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TEST CODE : 5 1 0 6 2

FIAS – MGP 2022 (C-12) – GS Paper #2

ForumIAS

GENERAL STUDIES

Name Of Candidate: *Sivya A. Gupte*
Roll No.: *1910066661* Date: *14/7/2022*

Time Allowed: Three Hours

Maximum Marks: 250

INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTION
Q. No.	Max. Marks	Marks Obtained	<p>1. Please do furnish Name, Email, Roll No and Mobile in the answer sheet.</p> <p>2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI, all questions are compulsory.</p> <p>3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p><i>Any specific messages for ForumIAS Mentors/Evaluators with respect to your copy? Write it here.</i></p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p>
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Evaluator's Discretion:			For Student Only
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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
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Parameters	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor
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ADDITIONAL REMARKS

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or	Very Poor

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)

"Doctrine of Essentiality" was adjudicated by a 7-judge bench in Shri v. Nath case, 1954.

Meaning

The doctrine entails that only those religious practices and rituals will be allowed to continue that are "integral", "inherent" and "original" to the religion.

Implications of on Fundamental Rights

1. Art. 25 → bestows rights to conscience, practice, profess and propagation of religion.

• This allows freedom to perform practices prescribed by religious scriptures.

(eg) Ritual bathing during Kumbh Mela.
Offering Namaz 5 times a day.

2.7 Supreme Court itself decides what is essential to the religion.
 → This violates the freedom to decide one's relation with god.

3.1 SC in Ratilal Gandhi Case
 → every person can decide religious beliefs on own judgment.

At the same time the doctrine of essentiality is essential to :

1. Prevent gender discrimination

eg) Sabarimala Temple Entry.

2. Prohibit social evils

eg) Cutting genitals in Parsi women, muslim boys.

3. Balancing nationality with religion

This is essential in a modernised democratic world.

Social or religious morality cannot impinge on constitutional morality - Supreme Court.

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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)

Sec 124 A of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 states that sedition is a cognisable, non-bailable and non-compoundable offence.

Meaning

Sedition means the conduct / speech that incites people to rebel against the state.

Arguments against sedition

1. Doctrine of chilling effect as proposed by US court in 1968; it threatens freedom of speech and expression under 19(1)a.
2. vague definition → Supreme Court in Kedarnath case 1962 limited it to "incitement to violence"; red. down other provisions.
3. Colonial legacy → used against leaders

Feedback

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Structure/
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Interpretation

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B.G. Tilak, M.K. Gandhi, These should not have place in democratic set up.

4] Very low conviction rate.

Argument in favour of retaining it

1. Anushka Singh in "Reddition in liberal Democracies" says after repeal, government resort to more draconian laws like PoTA, TADA, etc.
2. 2.5 front war with Pakistan, China with internal dimension.
3. Misuse cannot entail the removal.

Midway

- Abhinav Chandrachud → tone down, make it bailable
- Reduce use against journalists, dissenter like Vinod Dua, Kanhaiya Kumar case.
- Incorporate Kedarnath judgement principles
- Definition and guidelines are needed.

Dissent is the safety valve of democracy, it needs to be preserved.

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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 still prevalent in India's criminal justice system.

Status of death penalty

a. serious and heinous offences have the maximum punishment as death penalty.

eg) Narkhaya rape convicts.

b. Criminal Procedure Code as well as Indian Penal Code allow for execution of death penalty.

Pardoning power of Governor

Governor has pardoning power over all other offences that do not cover death penalty. Governor can pardon civil, taxation, revenue offences.

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Limitations on pardoning power

1. All death penalties can be pardoned only by the President of India.
2. The Constitution limits Governor's role in pardoning death sentences.

However,

3. S/He can carry out other tasks:
 - a. remit → reduce time
 - b. suspend → for some time
 - c. reprieve → lesser sentence
 - d. commute → reduce the sentence.

4. All the ~~power~~ actions can be taken against laws made by state legislature and not the Parliament.

The pardoning power of Governor are kept restricted as President is modelled on the "fountain of justice" principle of UK.

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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)

52nd amendment act, 1985 provided the 10th schedule providing the disqualification of members of parliament and state legislature on grounds of defection from one party to another.

Divergence between intent and impact

Intent :

1.] Prevent Defection

2.] Responsibility of speaker or Presiding officer.

Impacts :

- Horse-trading of members.
- defection by independent members as well as hobnobbed member.
- Silence and inaction by Presiding officer.
- They impact allow newer formations. eg: Maharashtra rebel members in 2022.
- Submitting resignation to ~~avoid~~ ^{escape} law.

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3. allow for splits

Whole sale trading of members. more members joined and kept in resorts by adding new ones.

4. Building Trust of voters

- Unfair for voters who vote on basis of party ideologies.
- voters left are mute spectators

Measures

1. Independent authority to decide cases
2. Complete removal of defection law as it hampers freedom of speech of members.
3. More role to be given to Committee of Privileges.
4. redefining merger clause.

Defection impacts the democratic principles and voter's trust. It is weaponised by dominant parties. This needs to be addressed with state, civil society and all stakeholders collaboratively.

Structure/ Presentation
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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)

Traditional bureaucracy as founded during colonial period envisages roles of administration during colonial period, welfare during post-independence and facilitation and mediation during modern era.

Perpetuating old order

1. Corruption due to concentration of powers.
2. "Nai-Baap Sarkar" attitudes of parochial nature of bureaucratic structure.
3. Promotion based not ~~not~~ on merit but on seniority makes it top-heavy and incompetitive.
4. Old values in new structures are bound to conflict.
eg. Digitisation v/s centralisation.

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Need of the hour is transformative role

1. moving away from Weberian model to new public management system.
2. multistakeholder implementation
3. collaboration with NGOs, CSOs, think tanks. (Hota Committee)
4. Bottom-up feedback mechanisms for implementation and policy monitoring.
5. Tech-enabled and ear to the ground bureaucracy (e-office, CPGRAMS)
6. sensitisation ~~to~~ training and field-based on-the job training.

eg. Mission Karmayogi

Bureaucracy has stood the test of time and is essential for developmental process. Thus, it needs to be relevant, sensitive and transformative in nature.

Structure/ Presentation
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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)

NITI Aayog define NGOs as the form of civil society with a defined structure and specialised function.

Importance of sustainable alliance

Filling vacuum left by the state

→ Improve reach of government eg: during 2005 Tsunami rescue operations.

Policy making more relevant eg: ADR, PUC

→ Better social touch, connect. Use for behaviour change.

Resource efficiency and manpower limitations are overcome.

eg) Beti Bachao, Swachh Bharat.

Hurdles to the alliances

1. Trust deficit between the two visible in the over regulation of NGOs.

2. Anti-state activities

- IB → NGOs cost 2-3% of GDP by obstructionist policies.

3. Western agenda in India

- CBI → Greenpeace anti-coal campaign funded by west.

4. Attitude of state towards NGOs are not seen as partners but "bundles"

Ways to root remedy

1. Vijay Kumar Committee → reduce over regulation
2. Reward and punishment for rogue NGOs
3. Training for complementary behaviour
4. Common law to govern NGOs.
5. Universities - Industry - NGO collabs.

Spirit of sacrifice and public work has to be strengthened to improve role of NGOs in developmental process.

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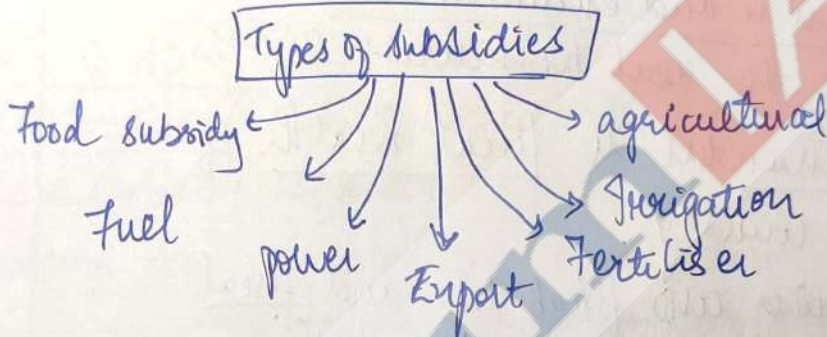
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Q.7) Subsidies have morphed into a populist tool to achieve electoral objectives rather than developmental goals. Examine. (10 marks, 150 words)

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)

subsidies are like spoon-feeding a child. It is useful in infancy but cripples her in all-round development.



Populist tool

1. subsidies hinder the fiscal deficit of the economy.
2. It has become an effective political tool.

Eg. Punjab elections of 2022 promised free electricity by AAP.

3. vote-bank politics

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to live rural section, farming community
 (eg) food and irrigation subsidy.

Impacts on development

1. Subsidies are not a panacea
2. Inclusion and exclusion errors → leaves the real beneficiaries away.
3. Detrimental to fiscal health of the country.

(eg) during COVID fiscal debt and fiscal deficits were all time high, beyond FRBM act limits of 60%.

Way forward

1. Rationalisation of good and bad subsidies
2. Technology for DBT and reduce leakage
3. Promote "Give it up" like LPG fuel subsidies.

Subsidies are needed to address welfare needs but needs a massive restructuring to fulfill its aims.

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Q.8) N adequ

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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)

National Commission for Scheduled Tribes
NCST came into existence in 2004 under
article 338-A by 89th Amendment Act, 2003.

Role of NCST

1. investigate and monitor into legal and constitutional safeguards.
2. make recommendations on measures for socio-economic developments of STs.
3. Participate in planning process
4. make reports to President annually.

Challenges in performance

1. NCST has no implementation mechanism
2. It cannot suo moto take cases upon itself.
3. Its recommendations are not binding and not paid attention to.

Other mechanisms

1. Collaboration with Civil Society and NGOs
eg: Friends of Tribal, Akhil Bharatiya Adivasi Mahasabha.
2. Implementation mechanism to take charge of its recommendations.
3. Complementing with CBI, state police to take cases against STs.
4. Relief and Rehabilitation works to be supervised by NCSTs.
→ as 83% of displaced are tribals.
5. Field visits, Participative Rural Appraisals for data collection, awareness generation, trust-building.
6. Addressing developmental deficits according to J. Nehru's Tribal Panchasheel.

Tribals are one of the most vulnerable sections and their development is essential for the multi-cultural nature of India.

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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)

West Asia holds tremendous significance for India due to cultural, historical, diaspora and economic ties.

Depth and diversity in relations

• Economic

1. Energy security → India's imports of 60% depends on West Asia
2. Bilateral trade accounts for \$87 Bn maximum with UAE.

• Security

1. Defence deals with Qatar, Israel and UAE.
2. Defence exercises with Oman (Al Nagah) UAE (Desert Eagle) and newly established with Saudi Arabia.

• People to People

There are 8 million Indians working in W Asia

- Soft Power diplomacy
 - Building Temple in UAE
 - Nallayam Films
 - Project Mausam

Navigation of Geopolitical hurdles

1. role of external players like China is increasing
2. Domestic issues leading to diplomatic fallout → prevented by inperson visits.
3. Tight rope walking → between Israel, Iran, Saudi possible due to strategic autonomy.
4. Rising communal trends → navigated with cultural diplomacy eg: Project Mausam.

The West Asia is looking east, this should be complemented by look West policy of India - MEA. S. Jaishankar.

Feedback (For OFFICE use)
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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 प्रतिबिंब।

The Russia-Ukraine crisis began with attacks on 24th February, 2022. (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Present Situation

- 1. Frozen war
- ↳ emergence of loosely knit power blocks.
- ↳ war with no end as present.
- ↳ weaponisation of trade, energy

India's response

1. India is conducting a "balancing act"

↳ It did not endorse anti Russia statement at UNSC.

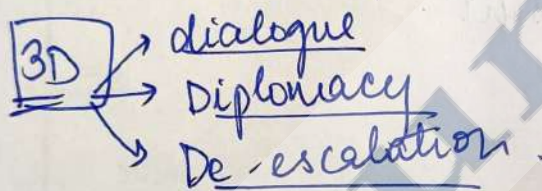
↳ It did not endorse anti-West statement at recent BRICS summit.

2. It's interests are reflected in the response as -

- Russia is a reliable partner,
- great defence cooperation,
- essential for nuclear, oil energy security.

At the same time India:

1. sends humanitarian aid to Ukraine
2. It condemns the massive human loss and damage at UNSC.
3. It instills faith in



Thus, MEA. S. Jaishankar said
 India's response is based on our thinking,
our interest and our values'.

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Q.11) Disagree th

उपयुक्त : न्यायपरि

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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)

Electoral reforms means the suitable changes that are made to structure, process and personnel involved in elections.

Role of Judiciary in electoral reforms

1. Disqualification of members

In Abhiram Singh case 2017 candidates disqualified on the seeking votes on grounds of race, religion, language, etc.

2. Disclosure of criminal records of candidates - in ADR case of 2002, convicted or pending cases to be made public.

3. Relaxations to candidates to be void
In Lily Thomas case - SC said that these relaxations hamper representation.

4. In PUC case - writ petition
The option of NOTA was provided.

The role of Judiciary has been of great value but it also affects the separation of power.

1. It leads to Judicial overreach as it is Parliament who makes laws.

2. Judicial adventurism when it transgresses the functioning of Election Commission which is another constitutional body.

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3.] Separation of power is a basic feature of the constitution as proclaimed by Supreme Court itself.

Judiciary does not violate the doctrine but fills the vacuum, lacuna.

- Judiciary provides for decriminalisation of politics
- It promotes reforms that were long pending - RTI for criminal records.
- It empowers other institutions

Thus, judiciary is a bulwark of Indian constitution that provides, promote and profess the changes that the political culture aspires for.

Feedback

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Value Addition
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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)

The Constitution describes India as a "union of states" and the word "federalism" does not appear in the constitution.

Reasons cited by constitution makers

1. Preference given to strong centre and centralising tendencies.

eg) Based on Canadian model of Federalism.

2. India is not formed by coming together of states.

- "India is indestructible union of destructible states".

3. State formed for administrative efficiency.

4. Background of communal violence and partition was fresh which led to preference for stronger centre.
5. Development of a newly formed country
- this required resource mobilisation
 - strong foreign policies
 - efficient administration.

Due to these reasons, India was made a federation with a strong centre.

Implications of Centre-State relations

1. Asymmetric Federalism

- States are not equally represented in Rajya Sabha.
- special provisions for states under Art. 371 eg: Nagaland, Gujarat, etc.

2. Financial tensions
 - GST deliberations
 - Finance commission recommendations..
3. Appointment of governors

It is highly contested and controversial as s/he acts as "agent of centre".
4. Non - fruitful functioning of Interstate and Centre - state councils and institutions

Way Forwards

- Provision of equal representation to States
- Use of channels of Inter-state Council, Zonal Councils for grievance redressal.
- Sarkaria Commission → guidelines to appointment of governor and dissolution of State assembly.

Federalism is a basic feature of constitution and it needs to be preserved, promoted.

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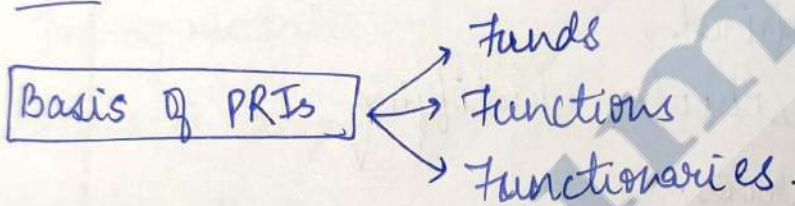
Q.13) Political decentralization without devolution of funds and functions to panchayats has resulted in representation but not empowerment. Examine whether devolution of funds and functions alone can transform panchayats into effective institutions of self-governance.

(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 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act provides for Panchayati Raj Institutions at 3rd tier to provide democratic decentralisation.



Impact of non-devolution of funds

1. There is no implementation of schemes, reforms.
2. PRIs reliance on devolution of funds is nearly 93%.
3. Reliance of own funds is low due to lack of will to tax own people

Non-devolution of functions

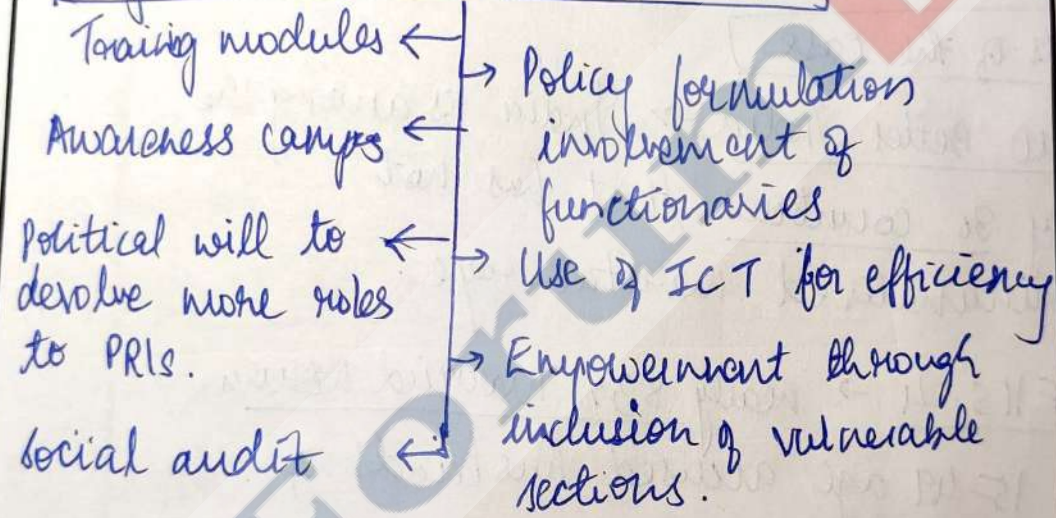
1. There is only representation but no on-ground changes.
2. ~~B~~ Power without tools to exercise power cripples the institution.
3. 29 subjects are enlisted under which PRTs have been able to control less than one third.
 eg water, schools, identifying beneficiaries.
4. No avenues for social audit

Impacticality of reliance solely on funds and functions

1. Training and empowerment of functionaries not possible with only funds.

2. Only functions devolution leads to Top Down or Top heavy administration.
3. Non-involvement of youth and growing dissatisfaction.
4. Rising corruption, Stamp barpanch due to non-chalant attitudes.

Beyond Funds and Functions



PRIs are agents of change at grassroot, it provides a linkage between policy formulation and outcome orientation. Thus, its empowerment is sine qua non for development of India.

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)

Marital rape is defined as an form of violence perpetrated by a spouse on the other.

Facts of the case

- NGO Better India → India is among the only 36 countries that has not criminalised marital rape.
- NFHS-4 → nearly 83% married women in 15-49 age accused husbands of marital rape.
- Rural women face double the threat of forced sexual acts than urban.

Need for criminalisation of marital rape is thus clear. But there are certain

Issues

1. Gujarat HC said → marriage is a sacred institution and court cannot interfere
2. Delhi HC in Harvinder Kaur case states Art 14 & 21 do not apply in households.
3. Fear of misuse of provision for other purposes.
4. Difficult to medically establish marital rape.
5. "Implied consent" is not obvious and not permanent. Thus, rape identification difficult.

Way forward

1. Reduce the ambiguity in sec 375 and rape of a minor as sec. 375 makes an exception for girls aged 15 and above.
2. Emulation of international practices.
3. Misuse cannot be a reason to not address a challenge.
 - Sc said guidelines are needed to address the issue.

No sacredness of marital bond can justify forced sexual acts. Justice thus, "injustice anywhere is threat to a justice everywhere."

Feedback (For OFFICE use)	
Structure/ Presentation	
Question Interpretation	
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Value Addition	
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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 considered the new oil"

Open Government Data is a philosophy as set of policies that promotes sharing of information for the benefit of all stakeholders.

Public sector data is needed in :

Informed Decision making

1. Promote transparency and accountability
2. Citizen-centric approach

eg. RTI Act

3. Public Service Delivery efficiency.

eg. Sarvaam model

4. Freedom of choice and options to citizens

eg. Railways and digitisation of data.

Accelerating socio-economic transformation

1. Facilitate formation of SHGs -
2. Training in skills and awareness.
3. Use of data to reduce challenges in system.

eg. use of RTI to show corruption by ADR.

4. Equality of opportunities

eg. SECC data help targetting beneficiaries.

5. Empowering of the weak → publishing policies

6. Grievance redressal through

eg. citizen charters

Democratising innovation

1. Digital revolution providing new vistas for youth

eg. NITI Aayog's AI Mission "AI for All"

2. Data analytics for budgetting.

3. Data-driven policy making.

4. Data as a response and monitoring.

Bottlenecks in public data sharing

- 1. Technology apathy ←
 - access and affordable data access & handle ←
 - fear of misuse of data ←
- Public digital literacy is low.
 - disintegrated approach of each department
 - lack of consensus
 - Secrecy over information preference.

Way forward

1. Hiring data scientists and data consultants in policy formulation.
2. B. N. Srikrishna Committee : users ensure privacy and security of data
3. Kris Gopalan Committee → promotion of analysis of non-personal data for governance.
4. Use of AI, Deep Learning to reach maximum beneficiaries
5. Promote research, think tanks, hackathon to test loopholes.

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)

According to the coveted QS World Universities Ranking none of the higher institutes feature in top 100. While IIT-Delhi and IIT Bombay come in Top 500.

Difficulties to reach top ranking

1. Methodological

- QS Rankings are based on perception indicators.
- Weightage given to foreign collabs and foreign students is more.
- Western bias in methodology.

2. Institutional Deficits

- Lack of Autonomy in curriculum

designing.

- b. Focus on rote learning.
- c. Inherent administrative hurdles.

3. Lack of innovation

- a. Proliferation of mediocracy.
- b. innovation is not a parameter for scholarship.

Ex.

4. Inward looking policies

- a. sceptical about opening up to foreign education.
- b. bureaucratic hurdles for foreign collaborations.

Steps for Transformation

1. Curriculum

- a. relevant, industry based and socially-significant.
- b. application-based learning
- c. continuous assessment and research in education.

2. Strengthening primary and secondary education as a base for higher education
3. Performance-based incentive to universities.
 - a. rewards for scholarships.
 - b. hackathons for competition.
4. Foreign engagement
 - a. allow FDI in education
 - b. allow more foreign students and universities.
 - c. import of educational services.
5. Devising indigenous ranking
 - a. to prevent western bias
 - b. suitable to Indian needs.
6. Emulation of best practices

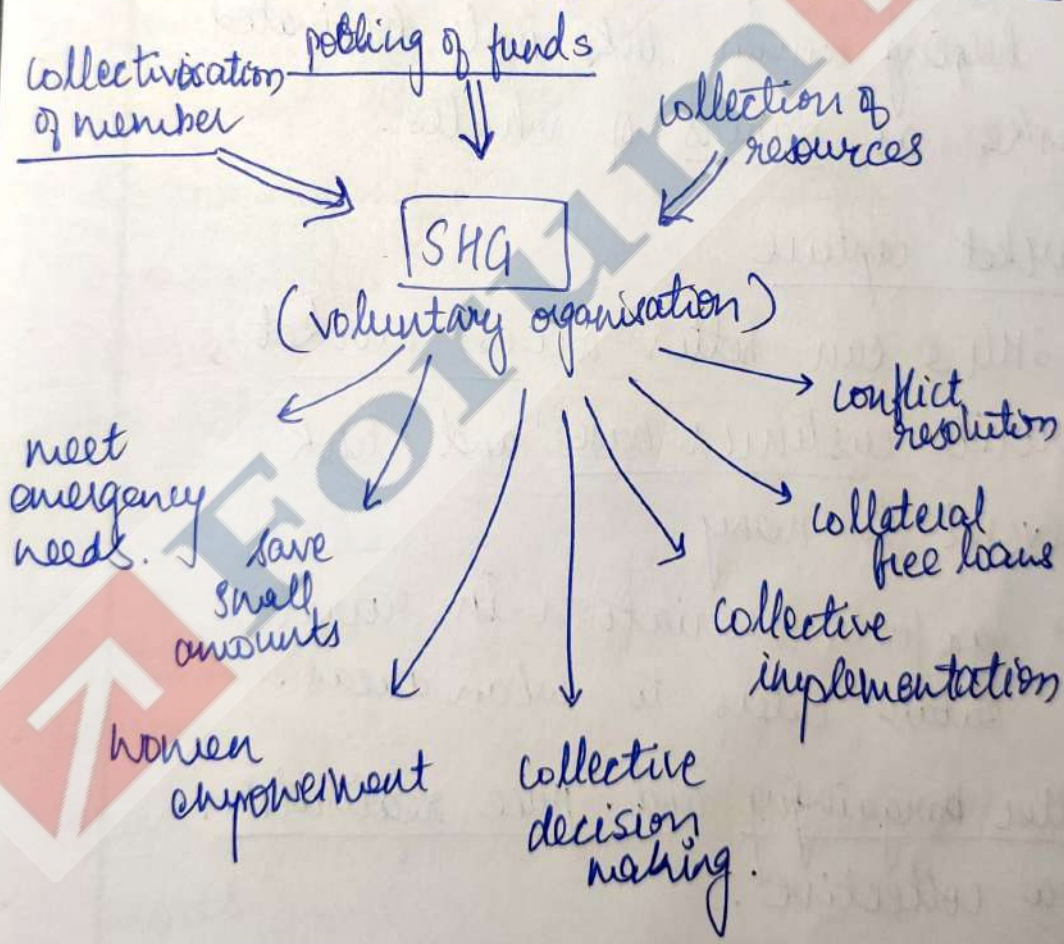
High education is the zenith of education; it must serve the needs of the society, economy and aspirations of youth.

Feedback	
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Question Interpretation	
Content	
Value Addition	
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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)

Self Help groups (SHGs) are self-governed peer controlled information group of people having a desire to perform a task collectively.



Effective model of social entrepreneurship for women

1. Collateral free loans for women-led enterprises

eg. Lijjat Papad in Pune.

2. Schemes like Aajeevika Gramin Express as helping women take non dominated tasks as drivers of vehicles.

3. Market capture

SHG can better access market, provide customer base and link several to many.

eg. Agrofoods association in rural Satara caters to urban areas.

4. Better bargaining and price realisation as a collective.

Multiplicier effect on rural area

1. Research shows → women SHGs have reduced MMR by 29% and IMR - under 5 by 33% in Karnataka.
2. Educational advancement of women, girl child as women who save spend on children's education.
3. Skill Development → SHG as a production unit and semi-skilling of members.
4. Economic and financial knowledge is promoted, book-keeping, banking is needed.
eg) NABARD- SHG- Bank link program.

Women led initiatives have the domino effect as J. Nehru said once "women are on the move, the family moves, village moves, the nation moves".

Feedback
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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)

Welfare schemes are based on the principle of welfare economics where the government is seen as the "provider and facilitator" of development.

Present Nature of welfare schemes

1. Top-Down approach

- formulations take place at the center while implementation lies at periphery.

2. Demand-supply mismatch

as seen in schemes of tribal welfare not sensitive to social realities

eg) Failure of dairy development in central India due to milk taboos.

Thus, there is need for reforms like.

Principle of Participation

1. Provide more role to all stakeholders.
2. Increases spirit of ownership.
eg. MGNREGA assets are owned by community.
3. Feedback mechanism
4. Flexibility in implementation
that will help suit needs of population
eg. Diversity in midday meals in different states.
5. Participation will increase spirit of collaboration and healthy competition
eg. Swachh Bharat Mission
Smart Cities Challenge.

Accountability as a principle

1. Social auditing of welfare scheme to understand outcomes achieved

eg. MGNREGA allows social audit.
Meghalaya passed a social audit law for welfare schemes.

2.] Zero-based budgeting

It will help understand the need, relevance of continuation of the scheme.

3.] Instill responsibility among implementors

Functionaries held liable for good performance.

4.] Peoples' participation will increase

as their awareness needed to hold the functionaries accountable.

Public policy and welfare schemes need to instill flexibility, accountability, sensitivity to achieve the desired outcomes.

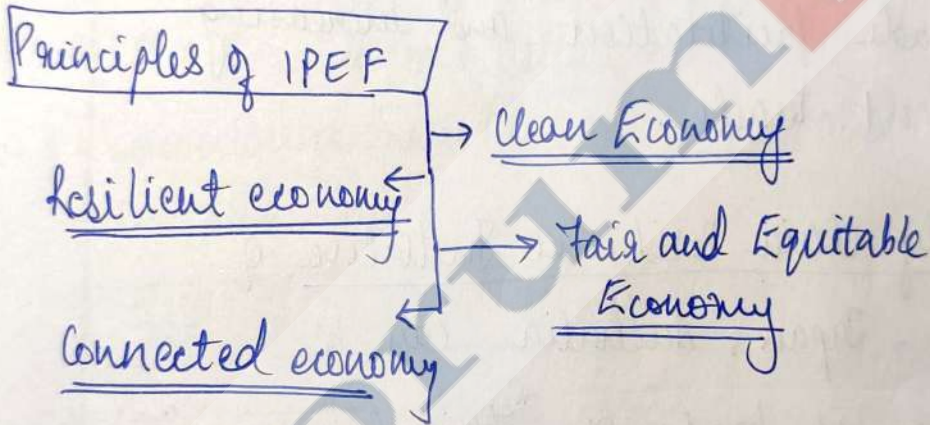
Feedback
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Structure/ Presentation
Question Interpretation
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Value Addition
Total

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 Economic Framework (IPEF) is a US-led geo-economic initiative of 14 countries which comprise of QUAD, ASEAN and others.



Complementing the existing security partnerships

1. Facilitator's role

IPEF can facilitate by adding value to

economic projects

eg. Build back better world of G7.

2.] It can bank on the sustainability certification as provided under Blue Dot Network

3.] South-South cooperation can be achieved as trade facilitation and increasing resilient trade.

4.] Supply Chain Resilience Initiative of India, Japan, Australia can be helped as it banks on "Friendshoring" -

5.] Countering -

Present scenario

1. World amidst post-covid recovery, inflation.

2. Russia-Ukraine conflict and repercussions
3. Weaponisation of trade, energy, finance.

Thus, this makes IPEF more significant

1. Alternate to Beijing consensus of authoritarian world order.
2. Combined GDP of \$34 TN and population of 2.6 Bn is the strength.
3. Economic partnership led by fair and principled trade.

But challenges like

1. Friendshoring limits trade
2. Against multilateralism
3. China allies like Myanmar, Cambodia not a part.
4. No common grounds between members.

For India, IPEF provides a window to integrate its Act East Policy after withdrawal from RCEP.

Feedback

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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 है। हाल ही में संपन्न 14वें ब्रिक्स शिखर सम्मेलन के आलोक में चर्चा करें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Jim O'Neil said that the next world order will be built on "BRICS". BRICS is grouping of 5 emerging economies - Brazil, Russia, India, China, S. Africa.

Potential for Multilateralism

- 1] Objectives of BRICS → rebalancing international world order.
→ Global economic and development architecture reformation.
- 2] Expanded New Development Bank - with more members like VAE, Bangladesh, Uruguay.
- 3] Voice of the Developing countries
eg. BRICS Joint statement on reforming multilateralism.

3] Common voice against terrorism, humanitarian crises affecting world peace

4] Potential of collaboration in the Industrial 4.0 and digitised globalised world.

But despite this BRICS faces some internal contradictions

1] Limited intra-BRICS trade as compared to TPP, European Union.

India-BRICS trade is only \$113 Bn mostly with China \$87 Bn.

2] Overwhelming Chinese Presence ~~the~~ threatens India and South Africa due to debt-traps laid in neighbourhood.

3] Trust deficit

→ visible during Russia-Ukraine conflict.
→ emerged cleavages in statements announced.

4.] No single voice on terrorism
 As China continuously blocks India and shield "all weather friend Pakistan"
 eg. sanctions against A. Nakei at UNSC.

5.] limited P-2-P diplomacy.

6.] \$ Dollar led economy → need for
 dedollarisation.

During 14th summit there was
reinvigoration of reformed multilateralism

1. make global governance - inclusive, representative, participative
2. innovation and inclusive solutions
3. Multilateral organisations to be responsive, action-oriented and solution-oriented.

Antonio Guterres → "global challenges need global responses organised in a multi-lateral way."

Feedback	
(For OFFICE use)	
Structure/Presentation	
Question Interpretation	
Content	
Value Addition	
Total	

Write
in this Area)

Mentor Feedback Questions

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

Test Goal

- 1
- 2
- 3

Outcomes

-
-
-
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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.