## Assignment: Junior Associate

### Question 1: Policy Update

**Client and Issue Brief:** You are working as part of a public policy consulting team providing advice to a global pharmaceutical player with an interest in the Indian market. The pharmaceutical company, Company T, is particularly interested in the subject of anti-microbial resistance (AMR) in India, and in the long-run, would like to advocate for the creation of policies to help curb this.

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) has been identified as a silent pandemic. While AMR is a natural process, its build-up can be accelerated due to overconsumption of pharmaceuticals like antibiotics, misuse in the agriculture, livestock, and poultry sector, and discharge of untreated effluents from industrial units and pharmaceutical manufacturing units.

**Background and context:** On a fortnightly basis, we share a policy tracker with our clients. This helps them keep abreast of policy developments and news updates in the sector. The updates are not limited to policy changes/notifications but also include conversations and statements by significant public officers that may indicate the direction in which policy is headed, shocking cases that may have emerged, or anything else that you think the client should know about. They could also include possible opportunities for the company to partner or build a relationship with the government.

*Question: Make a policy tracker covering the various updates related to education. For this tracker, please find a maximum of 8-10 updates (in total). A suggested format for the same is below:*

| Title | Details | Expected Developments | Relevance to client | Level of urgency |
|-------|---------|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
|       |         |                      |                    |                 |
|       |         |                      |                    |                 |

**Purpose:** The purpose of this question is to:
   a. Assess your ability to find the right kind of updates
   b. Assess your ability to determine which kind of updates may be critical

### Question 2: Stakeholder Map

**Client Brief and Issue:** You are working as a part of a public policy consulting team providing advice to a global learning and education company – ABC. The company is committed to creating vibrant and enriching digital learning experiences and they focus on digitalizing education, enhancing employability skills, and global mobility, and have a presence in over 50 countries. Their involvement in education and skilling sectors spans across digital learning solutions, English language assessments, certifications, academic partnerships, skill development, etc.

ABC wants to secure its position as a credible partner to the govt, supporting its objectives and developing partnerships with stakeholders that will help in its business growth.

*Question: Your job is to help identify the key stakeholders from the following segments:*
1. *Union Government (nodal and supporting Ministries / Departments)*
2. *State Government of Kerala (nodal and any other departments that you may deem relevant)*
3. *a few journalists/thought leaders writing on this issue (2-3)*
4. *think tanks and research organizations working on issues related to education & skilling (1-2)*
5. *Parliamentarians who have spoken on education & skilling (2-3)*

*The purpose is to identify the right people who are either decision-makers or key influencers of the topic. As far as possible, please identify the people, not just the organization name. You can make the same in the format below, in an Excel sheet or any other form you deem fit.*

| Organization | Relevance of organization | Name of the relevant person | Designation of person | Relevance of person to the issue |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | |
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| | | | | |

**Purpose:** The purpose of this question is to determine your ability to
a. find the right people we should engage with in case we have to advocate for any issue or policy change, and
b. format and present your research in a consumable manner.

## Question 3: Opinion piece/newspaper article

**Client and Issue Brief:** Our client is a leading global philanthropy with a strong presence in India. They are dedicated to driving positive social impact and sustainable development through strategic initiatives and partnerships with government and non-government actors across sectors like health, energy, food, and climate action in the country.

**Background and context:** As part of their public policy strategy in India, they are looking to influence the public narrative around climate change and healthcare, while simultaneously, showcasing their own prowess and positioning themselves as a thought leader in the field.

The Managing Director of the organization for India has secured an opportunity to be published in the opinion section of The Indian Express on this topic.

*Question: Draft a 600-800 word opinion piece for your client on the impact of climate change on public health and the leading role that the Government of India can play in recognizing this nexus and building resilient health systems.*

**Purpose:** The purpose of this question is to test your ability to jump into unfamiliar terrain, understand the key points to be communicated, and craft a well-written argument in your favor. Thus, the opinion piece will be evaluated based on the coherence and the use of data points that strengthen the argument.

**Note:** For this question, please do go through some opinion pieces to understand the tone they take, and remember to reference (footnote or hyperlink) your data points.