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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 762)

Name of Candidate	BHAVANA H.S.		
Medium Hindi/Eng.	ENGLISH	Registration Number	13508
Center	ONLINE	Date	11/11/16

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	12.5	
2	12.5	
3	12.5	
4	12.5	
5	12.5	
6	12.5	
7	12.5	
8	12.5	
9	12.5	
10	12.5	
11	12.5	
12	12.5	
13	12.5	
14	12.5	
15	12.5	
16	12.5	
17	12.5	
18	12.5	
19	12.5	
20	12.5	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

Signature of Examiner

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH.
3. All questions are compulsory.
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
5. 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. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other than the authorized one.
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Alignment Competence
2. Context Competence
3. Content Competence
4. Language Competence
5. Introduction Competence
6. Structure - Presentation Competence
7. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

Answer all the questions in NOT MORE THAN 200 WORDS each. Content of the answers is more important than its length. All questions carry equal marks.

12.5X20=250

1. Even though the Representation of the People Act has been amended from time to time, the issues pertaining to criminalisation and influence of money power remain unresolved. Comment. Also discuss the role played by the judiciary and the Election Commission in this context.

The Representation of Peoples Act has been amended from time to time to incorporate the issues related to election procedures in spite of the amendments, the act has not been able to fully resolve the money power and distribution of freelies in election as:-

- 1) Lack of legal backing to moral code of conduct (MCC)
- 2) The amendments to RPA have been done by the same politicians with vested interests
- 3) Non implementation of the MCC and several other rules of RPA.
- 4) Lack of state funding of elections

to check the unabated flow of money into elections.

However the Election Commission (Ec) and the Judiciary have been involved to reduce the criminalization of elections.

They have brought the following changes

1. Mandatory declaration of assets of the candidates, their educational history and other details.
2. strict enforcement of MLC
3. Vigilance over the distribution of freebies
4. Booth Capturing may be punished and fresh elections will be announced.
5. Non usage of religious figures or issues to wake up communal feelings for votes.

However the EC and Judiciary should ensure more reforms including the use of social media for election propaganda to ensure that India ~~is~~ moves towards a pure and mature democracy.

2. The main function of the Public Accounts Committee is to ascertain that the money granted by Parliament has been spent by the government within the scope of the demand. In this context, critically analyse the role played by the Public Accounts Committee.

The Public accounts committee (PAC) is a committee constituted every year by the Parliament and consists of members from both the Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha.

Its primary function is to audit the revenue and expenditure of the Government of India. Constitutional bodies like Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) assist the PAC in these issues.

The chairman of the PAC is a member from the opposition to bring parity and balance, to provide for a fair scrutiny.

The role played by PAC is exemplary as it ensures the

fair and just spending of the resources for the allocated purposes, thus preventing siphoning of funds. It acts as a means of checks and balance on the expenditure of the executive.

The 26 spectrum scam was unearthed by PAC which reveals the functional capabilities and importance of PAC.

However PAC is criticised as it often performs a "post mortem" work after the funds have been allocated, and it has no means to check the misallocation. Also the PAC is manned by a majority of from the ruling party - which prevents

any action against them.

However the role of PAC
is vital for the sound functioning
of parliamentary democracy and for
transparency in knowing the
revenue and expenditure accounts
of the government.

3. Referendums are portrayed as popular governance in its purest form, however, it is also argued that they often subvert democracy rather than serve it. Examine in the light of recent developments across the globe.

Referendums are a tool of direct democracy, the citizens are required to vote for any major decisions. However in the recent past referendums have been held frequently

- 1) Scottish referendum for independence
- 2) Greece referendum for bailout
- 3) The BREXIT referendum for UK to leave EU
- 4) Colombian referendum which rejected the peace deal

They subvert the democracy as:-

- 1) The elected representatives opt for referendum when they do not want to be held responsible for any untoward outcome
- 2) The people are often ill equipped to decide matters of national or international

importance

- 3) The citizens are not completely aware of the issue - as it was known that people searched "BREXIT" and "EU" after voting in referendum.
- 4) They may have contradictory outcomes as is seen in BREXIT and Colombian peace deal.
- 5) The people are easily swayed by their leaders or any other celebrity propaganda.
- 6) Deciding critical matters rests on the representatives and leaders as they understand the outcomes and effects better.

Thus using the tool of referendum may be quite uncertain and it may lead to unexpected

results not only on the country
but also on the global economy.

4. What do you understand by special category status for states? || Examine its contribution in bringing balanced regional development in the country || In light of the 14th Finance Commission recommendations, analyse whether this categorisation has outlived its relevance.

The special category status for states was created by the 5th Finance Commission to bring development to the disadvantaged states of North East India and the border states of Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir. It was decided on the basis of - (1) Population (2) Viability of finances (3) Border states (4) hilly terrain (5) Economic and infrastructural backwardness.

The special category status states were entitled to 30% of horizontal devolution from the taxes, special assistance in center sponsored schemes - sharing on basis of 90:10 ratio. However it did not ~~any~~ turn around in the economy of the states, as is observed the states still remain considerably backward.

The 14 Finance Commission (FC) has recommended the abolition of special category states and instead opt for a greater devolution to all the ~~the~~ states based on formula with a few changes in its parameters.

The special category states has outlined its relevance as:-

1. The planning commission no longer exists and the decision taken in NITI AAGI on a consensus, or with states representation basis.
2. The plan and non plan expenditure has also been scrapped.
3. Changes in the central sponsored schemes which are classified as core schemes and core of core schemes the states have been given the autonomy to choose the schemes.

However the introduction of
Special package to financially support
backward states will ensure the
equitable development of all the states
with out any regional imbalance.

5. It is contended that GST regime will significantly curb the financial autonomy of states by taking away substantial taxation powers. In this regard, examine the impact of the GST regime on federal structure of our polity. What are the proposed mechanisms in the bill which seek to address this issue?

GST seeks to bring in a uniform centralised tax structure for all indirect taxes. It subsumes the state and central excise, customs duty and VAT, along with a few taxes.

The impact of the GST on federal structure is as follows:-

1. Eliminates state taxes and VAT except tax on consumption of alcohol, it will leave the states with reduced revenue.
2. Since it is a destination based tax the manufacturing states like Maharashtra, Gujarat and Tamil Nadu will see a decrease in revenue.
3. The GST council consists of union finance minister with representatives from each state, thus all the states are

equally represented irrespective of their
trade, manufacturing or import, export
contribution

4. Creates a more centralizing effect
with little scope for states to suggest
or make changes.

The proposed mechanisms in the bill
to address these issues are:-

- 1) Revenue compensation from the Centre to
the states for five years.
- 2) Few products like petroleum, excise
on alcohol are not covered under GST.
- 3) The Council has agreed on three different
rate slabs to equally benefit the states
- 4) Greater devolution to the states under
the 14th Financial Commission, without
any sectoral commitments, thus enables
the states to spend according to their needs.

- 5) Direct allocation by 14 FC to the Panchayats and Urban Local bodies (ULBs)
- 6) Recommendation from 14 FC for the states to develop property taxation and agricultural taxation.

Although the GST may bring a greater test towards the centre equitable distribution of revenue under finance Commission to the states will not hamper the federal structure, it will bring in a uniform system of taxation, and increase the revenue.

6. What is the rationale behind the changes in the budgetary process approved by the Union Cabinet recently? Do you think it is a step forward towards efficient governance and fiscal prudence?//

The following changes has been approved by the Union Cabinet to reform the budgetary process:-

- 1) Change in the budget presentation date
- 2) Merger of Railway Budget with Union Budget
- 3) Changes in fiscal year.

They ~~will~~ benefit the governance in following ways:-

- 1) Changing the budget date

- * Likely eliminate the need for vote on account
- * Elimination of plan and non plan expenditure.
- * A shift towards 15 years long term developmental agenda.
- * Calculations on the basis of Capital and Revenue expenditure
- * Streamlines the budgetary spending.

2) Merge of Railway budget with Union budget

- * On the recommendations of Bihari Debroy Committee
- * Reduces the populism in railway budget
- * Revival of Railway ~~of~~ revenue and improvement in its efficiency.
- * The need for a separate budget is unnecessary, as its expenses are minute compared to Union Budget.

3) Changing the fiscal year to Calendar year:-

- * A committee set up under Shankaracharya will give out the guidelines
- * To suit it according to the monsoon and international best practices.
- * ~~for for~~ do align the presentation of budget with fiscal year.

These changes will ensure fiscal
prudence and monetary savings as.

- 1) Vote on account will be eliminated
- 2) Mauk Rush - or unnecessary expenditure
will be avoided.
- 3) Planning for the entire year will
be done in advance.
- 4) Revival of railway sector
- 5) long term planning for capital
and revenue expenditure.

Thus the changes will
bring out a more efficient government
however few years may be required
to adjust to the changes,

7. Critically examine the provisions of the recently introduced Citizenship Amendment Bill 2016. Are some provisions of the bill against India's secular principles?

The recently introduced
Citizenship amendment bill - 2016. ~~and~~

has ~~made~~ the following provisions:-

- 1) Illegal immigrants from minority communities of Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh are eligible for citizenship.
- 2) It has reduced the time required for the grant of Citizenship by naturalization.
- 3) It also gives permission for the cancellation of OCI cards if it violates any law.

The law has been criticized as:-

- 1) Provides citizenship on the basis of religion.

As it has explicitly mentioned - Hindus,
Buddhists, Christians, Jains and paris
excluding Muslims.

Whereas Muslims like Ahemadiyyas and
Rohingyas also face persecution in their
homeland.

2) The cancellation of OCI cards may
not be justified accordance to law.

Thus the differentiation of ~~off~~ grant of
Citizenship on the basis of religion goes
against Indian secular credentials which
have been enshrined in Indian constitution.

Equal rights to all the migrants
or refugees who have faced persecution
in their homeland may be provided
for by the Act.

8. Whereas the legislature is empowered to regulate the ratification of international treaties in the United states, in India it is mostly the domain of the executive. Examine the rationale and benefits of these two approaches with examples.

The differences in the structure and functioning of Indian and USA constitution and governmental ~~structure~~ institutions is the main reason for changes in the procedure for ratification of international treaties.

* In USA the ~~the~~ legislative and the executive are separated, and any presidential decision requires the consent of the legislature, without which ~~the~~ the treaties will not be ratified.

The senate and the congress decide on all the decisions taken by the President.

* In India, the separation of powers are not complete, where the legislature forms a part of the executive. The executive forms the major decision

making body.

* The benefits of the President on form of Governments and ratification of the treaties by the legislature gives the treaties an additional backing and ensures the continuity of the treaty.

* In India the Government which represents the executive has the majority support of legislature and ratification of the treaty by the executive itself ensures the majority support to the treaty. However changes may be effected in the treaty when the Government changes, character departure from the agreement will not be expected, as the executive usually follows a pre agreed.

Foreign Policy:

India is a developing country and has a large population. It is a member of the United Nations and has a permanent seat on the Security Council. India's foreign policy is based on the principles of non-alignment, peace, and cooperation. It aims to maintain friendly relations with all countries and to promote the welfare of the world.

India's foreign policy is based on the following principles:

- (1) Non-alignment: India does not align itself with any major power or group of powers.
- (2) Peace: India is committed to the peaceful settlement of international disputes.
- (3) Cooperation: India promotes international cooperation and development.
- (4) Self-reliance: India believes in the self-reliance of nations.
- (5) Equality: India advocates for the equality of all nations.
- (6) Sovereignty: India respects the sovereignty of all nations.

9. What are the reasons for the declining rate of child adoption in India? Discuss whether the amended Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection of Children) Act, 2015 can address this issue.

The declining rate of child adoption in India is caused due to various factors like :-

- 1) Lack of institutional adoption centres
- 2) Increase in artificial reproductive treatments and surrogacy.
- 3) Tough laws for international adoptions.
- 4) Presence of illegal child adoptions, trafficking.

The newly amended Juvenile Justice Act 2015 has the following provisions:-

- 1) Establishment of CARA - Child Adoption Regulatory Authority at Central, State and district levels.
- 2) Provision of juvenile care homes and rehabilitation centres
- 3) Relaxed rules for child adoption.

Apart from this the Surrogacy Amendment Bill - 2016 has made:-

- 1) Commercial surrogacy illegal
- 2) Permission of altruistic surrogacy for Indian couples childless for more than five years.

Thus both the acts favour the child adoption as it ensures a secure future for the child. Along with other initiatives like Khoya-Paya Portal, the search for missing children will also be made easier, unclaimed children will be taken care in orphanages and can be adopted.

1. The first step in the process of writing is to plan the content of the paper. This involves understanding the question and deciding on the main points to be covered. It is important to spend some time on this step as it will save time and effort in the long run.

2. The second step is to write a clear and concise introduction. This should state the topic of the paper and provide a brief overview of the main points to be discussed. It should also state the purpose of the paper and the method used to collect the data.

3. The third step is to write the main body of the paper. This should be divided into paragraphs, each dealing with a specific point. It is important to use clear and concise language and to provide evidence to support the points made. It is also important to use appropriate referencing and to acknowledge the work of other researchers.

4. The fourth step is to write a conclusion. This should summarise the main points of the paper and provide a final statement on the topic. It should also state the limitations of the study and suggest areas for further research.

5. The fifth step is to proofread the paper. This involves checking for errors in grammar, punctuation, and spelling. It is also important to check the format of the paper and to ensure that all references are correctly cited.

10. The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Amendment Bill passed recently aims at striking a balance between education and India's economic reality. Critically analyze.

The recent amendments introduced in Child Labour Amendment Bill has tried to maintain a balance between education and extracurricular or family occupations, the highlights of the Bill are:-

- 1) Provision for the child to take part in family occupation after school hours or during holidays.
- 2) No restrictions for the child to be a part of media or cinemas, except that it should not be employed in circus.
- 3) The changes in the list of hazardous activity that children above the age of 14 can take part.
- 4) Penal provisions for child labour - especially the parents has been relaxed.

The above amendments have been accommodative of the need for

Children to help and participate in occupations as:-

1. Due to poverty
2. To learn the ~~occupations~~ family occupation

However the bill has been criticised as:-

1. It will create unnecessary pressure on the children.
2. They may be forced to work in hazardous occupations of cottage industries.
3. It may impact their learning and absenteeism may increase in school
4. It will become a reason for the parents to avoid school
5. The girl child will be the most affected as she will be made to do domestic work and other menial jobs

Thus although the amendment is in tune with the reality of India, but the bill leaves several loopholes

Which can be exploited ~~by~~ to create
whimful conditions for children. Thus
few changes in the act to enable
the children to achieve good learning
outcomes as enshrined in Right
to education would go a long way
to secure the future of the ~~for~~ children.

11. Though the Maharashtra Protection of People from Social Boycott (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act of 2016 is an important step in the long-standing struggle against social exclusion, it is only the first step.
Comment: [Also discuss the challenges in implementation of the act.]

The Maharashtra protection of people from social boycott is the first act to prevent social banishment of people.

It covers religious, community and social boycott. It helps to prevent:-

- 1) social stigmatization and isolation.
- 2) banishing people or a family from a particular community or place
- 3) biased rulings of Khap panchayat.
- 4) communal feelings and separation will be minimised

Apart from this the act also helps to formalise inter caste marriages and prevents their social exclusion.

However it has partly addressed the issue of social exclusion as it does not deal with.

- 1) Exclusion of minority community.

- 2) ~~No~~ ~~not~~ preference for a particular community as tenants
- 3) Practice of untouchability is still prevalent.
- 4) Entry of certain minorities to temples or mosques is still unaccomplished.

Thus the act is the first step towards building a socially inclusive society, it can be emulated by the Union and other state governments to uphold the egalitarian and secular nature of the country.

12. Though the Criminal Tribes Act, 1871 was annulled soon after independence, the communities designated as Denotified Tribes (DNT) and Nomadic Tribes (NT) remain amongst the most discriminated and disadvantaged groups in the country. Comment. || Also discuss the steps taken by the government to improve their condition. ||

The Criminal Tribes Act 1871 - was a colonial era act that discriminated against the nomadic tribes and kept them isolated, other forest acts also prevented the tribes ~~for~~ from using forest resources for their livelihood.

Although the ~~Denotified Tribes~~ Criminal Tribes Act 1871 was annulled and these tribes were designated as denotified tribes and Nomadic tribes, they still remain disadvantaged as:-

- 1) They face social stigmatization and are not accepted by the society.
- 2) They are nomadic and do not have a permanent place of residence and are excluded from the schemes,
* they don't have identity cards.

3) They are not included under the scheduled castes or scheduled tribes act.

*) The following steps have been taken to eliminate the conditions of DN tribes:-

- 1) Few states have accorded them the status of STs.
- 2) The forest right act, extension of Panchayat to scheduled areas act has helped ~~to~~ them to some extent.

However the government may include them under socio-Economic Caste Census

and accord them special status.

Further extension of social schemes may help them lead a settled lifestyle.

13. The idea of a Pay Commission is to revise the pay scales of the government staff. In light of the recommendations of the 7th Pay Commission examine the need for the introduction of performance linked pay for government employees as in the case of private sector. Also comment on the need for the introduction of pay parity among various services.

The 7th pay commission headed by Justice A. K. Mathur recently submitted its report, it increased the pay by 2.5 times compared to their previous pay.

The challenges faced by the economy in accepting the report:-

- 1) Increased expenditure in a single year
- 2) Changes of inflation
- 3) May impact the Fiscal deficit (FD) deadline.

The need for introduction of performance linked pay for government employees are:-

1. Avoids increased instant liquidity in the system.
2. Moderation in Inflation.
3. Ability to absorb the pay expenditure better - as it is a gradual hike
4. Incentivises the government employees

to perform better.

5. promotes competitive spirit and
induces professionalism

Apart from performance linked payment
the government can choose annual
pay increments - to match with the
real inflation rates.

The need for introduction of pay parity
among the various services

1. The preference given to IAS and IFS
over the other services will be
reduced.
2. Pay parity will motivate the other officials
also to perform better
3. It may also signal a move towards
specialist orientation from a generalist
one.

Thus the reforms in pay
commission should be able to provide
the required motivation to work along
with financial stability.

14. Even though India and Russia have enjoyed a close relationship over the years, it has not been immune to the changing power dynamics globally.
Comment.

The current changing geopolitical scenario has realigned the world alignment.

India and Russia have enjoyed warm relations since the 1970's, even now India imports defence equipment, apart from :-

1. Nuclear power plants, and technology.
2. Manufacturing and technology transfer for KF-226.
3. Trade deals in rough diamonds.
4. Oil and gas exploration partnerships with ONGC in Sakhalin and Arctic Circle
5. Navy submarines and aircraft carriers.

But lack of people to people communications, commercial trade, increasing India's closeness to the west has caused minor cracks in India - Russia relations which is visible in :-

- 1) Russian military deals with Pakistan.

2. Increased China - Russia partnerships in oil imports, defense and technology. However this is due to the slackening Russian economy which is yet to recover from the sanctions imposed on it by the West. due to Crimea issue.

India should use the multilateral forums like BRICS, SCO, Aadi and unilateral summits like - India - Russia partnership to avoid the Chinese, Russian and Pak axis.

India can also successfully improve and enhance relations with Russia, after the victory of Donald Trump in USA presidential elections, who is known for his rightist leaning. Thus the balance between Russia and the west would possibly go smooth and favour India.

[Faint, illegible handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

15. The Indus Water Treaty has survived multiple wars and is often cited as a successful example of transboundary sharing of river waters. In this context, identify the key provisions of the treaty and examine the options that India can exercise to pursue its strategic interests vis-a-vis Pakistan.

The Indus Water treaty (IWT) is often cited as a successful deal between India and Pakistan, brokered by World Bank. It was ~~is~~ not suspended even during hostile war situations in 1965, 1971, 1999.

The provisions of the treaty are:-

- 1) The west flowing rivers, Indus, Jhelum and Chenab to be utilized by Pakistan and East flowing rivers by - Ravi, Beas and Sutlej by India
- 2) However India can utilize the west flowing rivers for construction of run off the river projects, irrigation of 7 lac. hectares, and electric power generation apart from domestic use

3) Provisions for the technical team to meet, establishment of tribunal and for adjudication and dispute settlement.

~~However~~
4) The treaty has liberal provisions for the downstream riparian state, and Pakistan benefits the most of IWT.

However ~~for~~ Pakistan has constantly objected to projects like Dudhast, Baligau and Kishen Ganga in spite of provisions in the treaty.

Amidst the rising tensions between India and Pakistan talks about annulment of IWT was also heard :-

- 1) Provisions for calling off the treaty is not mentioned in the IWT.
- 2) India could use its preferential position to pressurise Pakistan.
- 3) India being a downstream state for Tibetan rivers - eg: R. Brahmaputra, China could follow a similar policy with India.

4. The possibility of Water Wars should not be ruled out.

Thus India should strictly use its diplomatic powers to bring global attention on Pakistan state sponsored terrorism, the annulment of LWT may do more harm in the long run, as India may lose its strategic hold over Pakistan's water - which is akin to its lifeline.

16. The Iranian nuclear agreement presents an opportunity for moving towards a new security order in the Persian Gulf. Elaborate in the context of changing scenario in the region. What are the likely implications for India in this context?

The Iranian nuclear agreement has also signalled a new world order and a new security scenario.

- 1) Securing the nuclear weapons, technology and enriched uranium from falling into wrong hands of ISIS, Hamas or other terror organisations.
- 2) Gradual withdrawal of sanctions on Iran.
- 3) The renewed relations between USA and Iran
- 4) Changing relations between Saudi Arabia and USA - as USA is no longer dependent on oil imports from Gulf.
- 5) USA's withdrawal from Afghanistan, and refusal to involve ground troops against ISIS
- 6) ~~the~~ Securing Iran's nuclear facilities in a diplomatic way ensured the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons.

The changing situations in West Asia and Iran has huge implications for India:-

- 1) India can fill the vacuum created by withdrawal of USA.
- 2) Renew the trade relations with Iran which was stalled due to the sanctions.
→ India will benefit from import of crude from Iran, also helps to diversify its imports
- 3) Iran will provide an alternative to reach Afghanistan, bypassing Pakistan
- 4) The construction of Chabahar Port is restarted and will provide India a strategic location.
- 5) Iran is at the crossroads of West Asia, South Asia and Central Asia.
Projects like INSTC - International North South Trade Corridor - will benefit India.
- 6) Nuclear ~~deal~~ agreement also ensures the safety of India.

7) It could also be a part of USA's
"Pivot to Asia" strategy against China

India would tremendously gain as it is
the only regional alternative to face
China.

Thus India should make the
first move and win over Iran, before
the Chinese investments start to lure
Iran towards them.

17. Considering the diversity among Pacific Island Countries (PICs) India has a huge scope for building multi-sectoral cooperation tailored to the specific conditions in these islands. Discuss. Also examine the strategic importance of PICs for India.

The Pacific Island Countries (PICs) are a group of island countries comprising of three major groups - Polynesia, Micronesia and Melanesia - located in South Pacific Ocean.

The FIPIC Summit held last year outlined the sectors in which India and PICs can coordinate :-

- 1) Fisheries and sea farming technologies
- 2) Coconut farming.
- 3) Climate change and sea level rise
- 4) Tsunami detection and early warning systems.
- 5) Marine survey and patrolling.
- 6) Information and Communication technology, software development.

The presence of Indian diaspora and historical-cultural links has eased the strengthening of our relations.

The needs of PICs and India
~~use~~ both converge towards formation
of a blue economy. Their strategic
importance for India is :

- 1) Their location lay in between important
international sea lines of communication (SLOCs)
after the ratification of TPP, their
importance will further increase
- 2) Needed to support Indian interests -
for membership in UNSC, NSG and
Other international fora.
- 3) Their active participation in WTO -
prevents Indian isolation
- 4) The focus on climate change and global
warming will be incomplete without
PIC's as they are the worst victims
- 5) The India diaspora present in PICs
further enhances their importance.

Thus the relations between PICs and India, should develop into a strong and multisectoral alliance, it also aids Indian view of emerging as an Indo-Pacific regional power.

18. Though BRICS is neither an economic union nor a political coalition, it creates space for India to move the contemporary international order towards alternative models of development and governance. Comment.

BRICS is a grouping of five large and fast developing powers with 25% of the world's population and a 20% of world's trade.

BRICS has created a forum to bring out the concerns of developing countries and emerging powers, it has given an alternative space for growth, as the West led Bretton Woods institutions were.

1. Highly owned and manipulated by USA and Europe
 2. Had been non accommodative to the interests of developing countries.
 3. USA had a veto power.
 4. Was adverse to any new changes corresponding to the changes in global scenario.
- ~~The~~ whereas the BRICS was able to carefully gauge and fill in the gap

Why?:-

- 1) A New Developmental Bank (NDB) which will specially cater to the needs of Developing and LDCs in Asia.
- 2) Recognises the security scenario in the world.
- 3) A Contingency Reserve arrangement similar to IMF, to cater to BoP crisis.
- 4) A BRICS payment system for an alternative to SWIFT system.

Thus these developments in BRICS has caused IMF and WB to reform their quota system, with more rights to developing countries, along with opting for elections for the governing body - abolition of permanent seats. Also it has included Chinese Renminbi as one of the ~~global~~ currency in currency reserve basket.

Thus BRICS has not only provided an effective and alternative model for development and governance it has also created changes in the existing systems.

19. Since the end of Cold War, the focus and role of NAM have changed significantly. Discuss. Also analyse its relevance for India in the emerging geo-political order.

NAM found its roots in the Cold War as the newly independent countries were not fully prepared to embrace either of the two blocks, and needed space for their growth and development.

With the end of cold war and disintegration of USSR, NAM has continued to be a major forum as:-

1. It has the second largest membership after UN Organisation.
2. A collective bargaining voice against the powerful west and UN - which is dominated by the West.
3. Can create a forum to discuss the new challenges facing the developing world
 - Poverty → climate change
 - Diseases → resource supply etc.
4. NAM also stands for non-intervention in national interests - thus upholds national sovereignty - can oppose the interventionist policies of USA.

In spite of the changing global scenario, NAM is of relevance to India provided its focus and goals are realigned with accordance to the contemporary needs.

NAM should not be a forum for:-

- 1) Criticizing the policies of the west.
- 2) Non aligned - disconnected from global networks.

* NAM should work towards:-

- 1) Building consensus with the western group and the world.
- 2) Move towards multialignment
- 3) Address the developmental issues.

NAM ~~helps~~ is vital for India →

- 1) To gain support for UNSC membership
- 2) Act as a support for WTO negotiations.

Thus NAM is very much relevant with the contemporary world, but with a slight change in its aim and focus.

20. Despite a consensus that a collective global effort is needed to alleviate the ongoing refugee crisis, efforts made so far have hardly yielded the desired results. Do you agree? Briefly highlight the socio-political impact of this crisis on destination countries. Also highlight the role that India can play in this situation.

The present refugee crisis has displaced the largest number of people since World War two. The civil strife in Syria, Afghanistan, Yemen, Iraq, Libya, Myanmar has been the main reason.

The efforts made by international bodies like UN, European Union (EU) has yielded half hearted efforts as :-

- 1) Countries are not receptive to the refugees
→ The recent BREXIT has been due to the rising fear of immigration.
- 2) Countries like Austria, Hungary has considered fencing their borders even if it is against the Schengen visa agreement.
- 3) ~~USA~~ USA has accepted a mere 75,000 refugees

4) The rise of rightist governments in USA, UK signal the peoples aversion to immigrants.

The socio political impact of immigration:-

- 1) Increased tensions between the local population and the immigrants
 - 2) Crimes like theft, robbery, rape are increasing.
 - 3) Problems of employment and social security.
 - 4) Depletion of resources.
 - 5) Rise of Ghettos and slums, or Refugee housing camps with minimum or no facilities. The countries like Greece, Turkey are facing the influx of refugees.
 - 6) Rise of rightist and nationalist political parties - against liberal parties.
- Increased Chauvinism - shown in the BREXIT referendum, USA elections.



India does not have a national refugee policy nor is it a signatory to the UN Human Refugee Convention, however

India has been reciproactive to refugees.

- 1) Tibetan refugees are almost treated at par with Indian citizens.
- 2) Sri Lankan, Bangladeshi refugees are also accorded decent livelihood.
- 3) The newly amended Citizenship Act has provisions for granting citizenship to the minority communities of Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan.

Thus the UN should take a strong stand to accommodate the refugees and guarantee them a decent living.