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GS Paper II Marks - 111

GS Mains Q&A

Political and Governance Issues in News



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GS MAINS Q&A 2018**POLITICAL AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES IN NEWS**

Time Allowed: 3 Hr.

Max. Marks: 250

Instructions to Candidate

- ▶ There are 20 Questions.
- ▶ The paper contain two sections:
 - Section A: Questions 1-10 are of 10 Marks Each
 - Section B: Questions 11-20 are of 15 Mark Each
- ▶ All questions are compulsory.
- ▶ The number of marks carried by a question is indicated against it.
- ▶ Answer the questions in **SECTION A WITHIN 150** words each and **SECTION B WITHIN 250** words each. Contents of the answer is more important than its length.
- ▶ Answers must be written within the space provided.
- ▶ Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

| Q | Answer | Q | Answer |
|----|--------|----|--------|
| 1 | | 11 | |
| 2 | | 12 | |
| 3 | | 13 | |
| 4 | | 14 | |
| 5 | | 15 | |
| 6 | | 16 | |
| 7 | | 17 | |
| 8 | | 18 | |
| 9 | | 19 | |
| 10 | | 20 | |

Date:

Candidate's Signature



Examiner's Signature

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REMARKS

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Remarks

Section A

- Q1. Indian Constitution doesn't acquire its secular character merely from the inclusion of the term in the Preamble, but from a collective reading of many of its provisions. Elaborate. (10 Marks)

The Secular Character of Indian Constitution was made explicit by adding the word 'secular' in Preamble by 42nd Amendment in '91' but, many provisions in Constitution, already establish this character.

- 1) Article 14: Equality before law and Equal protection recognises equality which is at heart of secular idea
- 2) Article 15: Prevents discrimination only on ground of religion, race, caste etc
- 3) Article 25, 26, 27, 28: Providing freedom of conscience, to practice and propagate own religion, freedom from paying any taxes in name of religion and allowing ~~at~~ management of religious affairs as well as educational institutions..administration'

Remarks

All Religion were kept equidistant to state and interference is allowed only when it threatens constitutional guarantees of fundamental nature. It is also included in Basic Structure Doctrine by Judiciary in K. Bharati case 1976.

These constitutional interpretation by Constituent Assembly debates and culture of shared values and ideas reinforces the secular character of constitution & polity.

Remarks

Q2. "We don't need part-time legislators, we need dedicated parliamentarians". Analyse the statement in context of debate regarding elected representatives' right to practise any other profession, while in office. (10 Marks)

Recently, due to increased litigation practice by Parliamentarians, who are professionally lawyers, has raised questions regarding the dual role they have to play, when the elected representatives are allowed to practice their profession.

Why not suitable?

- o) It may compromise the dedication and ^{cause} resource constrained in terms of time and energy which is required of a Parliamentarian.
- o) He is a ~~can~~ 'public servant' and hence preventing all other administration and allowing MPs will be unfair.
- o) It may lead to conflict of interest, as representatives may lobby for their respective groups instead of their constituency.
- o) It may also lead to office of profit - conflict situation

Remarks

Why okay to allow them?

-) Parliament is a melting point of diversity, even in terms of expertise and professionals.
-) Their interests finding representation would be fine due to increasing occupational differentiation
-) Self Management in terms of time & involvance can be done by them.

MPs are
Since Employees of State, their indulgence in professional work raises questions while many countries like USA allow it explicitly in executive.

Remarks

Q3. Does Assam's National Registry of Citizens threaten to strip even genuine Indians of their citizenship? What is the need and implications of such register? (10 Marks)

The Assam Accord of 1985, brought the need for a National Registry of Citizens which was recently brought as first draft in Dec 2017.

Due to strict verification standards including identification proof, cross examination etc, some genuine citizens might also face distress.

Specially women who came to Assam after marriage, need special documents to prove residence. But these process have been tried to be foolproof to prevent any illegal migrant from forging certificates and claiming citizenship.

Need for Register:

- Poor state of public services - sense of deprivation in local residents due to resource constraint
- Illegal activities taking up job opportunities from locals and illegally encroaching lands.
- Proliferation of illegal activities like smuggling,

Remarks

terrorism, trafficking on rise.

- Incapacity of state and rising inequality and poor growth.

Implications

- Proper Implementation can help identify illegal migrants from Bangladesh specially.
- The provisions of state can be directed to citizens and not aliens for better social services.
- Violence or communal atmosphere can be instigated by those with vested interests.
- Deportation of such migrants would continue to be a sensitive issue in light of recent Rohingya Crisis in Bangladesh & humanitarian grounds may emerge, specially after issue raised by West Bengal Govt.

Remarks

Q4. Analyse whether, data protection is a subject on the state list, central list, or the concurrent list with necessary arguments. (10 Marks)

Data Generated today by virtue of increased activism by state and ^{for} social security Provision Requirements in collaboration with Technology, has brought the question of data protection on the forefront.

- States maintain registers of citizens for local taxes and services at local level falling in state list eg Education, health etc.
- Centre has been bringing schemes like Aadhar for identification as also Census data lies with Ministry of Home Affairs as also IT Returns and other lie with Centre.

Today due to a wide scope of data collection, from telecom to personal details of account, from railway travel to health history as well as due to advent of social media and connectivity enhancement, cross ~~department~~ exchanges

Remarks

within data is fairly common. Thus, data protection appears to be a domain of concurrent list where both the State and Centre could legislate.

But this brings another loophole, that due to the virtual nature of data today, different laws, rules and framework in different states can create a confusion for citizens. Data protection Infrastructure of each state might not be effective enough also. Hence, while being a domain of concurrent list, states must agree on a consensual data protection framework that allows standardised rules and protection, a draft guideline was given by Justice BN Srikrishna Committee recently.

Remarks

- Q5. Certain nominated members have failed on most occasions to register or utilize their presence in Rajya Sabha, discuss the need for change in system through which, we nominate members to Rajya Sabha and possibility of restricting it only to eminent scientists and researchers? (10 Marks)

The process of Nomination of Members to the Rajya Sabha is done by the ~~Govt~~ President on advice of the Government (COM). This has been seen as an opportunity to honour talent and give recognition to the expertise of various fields from sports, arts, literature etc. But being a domain explicitly of Govt, it's not transparent, also the performance of such members has been dismal. Poor attendance, low key participation and no tangible contribution in debates and discussions has caused the seats not being meaningfully utilised by members.

- This could be countered by allowing eminent ~~voluntary demands~~ persons to voluntarily express their desire to participate in government machinery

Remarks

o Thorough It must be satisfactorily determined that members would be able to devote adequate time to the activities & sessions in Rajya Sabha or not.

Possibility to restrict it only to scientists and researchers would allow expertise from those sectors from contributing to legislative procedure but it would constrain other persons like from sports, arts etc who can also meaningfully contribute. Besides being a source of recognition & respect, RS nomination must include experienced personalities from all fields to allow diversification of opinion.

Remarks

Q6. Analyze the electoral reforms undertaken by the government and the Election Commission in 21st century. Examine. (10 Marks)

Electoral Reforms have been brought in recent times to increase the legitimacy of elections and strengthen the roots of parliamentary democracy in India.

Reforms undertaken-

- o) Election Commission has mandated candidates to disclose their assets, criminal record and educational qualification - This has been result of civil society activism and promotes transparency and accountability
- o) Model Code of Conduct under RPA is being strictly implemented by issuing notices to candidates.
- o) EC also actively campaigns against use of black money, bribing voters by ~~or~~ raiding election office of parties Eg in Tamil Nadu, Karnataka.
- o) Active approach against paid news by disqualifying minister from MP, all show trends of electoral reform.

Remarks

- Govt has brought up debate about simultaneous elections and state funding of elections
- electoral bonds brought out recently, after earlier electoral trusts to prevent black money into elections
- Preventing cash donations below ₹ 20,000.
- EC brought Voter Verified Audit trail in EVM to allow transparency of votes cast.

Still more needs to be done to bring more transparency in funding & expenditure, to prevent voters from being bribed & to check menace of corrupt leaders from being part of govt.

Remarks

Q7. What do you understand by Delimitation? While highlighting the provisions for delimitation under the Indian constitution, discuss the present dilemma of delimitation in Indian context. (10 Marks)

Delimitation refers to limiting or delineating the no. of seats to be given from one particular area or state based on its population to allow due representation.

Article 82 of Indian constitution allows for readjustment of seats and by Constitutional amendment of 2001, the limit has been extended to 2026.

The present dilemma is that though, with increasing population in all states and an inter state disparity, the ~~sta~~ seats in the Parliament cannot be commensurately increased, this leads to a catchy situation.

- Also, states which are small, cannot have adequate representation and their seats remain limited, unreflective of changes in population.

Remarks

Q8. India has to experiment with SHG as a model of community dispute resolution mechanisms, especially the problem of intimate partner violence. Comment.

(10 Marks)

The increased pendency of cases in judiciary and high cost of litigation has roadblocked the justice delivery to lower rungs of society specially marginalised sections like women, SCs, STs, elderly etc. Alternate Model of Dispute Resolution like Arbitration, Mediation, Lok Adalat, are being experimented but use of SHGs as a forum for the same can be very useful.

SHGs have gained root in India in many rural landscapes as active groups of community participation, financial support and employment opportunities.

On many occasions, the SHGs have played a role to counter domestic violence as women get aware of their rights and due to power of group, are able to get justice ~~from the~~ ~~mal~~ forcing males to mend their ways.

Remarks

In case of intimate partner violence, SHGs can be used to not only sensitise the victims about their rights and prevent exploitation, but it can also provide them with adequate support to confront the perpetrators.

Community dispute resolution would do away the need to litigate and also social control can be a greater/better tool to prevent violent behaviours, saving the dignity of personal relations and bodily integrity.

Remarks

Q9. Critically analyse, whether the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act, 2016 (CAF) creates a perverse incentive to accelerate deforestation rather than prevent it.

(10 Marks)

Compensatory Afforestation Act 2016 was brought in to tackle 2 emerging problems.

- o) Unease of land availability to fulfill the development and infrastructure objectives.
- o) Declining forest cover, threatening biodiversity and ecosystem services.

But due to its nature, where it allows deforestation, when a 'compensatory' amount is paid to the fund, as also for afforestation purposes, it has eased the process whereby govt/ private entities are taking up land ~~and~~, cutting down trees recklessly and harming the inherent ecology and depositing a token amt. for the same.

Environmentalists have blamed this approach for having accelerated deforestation. In today's Capitalist - development - Govt (bureaucracy) nexus, corporates have deep pockets to establish

Remarks

industries, infrastructure and mining activities etc. Thus, making payment a easy way out, rather seen as a big price.

Also, adequate ~~not~~ rules & procedures have not been released due to which funds are not being utilised to plant more trees elsewhere. Tribals complain that their Rights under FRA, 2006 stand threatened due to ease of cutting down trees/forests.

Nevertheless, CAMPA, if properly implemented can also boost our green cover if done under supervision of environmentalists. Rights of Tribals for collection of forest produce must also be compensated to allow their co-existence.

Remarks

Q10. According to recent CAG findings, government funds are unutilised which points to a long-running problem in Indian governance i.e., inadequate government spending. Elaborate, why this is occurring with help of illustrations. (10 Marks)

Recent CAG findings suggest an unfortunate ~~for~~ trend of unutilised funds. This is a sad situation, given the chronic lack of funds cried by local govt and resource constraints faced by people in terms of lack of social services.

o) Eg funds collected in name of Higher Education less, were found to be part of the main funds itself ~~which~~ due to which they could not be targeted to their collection objective.

This, a dual problem of misallocation and ^{erstwhile} also-unutilisation leading to phenomenon called 'March rush' to prevent lapse of funds has been ailing governance structures in India.

» Bureaucratic lethargy and Political apathy can be a chief reason due to funds gained, remain unutilised.

» For same objective Eg Crop/Farmer Insurance, multiple schemes might exist, causing confusion

Remarks

and complexity of rules and procedures due to which funds lie unutilised.

>> Lack of decentralisation of power of decision making over funds can be a reason too. Eg where a state or district official might not understand the most appropriate use of fund which the Gram Panchayat might need.

>> Due to increased devolution from Centre (42%) to states, lack of adequate planning and trained administrative officials can also lead to unutilised funds.

This must be curbed to promote optimum utilisation of funds and better Governance

Remarks

Section B

Q11. Based on crime statistics recently released by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) the stringent rape laws have not proved to be a deterrent nor have they created a safe space for women, Why? Examine, what needs to be done to ensure women safety in India. (15 Marks)

Despite strict laws and increasing public awareness, Crime Statistics by NCRB reported 12.4% increase in rape cases against women in 2016 over an year and 82% increase in sexual assault against children over same period.

Why Crime Rates Persist?

-) Poor Implementation of the laws, shoddy police investigation and low rates of conviction due to which punishments are never given to criminals.
-) Judicial system being slow, the victims do not pursue the case for long and laws fail to act as deterrent against abusing women.
-) Statistics of acid attack also registered a rise, showing a general lack of morality and entrenched patriarchal norms manifesting in violence against women.

Remarks

-) Consumerist culture and mass media, where inappropriate scenes are aired, reducing women to mere objects of fetish; social media and prt groups being used to circulate inappropriate pictures and videos.
-) Lack of protection even at workplaces due to persisting 'Boo Culture', insensitivity towards women workers, preventing their equal participation and visibility.
-) Greater statistics can also be a harbinger of greater police reporting as earlier such crimes were considered a social shame & hushed about

In order to increase women safety, a collaborative approach must be taken by all stakeholders including police, judiciary, administration, workplaces, parents, families & women themselves

-) Creating safe spaces for women, well lighted streets, gender sensitive transport system for safe conveyance be ensured.

Remarks

- o) Use of technology Eg Delhi police app, emergency service button in watches, phones, shoes etc to prevent mishap.
- o) Better police investigation and fast track courts to bring to book the criminals.
- o) General education among both men & women about gender sensitivity and moral campaigns like 'He for she' can greatly help. Special intervention during child socialisation years to respect other gender and be sensitive.

Persistent violence indicates a deeper societal malaise and thus needs a sustained efforts in collaboration for positive results

Remarks

Q12. Anti-defection law was enacted to enhance the credibility of Indian polity. While this enactment brought about some order in the system, some politicians found ways of circumventing it over the years. Critically examine the statement in the light of the recent disqualification of two leaders by the Vice president. (15 Marks)

Anti Defection law, brought in the 52nd Constitutional Amendment in 1985 along with X Schedule was enacted to enhance political credibility by limiting incidents of ~~individual~~ political leaders defecting from their party, which is the root of multi party democratic system.

But due to inadequate / untimely implementation and to save the seat, the law was circumvented.

- o) Wholesale defection continues as a loophole where $>2/3$ of members can join a party or make one.
- o) Despite defecting and becoming minister in govt, ~~now~~ no action was taken against such defectors.
- o) Delay in ruling by head of house also killed the spirit of law
- o) Politicians openly used forums to campaign against own party and party did not take action to save the seat.

Remarks

But this was adequately handled by the recent disqualification adjudged by Vice President, who is ~~leader~~ Rajya Sabha head.

- He set a precedent by timely disposal of the case and advised such cases be disposed within 3 months.

- He found ^{case} empty clear not to refer to any committee and quality of decision was also significant. It ~~was~~ entailed that dissent is the essence of democracy, but it must be expressed in ways that are compatible to Party norms without striking at the root of party democracy.

Nevertheless, the loopholes in act continue to be misused due to acts of politicians like, joining a party just before session ends as no further restriction could be imposed on member such as preventing from standing in election again etc.

Remarks

Though Anti Defection law enforces party discipline, it also has been criticised for reducing MPs as dead woods who cannot voice their opinions in Parliament or those concerns which align with their constituency.

But Anti Defection law has been a turning point in polity and provides stability to govt as well. Its timely and rule based fair implementation can contribute to better Governance.

Remarks

Q13. India's success in consolidating a democratic system of government has paradoxically forestalled pressure for party reform. In India there is no real movement towards democratisation of parties. Elaborate the statement. Do you think there is a need for party reforms in India? Illustrate with examples. (15 Marks)

Due to high degree of diversity and concern for integration of all groups, we have campaigned for inter party democracy and electoral reforms, but this has stalled the process of intra party democracy.

Eg. the Association of democratic reforms campaigns against funding, corruption etc in elections and candidates, but no real movement has been seen for intra party issues. Moreover due to vested interests of money & power, such issues have never been allowed to progress by any political party also. Even EC pulls back its hands to frame any effective rules for party democracy.

But Real democracy can only be achieved when democratic rights are achieved by all in social, educational, economic and even political spheres.

Remarks

This mandates Internal party democratisation to allow leaders and party workers from diverse backgrounds and irrespective of their access to money & muscle power, gain an equal opportunity to climb rungs of party ladder.

Many incidents illustrate the bias practiced by political parties which calls for reform.

- o) Parties prefer nepotism & patrimonialism due to which members from same family, their sons & daughters of leaders are given opportunity to head the parties irrespective of calibre and experience.
- o) Due to money nexus - politician leaders, those with huge resources to fight elections and fund party are given chance to represent Party instead of dedicated workers.
- o) The major decisions about leadership, candidate nomination ~~and~~ are taken by nontransparent

Remarks

manner, reducing any participation from party workers.

o) The decision about party's stand is also decided by few members, which prevents the viewpoints of ^{grass} root political workers to contribute their insights about ground situation of events

Hence, democracy within party leaders is urgently required to allow thoughtful, dedicated and hard working people reach the Parliament and hold executive position so that country's real concerns can be addressed.

Remarks

Q14. Recently the Supreme Court of India remarked that dusty Victorian provision of adultery in the Indian Penal Code treats a married woman as her husband's subordinate. In this context, analyze the legal standing of Adultery in Indian statutes. Should it be decriminalized? (15 Marks)

In case of Indian Penal Code provisions about adultery Section 497, states that a husband ~~has~~ is allowed to criminally prosecute a man who indulged in sexual activity with his wife without his knowledge.

This flows from Victorian notion that wife is part of the husband's property and indulging in sex amounts to "invasion of property". This provision treats a married woman as her husband's pure objective property.

Adding to this, the woman does not have any rights to prosecute her husband or any woman who indulges in sexual activity with her husband. This brings double discrimination.

Remarks

as woman is unable to bring to light the infidelity behaviour of her husband and cause any punishment to him.

~~Legal Analysts~~ and Activists have argued to do away with this discrimination by allowing woman equal rights

But legal Analysts argue that many countries including USA, UK etc have decriminalised adultery altogether. Due to changing societal norms and notions of independence as also bodily autonomy, the offence of adultery might be considered to be a civil offence against the institution of marriage and the dignity of the partner, but it must not be criminally prosecuted.

Remarks

This is in line with independence of bodily integrity, while also safeguards the violation of marriage integrity. But besides decriminalizing, it must be made a civil wrong ensuing compensation as well as made a basis for divorce between couples.
(ground)

Lack of strict provision might pose a danger to the integrity of marriage but this can be countered by allowing complaints by both wife & husband for the offence of adultery.

Remarks

Q15. What do you understand by arbitration? Discuss the problems of arbitration in India. Also discuss the recommendations of Justice B. N. Srikrishna committee to review the institutionalization of arbitration mechanism and its strengthening in India.

(15 Marks)

Arbitration refers to the process in which the disputes are resolved by an independent arbitrator, to which both parties agree to, without any litigation in court.

- due to absence of standard arbitrator or rules and procedures, parties do not rely on the same
- Even absence of expertise & fair mechanism curtails use of arbitration even in civil cases of corporate wrong etc.
- Parties prefer International Centres of Arbitration Eg in UK, Singapore which might be in dissonance with local laws causing losses.

Justice B N Srikrishna Committee gave recommendations on same: -

-) Arbitration Promotion Council of India - autonomous body to grade arbitration institutions &

Remarks

indulge in capacity building, training, accreditation of law firms etc

- o) Special Arbitration Bench - to deal with at least commercial disputes in courts
- o) International best practices must be incorporated - so that best standard levels can be brought and the credibility of the institutions can be enhanced to make them reliable.
- o) The speedier disposal of cases is also advocated by setting limits for case disposal so that lockjam & delay can be avoided by also ~~amending~~ amending the Arbitration Act, 2015 wherever required.
- o) National litigation policy must also be properly ~~inter~~ implemented so that arbitration can be taken as an approach to solve the government contract issues.

Remarks

Govt appears to be a litigant in > 50% of cases and even departments litigate against each other. This can be curbed by bringing arbitration and declogging the judicial machinery.

Today when commercial setups are increasing and cross linkages between different sectors, emerging arbitration is an urgent need.

Remarks

Q16. The potential of platform like Inter State Council (ISC) is largely unutilized in strengthening federal democracy in India. In this context, discuss the significance of ISC. What are the problems in its functioning? What should be done to strengthen its position?

(15 Marks)

The Platform of Inter State Council provided by Article 263, which allows the President to constitute such a council as and when required to allow the states and centre to collaborate on policy objectives and implementation mechanisms for a greater coordination.

• It also helps promote cooperative federalism so that federal set up gets strengthened.

and .

• It gives representation to states to voice their concerns and allows redressal of grievances

• A multi layered structure like governance in India, may have many disputes and issues which can use ISC as dispute resolution forum as well without litigation.

Remarks

States can share their best practices, so that all may learn from the experience they have in implementing schemes. Eg MGNREGA in Andhra Pradesh, PDS in Chhattisgarh etc.

Problems.

◦ Irregular constitution, despite Sarkaria & Punchhi Commission Recommendation on Centre State Relations its not made permanent.

◦ Adequate power is not provided as its an advisory forum only and Centre may not heed to the concerns due to lack of any compulsion.

◦ It might emerge as another bureaucratic or political talk shop without tangible powers.

What can be done?

◦ Secretariat is also subsumed under Govt Ministry

◦ Making ISC permanent body can legitimise its existence and give stability.

◦ Providing some tangible powers to ISC or reporting the discussions in Parliament for

Remarks

Public hearing enhancing credibility-

•) Providing separate independent secretariat to ISC constituting of members from state as well to allow transparent & independent free functioning-

ISC can prove to be a strong pillar of democratic and federal strengthening by allowing roots of federal setup go deep and provide foundation to coordinated, collaborative and contributive approach

Remarks

Q17. Election commission of India (ECI) has supported a Public Interest Litigation in Supreme Court demanding a life time ban on convicted politicians from contesting elections and entering legislature. While listing the major provisions for banning the convicted lawmakers, critically analyze the lifetime ban on convicted law makers as an effective tool to decriminalize the politics in India. (15 Marks)

A recent PIL demanding lifetime ban on tainted / convicted politicians has got support from ECI., indicating a targeted approach against Criminalisation of Politics and Cleaner Elections.

o) After Lily Thomas case in SC ~~too~~ and by support of Representation of People's Act 1951, convicted politicians are kept away from contesting elections for years, besides their imprisonment.

o) It includes those convicted for cases beyond a limited number of years.

Due to reasoned public debate and distress on the criminals being part of political system and declaration of reports and statistics by Association of Democratic Reforms etc., a lifetime

Remarks

ban is being contemplated on convicted politicians-

Pros:

- o) This would act as a deterrent for politicians to indulge in criminal behaviour.
- o) Those who are convicted would be out of the system forever.
- o) Some fair and moral politicians could be expected to man our Parliaments.
- o) At least lawmakers would not be amongst those from lawbreaker category.

Cons:

- o) If misutilised, the honest politicians ~~would~~ ^{might} be thrown out of the system for no fault of theirs.
- o) Use of money and muscle power might be used to manipulate the police & judicial

Remarks

systems and falsely prosecute politicians

-) A lifetime ban would prevent any chance of course correction ~~or~~ even if the politician would want to make ~~false~~ true contribution to society
-) Politicians might put all their energy in criminalising / proving criminality to knock off their opponents.

Hence its utility is questionable but it must be complemented with other measures like greater transparency, intra party reforms, fast track courts to dispose cases against politicians within 1 yr etc to decriminalise politics

Remarks

Q18. Despite ASHA playing the crucial last link to India's rural healthcare delivery system, there is no social security provided to them. What are the problems faced by ASHA? What measures are needed to enhance their situation and in turn healthcare in India? (15 Marks)

Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA)

form the indispensable grass root linkage of the rural healthcare system in India that have helped us reach unimaginable progress in encouraging institutional deliveries, reducing child mortality, enhancing vaccine coverage etc and controlling TB etc.

They face many problems due to this :

- a) Lack of assured ^{regular} income is a disincentive for ASHA workers who invest substantial time and resources in their work.
- b) They get incentives per institutional delivery or per injection administered etc, but they face local issues Eg when pregnant woman gets care by one ASHA throughout and delivers baby in some other village.

Remarks

- 1) Their incentive system relies on local records which may be even manipulated.
- 2) Many states like Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu brought online ASHA cash/payment platform, but this has led to greater problem as their performances are not updated in a timely manner & backlogs prevail.
- 3) Lack of timely training for new ASHA and no social security.

Measures.

- 1) Providing regular income by supplementing performance based incentive with a basic wage.
- 2) Regular training programmes for new ASHA & reskilling to enhance skill sets and better ~~becom~~ perform duty by disseminating knowledge.
- 3) Updated accounting of their performance and self assessment as well as district level committees to update the works performed using online

Remarks

systems and app etc.

-) Training ASHA in even auxiliary nursing and primary healthcare so that the need for doctors in small villages, Eg in tribal belts etc can be fulfilled.
-) Regular monitoring of their efficiency & effectiveness in driving results.
-) Social Security to ASHA eg in Chhattisgarh, so that women see it as a remunerative profession and come forward.

Remarks

Q19. What Delhi suffers regarding air pollution is irresponsible consumption and urban misgovernance. Analyse the statement showing the causes of Delhi's air pollution and possible measures needed. (15 Marks)

The Dark clouds of pollution entrap Delhi ~~city~~ indicating a misadministration on part of govt as also irresponsible behaviour by the residents which aggravates the situation.

Besides some natural factors like Gulf dust storms, continentality and stubble burning smoke from nearby states, the actions of misgovernance by Delhi govt & inactive & lethargic implementation of guidelines are causes of pollution.

o) Lack of strict action against polluting industries which release harmful gases directly in atmosphere

o) No Restriction on crackers & other such waste burning till recently after SC guidelines

Remarks

o) Recklessly ~~admitting~~ allowing more vehicles on road, by no restriction on per ~~person~~ ^{family} ownership
 Eg in Singapore that led to spurt in prt vehicles.

o) Unsafe Public Transport system, low end to end connectivity ~~etc~~ which discourages its use

o) Residents also indulge in irresponsible car plying on roads, SUVs etc causing vehicular pollution

o) Possible Measures:

o) Innovative approaches like Vertical Gardens in public spaces, increasing green cover, use of water showers to prevent dust from being suspended in air.

o) Restricting construction activity during emergency situations

o) Graded Surveillance Action Plan can lead to greater awareness about pollution levels.

o) Promoting public transport system, which is safe and better connectivity as well.

Remarks

Eg. Recent move of allowing one pass on all modes can help.

- o) Collaborating with citizens and reducing car ownership
- o) Encouraging cycle, carpooling and cycle tracks or scooters on hire.
- o) CoOrdinating with nearby states to reduce stubble burning and other such activities.
- o) Increasing gardens, parks, recharging wetlands etc.

Remarks

Q20. The Mental Health Care Act, creates a justiciable right to mental healthcare even when physical healthcare is not yet a statutory right in India. Critically analyse the importance of mental healthcare act? (15 Marks)

The Mental Health Care Act seeks to protect and promote rights and interests of persons with mental illness or in need of mental care by addressing often neglected issue in the domain of healthcare.

Though Physical care is not a statutory right yet, National health Policy calls for Universal Health Coverage & One Health Approach whereby primary focus is on primary healthcare, availability of doctors & raising health share of GDP. But Mental health gets only 0.06 % of Health Budget and hence is relegated to a periphery issue.

With this act, this issue can be solved by providing rights to mentally ill patients using RIGHTS based approach as entitlement and not just a state dole.

Remarks

- o) It decriminalises suicide as persons will be presumed to be suffering from mental health issue and be cared for
- o) It reinforces right of community living and that with dignity along with others and is against any discrimination.
- o) Advanced directive can be given about the form of treatment desired and the specification of responsible person by patient.
- o) Central & State Mental Health Authority would maintain a repository of health institutions, practitioners, clinical nurses, workers to regulate and monitor bad practices.
- o) Chains, electroconvulsive therapy not allowed ~~with~~ in children
- o) Seclusion or solitary confinement is also restricted.

Remarks

Mental healthcare Act takes a Medicalised approach to mental issue and sets a rights based framework for apt governance. Due to increasing tensions, stress and mental disorders, recognition of rights of mentally ill is a harbinger for better healthcare & life.

Remarks