

TEST CODE : 5 1 2 2 3

FIAS – MGP 2022 (C-11) – Sectional Test #3

ForumIAS**GENERAL STUDIES**

Name Of Candidate	BHAAVIKA THANVI		
Roll No.	1910098238	Date:	10.8.22

Time Allowed: Three Hours

Maximum Marks: 250

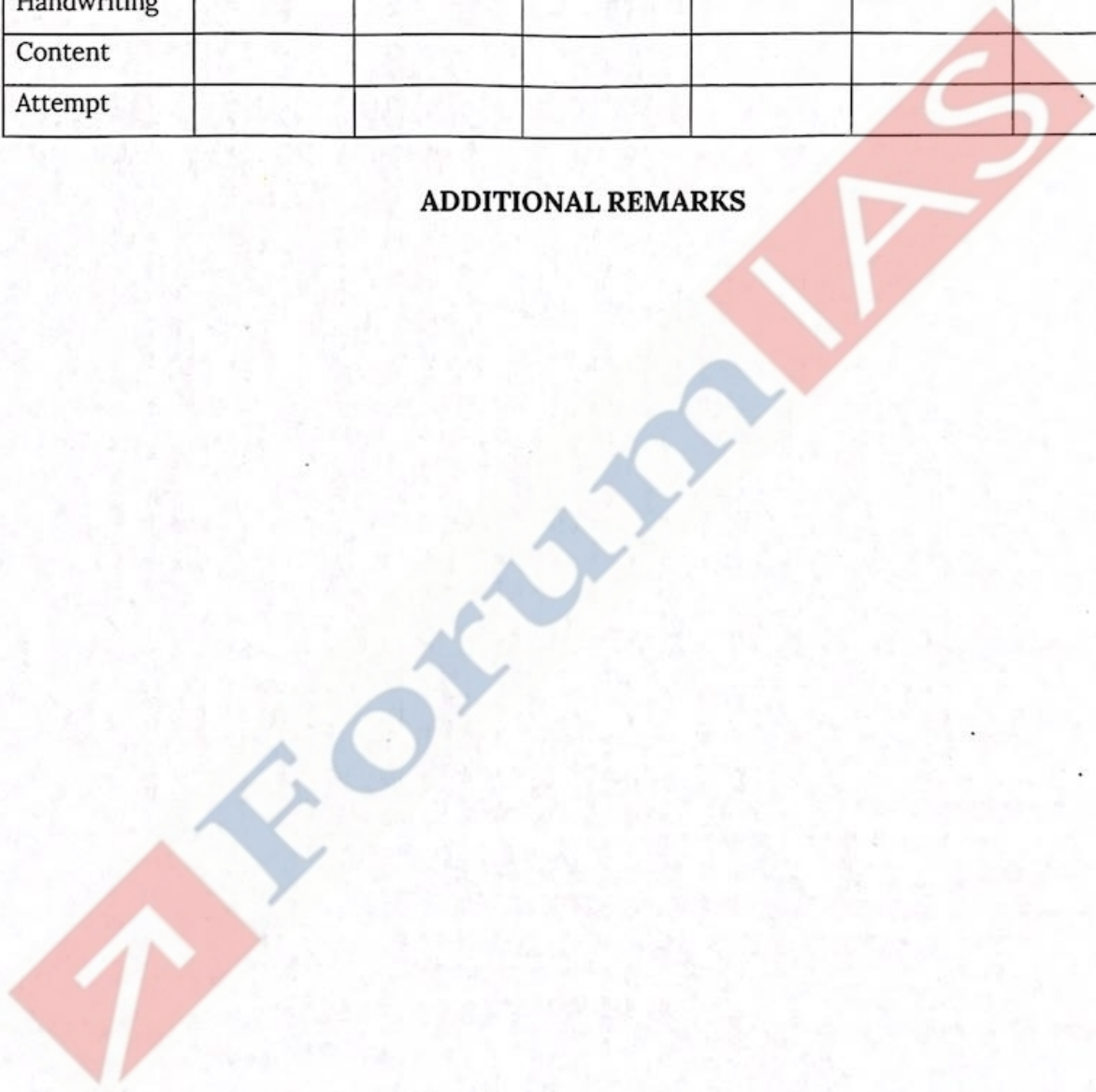
INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTION	
Q. No.	Max. Marks	Marks Obtained	1. Please do furnish Name, Email, Roll No and Mobile in the answer sheet.	
1			2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI, all questions are compulsory.	
2			3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.	
3			4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided.	
4			5. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum Answer Booklet must be clearly Struck off.	
5			Any specific messages for ForumIAS Mentors/ Evaluators with respect to your copy? Write it here.	
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Total:	250			
Evaluator's Discretion:			For Student Only	
			Start Time 10:30	End Time 1:50
Total Marks:			Mode Of Examination:	Online <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Offline <input type="checkbox"/>
Evaluator's Discretion: This is the marks awarded at the discretion of the evaluator based on your overall impression, on the basis of (but not limited to) your handwriting, presentation, use of diagrams, flowcharts, facts and figures or absolutely anything that he/she liked in your copy.			For Office Use Only	
			ECN CODE:	EG:
			Evaluation Date:	

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Note: You can discuss your evaluated copy with the Mentor. Raise a ticket from your portal to schedule a mentor call or visit the offline centre to meet mentor (all 7 days, Timings – 11 AM to 6 PM). Further if you are unsatisfied with the evaluation, you can seek re-evaluation of the copy.

Parameters	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor
Language						
Structure						
Presentation						
Handwriting						
Content						
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ADDITIONAL REMARKS





Q.1) The biggest critique of Basic Structure doctrine from its inception has been it being shrouded in confusion, vagueness and a formulation which is loose and not precise. Critically examine.

(10 marks, 15 words)

मूल संरचना सिद्धांत की शुरुआत से ही इसकी सबसे बड़ी आलोचना यह रही है कि यह भ्रम, अस्पष्टता और एक सूत्रीकरण का निर्माण करती है और यह शिथिल है, सटीक नहीं। समालोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The Basic Structure Doctrine came to existence with the Keshwanand Bhaurati case of 1973 and has been evolving since then.

THE DOCTRINE

↳ According to it the Parliament can bring about any law or amendment as long as it does not violate the basic structure of constitution
Eg: Federalism, Equality, Judicial Review, etc.

ADVANTAGES

puts a stay on the powers of Parliament if in excess

maintains the idea of constitutional morality

ensures supremacy of constitution and constitutionalism

also protects peoples' rights

ISSUES

1. It is vague and ambiguous
2. Leaves many things open to interpretation
3. can make the judiciary - the most powerful.

However, it is due to its ambiguity that there has been space left for evolution with changing times and dynamics.

Feedback

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Structure/ Presentation	
Question Interpretation	
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Q.2) Sedition law, in any form, is a threat to civil liberties and presents an opportunity for its weaponization against dissenters and detractors. Should India do away with the sedition law? Justify your opinion. (10 marks, 15 words)

राजद्रोह कानून, किसी भी रूप में, नागरिक स्वतंत्रता के लिए खतरा है और असंतुष्टों और विरोधियों के खिलाफ अपने हथियार बनाने का अवसर प्रस्तुत करता है। क्या भारत को राजद्रोह कानून को खत्म कर देना चाहिए? अपने मत का औचित्य सिद्ध कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Section 124A of the IPC defines sedition as an act against integrity and sovereignty of India or an act which brings or attempts to bring breakdown of rule and law and order.



REASONS TO CONTINUE WITH IT

1. to ensure the security, sovereignty and integrity of nation remains intact.

2. to protect the people against adversaries
3. to ensure stability of polity and socio-economic systems.
4. to maintain law and order.

Whether sedition should remain or not is a question for legislators but there is a dire need to relook the law and make it less ambiguous at the very least.

Feedback

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Structure/ Presentation
Question Interpretation
Content
Value Addition
Total



Q.3) The preamble is not a mere solemn resolution; but majestic expression of philosophy, principles and purpose of the constitution. Elaborate. (10 marks, 15 words)

प्रस्तावना महज एक पवित्र संकल्प नहीं है, बल्कि संविधान के दर्शन, सिद्धांतों और उद्देश्यों की प्रभावशाली अभिव्यक्ति है। विस्तृत विवेचना करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The Preamble is the start of the constitution and gives a glimpse into the nature of polity and the contents of the constitution.

ISSUES RELATED TO PREAMBLE

- considered to be merely an ornamental part.
- It is not enforceable
- contains vague terms and lacks any concrete base.

SIGNIFICANCE

Despite the criticisms - Preamble holds an important place because

- ① It is an integral part of the constitution as per Keshvanand Bharati case.
- ② It tells that the people of India made the constitution - it derives power from them.
- ③ It tells the date of adoption.

- ④ It tells that India is a sovereign, socialist, secular, democratic, Republic
- ⑤ gives a glimpse into minds of makers of constitution and their ideals.
- ⑥ tells peoples aspirations of liberty, justice, equality and fraternity.
- ⑦ Even the judiciary can refer to it on constitutional questions
- ⑧ guides governments

Therefore, the Preamble represents all that the constitution and its philosophy contains in a few words

Feedback
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Structure/ Presentation
Question Interpretation
Content
Value Addition
Total

Q.4) Every person has a fundamental right to entertain such religious practices as approved by his/her conscience. Do you think that 'doctrine of essentiality' restricts this autonomy?

(10 marks, 15 words)

प्रत्येक व्यक्ति को अपने विवेक द्वारा अनुमोदित ऐसी धार्मिक प्रथाओं में सम्मिलित होने का मौलिक अधिकार है। क्या आपको लगता है कि 'अनिवार्यता का सिद्धांत' इस स्वायत्तता को प्रतिबंधित करता है? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The doctrine of essentiality is a test of religious practices that came into existence via the Shri Kesava Mutt case.

FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT TO RELIGION

• Article 25 states that

↳ there is freedom of conscience
 ↳ there is freedom to practice, profess as well as propagate one's own religion.

• However there are certain restrictions based on morality, law and order, public and national interest.

• In this context - the doctrine has emerged.

DOCTRINE OF ESSENTIALITY

↳ In this, the judiciary judges whether a practice is truly essential aspect of religion or not.

↳ It sees if a religion can be professed

and practiced without the practice is
question.

Eg → sati - is not essential
↳ temple tax - is not essential, etc.

↳ But it is questioned on

- ↳ can judiciary judge a person's conscience and right to practice
- ↳ it is against Article 25
- ↳ is it judicial overreach.

Religion is a sensitive subject and so all organs need to walk a fine line and balance between religious practices and individual autonomy and state control.

Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

Structure/ Presentation
Question Interpretation
Content
Value Addition
Total

Q.5) The divergence between intent and impact of the tenth schedule necessitates calling into question its relevance in the present times. Analyze. (10 marks, 15 words)

दसवी अनुसूची के आशय और प्रभाव के बीच का अंतर वर्तमान समय में इसकी प्रासंगिकता पर सवाल खड़ा करता है।
विरलेषण करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The 10th schedule of the constitution relates to the Anti Defection Law and was introduced by the 52nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1985.

INTENT OF 10TH SCHEDULE

1. Deal with the problems of defections that were rampant.
Even gave rise to slogan "Naya Ram gaya Ram"
2. Deal with house trading.
3. Ensure stability of governments
4. Punish those MLAs and MPs who act against the party - for their personal gains. : wda disqualifying them.

IMPACT OF THE SCHEDULE

- To an extent - it decreased defections and voting across party lines.
- But, house trading and defections still

remains a major problems

- Eg: Recent instances in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, etc.

→ Moreover, the law suppresses freedom of expression and reduces intra party democracy

↳ As it punishes going against and voting against whip.

The need of the hour is to make provisions stricter, bring about attitudinal change and educate voters to hold the defectors accountable.

Feedback

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Structure/ Presentation
Question Interpretation
Content
Value Addition
Total

Q.6) Discuss the status of death penalty in the country. Can a governor pardon a death penalty? What are various limitations of pardoning power of governor? (10 marks, 15 words)

देश में मृत्युदंड की स्थिति की विवेचना कीजिए। क्या राज्यपाल मौत की सजा माफ कर सकता है? राज्यपाल की क्षमादान शक्ति की विभिन्न सीमाएँ क्या हैं? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

for various heinous crimes - courts award death penalty. After exhausting all options those on death row can ask for pardons from President and Governors.

PARDONING POWERS OF GOVERNOR

- While the governor can pardon various crimes - she can't do so for death penalty.
↳ However, a recent judgement has said that governors can indeed pardon death penalty.
- Moreover, they do not have any powers on punishments accorded at the level of Supreme court
- Moreover, it is only the President who can pardon, reprieve, or any order by military courts - so governors can not.

STATUS OF DEATH PENALTY

- India is one of the few countries in the world that continues with it.
- People have argued against it by calling it barbaric and against right to life.

The question of death penalty and discrepancy between President's and Governor's pardoning powers can be looked into.

Feedback

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Structure/ Presentation
Question Interpretation
Content
Value Addition
Total



Q.7) Do you think the Competition Commission of India (CCI) has been as successful in protecting consumer rights, promoting fair competition and restricting monopolistic tendencies, vis a vis its western counter part? (10 marks, 15 words)

क्या आपको लगता है कि भारतीय प्रतिस्पर्धा आयोग (CCI) उपभोक्ता अधिकारों की रक्षा करने, निष्पक्ष प्रतिस्पर्धा को बढ़ावा देने और एकाधिकारवादी प्रवृत्तियों को प्रतिबन्धित करने में उतना ही सफल रहा है, जितना कि पश्चिमी देशों में इसके समक्ष संस्थान? परीक्षण कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The competition commission of India (CCI) is a statutory and quasi judicial body set up to look into question of anti competitive practices.

ISSUES AND CHALLENGES FACED BY IT

- changing nature of market
 - rise in e-commerce, AI, internet, 5G, IoT, etc.
 - difficult to check and control big organisations and CRIS.
- Issue of political interference.
- consumer rights are often exploited.
- smaller business - struggle against discounts, technology, capability of big organisations.
- Rise in monopolistic organisations and practices.

SUCCESS VS. FAILURE

- The CCI has its fair share of both
- eg directed Myntra against excessive discounts.
 - resolved many cases
 - referred many to tribunal set up under it

In changing market dynamic both CCI and its counterparts across the world are struggle to insure free and fair competitive space.

Feedback

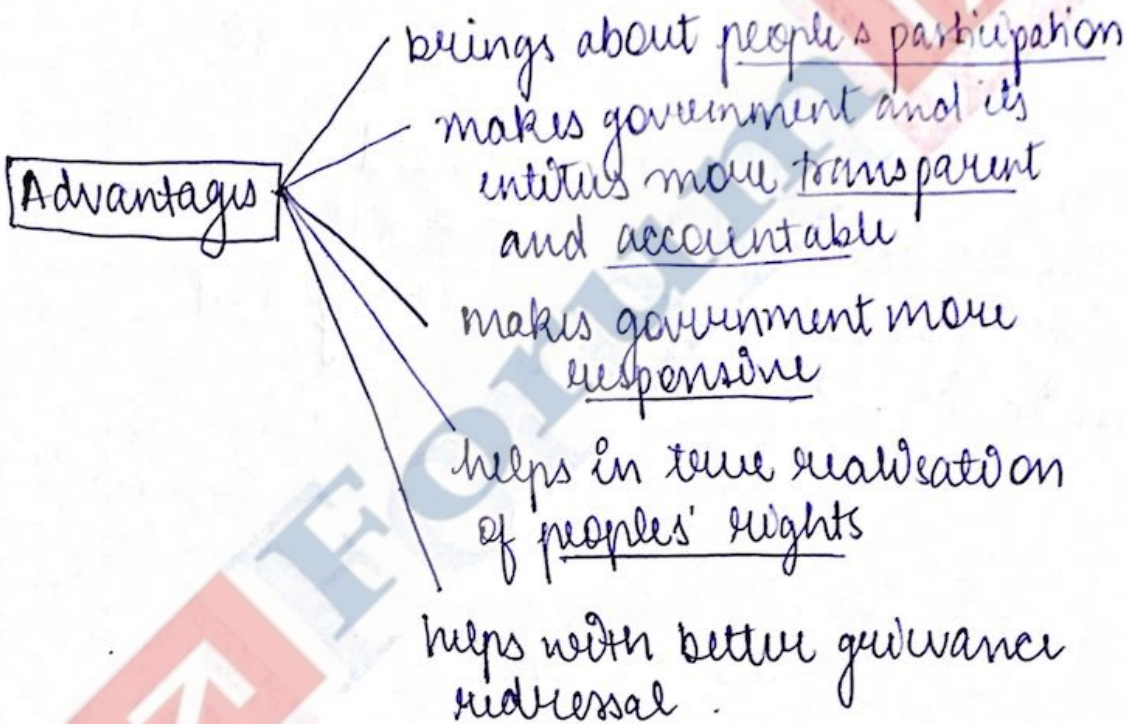
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Question Interpretation
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Value Addition
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Q.8) Though RTI was meant to strengthen participatory democracy in India, various factors have hindered its utilization to full potential. In this context, examine the issues pertaining to the implementation of the RTI Act. (10 marks, 15 words)

यद्यपि RTI का उद्देश्य भारत में सहभागीमूलक लोकतंत्र को मजबूत करना था, लेकिन विभिन्न कारकों ने इसके पूर्ण क्षमता के उपयोग में बाधा उत्पन्न की है। इस संदर्भ में, RTI अधिनियम के कार्यान्वयन से संबंधित मुद्दों का परीक्षण कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The Right to Information Act was enacted in 2005 with an aim to increase both transparency and accountability.



ISSUES FACED BY RTI & IN RTI

1. Long list of exceptions and exemptions.
2. official secrets Act is a hindrance.
3. Lack of timely response.

4. At time full data is not revealed and a lot is withheld.
5. Political parties are outside its purview.
6. RTI activists are often targetted by government & its supporters
7. Lack of awareness
8. Lack of ease of access to data.

Hence, there is a need to increase awareness and relook RTI act to bring about greater transparency and accountability.

Feedback

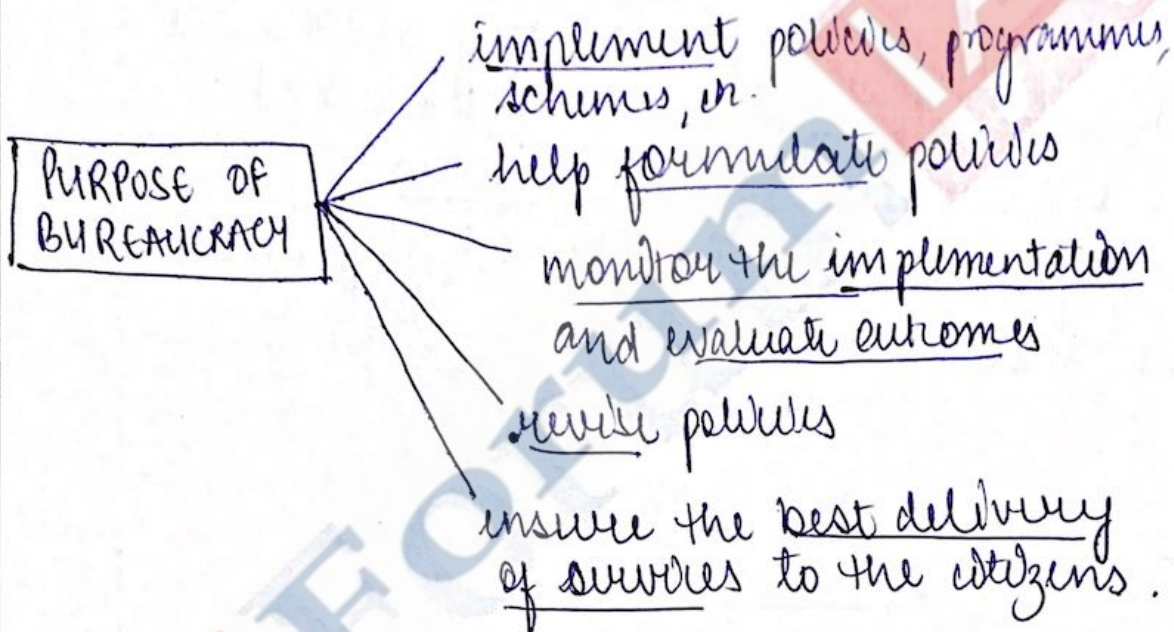
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Structure/ Presentation
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Content
Value Addition
Total

Q.9) Instead of performing a transformative role, traditional bureaucracy has contributed to perpetuation of old order. Comment. (10 marks, 15 words)

एक परिवर्तनकारी भूमिका निभाने के बजाय, पारंपरिक नौकरशाही ने पुरानी व्यवस्था को कायम रखने में योगदान दिया है। टिप्पणी करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Bureaucracy has often been described as the backbone of administration that helps with policy implementation and day to day civic administration



ISSUES WITH TRADITIONAL BUREAUCRACY

1. Focuses on centralisation
2. follows a top-down approach
3. Is not very responsive and empathetic to people's needs
4. Is quite mechanical and rather pavlovian in following rules and methods.

- 5. Lacks competition and thus innovative and entrepreneurial work spirit
- 6. Has a poor work culture
- 7. It is quite generalised and lacks specialists.

Therefore, many nations like UK, New Zealand, etc have overhauled their bureaucratic system. Mission Karmayogi can turn out to be a step in the right direction.

Feedback
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Value Addition
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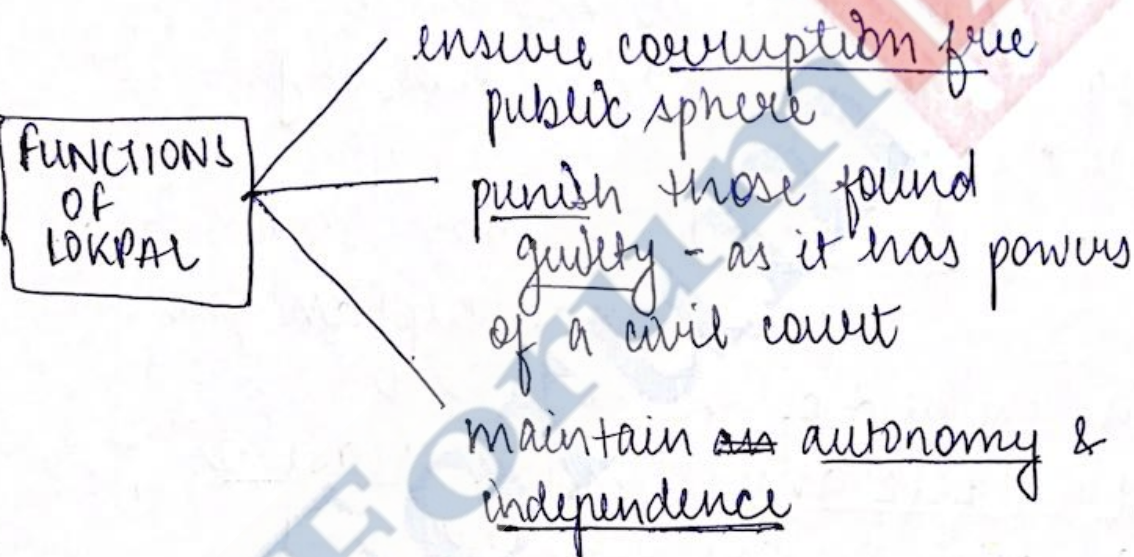
Q.10) Contrary to expectations surrounding its enactment, the institution of Lokpal has not proved path-breaking in dismantling the structures of corruption in public life. Analyze.

(10 marks, 15 words)

अधिनियमन की अपेक्षाओं के विपरीत, लोकपाल की संस्था सार्वजनिक जीवन में भ्रष्टाचार को खत्म करने में पथ-प्रदर्शक साबित नहीं हुई है। विश्लेषण करें।

(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The Lokpal and Lokayukta Act of 2013 aimed at establishing an anticorruption ombudsman both at the centre and state levels.



ISSUES FACED BY LOKPAL

1. Corruption is still prevalent and is not reported.
2. It has been normalised and there is lack of negative attitude towards it.
3. Lokpal's selection committee and hence the office — is not free from political

interference.

4. There is provision for exemptions and protections to high offices

5. Judiciary falls out of its purview

6. It does not have the required powers

7. Whistleblowers also do not have adequate protection - thus, dissuading people away from it.

8. Lack of political will.

To ensure a corruption free domain, the need of the hour is to expand the Act's ambit and increase its powers, while keeping attitudinal and moral change at the centre.

Feedback

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Question Interpretation
Content
Value Addition
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Q.11) Why did constitution makers prefer 'union of states' over 'federation of states' to describe India? To what extent this preference is responsible for tensions in centre-state relations?

(15 marks, 250 words)

संविधान निर्माताओं ने भारत का वर्णन करने के लिए 'यूनियन ऑफ स्टेट्स' के बजाय 'फेडरेशन ऑफ स्टेट्स' को प्राथमिकता क्यों दी? केंद्र-राज्य संबंधों में तनाव के लिए यह वरीयता किस हद तक जिम्मेदार है? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

India is a quasi federal country and has been described as a union of states. It shows that it is an indestructible union of destructible states.

REASONS FOR TILT TOWARDS UNITARY SYSTEM

1. Need for strong centre

↳ due to historical factors - as since a long time British had a policy of divide and rule.

Moreover, conflicts between princes and small states of marathas, Rajputs, etc.

↳ Multiple divisions in the society - linguistic, religious, cultural.

2. partition of India and Pakistan

↳ The country needed to stay united.

3. for development and growth of the Nation as a whole - and so Planning Commission was set up at the centre.

FEATURES THAT SHOW IT'S UNITARY TILT

- Article 3 - Parliament can change status of States
- single constitution
- single citizenship
- Division of powers is such in 7th Schedule
- emergency provisions, etc.

REASONS FOR STRAIN IN CENTRE-STATES

1. Quasi Federal Nature adopted by constitutional makers.
 - ↳ more powers to centre
 - ↳ less autonomy to states.
2. Lack of decentralisation in spirit
3. Misuse of office of Governor by the

Centre.

4. Different and opposing parties in centre and states.
5. Conflict of local and regional interests
6. Transfer of items from state and concurrent lists
7. Misuse of central agencies, etc.

Thus, multiple reasons have led to conflicts between the centre and states. However, Inter state councils, zonal councils, etc. ~~to~~ can help to decrease them.

Feedback
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Value Addition
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Q.12) While fundamental rights have strengthened our democracy, fundamental duties are essential to strengthen our society. In this context examine the importance of fundamental duties for Indian society. (15 marks, 250 words)

जहां मौलिक अधिकारों ने हमारे लोकतंत्र को मजबूत किया है, वही मौलिक कर्तव्य हमारे समाज को मजबूत करने के लिए आवश्यक हैं। इस संदर्भ में भारतीय समाज के लिए मौलिक कर्तव्यों के महत्व का परीक्षण कीजिए।

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Fundamental Duties were introduced on the recommendations of Swaran Singh Committee by the 42nd Constitutional Amendment in 1976.

FUNDAMENTAL DUTIES

- Respecting and following ideals of National Movement
- Abjure practices derogatory to women
- Protect environment and wildlife,
- develop a spirit of humanism and scientific rationality,
- education for wards and kids aged 6-14, etc.

These are a few of the 11 fundamental duties under Part IV-A.

IMPORTANCE OF DUTIES

1. They complement the fundamental rights
Eg-education for those aged 6-14
2. If people follow fundamental duties -
the rights of people will be protected on their own.
3. Lay down a framework and guidelines for citizens to follow.
4. Not only do citizens enjoy rights but also owe something to the Nation and fellow citizens.
5. Help with growth and development :
social, economic and political, of the country.
6. Also contribute to personal and societal growth and moral education.

FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS AND DUTIES

↳ The two are complementary and supplementary and both strengthen society and democracy.

With true realisation of both fundamental rights and duties, we can reach and attain our true potential.

Feedback

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Q.13) Discuss the role of the judiciary in electoral reforms citing suitable cases. How far do you agree that judiciary induced reforms violate the principle of separation of power?

(15 marks, 250 words)

उपयुक्त मामलों का हवाला देते हुए चुनाव सुधारों में न्यायपालिका की भूमिका पर चर्चा करें। आप कहीं तक सहमत हैं कि न्यायपालिका से प्रेरित सुधार सत्ता के पृथक्करण के सिद्धांत का उल्लंघन करते हैं? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Elections in India are marred by certain malpractices like - minimisation of politics, violation of model code of conduct, issue of freebies, etc.

ELECTORAL REFORMS

- To deal with many of these issues the legislature came out with
 - Anti Defection Law and 10th schedule
 - 91st amendment to limit the size of council of Ministers.
- But, Judiciary has also played a major role
 - ① Recently, it set up a panel to look into the issues of electoral freebies and their impact.
 - ② It also made it mandatory for contestants to declare their criminal

backgrounds - publicity - three times, etc.

CAUSE OF JUDICIAL ACTIONS

- ↳ lack of political will
- ↳ election commission lacks power and teeth to take strict actions.
- ↳ petitions by concerned citizens, etc.

QUESTION ON SEPARATION OF POWERS

- Electoral reforms by Judiciary are an example of Judicial Activism
 - ↳ But to some, it is Judicial Overreach
- The subject is of legislative - executive domain and so action needs to come from them.
- However, via judicial intervention
 - ↳ Rights of citizens are protected
 - ↳ constitutional morality upheld.
 - ↳ A system of checks and balances

on other two organs maintained.

WAY FORWARD

- Make Model code of conduct - legally enforceable
- Increase powers of Election Commission
- Ensure a consultative process

There is a need for the legislature to step up and deal with the increasing problems in electoral process. This will prevent judiciary from walking the fine line between Activism & Overreach.

Feedback

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Structure/ Presentation
Question Interpretation
Content
Value Addition
Total



Q.14) There has been an increasing demand for doing away with the concurrent list. Examine the utility of concurrent list in the light of recent events. (15 marks, 250 words)

समवर्ती सूची को समाप्त करने की मांग बढ़ती जा रही है। हाल की घटनाओं के आलोक में समवर्ती सूची की उपयोगिता का परीक्षण कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Schedule 7 divides the powers of the Union of States into 3 lists - A union list, A concurrent list and a State list.

ISSUES WITH 7TH SCHEDULE

- Most subjects and also the important ones fall under union list
- concurrent list also has multiple subjects and on them Parliamentary decision prevails
- Greater power of revenue collection falls towards the Union than the States.

ISSUES WITH CONCURRENT LIST

- Multiple subjects - more than 50.
- Many subjects transferred from state

to concurrent lists.

Eg: education.

- Laws by Parliament - on these issues prevails
- There are already more than 100 subjects in union list.
- Moreover Residuary powers are also with the centre.
- Decreased autonomy and domain of function for the states.

NEED OF CONCURRENT LIST

- Certain subjects need a both National and regional outlook.

Eg- Education

Here centre brought NEP, 2020
states can also bring about policies based on their needs.

- Need for uniformity in laws, regulation, rules, standards and norms pan India

SUGGESTIONS

- Sarkaria Commission had suggested

consulting the states before making a law on concurrent subjects.

- Residuary powers - except those on taxation and of national interest can be given to states.
- Improvements in fiscal federalism.

while, the concurrent list continues to hold significance - it is indeed the time to relook at the 7th schedule's division of subjects.

Feedback

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Structure/
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Q.15) Against the intentions of the constitution makers, the use of discretionary powers by governors has become a major source of tension in Centre-state relations. What are the discretionary powers of the Governor? Also, discuss the issues associated with them. (15 marks, 250 words)

संविधान निर्माताओं की मंशा के विपरीत राज्यपालों द्वारा विवेकाधीन शक्तियों का प्रयोग केंद्र-राज्य संबंधों में तनाव का एक प्रमुख स्रोत बन गया है। राज्यपाल की विवेकाधीन शक्तियों क्या हैं? साथ ही उनसे जुड़े मुद्दों पर चर्चा करें।

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

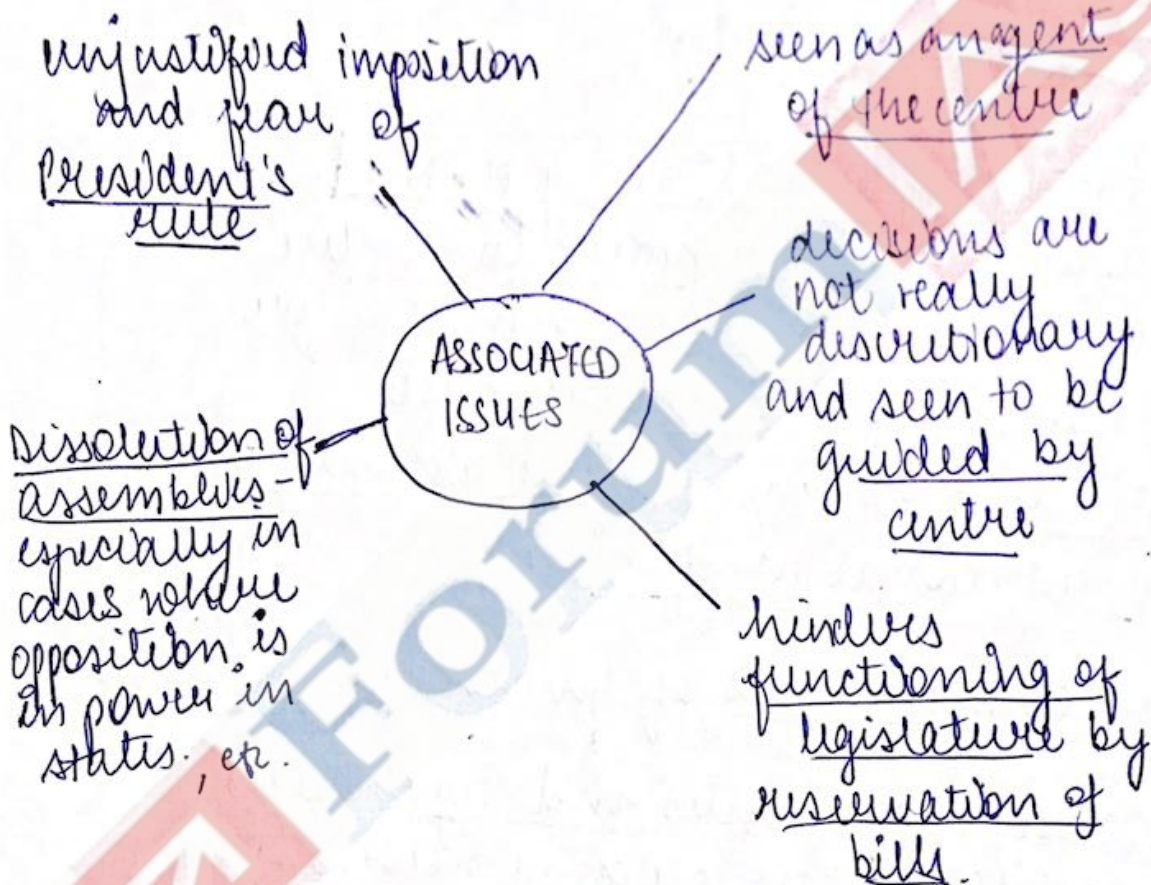
The office of Governor acts as one of head of state as well as a link between the centre and states.

DISCRETIONARY POWERS OF GOVERNOR

1. Governor sends reports to centre forthrightly and can even ask for imposition of Presidential Rule (Article 356) - in case of breakdown of constitutional machinery.
2. Pardoning powers of Governor.
3. He can make rules and regulations to facilitate transaction of business in the house.
4. ~~Nominates members to legislative councils.~~
5. Selection of the Chief Minister in case no clear majority.

5. Reserves bills - including money bills for consideration of the President.

6. Dissolves the house in case of loss of majority.



WAY FORWARD

- Before appointing Governor, the chief minister must be consulted.
- Governors should test majority on the

floor of the house and not in his
~~own~~ chambers.

° In case of President's Rule - warnings must be given and this provision used sparingly.

The office of Governor must act with impartiality and objectivity to ensure smooth centre-state relations.

Feedback

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Structure/ Presentation
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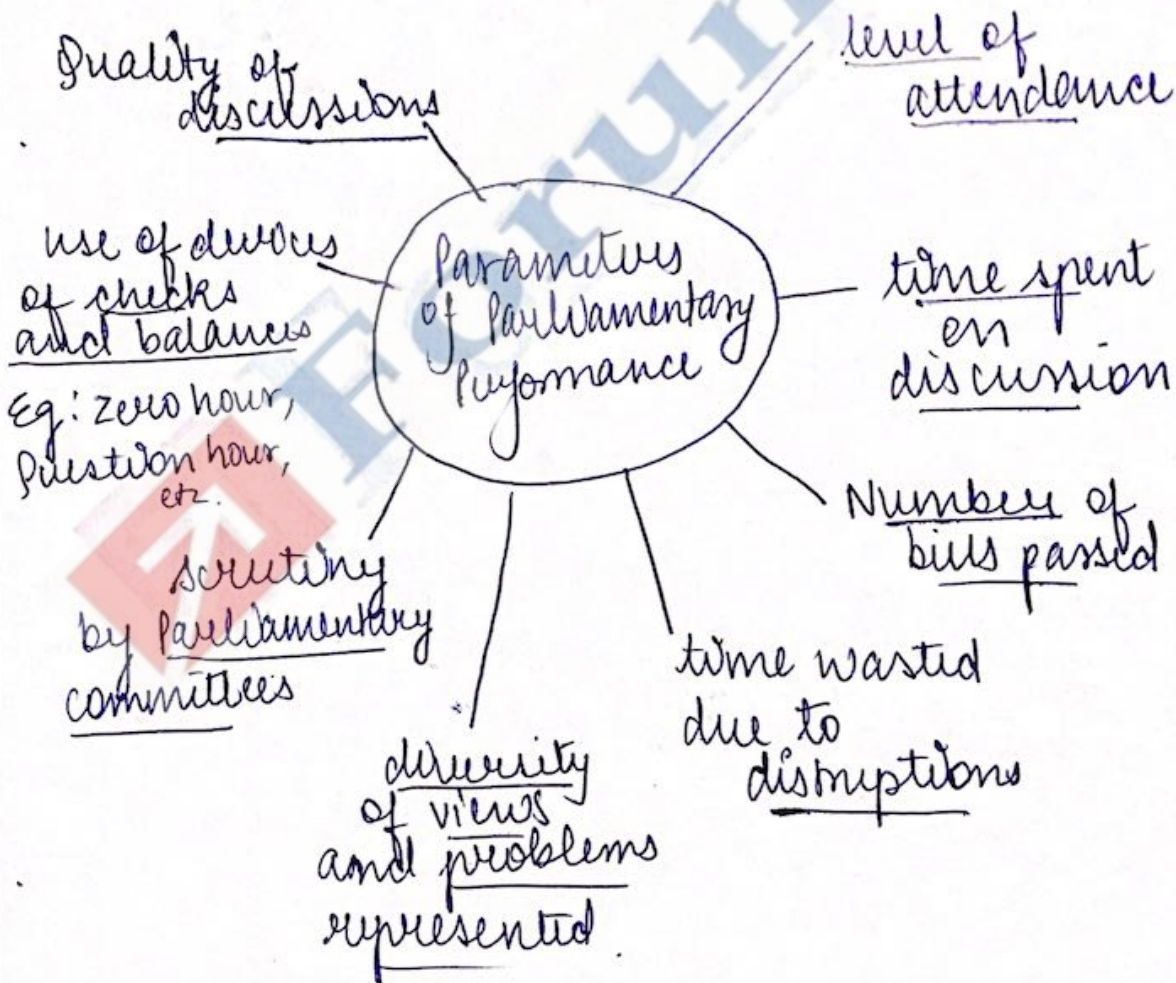
Q.16) Concerns regarding Parliamentary performance most often relate to the drastic reduction in the level and extent of deliberation, representation and scrutiny. In this context, highlight the recent instances which have led decline in effective functioning of the parliament.

(15 marks, 250 words)

संसदीय कार्य-निष्पादन के संबंध में चिंताएं प्रायः विचार-विमर्श, प्रतिनिधित्व और संवीक्षा के स्तर और सीमा में भारी कमी से संबंधित होती है। इस संदर्भ में, हाल के उदाहरणों पर प्रकाश डालिए जिनके कारण संसद के प्रभावी कामकाज में गिरावट आई है।

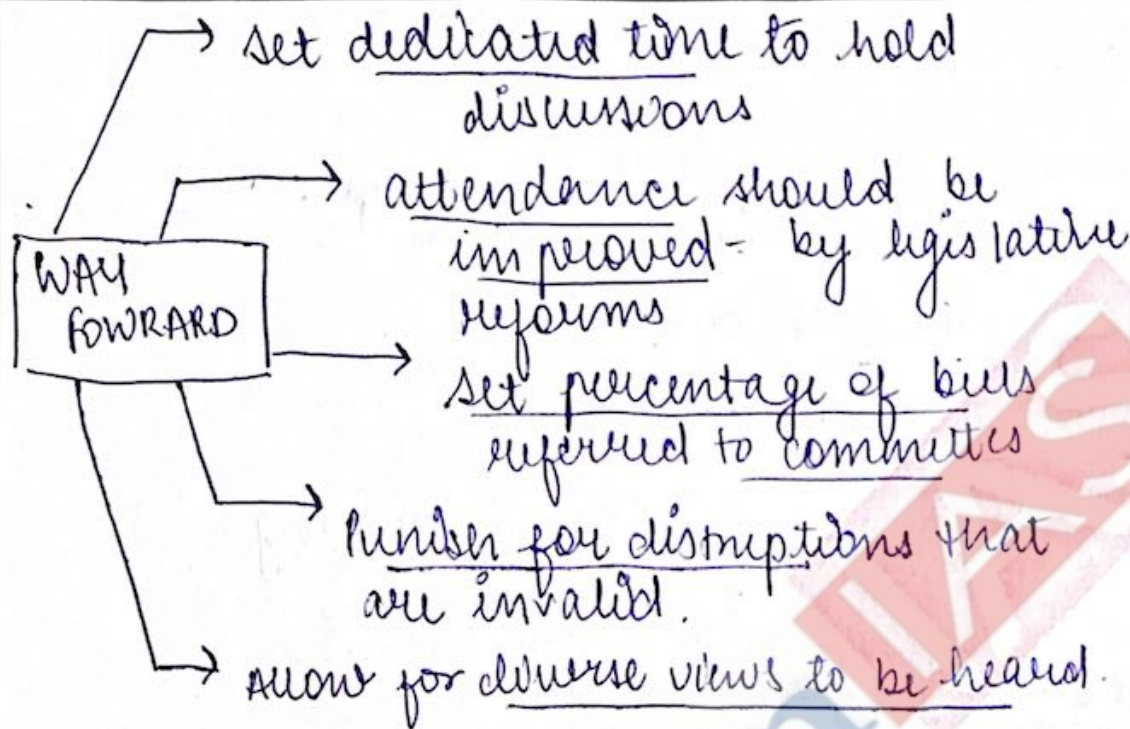
(15 अंक 250 शब्द)

Headlines have highlighted the fall in Parliamentary performance in recent times. Parliament forms the legislative and deliberative organ of democracy and so its performance is of great significance.



INSTANCES OF POOR PERFORMANCE

- frequent disturbances
- people getting down in the well.
- frequent walk-outs.
- absentees in voting.
- suspension of zero hour during COVID.
- Poor attendance of MPs.
- shorter sessions during COVID.
- Bills passed in haste.
- Bills not deliberated on enough and not sent to committees for in depth scrutiny.
eg: farm laws.
- Lack of consensus oriented approach
- Lack of election of deputy speaker to take over. in case of absence of speaker.
- suspension of members, etc.



Parliament, consists of the representatives of people, and so deliberations held are of great importance to understand people's wishes, problems and even solutions.

Feedback
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Q.17) Political decentralization without devolution of funds and functions to panchayats has resulted in representation but not empowerment. Examine whether devolution of funds and functions alone can transform panchayats into effective institutions of self-governance.

(15 marks, 250 words)

पंचायतों को धन और कार्य के हस्तांतरण के बिना राजनीतिक विकेंद्रीकरण के परिणामस्वरूप प्रतिनिधित्व तो हुआ है लेकिन सशक्तिकरण नहीं। जांच करें कि क्या केवल निधियों और कार्य का हस्तांतरण पंचायतों को स्वशासन के प्रभावी संस्थानों में बदल सकता है। (15 अंक 250 शब्द)

The 73rd and 74th amendments of 1992 aimed at further decentralisation of powers and participatory democracy.

ISSUES OF LACK OF FUNDS

- Schedule 11 - lists subjects falling under Panchayats - but many states have not fully devolved them yet
- the Panchayats depend on state and central grants significantly
- They do not have enough powers and resources for revenue generation and tax collection.

ISSUES WITH PANCHAYATS

- ① Lack of funds.
- ② Lack of infrastructure, personnel that is trained, etc.

- ③ Issue of proxy representation
↳ women elected but power with husbands
Eg- recent case of husbands of elected women, taking oath in Chhattisgarh.
- ④ Lack of awareness - amongst citizens on their rights and powers.
- ⑤ Political interference from states.
- ⑥ Frequent dissolution and elections remain pending for long.

Therefore, the lack of funds is only one problem amongst many. However, it can significantly improve many others.

WAY FORWARD

- Implementation of 73rd Amendment and PESA in both letter and spirit.
- Proper and regular elections by the State Election Commission.

- 15th Finance Commission recommended setting up of state finance commissions for better devolution of funds by centre to the states.
- More convergent and holistic schemes like Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana, etc.

Panchayats forms the very backbone of participatory democracy and it needs to be strengthened to truly empower the citizens.

Feedback

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Structure/ Presentation
Question Interpretation
Content
Value Addition
Total



Q.18) The offence of rape cannot be condoned by marital relationship between victim and culprit. In light of this statement, discuss the issues involved in criminalization of marital rape.

(15 marks, 250 words)

बलात्कार के अपराध को पीड़िता और अपराधी के बीच वैवाहिक संबंधों द्वारा माफ नहीं किया जा सकता है। इस कथन के प्रकाश में वैवाहिक बलात्कार के अपराधीकरण में शामिल मुद्दों की चर्चा कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Section 375 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) deals with the crime of rape but it fails to account for marital rape.

NEED FOR CRIMINALISING MARITAL RAPE

1. The prevalence of this in the society is very high.
2. To make the public aware - that it is not just morally ethically wrong but also a crime.
3. It is degrading to women.
4. Protecting one class of women and not the other goes against Article 14 and 15.
5. To ensure - a better and safe environment for women and kids.
6. It infringes on rights and bodily autonomy of women.

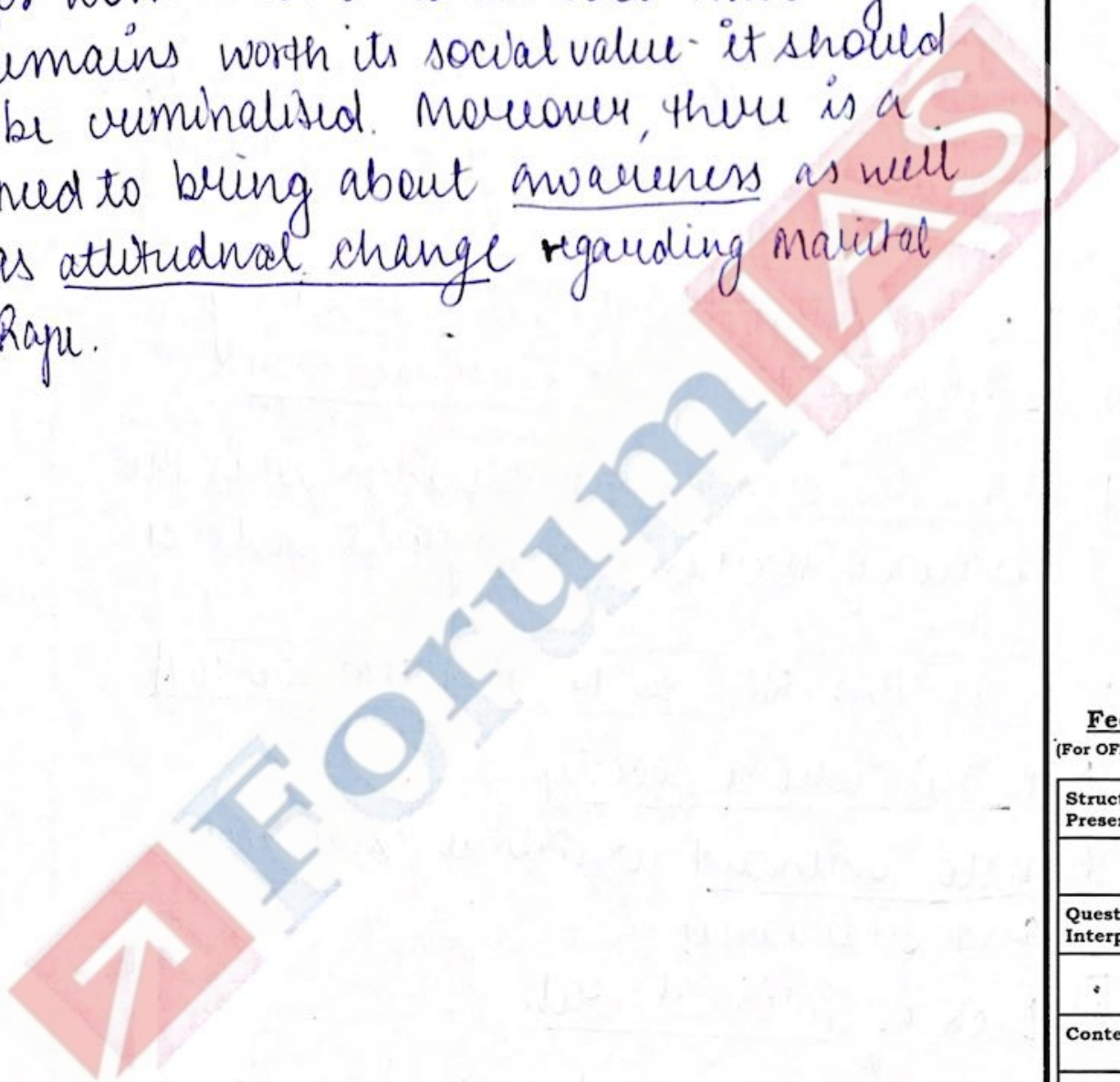
ARGUMENTS AGAINST ITS CRIMINALISATION

1. It would affect the sacred notion of marriage and family.
2. The Indian society is heavily dependent on strength of marriage and family as institutions.
3. This provision could be misused by women for revenge or personal gain.
4. Domestic Violence Act already covers the issue of sexual and physical violence.

WHY IT HAS NOT BEEN CRIMINALISED YET

- (A) Patriarchal society
- (B) Male dominated legislature, executive and judiciary
- (C) Lack of political will
- (D) Lack of understanding and empathy on plight of women.
- (E) Issue of normalisation of this act by both men and women.

However, to ensure a safe space for women and to ensure marriage remains worth its social value it should be criminalised. Moreover, there is a need to bring about awareness as well as attitudinal change regarding marital Rape.



Feedback

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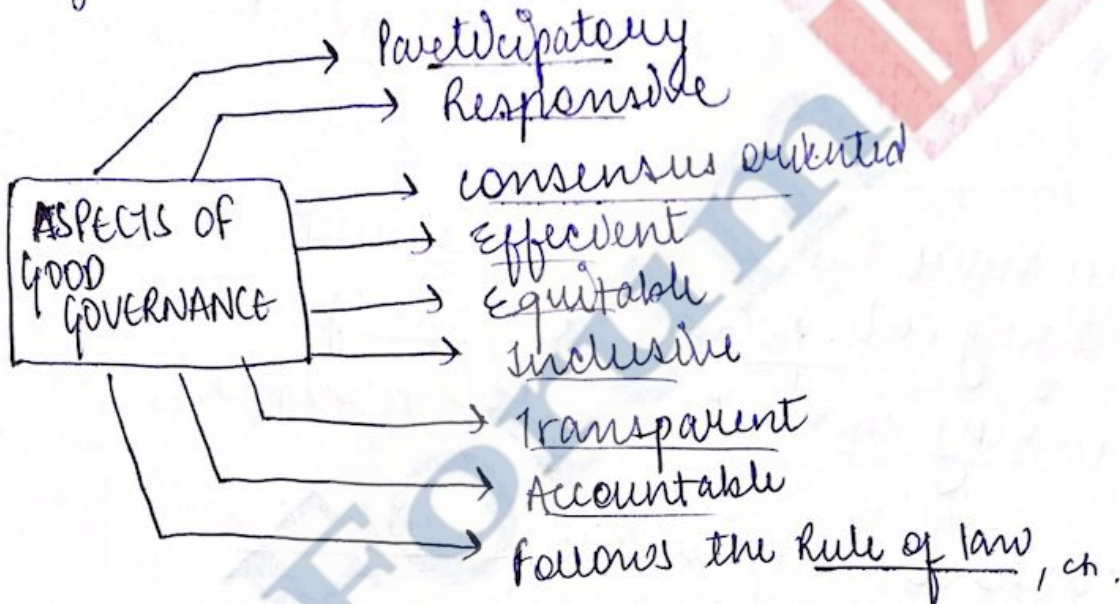
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Q.19) Since the paradigm shift from government to governance and further to good governance, pressure groups have emerged as a strong mechanism for making the democracy participatory, transparent, accountable and responsive. Elucidate. (15 marks, 250 words)

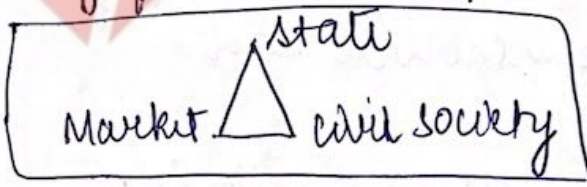
जब से सरकार से शासन और आगे सुशासन के प्रतिमान में बदलाव आया है, तब से दबाव समूह लोकतंत्र को सहभागी, पारदर्शी, जवाबदेह और उत्तरदायी बनाने के लिए एक मजबूत तंत्र के रूप में उभरे हैं। स्पष्ट करें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Pressure groups are associations of people that raise awareness, advocate for, lobby for certain aspects like women's rights, environment, etc.



HOW PRESSURE GROUPS FUNCTION

1. They form the 3rd aspect of governance as a part of the



part of the civil society umbrella.

2. They advocate for the cause they believe in. - by using PILs, petitions, RTI, etc.

3. They also raise awareness amongst the masses on these issues - thereby gaining support and increasing pressure.
4. They also monitor the policies, schemes, etc. of the government related to their cause.
 - ↳ They then evaluate and conduct research.
5. They have led to the government bringing out policies, judiciary expanding understanding of rights, etc.
6. Therefore, they ensure participation of people as well.

ISSUES RELATED

- ↳ Pressure groups have however been blamed for
 - overburdening judiciary with PILs.
 - hampering and disrupting developmental works of the.

↳ ~~the~~ government
accused of being agents of vested
and foreign interests, etc.

However, their role is of great
significance and by using various
constitutional tools - they have made the
government more accountable and
transparent as well as responsive.

Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

Structure/ Presentation
Question Interpretation
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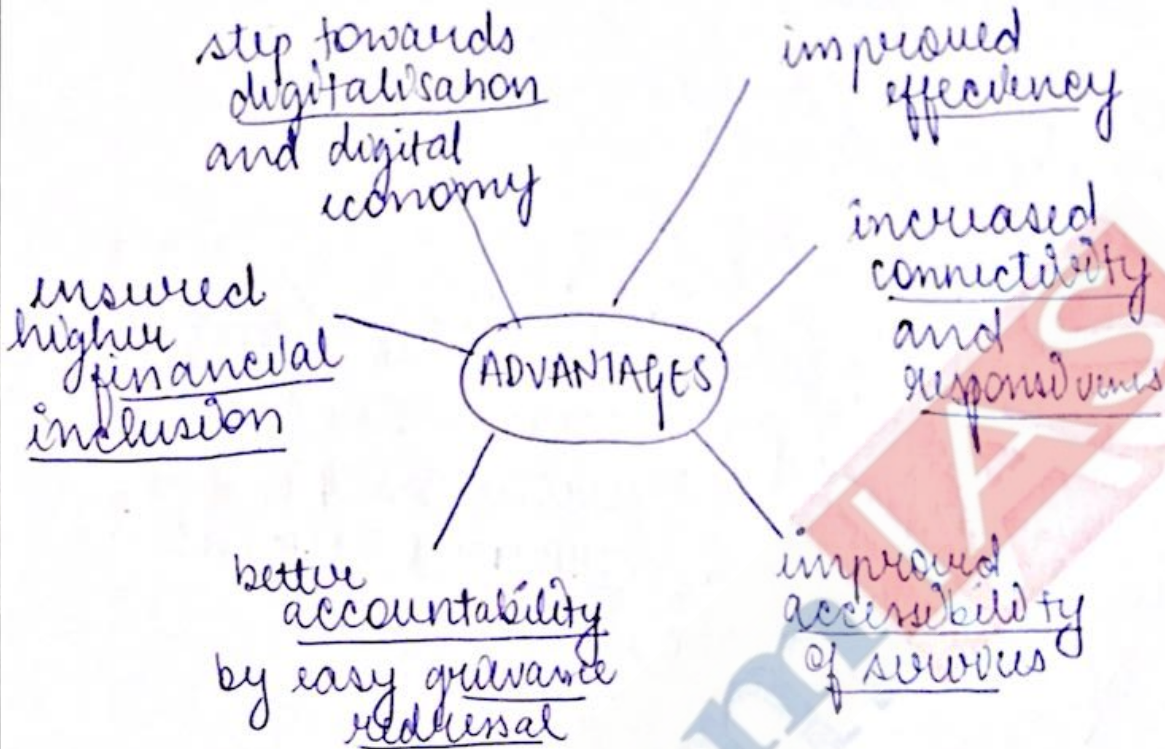
Q.20) "The rapid expansion of mobile network, proliferation of smart phones and data revolution have made m-governance an integral part of government welfare programmes." Discuss.
(15 marks, 250 words)

"मोबाइल नेटवर्क के तेजी से विस्तार, स्मार्ट फोन के प्रसार और डेटा क्रांति ने m-गवर्नेंस को सरकारी कल्याण कार्यक्रमों का एक अभिन्न अंग बना दिया है।" चर्चा कीजिए।
(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

E-Governance refers to the use of tools of information communication technology (ICT) for the social, economic and political development of the country. Mobil-governance forms a part of the same.

EXAMPLES OF USE

1. Aarogya Setu during times of COVID.
2. COWIN App for vaccination
3. SMS alerts on disasters like cyclones and even movement of elephants.
4. Helpal farmers with information on soil, pests, etc.
5. Financial inclusion via UPI, Aadhaar based payments, etc.
6. Mobile notifications of Direct Benefit Transfer payments for PM KISAN, MGNREGA, etc.

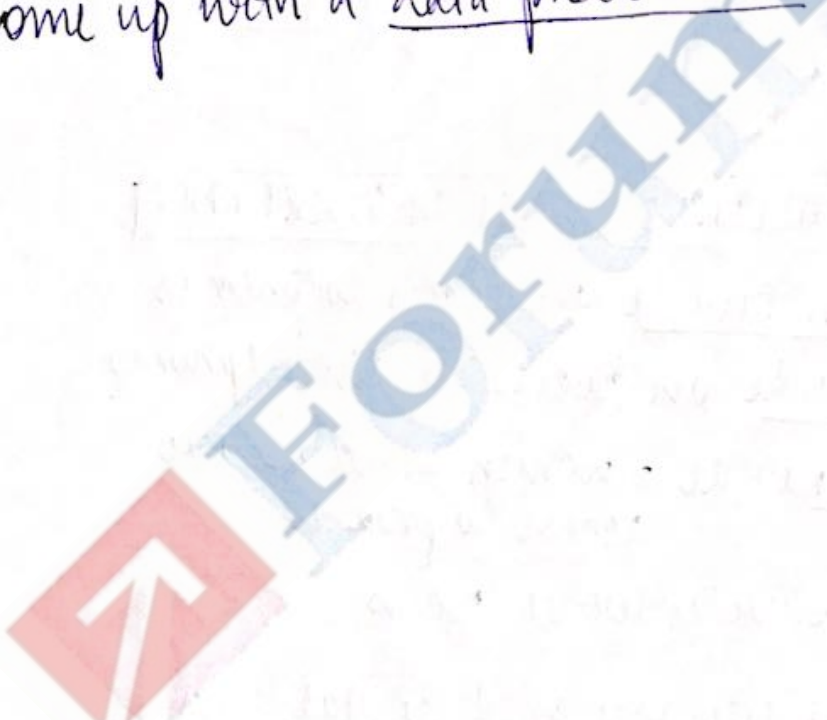


ISSUES AND CHALLENGES WITH M-GOVERNANCE

1. Rural-Urban Divide on access to phones
2. Rich-Poor Divide on access to smartphones
3. Men-women Divide - women have lower access to phones
4. Digital divide over internet access
5. Lack of digital literacy and digital hygiene.
6. Issue of cybersecurity - hacking, frauds, etc.
7. Issue of leak of personal data and

- question on ~~for~~ privacy.
8. lack of clarity on how government stores data.
 9. Issue of illiteracy, etc.

As India has one of the highest number of mobile phone users - m-governance is both the present and future. However, it is imperative to bridge the various divides and come up with a data protection bill.



Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

Structure/ Presentation	
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