

TEST CODE : 5 1 0 6 2

FIAS – MGP 2022 (C-10) – GS Paper #2

ForumIAS**GENERAL STUDIES**

Name Of Candidate	ADITYA SRIVASTAVA		
Roll No.	190098104	Date:	08.07.2022

Time Allowed: Three Hours

Maximum Marks: 250

INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTION	
Q. No.	Max. Marks	Marks Obtained		
1			1. Please do furnish Name, Email, Roll No and Mobile in the answer sheet.	
2			2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI, all questions are compulsory.	
3			3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.	
4			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.	
5			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.	
6			<p>Any specific messages for ForumIAS Mentors/Evaluators with respect to your copy? Write it here.</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	
			Start Time 10:20 am	End Time 01:30 pm
Total Marks:			Mode Of Examination:	Online <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Offline <input type="checkbox"/>
Evaluator's Discretion: This is the marks awarded at the discretion of the evaluator based on your overall impression, on the basis of (but not limited to) your handwriting, presentation, use of diagrams, flowcharts, facts and figures or absolutely anything that he/she liked in your copy.			For Office Use Only	
			ECN CODE:	EG:
			Evaluation Date:	

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
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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)

Article 25 of the Constitution gives the right to freedom of religion to every person →

- conscience
- profess
- practice
- propagate.

In the Shirur Mutt case, Supreme Court invoked the doctrine of essentiality to ensure balance between freedom of religion and constitutionalism

Doctrine of essentiality against autonomy

- 1) Violates the sentiments of the people as seen in Shayira Bano case
↳ court follow sentiments
- 2) Leads to dilution of traditions and customs as in Sabrimala case

- 3) Goes against the spirit of society being multicultural & promotes assimilation
 ↳ freedom of conscience violated

Doctrines of essentiality giving larger autonomy

- 1) Upholds restriction to Article 25 ⇒ power of government to regulate secular activity → not mentioned as essential in scriptures.
- 2) Uphold rights of weaker sections & women ⇒ full development by liberty.
 ↳ argument in Sabrimala case
- 3) Promotes balance between spirit of Article 44 (UCC) and Article 25
 ↳ integration of the society and uphold equality in Preamble.
 Thus "doctrine of essentiality" supports conscience and autonomy by weeding out regressive elements

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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)

A-2 Sedition provision is present in Section 124A of Indian penal code.

It is a threat to civil liberty as -

- 1) Goes against Article 19(1)(a) of constitution - right to free speech.
- 2) Misuse and overuse by government leading to its weaponization against dissent → NCRB data shows 160% increase in cases from 2016-20.
- 3) Lowering conviction rate from 33% to 3.3% from 2016-20 of frivolousness
- 4) Vague and undefined terms like "Disaffection" → scope for misuse

5) Tends to promote Rule of law instead of rule of law.

However as observed by Supreme Court in Kedarnath case, Seditious law is constitutional & needed for —

- 1) Tackling secessionist and terrorist element
- 2) Protecting stability of government
 - ease of doing business & investment also.

Need of the hour is not to do away with Seditious but

- 1) Use only in exceptional situations as recommended by Law Commission.
- 2) Clearly defining terms like Disaffection
- 3) Making offense non-cognisable for at least Judicial check.

Thus upholding Seditious by limiting its usage can go a long way in welfare of all

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)

A.3 Death penalty refers to hanging a person till death in accordance with Section 53 of IPC.

Status: Still legal but its application has been limited to exceptional cases like Nirbhaya case (2012) and Ajmal Kasab case.

Pardoning power of the governor stems from Article 161 of Constitution whereby He/she can pardon sentences, remit, commute or reprieve sentences relation to state law violation

Limitations of Governor's pardoning power

- 1) Cannot pardon a death sentence
↳ can remit, commute or reprieve such sentence.
- 2) Cannot pardon a sentence against violation of union law
- 3) Cannot pardon or reprieve/remit/commute sentence given by military court or tribunal

However these powers are available to President under Article 72

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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)

A-4 Tenth schedule was introduced via 52nd amendment Act of 1985 with the intent of curbing the situation of "Aaya Ram Gaya Ram" among legislators.

Divergence of intent & impact

- 1) Recent case of Maharashtra shows misuse of "merger" provision of 10th schedule for defection.
 - ↳ arbitrary distinction between retail & wholesale defection
- 2) Partiality by speaker leading to no decision on defections for even 3 years as in case of Manipur.
- 3) Governor's role led to calling

2nd largest ~~party~~ party in Manipur to form government → promotes defection.

4) Outright resignation as a loophole in 10th schedule as seen in Karnataka.

5) Nabam Kedia case where Supreme Court observed the prevalence of misuse of floor test provision to avoid disqualification.

Need now is to relook at the 10th schedule & make reforms like —

1) Decision of disqualification to President & Election Commission (Dinesh Goswami Committee)

2) Fast track ~~courts~~ judgement by Speaker in 3 months (Megha Chandra case)

3) Clarity in law regarding voluntarily giving up membership, etc. terms — Halim Committee

This will ensure the role of 10th schedule to ensure swasthrajneeti, surakshit Bharat.

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)

A-5] In the book "Why nations fail"

author stresses on importance of institutional quality to ensure development & transformation in society

However Bureaucracy in India has largely had challenges in ensuring transformative role as —

- 1) Politicization of bureaucracy as seen from 15 month tenure (average) by supremo database
↳ just like in old English times
- 2) Red tapism due to Weberian nature
↳ hampers ease of doing business and employment.
- 3) Bureaucratic attitude and strict

rule following ⇒ substantive role undermined.

4) Generalist nature and lack of professionalism ⇒ facilitative role undermined.

5) Nexus as pointed by NN Vohra Committee ⇒ corruption.

6) Reluctance to change as pointed by II ARC ⇒ perpetuation of old order.

This has undermined role of Bureaucracy to uphold Article 38 of welfare State -

Recommendation

1) Civil Services Board to reduce political alignment - TSR Subramaniam case

2) Training and values inculcation via LBSNAA - over&ramping Karmayogi

These will help to ensure the bureaucracy works as an agent of development and uphold Constitutionalism.

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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)

A-6 Amartya Sen has described role of NGOs and Civil Society with respect to State as "Confrontationist Cooperation".

Hurdles between State & NGOs

- 1) Lack of transparency & accountability
↳ CBI pointed only 10% file income and expenditure statement.
- 2) IB report of 2015 ⇒ ^{NGOs} serving foreign interests leading to 2-3% loss of GDP
↳ Eg: Kundankulam protest.
- 3) Forced religious conversion against Article 25 ⇒ 13 NGO license cancelled

in Jharkhand (2021).

- 4) Lack of compliance to laws as seen in case of Amnesty International account freeze
- 5) Suspicion of money laundering going under the garb of social developments

This calls for reforms to strengthen the "Third Sector" of our democracy.

- 1) Registering maximum NGOs on NGO Darpan portal of NITI Aayog & transparency.
- 2) National Accreditation Council for Compliance (NACC)
- 3) Providing funds and functionaries by linking NGOs to Corporates & channelize CSR funds for welfare
- 4) Overall cooperation at district level for citizen engagement
This will help make NGOs agents of development & ensure

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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)

A7 The case study of Punjab shows how electricity when given free can threaten environment via reducing groundwater levels and push the state into unsustainable debt — currently 53% (of GSDP) vs 60% of GDP leading to Sri Lankan crisis.

Subsidies for mere populism

- 1) Continuous elections lead to continuous promises of farm loan waiver → sets bad precedent with no development.
- 2) Voters getting enticed due to lack of political maturity as seen in Lokniti, CSRS survey → Delhi free rides case.

3) Subsidy bills are becoming unmanageable as pointed by Economic Survey 2020-21

↳ lack of capital expenditure due to diversion for revenue expenditure

All this hampers development as limited nature of government finances

However subsidies are also important for development as —

- 1) Food subsidy via PDS and Mid Day Meal scheme → saved lives during COVID
- 2) Removal of poverty and hunger via subsidized POSHAN Abhiyaan
↳ SDG - 1, 2 achievement
- 3) Inclusivity to break the cycle of deprivation → MNREGA scheme

Thus subsidies need to be well directed via proper propriety audit to assess outcomes to ensure Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas

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)

A-9 National Commission for Scheduled Tribes is a constitutional Commission under Article 338A of Constitution.

Lack of other mechanisms

- 1) Lack of proper implementation of tribal rights under FRA Act, 2006
↳ seen in more than 15 lakh tribals still denied these rights.
- 2) No provision for rehabilitation under CAMP Act ⇒ right to livelihood (Art 21) affected.
- 3) Lack of funds adequately devolved to the NCST
- 4) Lack of separate powers — lack of

recognition between demands of SCs & STs by Constitution — giving similar powers,

5) Only an advisory body \Rightarrow many critical demands get ignored.

6) Lack of effective & sufficient staff for listening to tribal population and reach out on ground.

Yet, NCST has been critical in voicing the tribals demand and has resulted in certain key decisions like,

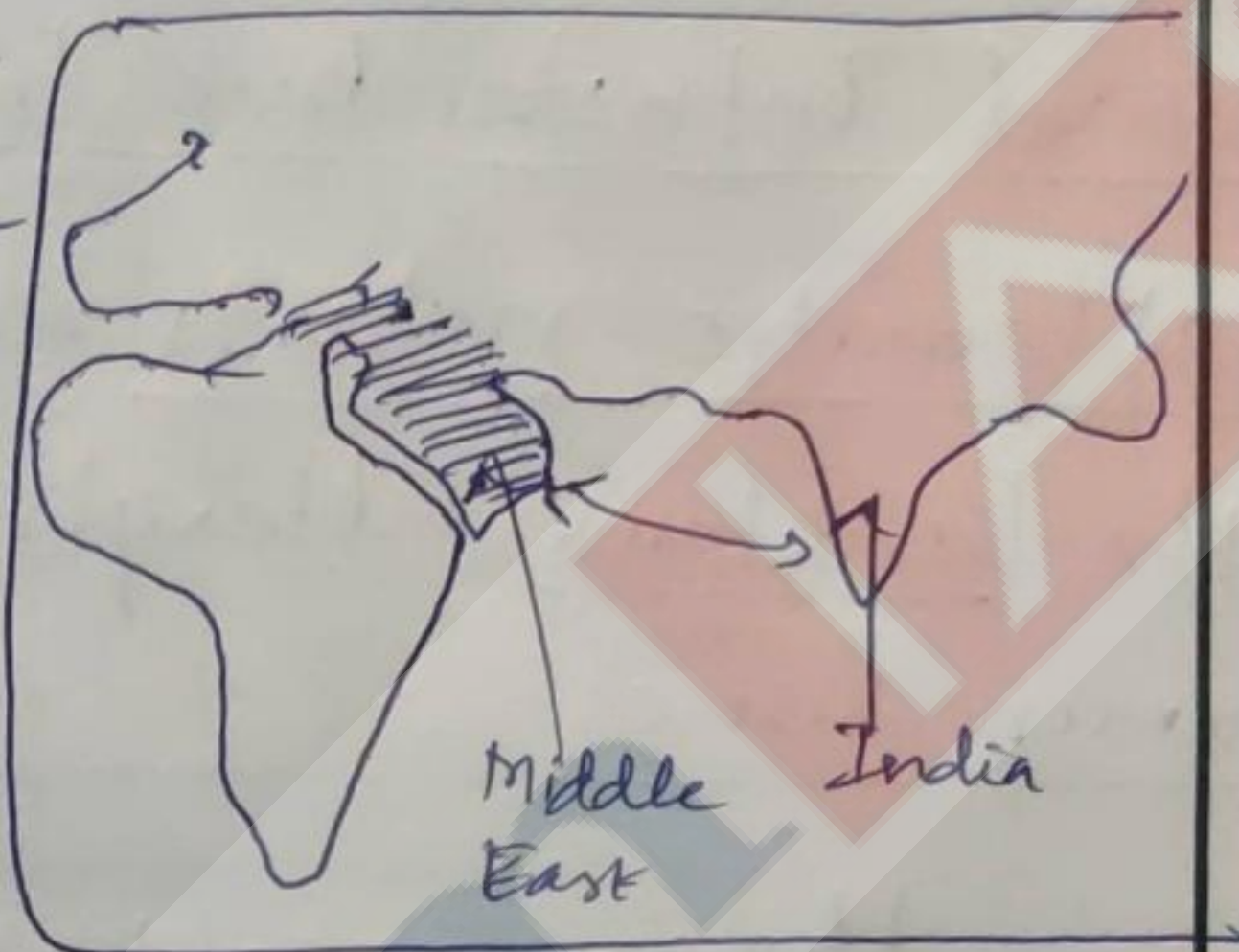
PM Van Dhan Yojana.

Further strengthening the commission requires impartial allocation of funds and functionaries and coordination with Tribal Affairs ministry to uphold mandate of Article 46 of constitution.

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)

A-9 India's relations with Middle East have traditionally been of trade for oil



(Still 60% of oil imports from Middle East) and diaspora (still 8 million Indians working in Middle East)

However, recent years have seen depth & diversification as

- 1) Saudi's Vision 2030 opened gates for engagement while leveraging our IT sector expertise
- 2) Food corridors like one with UAE
- 3) Defence partnerships evident from

Exercise Desert Flag VI and Port of Dugayn in Oman under Indian navy.

4) Khaleeji capitalism having invested in National Infrastructure Investment fund.

5) Diplomatic victories as GCC no longer accepts Pakistan's attempts to internationalize Kashmir issue.

However certain issues like recent Prophet Blasphemy case & #Boycott India Products led to a dent in reputation.

↳ said by NSA Ajit Doval.

Need of the hour

1) Countering Chinese inroads via ~~PGII~~ PGII initiative of G7 against BR1

2) Deepening and diversifying relations to ensure support for permanent seat in UNSC

These will help strengthen relations and help navigate all geopolitical challenges.

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।

(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

A-10

The Ukraine Crisis due to Russian attack presented diplomatic dilemmas for India. However they were navigated with the spirit of opportunity in adversity.

Expression of Strategic Autonomy

- 1) Not exercising vote condemning Russia's actions in UNSC - abstention.
- 2) Abstaining from vote in UN General Assembly despite USA's pressure
↳ Us official said history would see India as on aggressor's side
- 3) Purchasing cheap Russian oil despite sanctions and appeals from west → counter domestic inflation

4) Strong statements and defence of choices like External Affairs minister comparing European purchase of ^{Russian} gas with Indian purchase of Russian oil.

5) Promotion of UPI as a counter to Western hegemony over SWIFT system.

6) Condemning Bucha killings & demanding investigation. However some responses were borne out of compulsions.

Eg: 1) Looking towards MERCOSUR to fetch edible oil

2) Loss of tea markets and giving subsidies.

3) Stopping wheat supply to replace Ukrainian markets → due to WTO restrictions on public holdings.

Thus the strategic autonomy maintained by India apart from few hiccups showed leadership skills and projected us as a strong power.

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 कहाँ तक सहमत हैं कि न्यायपालिका से प्रेरित सुधार सत्ता के पृथक्करण के सिद्धांत का उल्लंघन करते हैं? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

A-11) Elections today are marred by Criminalization of politics (43% Lok Sabha members with criminal antecedents) and use of money and muscle power (\$8 billion spent on 17th Lok Sabha).

Judiciary intervened to check this via electoral reforms as below—

1) Lily Thomas case :

Struck down Section 8(4) of Representation of People Act ⇒ new disqualification from date of conviction.

2) Pucl case: Held right to know about political candidates is part of Article 19(1)(a) ⇒ led to Know Your

Candidate App by Election Commission + introduced NOTA as an option to exercise right to reject.

3) Public Interest Foundation case:

Supreme Court asked political parties to put criminal antecedents on local newspaper, website & social media handles for visibility.

This has largely led to knowledge & awareness about electoral ills among the public.

Judiciary violating separation of power

1) Often argued that judicial intervention violates Article 50,

2) Violates the principle of procedure established by law ⇒ encroaches on domain of legislature

3) Violates RPA'51 and Article 329 which

says only Election Commission has powers until election petition filed after election,
 ⇒ encroaches domain of executive.

However, this judicial interference upholds the spirit of Article 326 of ensuring free and fair elections —

1) In Mohinder Singh Gill case, Supreme Court said ECI can use plenipotentiary powers where laws are not present.

↳ augment power of ECI.

2) Recommending fast track courts for criminal MPs and MLAs ⇒ augmenting spirit of RPA'51.

Thus judicial interference is justified in times when laws and ECI are not strong to uphold democracy's spirit. Need is to reform laws to include paid news etc as corrupt practice and give more teeth to ECI to deregister parties ⇒ ensure impartial elections.

Feedback
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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)

A-12 Article 1 of Constitution defines India as a "Union of States" instead of federation. Further spirit of Article 3 hints at India being indestructible union of destructible states.

Reasons for unitary spirit

- 1) For distributive justice under directive principles. Eg. income tax makes 45% weightage in Finance Commission criteria.
- 2) Protecting states from internal disturbance and external aggression.
↳ mandate of Article 355.
- 3) Protection of environment and wildlife according to Article 48A.

eg: aissched approach by CAQM in Delhi-NCR for air pollution control.

- 4) Fulfil international commitments by invoking Article 253 \Rightarrow Wildlife Protection Act after Stockholm convention
- 5) More subjects in Union List than State list + overriding powers to centre in concurrent list \Rightarrow centralization of laws
- 6) Ensuring Constitutional adherence by States, failing which can lead to President's rule (Article 356)

This overcentralization has led to confrontational federalism many times and centre-state tension.

- 1) Tussle over CBI encroaching power of State under Entry 2 (police) of State List. eg: Maharashtra case.

- 2) Misuse of Governor's powers to dismiss elected government as observed by Supreme Court in SR Bommai case
- 3) GST compensation shortfall leading to tensions in fiscal federalism.
- 4) Resorting to cess \rightarrow shrinking divisible pool
 \hookrightarrow 7% in 2012-13 to 12% share in 2018-19 in tax pool.
- 5) Governor's chancellor powers as recent case of tussle between Centre & West Bengal for control over state university.

Need of the hour

- 1) Holding 3 meeting of Inter State Council every year as recommended by Tamil Nadu CM
- 2) Consultation over matters of national importance with States (Puncho Commission)
 This will help in shaping the future of India via "cooperative federalism".

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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)

Q.13 Punchi Commission called the local governance of the country as "grass without roots" due to its short-falls

73rd & 74th constitutional amendments led to political decentralization however this has not been accompanied by funds & function devolution —

- 1) On an average only 60% of the 29 functions have been devolved to Panchayats — Ministry of Panchayati Raj
- 2) Discretionary powers of State Legislature for fund devolution have been largely not utilized (II ARC)
- 3) Tied nature of funds since most of

the funds are programme specific.

All these factors leave Panchayats with little autonomy and choice about expenditure and lack of clarity about functions as in case of primary health since it clashes with State's functions.

However, devolution of funds and functions isn't enough

Functionaries

- 1) Only few states like Karnataka have separate cadre for panchayats
- 2) Lack of capacity building and training of the functionaries.

Functionality

- 1) Overlordship of district magistrate leading to bureaucratization of development.

- 2) Increase in parastatals as parallel machinery. Eg: SPV for Smart City mission and for smart village vision.
- 3) Non-functional or inefficient State Finance Commission.

Own funds

- 1) Only 5% own revenue by panchayats
↳ Economic Survey 2018-19
- 2) Lack of utilization of property tax.
↳ 0.68% of GDP in India vs. 2% of GDP in USA

Way ahead

- 1) Strengthening own funding via giving minimum % of property tax directives
- 2) Devolution of all functions as done by Kerala.
- 3) Separate cadre of officers via state PSC ~~examinations~~ examination

This will help to uphold spirit of Article 40 and lead to "Gandhi's swaraj"

Feedback
(For OFFICE use only)

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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)

A-14 Rape is an offence under Section 376 of Indian Penal Code.

However it exempts marital rape or rape by husband of his wife from punishment if she is not a minor.

Need to criminalize marital rape

- 1) Women's right to bodily autonomy compromised.
- 2) Forced to live with the culprit leading to alienation of self.

Issues in criminalizing marital rape

- 1) Conjugal needs of the partner as

- pointed ~~by~~ recently by Supreme Court judge.
- 2) Lack of evidence about the Act ^{of rape} forensics are violative of bodily autonomy and not conclusive.
 - 3) Lack of proper mechanism or clear definition of consent in case of marital relationship.
 - 4) Earlier cases of misuse of laws like Section 498A (abuse against women) — called Legal Terrorism by Supreme Court
 - 5) Laws are not gender neutral
 - ⇒ rape of man by woman not covered ⇒ no gender equality.
 - 6) Laws don't recognise modern form of relationships and live-in
 - ⇒ Supreme Court held that

Substantial period in live^P in would amount to marriage.

7) New challenges by Nartej Johar case (Article 377) ⇒ no clarity on same sex marriages in the law.

8) Presence of social stigma preventing women from reporting
 ↳ laws with social empowerment mean nothing.

Need of the hour —

- 1) Make all laws gender inclusive
 ↳ include men & transgenders.
- 2) Include cases of same sex marriage related marital rape.
- 3) Social empowerment via civil society
 So that people come out to report
 This will uphold women's and
all & victims rights in true sense

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)

A.15 Public sector data is one of the most underutilized and hidden gems of the country which has great potential

Informed decision making

- 1) Use of data analysis tools can help make decentralized plans → demand driven policy
- 2) Better identification of beneficiaries and targetted subsidies → lesser leakages.

Socio economic transformation

- 1) Identify areas with higher concentration of vulnerable → more resources like being done in Germany's MyFood 24.

2) Better connect workers with the corporations in need & customers

↳ E-shram portal in this direction

Decentralized innovation

1) Entrepreneurship promoted when people know about grassroot issues via data to judge its severity

2) Innovative solutions & best practices diffusion from urban to rural area and vice versa. Eg: UScan using artificial intelligence for judging freshness of crops

Bottlenecks in sharing public data

1) Lack of comprehensive legal framework to effect data sharing.

2) Lack of effective organization of data
↳ stored in silos

3) Concerns around data privacy as seen

in Aadhar case.

- 4) Data localization issue — ~~share~~ can data can be smuggled abroad.
- 5) Data Protection Bill still not passed
 ⇒ don't know to tackle cybersecurity issues comprehensively.

Unlocking data power

- 1) Agreements with startups of Indian origin to ensure leak proof data sharing.
- 2) Separation into sensitive/personal and non sensitive data ⇒ latter can be shared more liberally.
- 3) Allowing cloud based services to draw observations on portal without fetching actual data ⇒ expose APIs.
- 4) Leverage artificial intelligence in house by building separate data department.
- 5) Collaborate with civil society for digitization and organization of people's data.
 This will help use "data as new oil" and navigate 4th Industrial Revolution.

Feedback
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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)

A-16 In the recent QS rankings, only IIT Bombay featured among top 50 engineering colleges of India.

Reasons for not being in top rankings

- 1) Outdated curriculum. Eg: IIT Kanpur still teaches engineering drawing in the era of Computer Aided Design.
- 2) Privatization of ^{higher} education \Rightarrow best talents find it unaffordable.
- 3) Low gross expenditure on research and development \rightarrow 0.77% of GDP in India against 3% of GDP in China.
- 4) Focus on quantity rather than quality of research \Rightarrow only 3 Indian professors

have h-index > 100.

- 5) Ambiguity in funding → 97%
funding goes to premier institutes while 57.5% students study in state university.
- 6) Dual control leading to inefficiency
↳ Education in concurrent list.
- 7) only 1.5% of GDP on higher education for past 12 years & stagnant.
- 8) Unemployable workforce as noted by a recent business standard study.

Transforming into Global Centres of Learning

- 1) Industry academia linkage according to US model for market driven skilling.
- 2) Autonomy to higher educational institutions according to Gnanam Committee recommendation.

- 3) "Earn while you learn" to ensure reduced dropouts — target of 50% enrollment by 2020 (NEP'2020)
- 4) Better deployment of EdTech \Rightarrow better accessibility.
- 5) Linking grants to research and other outcomes \Rightarrow outcome based funding
- 6) Provide short term skilling courses via Swayam portal according to latest market trends. Eg: Blockchain course.
- 7) Tying up universities with ASME to intern in latest demand trends.
- 8) Opening digital library of research papers free of cost to aid research.

This will help to achieve SDG4 while ensuring we take advantage of our demographic dividend.

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)

A-17

SHGs in India drew inspiration from Grameen Bank model of Bangladesh. They have been effective source of poverty alleviation and empowerment.

SHG for women empowerment

- 1) Provides for social entrepreneurship by providing economic independence.
↳ SHG Bank linkage by NABARD gives loans to setup enterprise like Lijjat Papad ⇒ income for all members.
- 2) Provides more decision making powers to women inside & outside house — seen in Kerala's Kudumbashree
- 3) Source of income reduces women's

dependence on husband & reduces domestic violence → uphold women's rights

↳ told by leader of Patiben bage on KBC.

4) More autonomy in making access to opportunities - Eg: Gramen nikaas Mahamandal with 3000 women tailors, weavers, pickle makers etc.

5) Acts as agents of social change leading to transformation of society's attitude towards women.

SHG for development in rural areas

1) A study in Lancet journal showed that spending patterns change with such empowerment to food, education, health
↳ SDG 3, 4 tackled

2) Another study showed 48% reduction in maternal mortality and 33% in infant

mortality

- 3) Financial inclusion via credit at market rates for women.
- 4) Financial literacy leading to better decision making and less money wastage
↳ in line with SDG4
- 5) Social security net created due to social capital via constant interactions.
- 6) Sense of self worth among women leads to gender equality in society
- 7) Better participation via social audits checks corruption
- 8) Pressure groups to prevent alcoholism etc as seen in Bihar.

Thus SHG are instrumental in building capacity according to Amartya Sen's approach and leading to overall rural development in line with Dr. Kalam's vision of PURA.

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)

A-18

Welfare schemes by government are meant to uphold principle of Welfare State laid down by Article 38.

They have largely failed today as we see still 30% of world's poor are in India (World Bank data) and nutritional indicators like stunting and wasting are worsening.

Participation for success

- 1) Helps to form demand driven policy at decentralized level
↳ principle of subsidiarity
- 2) Proper feedback on policy leads

to targeted welfare schemes.

3) Better identification of beneficiary by Gram Sabha → lesser leakages.

4) Awareness and political empowerment as seen with Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan and MNREGA.

5) Better empowerment of weaker section like women as seen via participation in SHGs — Bank linkage.

Accountability for success

1) Social audit success in MNREGA → less corruption.

2) Accountability to CAG/CVC reports ensure proper utilization of funds.

Eg: improvement in POSHAN Abhiyaan fund utilization since Oct'19

3) Ensuring answerability of official leads to better dedication to duty as seen with case of ICDS in Bihar,

4) NGOs and civil society keep a check on accounts → efficient fund utilization.

Need of the hour

1) Better downward accountability via social audit, citizen charter (II ARC)

2) Better participation by leveraging technology
↳ MyGov platform step in right direction.

3) Reducing bureaucratization and Strengthen Gram Sabha for planning and participative accountability.

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)

A-19 USA with its partners in the Indo Pacific pushed forward Indo Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF) for comprehensive rules based order in the region and ensuring development of all.

Complement to security partnership

- a) Complements efforts of QUAD in countering China's economic rise —
- ↳ Infra Infrastructure support to tackle BRI of china
 - ↳ Investment and loans to prevent China's predatory "debt diplomacy" as in Sri lanka case

↳ Partnership with ASEAN to tackle rules violation in South China sea by 9-dash line of China.

↳ Inclusion of India as key partner to aid rules based order and protect trade choke points like Malacca in Indian Ocean.

b) Complements efforts of AUKUS:

↳ Since Australia is key partner and can help extend support to small island nations of Pacific

⇓
prevent Chinese security pacts in Indo Pacific like recently with Solomon Islands

c) Overall ensure freedom of navigation via involving key partners in the region

Challenges to IPEF

1) Not an FTA ⇒ lack of clear mandate

about future of the partnership

- 2) Concerns by members like India about imposition of "standards" by USA
- 3) Concerns around views of businesses not being heard.
- 4) Violates potentially the sovereign rights to taxation.

Opportunities by IPEF

- 1) For India, this gives opportunity to makeup for not joining RCEP and gain trade relations.
- 2) For rest of the members, this presents the opportunity to check any hindrances to freedoms (of navigation or trade) and assert UNCLAS given rights.
- 3) Ensure supply chain resilience against future pandemics.

Thus IPEF presents a key juncture at upholding Article 51 of our Constitution & value of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam

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

A-20 BRICS was a term coined by Senior Goldman Sachs employee in 2001 and came into being with 1st BRIC summit in 2009.

Leading towards reformed multilateralism

- 1) BRICS presents a key juncture for South South cooperation as it represents fastest growing economies — hallmark of new world order,
- 2) Tackling Western economic hegemony via New Development Bank and Contingency Reserve Arrangement.
- 3) Push for reforms in UNSC according to the new world order dynamics

- ↳ G4 members India & Brazil are its part -
 ↳ permanent seat.
- 4) Shift in leadership role towards BRICS as seen in case of raising voice for poor countries for COVID vaccine waiver.
- 5) Countering hegemony of developed nations in WTO as seen in recent 12th Ministerial Conference.
- 6) Countering ~~the~~ terrorism via New Delhi Declaration → UNSC largely failed and still doesn't have comprehensive definition of terrorism.

Challenges internally in BRICS

- 1) Concerns around Chinese skewness due to China's economic might.
- 2) Concerns with each other's initiatives
 Eg: BRI not supported by India due to violation of sovereignty + Russia also

didn't join BR1

3) Internal ideological differences.

- ↳ 3 democracies with tilt towards West
- ↳ Other 2 strongly critical of the West.

4) Global-criticism of Russian aggression and China's 9 dash line ⇒ members face diplomatic dilemma in supporting the other

5) India being a part of both QUAD and BRICS ⇒ conflict of interest perceived by USA and China.

Need of the times is to reform BRICS to create synergies by focussing on respective strength like Russian oil, India's IT expertise for better coordination. Solving internal disputes via dialogue and tolerance can help BRICS shape the 21st century as envisioned by Goldman Sachs.

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		

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