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FIAS - MGP 2021 (C-6) - GS Test #9

## ForumIAS

## GENERAL STUDIES

Name Of Candidate	NITESH KUMAR MISHRA		
Roll No.	1910032140	Date:	09/06/2021

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> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p>
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<b>Total Marks:</b>			
<b>Remarks:</b>			<p style="text-align: center;"><b>For Student Only</b></p> <p>Start Time   10:00 AM   End Time   12:55 PM</p> <p>Mode Of Examination: Online <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Offline <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>For Office Use Only</b></p> <p>ECN CODE:   EG:   Evaluation Date:</p>

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

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS



Q.1) While the Constitution of India has borrowed many features from different countries, its spirit is completely Indian. Elaborate. (10 marks, 150 words)

Indian Constitution was prepared after ransacking all the major constitutions of the world.

Some of the prominent borrowed features are: -

- ① Strong centre with federal character - Canadian constitution.
- ② Directive principles - Irish constitution.
- ③ Parliamentary system - British constitution.
- ④ Fundamental rights - USA's constitution.
- ⑤ Liberty, Equality, Fraternity from French constitution.

Although majority of constitutional features have been borrowed but the spirit is Indian which can be seen from following features: -

- ① Ideas of Gandhian philosophy in DPSP.
- ② Special protection to the linguistic minorities, Scheduled Tribes.
- ③ The idea of universal adult suffrage.
- ④ The innovative idea of secularism which is quite different from western notion of secularism.
- ⑤ The accommodation of aspirations of varied race, religion, culture in itself is completely Indian.

The constitution of India was framed, guided and inspired by freedom struggle, its history and geography. Hence even though features are borrowed, the spirit of constitution is Indian.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.2) Evaluate the role played by the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) in the transformational development of the country. (10 marks, 150 words)

Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) is a constitutional body who acts as the "guardian of the public purse". Article 148 provides for a CAG of India.

CAG has been a proactive guardian of public purse and it has ensured that every single penny accounted out of public purse is spent for the purpose it is meant for.

Role played by CAG are :-

- ① ensure fiscal prudence
- ② It acts as friend-philosopher and guide of Public Accounts Committee.
- ③ CAG has helped to bring in more transparency

and accountability with respect to spending of public money.

(4) The CAG during 2011-2014 period was highly proactive in bringing out the 26 SCMs, Adarsh society SCMs, coal block allocation SCMs.

(5) It was due to the role played by CAG that these SCMs were unearthed which resulted in saving valuable natural resources and deriving monetary benefits out of it.

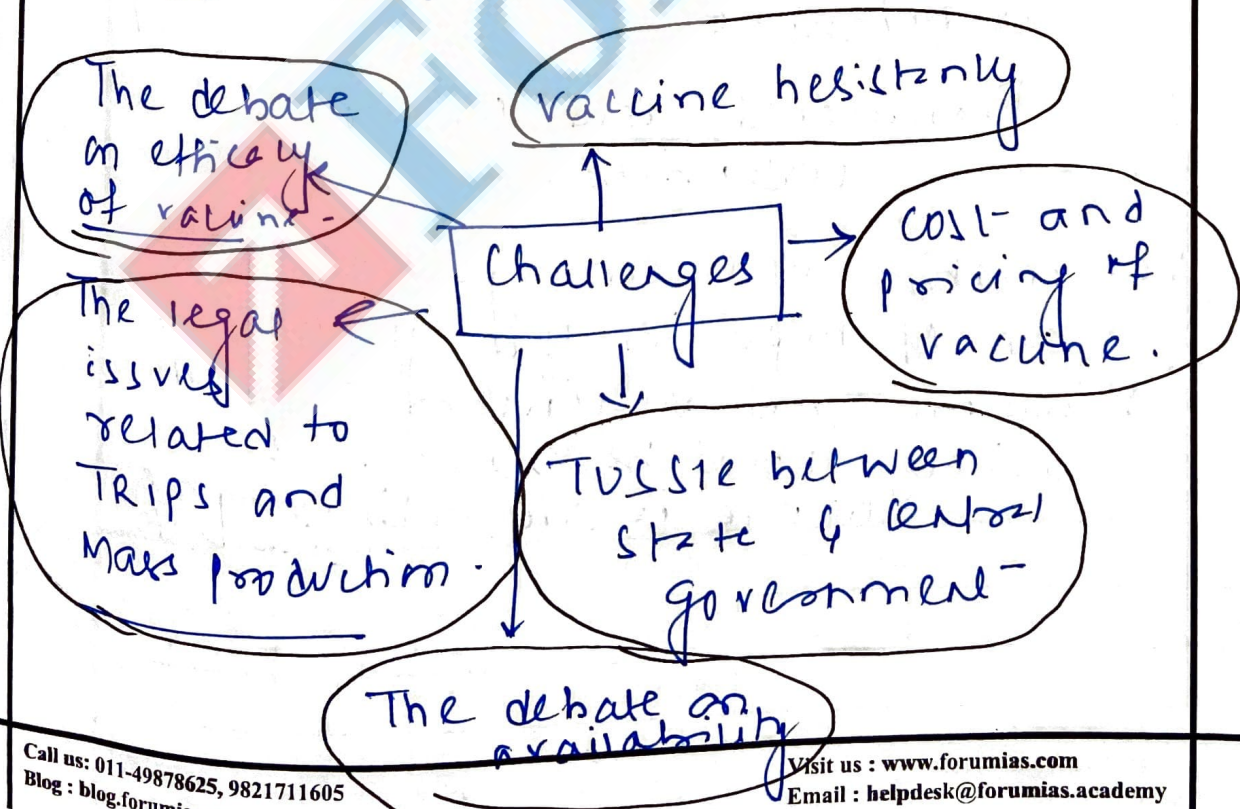
CAG has ensured stricter compliance, better control and check in corruption and wrong doings in financial matters of the government. Thus the role has been transformational and not merely of accounting.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.3) The vaccination drive against COVID-19 is an uphill task which presents a wide array of challenges. Examine. (10 marks, 150 Words)

COVID-19 induced pandemic has threatened the health, safety, security and economy of the world (over). There is still <sup>no</sup> respite even after 1.5 years <sup>since</sup> this pandemic first emerged. The only ray of hope has been mass vaccination, which would ensure bringing back normalcy. But the vaccination drive is full of challenges which can be as follows: -



Some other challenges: -

- ① Infrastructural and supply chain bottlenecks.
- ② vaccine nationalism.
- ③ Selfish attitude of richer nations in producing vaccine for their own citizens.

Way forward: -

- ① Fair and Transparent Pricing
- ② Removing infrastructural bottleneck.
- ③ Global collaboration.
- ④ Involvement of private industries, NGOs and voluntary associations.
- ⑤ Financial and other incentives.

vaccination has emerged as a ray of hope in this gloomy pandemic and vaccination for all eligible should be ensured as "no one is safe, until everyone is safe".

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.4) The Prime Minister's Office, which started initially as a small department to assist the Prime Minister has evolved as a formidable influence in the policymaking and the most powerful centre of governance in India. Do you agree? Justify your arguments with suitable example. (10 marks, 150 Words)

Prime Minister's office (PMO) is the secretariat of prime minister which includes secretaries and various officials related to the day to day functioning of the prime minister.

It initially emerged as a small department - but now it has evolved into formidable influence in policy making and has emerged as the powerful centre in governance, this can be true in current context :-

- ① Many important officials like National Security Advisor, R&AW report directly to PMO.
- ② In case where strong individual PM is at the

them, then almost all decisions are taken from the PM office.  
ex - The deactivation of demonetisation by PM in 2016.

③ Important policy proposals are directly emerging from PMO, then they are gradually designed and developed by concerned departments/Ministeries.

④ The all important space exploration missions are under control of PMO.

⑤ The nuclear commercial authority is regulated by PMO.

on times where individuals PM are persons with strong personalities PMO gains prominence, while at other times there is decentralizing tendency.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.5) Public Interest Litigations (PIL) have become an effective tool to serve the cause of social justice, however, their misuse and overuse have made it a threat to the process of delivery of justice as well as legitimacy of the judicial process. Comment.

(10 marks, 150 Words)

Public Interest Litigation (PIL) began during Justice Bhargava's tenure. PIL means any person without any "locus standi" can appeal to the honourable courts to ensure Justice and rule of law.

PIL has been helpful in following ways: -

- ① Made Justice far more accessible to common citizens.
- ② Urgent matters of public importance are looked into.
- ③ Ensured justice to people from industrial disasters and many misgovernance issues.

Although PIL was a novel instrument but misuse and overuse have made it amenable to criticism.

PIL sometimes mockingly referred to as publicity interest-litigation or personal litigation. The term PIL matters have been referred to some prominent-lawyers who filed PIL on flimsy and frivolous grounds.

What has been the result of this?

- ① Lack of trust and erodibility of trust in PIL.
- ② Filing of genuine PIL becomes difficult as politically motivated PILs are filed.

e.g. PIL on central visit case  
PIL on banning 5G by prominent actors.

This novel instrument should be used for purpose which it was institutionalised. Penalty and discouragement to frivolous PIL will ensure the sanctity of PILs.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.6) "Good governance facilitates development, and in turn development ensures the furtherance of good governance." Comment. (10 marks, 150 Words)

Good governance is a concept in which the governance delivery is carried out following Responsibility, Accountability and Transparency along with a swift and prompt grievance redressal mechanism.

How good governance ensures development?

- Better utilisation of public money.
- Leads to empowerment of marginalised citizens.
- Promotes Responsibility, Accountability and Transparency which in turn leads to less corruption, nepotism and red tapism.
- People feel empowered and constant feedback improves upon the quality of service delivery.

How development - ensures Fatherhood  
of good governance?

- ① Citizens are empowered and they are aware.
- ② Checks bureaucratic inefficiencies and corruption.
- ③ Government and its officials are held more accountable as people are aware of their rights and duties.

Hence, it can be said that - both development and good governance are cause-effect relations, one leads to other and other leads to further strengthening of one.

Feedback ( For OFFICE use only )

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.7) Bring out the challenges in managing human capital in India in the backdrop of the recent Covid-19 pandemic. Also, suggest measure to address these challenges.

(10 marks, 150 Words)

Covid-19 pandemic has been such a big disruptor that it can be sometimes referred to the two time periods as before Covid & After Covid.

Covid-19 has brought in a lot of challenges and managing human capital has been one of the most prominent challenges brought about. Some of them are:

- ① Lots of employment due to forced lockdowns and cutbacks.
- ② Restriction on movement due to travel ban and others.
- ③ Slowing down of economy which would result in further job losses.

- ④ Prolonged closure of school, colleges and vocational institutes will have an impact on knowledge and skills of almost 2 batches of students.

Measures to address the challenge

- ① vaccination at a faster rate to reduce threat of infection
- ② Promotion of digital learning and strengthening digital infrastructure.
- ③ Working out - Air bubble and local travel arrangements
- ④ Incentivising industries through tax and social security benefits

The pandemic has indeed a challenge to human capital but with focussed government attention and prohibition of all it can be tackled.

Feedback ( For OFFICE use only )

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.8) The success of democracy is impossible without participation of the people. In the light of this statement, evaluate the role of NGO's in promoting participatory governance in India.  
(10 marks, 150 Words)

Democracy is the form of government in which the people are the lifeline and essence.

To further strengthen and make democracy a vibrant one, NGOs have been proactively playing a role.

Role played by NGO in participatory governance :

- They work in the domain which was considered a political taboo like caste system.
- They work for better advocacy of Tribal and Forest rights.
- Acts as pressure group for government to make suitable environmental legislation, and

Other legislation.

- NGO have ensured transfer of ~~agricultural~~ agricultural technology to rural areas and supplemented governments efforts.

- The efforts of NGO led to formulation of guidelines on women safety and sexual harassment.

- Electoral reforms have been brought. Although NGO have promoted

participative democracy, yet many have been involved in anti-national activities and hence some tightening of rules has been done.

NGO have ensured democracy achieve its true meaning and penetrated democracy to grass root-level and to promote women.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

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Q.9) Bilateral ties between India and Sri Lanka are of strategic importance for South Asia and the Indian Ocean region, however, the relations suffer from many structural challenges. Elucidate.

(10 marks, 150 Words)

India and Sri Lanka share a globally connected and common heritage linked through Ramayana and continued till modern ages by language and Buddhism.

Sri Lanka popularly the "emerald isle" stands at one of the most prominent shipping route of world.

Importance of Sri Lanka :-

- ① Promoting India's SAGAR Initiative.
- ② Countering the rising influence and threat of beligerent China in Indian Ocean.
- ③ The resettlement and rehabilitation of Tamils will ensure peace and stability in region.

④ Sri Lanka is at the back of India and good ties would ensure keeping China at bay.

Although historically India and Sri Lanka have been close, some of the challenges pop up like:-

- ① issue of Tamil Refugees.
- ② Unsettled maritime boundaries
- ③ The capture of Indian Fishermen by Navy of Sri Lanka.
- ④ Growing proximity of Sri Lanka with China, e.g. Hambantota port on lease for 99 years.
- ⑤ Voting at UNHCR in which local Indian politics is involved.

A strong bilateral tie would ensure India's image as net-key security provider in region and boost global image.

Feedback ( For OFFICE use only )

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.10) Economic diplomacy has become a vital aspect of India's foreign policy in recent times. Examine.

(10 marks, 150 Words)

Foreign policies of a country are determined by a great extent depending on Geography, History, Economy and Interests of the country. Although other factors are important but economic diplomacy has become vital aspect of it is "economy which guides and runs the foreign policy".

Some of the recent instances where economy has played a role in shaping our foreign policy are: —

- ① We have improved relations with USA, although historically we have been close to Russia because of economic prospects like trade, remittances and defence procurement.

- ② We have tried to maintain amicable interests with West-Asian countries like Saudi, Iran on behalf of our dependence on them for oil.
- ③ Our relationship with South Korea and Japan have improved as both have invested heavily in infrastructure building in our country.
- ④ New Delhi pulled out of RCEP as there was threat to its local economy because of this.

The relation of economy with Foreign policy makes it more pragmatic and realpolitik; as the next generation stability and peace would be dictated by economic might and not military might.

Feedback ( For OFFICE use only )

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.11) "Politicization of the office of the Governor has undermined the various constructive roles played by him as the constitutional head of the state." Do you agree? Validate your arguments with suitable examples.

(15 marks, 250 words)

Article 153 provides that there will be a Governor in each of the state. The Governor is the constitutional head in the state and all executive actions are ~~done~~ to be taken in his name only.

Although, the role of Governor was to be supervisory and guiding ~~executing~~ the day to day functions of state government, the role has been under criticism in recent years due to many reasons as listed below: -

- ① Governor has acted many times as agents of ruling party at centre.
- ② Many a times, favour has been granted to ruling party of centre.  
e.g. Inviting second lotteries -

Party to form government.

③ Arbitrarily dismissing state government - without floor test - in assembly.

④ Reserving and blocking many bills passed by state legislatures using discretionary powers.

In Uttarakhand, Arunachal Pradesh and Bihar - state governments were dismissed without even having conducted a floor test.

The appointment of retired senior party functionaries of ruling party has compounded the problem in states where opposition parties are ruling.

What were the constructive role played by Governors?



- ① Preventing subversion of constitution by ruling parties.
- ② Upholding the constitutional values and morality.
- ③ Many a times hastily passed ill designed bills and stopped from being a law.

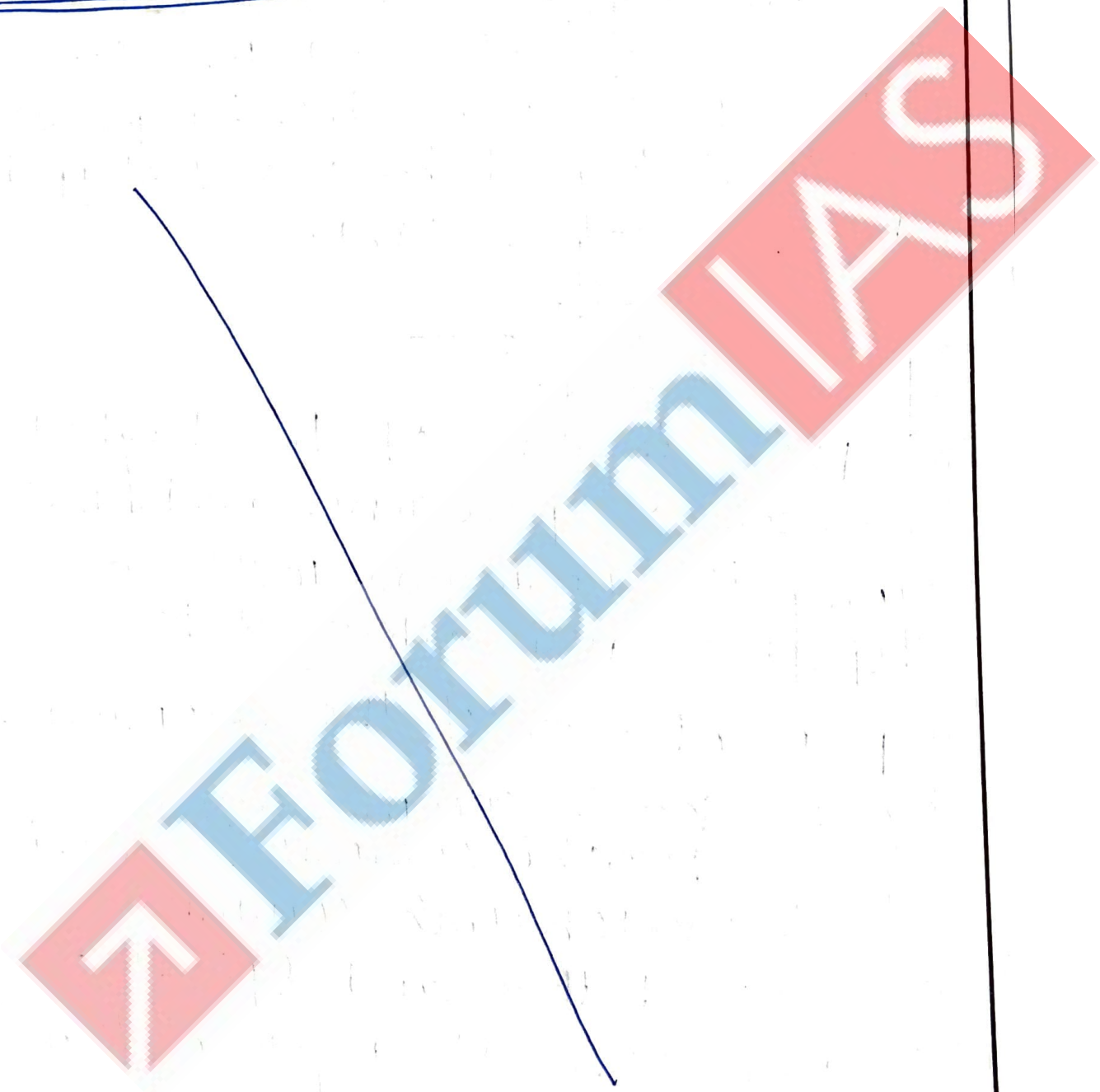
Way forward : -

The post is one of the highest in orders of precedence and the dignity it commands must be respected and adhered to. Implementation of the recommendation by Sarkaria commission, Punchi commission and Venkatchaliah commission in true letter and spirit would further strengthen this office and promote constitutionalism in states.

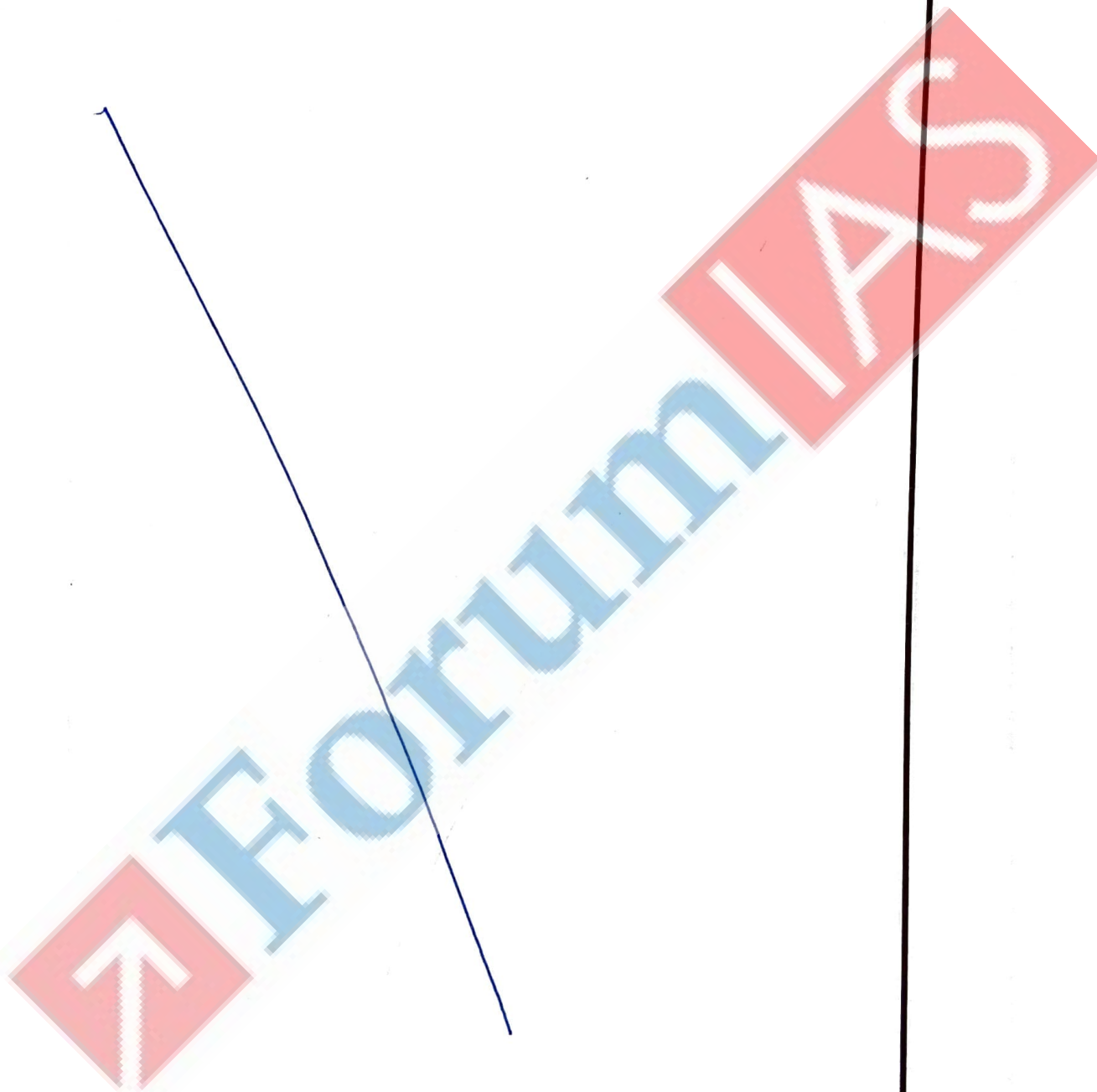
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Question Interpretation		Total :	

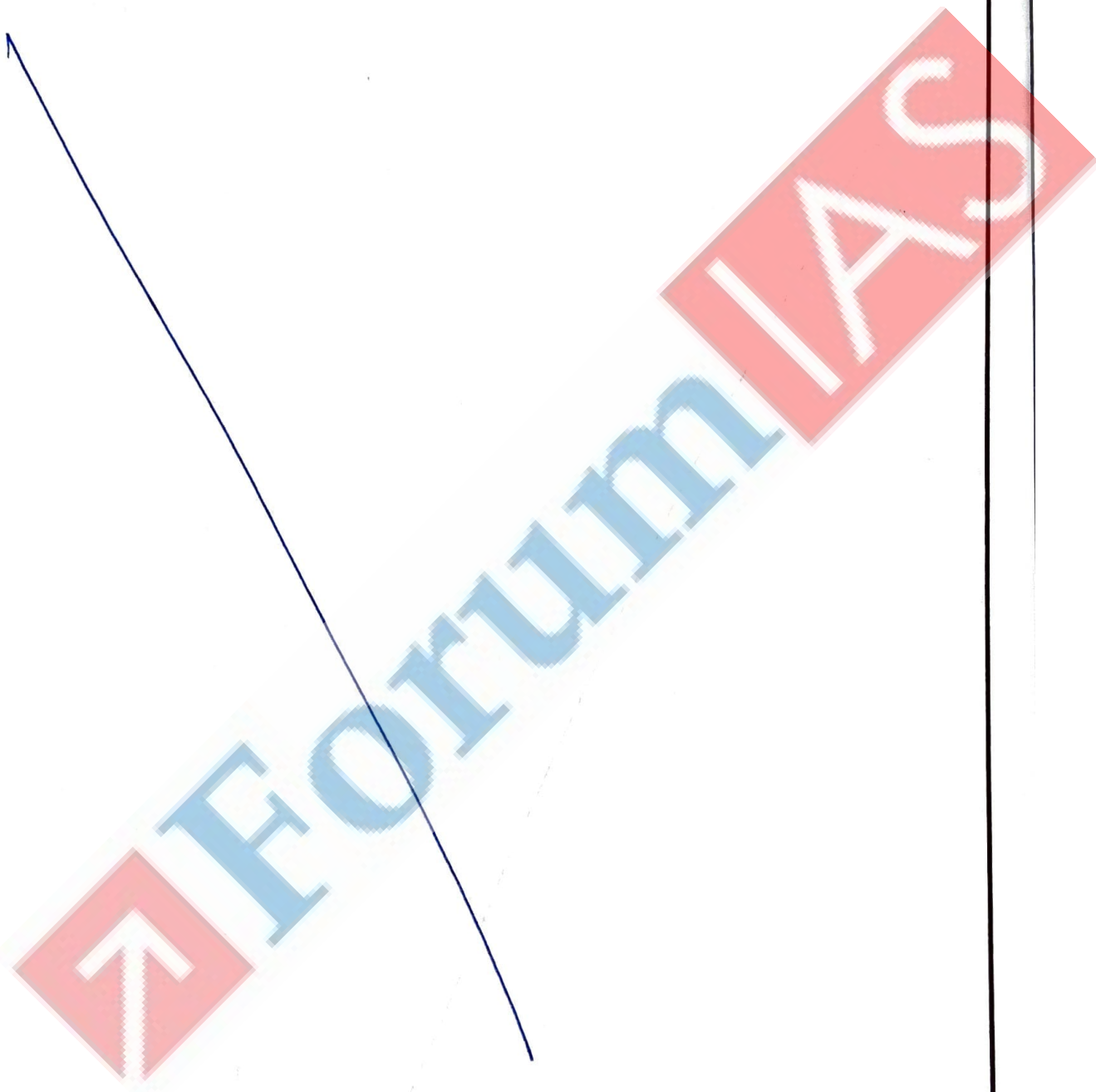
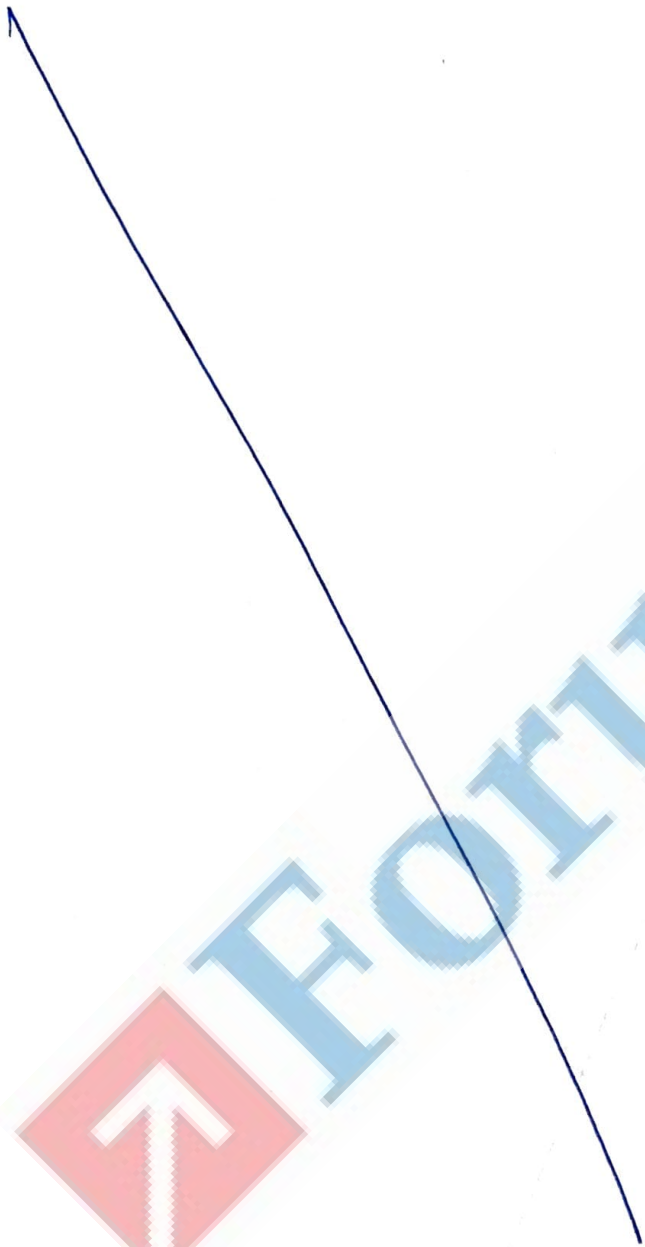
**Q.12)** The Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021 strives to strike a balance between over-regulation and user's right to privacy and free speech. Critically analyze.  
(15 marks, 250 words)



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Feedback ( For OFFICE use only )

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		<b>Total :</b>	

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Q.13) Judicial activism though blurs the concept of separation of power, is necessary to ensure economic, social and political justice. Critically Analyze. (15 marks, 250 words)

Judicial activism (JA) refers to the proactive role played by judiciary in announcing verdicts and issuing directives where it finds that executive and legislature has not done enough.

Why JA is necessary?

- ① Many times government do not try to enter into controversial areas because of backlash and looking of votes.
  - JA ensures the area is looked into.
- ② Many areas where the political dividends are less are left untouched.
  - e.g. → Health of sanitation workers, Satvi Karmachari
- ③ Many times government sees through one eyed approach like - economy or industrial development

but ignores environment.

e.g. closure of sterlite copper plant in Tamil Nadu.

- (4) Due to lethargy many sensitive areas are left untouched like - women's safety. JA ensures it is essential - visakh guidelines on sexual harassment.

- (5) controversial areas like reservations and caste issues are avoided by exec. and legislature. JA ensures equitable justice. - Indira Sawhney judgement on reservation.

- (6) Many times due to public pressure many decisions are avoided even though it may be for larger good. - e.g. banning of crackers on Diwali.

Why JA is not good for separation of power

- ① It is clear cut encroachment upon separation of powers.
- ② Judiciary has not got resources and machinery to implement its decisions.
- ③ Challenges the will of people in democracy as ruling party represents the will of people.
- ④ Creates hindrance in day to day functioning of government.
- ⑤ Many decisions are highly utopian and idealistic which are less practical.

Although JA ensures political, social and economic justice but it subverts the basic doctrine of separation of power which may create roadblocks in effective functioning of democracy.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		<b>Total :</b>	



Q.14) Frequent bypassing of parliamentary procedures has undermined the spirit of representative democracy in the country. Evaluate using suitable examples. (15 marks, 250 words)

Parliamentary procedures are a time tested process which has the role in upkeeping the spirit of representative democracy in our country.

It needs to be followed in spirit as it ensures : —

- ① Proper scrutiny of policies
- ② keeps a check on the unbridled powers of the government
- ③ Helps to improve and refine the existing or proposed laws.
- ④ The wisdom and knowledge of opposition leaders can be best utilized.
- ⑤ Promotes harmony and unity amongst political parties and members which has



for direct reflection on the productivity of the houses of Lok Sabha and Rajyasabha.

Recent examples :-

- ① The government has bulldozed its way with through some reforms like Farm bills where the opposition demand for referring the matter to standing committee was negated.
- ② voice vote was used to pass the Farm bill, rather than the division and manual voting.
- ③ Many of ordinary bills are passed in the garb of money bills like the Aadhar Act.
- ④ Frequent recourse to ordinances as was in

the case of NDA I government-  
of 2014-19.

- (5) very few of the bills are being referred to the select committee of parliament.
- (6) Passing of CAA Bill & J&K Bill.

The frequent bypassing of Parliamentary procedure has really undermined spirit of representative democracy and has increased confrontation of government and opposition.

This doesn't augur well for the democratic country like India. Every stakeholder must be taken into confidence if representative democracy has to survive.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.15) Primary Health Care (PHC) is a key enabler for higher life expectancy, better health outcomes and pre-empting the need for secondary and tertiary care. In this context, highlight the constraints faced by PHC's in India and provide suggestions to improve them. (15 marks, 250 words)

Primary Healthcare (PHC) is the first-line of health services available to people in rural and urban areas.

The PHC centres are to look after the basic health and disease of the population. This ensures less expenditure on secondary and tertiary health care. Basically the PHC's try to work towards a preventive health care regime.

— Role of PHC : —

- ① Supply of generic medicines and medical advice to low people.
- ② work towards community health issues.
- ③ work towards Family Planning and Reproductive and Maternal health.

However these PHC are constrained in india due to following reasons :-

- ① unavailability of infrastructure like (rooms, consultation hall).
- ② unavailability of permanent staff and qualified staff.
- ③ unavailability of doctors on full time basis.
- ④ skewed regional distribution of PHC's.
- ⑤ Non-inclusion of Ayur VIT practitioners in the scheme of things.
- ⑥ Lack of funds, medicines and basic amenities plagues these PHC's.

Suggestion to improve PHC's

- ① providing trained medical and paramedical staff.
- ② proper infrastructure needs to be provided.
- ③ Regular inspections by District Health authorities.
- ④ Integration with AYUSH practitioners.
- ⑤ Integration of PHE with existing health schemes like NRHM, NUHM, NQHM, PMMVY.

PHE has a great role to play in preventive health policies, hence it has been upgraded to Health and Wellness centres in National Health Policy. Constant government support is needed as primary healthcare has less burden than secondary and tertiary healthcare.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



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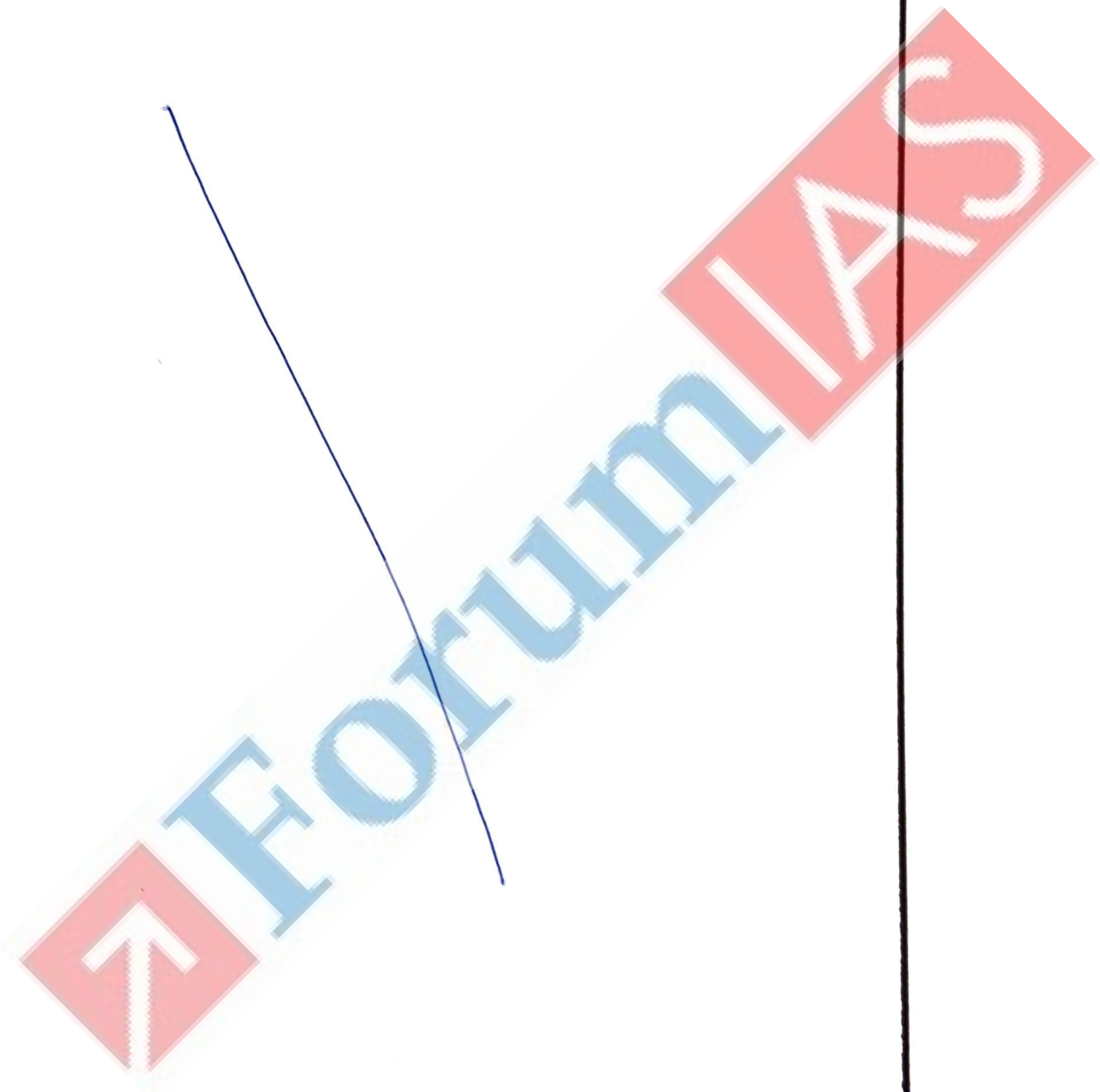
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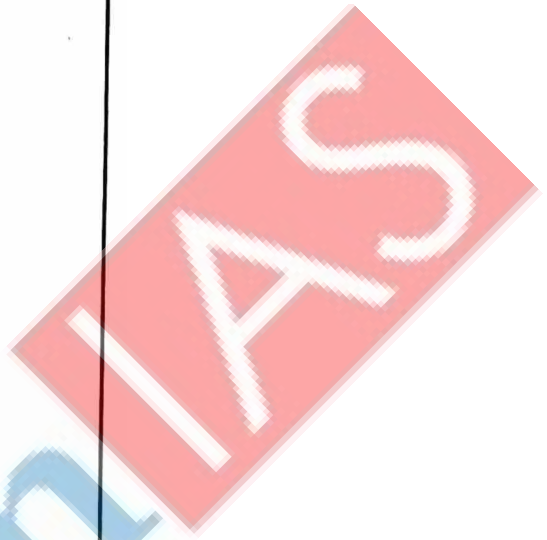
**Q.16)** Reducing the understanding of poverty to mere economic deprivation would limit the efforts made towards poverty alleviation. Highlight the various dimensions of poverty and the efforts taken by the government to address the same.

(15 marks, 250 words)

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Q.17) Despite stringent legal provisions, manual scavenging has remained a major concern in India. In this context, analyze the structural challenges in eliminating manual scavenging and suggest measures to improve the rehabilitation and livelihood prospects of manual scavengers.

(15 marks, 250 words)

Manual scavenging refers to the process of cleaning septic tanks and dry latrines manually. It is highly dangerous and degrading to human self respect.

Although strict legal provisions exist with regard to manual scavenging but there are large instances reported every year.

What are the structural challenges?

→ Prevalent caste system in the society.

→ Non-penetration of flush toilets in many rural areas.

→ Caste domination in rural areas.

- unavailability of sewer cleaning machineries.
- unavailability of alternate employment opportunities for the safai karmacharis.
- Lack of political and bureaucratic will to implement the provisions of the Manual scavenging prohibition Act.

What can be done to improve condition of manual scavengers?

- Strict implementation of provision of the Manual Scavenging (Prohibition) Act.
- provision of cheaper loans to these group of people to procure machineries for cleaning and also to look for other small business initiatives.

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- involvement of NGO to sensitize about ill effect of manual scavenging.
- proper information and educational awareness amongst the safai karmacharis.
- Development and deployment of Robotic machines for Sewer line cleaning.  
e.g. Mandiant Robot used for sewer cleaning.
- provision of statutory steps to National Commission on Safai Karmacharis.

Manual scavenging is blot on civilised democratic society as well as it is a great health hazard. All out efforts must be made to remove this menace from our society.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
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Q.18) India needs to improve its urban areas to achieve the objectives of good governance. However, urban governance and management of the services has been far from satisfactory. In this context, highlight the various challenges faced by urban local bodies and suggest measures to improve their functioning. (15 marks, 250 words)

The second half of 21st century has seen rapid urbanisation due to proliferation of industries and people coming in search of livelihood. For a long time the governance of urban areas were neglected and is still even today.

The passage of 74th constitutional amendment - although gave constitutional recognition to urban local bodies (ULBs) but it is not bereft of challenges.

Various challenges faced by ULBs are :-

- ① Lack of proper autonomy to ULBs.
- ② Do not have adequate funds to implement

good governance projects.

- ③ Lack of dedicated staff and man powers to manage, own and govern the ULBs.
- ④ Heavy political interference and control by the state governments hinders its functioning.
- ⑤ They are not able to mobilise funds through taxes and other ~~ways~~ methods; which seriously impediments the functioning.
- ⑥ In many states elections are not held regularly and in free and fair manner.

Some of the suggestions to improve ULB

- ① proper implementation of recommendations of state finance commission
- ② ensuring timely and

Free and fair elections.

- ③ Allowing autonomy in functioning by state governments.
- ④ Raising of funds through Municipal bonds.
- ⑤ Using technology for tax assessment and collection.
- ⑥ Dedicated cadre of workers for ULC like in case of Odisha —
  - Odisha Municipal Administrative Service
  - Odisha Municipal Planning Service

A strengthened and well organized urban local body would ensure better governance and management of urban areas which in turn would ensure proper economic growth, stability and sustainability.

Feedback ( For OFFICE use only )

Structure		Content	
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Q.19) The Indian diaspora has always been enthusiastic contributors to nation-building. In the light of this statement, bring out the role that diaspora can play in achieving the goals of an Atmanirbhar Bharat (Self-reliant India). (15 marks, 250 words)

The Indian diaspora has been one of the largest diaspora any country has ever had. These people have contributed immensely to nation-building since independence.

Now, when we are at crossroads of economic growth and development, India looks again optimistically to its diaspora for the goal of self-reliant India.

What role can be played by diaspora.

- ↓
- ① - Remittances which are valuable foreign exchange contribution.
  - ② Indian diaspora are highly trained, educated

rich and influential, they can help in shaping the <sup>favorable</sup> opinion for India in foreign countries.

- ③ The diaspora can help in getting foreign <sup>direct</sup> investments into our country.
- ④ These diaspora through their knowledge and skills can help in growth and development of local industries.
- ⑤ Indian diaspora boasts of legends in world IT industry like Satya Nadella, Sundar Pichai etc; these people can help in global collaboration with Indian industries.



⑥ Their contributions can be utilized in the area of space technology, defence and science & technology (biotech, medicines, Agriculture) etc.

India should capitalize on its strong and huge diaspora to give momentum to its self-reliant programme.



Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		<b>Total :</b>	



Q.20) The recent summit-level Quad dialogue points towards India's strategic interests in not only engaging with like-minded partners towards addressing many global concerns but also, addressing the growing power imbalance with China. Elucidate. (15 marks, 250 words)

Quadrilateral Security Dialogue group (Quad) as its called is an association of India - USA - Australia and Japan.

The main agenda of this grouping has been to counter the rising influence of China in the Indian ocean region.

India is eyeing a key position in the Indian ocean region as the net security provider.

But challenge to India has been from ever increasing rise of China's presence in Indian ocean region and to add problems its string of pearls policy to surround India.

China has been openly defying global laws by claiming territories in south china sea and building its bases through debt trap diplomacy.

China in this process has also antagonised countries like Japan, USA and Australia. The growth of China and its flexing of muscles in south china sea region and Indian ocean region cannot go unnoticed. (IOR).

Hence, India has joined Quad to actively pursue China and keep a check on it in IOR.

- These Quad countries are connected by their democratic values and traditions.
- It is in the greater economic interest of all to ensure free sea lanes of communication.

India's power imbalance with China has been increasing as China has aggressively pushed its arms stockpile and Navy fleets, while India has been doing at its own slow pace.

On this situation, when India has proposed its SAGAR vision and has ambitions to control the IOR, it is imperative for it to have close ties with regional and global powers of the Indo-Pacific region.

The development of Quad has been seen as a ray of hope in Indian Ocean region and will go a long way in maintaining peace and stability in IOR.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		<b>Total :</b>	

**Mentor Feedback Questions**

1 .....

2 .....

3 .....

4 .....

5 .....

**Test Goal**

**Outcomes**

1 .....

2 .....

3 .....

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**Marking Scheme**

Mark	Good	Average	Below average
<b>10 Marker</b>	3.75 – 5.0	3.0 – 3.5	< 3.0
<b>15 Marker</b>	5.75 – 7.0	4.0 – 5.5	< 4.0
✓	Key / Relevant Point		
✗	Vague / Irrelevant		

\* Subject to change without prior notice.

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