



Q.ID 82156

**What is Civil society? What are the reasons for it's growth in the recent times ?
What is the significance of a vibrant Civil Society? (15 Marks) (250 Words)**

Few Tips :

*This question has three sub-questions. We should focus on all parts individually.

*Lots Of Example Will Help Us Score High. We have included many examples.

*Write down your learnings from today's exercise in your "IMPROVEMENT REGISTER"

*A combination of points and paragraph should be used

Indicative Answer :

Civil society is organized social life, voluntary large, self supporting, autonomous but bound by legal order. It is distinct from society in general that it involves citizens acting collectively in the public sphere to express their interests and achieve mutual goal.

Civil society is intermediary space between state and private affairs. E.g. Traditional association on ethnicity & caste, Professional association ssuch as BCI, Social Movements- India Against Corruption etc.

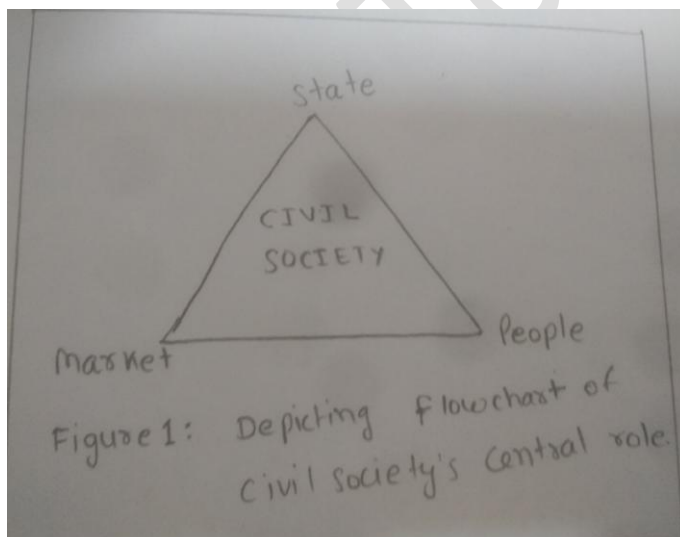


Figure 1 CENTRAL ROLE OF CIVIL SOCIETY



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Reasons for growth of Civil Society:

- Development failure of govt, the welfare backward and poor socio economic indicators E.g. Even six decades after independence still BIMARU states problems.
- Increased level of societal learning, such as education, awareness etc.
- In the era of transition from Bureaucracy led development to people led development people are becoming more demanding and assertive.
- Emergence of Governance and good governance paradigms. E.g. World bank defined good governance
- Realisation on the part of government that their efforts alone would not be sufficient. E.g. social audit of MGNREGA work
- Advent of information age has facilitated the growth of civil society e.g. Twitter revolution.
- Rise of various revolutions such as colour revolution in 1990s in soviet and in recent past as Arab spring.
- Global integration, rise of globalization and rise of civil society movement.

Significance of vibrant Civil Society

- They complement, supplement, question, substitute, confront, moderate government and market E.g. Maggi noodles row and Coca cola pesticide issue
- Civil society helps in bringing efficiency, economy, effectiveness and equity in governance. E.g. social audit
- It advocates social reforms E.g. Art of Living, brahma kumaris, Buddhism etc
- It plays proactive role in defending the civil liberties of people. E.g. Amnesty international
- These help in strengthening transparency & accountability E.g. Vaada na todo abhiyaan
- It promotes empowerment for self development e.g. NGO promotion, SHG promotion
- A vigilant civil society ensures that govt doesn't deviate from it' assurances.
- Civil society helps in evaluation of govt programmes E.g. social audit.
- Civil society help as training grounds for future leaders E.g. Arvind kejriwal
- Civil society also provides technical support to government policy making E.g. FICCI, Center for science & environment.

Civil society's importance was highlighted by present government in Man Ki baat programme to promote Good governance. **As an administrator** one should facilitate the growth of Civil society, to ensure India's achievement of Sustainable Development Goals(SDG)