

TEST CODE : 5 1 0 6 2

FIAS – MGP 2022 (C-10) – GS Paper #2



## GENERAL STUDIES

Name Of Candidate **ISHITA KISHORE**Roll No. **1910080460**Date: **01-07-22**

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			<i>Any specific messages for ForumIAS Mentors/Evaluators with respect to your copy? Write it here.</i>	
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<b>Total:</b>	<b>250</b>			
<b>Evaluator's Discretion:</b>			<b>For Student Only</b>	
			Start Time   <b>12 PM</b>	End Time   <b>3 PM</b>
<b>Total Marks:</b>			Mode Of Examination:	Online <input type="checkbox"/> Offline <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Evaluator's Discretion:</b> 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.			<b>For Office Use Only</b>	
			ECN CODE:	EG:
			Evaluation Date:	

**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) 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, 150 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)

Right to Freedom of Religion is protected as a Fundamental Right (Art 25, 26, 27, 28) under Part III of the Constitution.

Part IV

- Art 25: Right to practice, profess, propagate
- Art 26: Right to manage religious affairs

However they're subject to the

- 1) reasonable restrictions like public order.
- 2) Harm Principle: One's right shouldn't interfere with others
- 3) Laws: Eg. Anti Conversion Law in UP

Doctrine of Essentiality was envisaged in the 'Shri Kesava Math' case of 1954

limiting role on religious practices

-i- Judiciary now decides what is & isn't

essential thereby curtailing freedom

↳ Recent Hijab controversy in Karnataka

-ii- Reduced role of religious leaders

↳ Verdict against banning menstruating women in Sabimata

-iii- Right to practice doesn't include practices not essential to the religion

Thus, there is an overlap b/w who can decide what is essential → Judiciary and Religious leaders.

While this ~~prop~~ prevents coercion in the name of religion and maintains the democratic ethos, it interferes in the religious sphere of the person/community.

The goal must be to eliminate barbaric practices but maintain a 'principled distance' on every day matters

### Feedback

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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, 150 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)

Sedition is a colonial era law that penalises the act of breaching national security, or threatens sovereignty, unity or integrity.

## Threat to Civil liberties

- i- Freedom of Speech & Expression (U/Art 19) is curtailed as one cannot express fully
- ii- Self Censoring due to fear of being charged with sedition  
 ↳ Comedians, bloggers refrain
- iii- Misuse of the law if it goes against the interest of political class  
 ↳ Arbitrary arrests. Like CED of Alt News
- iv- Historical # coercion linked w/ this law ↳ Arrest of Gandhi, Tilak

Thus Kedar Nath case, though legalised it, it gave conditions for proper use.

However such an archaic law can be done away with as :-  
(Sec 124A, IPC)

- i- International trend  $\Rightarrow$  UK has done away with this law
- ii- Other legislations can help government in regulating  $\Rightarrow$  UAPA, Official Secrets Act
- iii- Democratic reputation creates soft power  $\Rightarrow$  Improve India's rank on Democracy Index
- iv- Public opinion is against it.

While threat to national integrity is a legitimate concern, sedition is an obsolete way to deal with it. Thus at least, a revisit of the law is required to make it in line with 21<sup>st</sup> century threats.

### Feedback

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Q.3) 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, 150 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)

Death penalty or capital punishment is given on committing heinous crimes wherein social integration of criminals is rendered impossible.

Recently given to

- i- Nirbhaya case rapists who did the heinous act
- ii- Terrorist Kasab who carried the 26/11 attack & killed thousands of innocent.

Thus status of death penalty

- used by judiciary
- Not frequent but at disposal of judges
- legal status

A Governor cannot pardon a death penalty, though s/he has access

- to
- Reprieve
  - Respite
  - Remit
  - Commute the sentence.

Only the President has the power to pardon and absolve a person from all charges after the death penalty.

### Limitations of pardoning power of

Governor :-

- 1) Cannot pardon death sentences
- 2) Military (Court Martial) decisions are outside the scope of Governor
- 3) Can pardon only acts that fall v/ jurisdiction of state (not all India)

**Feedback**

(For OFFICE use only)

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Q.4) The divergence between intent and impact of the tenth schedule necessitates calling into question its relevance in the present times. Analyze. (10 marks, 150 words)

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

X<sup>th</sup> schedule was added to the constitution in the wake of growing defections & a culture of 'Aaye Ram, Gaye Ram'

## Intent of the law

-i- Era of coalition politics made it easier to topple governments by shifting parties of MPs

↳ MVA govt toppled in Maharashtra recently

-ii- Counter money-power in politics as MPs can be paid huge sums for shifting stance

-iii- Counter horse trading of MPs which ruins the democratic ethos

-iv- Allows mergers of 2/3<sup>rd</sup> but not split (1/3)

## Impact of the law

- i- Politicisation of Speaker as s/he is the decision making authority split b/w party politics & democracy
- ii- Rendered useless in multiple scenarios recently  
 [eg] Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh
- iii- Muscle-Money Power : Hiding of MPs in lavish hotel rooms
- iv- Efficiency of bill passing, discussion reduces  
 [eg] PRS shows decrease in time spent on Bills

Thus in order to hold 'Kihoto Holbhan' judgement in letter and spirit, the law needs to be revisited w/ stringent protocol to tackle defections. Can limit whip to only most important decision

### Feedback

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Structure/  
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Q.5) Instead of performing a transformative role, traditional bureaucracy has contributed to perpetuation of old order. Comment. (10 marks, 150 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)

Sardar Patel called the Indian bureaucracy as the 'Steel Frame' of our country. However after 70 years, there are debates whether this steel frame has rusted

### Perpetuation of old order

i- Corruption is a colonial legacy that has made public office a source for private gain

(eg) IAS Ranjay Popli, IAS Roja (Jharkhand)

ii- Lack of enthusiasm of "by the books" approach due to time band promotion  
 → Deters incentive based motivation

iii- 21st century brings challenges that require specialized skills  
 eg- Crypto, climate change

iv- Hota Committee recommendation of cool off period after retirement can break political nexus

However, a Transformative role is also visible as islands of progress in a sea of traditional order

-i- Armstrong Pame : Miracle Man of Manipal built 100 km road

-ii- P. Narahari : work in PWD friendly buildings

Yet, there is a need to streamline w/ initiatives like

→ Mission Karmayogi

→ iGOT portal

→ Rule based to Role based training

to make the bureaucracy as efficient as

countries like Singapore.

**Feedback**  
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Q.6) Sustainable alliance between Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and the State is critical for social change and development. Highlighting hurdles in this developmental alliance, suggest remedial measures for a more productive partnership. (10 marks, 150 words)

गैर-सरकारी संगठनों (NGOs) और राज्य के बीच टिकाऊ गठबंधन सामाजिक परिवर्तन और विकास के लिए महत्वपूर्ण है। इस विकासात्मक गठबंधन में बाधाओं को उजागर करते हुए, अधिक उत्पादक साझेदारी के लिए उपचारात्मक उपायों का सुझाव दें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

NGOs are now known as 'invisible empires' who support the state by bridging the gap in delivery of basic services.

### Criticality of alliance

- ① Fill vacuum in govt services  
 Req → Teach For India supplements the teachers vacancies
- ② Public trust in NGOs  
 Req → RTI filed by India Against Corruption
- ③ Timely services as against bureaucratic delay  
 Req → Food Helpline India ✓/e Ration Card

## Hurdles

- ① Recent legislations like FARA cripple the NGOs
  - ↳ Only 20% can be spent on administrative costs
- ② Rivalry of politicians with NGOs
  - ↳ India against corruption coerced by political parties
- ③ Lack of economic funding due to an already pressurised govt
  - ↳ Poor infra of govt
- ④ International ill intentions
  - ↳ Closure of Amnesty

## Remedial Measures

- ① Collaboration for service delivery
    - ↳ U/ COVID-19 by NGOs
  - ② Collaboration w/ religious institutes for funds
  - ③ Diversification of spending under CSR
    - ↳ Reduce <sup>Red Tape</sup> in FARA
- This can foster development alliance & help India prosper

### Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

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Presentation

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Q.7) Subsidies have morphed into a populist tool to achieve electoral objectives rather than developmental goals. Examine. (10 marks, 150 words)

विकास के लक्ष्यों के बजाय चुनावी उद्देश्यों को प्राप्त करने के लिए सब्सिडी एक लोकलुभावन उपकरण में बदल गई है। परीक्षण करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

India is a welfare state. It uses subsidies to promote various sectors of economy & sections of population to ensure balanced & inclusive growth.

Subsidies as a populist tool

- ① Farm loans waived off prior to elections creates the economic problem of moral hazard
- ② Subsidies for electoral gains  
 Eg → Free electricity upto 300 units in Delhi, Punjab even to well off sections
- ③ Subsidies for infrastructure in real estate can have political nexus
- ④ Corruption in PDS, MSP

However for a developing country like India, such subsidies are also necessary

- ① Stand up India for SC-ST entrepreneurs
- ② Basic services are a right, not a luxury  
 /eg water, electricity
- ③ Education subsidy to fulfil goal of 100% literacy.
- ④ Health subsidy as  
 /eg > 30% expenditure is out of pocket

Thus while populism is a tendency that must be controlled, India's socioeconomic challenges require Amartya Sen's capacity development approach

### Feedback

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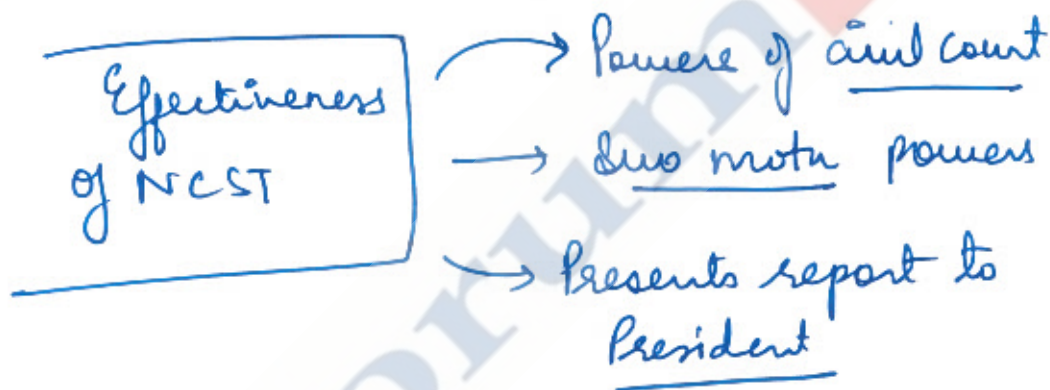


Q.8) National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) can be most effective when its tasks are adequately supported by other mechanisms that improve the voice of the tribals. Discuss.

(10 marks, 150 words)

राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जनजाति आयोग (NCST) सबसे प्रभावी हो सकता है जब इसके कार्यों को अन्य तंत्रों द्वारा पर्याप्त रूप से समर्थित किया जाता है जो आदिवासियों की आवाज को उठाते हैं। चर्चा करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

NCST is a constitutional body for protecting the vulnerable section of tribals and helping them assimilate in the mainstream.



This can be enhanced when supported by

- i- Schemes <sup>GOVT</sup> for empowerment of tribals  
 (eg) Eklavya Model Residential Schools
- ii- Economic empowerment of tribals via bodies like TRIFED which

now gives MSP for MFP

iii- Bridging the digital divide via Bharat Net, 'GOAL' scheme

iv- Political decentralisation like PESA Act

v- Reservations as envisaged u/Act 15 to ensure streamlining in society.

These measures can ensure

① Improvement in health indicators of tribals

[Eg] 70% malaria cases in tribals

② Improvement in education

③ opportunities for entrepreneurship  
[Eg] Stand up India scheme.

This will fulfil dream of

'Ekl Bharat Shreshth Bharat'

### Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

Structure/  
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Interpretation

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Q.9) India's relation with West Asia has acquired depth and diversity that can navigate geopolitical hurdles. Comment. (10 marks, 150 words)

पश्चिम एशिया के साथ भारत के संबंधों ने गहराई और विविधता हासिल कर ली है जो भू-राजनीतिक बाधाओं को दूर कर सकती है। टिप्पणी करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

India adopted the 'look west Policy' in 1990s to strengthen its ties in West Asia.

Depth and diversity in relations

- ① Historical: Persian was the official language of India until 19th century
- ② Economic: largest import of crude oil from Saudi Arabia <sup>UAE</sup> and natural gas from Qatar
- ③ People to People ties: largest no. of migrants of India are in Gulf nations
- ④ Political: Visit of Vice President on death of Sheikh Al Nahyan recently

Thus multidimensional relations are key to overcoming geopolitical hurdles like

- ① Pakistan's rivalry with India puts India in a precarious position in Muslim world
- ② Intra rivalries need to be balanced  
 [eg] Iran v/s Saudi Arabia on issues
- ③ World order balancing  
 [eg] Chabahar port stopped after US sanctions on Iran
- ④ China's BRI and debt diplomacy tilting members in its favour
- ⑤ Importance of INSTC to connect with West Asia of Russia & overcome supply chain hurdles.

Thus West is key in India's foreign policy calculus & must be upgraded to 'ACT WEST'.

### Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

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Q.10) India's response to Ukraine crisis is an expression of strategic autonomy and not a reflection of strategic compulsions. Examine. (10 marks, 150 words)

यूक्रेन संकट पर भारत की प्रतिक्रिया सामरिक स्वायत्तता की अभिव्यक्ति है न कि सामरिक बाध्यताओं का प्रतिबिम्ब।

(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

India has maintained a 'principled distance' stance on the Ukraine crisis in UN discussion

It expresses strategic autonomy as

- ① Not bowing down to demands of USA despite alliances like QUAD
- ② Increasing cheap imports of fertilisers from Russia showcases its welfarist approach in domestic sphere is priority over international funds eg DAP fertilizers
- ③ Solidarity and All weather Friendship with Russia is maintained
- ④ Soft power of Russia's help in 1971 war is key in Indian sentiments
- ⑤ Strategic calculus of not ~~so~~ taking

a stance on global platforms but also condemning the violence.

- ⑥ Rise in global fuel prices has pushed India to trade w/ Russia
- ⑦ Balance b/w US & Russia - as both are now key defence partners

Thus while strategic autonomy is showcase, compulsions can make India's decision making. India must carefully walk the diplomatic tightrope to ensure its dream of 'Vishwagun' is fulfilled.

### Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

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Q.11) 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)

The judiciary is said to have its fingers on the pulse of the nation, thereby bringing suitable reforms.

Electoral reforms by judiciary

i- Voter Verification of EVMs to instill public faith & confidence led to use of VVPATs  
[ PULL v. UOI ]

ii- Criminal records of election candidates must be duly & given on Affidavits  
[ ADR v. UOI ]

iii- Criminal records must also be duly publicised by the candidate.

-iv- 3 months cool off period in case of conviction for appeal is no longer available

[ Lily Thomas case ]

-v- ~~And~~ Right to Freedom of Expression includes right to reject all candidates  
 → Provision of NOTA

[ PULL v. UOI ]

Thus the judiciary plays a key role in ensuring free and fair elections.

However this can violate the principle of Separation of Powers as

i- Montesquie envisaged strict separation b/w executive, judiciary & legislature and overstepping by judiciary violates it

ii- role of legislature is to formulate the laws



- iii- Traditional role of judiciary is to adjudicate laws and ensure implementation
- iv- Sets a precedent for non-elected officials to set laws to be followed by elected ones in Parliament.

Power in modern times, Judicial review

is an integral part as it

- i- Fills vacuum of legislature  
 [eg] → Vishaka guidelines

- ii- Not subject to populism so takes difficult decisions

[eg] → EPCA to tackle air pollution

- iii- Activist lawyers use PIL which is wide & discretionary

[eg] → Prashant Bhushan

Thus the separation of powers is not watertight but Judicial overreach & adventurism must be avoided

### Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

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Q.12) 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)

Article 1 of the Indian Constitution states

'India, that is Bharat, shall be a Union of States' reflecting inspiration from the Canadian model.

Preference for Union over Federation

- i- Not a product of agreement <sup>constitution</sup> b/w states but rather a document where everyone came together
- ii- Threat of princely states leaving the union carried risk of balkanisation
- iii- Looming shadow of Partition pushed for integrity of the remaining land
- iv- Diversity of the country was held together with political uniformity



-v- Wide socioeconomic problems at the eve of independence required central welfarist policies

-vi- Influence of Socialist economies like USSR which conducting 'Planning' of national resource allocation.

This ensured unity without absolute uniformity and integrated the diversity by making provisions for

i- Jammu & Kashmir

ii- Privy purse

iii- Art 371 for many states of unique problems

iv- Schedule V and VI for tribals

However it also created tensions in Centre State Relations

i- Governor office is the most concerning

- ii- Recommendations of Sarkaria Commission must be followed to maintain centralising tendency but with amicability
- iii- Excess competition for resources b/w states like River Water led to creation of Inter State Water Dispute Act where Centre is playing the role of decision making reducing autonomy
- iv- Centre can alter boundaries of any state O/A 3 via simple majority  
eg) Resentment in Jnk
- v- GST is a new concern where centre has  $\frac{1}{3}$  votes in council of decisions requires  $\frac{3}{4}$  majority

Thus recommendations of Punchhi Commission must be followed to inculcate cooperative federalism for a 'New India at 75' (With Aayeg)

**Feedback**

(For OFFICE use only)

Structure/  
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Total

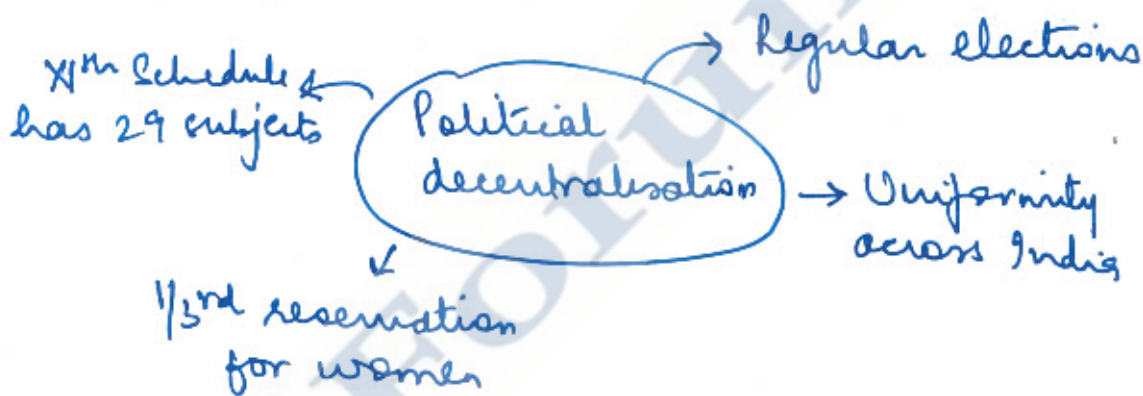


Q.13) Political decentralization without devolution of funds and functions to panchayats has resulted in representation but not empowerment. Examine whether devolution of funds and functions alone can transform panchayats into effective institutions of self-governance.

(15 marks, 250 words)

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

The Gandhian dream of 'Gram Swaraj' was fulfilled with the enactment of 73rd Amendment Act i.e. creation of Panchayats



Representation has not led to empowerment as :-

- FUNDS
- i- Lack of taxation powers to Panchayats to raise revenue  
(Eg → can levy only fees)
  - ii- Dependent on devolution from

## State Finance Commission

-iii- Dependent on grants by Centre

FUNCTIONS (Finance Commission)

-iv- Aversion by State Govt to devolve functions due to political calculus

-v- Critical role in public service delivery is retained by State Implementation Agencies

-vi- Sidelined by NGOs and SHGs

↳ Kundumbashree making marks in course

However apart from just funds and functions, there is a need to enhance the 'functionality' of Panchayats as

-i- Women Empowerment is a distant dream with despite reservation

↳ Culture of Pradhan Pati



- ii- Election fatigue among masses voting for centre, state, local bodies
- iii- More powers must be given as they understand unique demands of the area
- iv- Beneficiary identification role and revision of electoral rolls can be handed over.
- v- UNFCCC has recognised resource management is best with locals in-charge. Can fight climate change

Thus to ensure they are effective institutions of self governance, and not just 'Grass without roots', there is a need to make the 3rd tier functional in letter & spirit

**Feedback**

(For OFFICE use only)

Structure/ Presentation
Question Interpretation
Content
Value Addition
Total

Q.14) 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)

Rape is the act of non consensual sexual activity and is a leading concern among females. As per NCRB, there are ~~are~~ 8 rapes per day in India.

Role of Marital relations in rape

- i- Husband can also rape wife w/o consent
- ii- Right to bodily autonomy under Art 21 is violated
- iii- Victim may be dependent for livelihood and family
- iv- Society doesn't recognise non consensual act as rape



## Need for criminalization of marital rape

- i- Women's rights activists claim it violates their right to dignified life (Art 21)
- ii- Empowerment of women to speak up
- iii- Eliminate the social ill by recognizing it
- iv- Recognised in countries like UK.

However there are many issues with it

- i- View of Central Govt is that 'domestic violence' is covered under other laws
- ii- Threat of breakdown of Indian family system
- iii- Misuse of such a law for extortion  
 [Eg] Famous case of Johnny Depp & Amber Heard
- iv- Difficulty in proof of establishing consent

Yet women's safety is a key concern both within and outside the four walls Delhi High Court recently stated the need of a law on marital rape.

Way forward

- 1) Recognise the widespread prevalence
- 2) Establish remedies  
 ↳ Sakshi helpline
- 3) Sensitise police force
- 4) ~~Case~~ legislate on rape laws.

Thus, rape is rape. Whether within marriage or outside, it must be criminalised by ensuring no loopholes exist for misuse.

**Feedback**  
(For OFFICE use only)

Structure/ Presentation
Question Interpretation
Content
Value Addition
Total



Q.15) Harnessing public sector data is vital for informed decision making, accelerating socio-economic transformation and democratizing innovation in the country. In this context, highlight the various bottlenecks in public data sharing and suggest strategies for unlocking true value of data. (15 marks, 250 words)

सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के डेटा का उपयोग सूचित निर्णय लेने, सामाजिक-आर्थिक परिवर्तन में तेजी लाने और देश में नवाचार को लोकतांत्रिक बनाने के लिए महत्वपूर्ण है। इस संदर्भ में, सार्वजनिक डेटा साझाकरण में विभिन्न बाधाओं को उजागर करें और डेटा के वास्तविक मूल्य को अनलॉक करने के लिए रणनीति सुझाएं। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

'Data is the new oil' in the information and internet age of 21<sup>st</sup> century  
Public data can be harnessed for progress of the country.

→ Informed decision making

1) Big data analytics can be leveraged

↳ Tracking of COVID cases

2) Progress and fallacies can be monitored on real time basis

↳ PRAAPTI portal for coal reforms

→ Accelerating socio economic transformation

1) Better quality education can be given

eg) Manodarpan app can show extent of concern of mental health in students

2) Empowerment of masses

eg) Data from DBT, Jan Dhan A/c

→ Democratise innovation

1) Open Source Code Apps can be leveraged

eg) ONDC (commerce)

2) Research data available for public

eg) Genome India project

Bottlenecks in public data sharing

① Digital divide : lack of availability of internet in Rural areas hampers progress

② Low investment in Research : 0.7% of GDP so apps / website for data sharing are limited

③ Cyber attacks can pose risk to nation  
eg) Banking data leakage



④ Privacy in data sharing is a key concern in our times as held by Puttaswamy judgement

⑤ Dark Web can lead to misuse of public data  
 Eg → Cyber bullying, theft

## Strategies for unlocking value of data

① Data localisation is essential to maintain data sovereignty Eg → Rejecting Osaka track

② Cyber drills to avoid any loopholes for attack

③ Latest technology must be aimed for (↑ RnD expenditure)

④ strict legislation to be passed  
 Eg → Personal Data Protection Bill

Thus we must keep in mind recommendations of RN Srikrishna Committee in leveraging our billion plus population data

### Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

Structure/  
Presentation

Question  
Interpretation

Content

Value  
Addition

Total



Q.16) Why do Indian universities find it difficult to break into the ranks of top global universities? How can Indian institutions of higher education be transformed into global centres of learning?

(15 marks, 250 words)

भारतीय विश्वविद्यालयों के लिए शीर्ष वैश्विक विश्वविद्यालयों की श्रेणी में आना मुश्किल क्यों है? भारतीय उच्च शिक्षा संस्थानों को वैश्विक शिक्षा केंद्रों में कैसे बदला जा सकता है? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

In the recent QS World University rankings, not a single Indian university appeared in to Top 50 ranks.

Reasons :-

- (i) Colonial legacy : creating a class of workforce based on 'rote learning' and not innovation
- (ii) low investment in research ie mere 0.7% of GDP large patents, research papers
- (iii) Teacher vacancies in universities
- (iv) Underpaid professors reduce motivation  
Eg: Delhi University salaries struck
- (v) Infrastructural bottleneck  
Education only 3% of GDP gives low room for expenditure



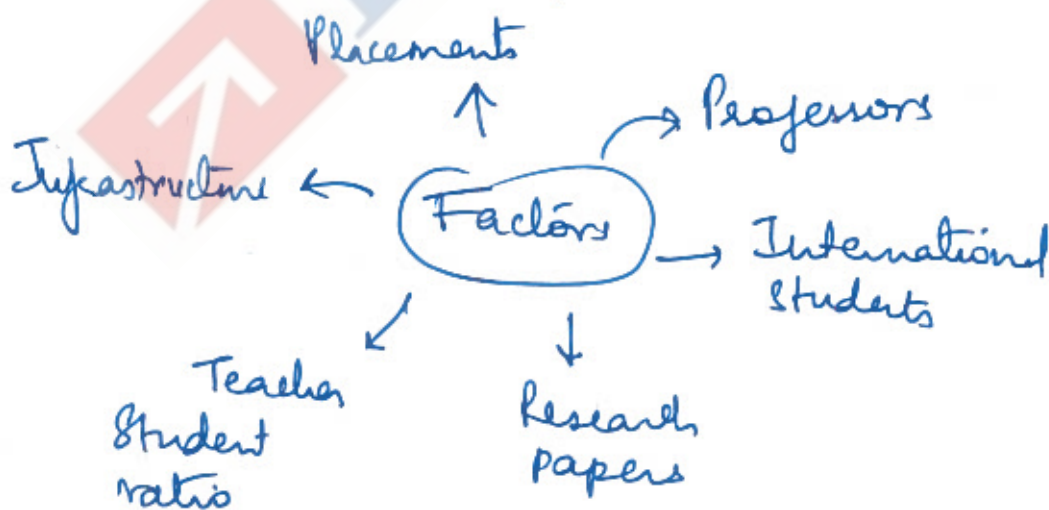
Indian education can be transformed into

- i- Privatization of facilities must be encouraged
- ii- support to Institutes of Eminence
- iii- Prevent brain drain for better research fellows  
 [Eg] Jodak made it mandatory for doctors w/ Jodak quota to serve for 5 yrs
- iv- Increase investment in education  
 (New Education Policy) by Rasthvirangan recommends 6% of GDP
- v- Accreditation of universities must be stringent (Eg) as under NAAC)
- vi- Poor skills must be countered early  
 [Eg] NIPUN Bharat for foundational literacy
- vii- Prepare for international competitions  
 [Eg] PISA for global standards

Thus in recent times, a lot of initiatives have been taken in this regard

- (i) List of Institutes of Eminence to receive funding
- (ii) Incorporation of traditional learning for Indian ethos.
- (iii) Sister universities to be paired (Strong & weak) for better results of all.

Thus to break into top ranks, our education systems needs a revision from school learning to research scholars.



### Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

Structure/  
Presentation

Question  
Interpretation

Content

Value  
Addition

Total



Q.17) Self-Help Groups (SHGs) are an effective model of social entrepreneurship for women empowerment and have multiplier effects on developmental processes in rural areas. Elaborate with suitable examples. (15 marks, 250 words)

स्वयं सहायता समूह (SHGs) महिला सशक्तिकरण के लिए सामाजिक उद्यमिता का एक प्रभावी मॉडल हैं और ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में विकास प्रक्रियाओं पर कई गुना प्रभाव डालते हैं। उपयुक्त उदाहरणों के साथ विस्तृत व्याख्या करें।

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

With nearly 70 lakh Self Help Groups in India, social entrepreneurship among rural women has taken off since 1970s, when SEWA emerged

## Women Empowerment

- i- Business models have emerged from homes  
 [Eg] Lijjat Papad, Kudumbashree
- ii- Collective Guarantee System for loans  
 [Eg] 1 mudra loan per SHG  
 ensured financial freedom
- iii- Social status of women transforms as they no longer dependent for their livelihood

-iv- Respect from government

↳ Atmanirbhar Nandhakti PM interaction with SHGs

-v- Pivotal role in social welfare gives them pride

↳ Manufacturing market

-vi- Political empowerment as they even contest elections in P.R.I.s.

↳ Kerala

Effects of on developmental process

i- Financial security and well being of villages with avenues for earnings

↳ 60,000 cr turnover of Ujjat paper

ii- Employment and rise in labour force Participation Rate of women which is a dismal 22% currently

↳ Kudumbasree employs thousands



iii- Improvement in social indicators of the area

(Eg) NFHS has recognised role of mother in health of children

iv- Ending cycle of poverty with productive engagement

v- Diversification away from agriculture

vi- RBI states only 12% credit in institutions is by women, this can change with rising SHG businesses

vii- Culture of repaying loans increases health of banks.

(Eg) 97% repayment rate of SHG is better than corporates.

Thus SHGs multiplier effects on the development process is key to bridging India's 'Missing Middle' in economy in its journey to \$5 trillion economy

### Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

Structure/  
Presentation

Question  
Interpretation

Content

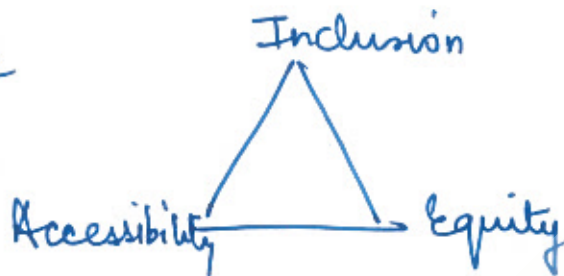
Value  
Addition

Total

Q.18) Success of welfare schemes depends on whether they are built on principles of participation and work within structures of accountability. Discuss. (15 marks, 250 words)

कल्याणकारी योजनाओं की सफलता इस बात पर निर्भर करती है कि क्या वे भागीदारी के सिद्धांतों पर बनी हैं और जवाबदेही के ढांचे के भीतर काम करती हैं। चर्चा करें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

India is a 'welfare state' as envisaged by constitution makers. Its various schemes envisage



Participatory nature of welfare schemes

is beneficial as :-

i- Economic empowerment is key to progress

↳ MGNREGA involves workers in development of community assets

ii- Social entrepreneurship gives respect in society

↳ SHG Bank linkage by NABARD where SHG resolves social problems



with business solutions

iii - Awareness of facilities is enhanced when people themselves manage the resources

↳ Stand Up India Scheme for SC, ST

iv - Enhance Health indicators

↳ Janani Suraksha Yojna encourages women to participate in institutional delivery for rewards

v - Children, as future responsible citizens must participate

↳ Indradhanush vaccines  
Pulse Polio

Further, Accountability is another pillar for success of welfare schemes as

i - Reduce misappropriation of funds/resources

↳ One Nation One Ration Card to be digitised

- ii- Reduce diversion of funds  
 |Eg> Bihar fodder scam
- iii- Monitoring of real time results and proposed changes in schemes  
 |Eg> 80% of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao funds spent on advertisement.  
 Can use for creating separate districts
- iv- Whether scheme reaches beneficiaries  
 |Eg> Rajiv Gandhi govt held that for every \$1 spent, only ₹0.15 reaches beneficiary

Thus for proper implementation of welfare schemes and judicious use of tax payers money, participation and accountability are the key to make India 'Vishwaguru'.

### Feedback

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Structure/  
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Question  
Interpretation

Content

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Addition

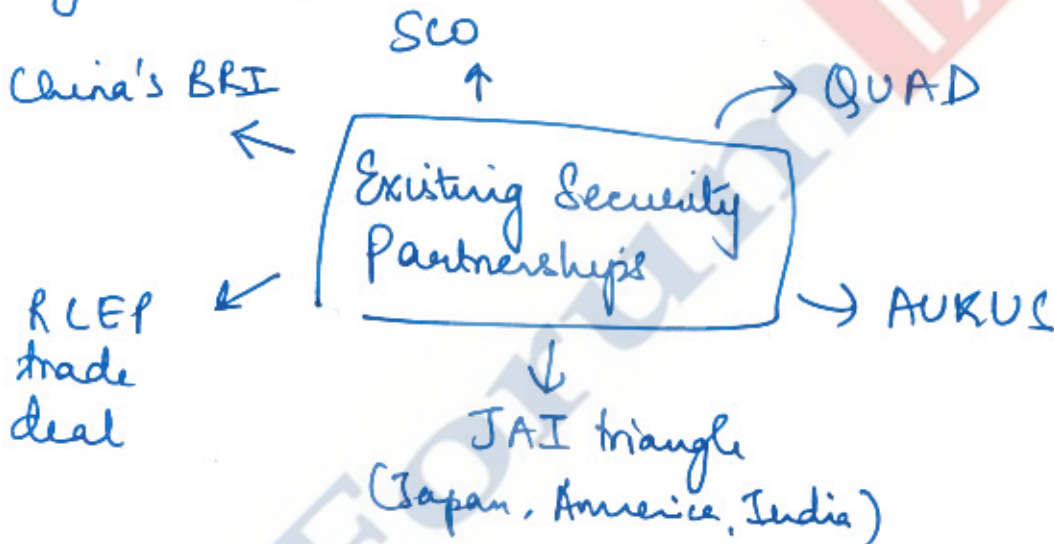
Total



Q.19) USA-led Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for prosperity (IPEF) is an economic initiative to complement its existing security partnerships in the Indo-Pacific region. Analyze the significance of and challenges to IPEF in the present scenario. (15 marks, 250 words)

समृद्धि के लिए संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका के नेतृत्व वाला इंडो-पैसिफिक इकोनॉमिक फ्रेमवर्क (IPEF) इंडो-पैसिफिक क्षेत्र में अपनी मौजूदा सुरक्षा साझेदारी को पूरा करने के लिए एक आर्थिक पहल है। वर्तमान परिदृश्य में IPEF के महत्व और चुनौतियों का विश्लेषण करें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Indo Pacific is the new theatre of geopolitical manoeuvring by the global powers.



Thus the US led Indo Pacific Economic Framework for prosperity complements its other initiatives.

Importance

- ① Rise of China as the second largest economy threatens the US hegemony

- ② Breakdown of WTO world order of neoliberalism as China misuses its 'developing country' status
- ③ Russia's resurgence with an attack on Ukraine has destabilized global supply chains
- ④ China's Belt & Road Initiative is a unique form of debt diplomacy.
- ⑤ Disregard to the democratic ethos in global order with ~~totalitarian~~ undemocratic countries like Russia, China
- ⑥ World Peace at stake in Indo Pacific



Thus IPEF remains a significant initiative which combined with B3W and Blue Dot Network can



Streamline the economic profile of the region.

Challenges to IPEF

- i- India at the center of Indo Pacific is a swing state & favours Russia, China in many issues  $\rightarrow$  Principle distance, in condemning Russia's acts in Ukraine
- ii- Economic dependency of countries on China makes them averse to stand against it  $\rightarrow$  Asean
- iii- Historical brutalities by USA creates perception against it  $\rightarrow$  Afghanistan misadventure
- iv- Revenge of geography as China's neighbours cannot disregard it  $\rightarrow$  Galwan Valley

Thus while IPEF is a necessary balance in the region, left policy making is required for economic gains for all. (by USA)

Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

Structure/ Presentation
Question Interpretation
Content
Value Addition
Total

Q.20) BRICS has a potential to lead the path towards reformed multilateralism but suffer from numerous internal contradictions. Discuss in light of recently concluded 14th BRICS summit.

(15 marks, 250 words)

ब्रिक्स में बहुपक्षवाद समर्थित सुधार की दिशा में मार्ग का नेतृत्व करने की क्षमता है लेकिन कई आंतरिक अंतर्विरोधों से ग्रस्त हैं। हाल ही में संपन्न 14वें ब्रिक्स शिखर सम्मेलन के आलोक में चर्चा करें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

BRICS was coined in 2009 by Jim O'Neal as emerging markets in the aftermath of Global Financial Crisis 2008.

BRICS → 49% land area  
 → 25% population  
 → 15% trade

The recent 14th BRICS summit highlights

## I Potential for multilateralism

① Balance US hegemony in international institutes like World Bank, IMF with new institutions like NDB, CRA (Contingency Reserve Arrangement)

② Emerging Market Economies together are a strong voice in G20



- ③ Enhance South-South Cooperation along with support from Russia
- ④ Condemn security dilemmas created by expansion of NATO
- ⑤ Fastest growing economies (India, China, Brazil)  
can ensure overcoming the problems in global supply chains
- ⑥ Inter Continental partnership ensures India's vision of 'Vasudha Kutumbaham' and not just a West dominated world order

However BRICS also suffer from many contradictions

- ① Democracy is not a common ground among the members  
 ↳ Autocratic regimes in China, Russia
- ② Instead Intra-disputes ↳ India China on Galwan

- ③ Contesting on other platforms  
 (eg) China blocking India's NSG membership, UNSC seat
- ④ India's alliance with US on QUAD creates concern for  
 → China in Indo Pacific  
 → Russia in its war against NATO
- ⑤ Brazil opposes subsidies given by India on sugar in WTO
- ⑥ China's dream of a Chinese Century against the multilateral & multipolar goal of members like South Africa, India

Thus in the current world 'disorder' of Ukraine crisis, global supply chain disruptions, climate change, and vacuum in international governance, BRICS occupies a key role in straightjacketing the miseries of 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

### Feedback

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Structure/ Presentation	
Question Interpretation	
Content	
Value Addition	
Total	



**Mentor Feedback Questions**

- 1 .....
- 2 .....
- 3 .....
- 4 .....
- 5 .....

**Test Goal**

- 1 .....
- 2 .....
- 3 .....

**Outcomes**

- .....
- .....
- .....
- .....

**Marking Scheme**

Mark	Good	Average	Below average
10 Marker	3.75 – 5.0	3.0 – 3.5	< 3.0
15 Marker	5.75 – 7.0	4.0 – 5.5	< 4.0
✓✓	Key / Relevant Point		
✗	Vague / Irrelevant		

\* Subject to change without prior notice.

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