

Test Code: 31083

FIAS – 2020 – GS4E/HM1

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ACADEMY

GENERAL STUDIES

Name Of Candidate	Mukul Jambhokei		
Email Id.		Roll No.	1910044989
Mobile No.		Date:	07-12-20

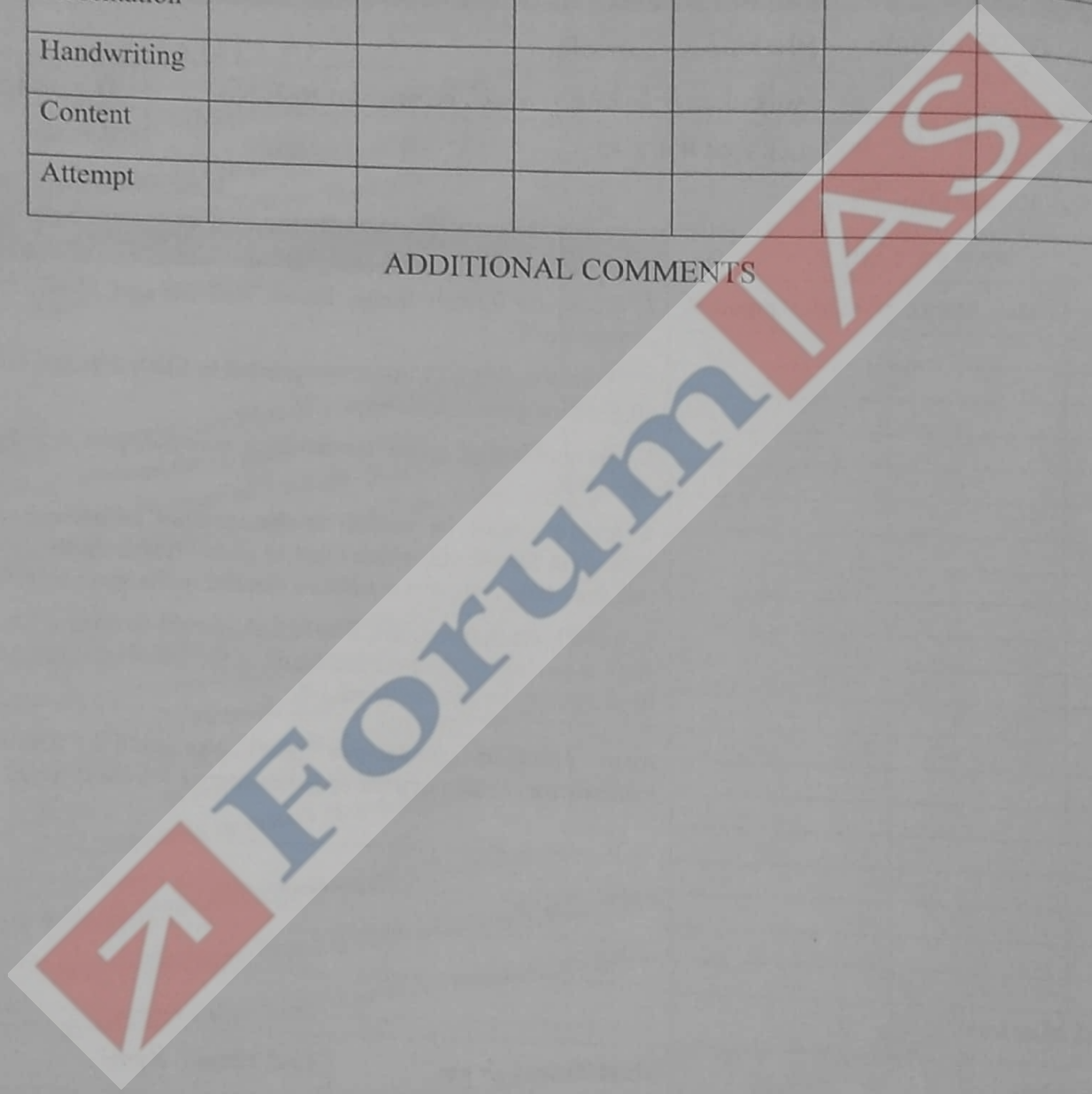
Time Allowed: Three Hours

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 and 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>
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Total Marks:			
Remarks:			Start Time 4 pm
			End Time 7 pm
			Mode Of Examination : Online <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Offline <input type="checkbox"/>
			ECN CODE:
			Evaluation Date:

Parameters	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor
Language						
Structure						
Presentation						
Handwriting						
Content						
Attempt						

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS



Q.1) What do you understand by the concept of "Rule of law" under Indian constitution? How is it different from that in the UK constitution? (10 Marks, 150 Words)

भारतीय संविधान में वर्णित 'विधि का शासन' की अवधारणा से आप क्या समझते हैं? यह ब्रिटेन के संविधान से किस प्रकार अलग है? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The concept of "Rule of law" means that every citizen is equally subject to the lawful orders of the ordinary courts.

Features of "Rule of Law" →

- Absence of privileges → everyone's political-legal status is equal. However, exceptions such as immunities for the President w.r.t official actions.
- Abhors absolutism → any kind of absolute powers must be shunned. However, exceptions such as contempt powers of supreme court.
- Rights → ^{under} ~~by~~ the Indian constitution, the constitution is the source of rights for its citizens under Part III.

Differences in the concept of "Rule of Law" →

Indian constitution

- Constitution has rights of citizens codified under Part III
- The Parliament isn't a sovereign body and hence comes under judicial review
- More instances of ~~absol~~ absolute powers codified. eg. Speaker's powers wrt Money Bills

UK constitution

- The rights are mentioned at various places and not codified at one single place
- The Parliament is a sovereign body and its actions cannot be challenged
- Since there's no unwritten constitution, less instances of absolute powers

With time, the Indian constitution has developed many conventions and hence its Rule of Law imitates the UK model.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.2) Discuss the key tension areas in centre state relations. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

केंद्र-राज्य सम्बंधों में तनाव के प्रमुख मुद्दों पर चर्चा करें।

(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The Constitution of India is federal in nature, yet its Centre-biased with a number of unitary features.

Key tension areas in Centre-state relations →

① Legislative

- The states allege that the Centre occupies even the Concurrent list, alongside its power on Union list (Article 246)
- The states allege pressure from the Centre due to Residuary Powers (Article 248)
- Instances of Governor reserving bills for the President (Article 200)

The states allege misuse of Articles 249, 250 and 252

② Administrative

- instances of imposition of President's rule under Article 356 on the basis of a

doctored Governor's report

- Control over All India Services
- states allege arm-twisting over Articles 257, 258

Financial Relations

- GST revenues are fluctuating and delay in transfer, eg. during Covid-19 crisis
- Different cesses charged by Centre not shared
- The states allege that they need more funds from the net divisible pool of taxes

Centre's side of story

- need to spend of defence, balanced regional development, climate change, etc.
- a strong centre is needed according to lessons from history where weak centres caused ~~chaoses~~ chaos

The Sarkaria Commission and Punchii commission recommendations should be followed and Inter-State Council (A263) re-energised.

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Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

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Q.3) Rajya Sabha is not as powerful as Lok Sabha, but powerful enough in comparison to state legislative councils. Examine. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

राज्य सभा लोकसभा की तरह शक्तिशाली नहीं है, लेकिन राज्य विधान परिषदों की तुलना में पर्याप्त शक्तिशाली है। परीक्षण करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The Rajya Sabha is the second chamber of the Parliament, having a maximum of 250 members elected for a 6 year tenure from different states.

Rajya Sabha not as powerful as Lok Sabha →

- The Rajya Sabha has to return a money bill within 14 days to Lok Sabha
- The Rajya Sabha cannot vote on demand for grants during Budget
- The Rajya Sabha cannot move a vote of no-confidence against Council of Ministers
- In a joint sitting of the Houses, the ~~the~~ Lok Sabha's Speaker presides over and the Lok Sabha's ~~speaker~~ opinion has more weight

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Rajya Sabha as more powerful than state Legislative Councils →

- Equal powers wrt Lok Sabha in terms of Financial Bills [11] under Article 117
- Take part in the election of President and Vice-President
- Has the powers to impeach the Vice President
- Takes part in the impeachment process of the judges of the Supreme Court and the High Courts
- In case of ordinary bills, if there's disagreement with Lok Sabha, there's provision of Joint Sitting (Article 108)

The Rajya Sabha is considered to be the House of Elders. It must critically ~~scrutinize~~ scrutinize all bills to save the spirit of the Constitution.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.4) Do you think whether the remnants of various colonial laws have undermined the true meaning of Freedom of speech and expression under Article 19 of Indian Constitution? Justify.

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

क्या आपको लगता है कि विभिन्न औपनिवेशिक विधिक प्रावधानों ने भारतीय संविधान के अनुच्छेद 19 के तहत अभिव्यक्ति की स्वतंत्रता और अभिव्यक्ति के वास्तविक अर्थ को कम किया है? न्यायसंगत सिद्ध करें।

The Constitution of India gives every citizen the Freedom of Speech and Expression in Article 19(1)(a) for the development of the individual and collective good of the society through the concept of the marketplace of ideas.

Colonial laws that undermine Article 19(1)(a)

- ① Section 124A of IPC → The Sedition law is often misused such as in the case of JNU student Kanhaiya Kumar
- ② Section 295A of IPC → ~~to prevent~~ invoked in case of hurting religious feelings of a community
- ③ Section 153A of IPC → invoked if someone found causing enmity among two or more communities

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④ Section 499 of IPC → defamation law against slander (oral) and libel (written)

Effect of such laws →

- Media gagging which reduces scrutiny by media
- Political opponents are silenced leading to reduction in democratic outcomes
- Common citizen isn't able to express views freely even on social media

Need for such laws →

① The apex court has already narrowed down the applicability of these laws, such as Section 124A of IPC in Kadarnath Singh Case

② Article 19(2) provides for reasonable restrictions on Article 19(1)(a)

Such laws should be legislatively annulled through constructive debates and at worst, should carry only civil penalties.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.5) What are the parliamentary privileges enshrined in the constitution for protecting the authority and dignity of the house and its members? (10 Marks, 150 Words)

सदन और उसके सदस्यों के अधिकार और सम्मान की रक्षा के लिए संविधान में वर्णित संसदीय विशेषाधिकार क्या हैं? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The Parliamentary privileges derive their source from the Constitution (Article 105), conventions, Rules of the House, ~~and~~ among other places.

Privileges enshrined in the Constitution →

- ① No action in any courts against MPs for what they say on the floor of the House
- ② Can stop anyone from publishing the details of the proceedings of the House
- ③ MPs cannot be arrested 40 days before and 40 days after a session in case of civil penal offences;

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- No compulsory jury service by MPs during an ongoing session
- Laws such as defamation or sedition cannot be invoked against MPs for what they say on floor of House

Way forward → Some conventional and un-codified parliamentary privileges may be codified in the constitution to enable MPs to play their role as law-makers more effectively and reduce any biased action against them by the Presiding officer.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.6) Discuss the various issues in the effective functioning of the anti-defection law.
Does the law, while deterring defections, also lead to suppression of healthy intra party debates and dissent?
(10 Marks, 150 Words)

दलबदल विरोधी कानून को प्रभावी बनाने हेतु विद्यमान विभिन्न मुद्दों पर चर्चा करें।

क्या यह कानून दल-बदल की अवहेलना करते हुए, दलों के भीतर स्वस्थ आंतरिक बहसों और असंतोष का दमन को भी बढ़ावा देता है?
(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The anti-defection law is mentioned in Schedule V of the Constitution. In the Kihoto Hollohan case (1992), the apex court said that the Speaker's decision to disqualify members under Schedule V is subject to judicial review.

Issues in anti-defection law →

① Whip-gagging → the government needs to convince only the leader of opposition and other members of opposition shall have to obey the party line

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② promotes defection in wholesale
(2/3 rule) and not in retail
(defection of individual members)

③ Speaker's bias and wrong use of
power can destabilise governments,
recently in Karnataka & MP

Steps needed to ensure intra party debates
and dissent is maintained →

① Schedule X powers must be exercised
by independent body like Election Commission

② Presiding officer must give adequate
time to Opposition members on floor of House

③ apex court must revisit its observations
on Schedule X to make it full-proof

Intra party democracy must
be promoted to check government's
mis-feasance and malfeasance.

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Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.7) How Far do you agree with the view that Election Commission of India (ECI) needs to be granted more rule making power to enable better conduct of elections? Give reasons in support of your answer. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

निर्वाचन आयोग (ECI) को चुनाव के बेहतर संचालन को प्रभावी बनाने के लिए अधिक नियम बनाने की आवश्यकता है, इस दृष्टिकोण से आप कितना सहमत हैं? अपने उत्तर के समर्थन में कारण दें।

(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The Election Commission under Article 324 has been given plenary powers wrt conduct of elections according to apex court in Gill & vs LEC case (1977).

Current status of ECI →

- ① not able to control sensational print news
- ② not able to check spread of misinformation and fake news on social media
- ③ not able to check actual spending of candidates during elections
- ④ political parties and candidates routinely flout the model

code of conduct

⑤ ECI doesn't have power to de-register parties

Steps needed →

- ① more powers under statute to punish for violation of MCC
- ② check social media for fake news via IT resources
- ③ control paid news and spending by candidates through appropriate mechanisms
- ④ De-registering power wot political parties

The ECI must be adequately strengthened otherwise it'd become a "toothless tiger" against violation of MCC.

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Q.8) What is the importance of Local Self Governments in a Democracy such as India? Why do you think did the makers of the Constitution not give adequate importance to this subject in the original constitutional document? (10 Marks, 150 Words)

भारत जैसे लोकतंत्र में स्वतंत्रता एवं शासन का क्या महत्व है? क्या आपको लगता है कि संविधान के निर्माताओं ने मूल संवैधानिक दस्तावेज़ में इस विषय को पर्याप्त महत्व नहीं दिया? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Local self governments were included in Constitution through 73rd & 74th Constitution Amendment Acts.

Importance of LSGs →

- ① Possibility of participative democracy because at MP/MLA level only representative democracy
- ② Training ground for citizens & future leaders
- ③ More capable form of government, because: local problems, and local solutions
- ④ More efficient form of government, because: local resources, sustained vigilance

Reasons for inadequate importance in original Constitution document

① Poor resource base, hence financial decentralisation not possible

② The state ground level politics was marked heavily by feudalism, casteism and patriarchy

③ Low level socio-economic development, hence people couldn't be involved adequately in local self governments

Although not present as statutes, local self government was present in Part IV. Today LSAs are helping reduce poverty, improving health, sanitation and infrastructure at the local levels.

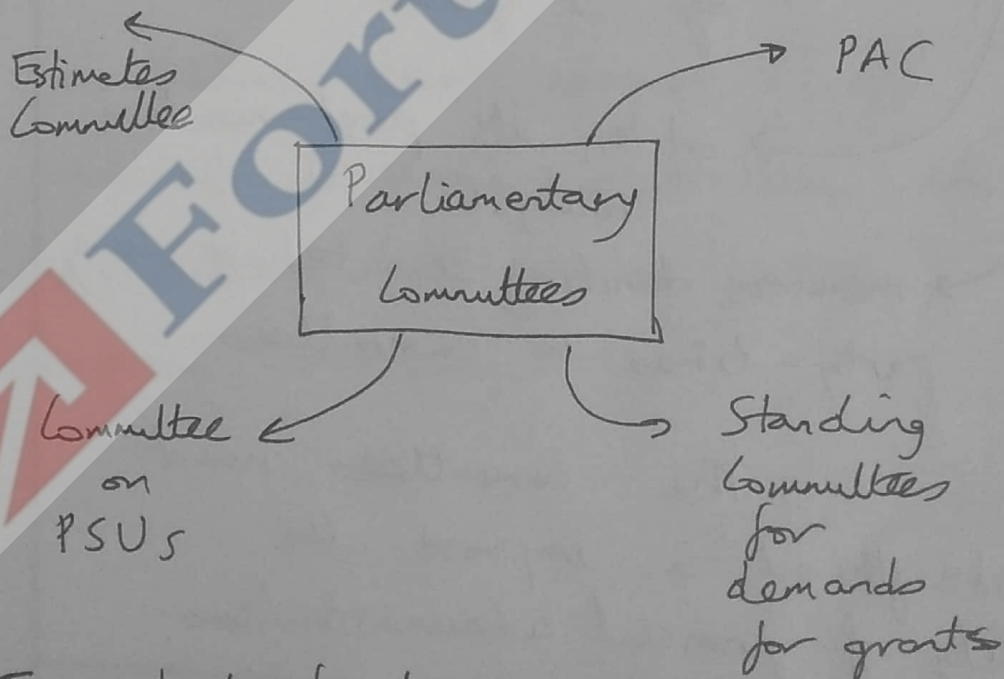
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Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.9) Discuss the role of parliamentary committees in ensuring financial accountability of the executive. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

कार्यपालिका की वित्तीय जवाबदेहीता सुनिश्चित करने में संसदीय समितियों की भूमिका पर चर्चा करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The Parliamentary Committees are formed on permanent basis or adhoc basis for critically scrutinizing the expenditure of government on grounds of legality and propriety.



Important functions →

- ① check government's over-expenditures

and wastages

- ② Suggest improvement in economy
- ③ check corruption and malfeasance
eg. 2G scam
- ④ see if PSUs managed on sound managerial & autonomous basis
- ⑤ review ministerial budgets

Issues

- lack of adequate expertise
- usually limited tenure of 1 year
- often its post-mortem analysis
- members tending to behave along party-lines in committees

The committees must be strengthened to improve the quality of financial administration.

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Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

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Q.10) What do you understand by basic structure doctrine? Highlight the elements which constitute the basic structure as decided in various judgements.

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

आधारभूत संरचना सिद्धांत से आप क्या समझते हैं? विभिन्न न्यायालयी वादोपनिर्णयों में तय किए गए आधारभूत संरचना का निर्माण करने वाले तत्वों को विहित करें।

(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The basic structure doctrine was enunciated by supreme court in Keshavananda Bharati vs union of India case (1973).

It refers to those parts of constitution that cannot be amended because otherwise the constitution shall lose its original identity.

Judgements →

① Maneka case, 1978

→ personal liberty under Article 21 is inviolable

② Mirreva Mills case, 1980

→ reading Due Process of law in Article 21

③ SR Bommai Judgement (1994)

→ Federalism & secularism are part of basic structure

Basic structure doctrine privileges uncertain democracy over certain tyranny.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q11) Elucidate the importance of transparency in government and mention the tools available for upholding transparency. Also, discuss the factors responsible for India's poor performance in Transparency International's Global Corruption Index.

(15 Marks, 250 Words)

सरकार में पारदर्शिता के महत्व को स्पष्ट करें और पारदर्शिता को बनाए रखने के लिए उपलब्ध उपकरणों का उल्लेख करें। साथ ही, ट्रांसपैरेंसी इंटरनेशनल के ग्लोबल करप्शन इंडेक्स में भारत के खराब प्रदर्शन के लिए जिम्मेदार कारकों पर चर्चा करें।

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Transparency in government refers to the process in which the government releases for the common-citizen the ways and means of decision-making. Transparency means that although citizens cannot be a part of the decision-taking process, they are adequately involved in the decision-making process.

Govt Discretion + Opacity = Corruption

Govt Discretion + Transparency = Good governance

Importance of Transparency →

① Confidence-building with citizens hence decisions are received well, eg. absence of transparency

wrt farm bills led to hartals

- ② Course correction possible because constructive opinion is available from opposition
- ③ Clean governance because reduces chances of corruption
- ④ Promotes the honest bureaucrat and increases efficiency of government processes that saves resources

Tools available for upholding Transparency →

- ① The Right to Information Act, 2005
- ② Social audits, eg. in MGNREGA
- ③ Audits by the CAG (Article 148-150)
- ④ The Parliamentary Committees such as the PAC, the Estimates Committee, etc
- ⑤ The Parliamentary tools of question hour, adjournment motion, etc.

India was ranked 80th in 2019 in the latest Global Co

Factors responsible for India's poor performance in the Global Corruption Index →

- ① Culture of opacity in government decision-making, eg. Rafale deals with France
- ② The RTI law has been weakened and the CIOs as well
- ③ The culture of crony capitalism, eg. large campaign donations after removal of ^{which is} Section 183 of Companies Act, 2013
- ④ Ethical moral values of honesty and integrity are low in the society at large
- ⑤ Complicity of courts, media houses, etc. in dealing with government-industry nexus

There's a need to inculcate values of honesty and transparency in government decision-making and strengthen the RTI law to reduce corruption in India.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.12) "The traditional structure and culture of Indian bureaucracy is a major roadblock in the socio-economic development of the country". Critically examine.

(15 Marks, 250 Words)

'भारतीय नौकरशाही की पारंपरिक संरचना और संस्कृति देश के सामाजिक-आर्थिक विकास का एक प्रमुख मार्ग है। आलोचनात्मक परीक्षण करें।

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

The Indian bureaucracy is a child of the colonial government that was raised to enable the British to exploit India in the best possible manner.

Issues with the structure and culture of the Indian bureaucracy →

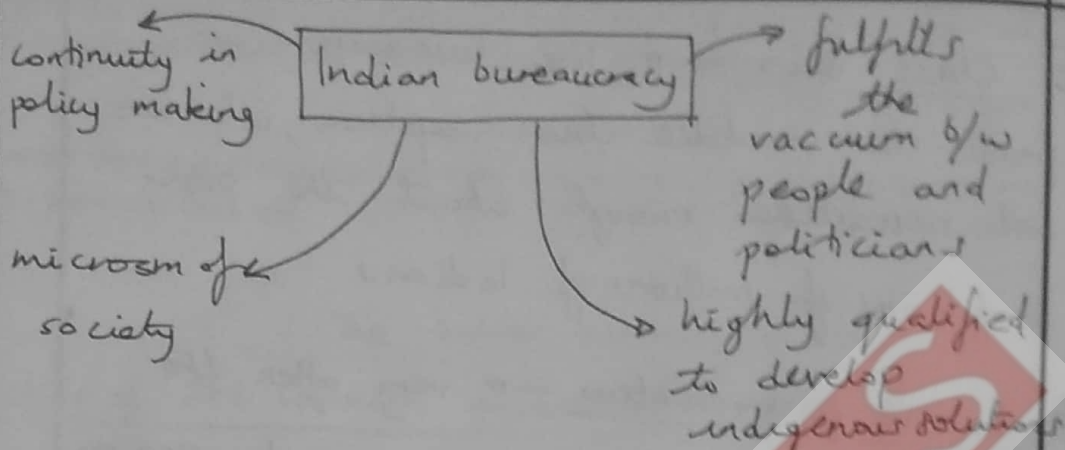
- ① Conservative and status-quoist in attitude → hence slow to react to demands of the society
- ② Cadre-based civil services → some posts are monopolized by specific services, eg. DM is always a generalist IAS
- ③ Concentrates power → episodes of power struggle between political executive and permanent executive leads to weak and poor policy implementation

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(Don't Write
anything in this Area)

- ④ Class bias → The bureaucracy is prone to middle class capture, who are not sensitised enough about the poor conditions of millions of Indians
- ⑤ Social fragmentation → very often the bureaucracy gets divided along caste, region, religion and ethnic lines and this affects the competency of the bureaucracy
- ⑥ Failure to develop functional competencies and dynamic skills → because of fixed time-bound promotions, the bureaucrats often don't update themselves with relevant job skills

In 2019, there were 29.7% Indians who were multi-dimensionally poor. The traditional structure and culture of Indian bureaucracy is a major reason behind this. But the bureaucracy has some positives as well.



Other factors behind poor socio-economic development of the country

- ① Colonial misgovernment → that left India resource-deficient at independence
- ② Poorly conceived policy → eg. import substitution
- ③ Natural disasters, such as droughts and floods
- ④ Over-population, hence competition for resources

The well-trained and socially sensitised Indian bureaucracy of 21st century can provide quick a path to achieve the SDGs.

Feedback [For OFFICE use only]

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Q.13) Explain the contingencies under which the president may promulgate ordinances. Does the use of ordinance making power subvert the democratic process? Argue your case.
(15 Marks, 250 Words)

उन आकस्मिक स्थितियों की व्याख्या करें जिसके तहत राष्ट्रपति अपने अध्यादेश की शक्ति का प्रयोग करते हैं। क्या अध्यादेश जारी करने की शक्ति सत्ता को लोकतांत्रिक प्रक्रिया से अलग कर देती है? कथन का विश्लेषण करें।
(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

The President derives her ordinance-making powers from Article 123.

Contingencies under which the President may promulgate ordinances →

- ① When a law is urgently needed, and either of the to Houses of the Parliament isn't in session
- ② When a law is urgently needed, and the Lok Sabha is dissolved

Effect of Ordinances

- all ordinances carry equivalent effect as a law made by the Parliament
- the maximum life of an ordinance is six weeks from the assembly of either House of the Parliament

- if an ordinance is rejected by either of the Houses, then the actions under it are still considered valid

Sub-version of democratic process?

- The apex court has reviewed Article 123 in Krishna Kumar (2017) case and DC Wadhwa (1987) case, and said that repeated promulgation of an ordinance without an attempt being made to introduce it into the legislature is a fraud on the Constitution;
- The Ordinances are promulgated often when the government doesn't have a majority in either of the Houses and doesn't want to engage with the Opposition;
- Once an ordinance is promulgated, the government expects to offer a fait accompli later in the Parliament

Need for ordinances →

① Article 123's powers are justified because a strong Centre is needed to act as a protective ring around the federation

② During times of crises, such as Covid-19, when the Parliament couldn't convene and ordinances became the need of the hour

Way forward → The President must be assertive enough with ordinances, and promulgate only those that are genuinely needed. The apex court should revisit its judgements to ensure the executive doesn't abuse Article 123.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
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Q.14) Explain how m-Governance can bring in more transparency and accountability in government functioning. Also, discuss the challenges in implementing m-Governance in a country like India.

(15 Marks, 250 Words)

बताएं कि सरकारी कामकाज में m-गवर्नेंस कैसे अधिक पारदर्शिता और जवाबदेहिता ला सकता है। इसके अलावा, भारत जैसे देश में m-गवर्नेंस को लागू करने में होने वाली चुनौतियों पर चर्चा करें।

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

m-Governance refers to mobile governance, i.e. all information and data related to government schemes and projects are available at the click of a button on a person's mobile phone.

M-governance bring transparency & accountability

- ① People can register for schemes, eg. laborers can register for MGNREGA
- ② Check out one's entitlements, eg. scholarship money for students
- ③ Get important documents, eg. download Aadhaar from UIDAI website

④ Book for important events, eg.
appointment for passports

⑤ Filing online complaints,
eg. CIC today receives
80% RTI complaints online

⑥ Receive and pay money, eg.
use NPCI's BHIM app

⑦ Check safety environment, eg.
Aarogya Setu app

Challenges in implementing e-Governance

① Limited availability of smartphone
mobiles with people

② Infrastructure issues wrt internet
connectivity in rural areas

③ Risk of state surveillance due

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to poor safety protocols in apps,
eg. Karogya Setu

④ Digital means need to be supported by physical means, eg. appointment for vaccine may be booked online but person shall have to physically visit hospital.

⑤ Forgery of documents on digital platform and difficult to catch it

⑥ The social milieu is such that physical document is much more cherished than digital means, eg. Post office passbook

M-governance should gradually be promoted as a means to promote economy and transparency & accountability, but not to replace physical means.

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Structure		Content	
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Q.15) Discuss the constitutionally enshrined role of Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG). What are the safeguards provided in the constitution for the effective functioning of CAG?
(15 Marks, 250 Words)

नियंत्रक और महालेखा परीक्षक (CAG) हेतु संविधान में दणित भूमिका पर चर्चा करें। नियंत्रक और महालेखा परीक्षक के प्रभावी कामकाज के लिए संविधान में कौन-कौन से सुरक्षात्मक उपाय उपलब्ध कराए गए हैं?
(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

According to Dr BR Ambedkar, the CAG's institution established by Article 148 is one of the four foundational pillars of the Constitution.

Constitutionally enshrined role of CAG →

- The aim of CAG shouldn't be fault-finding, but improving the quality of financial administration in government departments.

- The CAG is tasked with the following kinds of audits: compliance, financial, and proprietary audit.

- The role of the CAG isn't that of a greyhound, but a silent

guardian against all forms of corruption.

- The CAG must give absolute importance to proprietary audit where it checks the wisdom behind major administrative decisions, eg. 2G scam, coal scam
- The CAG is the friend, philosopher and guide of the Public Accounts Committee of the Parliament that scrutinizes government's finance
- The CAG's reports and findings shape public opinion about the economy and efficiency in government expenditure

Safeguards provided to CAG →

① According to the DPC Act (1971), the salaries and allowances of CAG are charged upon the Consolidated Fund of India

② The CAG has a tenure of 6 years

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(Don't Write anything in this Area)

or 65 years of age, whichever is earlier

③ The CAG cannot serve in any public office post-retirement

④ The CAG can be removed on very few grounds such as moral turpitude, insolvency, proved incapacity

⑤ The CAG's high constitutional status is affirmed by the fact that he's appointed under the hand and seal of the President

There's a need to strengthen the dept of CAG both via material and human resources to do justice to its role in a better manner.

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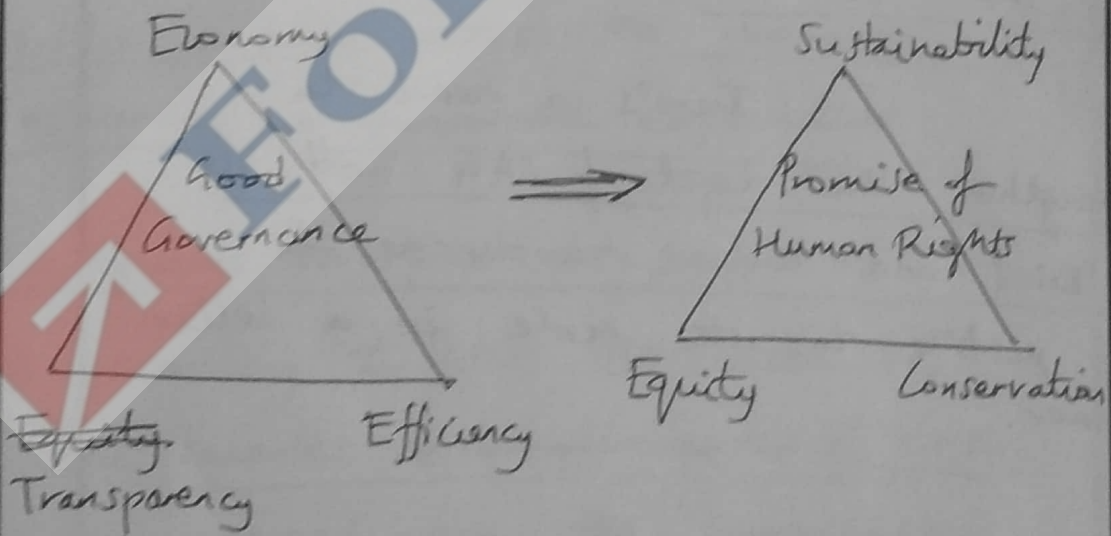
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Q.16) The true test of good governance is the degree to which it delivers on the promise of human rights for ensuring sustainable and inclusive human development. Discuss. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

सुशासन का सही परीक्षण वह स्तर है, जब वह सतत और समावेशी मानव विकास को सुनिश्चित करने के लिए मानवाधिकारों के वादे को पूरा करता है। चर्चा कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Good governance refers to the processes of delivering goods and services to the citizens that enhances their comfort, their quality of life and makes them more assertive wrt realization of their fundamental rights.



Link b/w Good Governance and Human Rights

Good Governance ensuring sustainable human development →

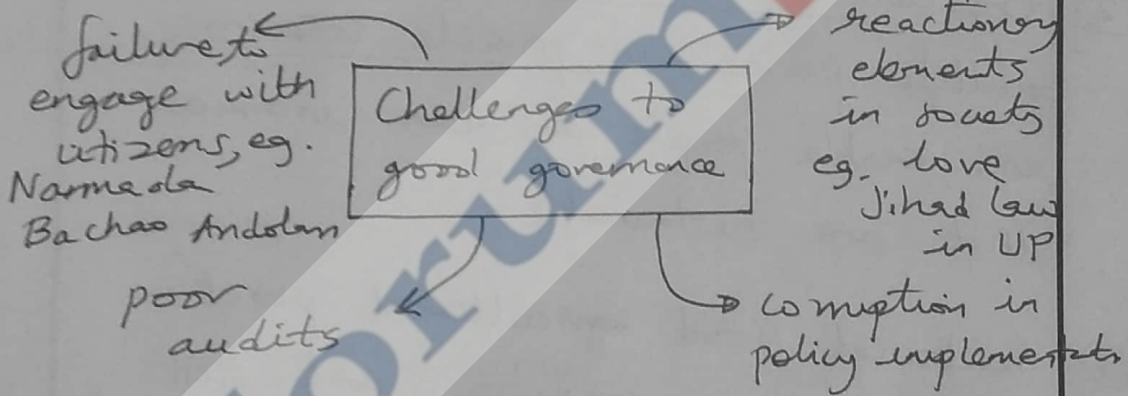
- ① Holding credible social impact assessment studies and public hearings can reduce adverse impact of developmental projects on humans, eg. Tehri dam
- ② Creation of protective areas such as wildlife parks can promote tourism and enable people to earn incomes that are sustainable
- ③ ~~Sustained~~ Good agricultural practices such as micro-irrigation and soil health cards can enable sustainable farming with rich yields

Good Governance ensuring ~~exclusive~~ inclusive human development →

- ① Improving quality of ICDS services

reduce anaemia in women, as more than 50% Indian women are anaemic according to NFHS-4

- ② Reservations in jobs and education can reduce societal discrimination against transgender
- ③ De-criminalization of sex work can enable people to lead livelihoods free of fear of police



good governance is the panacea for the socio-economic challenges faced by India and can help in achieving the SDGs.

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Structure		Content	
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Q.17) The All-India Judicial Service is an idea whose time has come. Discuss. What are the challenges in its implementation? (15 Marks, 250 Words)

अखिल भारतीय न्यायिक सेवा के विचार का समय आ गया है। चर्चा करें। इसके क्रियान्वयन में सम्भावित चुनौतियाँ क्या हैं? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

The Indian judicial system currently suffers from a backlog of more than 30 million cases, alongside allegations of various kinds on the quality of the judges. In such a scenario, the All India Judicial Service (AIJS) can be a great idea worth considering.

Need for AIJS

- Ensure uniform quality of judges as single-same exam for everyone, like UPSC CSE
- Common training procedure, just like IAS and IPS
- Corruption in lower judiciary in states could be curbed
- The collegium system hasn't been much successful w.r.t promotion of judges from lower judiciary to high courts

- Enable appointment of judges that work in local conditions, but shall have the national perspective in mind

Issues with AIJS →

- The judicial-legal system needs intricate to understanding of local condition which is difficult to articulate in judges through AIJS
- Challenge to separation of power as AIJS shall involve Executive involvement
- Challenge to Supreme Court collegium's powers wrt appointment of judge in High Courts
- Even a common-selection exam isn't a full-proof tool for selecting merit and curbing corruption

Challenges in its implementation →

- ① shall require amendments to the constitution for which political consensus will be difficult
- ② Judicial-legal system is in concurrent list as ALJS reduces State's power in appointing judges
- ③ Establishing framework and syllabus for ALJS shall invite opposition from backward and poor communities in far-flung areas

The idea of ALJS should be given a gradual push and not a shove. Political consensus must be build to ~~ens~~ improve quality of judges and adequate safeguards to ensure separation of powers.

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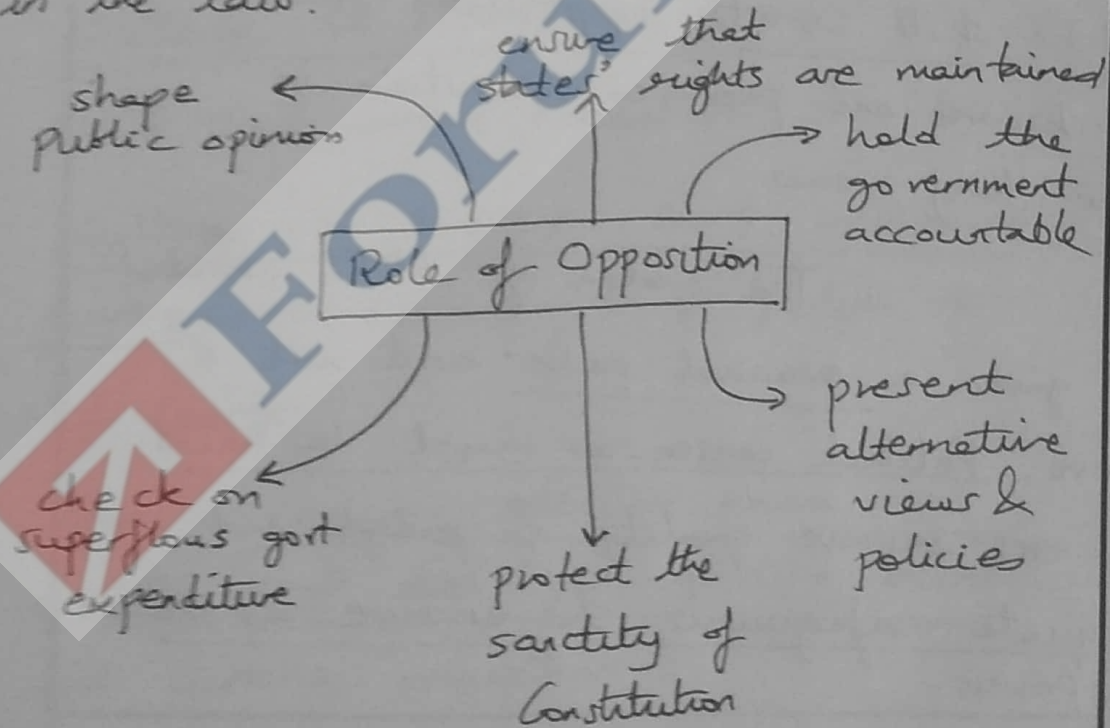


Q.18) Any democracy needs thriving and coherent opposition. How can the role of the opposition be made more effective for the better functioning of the democracy?

(15 Marks, 250 Words)

किसी भी लोकतंत्र को संपन्न और सुसंगत विपक्ष की जरूरत है। लोकतंत्र की बेहतर कार्यप्रणाली के लिए विपक्ष की भूमिका को और अधिक प्रभावी कैसे बनाया जा सकता है? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

The role of opposition in a democracy can be realized from the fact that in India, the leader of Opposition in the House is given the status of Cabinet Minister through a statute in the law.



Recent trends →

- ① The amendments in Finance Bill 2017 were passed as Money Bill to reduce Opposition scrutiny
- ② The presiding officer taking harsh penal action against Opposition members
- ③ Opposition members often violating the House's discipline alleging that they're not given adequate time to air their views

Making Opposition more effective

- ① Need for statutory provisions requiring Govt to engage with Opposition while deciding dates of Parliament sessions
- ② Need to give more time to committee stage while evaluating demand for grants
- ③ Opposition members should be given adequate time on the floor of the House by presiding officer

- ④ The government should shun use of Ordinance or Money Bill route for important legislations, eg. Aadhaar Act
- ⑤ Opposition members in Council of States should view themselves as representatives of states in letter and spirit
- ⑥ Opposition views must be given adequate consideration to set the agenda of the House by Presiding officer

The opposition must critically scrutinize the government's legislative business while maintaining the decorum of the house and keep the door open for political negotiations.

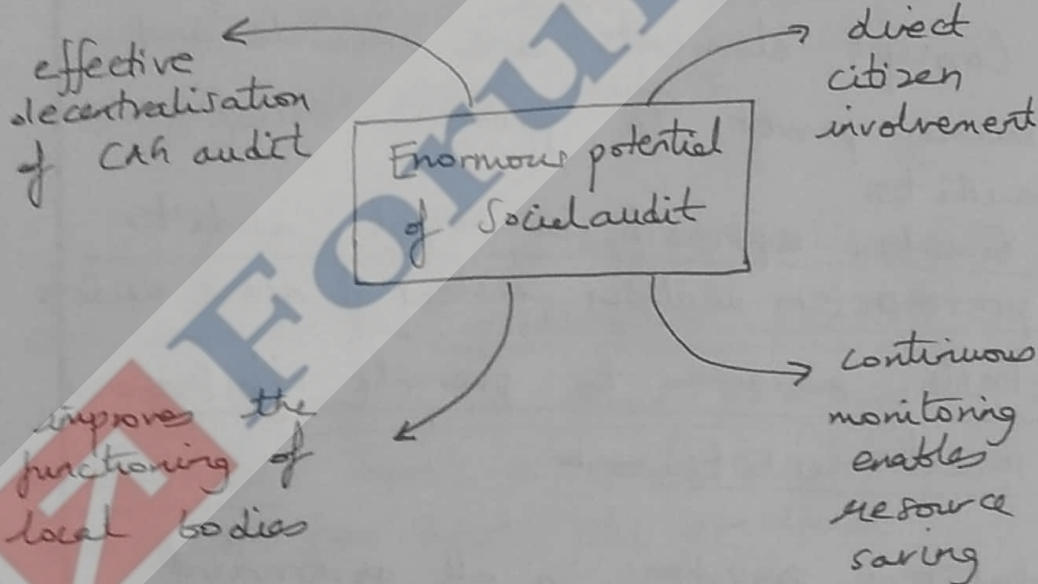
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Q.19) Despite its enormous potential, social audit has been non-effective in reducing malpractices and detecting irregularities. Examine the reasons behind it. Suggest suitable measures to make it more effective. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

"सोशल ऑडिट" दुर्भावनाओं को कम करने और अनियमितताओं का पता लगाने में गैर-प्रभावी रहा है। इसके पीछे के कारणों की जांच करें। इसे और प्रभावी बनाने के लिए उपयुक्त उपाय सुझाएं। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Social audit is a process in which the local citizens alongside the government agency monitor and measure the progress of a government initiative against the benchmarks set in the beginning.



Recent instances of malpractices →

- ① Scholarship scam in Jharkhand
- ② Highway development scam in Uttarakhand
- ③ Fraudulent GST invoices

Reasons behind ineffectiveness of social audits

- ① The state hasn't empowered the citizens to monitor and measure the scheme's implementation
- ② The local bureaucracy is afraid to involve citizens as they feel it'll reduce their powers
- ③ Lack of statutory provisions w.r.t social audits in government schemes
- ④ Corrupt elements use muscle and money power to prevent social audits
- ⑤ Limited approach in social audits
- ⑥ postmortem analysis instead of active audits

Suitable measures to promote effectiveness of social audits →

- ① statutory provisions in all government schemes mandating social audits
- ② involve credible NGOs to train citizens in social audits

- ③ develop framework to carry out social audits during the entire life-stage of the projects, and not just after project completion
- ④ local bureaucracy must be sensitised and shouldn't consider involvement of locals as a threat to their powers
- ⑤ Use of police against ~~so~~ unsocial elements that prevent people from carrying out social audits

Good quality social audits can improve the quality of projects and enable equity in socio-economic development. There's a need to learn and adopt from best UN practices.

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Q.20) "E-Governance reduces the quantity of government and increases the quality of governance." Substantiate with examples. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

ई-गवर्नेंस सरकार के अंगों की मात्रात्मक कमी कर शासन में गुणात्मक वृद्धि करता है। उदाहरण सहित बताइए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

E-governance refers to the supply of goods and services to the citizens through the internet which improves the quality of life of citizens.

Reduction in quantity of government →

- ① The KYC performance in banks has replaced the multitude of documents that needed to be maintained earlier.
- ② Reduction in processing time,
eg. Passport Tatkal sewa
- ③ Ease of living, eg. booking train tickets via IRCTC

④ Reduces corruption avenues, eg.
e-filing of ITR

⑤ simplifies government processes,
eg. acquiring/selling land
through digitally notified maps

Improving the quality of governance →

① Government can deliver services
more efficiently, eg. Aadhaar for PDS

② No delays in payment of salaries,
eg. PFMS → MGNREGA wages paid
on time

③ Reviewing policy implementation
more regularly, eg. PM's
PRAGATI platform

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- ④ Government can ask for public opinion easily, eg. my Gov platform
- ⑤ Government can inform about important events, eg. cyclone warnings.

Way forward: E-governance must be promoted through improving internet infrastructure and training people in using internet skills.

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