

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

A SMART POLICE FOR A SAFER INDIA

Police in India derives its powers from Indian Police Act 1860, that was enacted by our colonial masters ~~to~~ in the wake of Battle of 1857, as they realized that they would need a stronger, more rigid & properly institutionalized police force to check any future civil or military uprising.

Since then, many committees have been constituted to reform this institution, yet no effective changes have been made. The very motive of this colonial law was to contain people's aggression, not to serve the people. Today, we need a citizen-centric police system which could

provide safety to all of us.

PM Modi has called to make our Police SMART: Sensitive, Mobile, Accountable, Responsive, Tech Savvy. But it is easier said than done. There are many challenges in the current system. We need to analyze these challenges and find out what needs to be done to make our police SMART.

Lets first start with the systemic challenges. One of the major challenge is the lack of police infrastructure due to shortage of finances. Even the existing automobiles, computers and armory face problems due to poor maintenance.

Police comes under State list as per the VII schedule of our

constitution. The state Police is directly governed by states but police across different states lack coordination & support. Sometimes, state police and central police forces ~~the~~ under central Armed Police force (CAPF) also face overlap of jurisdiction which hinders effective policing.

Another challenge is the lack of motivation in our police force due to long working hours, inadequate salary & allowances, high political interference in their operations and frequent transfers & plum postings.

These problems in the police force threaten safety of the entire nation. It is evident from rising number of crimes in India. Every day, the newspaper is filled with

news of crimes like rapes, molestation, sexual harassment, murders, kidnaps etc., and such heinous crimes are rising day by day. For instance, according to National Crime Records Bureau, the number of child rapes recorded, increased four-fold between 2001 and 2014.

Despite ~~so~~ many laws to check such crimes, police has not been able to effectively implement these laws to protect human rights.

Child Marriage is prohibited in India, yet according to census 2011, ~~around~~ one out of every three ~~was~~ married woman was wed before the age of 18 years. The ineffectiveness of our police raises concerns for the future.

~~With sig the~~

The ongoing digital revolution promises to make the world smart by faster communication, smart Banking solutions & smart devices. However, it brings with it even more challenges for our police.

Cyber crimes like espionage, image morphing, mail-spoofing and hacking are on the rise but the intelligence network of our police is not so strong to tackle these cyber crimes effectively.

In 2016, card data of 3.2 million card-users was hacked and our intelligence agencies took 5 months to identify this leak. India is on a move towards Digital India and we need to upgrade our intelligence capabilities to have a

Safer digital India. ...!

Indian police has a vital role to ensure India's security. Not just internally, but a vigilant police force is needed to tackle external threats as well. Protection of our borders and coasts to check cross border terrorism, marine piracy, terrorist infiltration, human trafficking, drug smuggling & narcotics trade is important to ensure safety within the borders.

Now lets see the ongoing reforms intended to make our police smart. Recently, the centre announced an aid of ₹ 25,000 crore to the states to upgrade police infrastructure. Efforts are also being made to make police

Tech savvy, NATARID is being revived to connect 11 central intelligence agencies for data sharing with each other. CCTNS (Crimes & Criminals Tracking Network System) has been developed ~~to~~ as a repository to collect data of criminals. POLNET is being developed ~~to~~ for satellite mediated communication of local police force. Maharashtra Government has come up with ~~a~~ its Social Media Policy to enable police to check privacy concerns of social media. These structural reforms can improve the police operations capability and will improve the mobility of Police by making them Tech Savvy, fulfilling the M & T of SMART police we wish to have.

However, to make ~~peol~~ police

sensitive, accountable and responsive to people's needs, we need to have a public-centric police force.

Presently, the public perception of police is very negative. People perceive police as harsh and brutal. In fact, many crimes are left unreported because people fear to approach police. This is partly also because of high corruption and bribery prevalent in the Police system. A common man encounters their harsh nature at crossroads (traffic lights) and while going to Police station for identity certification etc.

The popular perception of Police is true to ~~so~~ a large extent and the reason is lack of transparency

of Police. The Police in India is a colonial legacy & still speaks the language of "lathi-raj" and is not sensitive to local public, specially the poor.

The average response time of a Police action is also very high as people are entangled by so many formalities. But we need to change this harsh character of police and increase the citizen - police interface.

To make police sensitive, accountable and responsive, we first of all need to implement the Supreme Court recommendations under Prakash Singh case 2006. This will make police accountable & will decrease political interference.

Secondly, we need to utilize the benefits of Community Policing, as done in Japan, where people actively collaborate with local police and in turn, the police ~~is~~ becomes very sensitive to the local demands.

Thirdly, we need to reform the value-system of the police force. They must understand that they are working for the people and not to create unnecessary hurdles. ~~Some~~ Value inculcation among the police - personnel is essential to make them people-friendly.

Police force needs to handle challenges on multiple fronts

to ensure safety of the entire nation. We have seen that safety of India encompasses many dimensions like effective implementation of laws, protection of human rights, tackling emerging threats like cyber-crime and protection at both internal & external fronts. We must bring the desired reforms to make Police SMART so that it can ensure safety for our people across all the dimensions.

THE CULTURE OF BAN : THREAT TO DEMOCRACY AND DIVERSITY IN INDIA

"I may not agree with what you say, but I will protect to my death, your right to say it" said Voltaire. It highlights the importance of free speech and expression. Similar is the significance of all fundamental rights enshrined in our Constitution.

The value of liberty & freedom is even more significant in the Indian context of Indian society which has huge diversity across many dimensions: religion, language, caste, class, race etc. Any ban imposed in India ~~threatens~~ restricts the freedom of some or the

other group of individuals. And so, if a culture of ban develops in our governance, it can threaten the rights of many people.

A democracy promises equality of all individuals but a culture of ban may give rise to a threat of majoritarianism, which may further provoke the fundamentalist ideology and create indifferences in the society.

It is important to understand that imposing a ban is not a threat, but a culture of ~~threat~~^{ban} is. Let's understand the differences.

As we have a historic look, we can see many 'bans' which have helped our society. With the efforts of Raja Ram Mohan Roy, sati got abolished in 1829. Later in the

independent India, we banned untouchability. Hindu Code ~~bill~~ ~~ban~~ Bill was passed to ban bigamy among Hindus. Many other laws have been enacted to 'ban' inhuman practices like child labor (Child Labor Act, 1986), Dowry (Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961), Domestic Violence (Domestic Violence Act, 2005) and so on.

It means that we have used these restrictive laws to protect rights of others in the society. "Freedom" does not mean absolute free will to exercise whatever an individual wants. Any freedom must not hamper the freedom of others. By putting restrictions on certain practices that may disturb the social fabric & may violate rights & dignity of others, we use the tool

of 'Bans' to create a balance in the society & establish harmony among all. This is completely in-line with the "Rule of Law", which is extremely important for sustenance of democracy in a diverse country like India.

However, a "Culture of Ban" is not at all desirable. When ~~bans are~~ restrictions are imposed without mutual consensus, it leads to a parochial mindset in governance. Any restriction on an individual's freedom must ensure that it is meant for the welfare of all and not ~~of~~ for a section of society.

Bans imposed without adequate brainstorming & analysis and without discussing the interests of all

stakeholders, may do more harm
than good. Lets understand how.

Bans are often imposed to
silence criticism or dissent against
the government. Such bans
directly restrict the democratic
interests and lead to an autocratic
style of rule. ~~The time of emergency~~
Section 124 A of IPC deals with
Sedition. This was criticized by many
freedom fighters as Britishers frequently
used this tool to arrest the
dissenters. Even Mahatma Gandhi
and Bal Gangadhar Tilak were booked
under Section 124 A. Today also, we
have not removed this law.

Although Supreme Court has
upheld the constitutionality of section
124 A as it considers it important

for national security purpose. But its frequent misuse by the government-in-power to silence criticism is a serious matter of concern. Any such ban on individual freedom ~~must~~ is against the values of democracy.

Section 377 of IPC criminalizes homosexuality and declares that "carnal intercourse" is against the order of nature". This is too is a sort of ban & a restriction on the right to privacy of homosexuals, and is again a restriction not meant to protect any human rights of others. Such restrictions need to go to address the diverse interests of all.

Now lets talk about some recent cases of bans in India.

A one-day ban was imposed on

news channel NDTV after it revealed some "sensitive" pictures after associated with Pathankot attack.

It This was seen as a restriction on press, and It is true that media needs to be responsible while dealing with issues of national security. However, a direct ban ~~only~~ was only a punishment in this case & merely retributive in nature which does no good. Government needs to change its approach. Rather than a ban, a meeting of all media channels & newspapers might have been called to sensitize them to avoid any future repetition of such an incident.

Supreme Court recently imposed a ban on all liquor bars, & restaurants & shops operating

within 500 metres of all National & State highways. This was done to reduce accidents on highways due to drunk-driving. Here, the intention was of Supreme Court (SC) was good. But it was seen as a judicial overreach into the legislative & executive domain which ~~is~~ again affects the fabric of our democratic polity based on separation of Powers.

States like Kerala & Bihar have recently imposed liquor bans. Although this ban is to give ~~effect~~ effect to the Directive Principle under Art 47 of the Constitution, yet a sudden ban without considering the impact on livelihood of so many liquor sellers in these states and

on revenue of the states, led to many liquor vendors protest against the move. Had the ban imposed in a gradual manner, it would have been easier for all to adjust ~~their~~ accordingly.

Many states have banned cow slaughter. Ban on beef consumption is again to give effect to one of our directive principles under part IV of the Constitution. But such bans do not adequately address the interests of minorities like Muslims & many poor people for which Beef is a very nutritious & cheap diet.

Through these cases, we can understand that even though the ban is within the

Constitutional limits or not, what matters is how it is imposed. If imposed suddenly, without proper deliberations & discussions about their consequences on all stakeholders, it will not be able to address the diverse interests of our society.

Even after such a huge diversity, Indian democracy is a Unity in Diversity and we still stand together in solidarity with each others' cause. We need to utilize the strengths of our democracy in the right manner.

Before imposing any ban, the intentions behind it should be made clear and a discussion

should be followed so that every one can keep their opinions on the table. Merely going for populist interests, will not serve any government in the long term.

Efforts need to be made towards more deliberations & consensus-making. If this is done, we will develop a culture of understanding even while imposing bars for the national interests. But if authoritarianism persists, it will only lead to a culture of bar that will only lead to more conflicts in understanding & respect of each others' interests.

VISION IAS™

Don't write
anything this
margin
(इस भाग में
कुछ ना लिखें)

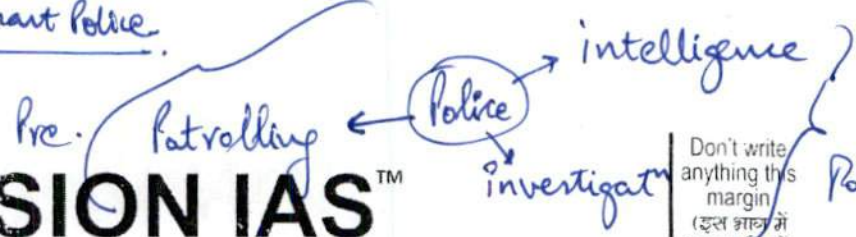
VISION IAS™

Don't write
anything this
margin
(इस भाग में
कुछ ना लिखें)

Smart Police.

Police Act 1860

VISION IAS™



Don't write anything this margin
(इस मार्ग में कुछ ना लिखें)
Post

- S Sensitive.
- M Mobile
- A Accountable
- R Responsive
- T Tech savvy

Prakash Singh

Measures to improve

Police in Pop culture

Problems of Police

- State Law - funds.
- Poor infra
- Appointments/Independence
- Corrupt (Bribery)
- Mafia

Rising Crimes

- Nirbhaya
- Molestation
- Rapes.

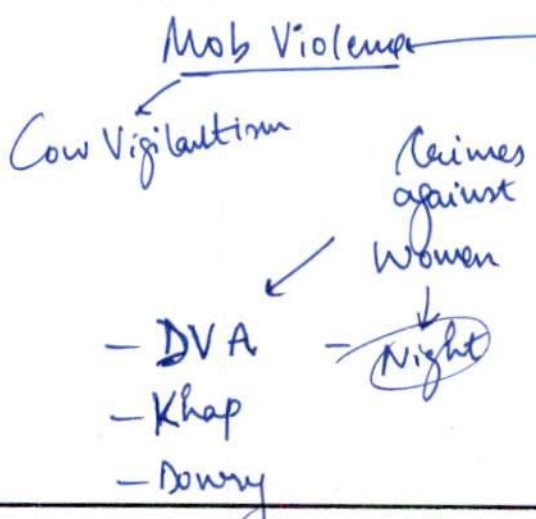
not approachable
custodial deaths
→ NHRL



Common Man

History

Protectn of Rights



Un Safe India

