ForumIAS

Answer Writing Focus Group 2025
Generic Booklet
Test Name/Code/No. : ....

Name	Vanaj Vidyan
Email ID.	
Roll No.	1910114539
Mobile No.		Date	18/6/24

Allotted Time : 60 Minutes

Key Objectives of the Program / कार्यक्रम के मुख्य उद्देश्य:

#1 Coverage of Syllabus – The questions will cover relevant static portion and related contemporary issues in the news. It is expected that student by attempting these questions will be able to revise their syllabus hoistically. It will enable student to understand what topic to focus upon. Let's not be a frog in the well – unaware of "what to study" or "what to prepare".

पाठ्यक्रम का कवरेज - प्रश्न प्रासंगिक स्थिर भाग और समाचार में संबंधित समकालीन मुद्दों को कवर करेंगे। यह उम्मीद की जाती है कि इन प्रश्नों का प्रयास करके छात्र अपने पाठ्यक्रम को व्यापक रूप से संशोधित करने में सक्षम होंगे। यह छात्र को यह समझने में सक्षम करेगा कि किस विषय पर ध्यान केंद्रित करना है। आइए कुएं में मेंढक न बनें - इस बात से अनजान कि "क्या पढ़ना है" या "क्या तैयार करना है"।

#2 Answer Writing Practice – It will provide students answer writing practice and enable them to stratezise how to cover paper within time limit.

उत्तर लेखन अभ्यास - यह छात्रों को उत्तर लेखन अभ्यास प्रदान करेगा और उन्हें समय सीमा के भीतर पेपर को कवर करने की रणनीति बनाने में सक्षम करेगा।

#3 Stay ahead of the competition - Laser Beam focus on answer writing and covering syllabus holistically will enable student stay ahead of the competition.

प्रतिस्पर्धा में आगे रहें - उत्तर लेखन पर लेजर बीम फोकस और समग्र रूप से पाठ्यक्रम को कवर करने से छात्र प्रतिस्पर्धा में आगे रह सकेंगे।

Q. No.	Score
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
Composite Score	

NOTE : We only provide grading and not detailed evaluation in AWFG Tests for speed and guidance. No macro or micro comments are given. Comments, if any are solely at the discretion of the examiner. Only a relative, indicative composite score out of 10 will be provided to you. Students must aspire to reach the score of 9 in all the answers. A score of 9 means your answer was amongst the best in what the examiner checked. It does not correspond to 9 marks out of 10 in the actual Mains examination. Candidates must refer to solutions and best copies to make improvements.

हम केवल हम केवल AWFG परीक्षणों के लिए स्पीड और मार्गदर्शन के लिए अंक प्रदान करते हैं, और विस्तृत मूल्यांकन नहीं करते हैं। कोई भी व्यापक या सूक्ष्म टिप्पणियाँ नहीं दी जाती हैं। टिप्पणियाँ, यदि कोई हैं, तो यह पूरी तरह से परीक्षक के विवेक पर निर्भर करती हैं। आपको केवल एक सांकेतिक संयुक्त अंक 10 में से दिए जाएंगे। छात्रों को सभी उत्तरों में 9 अंक प्राप्त करने का प्रयास करना चाहिए। 9 अंक प्राप्त करने का मतलब है कि आपका उत्तर परीक्षक द्वारा जांचे गए सर्वश्रेष्ठ उत्तरों में से एक था। यह मुख्य परीक्षा में 10 में से 9 अंक के बराबर नहीं है। उम्मीदवारों को सुधार के लिए समाधान और सर्वोत्तम प्रतियों का संदर्भ लेना चाहिए।

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY :

EG = ① ② ③ ④ ⑤

ECN =

ANSWER WRITING FOCUS GROUP 2025

TEST #5 – (Test Code: 880045)

Instructions to Candidates -
➢ There are 7 Questions in this Question paper.
➢ All Questions are Compulsory.
➢ For all updates, please visit the noticeboard https://noticeboard.forumias.com/awfg2025/

अभ्यर्थियों के लिए निर्देश -
➢ इस प्रश्न पत्र में 7 प्रश्न हैं।
➢ सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
➢ सभी अपडेट के लिए कृपया नोटिसबोर्ड देखें – https://noticeboard.forumias.com/awfg2025/

Allotted Time : 1 Hour　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　**Total Marks : 85**

Q.1) How does citizen engagement through digital platforms redefine participatory governance? Discuss with examples. **(10 Marks, 150 Words)**

डिजिटल प्लेटफ़ॉर्म के माध्यम से नागरिक सहभागिता सहभागी शासन को किस प्रकार पुनर्परिभाषित करती है? उदाहरण सहित चर्चा कीजिए। **(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)**

Q.2) Examine the institutional mechanisms currently in place for civil service accountability and suggest reforms to enhance their effectiveness in improving public service delivery.

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

वर्तमान में सिविल सेवा की उत्तरदायित्विता हेतु उपलब्ध संस्थागत तंत्रों की समीक्षा कीजिए एवं सार्वजनिक सेवा वितरण की गुणवत्ता बढ़ाने के लिए सुधार सुझाइए। **(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)**

Q.3) Outline the salient features of New Education Policy (NEP) 2020 related to school education. What does it state about the medium of instruction in schools? **(10 Marks, 150 Words)**

राष्ट्रीय शिक्षा नीति (NEP) 2020 की विद्यालय शिक्षा से संबंधित प्रमुख विशेषताओं का वर्णन कीजिए। यह विद्यालयों में शिक्षण माध्यम के विषय में क्या कहती है? **(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)**

Q.4) "Policy Contradictions among various competing sectors and stakeholders have resulted in inadequate 'protection and prevention of degradation' to the environment." Comment with relevant illustrations. **(10 Marks, 150 Words)**

"विभिन्न प्रतिस्पर्धी क्षेत्रों और हितधारकों के बीच नीतिगत विरोधाभासों ने पर्यावरण की 'सुरक्षा और क्षरण की रोकथाम' को अपर्याप्त बना दिया है।" उपयुक्त उदाहरणों सहित टिप्पणी कीजिए। **(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)**

Forum Learning Centre : Delhi - 2nd Floor, IAPL House, 19 Pusa Road, Karol Bagh, New Delhi - 110005 | Patna - 2nd floor, AG Palace, E Boring Canal Road, Patna, Bihar 800001 | Hyderabad - 1st & 2nd Floor, SM Plaza, RTC X Rd, Indira Park Road, Jawahar Nagar, Hyderabad, Telangana 500020
9311740400, 9311740900 | https://academy.forumias.com | admissions@forumias.academy | helpdesk@forumias.academy

[1]

Q.5) Identify and discuss the challenges hindering effective implementation of gender-sensitive policies and schemes in the country. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

देश में लैंगिक संवेदनशील नीतियों और योजनाओं के प्रभावी कार्यान्वयन में बाधा उत्पन्न करने वाली चुनौतियों की पहचान कीजिए और चर्चा कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Q.6) The Right to Information Act was enacted to promote transparency and accountability in governance, yet concerns persist regarding its effective implementation and the increasing tendency towards 'denial of information'. Critically examine. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

सूचना का अधिकार अधिनियम को शासन में पारदर्शिता और जवाबदेही को बढ़ावा देने के लिए लागू किया गया था, फिर भी इसके प्रभावी कार्यान्वयन को लेकर चिंताएँ बनी हुई हैं और 'सूचना न देने' की प्रवृत्ति बढ़ती जा रही है। समालोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Q.7) In the age of specialization and complex governance needs, does the traditional generalist approach of Indian bureaucracy require a structural rethinking? Discuss (15 Marks, 250 Words)

विशेषज्ञता और जटिल शासन आवश्यकताओं के युग में, क्या भारतीय नौकरशाही के पारंपरिक सामान्यवादी दृष्टिकोण को संरचनात्मक पुनर्विचार की आवश्यकता है? चर्चा करें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Start Writing Here

Q.1)   Citizen engagement is The soul of democracy That provide utterance to Participatory governance.

┌───┐
│ CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT THROUGH DIGITAL   │
│ PLATFORMS   │
└───┘

① Direct feedback to gout from citizens

higher accountability
of public officials
⑧ Swacch Bharat app
citizens report MCD
cleanliness

reduces gap
between gout.
and citizens
↓
middlemen red
tape skipped.

② Citizens can directly complain for deficiency in service

⑧ CPGRAMS Portal of DoPT allows grievance against any gout. department + 90 day redressal period

③ Wealth of data collection

eg Census 2027 - first digital census to allow self-reporting by citizens online.

④ Citizens as part of decision-making:

eg RBI symbol of Rupee "₹" decided by crowd sourcing

⑤ Highest levels of govt can find "pulse of the nation" - eg my gov platform

⑥ More accountability & transparency in accessing rights - eg RTI on rti online.gov.in

⑦ Access to data through public records available online → reduces official discretion.

Digital platforms promote inclusivity from all sections of society, leading to Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas.

Q.2) Sardar Patel called the civil services as the "steel frame of India".

> INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS FOR CIVIL SERVICE ACCOUNTABILITY

① LAWS & REGULATIONS:

a) The Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 applies to "public servant", and Civil Service rules & All India Rules govern the enforceable Code of Conduct.

b) Lokpal, under the 2013 Act also enjoys jurisdiction.

c) Agencies such as CVC and CBI enjoy investigative powers.

② Internal assessment:

Internal checks such as ACR Reports and merit-based promotions, transfers function as accountability measures.

③ Public checks through citizen charter.

④ Constitutional checks: Dismissal by President
   B   for various grounds.

⑦ REFORMS TO ENHANCE EFFECTIVENESS

To enhance public service delivery:

① Diluting "sanction for prosecution"
   requirement under POCA Act & for CBI —
   ℞ Vineet Narain v/s Union of India (SC).

② Include citizen awareness under
   iGOT platform & mission Karmayogi.

③ Provide a separate tribunal under
   Article 323-B for faster case attribution
   of guilt. + teeth to Lokpal beyond
               recommendation power
       ℞ Goa Lokayukt powerless
       frustration.

To enhance the "steel" frame, we must
alloy it with accountability & effectiveness

Q.3) "Education without values makes man a more clever devil".

FEATURES OF NEP

① Multidisciplinary & flexible Studies — Students to combine any subjects @ in combination — for interest and broad-based study.

② Education closer to Bharatiya values and Indian culture → decolonisation of education.

③ Board exams → replaced by holistic learning.

④ Integration of "Whole school approach" to inculcate right values.

⑤ Focus on extra-curriculars and sports → not as formality → but personality-development

(6) Replace report cards with a assessment reports.

(7) Vocational education & practical learning outcomes — (eg) integration of ASER / metrics.

MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION

① Three-language formula: mother tongue + foreign language + one Indian language.

② At early education, promote mother tongue. (eg) till Class 5, compulsory mother tongue.

③ At higher education, aspire for mother tongue — (eg) MP: engineering course in Hindi.

④ Language as "thinking medium"

⑤ All languages equal ⇒ end to English supremacy.

The NEP provides a holistic approach, satisfy the spirit of Article 21-A.

Q.4) The Supreme Court recently recognised right to environment and right against climate change as fundamental right u/ Art. 14 & 21.

POLICY CONTRADICTIONS

① Competing sectors → profit as goal
→ environment becomes a side-issue &
ignored.

[Eg Mining sector conflicts with
forest Rights Act & Gram Sabhas
→ Niyamgiri conflict

② Stakeholders conflict of interests.

- ① Energy sector ⊕ → more renewable
                                      focus

  vs

  Power sector → dependency on coal

  vs

  Mining sector → increased record-level
                              mining ⇒ coal.

③ Capitalism trumps ecocentrism —
Companies indulge in Greenwashing
& Volkswagen diselgate ,
while environment continues to be a
product of pollution.

④ Water Act conflict with the
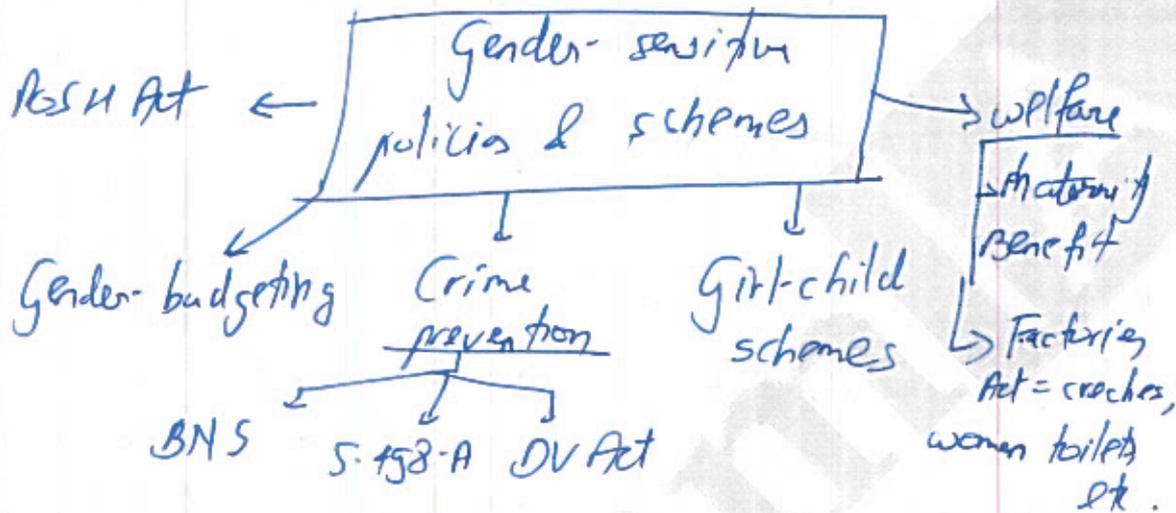requirement of water for semi conductor
& industries → Yamuna got polluted.

However, we are approaching a new sense
of environmental governance —

① EIA as mandatory step

② Polluter Pays + Precautionary Principle

③ Env. jurisprudence { → NGT
{ → TN Godavarman
case

Article 21 is being radlised.

Q.5) Women constitute 50% of our population, yet only 27% of our formal workforce, indicating lack of progress.

	Gender-sensitive policies & schemes	

PoSH Act ← [Gender-sensitive policies & schemes] → welfare
→ Maternity Benefit

Gender-budgeting   Crime prevention   Girl-child schemes   ↳ Factories Act = creches, women toilets etc.

BNS   S.498-A   DV Act

CHALLENGES

① Lack of safety of women at workplace and transit -

→ Limited awareness of PoSH outside of urban corporate India.

→ News reports of lack of safety of public transport —
   § Nirbhaya case in bus.

② Mindset about welfare policies -

⑧ Maternity Benefit Act → employers wrongly feel burden of extra 26 weeks leave → pref for male hiring.

③ Unspent funds - despite gender budgeting → lapsing funds.
eg Nirbhaya fund - 40% unspent.

④ Women not a United voting bloc, unlike caste & other minorities.

⑤ Schemes target women as beneficiaries, instead of value-creators or upliftment deservers.

⑥ Lack of economic empowerment → Digital divide [40% women less likely to access internet] → a lack of awareness about schemes such as Sukanya Samriddhi, Matru Vandana, etc.

SOLVING CHALLENGES

① Safety beyond workplace:

PoSH training at
RWA colonies and
informal workplaces by
'Nukkad natak'

eg) Delhi
- Pink Devi buses
- marshals in buses for safety
- CCTVs in metro.
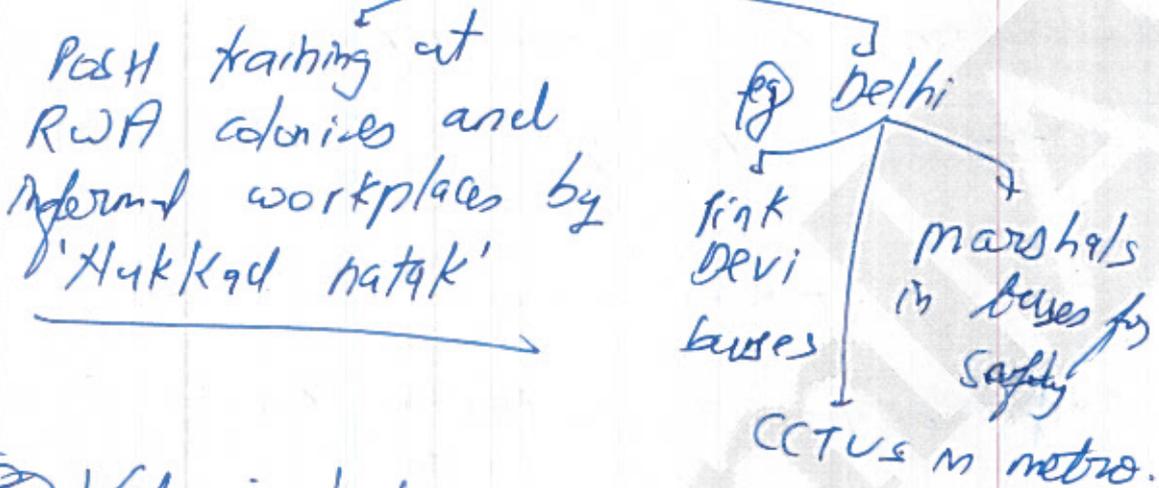
② Value inculcation —

a) ⏻ Media & ads → women at home & kitchen → reinforce patriarchy.

b) Education in schools required. for treating women equally

③ Make women-specific funds lapsable
→ ensure expenditure → reports laid before Parliament.

only then, Article 39 and SDG-5 will by truly realised

Overall Grading (√)

Poor			Average			Good		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Q.6) The RTI Act replaced the Freedom of Information Act, 2002 to realise the true spirit of the Right to Information recognised under Article 21 by the Supreme Court.

[GOALS OF ENACTMENT]

Transparency & accountability. Through

a) Tool in hands of citizens → [anyone] can file it → constant checks & balances & citizen engagement

b) Appellate provision → wrong information cannot hold before FAA and CIC.

c) Limited nature of denials allowed under Section 8 and Section 2(f).

d) Promote transparency → RTI tab on govt websites for full mandatory disclosure.

CONCERNS ON IMPLEMENTATION

① Breach of timelines → of time of RTI, especially state govts.

② Rising cases of Section 8 denials without basis (&) CIC holds officer guilty and imposes penalty.

③ Continuing corruption — & Transparency International index — India's rank not improving since a decade.

④ Safety of RTI activists threatened.

DENIAL OF INFORMATION

① Limited grounds broadly worded → allow discretion of denial.

② Using S. 2(f) to claim not "information" due to slightly incorrect wording of application.

③ Personal Data Protection Act, 2023
→ breach of privacy not allowed
→ overrules RTI Act → further
brodens Section 8.

④ Often also ask applicant to "refer to website",
but website is bloated with information
→ effectively denial.

SCAN TROUGH However, effective too

2013: RTI governance by   corruption   investigate
19-year old led to   exposed   journalism.
POS solves → he becomes
                sarpanch,

STEPS include training of RTI
PIOs, awareness among citizens,
introduction of anonymous RTI,
and also mandate online RTI application
for states.

Q.7) Sardar Patel called Bureaucracy as the steel frame of India.

$\boxed{\text{AGE OF SPECIALISATION}}$

① Rise of technology and technical expertise — ⑧ Companies Act, 2013 & SEBI LODR Regulation.

② Cyber security and digital age
→ primary governance online

③ Generalist approach → people management
Specialist approach → issue-based + people management.

④ More globalisation → compete with Specialist governance nations l/e Singapore & Vietnam.

NEED OF STRUCTURAL RETHINK

① Limitation of 'generalism' now visible, with current issues not having regulation —

e.g Cryptocurrency → no legislation

Online gaming → taxed without regulation.

② Old bureaucracy → red tapism due to culture.

New age governance → facilitate growth

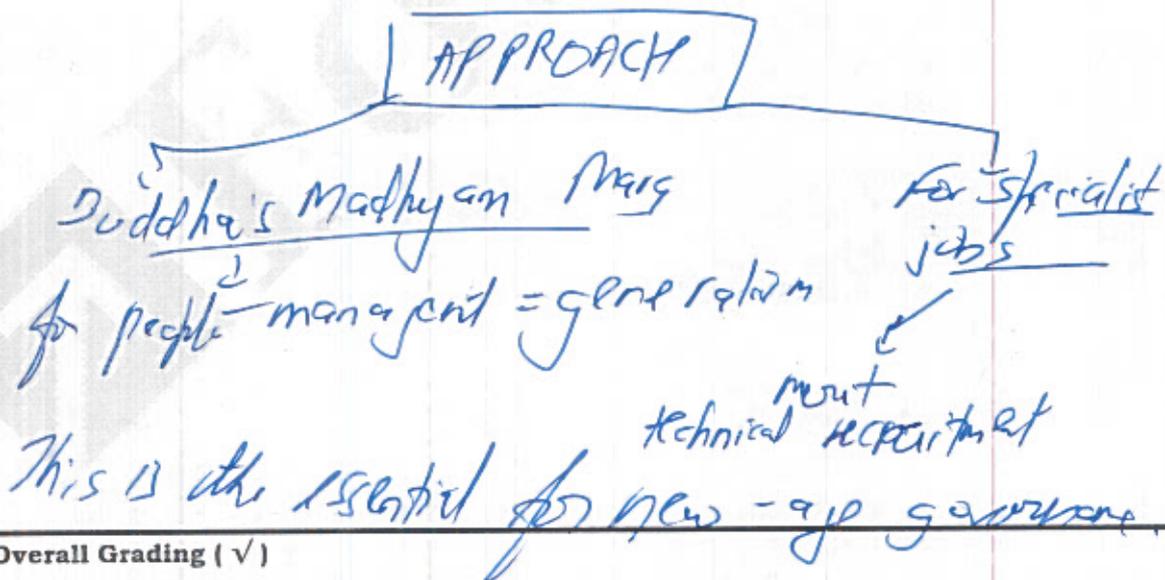③ Generalist approach allows diverse recruitment → specialist issues not addressed.

However —

GENERALIST APPROACH STILL NEEDED

① Already specialist cadres like IRS & IAAS exist → trained officials

- ② Generalism on Specialism not
panacea → ₿ <u>Judiciary</u> - only lawyers
selected → get multiple issues & backlog

③ Diverse recruitment → better people
management → ultimate aim of
democracy.

④ Specialist hiring = lateral entry can
continue with generalist approach
[eg <u>Uday Kotak</u> Committee on corp.
governance,
or <u>Nandan Nilekani</u> in UIDAI.

| APPROACH |

<u>Buddha's Madhyam Marg</u>   For Specialist
                                                    jobs
for people management = generalism ←
                                        merit
                        technical recruitment
This is the essential for new-age governance.

Overall Grading (√)

Poor			Average			Good		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9