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An Institute for Civil Services

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SIDDHARTH ATTRI

**AIR - 882
(CSE 2022)**

GENERAL STUDIES



8448496262



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ONLINE

TEST - 06

71.5

GENERAL STUDIES - PAPER II

Time Allowed: 3 hrs.

Max. Marks: 250

Q.	Marks	Instructions to Candidate
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Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

Name SIDDHARTH ATRI

Roll No. _____

1. Invigilator Signature _____

Mobile No. _____

2. Invigilator Signature _____

Date _____

Signature _____

REMARKS

Roll No. _____

Q1. If India is serious &
banking and finance

winner is
investment

present off
strength &
economic

Benefits:

- Finance
like
us ob
- Groceries
its L
- Finance
- Grocery

Remarks

Roll No. _____

SECTION - A

Q1. If India is serious about its Africa initiative, a lot will depend on how it marshals its banking and financial sector there. Analyse. (10 Marks)

India is the 3rd biggest investor in Africa with cumulative investments of \$70bn.

Banking & Financial sector present opportunity owing to India's strength in this sector & shared economic indicators.

Benefits for India

- Finance & banking fuel other sectors like manufacturing where there is stronger.
- Goodwill of locals. If India replicates its liberal microfinance sector there.
- Finance to Indian Investors in other sectors
- Growth opportunities as Africa is mostly unbanked.

Remarks

In Introduction
give an overview of banking Sector in Africa.

(2½)

What are challenges and opportunities for banking and finance sector?	<p><u>Benefits for Africa :-</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- <u>No fear of Debt trap as in case of Chinese investments.</u>- Startup culture can flourish- Their own initiatives like mPesa will be complemented.- <u>Indian projects like Solar Mamas, Pan African Network will receive a boost</u>- Thus there will be strategic convergence of interests.
	<p><u>Conclusion:</u></p>

Remarks

Re

Q2. India must revise its nuclear policy and keep its strategy opaque. Critically discuss the statement. (10 Marks)

India's nuclear policy has
civil & military aspects.

Military Aspect

- Minimum credible deterrence.
 - No first use, but massive retaliation.
- These two doctrines have projected India as a responsible nuclear power, at par with CTBT signatories. Thus these doctrines should be adhered to.

However, the credibility of deterrence needs to be enhanced constantly.

Massive retaliation requires strong second strike capability.

Thus constant development of weapons delivery platform (Triad)

needs to take place away from international public scrutiny, which is essential for NSG membership & UNSC reforms as well.

Remarks

(2)

Analyze whether India needs a opaque & transparent system.

What are issues which can arise if India changes its policy?

As an energy starved country India needs to pursue its 3 stage program. However it should dedicate those reactors outside IAEA safeguards solely to military purposes due to paucity nuclear material.

Thus pragmatic deterrence measures need to be adopted.

Remarks

Re

- Q3. Malabar-17 demonstrates a shared determination to safeguard a free and open Indo-Pacific along with far-reaching geo-political impact. Discuss. (10 Marks)

Malabar Exercise is an Annual Naval exercise at Indian ocean, Arabian sea & Bay of Bengal involving India, USA, Japan.

Its significance :-

- 3 most powerful nations coming together project a shared strategic vision of Democracy, Non aggression, Security of Sea Lanes.
- Individual ambitions are fulfilled. i.e. India - to be IOR's set security provider
USA - Asias Pivot
Japan - To secure freedom in East China Sea.
- Joint Maneuvers simulate war scenarios

Discuss
The
role
of
China

Remarks

(3rd/2)

- A message to China - against its belligerent designs.

What are the circumstances surrounding this unwanted rivalry? Relationship with China is also important. Moreover India should not be seen as a junior partner of USA in its power projections in Indian Ocean.

—
Remarks

- Q4. Multilateral diplomacy is the only way to resolve Syrian conflict and military action has only escalated the conflict even further. Analyze the statement. .. (10 Marks)

Syrian battlezone is mixed with conflicting alliances, overlapping territorial claims and rampant destruction.

Thus multilateral diplomacy is the key to curb the conflict.

How it can be achieved :-

- Assad and US+Allies need to come to an agreement which should involve Assad to agree to gradual democratisation in return for stopping of NATO's military campaign.
- Russia & Iran need to act as mediators as allies of Syria considering that democratising Syria is the only option.

Give a brief on Syrian crisis.

Discuss how military action has escalated the conflict.

Remarks

(3)

Elaborate
on
how mult.

Iateral diplomacy

can
resolve the
crisis

- Kurds need to be involved to
 - Immediate stoppage of chemical attacks.
- In all this shared common military efforts should be directed only towards ISIS & Al Nusra front. Infighting should be resisted.

Remarks

- Q5. The amendment to do away with the domicile requirement for elections to the Rajya Sabha has militated against the very purpose that guided the Constituent Assembly to create the Council of States and reduced it to a mere revising chamber. Critically analyse.
(10 Marks)

In 2003 amendments to RPA, 1951
did away with requirement of Domicile
status.

Indeed it diluted the federal
structure as states could now be
represented by those not from the state.
eg. former PM Dr Manmohan Singh got
elected from Arunachal Pradesh. → Assam

It also went contrary to norms
set by. — Councils act of 1919 and G.O.I
Act of 1935.

However it should be noted
that even before this amendment
people candidates used to acquire
property (or parties acquired it for them)

Give a
brief
on
importance
of
Rajya Sabha

Remarks

(4)

What way to attain domicile status.

the purpose Monarch democracy demands
of RS &

now the will of the people. There should be
amendment no problem if state assemblies are
harmful that willing to elect someone from outside
purpose? the state. provided the person upholds

the spirit of Rajya Sabha. which
is to impart federal character to
our parliament & not a mere
obstructionist body with candidates
who otherwise would have lost
Lok Sabha elections

Remarks

- Q6. The role of Parliamentary Committees in upholding accountability of the executive is continuous if not close. In the light of this statement, discuss the factors that limit the effective functioning of these committees? (10 Marks)

Parliamentary Committees

speed up legislative process & at the same time import an element of expertise.

Watchdog committees like Committee on Estimates, PAC, Committee on expenditure enforce accountability. Business advisory committee or committee on Ethics oversee day to day functioning. They have limited membership & thus there is a degree of decentralisation.

However certain factors limit the very role they are meant to play:-
- Ineffective when a party commands absolute majority.

Remarks

(3)

How to
make
them
more
effective?

- Proportional represent allows largest party to dominate. thus.
- Seen as a platform for obstruction & not meaningful debates.
- Untrained membership.
- Cannot affect voting patterns.

Committees need to be made more effective. One way could be to have unanimous committee vote of important subject matter.

Remarks

Q7. What are the provisions of 123rd Constitutional Amendment Bill, 2017? Does it address the issues and lacunae that existed in the statutory body- National Commission for Backward Classes? (10 Marks)

The 123rd Constitutional Amendment Bill aims to convert the legislative National Commission for Backward Classes from a statutory body to a constitutional body.

Key features:

- Powers at par with National Commission for SC & ST.
- Multimember body with powers to investigate grievances & socio-economic issues.
- Powers of a civil court while examining evidence.
- Advising government on various issues related to SC/ST.

Remarks

It seeks to replace NCBC with NCSEdBC

(3)

What
were
the
issue
with
NCBG

What
are
other
major
changes

The
bill sees
to add

With enhanced judicial powers.
 it has definitely gained more teeth.
 Elevation to constitutional status.
 will allow its opinion to carry
 more weight.

However in case of NCLC & NFT
 we have seen that rarely their
 advice is heeded. Their reports
 presented to parliament lie unacted
 for upto a year.

Unless these issues are addressed
 this amendment will be a mere
 cosmetic change.

Remarks

Q8. "An institution must speak with one voice, lest it loses credibility and ends up confusing people." In this context, analyse the government's current impetus on making the office of Comptroller and Auditor General a multi-member body. (10 Marks)

Holding a Shaky, conflicting opinion on a subject matter indeed hampers the credibility of an institution. The 'Master of Rooster' debate is a testament to this. Similarly the office of CAG has come under scrutiny recently.

Government's view :-

- single member. CAG allows for it to develop a personality.
- Partisan opinion may be given.
- Single member can be more political hearings if he is appointed by a certain government.

Give a brief on importance of CAG?

Remarks

(32/2)
GS SCOR
MOCK TEST SERIES 3

What is
the
need
of
making
CAG a
multimember
body?

Hence Coalgate, CAG seems all

testament that CAG has made
pronouncements on concrete facts.

• not mere arbitrary statements.

A structure similar to

Election Commission

Adequate safeguards like security
of tenure, removal procedure like that
of a Judge etc ensure he is not partisan.

Thus sufficient debates are

required before taking such a step.

A model similar to Election Commission
may be adopted in the long run.

Remarks

Q9. What do you mean by public authority as per the provision of RTI Act 2005? Do you think that there is a need to revisit this provision of the law? Give your argument in the light of the recent developments.

(10 Marks)

RTI Act 2005 is applicable

only to public authorities which includes

- Body setup up under central or state law.
- Body setup under executive order of state or centre.
- Substantially ^{Funded} financed by state.

Issues

- Political parties are substantially financed by state yet they are outside RTI's purview
- PPP projects where government equity excluding land cost is outside its purview. however if land is included these costs shoot upto 80%.

What
are
the
issues
affecting
the
effectiveness
implementation
of
RTI?

marks

What we
need
to
revisit
the
provisions
of
the
law?

- NGO's involved in Government schemes
are outside its purview.

Corporates executing Government
Contracts are not covered
State's role has receded

in several sectors, which demands
RTI needs to be more comprehensive.

To avoid creating obstruction to normal
functioning of above mentioned
organisations, RTI can be modified
to apply to only those aspects relevant
to related to public money.

Remarks

Reema

Q10. The regional powerhouses India and Brazil share a relationship that is gradual and progressive, however, mainly dominated by trade and commerce. This relationship needs a fillip to engage in new area of co-operation to support mutually converging interests and strengthen this relationship. Discuss. (10 Marks)

India-Brazil despite of having a shared colonial history & developing economies, hasn't been able to escalate their relationship to strategic heights.

Give a brief on India's strategy of relations in intro.

Problems

- Connectivity is limited. Brazil's has Atlantic ports are mainly. Logistics costs are high.
- Conflicting bi-agenda as Brazil is willing to compromise on Veto.
- Language barrier. Portuguese not widely understood in India.

Opportunities :-

- Defence - Brazil's aviation giant can be part of Make in India. It has Embrace

Remarks

(3)

supplied platform for AWACS.

Q1

- Space cooperation as India emerges as low cost launch destination.
 - Tourism & cultural connect - Many Brazilian soap operas are inspired by India which can be leveraged to boost tourism.
 - Brazil can help India in Latin American support while India can help in Asian support w.r.t UNSC reforms.
 - Oil exploration by OVL in Brazil
 - Preferential trade agreement & currency swaps to safeguard against emerging uncertain economic situation
- Ways forward
- Thus colorful cultures need to complement each other to achieve strategic depth.

Remarks

Re

SECTION - B

Q11. Human trafficking the third largest organized crime violating basic human rights. Why has this menace been on rise? Do you think the trafficking of persons (prevention, protection and rehabilitation) bill, 2018 can help in tackling trafficking in India? Critically examine.

(15 Marks)

Human trafficking has multiple shades which makes it difficult to curb such as child trafficking, bride purchasing, pimping etc.

Reasons for its rise

- * Done in the garb of providing employment
 - Illegal immigration.
 - Domestic workers from UP & Bihar.
 - ~~The affected themselves don't complain.~~
- * untrained & insufficient manpower to curb it. e.g. BSF at India-Bangladesh border can't cope with sheer numbers
- * Emerging trend of bride purchasing from Middle East.

Give a brief on the status of Human trafficking in India.

Remarks

- * Lack of documentation
- * Lack of mutual legal assistance in case of cross border trafficking

The new bill does provide teeth to existing provisions like:-

- Prescribing tougher penalties & making it a cognizable, non compoundable offence.
- Penalizes authorities for not registering FIR.
- Rehabilitation of trafficked people in specially built houses which also help them secure requisite skills for a new life.
- Providing documentation related to identity.

Remarks

Re,

(472)

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MARCH TEST SERIES 2018

The bill does indeed improve on existing mechanism. However, it does not include personnel training, strengthening border infrastructure and also mechanism for distinguishing illegal immigrants from the trafficked.

International trafficking is also not touched.

Thus we need a more holistic law for this problem.

How thy bill can help in tackling the problem?

What are major wisecys with the bill?

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 comment on the statement in the light of the recent disqualification of two leaders by the Vice President. (15 Marks)

The main aim of anti-defection law was to prevent horse-trading and enforce collective responsibility.

By way of the 52nd Amendment
 it prevents

- Switching parties
- Independents joining parties
- Splits (except when 1/5th members join another group).

However the mechanism is such that it can be circumvented :-

- Independents being made ministers without joining the party. This jeopardizes their independent nature.

Remarks

Reema

- Being absent from crucial votes like vote of confidence.
- Deliberately deferring to change numerical strength. Parties these days are often seen locking their members in hotels before crucial floor tests.
- In collusion with speaker who often delays his decision. This is the most exploited provision as Judiciary can't intervene unless a decision is given. e.g. Uttarakhand & Arunachal Assemblies in 2017.

Certain improvements can be made to make this law more effective :-

Discuss the recent anti-defection law.

Pros and cons of anti-defection law?

- National Commission to review working of Constitution has recommended Governor / President be deciding authority with a fixed timeline
- Should be applicable only w.r.t core party agenda to allow for genuine dissent.

What is
the
way forward?
Coalition politics make a strong
anti defection law very essential.

Remarks

Q13. Discrimination in health insurance against individuals based on their genetic disposition or genetic heritage, in the absence of appropriate genetic testing and laying down of intelligible differentia is unconstitutional. Analyse the statement in the context of genetic discrimination in India. (15 Marks)

Genetic defects and variations

~~are some of the least understood aspects in healthcare.~~

~~Health insurance industry which relies on thorough medical research before processing claims may suffer. like :-~~

- Issue of gender & related defects.
- Interpreting genetic disease as a mere genetic variation.
- Not having a thorough comprehensive catalogue of genetic problems.

Remarks

In light of above issues

persecution and a diverse gene pool these issues can lead to gross violation of human rights.

How such discrimination is unconstitutional?

Our country is already coping with several inequality related issues which includes discrimination against :-

- Transgenders.
- North East Asians.
- Dark coloured people - especially women.
- Genetic disabilities like Down's Syndrome, Thalassemia etc & lack of medication.

Delhi High Court judgement on the topic.

Remarks

Re

(3+1)

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MOULIK TEST SERIES 2018

Such practices by insurance firms
can entrench prevailing inequalities.
Thus a large scale mapping of Indian
gene pool ~~as~~ on lines of Human genome
project is required.

Remarks

Q14. Citizen's charter are "expression of an ethical governance", but their real utility is questionable. Discuss. (15 Marks)

Citizen Charter lists promise of service delivery, quality of service delivery and grievance redressal mechanism.

In India the concept emerged during the Chief Ministers' conference in 1997, following which all public authorities were bound to display it.

The assurance of service that it provides makes it an integral part of Ethical governance. It is a declaration of what one should expect from the organisation - Nothing more, nothing less.

Remarks

Rem

Nothing less.

However it has not been as effective as it was envisaged because :-

- Many organisations have not drafted it.
- Even if they have it is vague.
- It cannot be basis of legal actions and thus treated as a formality.
- Grievance redressal mechanism listed is non-existent.
- It is not citizen friendly which means
 - Not displayed where it is most likely to be read.
 - Mostly in English & not mother tongue.
 - Language is not lucid.

Remarks

DSCW
ARC
Seven
Step
model for
Citizen centricity.

It essential that Government
draws clear cut guidelines to a
provide legal backing to it to
make it more effective

Remarks

Rem.

Q15. More than a decade after the Right to Information Act was passed by Parliament, its implementation remains inefficient. Examine the various structural, procedural and logistical issues with the act. What are the reforms needed to turn RTI into a true "master key to good governance?" (15 Marks)

After a long protracted struggle by the civil society, RTI emerged as a weapon of accountability & transparency in 2005.

However certain procedural issues hinder its effective implementation.

LOGISTICS

- For 225 one can get any information he wants. This ~~information~~ is a mere bundle of papers and not a lucid summary. This raises printing costs.
- Records are often missing due to lack of digitisation.

Remarks

* Purpose.

- 1.5% of requests are found to be frivolous & related to vendetta. Though a small number, it hampers efficiency.

* Procedure.

- PIs are often untrained to distinguish what to entertain and what not in light of trade secrets, Official secrets etc

- * Hinders functioning of public sector & deters effective decision making due to fear of RTI. Filers work & signatures & hierarchy are more worrisome aspects.

Remarks

Re

Therefore to make it more effective
we need :-

- Training of PIOs in dealing with frivolous applications.

- Protection of honest public servant against threat of RTI & allowance of genuine errors.

~~what is the way~~ - Digitization of records.

~~forwarded~~ Dedicated staff present desired information in a lucid manner.

These steps can help make RTI more robust.

Remarks

Q16. Do you think strong India-Japan relations would help preserve a stable balance of power in the Indo-Pacific? Support your arguments. Also analyse, to what extent Japan and India made significant changes to their foreign and national security policies. (15 Marks)

Give a brief introduction of relationship.

India and Japan are 2nd & 3rd in terms of GDP and military strength. Thus geostrategic complementarity is natural.

Role of Indo-Japanese axis:-

- Thwart aggressive Chinese designs through defense coordination including joint patrols, sale of military platforms (US II seaplanes).
- A strong Indo-Japan partnership can help reduce reliance on external power like US, whose involvement often raises hitches with China & North Korea.

Remarks

- Joint patrols on piracy.
- Efforts to de-nuclearisation can be promoted.
- Japan can now invest more in India which has now more liberalised FDI norms.
- Japan can play a role in Development in North East and also India's Island development Agency (IDA).
- Membership of Quad.
- Mutual support in UNSC reforms as part of G4.
- Japan's support essential for NSG members.

Keeping in line with these aspects both countries have taken steps to promote greater cooperation.

Remarks

Explain on how they relationship ensure balance.

also elbow
the
constraints
on
relationship.

- * India
 - ↳ Liberalised FDI norms.
(Bullet trains).
 - ↳ Agreed to DAD.
 - ↳ Involved Japan in development
of NE
 - ↳ Reinvited Japan in Melaka
Exhibit.

* Japan is well on its way to amend
its pacifist constitution to allow for
weapons sale. India is the only non
NSW state with Japan has signed
a nuclear deal.

This underscores a burgeoning relationship

Remarks

Q17. Recently, America withdrew from a landmark nuclear deal with Iran. Is this the right move? Highlight the implications on India and the world. (15 Marks)

America's withdrawal from landmark Iran nuclear deal was a major shocker in global geopolitics.
Every country has the right to develop effect deterrent for its national security. Iran's deal with P5+1 (Then obama administration) under Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) was a comprehensive deal which slowed (not stopped) its uranium enrichment programme. Israel & now President Trump call it one-sided. However withdrawing from a comprehensive plan when the other party is

Remarks

clearly complying is not right:
It promotes distrust in international
relations & ~~less~~ sheds international
credibility off their ~~country~~
Clearly this wasn't a right
move as Iran will have no incentive
to limit its ~~nuclear~~ ambitions, it will
also set example for North Korea.

Implications on India:-

- ~~sanctioned~~ sanctions will hurt
investments. or like Fazal Ba
Chhabharia.
- Petroleum trade will be hit. but.
- India's credibility as a regional power
standing upto USA will be tested.

Remarks

On World

- US's credibility lost.
- China gains greater say.
- Iran may restart its Natl reactor.
- North Korea will gain incentive
to continue its nuclear ambitions.

International agreements need to
be party neutral.

Remarks

Q18. Elaborate the unique strengths of India and the Nordic countries. Discuss whether the relationship offers immense opportunities for trade and investment diversification and mutually beneficial collaboration. (15 Marks)

what is the current status of relationship between India and the Nordic countries (Sweden, Norway, Finland, Denmark & Iceland). is yet to realize its full potential.

(Stockholm meet)

Strengths of India

- IT powerhouse.
- Generic drug manufacturer.
- Major space power.
- Huge market
- Emerging military power.

Strengths of Nordic countries

- Tourism destination.
- Clean energy
 - Geothermal (Iceland)
 - Tidal (Sweden)
 - Wind power.

Remarks

- Waste disposal - Sweden now imports waste to run its waste to energy plants.
- Urban planning and flood management.
eg. dykes of Rotterdam.
- Petroleum reserves of North Sea.
- Weapons manufacturing hub. eg. SAAB, Bofors etc.
- Efficient reformatory prisons.
Clearly the relationship can be mutually beneficial. India has initiated smart city programme. It is ramping its clean energy capacity. Nordic countries can certainly be partners in this.
- Nordic Countries have no space launch facilities. India can provide

Remarks

(+4)

~~Low cost solutions
opportunities and constraints~~

~~India wants to emerge as a defence manufacturing hub. Sweden can partner in this.~~

~~Joint exploration of hydrocarbons in Arctic is another major avenue.
The potential is immense.~~

Remarks

Q19. The older parameters, traditional variables and orthodox institutional thinking of the special relationship are now outdated and ineffective with respect to India-Nepal relationship. Analyze the issues and the opportunities on which both the nations need to work. (15 Marks)

Emerging geopolitical trends demand geopolitics in India-Nepal relationship.

For years the relationship was dictated by Treaty of friendship, 1949, open borders and shared history.

This has fundamentally changed mainly after:-

- Maoist gaining political influence.
- Chinese investments, and attempts to bring Nepal in its fold.

India needs to adapt to these realities. The economic blockade

What's
the
tradition,
understanding
of
the
relationship

Remarks

of 2016 underscored reliance
on outdated mindset.

Discuss
the
role of
China
in
brief

What India should do :-

- Reduce the big brother attitude that Nepal accuses it of
- Match Chinese influence with liberal investment regime new project as an example of this.
- Improve connectivity e.g. providing access to Vishakhapatnam port in addition to Kolkata.
- Graya - Kathmandu Rail link to improve connectivities.

Remarks

4½

Opportunities for both :-

- Hydroelectric potential for Nepal.
- BBIN Motor vehicle agreement
- Space cooperation - a South Asian Satellite
- Asian Trilateral highway
- Tourism - Buddhist circuit

India should revisit Conventional
Doctrine as a guide to its future
relations with Nepal.

Remarks

Q20. What were the objectives of passing the Election Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2016 which sought to amend the Delimitation Act, 2002 and the Representation of the People Act, 1950? Also discuss the process involved in delimitation of constituencies and issues arising out of delimitation. (15 Marks)

What is
the
objective
of
Passing
2016
bill?

Delimitation is the process of
redrawing boundaries of constituencies
to have equal population for all
constituencies.

Process:-

- Done after every census.
- A Delimitation Commission is tasked with the job.
- Constituencies are redrawn to have same population per constituency.
- Statewise allocation was to remain constant till 2026.

Remarks

(B72)

E
187.Issues :-

- ~~FF~~
- for municipalities & PRIs, state governments
are responsible.

Issues:-

- Migrant population is hard to
document.
- Double counting leading to confusion.
- ~~boundary~~ - State governments
delimiting to achieve political
mileage. This was allegedly done in
recent Nagaland Municipal elections

Delimitation needs to be holistic.
There should be a state level commission
to protect against whims & fancies
of states.

Remarks

