

GS FOUNDATION PROGRAM 2024*to be filled by the student:***BATCH: D11**

NAME: _____

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*For Office Use Only***Feedbacks:**

	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Average	Immediate Efforts/Improvement Required
Content					
Presentation					
Structure					
Consistency					
Revision/Recall					

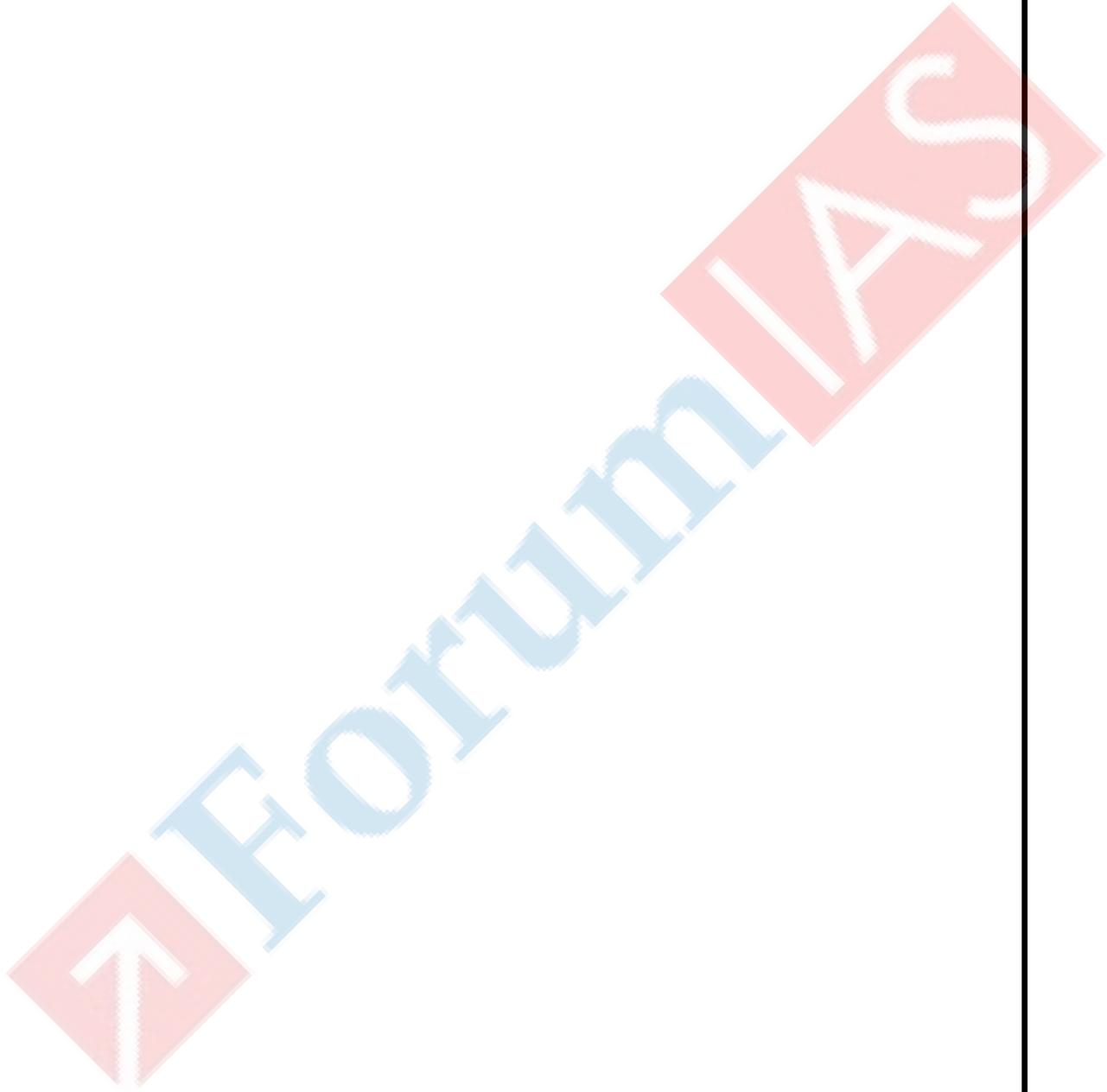
Marks:

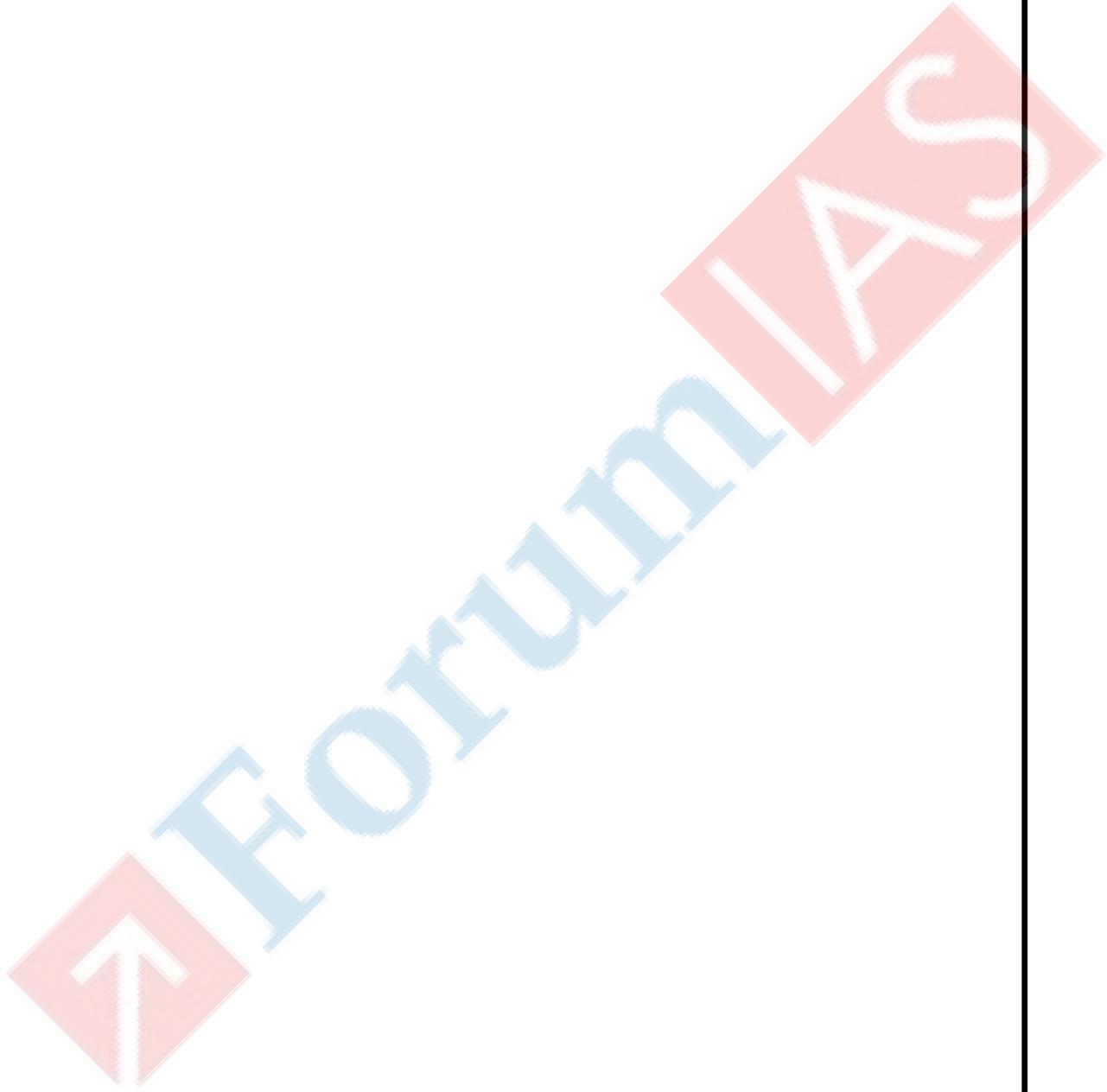
Subjective	Objective	Total

Subjective Questions:

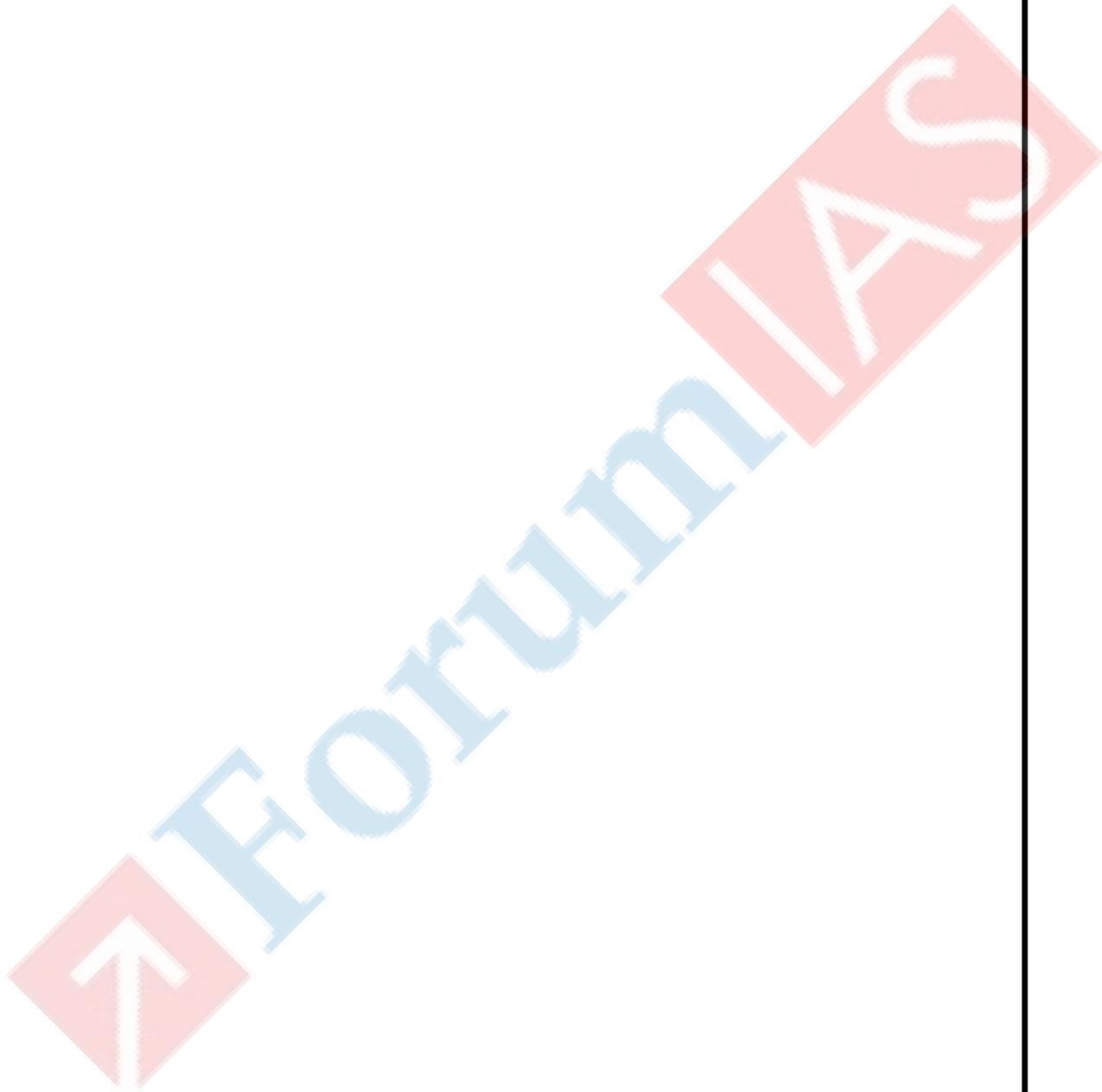
Q.1) India's proximity with Central Asia is aimed at bringing relations to strategic heights. Discuss. (15 marks, 250 words)

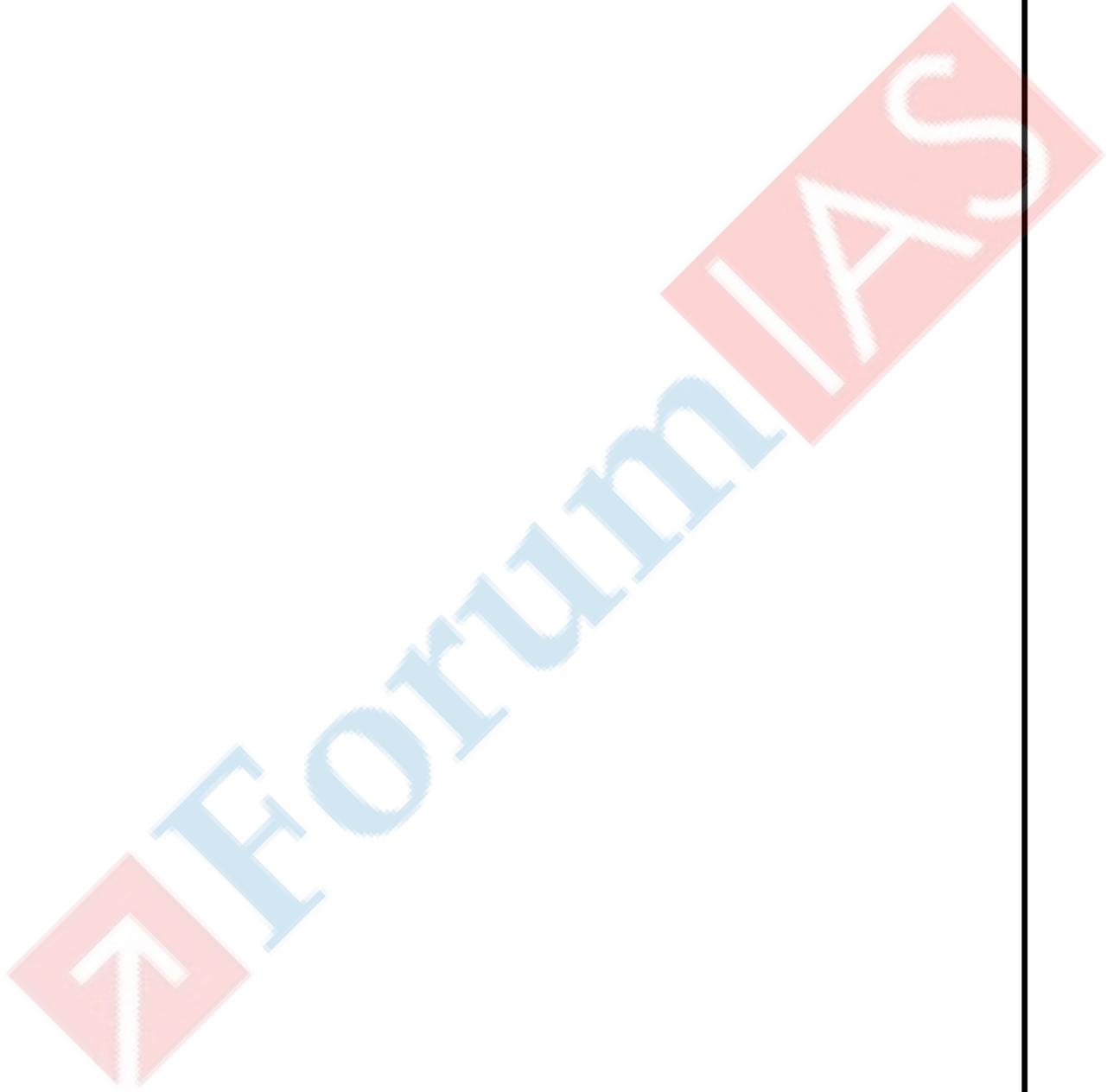






Q.2) India's tribal policy has been heavily influenced by Nehru's views on tribal integration. What principles constituted Nehru's "Tribal Panchsheel"? (10 marks, 150 words)





Objective Questions:

Q.1) Consider the following statements with reference to the Constitutional provisions for public acts, records and judicial proceedings:

1. 'Public acts' includes both legislative and executive acts of the government.
2. It requires the courts of a state to enforce the penal laws of another state.
3. Parliament has the power to determine the mode of proof of public records of one state in another state.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Q.2) With reference to the 'governor', consider the following statements:

1. He is appointed by the president by warrant under his hand and seal.
2. The minimum age to become the governor of a state is 25 years.
3. Constitution does not allow the appointment of the same person as a governor for more than two states.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Q.3) It is obligatory for the Governor of the State to reserve a bill passed by the State Legislature for the consideration of the President if:

1. It endangers the position of the state High Court.
2. It opposes the Directive Principles of State Policy.
3. It is against the larger interest of the country.
4. It deals with compulsory acquisition of property under Article 31A the Constitution.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1, 2 and 3 only
- c) 2, 3 and 4 only
- d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Q.4) With reference to the Governor of State, consider the following statements:

1. The Original Constitution provided for the direct election of the Governor on the basis of universal adult suffrage.
2. According to the Constitution, the Governor must be an outsider to the State from where he is appointed.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

1. If any minister disagrees with a cabinet decision and is not prepared to defend it, he/she must resign.
2. The council of ministers are individually responsible to the chief minister of the state.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

GS Foundation Program 2024 | D11 | Benchmark Assignment #96

Subjective Questions:

Q.1) India's proximity with Central Asia is aimed at bringing relations to strategic heights. Discuss.

APPROACH:

1. Introduction
2. Give a brief summary of relations between India and Central Asia.
3. Explain how India's proximity with Central Asia is taking relations to strategic heights.
4. Conclusion

Ans. Central Asia is the **central region of Asia**, extending from the Caspian Sea in the west to the western border of China in the east. It is bounded on the north by Russia and on the south by Iran, Afghanistan, and China. The region consists of the former Soviet republics of Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Turkmenistan.

India hosted the first India-Central Asia Summit in virtual format on 27 January 2022



Historical Relations between India and Central Asia:

1. India has enjoyed **historical and civilizational linkages** with Central Asia through the **Silk Route** from 3rd century BC to 15th century AD. The Silk route connected the two regions not only for transportation of goods like silk, textiles, spices etc. but also served as an effective channel for exchange of thoughts, ideas, religion, and philosophy.
2. **Buddhism** spread through this route from India to Central Asia.

3. Post independent India's linkages with the **Soviet period** through **culture, music, dance, movies and literature** sustained close relations with the Soviet Republics.
4. In the 1990s, when the five central Asian republics gained independence, India faced the twin challenges of adjusting to the **emerging post-cold war order and domestic economic reform**. In time, India's foreign policy evolved to include a greater emphasis on engagement with India's extended neighborhood, which included Central Asia.

India's proximity with Central Asia is taking relations to strategic heights in following ways:

1. The **geostrategic location** -The Central Asian region lies at the crossroads of Russia, the Middle East, South Asia and the Far East. Any geopolitical changes in the region inevitably extend their impact on several states in the neighborhood.
2. India decided to step up its engagement with the region by **organizing** for the India-Central Asia Dialogue at the Foreign Ministers' level. At its launch in **Bishkek in 2012**. India launched **Connect Central Asia (CAA) policy in 2012**, which is a broad-based framework involving political, economic, security and cultural connections.
3. From **the security perspective**, it shares borders with Afghanistan, which is a major source of **spreading religious extremism** in the region. India has a vital interest in the security and political stability of this region. This region potentially acts as a buffer to contain the fallout of fundamentalism, to forestall encirclement by any regional or outside power, and finally, to insulate India from narco-terrorism.
4. **Connectivity and Economic Relations:** India has joined the **Ashgabat Agreement** in 2018. The **International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC)** is becoming functional and expanding with additional ports in its Central and West Asian nodes. India and Central Asian countries support inclusion of the **Chabahar Port in INSTC** network while Turkmenistan has proposed to include the **Turkmenbashi port** in the transport corridor.
5. **Cultural and people-to-people engagement:** People of India and Central Asia have similar cultural preferences and understanding. Buddhism, Jainism, Islam, Sufism and rich literary heritage are strands binding India and Central Asian countries in common cultural perceptions. India's technical cooperation programme, telemedicine and healthcare have benefited the common people of the region and are very popular among them.
6. **Other sectors:** In addition to oil and gas, **IT, pharma and textiles, higher education, space, SME, power generation, food processing and agriculture** present rich potential for deeper engagement. **Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)** may serve as a guarantor for the projects. At the Third Dialogue India urged focus on **4Cs: Commerce, Capacity Development, Connectivity and Contacts**.

Challenges for India in the Central Asian Region:

1. **Physical Connectivity Hurdles:** Pakistan's hostility and Afghanistan's instability hinder India's access to Central Asia, affecting transport and trade links.

2. **Minimal Trade Volume:** India's current trade volume with Central Asia is **approx. 2 billion dollars** due to poor transport connectivity, limiting economic engagement.
3. **Political Fragility:** Central Asian republics face political fragility, terrorism, and Islamic fundamentalism, making the region unstable and unpredictable for investment.
4. **Look East Policy Focus:** India's emphasis on Southeast and East Asia under the "Look East" policy diverts resources from Central Asia.
5. **Chinese Influence:** China's Belt and Road Initiative provides opportunities for India but also threatens its influence in the region.
6. **Drug and Money Trafficking:** Proximity to drug-producing regions (Golden Crescent and Golden Triangle), porous borders, and corruption make Central Asia a hub for drug and money trafficking.

Suggestions to Improve Relations with Central Asia:

1. **Resource Utilization:** Both India and Central Asian republics can optimize each other's diverse resources, including India's need for a reliable energy supply from the region.
2. **Free Trade Agreement (FTA):** Implement a Free Trade Agreement between India and the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) to boost trade, potentially increasing it from \$10 billion to \$170 billion.
3. **Enhance Connectivity:** Invest in infrastructure projects that improve transport connectivity, reducing dependence on Pakistan and Afghanistan.
4. **Diplomatic Engagement:** Strengthen diplomatic ties and engage in dialogue to build trust and address regional challenges.
5. **People-to-People Ties:** Promote cultural exchanges, educational opportunities, and tourism to strengthen people-to-people connections

India's policy on Central Asia is primarily aimed at securing **national interests in resource security, economic exchanges and improving connectivity**. Greater engagement is expected to help improve mutual security and regional economic prosperity. Economically, Central Asia provides a **'near abroad' market** for India's industry, overland routes to **rich resources of Russia and Middle East**, and significant energy supplies at relatively short distances. As **competition for resources with China intensifies**, this region is likely to assume greater significance.

Q.2) India's tribal policy has been heavily influenced by Nehru's views on tribal integration. What principles constituted Nehru's "Tribal Panchsheel"?

Approach

1. Provide a brief about the India's Tribal Policy after Independence
2. Discuss the three approaches separately.
3. List down Nehru's Tribal Panchsheel.

Answer:

For India, the task of integrating the tribal people into the mainstream has been extremely complex and challenging as they live in varying conditions in different parts of the country and are a socio-culturally distinct from each other. Historically, there have been three approaches: **the policy of isolation, the policy of assimilation and the policy of integration.**

Policy of Isolation:

1. The policy of isolation states that the tribal people should be left alone, untouched by the modern influences of the world.
2. The British's isolation approach towards the tribal led to the rise of "Excluded" and "Partially Excluded" tribal areas, treating them as "reserves" against national intervention.
3. The Policy of Isolation and Partially Excluded Areas Act originated in 1935. The Act resulted in the non-application of any legislation of the provincial government to tribal areas except on the direction of central government.
4. Adoption of Isolation approach resulted in the widening gap between the worlds of Tribal and Non-tribal people
5. It preserved the distinctive identity of the tribal, and thereby minimized their interaction and **prevented their integration into the mainstream of the national life.**

Policy of Assimilation

1. The Assimilation of the Tribal people with the rest of the population is a continuous process and the cultural contact with the neighbouring population is held responsible for it.
2. The policy advocated **assimilating the tribal people completely and as quickly as possible** into the Indian society all around them.
3. The disappearance of the tribal way of life would represent their 'upliftment'.
4. The policy of assimilation not only would lead to loss of identity but also foster emotional and cultural alienation
5. Critics of the policy advocates that the policy is not acceptable as it would mean imposition.

Policy of Integration

1. This theory is propounded by Jawaharlal Nehru
2. Nehru advocated the policy of integrating tribal people in Indian society and to make them an integral part of Indian nation without hampering their distinct identity and culture.
3. There were two basic parameters of the Nehruvian approach: 'the tribal areas have to progress' and 'they have to progress in their own way'- Combining these two emerged as the biggest challenge for integrational approach.
4. Policy of Integration consists of two types of measures for tribal development- Protective Measures and Promotional Measures

Nehru's Tribal Panchsheel

Panchsheel constitutes **five fundamental principles** for tribal development in India. these principles were laid down by Jawaharlal Nehru.

The Five Principles are as follows:

1. First, the tribals should develop along the lines of their own genius; there should be **no imposition or compulsion** from outside.
2. Second, **tribal rights in land and forests should be respected** and no outsider should be able to take possession of tribal lands. The incursion of the market economy into tribal areas had to be strictly controlled and regulated.
3. Third, it was necessary to **encourage the tribal languages** which 'must be given all possible support and the conditions in which they can flourish must be safeguarded'.
4. Fourth, for administration, reliance should be placed on the tribal people themselves, and **administrators should be recruited from amongst them** and trained.
5. Fifth, there should be **no over-administration of the tribal areas**. The effort should be to administer and develop the tribals' through their own **social and cultural institutions**.

Nehru's Tribal Panchsheel reflected his vision of integrating tribal communities into the mainstream of the nation while respecting their distinct identity and way of life. These principles continue to influence India's tribal policies guiding the nation in its efforts to balance modernization with the preservation of indigenous cultures. However, challenges persist such as Rapid urbanization, environmental degradation, and changing socio-economic landscapes that pose threats to tribal communities, demanding a re-evaluation and adaptation of these principles to the contemporary context.

Objective Questions:

Q.1) Consider the following statements with reference to the Constitutional provisions for public acts, records and judicial proceedings:

1. 'Public acts' includes both legislative and executive acts of the government.
2. It requires the courts of a state to enforce the penal laws of another state.
3. Parliament has the power to determine the mode of proof of public records of one state in another state.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans) b

Exp) Option b is correct

Under the Constitution, **full faith and credit is to be given throughout the territory of India to public acts, records and judicial proceedings of the Centre and every state.**

Statement 1 is correct. The expression 'public acts' includes both legislative and executive acts of the government. The expression 'public record' includes any official book, register or record made by a public servant in the discharge of his official duties.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Final judgements and orders of civil courts in any part of India are capable of execution anywhere within India (without the necessity of a fresh suit upon the judgement). The rule applies only to civil judgements and not to criminal judgements. In other words, it **does not require the courts of a state to enforce the penal laws of another state.**

Statement 3 is correct. The manner in which and the conditions under which such acts, records and proceedings are to be proved and their effect determined would be as provided by the laws of Parliament. This means that the general rule mentioned above is subject to the **power of Parliament to lay down the mode of proof as well as the effect of such acts, records and proceedings of one state in another state.**

Q.2) With reference to the 'governor', consider the following statements:

1. He is appointed by the president by warrant under his hand and seal.
2. The minimum age to become the governor of a state is 25 years.
3. Constitution does not allow the appointment of the same person as a governor for more than two states.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans) a

Exp) Option a is correct.

Statement 1 is correct. Governor is appointed by the president by warrant under his hand and seal. In a way, he is a nominee of the Central government.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The Constitution lays down only two qualifications for the appointment of a person as a governor. These are:

- 1) **He should be a citizen of India.**
- 2) **He should have completed the age of 35 years. (not 25 years)**

Statement 3 is incorrect. Usually, there is a governor for each state, but the 7th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1956 facilitated the appointment of the same person as a governor for two or more states.

Q.3) It is obligatory for the Governor of the State to reserve a bill passed by the State Legislature for the consideration of the President if:

1. It endangers the position of the state High Court.
2. It opposes the Directive Principles of State Policy.
3. It is against the larger interest of the country.
4. It deals with compulsory acquisition of property under Article 31A the Constitution.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1, 2 and 3 only
- c) 2, 3 and 4 only
- d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Ans) a

Exp) Option a is correct

Statement 1 is correct. Governors of the State can reserve the bills passed by the State legislatures for the consideration of the president under different circumstances. **When the bill passed by the state legislature endangers the position of the state high court, in such case reservation of the bill is obligatory.**

Statements 2, 3 and 4 are incorrect. In addition, the **governor can (not obligatory)** also reserve the bill if it is of the following nature:

(i) Violates the provisions of the Constitution.

(ii) Opposes the Directive Principles of State Policy.

(iii) Against the larger interest of the country.

(iv) Is of grave national importance.

(v) Dealing with compulsory acquisition of property under Article 31A the Constitution.

Q.4) With reference to the Governor of State, consider the following statements:

1. The Original Constitution provided for the direct election of the Governor on the basis of universal adult suffrage.

2. According to the Constitution, the Governor must be an outsider to the State from where he is appointed.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans) d

Exp) Option d is correct.

Statement 1 is incorrect. The Governor is **appointed by the president by warrant under his hand and seal. He is neither directly elected by the people nor indirectly elected** by a specially constituted electoral college as is the case with the president. **The Draft Constitution, not the original constitution,** provided for the direct election of the governor on the basis of universal adult suffrage. But the Constituent Assembly opted for the present system of appointment of governor by the president.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The Constitution **lays down two qualifications for the appointment of a person as a governor. These are:**

1) **He should be a citizen of India.**

2) **He should have completed the age of 35 years.**

Additionally, **two conventions have also developed in this regard over the years. First, he should be an outsider,** that is, he should not belong to the state where he is appointed, so that he is free from the local politics. Second, while appointing the governor, the president is required to consult the chief minister of the state concerned, so that the smooth functioning of the constitutional machinery in the state is ensured. However, both the **conventions have been violated in some of the cases.**

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

1. If any minister disagrees with a cabinet decision and is not prepared to defend it, he/she must resign.
2. The council of ministers are individually responsible to the chief minister of the state.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans) a

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct. The principle of collective responsibility means that the cabinet decisions bind all cabinet ministers (and other ministers) even if they deferred in the cabinet meeting. It is the duty of every minister to stand by the cabinet decisions and support them both within and outside the state legislature. **If any minister disagrees with a cabinet decision and is not prepared to defend it, he must resign.** Several ministers have resigned in the past owing to their differences with the cabinet.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Article 164 also contains the principle of individual responsibility. It states that the **ministers hold office during the pleasure of the governor.**