

Time Allowed : Three Hours
समय : तीन घंटे

ForumIAS

Maximum Marks : 250
अधिकतम अंक : 250

GENERAL STUDIES / सामान्य अध्ययन

Name Of Candidate परीक्षार्थी का नाम	DEVANSH MOHAN DWIVEDI		
Roll No./अनुक्रमांक	1910058989	Medium/माध्यम	English <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> हिंदी <input type="checkbox"/>
Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र	1900	Date/दिनांक	1/10/2022

*Center Code : For Online - 1900 / Delhi : Karol bagh - 1901, ORN - 1902, Mukharji Nagar - 1903 / Patna : Boring Rd. - 2001 / Hyderabad : Jawahar Nagar - 2101

INDEX TABLE / अनुक्रमणिका

Q. No. प्र.सं.	Max. Marks अधिकतम अंक	Marks Obtained प्राप्तांक
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Total/कुल अंक	250	

INSTRUCTION / अनुदेश

- Please do furnish Name, Email, Roll No and Mobile in the answer sheet.
कृपया उत्तर-पुस्तिका में नाम, ईमेल, रोल नंबर और मोबाइल नंबर भरें।
- There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI, all questions are compulsory.
उत्तर पुस्तिका में अंग्रेजी/हिंदी में बीस प्रश्न दिए गए हैं, सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
- The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के लिए निर्धारित अंक उसके सामने अंकित किए गए हैं।
- 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.
उत्तर प्रवेश पत्र में अधिकृत माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए, जो कि दिए गए स्थान में इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के कवर पर स्पष्ट रूप से लिखा जाना चाहिए।
- 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.
प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, यदि निर्दिष्ट हो, का पालन किया जाए। प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़े गये किसी भी पृष्ठ या पृष्ठ के भाग को स्पष्ट रूप से काट दें।

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Evaluator's Discretion/मूल्यांकन कर्ता का विवेक :	Start Time/प्रारंभ करने का समय : 10:00 am	End Time/समाप्त करने का समय : 01:10 pm
Total Marks/कुल अंक :	Mode Of Examination/ परीक्षा की विधि :	Online/ऑनलाइन <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Offline/ऑफलाइन <input type="checkbox"/>

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ECN CODE/ ईसीएन कोड :	EG/ईजी :	Evaluation Date/ मूल्यांकन तिथि :
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*Evaluator's Discretion 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.

मूल्यांकन कर्ता का विवेक अंक, आपकी लिखावट, प्रस्तुति, आरेखों के उपयोग, फ्लोचार्ट, तथ्यों और आंकड़ों या समय रूप किसी अन्य विषय वस्तु, जो मूल्यांकन कर्ता को आपकी कॉपी में पसंद आयी के आधार पर (लेकिन इन्हीं तक सीमित नहीं) पर दिए गए अंक हैं।

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Note: You can discuss your evaluation 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

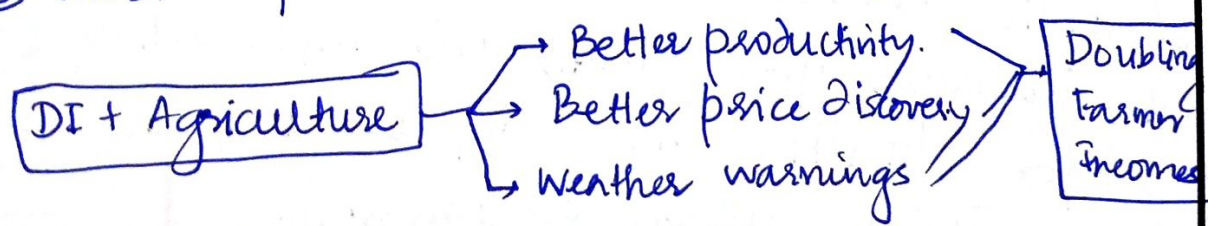
Q.1) Path to a digital India should traverse through the villages but seems to have bypassed the ideal trajectory. Critically examine. (10 marks, 150 words)

डिजिटल इंडिया का रास्ता गांवों से होकर गुजरना चाहिए, लेकिन लगता है कि इस आदर्श पथ को दरकिनारा कर दिया गया है। समालोचनात्मक रूप से परीक्षण करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The government (govt.) launched Digital India mission to create a digitally empowered society.

Why path to DI must traverse through villages

- ① Around 70% of India's population lives in villages (Census 2011).
- ② Panchayats + Digital India → transparent governance
- ③ More effective functioning of schemes like MGNREGA.
- ④ Provide e-com market to village based industries.
- ⑤ Most of rural India is agriculturalist



But this trajectory is bypassed as:

- 1) No programs like SMART villages on lines of SMART cities.
- 2) Deadlines of Bharatnet program repeatedly extended
- 3) Internet penetration only ~ 33% in rural areas.
- 4) Lack of public hotspots.
- 5) No sustained efforts of rural digital literacy.
- 6) Only small volume of digital payments in villages.
- 7) Digital infrastructure non-existent in most remote villages.

Though steps like NREGAsoft, e-NAM, Kerala Fibre optic network are taken, but digital literacy, cyber security and infrastructure needed for $IT + IT = IT$ = Info tech + India today = Indian villages of tomorrow.

Q.2) Narrow understanding of disability has marginalised people suffering from mental disorders. Elucidate. (10 marks, 150 words)

दिव्यांगता की संकीर्ण समझ ने मानसिक विकारों से पीड़ित लोगों को हाशिए पर डाल दिया है। स्पष्ट करें।

(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

As per Lancet one in seven people in suffer from mental disorders, but only twelve percent of them get adequate treatment.

Narrow understanding of disability & marginalization of mental disorders

- ① Traditionally, only physical disability was considered.
- ② only 0.5% of total health budget is dedicated to mental health.
- ③ Belief in superstitions and not formal treatment of mental disorders.
- ④ Suicide considered as crime for long and not related to mental disorders.

⑤ Mental healthcare Act, only enacted in 2017.

⑥ Greater social stigma with mental disorders → hesitation in seeking treatment.

⑦ Primary healthcare centres do not have counsellors, psychologists to deal with mental health issues.

With COVID onset, mental health cases are bound to rise, strategies like

Manodarpan, telephonic counselling,

integration of AYUSH and inculcation

of mental health in educational

curriculum ~~are~~ ~~is~~ under NEP, 2020 are needed.

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Q.3) The Election Commission of India has a vital role in building a robust framework of electoral democracy. Highlighting challenges associated with the functioning of ECI, suggest measures to reform the body. (10 marks, 150 words)

चुनावी लोकतंत्र के एक मजबूत ढांचे के निर्माण में भारत के चुनाव आयोग की महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका है। भारत के चुनाव आयोग के कामकाज से जुड़ी चुनौतियों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, इस निकाय में सुधार के उपाय सुझाएं। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Article (Art.) 324 of the constitution creates the Election Commission of India.

Vital role in Electoral democracy

- Ensure conduct of free and fair elections
- Prepare electoral rolls
- Settle dispute among parties
- Allocation of symbols.
- Look after enforcement of M.C.C.

Challenges associated with ECI's functioning

- ① Allegations of partisan conduct.
eg) Gopalswami's allegation on Naveen Chawla.
- ② Model code of conduct has no legal

backing, violations not punished.

eg launch of Namo TV.

③ Accepted in court that doesn't have power to punish hate speech.

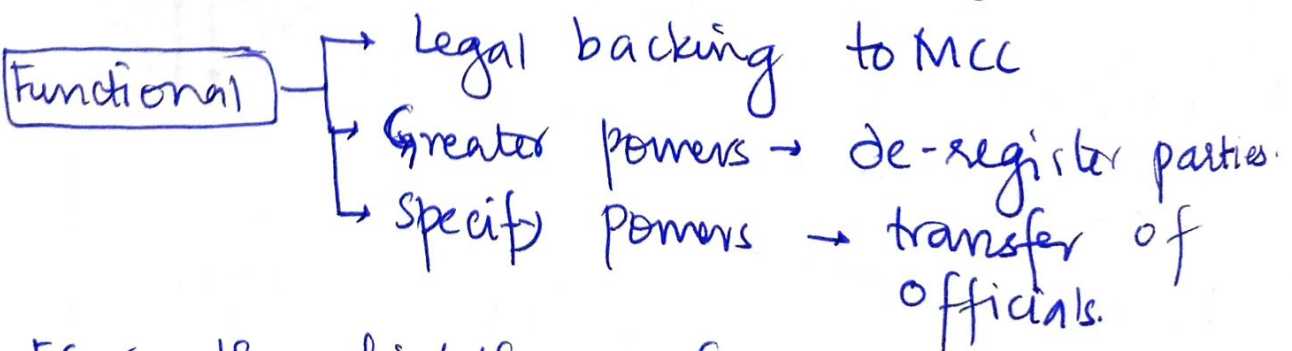
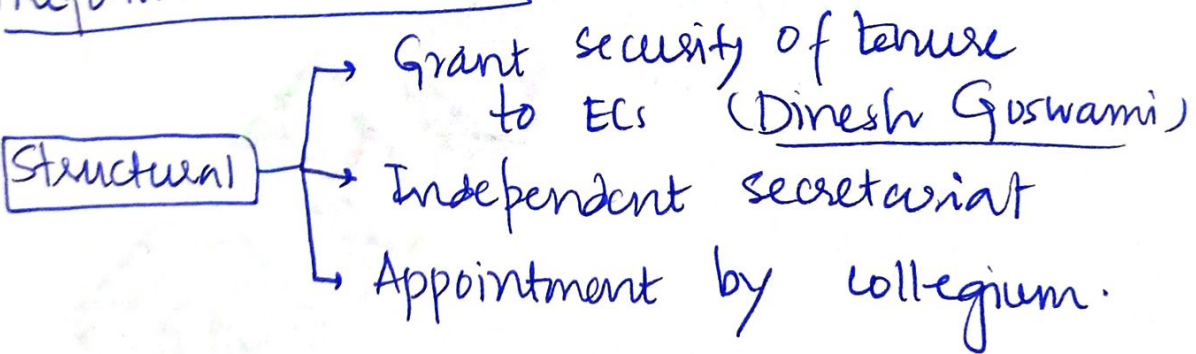
eg Yogi Adityanath case

④ safety and security of EVMs not ensured.

eg found lying beside road in Rajasthan

⑤ Lack of independence of ECs → no security of tenure.

Reform measures



EC is the lighthouse for democracy and its independence protects basic structure of

Q.4) Fair competition is the cardinal principle of free market economy. In this context, Explain the role of Competition Commission of India and compare its position with anti-trust institutions of other countries. (10 marks, 150 words)

निष्पक्ष प्रतिस्पर्धा मुक्त बाजार अर्थव्यवस्था का मुख्य सिद्धांत है। इस संदर्भ में भारत के प्रतिस्पर्धा आयोग की भूमिका की व्याख्या करें तथा अन्य देशों की विश्वास-विरोधी संस्थाओं से इसकी स्थिति की तुलना कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Competition Commission of India (CCI) is the statutory body created in the Competition Commission Act which replaced the MRTP Act.

Role of competition Commission :

- 1) Promote fair play in the arena of market.
- 2) Prevent any company from taking undue advantage of its position in market.
- 3) Dispute resolution among various players.
eg) Reliance future deal.
- 4) Promotion of inclusive growth.

⑤ Act as an ombudsman for small businesses.

⑥ Impose penalties on companies involved in wrong doing.

CCI vis-a-vis other countries' anti trust bodies

↳ Has separate legislative existence.

↳ lesser powers as compared to some other global counterparts.

↳ NO separate appellate tribunal (goes to NCLAT) unlike UK or US.

↳ Lack of experts unlike Japanese body.

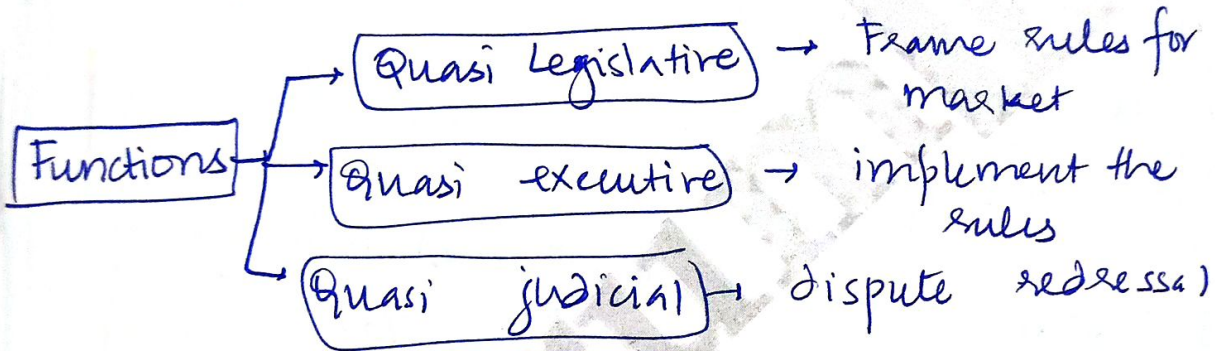
CCI is an imp. player in market, ensuring its independence will promote ease of doing business.

Q.5) Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) protects the interests of investors as well as ensures development and regulation of financial markets. Discuss how far the SEBI has been successful in performing its envisaged role. (10 marks, 150 words)

भारतीय प्रतिभूति और विनियम बोर्ड (सेबी) निवेशकों के हितों की रक्षा करने के साथ-साथ वित्तीय बाजारों के विकास और विनियमन को सुनिश्चित करता है। चर्चा करें कि सेबी अपनी परिकल्पित भूमिका को निभाने में कहाँ तक सफल रहा है।

(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

SEBI is a statutory, quasi judicial body which acts as a referee in the financial market.



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How far SEBI has been successful]:

- ① Brought about technological evolutions.
eg circuit breaker system.
- ② Prevented many hostile takeovers of companies.
- ③ Promotion of DEMAT shares → reduced

chances of stolen, destroyed shares.

- ④ Banned many fake trading apps → prevented ponzi type scams.
- ⑤ Regular incorporation of global best practises.
- ⑥ Action on companies that violate market rules.

Issues in role :

- Internal breach of procedural integrity -
 - eg MD guided by Himalayan Yogi
- Couldn't pre-empt scams.
 - eg Harshad Mehta
- Couldn't bring back people running away with investor's money.

SEBI needs to be granted greater powers and clear demarcation to ensure effective regulation.

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Q.6) Lokpal and Lokayuktas were envisaged to strengthen the legal and institutional mechanism to ensure cleanliness in public life. Critically examine their role as anti-corruption watchdogs.

(10 marks, 150 words)

लोकपाल और लोकायुक्तों की परिकल्पना कानूनी और संस्थागत तंत्र को मजबूत कर सार्वजनिक जीवन में स्वच्छता सुनिश्चित करने के लिए की गई थी। भ्रष्टाचार विरोधी प्रहरी के रूप में उनकी भूमिका का समालोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए।
(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Lokpal and lokayuktas were created by an act in 2013 after protest led by Anna Hazare.

Role of lokpal and lokayukta

They are anti-corruption ombudsmen for group A, B, C & D officers and MPs and MLAs.

Issues in role

- NO suo motu powers for investigation
- Time limit of 7 years.
- Delay in appointments → appointed 9 years post enactment of law.
- No clear demarcation of functions and overlap with CVC, CBI.

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→ Lokayuktas :

- Nagaland → UP Lokayukta from ruling party.
- Kerala → ordinance to make advisory non binding

Positive role

- ↳ Exposed corruption eg Kumbh Mela in UP.
- ↳ Punished erring officials

Reforms needed :

Structural

- Timely appointments
- Clear cut power demarcation

Functional

- Independent secretariat
- No powers to alter conditions of service by legislature.

ZARC calls them as watchdogs of public purse & above reforms will strengthen their oversight.

Q.7) Subordination of investigative agencies to the executive is fraught with disastrous consequences. Discuss the statement in light of the criticism of the Central Bureau of Investigation as a "caged parrot".
(10 marks, 150 words)

जांच एजेंसियों का कार्यपालिका के अधीन होना विनाशकारी परिणामों से भरा है। केंद्रीय जांच ब्यूरो की "पिंजरे में बंद तोता" के रूप में आलोचना के आलोक में इस कथन की चर्चा कीजिए।
(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

CJI Ranjan Lodha had called CBI as a caged parrot that speaks the language of its master.

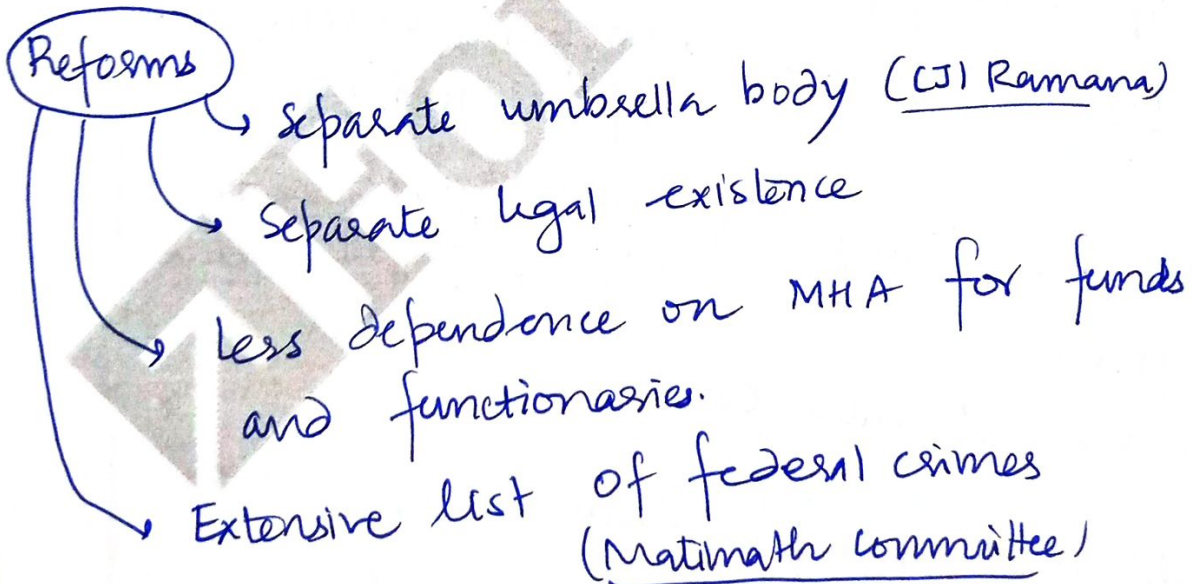
Criticism of CBI's role

- ① Used against political opponents frequently.
- ② Complaints of partisan appointments
eg Rakesh Asthana → opposition complaints of corruption.
- ③ Excessive delay in politically sensitive cases.
eg Jain Hawala case.
- ④ Mishandling of certain cases.
eg Arushi Talwar case, Profors case.

⑤ Conflicts with state police as policing is a state subject.

⑥ Recent amendment

- Extended tenure of CBI head to 5 years.
- 2 years security of tenure.
- After that depends on "pleasure of govt"
- This promotes partisanship.



Independence of CBI is must for its credibility and to ensure "procedure established by law and due process" is followed.

Q.8) Vocational training needs to be blended with mainstream education in order to bridge the wide skills gap. Highlight the status of vocational training in the country. How does National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, promote vocational education? (10 marks, 150 words)

व्यापक कौशल अंतर को पाटने के लिए व्यावसायिक प्रशिक्षण को मुख्यधारा की शिक्षा के साथ मिश्रित करने की आवश्यकता है। देश में व्यावसायिक प्रशिक्षण की स्थिति पर प्रकाश डालें। राष्ट्रीय शिक्षा नीति (एनईपी) 2020, व्यावसायिक शिक्षा को कैसे बढ़ावा देती है? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Vocational education refers to real skill based training and includes works like computer operation, electrical fitting, carpentry etc.

Status of vocational training :

- ① ITIs present in almost all districts of country.
- ② More than 10+ skills imparted under skill India mission.
- ③ SUPW training given in schools as recommended by NEP, 1986.
- ④ Schemes like Earn while you learn launched.
- ⑤ On the contrary only 4% formally skilled

Population in India against 96% in South Korea (15th FYP report)

Steps in NEP :

- 1) Vocational education at all levels.
- 2) Establishment of incubation centres in all schools.
- 3) Take helps from NGOs and other CSOs.
- 4) Specialized training to be given by experts in respective fields
e.g. carpenters
- 5) Credits for vocational training.

Thus, NEP, 2020 inculcates the Gandhian vision of Nayi Taleem by granting vocational education.

Q.9) Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) addresses the need for interoperability in health services through a unified health interface. Elaborate its significance in digitising the health care ecosystem. (10 marks, 150 words)

आयुष्मान भारत डिजिटल मिशन (ABDM) एक एकीकृत स्वास्थ्य इंटरफेस के माध्यम से स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं में अंतर-संचालन की आवश्यकता को संबोधित करता है। स्वास्थ्य देखभाल पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र को डिजिटाइज करने में इसके महत्व को स्पष्ट करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

ABDM was launched by PM Modi to promote inclusive digital healthcare ecosystem in the country.

Significance in digitizing healthspace:

- ① Digitizes all the records of the patients in Digital health registry.
- ② Health Facility registry → list of all nearby hospitals and doctors.
- ③ Consent manager gateway → can't be opened without consent of the patient.
- ④ Promotion of telemedicine → online consultation and services like surgery.

5) Gives people a choice between public and private health care facilities

Apart from this, it also has benefits like:

- Improved transparency
- Reduced costs of healthcare

Issues

- ↳ Privacy → no data protection law
- ↳ Digital divide
 - ↳ rural vs urban
 - ↳ young vs old.
- ↳ Quality of reports uploaded online is matter of concern
- ↳ Initial cost is high.

Though a step in right direction, infra creation under NIP must be prioritized first.

Q.10) Objectives of a welfare government remains incomplete without a progressive ecosystem for the children's development. Discuss with special emphasis to recently passed Juvenile Justice Amendment Act, 2021. (10 marks, 150 words)

एक कल्याणकारी सरकार का उद्देश्य बच्चों के विकास के लिए एक प्रगतिशील पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र के बिना अधूरा रहता है।
हाल ही में पारित किशोर न्याय संशोधन अधिनियम, 2021 पर विशेष जोर देते हुए चर्चा करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

DPSR under article 39(e) instructs the state to ensure the welfare of children

Need for progressive ecosystem for children's development

- ① Children of today are leaders of tomorrow.
- ② Part of demographic dividend.
- ③ Vulnerable to abuse @ child labour
- ④ Susceptible to crimes @ snatching, petty thefts.
- ⑤ Sensitive policing is needed rather than hard policing

It is in this scenario that Juvenile Justice (JJ) amendment act was passed recently.

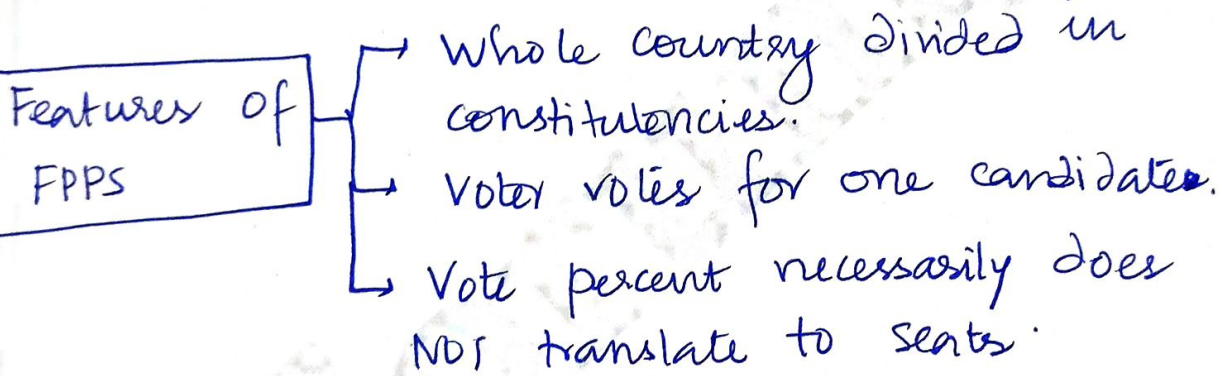
- ① Simplified adoption procedure
 - Grants power to DM
- ② Creation of an appellate authority.
 - Commissioner of the Division
- ③ Changes the nature of non cognizable offences to cognizable → warrant needed.
- ④ Child protection committees : members with tainted background not selected.
- ⑤ Promotes reforms in child shelter homes.

In spite of this, it has issues like lack of expertise with DM and its outcome will depend upon the efficiency of implementation.

Q.11) What do you understand by the First Past the Post System (FPPS)? Why was FPPS preferred over the Proportional Representation (PR) system for elections to the Lok Sabha/Vidhan Sabha? Also, critically examine the consequences of this preference. (15 marks, 250 words)

फर्स्ट पास्ट द पोस्ट सिस्टम (FPPS) से आप क्या समझते हैं? लोकसभा/विधानसभा के चुनावों के लिए आनुपातिक प्रतिनिधित्व (पीआर) प्रणाली पर फर्स्ट पास्ट द पोस्ट सिस्टम को प्राथमिकता क्यों दी गई? साथ ही, इस वरीयता के परिणामों का समालोचनात्मक परीक्षण करें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

First Past the post system is also called as simple majority system. In this, the person securing most number of votes is declared winner.



Why we preferred FPPS over PR

① simplicity: FPPS was simpler and easier to understand in a country with 8% literacy in 1947 than PR.

- ② Easier to conduct by-elections to meet exigencies.
- ③ Less costly than PR system.
- ④ Better representative of diversity of the country.
- ⑤ Voter gets to choose both → the party and also candidate.
- ⑥ Greater accountability → unlike PR where voter doesn't know who his/her representative is.
- ⑦ Comparatively lesser time consuming than PR.

Consequences of FPPS:

- ① Wastage of votes: eg those who lose, their votes are not transferred unlike in PR.

⑥ Less representative: vote share doesn't reflect in seat share.

eg) BSP won 20% votes but zero seats in UP.

⑦ Proliferation of ascriptive politics based on caste, class and religion calculations of constituencies.

⑧ Criminalization of politics → Money and Muscle power.
(Milan Vaishnav)

⑨ Single party govt formed → less representative of regional interests

eg) Congress system (1950-1967).

But, we have adopted PR in Rajya Sabha and Presidential elections.

To make our democracy more consociational, we can adopt the German model of 50% FPPS and 50% PR system.

Feedback

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Structure/
Presentation

Question
Interpretation

Content

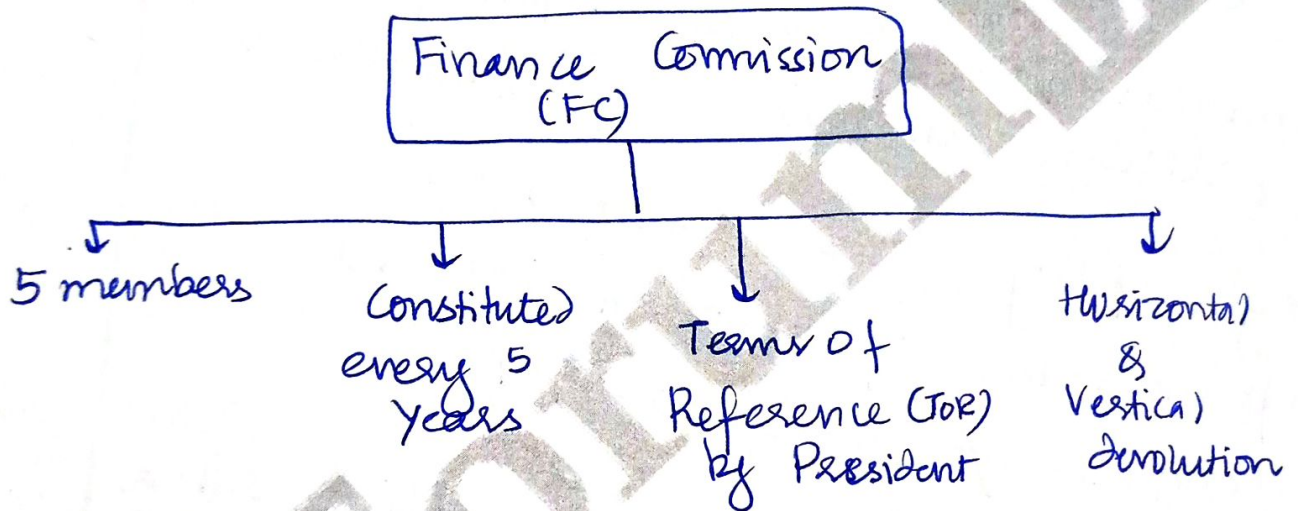
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Q.12) Examine the role of the Finance Commission in maintaining the fiscal equilibrium in the country. Also, compare the recommendation of the 15th Finance commission with its predecessor and implications of its recommendations. (15 marks, 250 words)

देश में राजकोषीय संतुलन बनाए रखने में वित्त आयोग की भूमिका का परीक्षण कीजिए। साथ ही, 15वें वित्त आयोग की सिफारिशों की इसके पूर्ववर्ती और इसकी सिफारिशों के निहितार्थों से तुलना करें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Finance commission created under Act. 280 is described as the 'balancing wheel' of fiscal federalism.



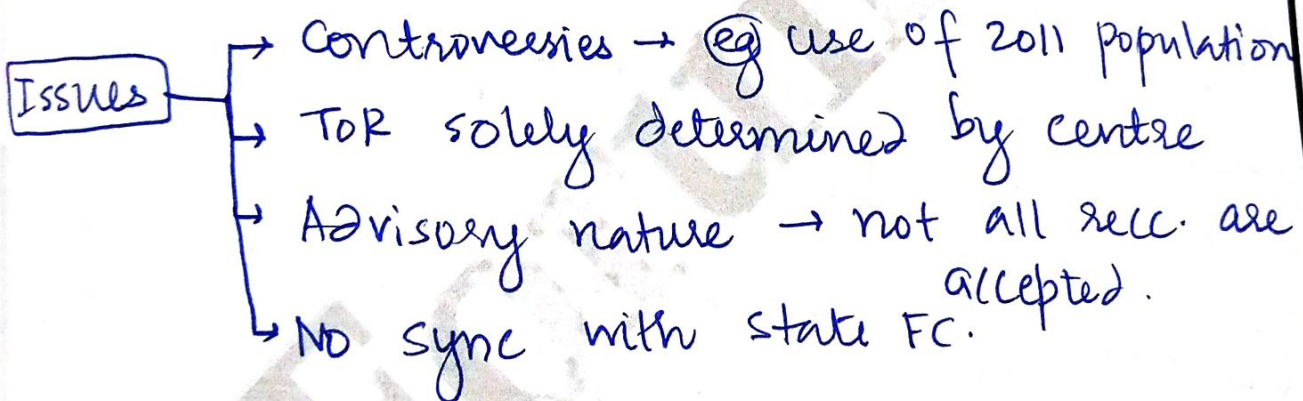
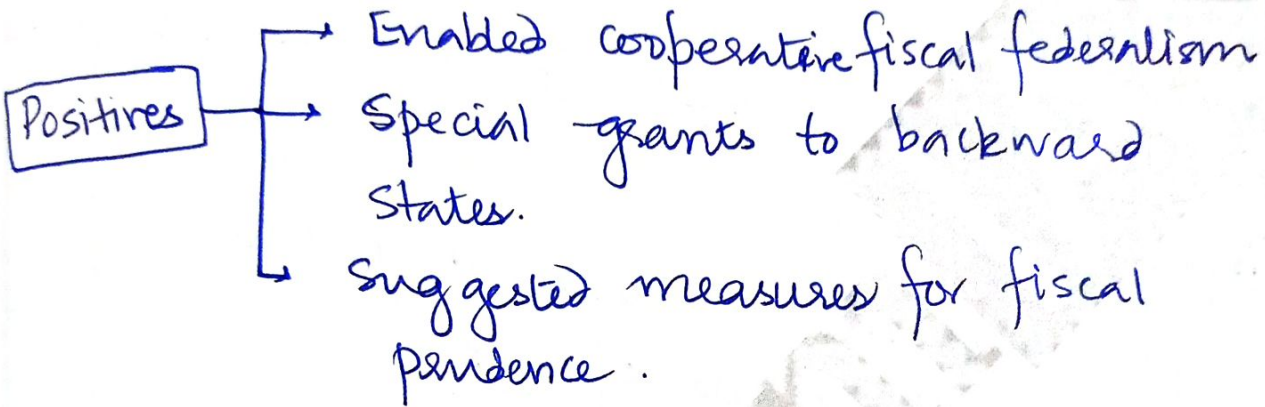
Role of FC in maintaining fiscal equilibrium

- ① Determine the distribution of net proceeds of taxes between centre and states.
- ② Principles that govern the transfer

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of grants in aid to states.

- ③ Suggest measures to augment the consolidated fund of states to enable transfers to local govt.

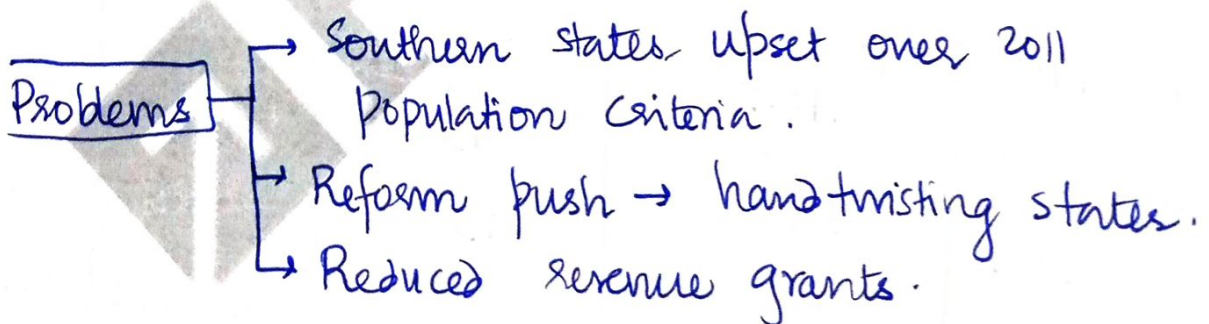


15th vs 14th FC :

Criteria	14th FC	15th FC
① Income distance	50	45
② Population (2011)	-	15
③ Forest & Ecology	-	10%
④ Area	15%	15%
⑤ Tax effort.	-	2.5%
⑥ Demographic performance	-	12.5%

Implications of recommendations |

- ① Performance based grants → promote Cooperative federalism & competitive federalism
- ② Promote reforms → eg power sector reforms
- ③ Promote fiscal prudence: eg recc. limiting Fiscal deficit.
- ④ Strengthen Local governance → grants subject to setting up of SFC.
- ⑤ Bolster national security → Defense modernization fund.
- ⑥ Crisis management → Disaster mgmt. fund.



Representation of states in FC and creation of Fiscal Council will bolster the role of Finance Commission.

Q.13) A polity perennially in election mode is not well suited for effective governance. In light of the statement, discuss how far simultaneous elections can solve this problem. Also, highlight challenges associated with conducting simultaneous elections. (15 marks, 250 words)

हमेशा चुनावी दशा में रहने वाली राजनीति प्रभावी शासन के लिए उपयुक्त नहीं है। इस कथन के प्रकाश में चर्चा कीजिए कि एक साथ चुनाव इस समस्या का कहीं तक समाधान कर सकते हैं। साथ ही एक-साथ चुनाव कराने से जुड़ी चुनौतियों पर प्रकाश डालें।

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Recently, PM Modi called for a shift to 'one nation one election' and EC showed its readiness.

Simultaneous elections and effective governance

- ① Frequent application of MCC → hampered governance.
- ② Rallies, processions, protests → traffic diversions, inconvenience to citizens.
- ③ Elections cause stress on caste, communal cleavages → development concerns sidelined.
- ④ Public machinery engaged in elections.
 - eg teachers on election duty.
- ⑤ Huge cost on exchequer → less money to spend on programs like e-gov.

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⑨ 55,000 cr spent in 2019 elections.

⑩ Policy paralysis → govt. busy in ensuring wins in elections.

The above problems can be solved by simultaneous elections. But certain new governance challenges are created:

① Reduced accountability → only once in 5 yrs.

② May reduce responsiveness → sense of security to ruling party.

③ One sided and not participative decisions may be taken (Pratap Bhanu Mehta)

Challenges with conduct of simultaneous elections

① Would need amendments in articles 83 & 172 → difficult to bring.

② National concerns may dominate regional concerns.

- ③ Against federalism → may result in greater centralization of power.
- ④ Shortage of personnel for such large scale mobilization.
- ⑤ May see increased use of President's rule if assembly pre-maturely dissolved.
- ⑥ Confusion among voters = ADR report → more likely to vote for same party.
- ⑦ Most tough decisions taken in present framework only.
- ⑧ demonetization.

Though globally this concept has seen some success, we need to hold wider consultations with states, Ec and political parties before bringing about this change.

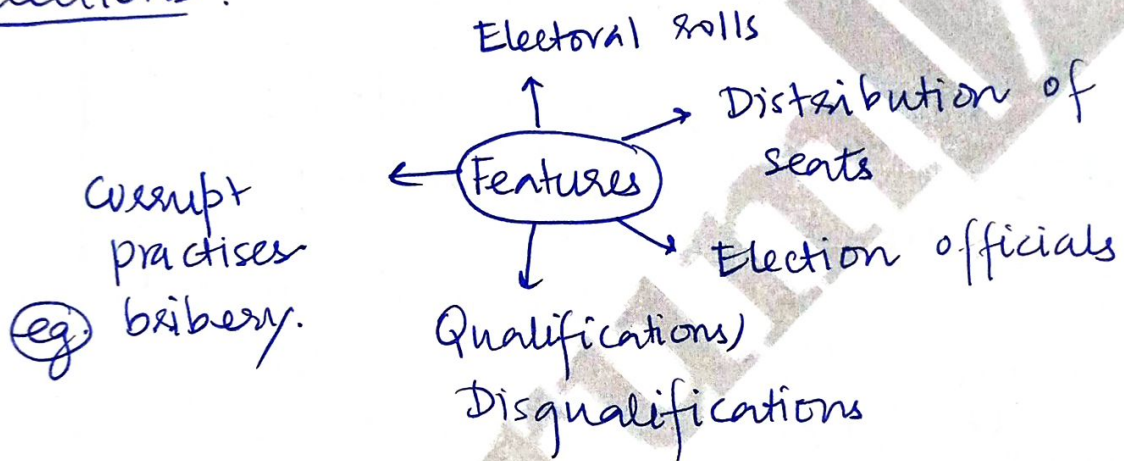
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Structure/ Presentation	
Question Interpretation	
Content	
Value Addition	
Total	

Q.14) The Representation of the People Act, the bedrock of free and fair elections in the country, has failed to keep pace with the contemporary challenges. Highlighting the shortcomings in the legislation, suggest reforms to make it more effective. (15 marks, 250 words)

लोक प्रतिनिधित्व अधिनियम, देश में स्वतंत्र और निष्पक्ष चुनाव का आधार, समकालीन चुनौतियों के साथ तालमेल रखने में विफल रहा है। कानून में कमियों को उजागर करते हुए, इसे और अधिक प्रभावी बनाने के लिए सुधारों का सुझाव दें।

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Representation of Peoples act is regarded as the 'Bible of Indian elections':



Shortcomings and measures to make more effective

with rise of social media, increased money and muscle power and frequent violations of ECI's directions many new challenges have emerged.

Challenge/ Shortcoming	Reforms needed
① De-registering parties → EC has no powers	① Grant powers to deregister political parties flouting election norms. (Dinesh Goswami).
② Newer modes of funding.	② Prescribe all foreign donations accepted in single account & reported.
③ Parties exempt from IT Act.	③ Reform RPA to bring parties under Income tax → discourage fake parties.
④ Reporting of donations.	④ EC pitched for reporting donations above ₹2,000.
⑤ Inter party democracy	⑤ Teeth to EC to promote political reforms. (Law Commission)
⑥ Model code of conduct	⑥ Could be made a part of RPA → legal backing.

⑦ Broaden disqualification criteria

⑧ Criminalization of politics.

⑨ False affidavit

⑩ NRI voting

⑦ Include crimes against LGBTQI → needed post decriminalization of sect 377 (Navtej Johar Case)

⑧ Incorporate → those in prison can't contest elections → Lily Thomas judgement.

⑨ Include as corrupt practise and disqualify.

⑩ Extend voting rights to NRIs by postal ballots

The above proposed reforms will ensure and enhance the ~~sanctity~~ sanctity of elections and credibility of EC.

Q.15) Dr. Ambedkar called the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) the most important office under the constitution. How does the constitution ensure effective functioning of CAG as the 'guardian of public purse'? What reforms would you suggest to further strengthen the office of CAG? (15 marks, 250 words)

डॉ. अम्बेडकर ने नियंत्रक एवं महालेखा परीक्षक (CAG) को संविधान के तहत सबसे महत्वपूर्ण कार्यालय बताया। संविधान 'सार्वजनिक पर्स के संरक्षक' के रूप में सीएजी के प्रभावी कामकाज को कैसे सुनिश्चित करता है? सीएजी के कार्यालय को और मजबूत करने के लिए आप किन सुधारों का सुझाव देंगे? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Article 148 provides for the office of the CAG.

The constitution ensures effective functioning of CAG through :

- ① Appointed by President under his hand and seal.
- ② Salary is determined by Parliament and not executive.
- ③ Salary and service conditions can't be varied once in office.
- ④ Removal like that of the Supreme Court judge.

- ⑤ The service conditions of IAS & AS determined by President post consultation with CAG.
- ⑥ Provides powers to audit:
- 6.1) Expenditures for consolidated fund of India and states.
 - 6.2) Public account and contingency fund of India.
 - 6.3) Receipts and expenditures of govt.
 - 6.4) Debt funds, sinking funds.
 - 6.5) Expenses, balance sheets of any govt. department.

Reforms needed in CAG

① Appointments:

- To be done by a collegium of PM, Finance Minister & CJI.
- Bring nominees from IAS & AS and

specialists, rather than bureaucrats.

→ Provide cooling off period from previous job.

② Powers :

→ Grant powers to audit PPPs → necessary post LPG.

→ Audit of local bodies & DRDA.

→ Some degree of comptrollers powers like UK

③ Functioning :

→ Shorter reports : (eg) Noddy books during Vinod Rai

→ Govt. to mandatorily discuss at least 50% of the report.

→ Reduced dependence on govt. for functionaries.

CAG has been successful in exposing instances like misuse of funds in Sarva Shiksha Abiyan. Reforms will strengthen the hands of guardian of public purse.

Feedback

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Structure/
Presentation

Question
Interpretation

Content

Value
Addition

Total

Q.16) To ensure effective implementation of policies addressing socio-economic challenges, behavioural changes are as important as government intervention. Comment with relevant illustrations. (15 marks, 250 words)

सामाजिक-आर्थिक चुनौतियों का समाधान करने वाली नीतियों के प्रभावी कार्यान्वयन को सुनिश्चित करने के लिए, व्यवहार परिवर्तन उतना ही महत्वपूर्ण है जितना कि सरकारी हस्तक्षेप। प्रासंगिक दृष्टांतों के साथ टिप्पणी करें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

The recent economic survey stressed on behavioural economics and nudge economics for better implementation of govt. interventions in field of socio-economic challenges.

How and why behavioural (BE) changes are important?

① Govt. interventions end at the front door. → BE functions inside it.

eg creation of law against child marriage → child marriage still continues.

② Govt. functions as an enabler, BE are concerned with sustaining those enabling efforts.

eg Banking & Financial inclusion.

③ BI is needed to bring change of mind.

eg) not defecating in the open. → ODF Status.

④ Govt. can't be present everywhere to police the policies.

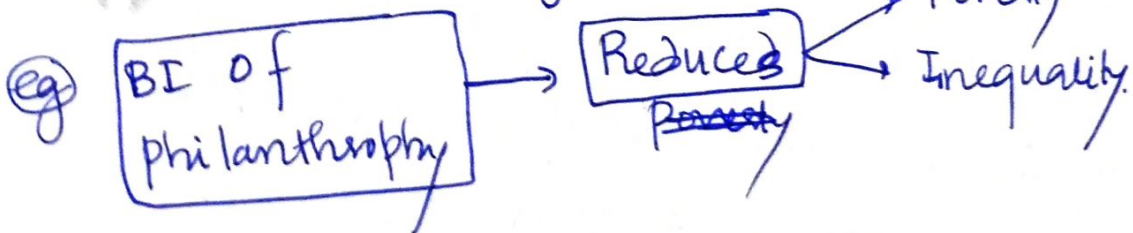
eg) implementation of Transgender Act.

⑤ Part III and Part IVA of the constitution are complementary → one tells duties of govt. and other the duty of citizens.

⑥ BI ensures participation of citizens and civil society where govt. lacks.

eg) prevention of child labour → Bachpan Bachao.

⑦ Resources with govt. are limited.



⑧ Social crimes can be prevented mostly by behavioural changes than top down intervention.

eg Gender / sex education → Reduced crimes against women

Steps to Bring about BI :

- ↳ Advertisement and slogans
eg Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao
- ↳ Tools like Man ki Bat
- ↳ Overhaul of educational curriculum
- ↳ Financial incentives. eg Subsidy under UJJWALA yojana
- ↳ Role modeling : eg Amitabh Bachchan's ad on Polio eradication.

Behavioural changes coupled with govt interventions will help realize PM's vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047.

Q.17) Compromised health infrastructure has led to a situation where the marginalised are "one illness away" from falling into poverty. Highlight the issues with country's health infrastructure giving a suitable framework for reforms. (15 marks, 250 words)

समझौता किए गए स्वास्थ्यगत बुनियादी ढांचे ने ऐसी स्थिति पैदा कर दी है जहां हाशिए पर रहने वाले लोग गरीबी में टिकने से एक बीमारी की दूरी पर खड़े हैं। सुधारों के लिए एक उपयुक्त ढांचा प्रदान करने वाले देश के स्वास्थ्यगत बुनियादी ढांचे के मुद्दों पर प्रकाश डालें।

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Reports by institutions like LANCET, WHO point towards the ill health of health care facilities in the country.

Issues with healthcare infrastructure

① Shortage of doctors.

eg 1:1456 against WHO's 1:1000.

② High out of pocket expenditure ~ 48%. (NFHS-5)

③ Primary healthcare centres are non functional.

eg used to keep cattle in UP.

④ Urban bias of hospitals and specialized tertiary care.

- (5) Import dependence on critical medical infrastructure.
 (eg) stents, APIs.
- (6) Low health insurance penetration
 ~ 33% of adults (NITI Aayog).
- (7) Overall low govt. expenditure on health compared to global counterparts. (~ 3% GDP)
- (8) Community health providers' issues (AASHA, ANM)
 - Low Pay
 - Overburdened
 - Undertrained
 - Social stigma.
- (9) Saliency bias (Economic survey): not learning from previous experiences
 (eg) oxygen shortage in COVID.
- (10) Corruption in schemes.
 (eg) Ayushman Bharat → Fake cards
- (11) Brain drain of doctors to OECD & Gulf.

Framework for reforms:

- ① Increased public spending to ~ 5% of GDP.
- ② Spending 2/3 of budget on Primary and preventive healthcare → National Health Policy, 2017.
- ③ Promote tele-health and concepts like robotic surgery.
- ④ Public private partnership (MPTI)
 - ↳ Public → hospital infra
 - ↳ Private = Labs, technicians, tertiary care.
- ⑤ Creation of more medical colleges.
- ⑥ Integration of AYUSH with modern medicine.
- ⑦ Nationwide implementation of best models
 - eg) Cuba's community healthcare and Brazil's Family health program

Right to health is an implicit part of Right to life (A21) increasing quality of Infra will help realize it.

Feedback
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Structure/
Presentation

Question
Interpretation

Content

Value
Addition

Total

Q.18) How far have Forest Rights Act, 2006 (FRA) and Panchayat (Extension of the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 (PESA) been successful in attaining their desired objectives? What needs to be done to improve their implementation on ground? (15 marks, 250 words)

वन अधिकार अधिनियम, 2006 और पंचायत (अनुसूचित क्षेत्रों पर विस्तार) अधिनियम, 1996 अपने वांछित उद्देश्यों को प्राप्त करने में कहाँ तक सफल रहे हैं? जमीनी स्तर पर उनके कार्यान्वयन में सुधार के लिए क्या करने की आवश्यकता है? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

FRA and PESA have been landmark legislations in granting of rights to tribals who constitute 8.6% of the country's population (Census 2011).

How far successful

FRA

- ↳ Granted land title rights to the tribals. up to 4ha.
- ↳ Rights on minor forest produce → economic empowerment
- ↳ Community rights granted in recognition of tribal customs.

However, it has shortcomings as.

- ① land alienation done in Jharkhand.
- ② Resistance in granting land rights
- ③ Lack of awareness about rights.

PESA, 1996

- ↳ Political empowerment through Gram Sabha
- ↳ Prevention of sale of intoxicants
- ↳ Consultation needed before transferring of tribal lands.
- ↳ Money lending and usury has come (illegal) down to a large extent.

Issues

- ↳ No regular elections.
- ↳ Lack of capacity and training to tribals
- ↳ Parallel bureaucracy. (eg) DRDA.

- ↳ Corruption - and funds siphoned off
- ↳ Lack of consultation before lands taken away.

(eg) Coca Plant established in Odisha without consultation

Steps to improve implementation

- ↳ Involve tribal organizations and civil society in Social audit
- ↳ Capacity building and training.
- ↳ Replace consultation by consensus (Bhuria committee)
- ↳ Use of technology (eg) Video recording of meetings to prohibit bogus meetings of gram sabha
- ↳ Independent 3rd body verification of title rights.

Tribals are also equal citizens and reservoirs of culture. Political-social empowerment through above steps will contribute to collective good.

Q.19) Enduring effects of the COVID-19 pandemic have exacerbated existing issues of poverty and hunger. Explain. (15 marks, 250 words)

COVID-19 महामारी के स्थायी प्रभावों ने गरीबी और भूख के मौजूदा मुद्दों को बढ़ा दिया है। व्याख्या करें।

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

COVID-19 was the pandemic of the century which stalled economies and led to increase in poverty and hunger.

Explanation of how COVID exacerbated poverty and hunger:

- a) COVID resulted in job losses mostly in the informal and contact intensive sectors. → reduced earnings.
- b) Low savings with poor → eroded with onset of COVID.
- c) Increased healthcare spending from own pocket.
- d) Supply side disruptions → increased food inflation → low affordability. → hunger

- ⑥ Learning poverty increased → school closure, digital divide → lack of online schooling.
- ⑦ Children deprived of mid-day meals - imp. source of nutrition.
- ⑧ Period poverty increased → low affordability and supply of sanitary products.
- ⑨ Rise of 'new poor' (WB) → young, urban and unemployed.
- ⑩ Overburdened agriculture due to return of migrants → disguised unemployment → low productivity → poverty.
- ⑪ Low tax collection by the govt → reduced social spending power.
- ⑫ Slowdown of GDP growth → less trickle down of benefits.

① Increased consumption of fast foods and packaged items (WHO) → hidden hunger

Though our govt. took steps like PM Gaeb Kalyan Anna Yojana, skill mapping of returnee migrants, free vaccinations, more can be done as:

- ① Launching urban MGNREGA.
- ② Extending free ration schemes.
- ③ Consider granting conditional UBI.
- ④ Enhanced fortification of cereals and promotion of nutri gardens in schools.
- ⑤ Deft inflation management through tools like policy rates.

Poverty (& hunger) are threat to prosperity of the country. SDG 1 & 2 can be met by above steps.

Feedback

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Structure/
PresentationQuestion
Interpretation

Content

Value
Addition

Total

Q.20) Despite the presence of a plethora of development schemes, India lags behind in creating a prosperous society. Is it a design issue or an implementation bottleneck? What suggestions would you make to improve the performance of developmental schemes? (15 marks, 250 words)

विकास योजनाओं की अधिकता के बावजूद भारत एक समृद्ध समाज के निर्माण में पिछड़ा हुआ है। क्या यह एक डिजाइन समस्या या कार्यान्वयन बाधा है? विकासात्मक योजनाओं के निष्पादन में सुधार के लिए आप क्या सुझाव देंगे?

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Indian constitution under part IV declares it to be a welfare state. Thus multiple developmental schemes have been launched over the years.

Design issues in schemes:

- ① Top down approach → lack of understanding of ground reality.
 - eg high cost of Refill cylinders under Ujjwala.
- ② Forced digitalization.
 - eg denial of rations (PDS) in Jharkhand due to failure of AADHAR verification.
- ③ Inclusion-exclusion errors:
 - eg Landless excluded from PM KISAN.

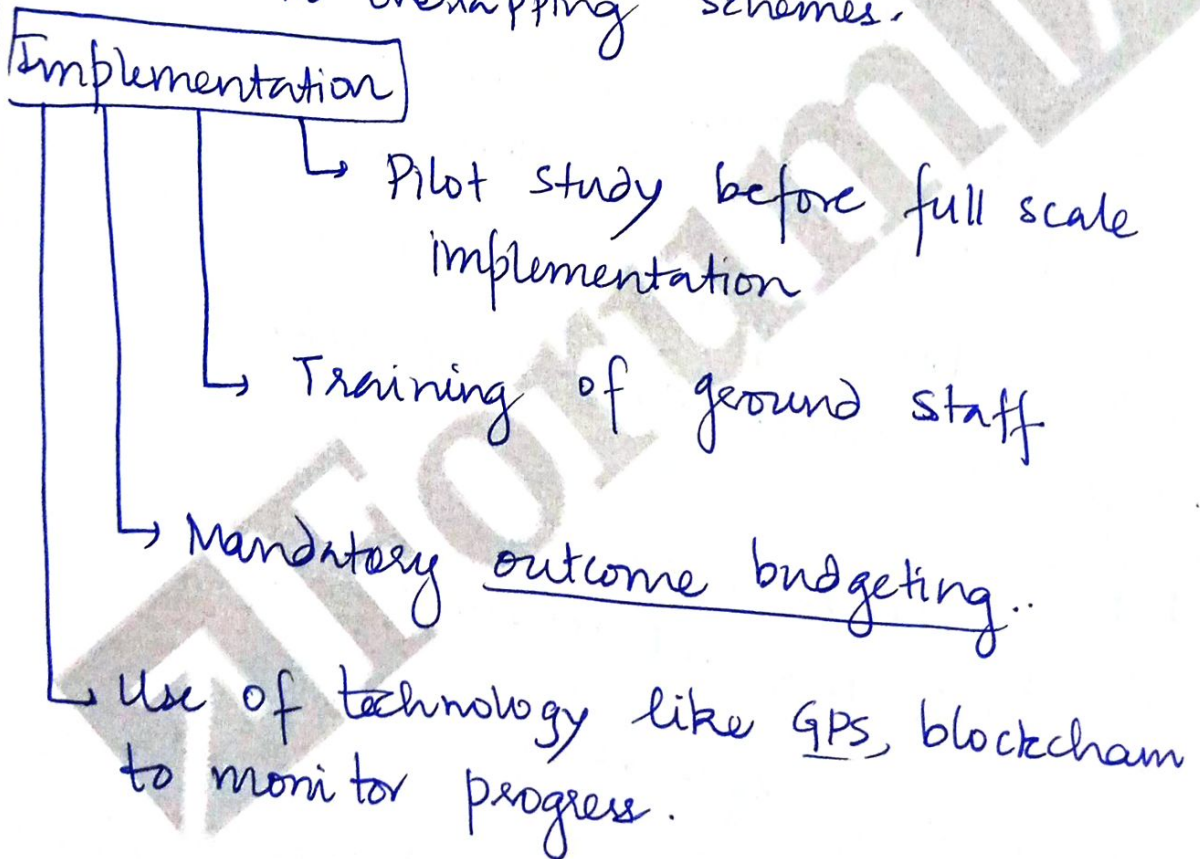
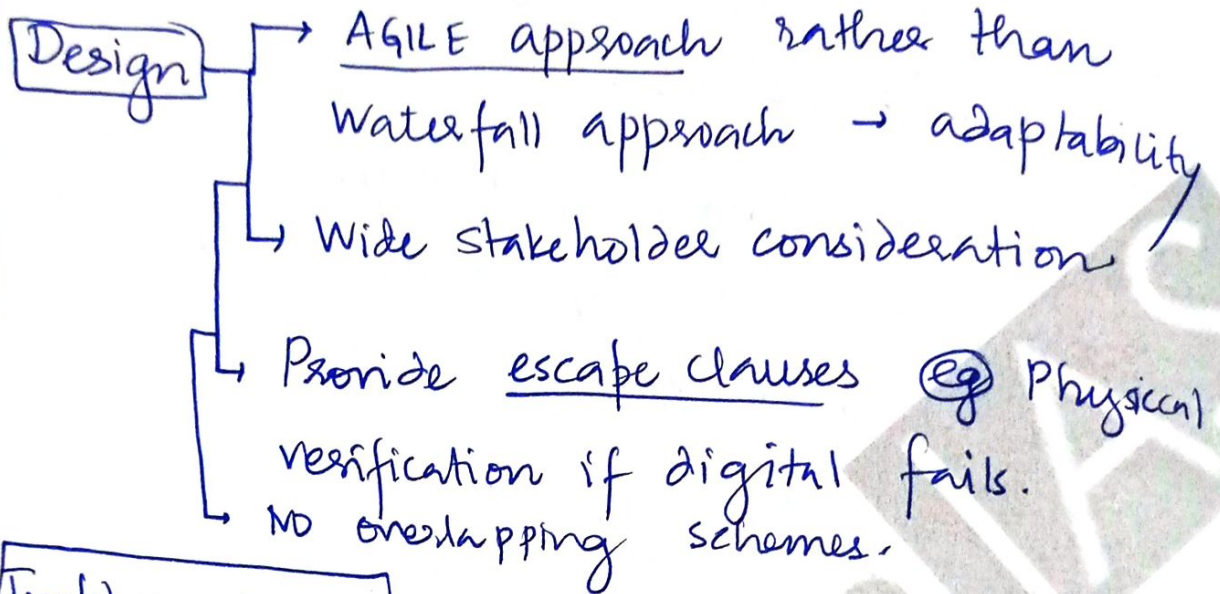
- ④ Forcing schemes on state govt.
 - eg Centrally sponsored schemes → states to pay 40% → refused.
- ⑤ Limited beneficiaries and benefits.
 - eg MGNEGA only 100 days → insufficient (Arim Premi study).

Implementation bottlenecks:

- ① Bureaucratic-political corruption.
 - eg School bag scam in UP.
- ② Administrative apathy.
 - eg Roads in rural areas only exist on paper.
- ③ Lack of bank accounts
 - can't avail KCC, interest subvention.
- ④ No feedback mechanism.

Thus, both factors → implementation lacuna and design deficiency are responsible for India's lagging behind.

Suggestions to improve implementation



Development is a process and not a product. The schemes if realigned can prove to be a shot in the arm for Vishwaguru Bharat.