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FIAS - 2020 - GS Paper 2

ForumIAS

ACADEMY

GENERAL STUDIES

Name Of Candidate	MAMTA YADAV		
Email Id.		Roll No.	1910057133
Mobile No.		Date:	24 th Dec '20

Time Allowed: Three Hours

Maximum Marks: 250

INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTION	
Q. No.	Max. Marks	Marks Obtained	<ol style="list-style-type: none">Please do furnish Name, Email, Roll No and Mobile in the answer sheet.There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH, all questions are compulsory.The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.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.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.	
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13			<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> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>	
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			Mode Of Examination :	Online <input 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						
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ADDITIONAL COMMENTS



Q.1) Electoral fraud and malpractice present threats to a free and fair election process. Do you think that legalization of Model Code of Conduct can be successful in checking these? Argue giving suitable examples. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

Indian Elections suffer from various ills, for eg., Use of Black Money, Criminalisation of Politics, use of liquor / money to buy votes, etc. Model Code of Conduct is a tool of to ensure free & fair elections but it is often found lacking as it is not-statutory.

Legalisation of MCC

YES

- It will instantly ensure greater implementation as violation would lead to legal actions
- In the recent past, Election Commission has been accused of partisan nature in sanctioning parties for violation of MCC. This would also end
- Any normal person would be able to file a petition in a court of law for violation of MCC.

NO

- Legalising MCC might not yield any additional success as already there are legal tools under RPA 1950 & RPA, 1951.

→ Legal route can take long time and result will be long after elections having taken place. This will have little utility.

→ MCC in its present form allows ECI to take immediate action, for eg: delisting of Star Campaigners, Banning Candidates to undertake rallies/speeches for certain days, etc.

Therefore, Legalisation of ~~ECI~~ model Code of Conduct is no panacea. Other Reforms like → Fast Track Courts for MP/MLAs facing charges
 → Give ECI power to de-register parties & disqualify candidates
 → Intra-Party Reforms
 These need to be adequately focussed as well.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.2) National Council for Transgender Persons is a much-needed step in order to prevent further marginalization of the Transgender community in India. Critically Analyse. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

Recently, the Parliament has passed the The Transgender Act, 2020. However, effective Implementation for development of the Transgender needs a National Council for Transgender Persons to ensure law is upheld.

NCTP - Much Needed step in order to prevent further marginalisation

YES

- It can focus on creating avenues for skill development, vocational training, etc. to enable them to live a dignified life.
- Undertake surveys to find out emerging problems & ensure targeted policy approach.
- Take cases of human rights violation of Transgender on a no-motu basis.
- Ensure that families do not abandon Transgender children.
- Enable funds for Sex - Reassignment Surgeries.

NO

- Transgenders face social ostracisation for which NCTP might not be enough.
- Lack of Political Will to ensure welfare of this community will cripple the capability of the body as well.
- Rather than a new body which will face challenges of fund, functionaries, Secretariat, etc. National Commission of Human rights can be given the responsibility

The need of the hour to reverse present marginalisation is political will, sensitising administration & ensuring value education to create awareness about the concerns of Transgenders & create social empathy. NALSA Judgment should be the way forward.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.3) 'The dropping of the Question Hour goes against the grain of Democracy'.
Comment. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

Recently, in the backdrop of Corona Pandemic, the Question hour has been dropped from the Parliament session. Question hour is the first hour of every sitting in which MPs/MLAs can ask questions (oral/written) on diverse topics to the Ministers.

Against the Grain of Democracy

- Against the principle of Parliamentary checks & balances of the executive.
- Parliamentary Government is based on regular questioning and accountability, for which Question hour is a vital tool.
- It enabled the Parliament to clarify any fake news and propaganda that might be prevalent.
- Important source for society to know the steps taken by government about emerging issues.

- ~~Reflects~~ author
- Lack of discussion has led to widespread protests against the recently passed farm laws.
- Reflects fall in Parliamentary deliberations, Executive hegemony, falling transparency & citizen centricity.

In Corona Pandemic various arms of government have taken the digital route, for eg. e-courts, Parliament should do the same. Curtailed of the Pandemic can not be a reason for dropping Question hour.

The written questions have not been dropped. This is a good step. Government

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.4) Parliamentary committees play a key role in preserving the foundational pillars of representativeness, responsiveness, and accountability in a parliamentary democracy. In this light, discuss the issue of marginalization of parliamentary committees in recent times. Suggest reforms to strengthen them.

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

According to the PRS legislative research, only 25% of bills were taken up by Parliamentary Committees in the 16th Lok Sabha, compared to 71% in the 15th LS. This is a bad trend for Parliamentary Governance.

Marginalisation of Parliamentary Committees

- Committees enable thread-base discussion which Parliament can not undertake due to large size & lack of time & competence.
- Committees enable better discussions as they can get opinions from experts, academicians, parliamentary secretaries, etc.
- MPs are not subject to Party Whip. This ensure better debates without political issues.
- Committees can also uphold accountability as they can ask Companies important representatives to explain the cause of problem or steps taken.

eg. Recently heads of Facebook, Twitter were questioned by committees.

Suggestions for Reform

→ National Commission to review the working of Constitution recommending mandatory consideration

of a bill by Parliamentary Committees

→ If not The executive should also have emerging policy & legal think tanks to participate for better discussions.

→ The Speaker should ensure proper voting to decide if a bill should be referred to PC or not.

Deliberation is one of the most important functions of the Parliament. PC enable ~~their~~ effective fulfilment of this role & hence their marginalisation should not be allowed.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.5) The Indian Constitution does not envisage the President of India to be a power centre, leave alone set himself up as a rival power centre (to the Prime Minister). Yet, there is always considerable wiggle room for a President to have his presence felt. In light of this statement discuss that Indian President is not merely a rubber stamp. Give arguments in support of your answer. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

Under the Article 53, President is the executive head of the union. Moreover, Article 74 clearly states that PM with Council of Ministers should aid & advise the President. Therefore, Constitution envisions him as a ceremonial head.

Not a Centre of Power

→ Important functions like ~~assent to bills~~ summoning the Parliament, appointment to constitutional bodies is done based on the advice of Council of Ministers.

→ Supreme Court is in its various judgements has highlighted that decision without aid & advice of COM is unconstitutional.

Considerable Wiggle Room & Not a Rubber Stamp

→ According to A.74, President can ask the COM to reconsider a decision.

- President can use his veto power to send a bill back to the Parliament -
- Plays important role in times of hung parliament to uphold the Democratic Principles -
- ~~According~~ He can ask the Prime Minister to update him on latest developments in governance & the country -

With The rise of media and awareness among citizens, any decision ~~of~~ by the President within the four walls of Constitution leads to immense discourse which ultimately persuades the political Executive -

The Ceremonial Position of the President, therefore, holds great value & gives space to him to uphold Constitution -

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.6) The COVID-19 pandemic has brought to light some of the fundamental flaws in India's healthcare system. Discuss. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

In COVID instances of lack of hospital beds, ICUs, poor handling of patients and unethical treatment of the dead was brought to the limelight. It acted as a great eye-opener.

Fundamental flaws in Healthcare system

- Stagnant public investment in healthcare at 1.4% of GDP.
- Even though about 73.4% households are in rural areas, urban areas have 4 times the doctors & 2 times the nurses.
- Preventive healthcare sees expenditure of about 6% whereas 51% is spent on curing ailments.
- 67% of Out-of-Pocket Expenditure which is above global average.
- Dependence of China for 70% of import of Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients.

- About 80% of the Medical Devices are imported.
- Exorbitant rates charged by private institutions due to ineffective regulation.

Therefore, there is an urgent need of overhaul. Ayushman Yojana is a good step but more needs to be done.

NA's Strategy for New India @ 75 recommends -

- Creating a cadre of Public Health Practitioners at State & District Level.
- Have a three-year competency course for Primary Health Practitioners for Community, Family & Primary Healthcare.
- Expanding the services provided at PHC beyond Deliveries, First Aid, etc.
- Policy to deal with rising Non-Communicable diseases.

Reforms are essential even to achieve SDG 3 (Healthcare & well Being)

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.7) Media has now reincarnated itself into a 'public court' (Janta Adalat) and has started interfering in to court proceedings. Analyse the statement in the light of frequent instances of media trials. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

Recent instances of ~~the~~ suicide of a young actor, encounter of Vikas Dabey, Hathras Rape Case have highlighted how the fourth pillar of democracy has emerged as a Lok adalat.

Reincarnated into a public court

- Rising spread of TV, social media have strengthened media's influence.
- Paid News prevent ~~good~~ fulfilment of good media standards.
- Often media persons have found ~~to~~ entering crime scenes resulting in ~~the~~ interference with evidences.
- Interviewing Key Stakeholders, victims, etc. for TRPs.

Interfering in court proceedings

- In recent times, Media & Public persons

has ~~the~~ resulted in government & judiciary toeing the line.

→ public pressure prevents the judiciary from giving judgements without bias in an unemotional way.

~~with~~ Better regulation standards to ensure the Media discourse, which has considerably fallen, meets certain ethical & professional standards.

SOP to ensure proper wording of crime scenes so that ~~the~~ investigation can take place.

Winston Churchill once said, 'In matters of conscience, there is no rule of majority.' ~~Just~~ laws should be upheld in courts, not TV or social media.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.8) The sixth schedule of the Indian Constitution plays a vital role in preserving tribal autonomy. Discuss in the light of recent demands from Arunachal Pradesh and Ladakh for inclusion in the schedule. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

The Sixth Schedule has special provisions for the Tribal areas of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura & Mizoram as the Tribes of these states has livelihood much distinct from the general populace.

Vital Role in Preserving Tribal Autonomy

- The governor notifies Scheduled / Tribal areas where autonomous councils are set up.
- They have 30 members, of which 26 are elected by the local population for a 5-year period.
- These Councils can formulate laws on matters like Land, Marriages, Customs, etc.
- They also act as courts to settle tribal disputes hence upholding tribal autonomy.

- They also run primary schools, pharmacies, healthcare centres, etc.
- Any law of Parliament & or State Legislature is not extended to Scheduled areas without the consent of councils

However, there are important impediments to the fulfilment of goals of 6th schedule-

- Lack of Timely funding-
- Laws formulated by councils requires Governor consent who often takes no action for years-
- Monopolisation by dominant tribes-

Therefore, Reforms are needed for upholding Tribal autonomy better. Capacity enhancement, Hand-holding by administration can be good steps.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.9) "Changing to a presidential system is the best way of ensuring a democracy that works." Critically analyse the statement in the light of issues in the current setup of our parliamentary democracy. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

Democracy is primarily implemented by two methods of governance :-

Presidential form	Parliamentary form
→ It ensures <u>stability</u> in government but <u>lacks accountability</u> .	→ It gives <u>precedence</u> to <u>accountability</u> of executive by <u>legislature</u> .
→ There is <u>strict separation</u> of <u>Legislature & executive</u> .	→ <u>Executive</u> is part of the <u>Legislature</u> & there is <u>no water tight separation</u> .
→ <u>President</u> is both <u>head</u> of <u>gout.</u> & the <u>union</u> .	→ <u>President</u> is <u>head of union</u> <u>PM</u> heads the <u>gout.</u>

Presidential system is the best form to ~~maximize~~ working of democracy

→ It gives stability as party is not dependent of majority or in parliament.

→ This enables better focus on governance & no coalition politics.

→ Experts in govt. as President can choose anyone as minister.

→ Representatives are not subject to party whip ~~in~~.

However, the strict separation often leads to tensions between legislative & executive Parliamentary from smooth operation in fiscal administration and consistent debates to check govt.

Therefore, ^{no} one system is ideal.

Reforms for better working like -

→ Anti-Defection Law reforms.

→ Constitutional Vote of No-Confidence (by Law Commission)

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.10) 'In order to ensure impeccable accountability, the need is to strengthen the RTI Act, not dilute or evade it'. Elucidate. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

- The govt. has recently amended the RTI Act
- The condition of service, salary, allowances of CIC & IC are no longer equivalent to CFC & EC,
 - The earlier provision for tenure of 8 years ~~or~~ till 65 years of age is done away.

This impacts the independence of Information Commission which is the last body of appeal to uphold the RTI, an important tool to uphold accountability.

Need to Strengthen RTI

- Timely filling of vacancies.
- Various State IC are defunct this needs to change.
- 2nd ARC recommends reforming the collegium for appointment to IM, CJI & Leader of Opposition.

- Public Records Office to act as a depository of expertise of management of records.
- Training of PIOs
- Online application for RTI by all States (at present only Delhi & Maharashtra)

RTI is the key to good governance

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.11) UAPA, an anti-terror legislation intended for exceptional circumstances, is becoming routinized. Comment in the light of amendments and repeated invocations of UAPA in recent times. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

The Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act is a key legislation to ensure protection of National Sovereignty & upholding security.

Recently, in the News cases of UAPA being used to curtail dissent have emerged. This becomes a greater concern in the background of Recent UAPA Amendments.

Amendments

- Earlier, only organisations could be branded terrorists. However, now this has been extended to individuals as well.
- Executive is the only arm which can de-list an individual labelled so. This ~~is~~ leads to conflict.
- Greater powers to National Investigation Agency (NIA) in regards to UAPA.

Concerns with Repeated Invocations

- Against the principle of Innocent until Proven

guilty as individual is labelled a terrorist before conviction.

→ Repeated innocent ~~or~~ act as tool to curtail Right to freedom of Speech & Expression.

→ Right to Dignified Life is affected as lifelong earned reputation is distorted & harmed.

→ Asymmetrical Power with the executive and administration. A person has limited capabilities to fight the might of state.

However, the government has argued that extending the UAPA to individuals is important as under the earlier provisions groups used to form a new organisation & continue anti-national activities.

~~Further~~

To ensure proper balancing of individual's rights and need to ensure national security, uphold sovereignty & Territorial Integrity, greater transparency in the functioning of the law is needed.

Further, Judiciary should ensure that due - diligence is followed & the law is not misused for political agenda & sub dissent. This is necessary not only to uphold fundamental rights but also to ensure that effectiveness of the law, in handling threats to national security, is not diminished.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.12) Autonomous bodies are a major stakeholder in the government's functioning. However, they face a number of issues which need to be reviewed and dealt with. Identify these issues and suggest suitable measures to streamline these bodies.

(15 Marks, 250 Words)

Government of India has various autonomous bodies for eg. AICTE, National Skill Development Council, etc.

Issues faced by Autonomous Bodies

- Lack of Transparency in appointment made. They often become tool to fulfil demands of Failed Politicians, etc. aspirations.
- Lack of financial autonomy and timely allocation of funds.
- Capacity of the personnel is mostly lacking.
- Rising instances of contractual employments further diminishes the efficiency of workforce.
- No clear Citizen Charters enumerating the objective of the organisation.
- Lack of social interest and political will has made many of autonomous bodies defunct.

Suitable measures to streamline these bodies

- Transparency in appointment & by laying down clear qualifications parameters.
- Greater involvement of individuals from Civil societies.
- Charters to delineate objective.
- Using ICT to ensure transparent functioning & information sharing with the citizens.
- Social Audits by Think tanks linking the work done with the objective of the body.

Government should undertake a sehaul of various autonomous bodies & merger where needed to ensure better Funding, Secretariats & Human resources.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.13) The rising tensions between the U.S and China indicate the re-emergence of a New Cold War (Cold War 2.0). Do you agree? How is it different from the earlier one? What role should India play in the Cold War 2.0? (15 Marks, 250 Words)

The rise of China - economically, militarily and strategically has challenged the unipolar power, with USA as a super power, that existed since the end of Cold War in 1991 (disintegration of Russia).

Rising Tensions between the USA & China

- The trade war between the two as USA has levied tariffs on chinese imports.
- Recently, USA also labelled China as a Currency manipulator.
- Confrontations in the South China Sea.
- USA has been at the forefront of dissuading countries to not allow Huawei in 5G trials.
- USA labelled Conona as the 'Chinese Virus' accusing it of allowing the spread of virus with impunity.
- Withdrawal of USA from initiatives like Paris Agreement, WHO is also a facet of the tensions.

These trends do hint at a re-emerging Cold War 2.0. However, there are substantial differences as well.

→ Cold War between USA & Russia was primarily an ideological war between Capitalism & Communism. It is not so in the present.

→ The tensions are economic to a great extent & there is no global fallout as seen in Cold War 1.0, for eg., Vietnam War, Korean War, etc.

→ It is not leading to Arms race and USA is quite ahead of China.

→ Cold War saw formation of alliances for eg. NATO vs Warsaw Pact. Though Shanghai Cooperation Organisation has been called Anti-Nato, the aim of SCO is not anti-america.

→ The World ~~has~~ today is primarily multi polar contrary to the past when it was evidently bipolar.

Role India should play

→ India has disputes with China, for eg. Recent standoff with in Galwan Valley. Therefore, it should greater alliances to handle China.

eg.- USA - all 4 foundational agreements signed
 - Japan - Asian-African growth corridor,
supply-chain resilience initiative

→ Economic opportunities from Trade War as global supply chains are realigning.

→ However, balancing is key as India's prime concern still remains Pakistan. Therefore, membership in SCO, BRICS, etc. with China & informal summits are good steps.

Perhaps re-energising NAM

for the current times would be a good idea.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.14) "The corruption begins not after coming to power but before it." Elucidate in the light of opacity in electoral funding. Suggest practical steps to deal with the issue.

(15 Marks, 250 Words)

It is estimated with Rs 60,000 crore funding and use of money, the 17th Lok Sabha was the costliest electoral exercise in the world. A great proportion of this is Black Money, from illicit activities, etc.

Corruption begins Not after coming to power but before it

Political

→ Rising criminalisation as parties think corrupt individuals have greater winability (according to ADR - 43% of MPs have criminal cases).

→ Political Parties seek corporate funding in return for quid-pro-quo if they come to power. This leads to Crony Capitalism.

social

→ People are corrupted by parties as they offer money & tangibles in return

for notes.

Administrative

→ The Criminals - Police - Politicians nexus exists even before Candidates come to power due the local influences they hold.

Practical Steps to deal with these

- 2nd ARC has recommended Proportional State funding to check the use of illicit money.
- Criminalisation & Corruption are linked. To tackle
 - 1) Fast track courts should be set up.
 - 2) Section 8 of RPA, 1951 should be amended to disqualify those facing charges for heinous crimes.
- ECI should undertake greater voter awareness campaigns.
- Legislative enactments for intra-party reforms to ensure disqualified individuals do not have extra-constitutional influence on Legislature & executive.

→ Enacting 108th Constitutional Amendment Bill as i for 33% reservation of women. It is hoped that their greater participation will bring positive change.

These reforms along with strengthening ECI, better Model Code of Conduct for cleaning Indian Politics of its ills.

Politicians control Legislature, Executive & Administration. Therefore, these steps taken be taken up expeditiously.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.15) With US announcing its plans to leave Afghanistan, the politics in the region has become unstable with the involvement of the various super powers in the region. In this context, should India align with other actors or tread its path of strategic autonomy. Give arguments to support your answer. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

After almost two decades since it first came to Afghanistan for first fight against Terrorism, USA has announced its withdrawal. However, the impacts of a hasty withdrawal could be debilitating for the region.

Various Super Powers involvement in the region

→ Russia has always been a great player in Afghanistan to ensure no spill over into its territory

→ China has also shown rising interests due to its aspirations of becoming a global super power & prevent radicalisation of its population in Xinjiang province.

→ The Pakistan remains the base of the Talibans of Afghanistan. Weak Afghan govt.

↳ USA withdrawal, would imply greater influence of Pakistan in Afghanistan.

→ There is a rising ISIS in Afghanistan ~~with~~ especially in the Northern hilly areas.

India's Role

Align with other actors

→ America has called for greater Indian participation in the region.

→ It will enable India to check Pakistan's influence.

→ Important to ensure no radical spillover in Kashmir Valley.

→ Postition of various assets it has created.

→ Recently, India sent two envoys in unofficial capacity in Russian led deliberations.

Strategic Autonomy

→ It enables India to not get too deeply embroiled in the Afghanisation.

→ Continue with the present stance of India Afghan led, owned, controlled Peace Talks.

→ Non-interference in Internal Affairs has earned India a lot of good will among the the Afghan People.

India's interests are best served by continuing with its policy of development assistance, military equipment supplies, etc.

Along with this it should attempt to ensure it remains abreast of all key deliberations to ensure its interests are not greatly harmed.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.16) "The Consumer Protection Act, 2019 heralds the beginning of a new era of consumer rights in India that are in sync with new-age consumer expectations." Elucidate while enumerating the provisions of the new Consumer Protection Act.

(15 Marks, 250 Words)

The Consumer Protection Act, 2019 has

various important provisions :-

→ It enables a Consumer to file a case from any district & not necessarily the one in which seller is based.

→ e-commerce ~~to~~ which has become a big player has been brought under the ambit of the Act.

→ Bodies at National, State & even local level to advise on policies or reforms to enhance consumer protection further.

→ Hierarchy of Consumer Courts for implem ensuring remedial measures in case of violation of the Law.

In sync with the New age Consumer expectations

- Rise in awareness has led to great rights & demands as consumers.
- Under Right to Information, every consumer has right to sub-motu disclosure of critical information of the products.
- With spread of Online Banking & Transactions, instances of frauds had also increased. The law tackles these.
- The earlier law was not competent to deal with the e-commerce market which is diversified and to many stakeholders involved.

However, there is still need of creating greater awareness about the law to empower consumers. Further, provision of financial aid in dealing with legal cases should be brought to enable

consumers to bring erring selless to book.

These steps will ~~enable~~ empower
ensue the greater dividends can be
derived from the Law.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.17) NGOs have a long history of providing and enabling access to social services for those in need. However, their repeated and over-regulation is gradually sounding death knell for them. Comment in the light of the recent amendments to the FCRA Act.

(15 Marks, 250 Words)

NGOs can be defined as non-profit organisations that undertake welfare activities in various social sectors and promote the interests of vulnerable sections.

Long History of Providing & enabling access to Social Services

- GOONS has provided welfare services to those impacted by Natural Disasters.
- Akshay Patra foundation provides Mid-Day Meal to over lakhs of children.
- ASER has taken steps to ensure better learning outcomes among the urban slums children.
- Helpage India have been in legislation of Maintenance of Elderly Persons Act.
- Child Rights & You for Justice to children who have faced sexual exploitation.

→ Sight Savers for Blind People.

Repeated & Over-regulation is sounding death
Knell for them

→ There are no avenues for ~~for~~ government
funding. With FCRA amendments, even
foreign funds are drying up.

→ Lack of funds & over-regulation has forced
Amnesty International to shut its offices
in India.

→ Under the new provisions, FCRA certification
has to be repeatedly renewed.

→ Over-regulation in terms of paper returns,

~~Fax~~

→ Percentage of funding to be used for payment
of staff, properly maintenance, etc has been
reduced. This will limit capability of
smaller NGOs.

Government Stance -

→ CBI has highlighted that there are ^{about} 30 lakh registered NGOs but only 10% file returns as needed under ~~society~~ Society Registration Act

- IB - Anti-developmental activities is causing India a loss of 2-3% of GDP.
- Support of Kashmiri separatists by Amnesty International.

2nd ARC recommends Voluntary Organisations Accreditation Council should be set up to ensure effective regulation without curtailing space for NGOs to work.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.18) "Capacity of Civil Services plays a vital role in rendering a wide variety of services, implementing welfare programs and performing core governance functions." In this light, comment on the importance and utility of 'Mission Karmayogi'.

(15 Marks, 250 Words)

Recently, Government has launched the Mission Karmayogi with an outlay of about Rs 8000 Crore as a national initiative of Capacity enhancement of Civil servants.

Vital role in wide variety of services, welfare programmes & governance functions

→ Bureaucracy is at the fore-front of implementing various govt. flagship programs at the grassroot level.

→ Policy making has become a complex undertaking as India is developing.

Therefore, capacity enhancement is must.

→ With the rise of ICT and Digitalisation, the Civil servant should be capable of adopting the same.

→ Weberian Model of Bureaucracy of based on Security of Tenure, Promotion of the basis of seniority often leads to complacency & inefficiency.

Mission Karamyogi, therefore, has been unveiled rightly for capacity enhancement. Given the spread of Corona which has forced greater digital reforms, the step is timely.

- It will ensure departments take capacity assessment & then undertake suitable training of govt. servants.
- Greater importance to Mid-Career training
- Expertise & Domain Specialisation would be generated.
- Efficiency of Governance & Service Delivery Capabilities will be enhanced.

Along with the government should also ~~take~~ implement important 2nd ARC recommendation for capacity enhancement.

for eg.

→ Pasting in non-government organisations/Corporate to get ~~greater~~ perspectives
 under

→ Ensuring accountability review after 14 years of Service to enable Civil Servants to learn about their - strength, weakness.

→ Domain Competence ~~at~~ at Policy Stage by choosing preferred sectors.

This will strengthen the Bureaucracy to fulfill the needs of a 21st Century India.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.19) In the recent years, there is a renewed vigour in the Indo-Japan relationship. This partnership can promote stability and security in the South Asian region. Elucidate. Also discuss some key challenges associated with Indo- Japan relation.

(15 Marks, 250 Words)

Japan is important player in India's Key Foreign Policy of 'Look East'. India has a special place in Japan's Abenomics. Both share a strong & diverse relationship based on Democratic Principles, open economies, P2P connect, etc.

Renewed Vigour to promote Stability & Security in the South Asian region

- Asia-African growth corridor is a key Joint Project of the two.
- India is undertaking developmental activities with Japan in Afghanistan.
- The two have unveiled supply chain Resilience Initiative to diversify supply chains outside China.
- Joint development of Easton Container

Terminial in Colombo Port of Sri Lanka.

- Japan & India, together, have been at the forefront of highlighting the use of BRI by China for debt-trapping Nations.
- New & Renewed partnerships like - QUAD, Malabar Exercise.

Some Key challenges associated with the Indo - Japan Relation

- India has withdrawn from the RCEP (Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership) which would have enabled greater economic partnership.
- Japan recently sent two special envoys in China's Second BRI forum.
- India opposed the Osaka Track unveiled by Japan at G20 Summit for tackling Data Localisation.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

- India's poor record in Project Deliveries -
- Lack of P2P connect vis-à-vis the capabilities
- Poor relation in terms of sale & purchase of Military equipments -

These challenges can be overcome by giving Japan a special & clear place in India's Look East Policy & Indo-Pacific strategy. This will enable directly targeted policy steps.

Q.20) "The exemplary friendship between India and Nepal has been recently put to test." Comment while suggesting a roadmap to reinvigorate the bilateral relations.

(15 Marks, 250 Words)

Nepal's Parliament has recently unveiled a new map which claims 3 Key Places in India - Kalapani, Lipulekh, Limpiyadhura as part of Nepal's Territory.

Exemplary Relationship

- Nepal & India's relationship is based on the 1950 friendship treaty.
- Nepal is dependent on India for access to the outside world given its land locked nature.
- Open-border leading to good economic trade & social connects.
- Religious commonality on Hinduism & Buddhism.

Nepal's actions putting relations to test

- The recent cartographic aggression have acted as a roadblock. The cause of the

problem is debate over the origin of Keli River which was designated the border by Sugali Treaty, 1816.

- Other Problems
- Nepal's repeated use of the Chinese God. (of Nepal)
 - Communist parties often indulge in anti-Indian propaganda.
 - Misgivings created by economic blockade (2013) over Madhesh People.
 - Better Trade & Connectivity b/w Nepal & China -
 - India's big-brotherly attitude.

Roadmap to reinvigorate the Bilateral Relations

- Creating proper mechanisms to discuss the border disputes & ensure the disparities do not become disputes.
- Reforming the 1950 treaty to better suit the present day needs.
- India should ~~become~~ provide avenues of higher education to Nepali youth who look outside for greater opportunities.

→ Nepal's complaint of Indian goods flooding its markets should be tactfully handled.

→ ~~Go~~

→ Better & Timely delivery of infrastructural projects

Positive steps are needed expedi-
tiously to limit the rising Chinese
footprint in Nepal.

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.

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