovernance by using promoting

of apps like CoMoNREGA, UMANO for citizens to monitor progress

④ Public consultation whenever major draft policies formulated

Eg National education policy consulted over 2.5 lakh gram panchayat

⑤ Providing support to Urban and Rural Local bodies

↳ Providing adequate resources to panchayat staff/secretariat

↳ Help flow of untied funds to panchayats

↳ Regular supervision of implementation of schemes by panchayats

↳ Generate awareness amongst the women representatives

Thus Civil servants can play major role as instruments of change in bringing grass root democracy.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.7) Experts argue that changing to a presidential system is one way of ensuring a democracy that works in India. However, India needs a new political culture, not a presidential system. Discuss. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

Presidential form of government is a system where people directly elect the head of the government (eg in USA)

Arguments in favour in Indian case

- ① Help realize separation of power in true sense - as currently ~~is~~ weak separation between parliament and executive
- ② Brings stability to government as period from 1989-2014 saw frequent elections
- ③ Will help increase the accountability of MPs towards public as currently win elections in name of party

Arguments Against

- ① India is a plural country with immense diversity

- ② May lead to overcentralization in the hands of president
- ③ Possibilities of deadlock between parliament and president when different parties.

Thus in the present context, it is not feasible to shift towards a presidential system considering the diversity and complexity of our socio-political system.

NEED FOR NEW POLITICAL CULTURE

- ① Intra party democracy needs to be strengthened (ECI could be given powers under section 29A of RPA 1951)
- ② Moving beyond cult personality based elections
- ③ Curbing elections based on caste, religion etc (following Supreme Court ruling in CD (Lomachen case))
- ④ Curbing criminalization of politics
- ⑤ Strengthening parliament's role, especially parliamentary standing committee to enforce

Feedback (For OFFICE use only) executive accountability

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.8) The 2019 Human Development Report points to the limits of economic growth in ensuring equity. Considering India's growing performance in terms of Human Development, identify the deep-rooted systemic drivers of inequality. Suggest measures to bring inclusive and equal growth benefits to all. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

The 2019 Human Development Report ranked India at a lowly 129th rank pointing to dismal human capital of the country.

Systemic Drivers of Inequality

- ① Income inequality: According to oxfam top 10% corner 73% of national wealth
- ② Gender inequality: Female workforce participation declined to 26%
- ③ Caste barriers: The 'untouchables' are still restricted to degrading practices like manual scavenging.
- ④ Religious inequality: Sachar Committee pointed out 31% muslims live in poverty and are more marginalized

⑤ Geographical reasons : The hilly states and North east suffer due to lack of connectivity and little industrialization ✓

MEASURES FOR INCLUSIVE GROWTH

- ① Education : Achieving universal enrolment till secondary education and shift to outcome orientation
- ② Skilling : Promote vocational education via Kaushal Vikas Yojana
- ③ Universal health coverage to prevent health crisis induced poverty
- ④ Backward region development via tax sops, foster clearances etc
- ⑤ Progressive taxation and efficient redistribution.
Tackling inequality is essential to harness the demographic dividend and

Feedback (For OFFICE use only) create NEW INDIA

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.9) The COVID-19 pandemic has led to the loss of livelihood for many Indian migrants working abroad. In light of this, an inclusive migration governance framework is the need of the hour to provide Indian workers with a social safety net during crises.
Comment. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

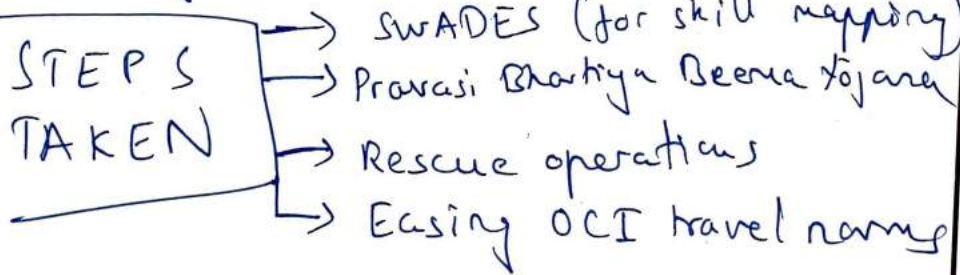
Covid pandemic has led to disruptions in jobs and accelerated the reverse influx as seen in government measures like Operation Nande Bharat



INCLUSIVE MIGRATION GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK

- ① To help secure orderly migration back to India
- ② To ensure their registration and entitlements to social security measures

- ③ skill mapping of returning migrants
- ④ Special insurance schemes for migrants
- ⑤ Allowing seamless outmigration once situation normalizes
- ⑥ Collaboration with the destination country for portability of social security benefits



Thus effective migration governance framework would help India utilize from the 'reverse brain drain' as well as ensure constructive bilateral relations with the countries

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.10) India's response to COVID-19 reflects the power, problems, and potential of federalism in her polity. Discuss. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

COVID-19 saw renewed focus on federalism as a binding element in our polity

Power of Federalism

- PM and CMs via video conferencing coordinated response to lockdown
- Center provided special relief package of 15,000 crore for Covid response to states
- Relaxations in borrowings of states.
- Coordination between the states to manage migrant labourers

Problems of Federalism

- ⇒ GST compensation cess presented a tug of war between center and states
- Borrowing limit enhancement

(Don't Win anything in)

linked to reforms

→ Ministry of Home affairs brought out too many guidelines and implemented Disaster Management act in top down manner

→ Issues related to categorization of districts as red/green zone by center

→ states like Bihar initially refusing to accept migrant labourers

Potentiality of Federalism

→ If more robust and consultative approach prepared then can help effectively deal with such crisis

→ Need to shift disaster management to concurrent list (NCRWC recommended)

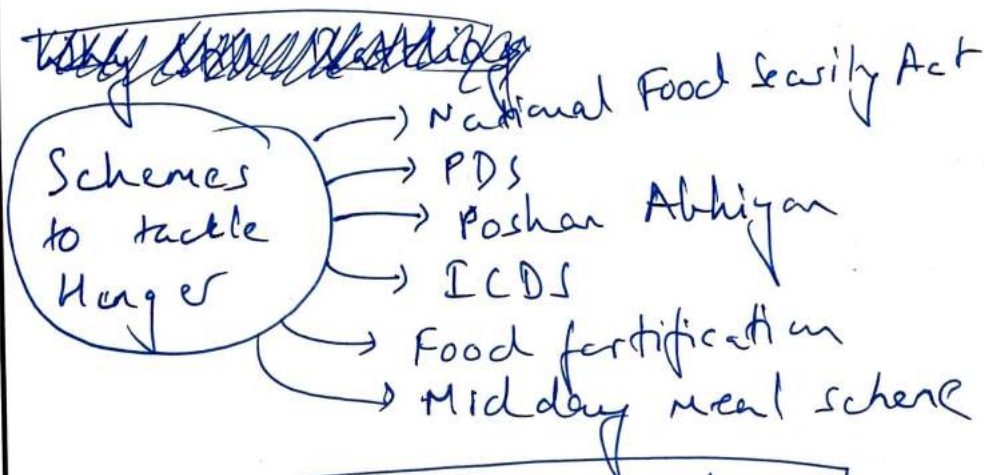
→ Bipartisan consensus could be developed during crisis

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.11) The Global Hunger Index (GHI) 2020 has placed India 94th position among 107 countries, much behind Bangladesh, Pakistan and Nepal. Why are we battling hunger despite number of food security schemes and programs? Suggest some policy measures to tackle the problem of hunger in the country. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

The global hunger Index measures country on 4 criteria: child mortality; stunting, wasting and overall malnutrition. Consistent poor ranking of India has been a cause of concern.



Why Hunger still persisting

Legal-Administrative reason

- leakages and exclusion errors in schemes
- Overemphasis on cereals and relative neglect on pulses/millet during procurement

→ lack of holistic mapping of critical hunger regions

Social reasons

- Early age of marriage
- lack of dietary diversity
- In urban areas highly sedentary lifestyle
- Poor sanitation habits

Economic Reason

→ According to a recent study by IFPRI 63% of population could not afford cost of recommended diet (comprising green vegetables, milk etc)

POLICY MEASURES NEEDED

Legal - Administrative level

- Mapping of regions according to the produce as well as hunger level (Posher Map)
- Incentivize pulses and millets production via procurement and

distribution via PDS

→ Decentralized Mid day meal scheme of Chhattisgarh could be adopted to involve local level produce

→ Best Practice: Hailakandi aspirational district of Assam where parents of new born given 4 saplings (guava, litchi, lemon etc) to tackle malnutrition

Societal level

→ Promote healthy lifestyle (Fit India Campaign)

→ Promote healthy diet (Eat right campaign)

→ Increase in age of marriage

→ Promoting practices of breastfeeding

→ Highlighting importance of sanitation

CONCLUSION

A multipronged approach could help tackle hunger and achieve dream of 'Kupashan mukt Bharat'

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.12) "Cleansing of politics has been brought about, more by institutions, other than the legislature." Analyze. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

Criminalization of politics has been an alarming issue over the decades and multiple stakeholders have played their part in clearing it

Role of legislature

- Passing of Representation of People's Act 1951
- Expelling of members involved in corruption (eg Operation Durgam in 2005, 10 MPs expelled)

Other Institutions Role

Judiciary

① In the ADR v/s UoI case SC directed parties to have their candidates declare their criminal records

② In the Lily Thomas v/s Union of India (2014) SC struck down section 8(4) of RPA which allowed convicted MPs/MLA to continue

③ In the Public Interest Foundation v/s Union of India (2014) it directed all pending cases to be completed within 1 year

④ In the Lok Pradhari case SC directed candidates to declare assets of their family members.
Election Commission

① Since 1990s under TN Sheshan, Model Code of conduct have been stringently implemented

② Flying squad to tackle black money

③ Cancelling elections where money/muscle power used (eg in Tamil Nadu)

④ Encouraging citizens to register unethical behaviour via Cvignil app

Civil Society

① ADR has played active role in

↳ highlighting criminalization of politics

↳ Highlighting impact of money contributions by corporates

② PUCCL playing active role in awareness generation

Media

① Highlight excesses and violations during elections

② Display criminal background of candidates

Conclusion Electoral process most sacred part of democracy thus need of hour is to cleanse the system of criminalizat

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.13) The Kesavananda Bharati case laid down important red lines, set the scope and limits to amending the Constitution. Critically examine. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

The Kesavananda Bharati case was a landmark judgement delivered by a 13^{judge} bench ~~judge~~ that was to define the relationship between judiciary and legislature/executive for time to come.

BACKDROP OF KESAVANANDA BHARTI CASE

- In the Golaknath judgement SC held Fundamental rights can't be amended

- Parliament passed:

24th Amendment: Constitution amendment

is not in purview of article 13(2) and parliament can't amend any part of constitution

25th Amendment: Article 31C

added to give primacy to articles 39(b) and (c) and no court can review it

The Judgement

- SC corrected the Golaknath judgement and held that the amending power and legislative power are different and parliament can amend any part.
- It also held that parliament cannot alter the 'basic structure' of the constitution
- It struck down 31C(2) which held no court can question and held judicial review part of basic structure

IMPACT OF JUDGEMENT

- ① It put an implicit check on amending capacities of parliament
- ② Was used in cases like
 - Minerva Mills case to maintain balance between DPSP and FRs

→ In the National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC) case to uphold judicial independence

③ According to scholars it helped ensure separation of powers

Issues with the Judgement

- ① Basic structure a vague concept dependent on judges reading
- ② It is not provided explicitly by constitution
- ③ Apprehensions of rule by the unelected (Judges)

CONCLUSION

The Bharti judgement helped ensure the spirit of constitutionalism prevail. It has established judiciary as the principal custodian of the constitution.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.14) "Improving governance is key to ensuring equitable growth in developing countries". How far do you think that inequality in India is due to lopsided developmental policies since Independence? (15 Marks, 250 Words)

Governance is the act of managing and utilizing the resources of the country for its overall development by its government.

Improving governance is key to ensuring equitable growth in Developing Countries

- ① Helps in efficient redistribution of wealth
- ② Ensures participation of the masses
- ③ Special emphasis on the most marginalized
- ④ Helps promote industry and innovation leading to increase in jobs and overall prosperity
- ⑤ Provides social stability

Inequality due to lopsided Development

1947 - 1991

- This phase saw socialistic policies in form of heavy public investment and limited private participation
- Industries in backward regions like Jharkhand / Odisha failed to provide prosperity in region due to imported skilled labour and poor social indicators of locals
- Low emphasis on health and education lead to poor human capital formation and perpetuation of cycle of poverty
- Top down approach led to exclusion errors and corruption
- License-Quota Raj restricted enterprises and led to too many 'dwarf' firms and problem of missing middle

(Don't W
anything is

Post 1991

- The increase in growth has accelerated inequality
- The prime beneficiaries have been the skilled labour in IT/ITES/Telecom etc
- ~~This~~ This phase saw increase in contractual labour and further wage exploitation
- The onset of foreign capital has also led to displacement of tribals, farmers etc

CONCLUSION

Thus developmental policies have played a part in actually increasing the inequalities. Need of the hour is to focus on human capital formation to help realize the capabilities of people

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.15) It is being argued that the New Education Policy (NEP), 2020 is high on goals but low on realism. Critically Analyze.

(15 Marks, 250 Words)

The New Education Policy was adopted after exhaustive consultations in over 700 districts encompassing 2.5 lakh villages.

High on Goals

Pre primary and Primary Education

- Adopt a 5+3+3+4 model with first 5 years starting from 3
- The first 3 years would involve anganwadi teaching
- Reduce the curriculum to its core contents only
- Teaching upto class 5 and upto 8 if possible in local language
- Pairing of public and private schools
- Creation of school complexes

Secondary Education

- Achieving 100% enrolment by 2030
- More emphasis on vocational training

Higher Education

- 3 tier classification of colleges
 - Research institutions
 - Degree granting institutions
- Phasing out affiliated colleges
- Promoting internationalization by inviting ~~to~~ foreign institutions to open colleges
- Establishing multi disciplinary Education university in each district

Other Reforms

- Expenditure raised to 6% of GDP
- Promoting online education via NIOS
- Governance reform and assessment reform (test in class 3, 5, 8)

LOW ON REALISM

- ① To raise expenditure to 6% of GDP require additional to 2.5 lakh crore which is difficult as lack of fiscal space
- ② School complex approach goes against RTE act which emphasizes on school availability ≤ 1 km
- ③ Anganwadis are ill equipped with infrastructure to provide formal large scale education
- ④ According to UDISE+ only 35% schools have functional computers
- ⑤ India has vast linguistic diversity thus not practical to provide education in different languages

CONCLUSION

The NEP reflects the aspirations of New India to ensure its realization need of the hour is to follow its recommendations in letter and spirit

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.16) Do you agree that there has been a complete turnaround in India's policy towards its diaspora. Suggest how India can leverage its diaspora to meet its foreign policy objectives. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

India has the largest diaspora in the world at 17 million, spread across continents and islands.

COMPLETE TURNAROUND IN APPROACH

<u>Previous (Pre 2000s)</u>	<u>Now (Post 2000)</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indifference or passive engagement • Outreach limited to diplomatic levels of bureaucracy • Cumbersome visa norms for NRI/OCI • Disconnect of NRI/OCI with India • Acceptance of diaspora as citizens of foreign country thus non interference 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active outreach • PM led outreach drive • Evisa and liberalized of entry norms for OCI • Attempt to educate via 'Know India Program' • Active rescue missions (Operation Sankat Mochan etc)

How Indian can leverage Diaspora

- ① As a source of soft power to persuade foreign powers (eg NRIs lobbied in USA for N&R waiver)
- ② As cultural ambassadors to promote tourism
- ③ Help inward flow of remittance and promote reverse brain drain
- ④ Promote strengths of India to the investors
- ⑤ In MNCs nudge the Indian CEOs to look at India as favourable destination

MEASURES NEEDED

- ① Training of diplomats for better outreach

- ② Providing adequate resources to ICCR to promote Indian culture (on lines of Confucius centers of China)
 - ③ Region specific diaspora policy as suggested by Singhvi Committee (2002)
 - ④ Usage of Bollywood, Cricket, Yoga to tap into diaspora
 - ⑤ Continuation with PM led outreach initiatives
 - ⑥ Coordinating with Indian diaspora lobby groups in other countries
 - ⑦ Increase in Track 2 diplomacy in diaspora engagement
- Thus diaspora is an untapped reservoir that can act as an asset in helping India become 'VISHWA-BURO'

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.17) The consolidation of the Quad reflects the political will in Delhi to break free from old shibboleths and respond to security imperatives. It opens a new phase in which India, for the first time, can help shape global institutions. Examine.

(15 Marks, 250 Words)

The Quad is a geostrategic grouping of India, US, Japan and Australia committed to ensuring a rules based order in Indo Pacific region.

Reflection of Political Will

- showcases India's ability to take issue based stand.
- Showing it's capability to tackle Chinese assertion in the region
- Display of ideological flexibility by abandoning dogma of non alignment when needed!

Helping respond to security imperatives and shape global order

- ↳ Help ensure freedom of navigation in sea lanes of communication
- ↳ Increase in access to ports and logistics facilities of partner countries
- ↳ Check on chinese unilateralism
- ↳ Provide security and assurance to smaller countries in the neighbourhood
- ↳ Improvement in capabilities of Navy via Malabar exercise etc
- ↳ Help seek support for UNSC reform, NSG entry etc
- ↳ Economic cooperation in rebuilding supply chains and reduce Chinese dependence
- ↳ Coordinating strong and effective response to terror

Challenges

- ↳ Differing priorities of members, Japan and Australia primary concern is Pacific
- ↳ May ~~keep~~ impact relation with Russia
- ↳ China views it provocatively thus may lead to increase in hostility
- ↳ All 3 members are part of NATO except India
- ↳ lack of clear charter and permanent secretariat

WAY AHEAD

Quad is reflective of the emerging pragmatism of Delhi. While increasing engagement in Quad is essential, steps have to be taken to ensure not to make it military alliance and ensure strategic autonomy.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.18) The vision of 'Healthy India' can be realized through comprehensive primary healthcare, universal health coverage and Public-Private-Partnership. Elaborate.

(15 Marks, 250 Words)

The vision of a healthy India is an essential component of harnessing the demographic dividend and to achieve SDG #3.

Realization through Primary Healthcare

① To help promote preventive care

② To improve the ambit of Primary health to mental health, lifestyle diseases etc

③ To reduce out of pocket expenditure (~60% currently)

④ Help achieve universal immunization

⑤ To ease burden on secondary and tertiary care



Fig: Primary health care structure

What is needed?

- Operationalize the 1.5 lakh Health and wellness centers
- Bridge the shortfall in doctors nurses
- ↑ allocation to $2/3$ of budget to primary health as laid in National Health Policy.

UNIVERSAL COVERAGE

- ① Help increase penetration of medical insurance (NSSO 2018: ~18% had)
 - ② Break the cycle of poverty
 - ③ Improve the affordability
 - ④ Help improve the health profile of tribals ($2/3$ rd children malnourished according to Bang committee)
- What is needed?

→ increase enrolment in Ayushman Bharat

- Digital portability of medical records and insurance
- Generic drugs accessibility via Aushadi Kendras
- Free immunization

Public - Private Partnership

- ① To increase the investment in health infrastructure
- ② To improve the quality, especially of tertiary care
- ③ To help implement the National Digital Health Mission
- ④ To ease burden on the public infrastructure

CONCLUSION

The three pronged approach could help in realizing the dream of a new and healthy India.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.19) Elucidate the importance of transparency in government and mention the tools available for upholding transparency. Also, discuss the factors responsible for India's poor performance in Transparency International's Global Corruption Index.

(15 Marks, 250 Words)

Transparency helps in realizing the goals of people centric governance by making all the stakeholders aware and involved in the governance process.

IMPORTANCE IN GOVERNANCE

- ① Helps ensure rule of law and reduce arbitrariness
- ② Reduces corruption (eg PFMS to track fund)
- ③ Improves accountability of the executive to the people (eg RTI)
- ④ Ensures active participation of people (eg social audit)

TOOLS AVAILABLE

• Laws / Policies

- RTI Act 2005
 - National Data sharing and Accessibility Policy 2012
 - My gov.in
 - Applications such as UMANG etc
- Institutions
- Chief Information Commissioner

Factors responsible for Corruption

India was recently ranked a lowly 82 in corruption perception index due to following reasons:

Institutional

- CBI lacks autonomy and has only 3% conviction rate in corruption cases (Parliamentary Standing Committee)
- CVC only has recommending powers
- ~~only~~ 4/10 requests ^{for RTI} are complied

Legal

- Slow criminal justice system

• Laws like prevention of corruption act require prior consent

Political

• The electoral process is rampant with illegal money (~70% money unaccounted for: ADR)

• MPs have corruption cases pending for years

Social

• Tolerance for corruption

• Lower salary in public sector leads to resorting to corruption

CONCLUSION

Corruption is like a multi headed hydra and only a sustained effort involving all the stakeholders can help eliminate it

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.20) Covid-19 has triggered a new era of digital diplomacy the world over. In this context, critically analyze prospects of e-diplomacy to pursue foreign policies.

(15 Marks, 250 Words)

The social distancing and quarantine measures induced by COVID has led to reliance on digital medium to continue diplomacy

Examples

- Vice president attended NAM summit online
- PM attended Central Asia dialogue online
- India hosting SCO summit online

Benefits of e-diplomacy to pursue foreign policies

- ① Allow diplomacy to continue uninterrupted
- ② Reduction in infrastructural costs

- ③ Helps in avoiding risks of contagious spread
- ④ Ensures presence of all stakeholders who physically might not have been able to attend
- ⑤ Reduces formalities involved in high level meetings

Issues

- ① Cyber security: Risks of hacking of communication lines
- ② Reduces possibilities of informal interactions / back door meetings between leaders
- ③ Difficult to engage multiple people as may cause confusion
- ④ Personal bonds between leadership may not develop
- ⑤ Cultural diffusion via conventional summits may not happen through e-diplomacy

Thus digital diplomacy can help fill the void in present times but it cannot act as a substitute of conventional diplomacy. ~~Need~~

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	