

Test Code: 31034



FIAS – 2020 – GS Paper 2

ForumIAS

ACADEMY

GENERAL STUDIES

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Mobile No.		Date:	2/11/2020

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>
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Total Marks:			
Remarks:			Start Time 2:30
			End Time 5:30
			Mode Of Examination : Online <input type="checkbox"/> Offline <input type="checkbox"/>
			ECN CODE:
			Evaluation Date:

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)

Model Code of Conduct refers to a set of consensually agreed guidelines which political parties adhere to post announcement of elections.

→ Electoral fraud / malpractice presents threat as:

i) Awareness regarding candidate affected : by hiding income sources, qualification etc.

ii) Muscle / money power in Tier - III towns, villages hampers process.

iii) Communal hatred and polarisation to appease communities.

iv) Misuse of government properties / funds

by ruling party.

→ legalisation of MCE :

Desirable	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Provide teeth to implementation. * Increase transparency by introducing neutrality * Reduce discretion and burden on ECI. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Increase litigation and pendency in courts * Evidence issues as no clarity regarding mal-practices. * Lengthy procedure, results take months.

Political choice must be adhered to parties and electoral fairness must be practised.

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)

National Council for Transgender Persons is a statutory body dealing with issues and empowerment of Transgender in India.

Roles & responsibility

- Policy recommendation to government
- Assisting in implementation
- Raising concerns regarding issues
- suo-motu cognisance of atrocities and investigate.

→ Much needed step as:

i) Prevents marginalisation: scattered minority with no political representation.

ii) Institutionalise grievance redressal: legal

authority to raise issues and get response.

iii) ensures social and political justice; raise awareness regarding atrocities.

→ Though issues persist as:

- i) Highly dispersed groups and engaged primarily in begging, prostitution etc.
- ii) Social acceptance in mainstream is low.
- iii) Apathy of public in empathy with their issues.
- iv) No provision of reservation in education/employment.

This is a step in right direction but more needs to be done for ensuring dignity and fundamental right to transgenders.

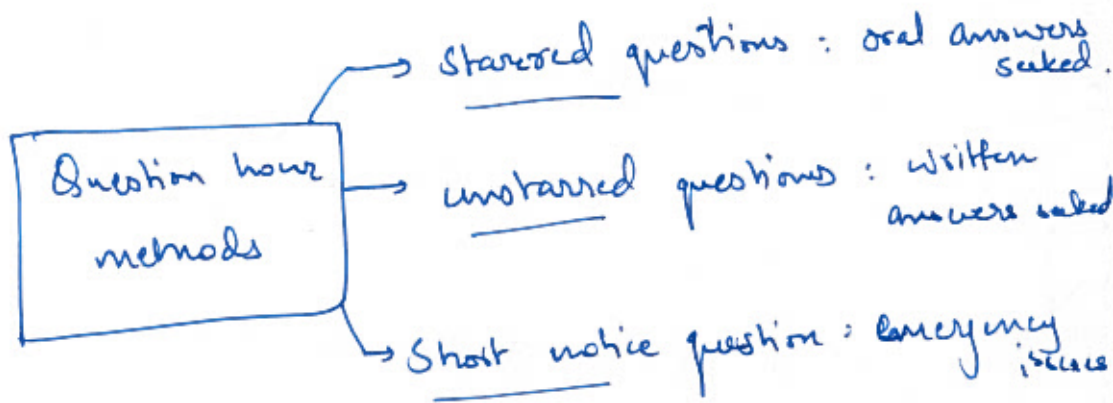
Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



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

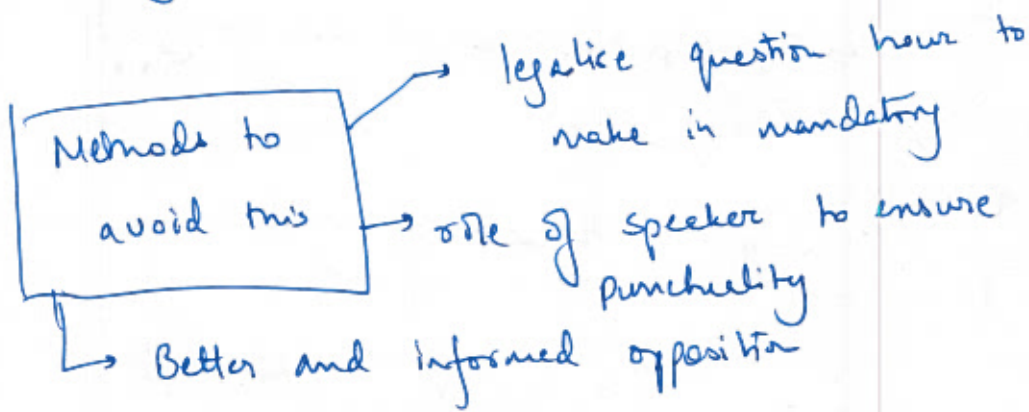
Question hour refers to the initial phase of house proceedings which includes questioning to the ministers by members of Parliament.



→ Dropping impacts democracy as:

- i) Affects responsibility of executive towards legislature. (ex: questions on policies).
- ii) Violates separation of powers which constitutes basic structure.

- iii) Reduces faith in parliamentary democracy
- iv) MP/MLA are reduced to headcounts.
- v) Reduced quality of debates affects rules of procedure and affects quality of deliberation.
- vi) failure to incorporate diverse views in policy making leads to non-inclusive legislation.



Question hour forms very essential feature of parliamentary form of governance.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

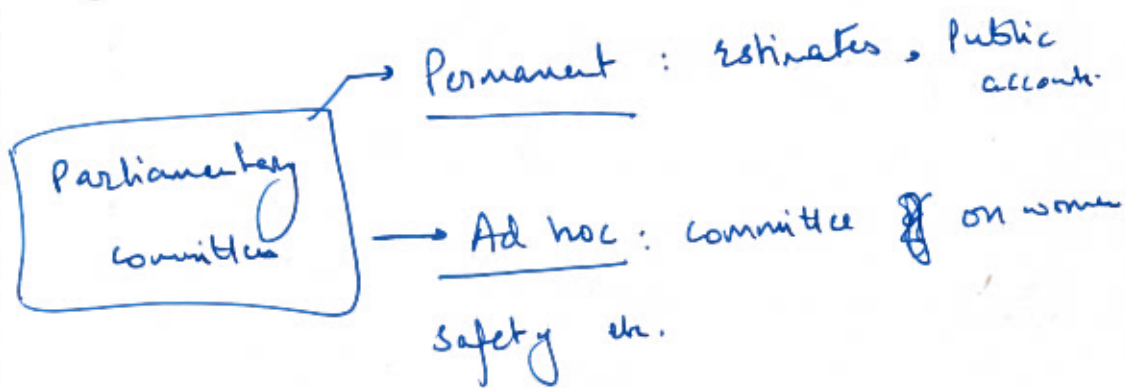
Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



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)

Parliamentary committees refers to bodies which ensure detailed discussion, inclusive legislations and delegated responsibilities.



→ Roles and responsibilities :

- i) Expertise and Collaboration : various experts are consulted, increasing technical accuracy.
- ii) Representation of civil society : in discussions, deliberations and policy formulation.

iii) Shared load of legislation: assists legislature with literature, studies on concerned topics.

iv) Inter party cooperation: closed door meetings ensuring healthy democratic collaboration.

→ Marginalisation in recent times:

i) Hasty passage of laws without referrals

ii) Growing absenteeism and short tenure (1 yr)

iii) Increasing political polarisation: increases disagreements

iv) Single party majority and lack of opposition.

Way forward: • Ensure longer tenure (7 yrs).

• Mandatory referral of bills.

• Increasing parliamentary choices.

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)

President of India is the head of the state and parliamentary decisions are taken under his name and authority.

→ Role of President in Indian Constitution:

i) de jure authority: nominal head of the executive and provides final assent to the bill.

ii) ~~Discretionary powers~~ Bound by the advice of council of ministers.

iii) Ensures peace and stability in federal structure (ex: election is decided by centre & states)

iv) Receives and sends diplomats.

→ Considerable wiggle room as:

i) Discretionary powers : in case of hung assembly decision over Prime Minister's selection.

ii) Absolute and Pocket veto to a bill passed by legislature.

iii) Pardoning powers which acts a check on judiciary

iv) Appoints key posts such as governors, IAS officers.

v) Lays down reports from UPSC, ECI, CAG etc.

Thus, President of India is different from role of President in ~~the~~ presidential system but considerable autonomy is provided.

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)

COVID-19 pandemic has loomed large on Indian economic, social systems highlighting key deficiencies in healthcare infrastructures.

→ Fundamental flaws:

- i) Primary healthcare:
 - PHCs in villages are ill equipped with basic amenities (ex: oxygen).
 - ASHA / ANM workers are ill trained to ensure social distancing. importance of masks.
 - Doctors absenteeism is prevalent. ∴ unwillingness to serve in rural areas.
- ii) Secondary healthcare:
 - Lack of ambulances to shift patients to nearby districts.
 - Quarantine facilities are improper (ex: food, sanitation)

- Accuracy of reports are highly dubious.

iii) Tertiary healthcare : - Advanced technologies (ex: Plasma Therapy) are absent from Tier-II cities.

- Violence against doctors and inadequate protection

- Lack of facilities (ex: bed availability)

iv) Infrastructure : - Hospitals are ill equipped to handle increased case load.

- Connectivity of rural-urban medical is poor.

COVID-19 highlights the requirement of increased expenditure on health infrastructure from 1.75% to 2.5% of GDP.

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)

Media trials refers to increased scrutiny of case details, questioning of accused/victims and announcement of guilty without any objective and fair investigation by media houses.

→ Media as public court increasing as:

- i). TRP sensationalism: flashy taglines grab eyeballs which reflect in revenue collection.
- ii). Increased competition: growth of social media has increased need to be competitive.
- iii). Increased access: from TV to smartphones thus larger public opinion can be generated.

iv). High pendency and litigation duration in courts. (ex: 3.1 cr pending cases)

v). ~~growth~~ of media short duration of news relevance : quick conclusions are required.

→ This leads to :

i). failure of "innocent until proven guilty" which forms basic tenet of justice system in India.

ii). Delegitimises counter opinion and case result by judiciary leading to protests, communal violence.

iii). Misrepresentation of case facts to gain views.

Media regulation (whether online or TV) should be practised via checking of fake news, fixing accountability and self censorship.

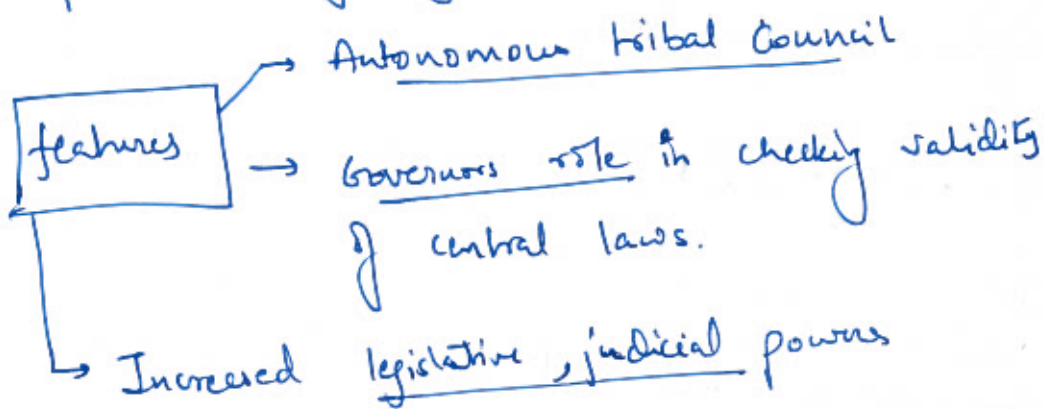
Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

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)

6th schedule of Indian constitution provides special status to tribal areas of Assam, Tripura, Meghalaya, Mizoram.



→ Preserves tribal autonomy as:

- i) Ensures tribal traditions and right to self rule: tribal representation in hill councils.
- ii) Customisation of laws not in sync with tribal way of life.

iii) Right over minor forest produce which are basic source of tribal economy (ex: Tendu leaves)

iv) Autonomy to rule themselves which reduces secessionist tendencies. (ex: Bodoland Territorial region)

→ Kadakh and Assamchal Pradesh include:

i) Inner line Permit area of AP highlights necessity to reduce outsiders.

ii) Backwardness and need to preserve tradition (ex: Buddhist culture) in Kadakh and AP.

iii) Tribal society depend on nature (ex: Chang Thang)

Thus, 6th schedule areas reflect unity in diversity and respect towards uniqueness of cultures.

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)

Presidential system refers to a form of governance ensuring common head for state and government. This is prevalent in USA.

→ Best way to ensure democracy works as

i) Ensures stability : executives are not responsible to legislature as they are nominated

ii) Technical expertise in legislation: executives are not political representatives.

iii) strict separation of powers : legislatures passes laws and executive implements it.

iv) Quick decision making : President is the

sole authority.

→ Though ^{Parliamentary} ~~Indian~~ system serves us better as:

- i). Responsibility of executives: ensures no misuse of power. (ex: via no confidence motion)
 - ii). Diverse opinion in decision making as it ensures inclusive legislation.
 - iii). Delegated powers vested in council of ministers, Prime Minister etc.
 - iv). Checks and balances to reduce arbitrary discretion of executive, judiciary or legislature.
- Thus, based on different securities, India adopted Parliamentary system of democracy.

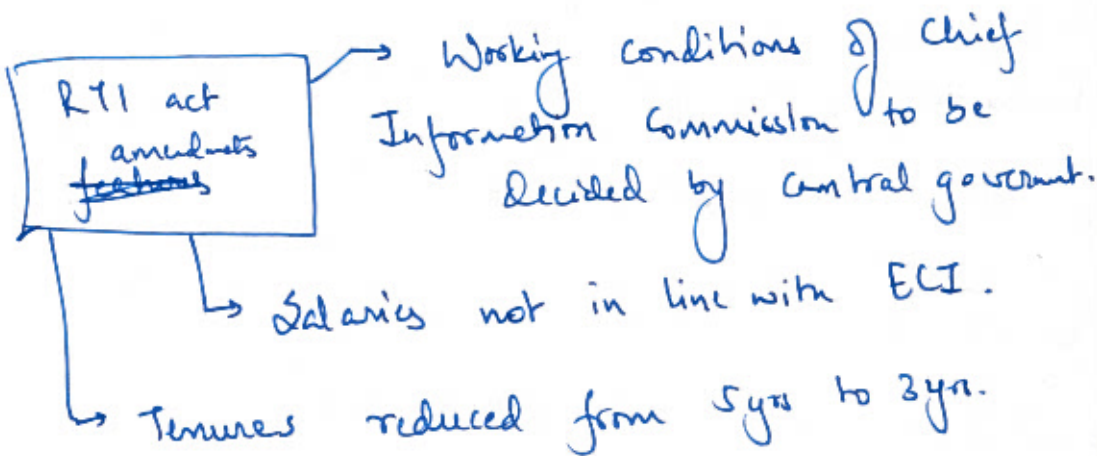
Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

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)

Right to Information Act, 2005 opens public offices to queries regarding functioning, funding etc. by general public.



→ Dilution / evasion of RTI is harmful as:

- i) Increases opacity in administration which hampers governance.
- ii) Promotes red tapism leading to policy paralysis.

iii). Misuse by authorities: by invoking section 8 of RTI which denies access to information.

iv). Increases corruption as lack of transparency.

→ Need to strengthen it as:

i). Facilitates good governance and ensures quick decision making and implementation.

ii). Reduces ~~the~~ barriers to information and fixes accountability (ex: Adarsh housing scam)

iii). Deepens democracy and public trust in authorities

Need is to increase autonomy of CIC and other Information commissions and provide more teeth to the organisation.

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)

Unlawful Activities Prevention Act is a legal instrument to deal with activities like Terrorism, Naxalism, insurgency etc. which are to be used sparingly and great caution.

→ Exceptional circumstances:

- i) To prevent planned terrorist activities (ex: bomb blasts, attacks).
- ii) To provide jurisdiction and authorities to investigating officers in cases of extreme violence.
- iii) To reduce incidence of naxalism, neoism, urban terrorism, insurgency etc.
- iv) For preventive detention of proven & members of terrorist organisation, violence propagators

→ UAPA amendments : • NIA jurisdiction has been extended with prior approval of minimum SP rank officer.

• Powers of arrest extended to domestic as well as foreign properties.

• Individuals can now be termed as terrorists.

→ Routinisation of UAPA in recent times due to:

i) Stifling dissent by opposition, members of different ideologies (ex: CAA protests).

ii) Targeting adversaries : by false charges.

with of UAPA allegations.

iii) To reduce judicial intervention : preventive detention upto 2 yrs can be done.

iv) Avoid fundamental rights and habeas

Corpus: This provides scope for custodial torture.

v). Growth polarisation: violent protests, social media provocation leads to communalisation.

vi). Sensitive judgements in various religious cases further increases possibility of violence.

vii). Assessment politics: by targeting various groups to satisfy voter base.

UAPA should be used only in rare instances and judicial intervention (even in limited capacity) must be allowed for ensuring that curbing of fundamental rights are justified.

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)

Autonomous bodies refers to independent organisations (ex: NGO, SHG, trusts, societies etc.) which ensure ~~to~~ effective government functioning

→ Role in government functioning:

i). Policy formulation and discussions: provide expertise, technical assistance and inclusivity.

ii). Policy implementation: (ex: Mudra scheme via SHGs, minority upliftment via NGOs.)

iii). Policy feedback and grievance redressal: bridge between public and government.

iv). Unionisation against discriminatory laws:

(ex: Trade unions strikes to ensure harmony)

→ Issues dealt with autonomous bodies.

i). Access to institutional finance: SHGs, societies etc. are generally formed by poorer sections ∴ collateral issues hamper bank credits.

ii). Multiplicity of same functions: government parastatal bodies perform same tasks reduce NGOs capability (ex: smart city mission).

iii). Jurisdictional issues and authority: being autonomous, hindrance to reach most vulnerable (ex: Inner line permit issues, Schedule 5 limitations)

iv). Apart from bureaucracy: corruption, policy paralysis and delays in approvals.

v). Lack of collaboration: Consultations from authorities is minimum and restricted to regulations.

→ Measures to streamline these bodies:

- i). Institutionalised methods to approach respective ministries (ex: SAKSHAM portal for health related needs).
- ii). Grievance redressal in quick and effective manner.
- iii). Inclusion in policy plans with delegated duties.
- iv). Credit availability, state guarantee for collateral for better performing bodies.
- v). Well laid out jurisdictional capabilities.
- vi). Training and human resource generation for better cooperation.

Good governance can be achieved when all stakeholders collaborate to reach the 'last in the line'.

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)

With shifting of global poles of powers, major issues between US and China have highlighted emergence of Cold War 2.0.

→ Areas of conflict:

i). COVID crisis and issues of origin: ~~the~~ lackadical approach of Chinese authorities and greatest impact on US (no. of deaths).

ii). human rights violation: US blames China of curbing freedom, stifling dissent.

iii). Constitutional changes related to Hong Kong: violation of international treaties by China.

iv) South China Sea conflicts as well as border disputes with India: US criticises China and vows support for affected nations.

v) UNSC disagreements and veto issues: US and China are at loggerheads regarding sanctions, expansion of councils etc.

vi) Growing trade war: escalation of sanctions by both and apprehensions against Chinese companies (ex: Huawei & TikTok).

→ Different from earlier as:

i) Chinese rise can now counter US economically, militarily and technologically.

ii) Role of UN institutions declining (ex: UNESCO, WHO, UNSC).

iii) Declining multilateralism and growing protectionism.

→ India's role in Cold War 2.0 :

- i) Strategic autonomy based on need based alliance (ex: with China at WTO, with US in QUAD).
- ii) Balance power being part of QUAD as well as RIC/BRICS.
- iii) Effective mediator as proxy protectionism is harmful to India's demographic dividend.
- iv) Ensure multilateralism with reforms at UN, resolution of WTO issues.
- v) Responsible global power ensuring disagreements don't turn into conflict and war.

India should be ready to fill the void caused by retracting US and China and ensure Cold war is avoided.

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)

Electoral funding refers to resources, money, services etc. provided to a political party during campaigning and other stages of elections.

→ Opacity in electoral funding:

- i) Electoral bonds :
 - Anonymity of the donors.
 - ~~reduce~~ upper ceiling removed leading to extensive donations.
 - Smaller parties (<1% votes) aren't eligible leading to resource inequality.
- ii) Parties not under RTI : defying Supreme Court's suggestion, parties claim that enough

transparency via filing of income tax exemption.

iii) Disparities in filed income and inability of authorities to justify any counter claims.

iv) Money power and muscle power before elections aren't included in election expenditure.

v) lengthy ~~pro~~ litigation procedure and opacity in justice delivery.

vi) Selling of party tickets to people who can pay for representation.

Corruption, thus begins way before coming to power leading to:

- criminalisation of politics
 - favouritism and nepotism.
 - flawed democratic institutions
- } law breakers are law makers.

→ Steps to deal with issue:

- i). ECI can deregister parties : such powers are currently not available.
 - ii). Political parties should come under RTI as they enjoy various exemptions via public funds.
 - iii). Judicial intervention via fast track courts to decide on claims of discrepancies.
 - iv). Awareness amongst electorate regarding income, criminal case against representatives.
 - v). Increased role of media in ensuring accountability and transparency.
- Dinesh Goswami committee recommendations will help in dealing with electoral corruption.

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)

US struck deal with Taliban which highlighted US's withdrawal from Afghanistan in return of Taliban giving up armed conflict

→ Increased instability in the region:

i) Growth of proxy wars between major powers (ex: Turkey, China, Russia) to gain control.

ii) Rise of militancy: Taliban's moral victory may lead to resurgence of ISIS.

iii) Role of China: Chinese growth via Pakistan in India's neighborhood is unstable.

iv) Reduced role of Afghanistan government:

possibility of civil war in the region.

→ India's role:

Alignment with super powers:

- i) Use of multi lateral forums like SCO, RIC, QUAD etc. to ensure stability in the region.
- ii) Diplomacy with China, Iran will help in neutralising emerging tensions.
- iii) Afghan led Afghan owned strategy should be preached with US - Russia - China to ensure avoidance of proxy wars.
- iv) funding and manpower towards UNPKF to ensure stability is maintained.
- v) Active diplomacy with Afghanistan to strike a peaceful shift of power.

Exercisly Strategic autonomy:

- i) leverage of soft power amongst Afghan public to avoid anti-India activities.
- ii) Activating tri services command, army along Durand line to prevent infiltration of terrorists.
- iii) Avoiding Pakistan's influence on resurgent Taliban by taking active steps to fill US's void.
- iv) favorable trade deals, line of credit and humanitarian support to Afghan society.

India's role as an emerging global power will be cemented in ensuring stable Afghanistan and regional security.

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)

Consumer protection refers to protection of rights of consumers in relation with goods or services. This covers knowledge, access and quality along with other protection.

→ Consumer Protection Act 2019 :

i). Inclusion of e-commerce : This would ensure transaction online are protected and services promised are offered.

• This facilitates trust of new age consumers in digital shopping, digital transactions as well as help in growth of e-commerce portals.

ii) Mediation between seller and buyer . ~~At~~

- This would ensure pre litigation settlement
- This reduces time and legal costs that are accrued both to company and customer.

iii) fixed timelines for grievance redressal

- This ensures customer ~~are~~ query are responsibly handled to increase trust between customer and seller.
- This will improve quality of products and accurate representation and promises.

iv) Establishment of National Authority for

Consumer protection . This will streamline policy formulation.

- Will include market expertise and will

help to keep in tune with dynamic nature of commercial activities.

v). Peccuniary jurisdiction at district, state and national level altered : This will reflect the growing standards and will promote quick resolution at local levels.

vi) Penalty for not complying has been increased : This improves accountability and facilitates quick responses.

Thus, consumer protection Act 2019 establishes a balance between consumer and seller ensuring healthy market competition.

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 form a key component of civil society that form an indispensable part of governance increasing access, implementation and audit of governmental interventions.

→ Providing and enabling access to social services:

i) Health related services : Role in immunisation

by assisting ASHA workers, ANMs.

• In family planning via distribution of contraceptives, counselling of married couples.

• Hygiene and sanitation : social campaigns, menstrual product awareness and distribution.

- ii) Education related services :
- surveys to understand functional literacy (ex: ASEP survey).
 - Part time teachers (ex: NGO Teach India) to train rural students in technical subjects.
 - Career counselling and reduce drop out rates.

- iii) Gender related services :
- Reducing patriarchal mindsets via campaigns, Nukkad Natak etc..
 - Awareness regarding schemes like Beti-Bachao, Beti-Padhao, Darwaza Band campaign.

→ Recent amendments:

- i) foreign contribution to be received in a single account in SBI branch, Delhi.
- ii) Increased tax ~~and~~ return scrutiny and cancellation of licenses in case of non-compliance.

iii). Detailed purpose of activities, fixed limit of administrative expenses (20% of revenue).

→ Over regulation and impact:

i). Decrease in number of NGOs hampering social services and lack of access.

ii). Increased cost of compliance and litigation leading to closure of NGOs.

iii). Targeting of NGOs (ex: Greenpeace) becomes easy which affects right to protest.

iv). Rural NGOs will be affected as administrative cost (ex: transportation) is high.

Thus, there needs to be impartial authorities dealing with NGOs issues.

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)

Civil services refer to the bureaucracy which acts as the permanent executive in implementing government policies and legislation.

→ Rendering wide variety of services:

i) Provision of public goods : roads, infrastructure, sanitation, electricity, water etc.

ii) Maintenance of public services : repair works, fixing damages and ensuring sustainable goods.

iii) Grievance redressal mechanism : helps in understanding policy issues, provides key

inputs to rectification and formulation of policy.

→ Implementing welfare programs;

i) Public Distribution Services : ration.

facilitate, identification of beneficiaries and ensuring basic food to all.

ii) Health interventions : immunisation drives,

sanitation drives, piped drinking water to rural areas.

iii) Social interventions : needs of elders, women, children and marginalised sections.

→ Performing core governance functions :

i) Executing policies framed by legislature.

ii) Delegated legislation to frame rules,

iii) key linkage between civil society and government

→ Importance and utility of Mission Karvegi:

i) Bottom-up approach of planning as local realities will better be reflected in policies.

ii) Indigenous innovations will be merged with global best practices to provide good governance.

iii) Cultural realities of an area (ex: beliefs, faith) will be better reflected ensuring emotional intelligence

iv) Public trust on civil services will increase

Mission Karvegi ensures technology driven, compassionate civil servants whose primary motive is service to society.

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)

Indo-Japan relations reflect a healthy uptick in recent times with growth of economic, military and multilateral cooperation.

→ Renewed vigor:

i) Trade deals and currency swap agreements:

- APTA negotiations, deal on technology transfer and growth towards local production
- IPR access between Indian and Japanese patenting authorities.
- swap agreement between RBI and Central Bank of Japan to counter currency fluctuation

ii) Security and strategic collaborations:

- Japan led QUAD is now taking concrete shape to ensure peaceful Indo-Pacific
- Military exercises, marine exercises in Bay of Bengal and around South China Sea.
- Military technologies, confidential intelligence information is being shared.

iii) Revival of multilateralism:

- UNSC reforms, favourable deals at WTO.
- Cooperation in OECD.
- Asia-Africa growth corridor.

Challenges

 → China remains largest trade partner of Japan (10 times of India).
 → Biodiversity conservation issues as date localisation
 Japan withdraws from International Whaling Commission

→ Data localisation remains a key challenge when Japan wants free data movement regime and India pushes for localised data processing.

→ Partnership promoting South Asian stability:

i) Counter Chinese debt trap policies and territorial adventurism.

ii) Unsustainable loans under BRI can be countered with Blue Dot Network.

iii) QUAD will ensure Chinese hegemony in South China sea, Indian ocean is restricted.

iv) Development via credit availability by AIIB etc.

~~The~~ India - Japan relation assume significance amidst growing protectionism and declining multilateralism.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



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)

India and Nepal share historical and cultural similarities depicting deep traditional ~~roots~~ affinity and exemplary friendship.

→ ~~Proof~~, Reflection of friendship:

i) Provision of Indian ports for Nepalese products without any duties.

ii) Training of Nepalese police by Indian authorities. (ex: in National Police Academy)

iii) Gorkha regiments in Indian Army especially in North Eastern Command.

iv) Friendship Treaty 2007 which ensures Indian defence in Nepalese protection.

v) Open borders between India & Nepal with free movement of either citizens.

→ Recently, this has been put to test as:

- i) Madhosi issue and blockade of essential services by India to Nepal.
- ii) Growing Communist ideology influence in Nepal reflected by leadership.
- iii) Closeness to China is increasing and is reflected in trade deals, credit assistance.
- iv) Delay in implementation of Indian investments in Nepal in hydel electricity (ex: Pancheshwar project)
- v) Nepal's consideration of India's big brotherly attitude. (ex: arm twisting diplomacy)

vi) Unsustainable tourism from India to Nepal leading to environmental pollution.

→ Roadmap to reinvigorate relations:

- i) Rapidly completion of delayed projects.
- ii) Growth in bilateral confidence by increasing diplomatic visits, signing of key trade deals.
- iii) Respect of Nepalese sovereignty regarding diversification of allies.
- iv) Resolving boundary disputes by amicable solutions. (ex: Kalapani issue)

Nepal forms key neighbourhood partners of India and efforts to maintain traditional and cultural friendship should continue.

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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