Polity & Governance · GS - II

Discuss the significance of India's immigration exemption framework in addressing the concerns of persecuted religious minorities. Examine the challenges of balancing humanitarian considerations with immigration regulation.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 06/11/2026	GS - II	Polity & Governance

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Immigration and Foreigners Act 2025, Section 33, Exemption Order 2025, Amendment Order 2026, six specified religious communities, Afghanistan Bangladesh Pakistan, religious persecution, visa requirements, humanitarian protection, national security, administrative clarity, constitutional values.

Model Answer

Introduction

India's immigration framework provides conditional exemptions to certain foreign nationals facing religious persecution. The Immigration and Foreigners (Exemption) (Amendment) Order, 2026, modifies the existing exemption framework.

Significance of the Amendment

The order covers specified Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist, Jain, Parsi and Christian persons from Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan who entered India on or before 31 December 2024 due to religious persecution or fear of persecution. It recognises their humanitarian circumstances while requiring an appropriate visa for continued stay.

Key Challenges

The government must balance humanitarian concerns with national security, border management and legal immigration procedures. Verification of eligibility, documentation gaps, administrative capacity and access to legal assistance are important concerns.

Way Forward

Transparent eligibility criteria, time-bound processing, accessible documentation procedures and coordination between central and state authorities can improve implementation.

Conclusion

A fair immigration framework should combine humanitarian sensitivity with legal certainty, administrative accountability and national security.

BECOME IAS
AI POWERED UPSC PREP