

Time Allowed : Three Hours  
समय : तीन घंटेMaximum Marks : 250  
अधिकतम अंक : 250

## GENERAL STUDIES / सामान्य अध्ययन

Name Of Candidate परीक्षार्थी का नाम	Prajanandan Ginti		
Roll No./अनुक्रमांक	1910062322	Medium/माध्यम	English <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> हिंदी <input type="checkbox"/>
Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र	online	Date/दिनांक	03.09.23

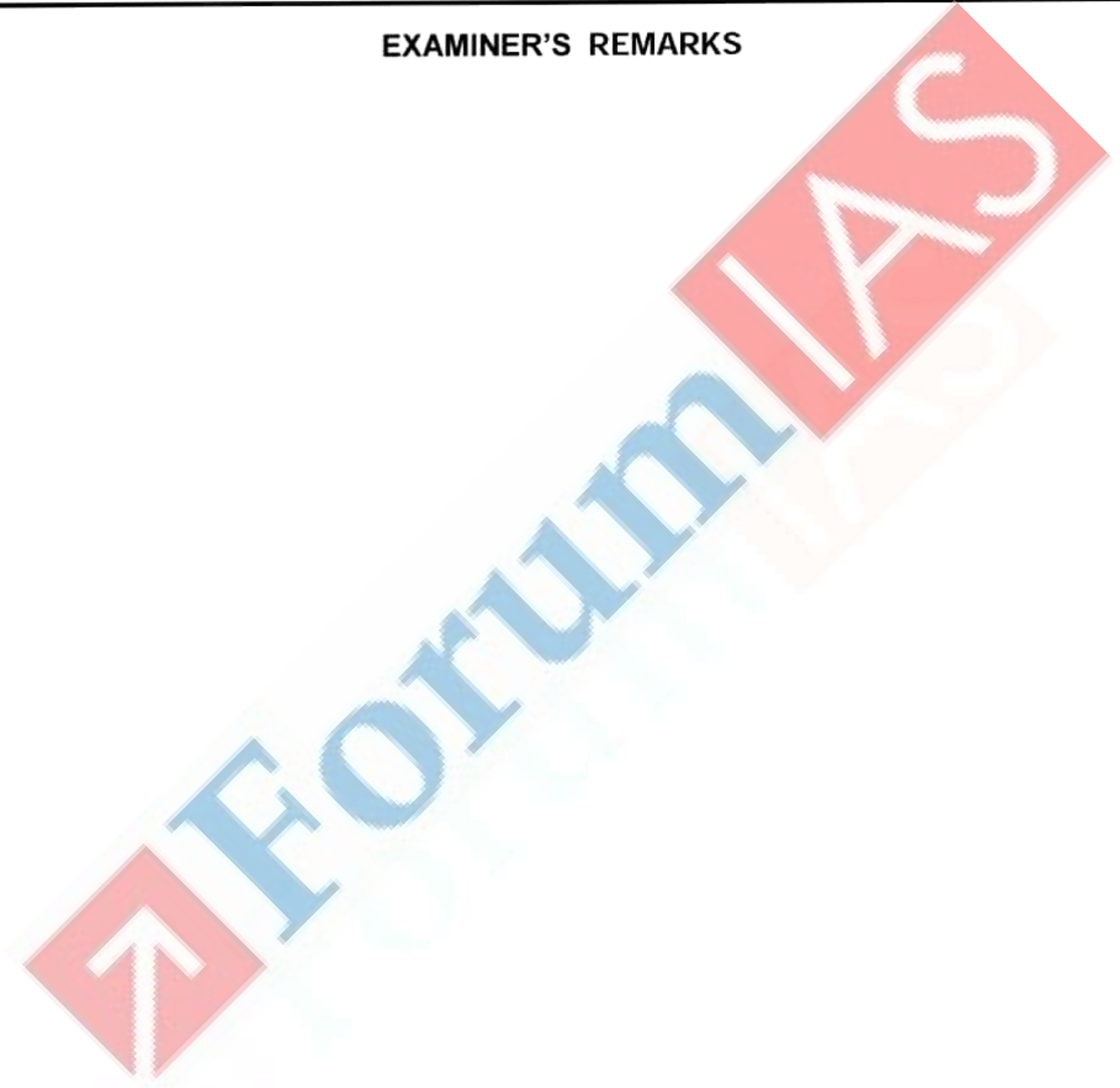
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INDEX TABLE / अनुक्रमणिका			INSTRUCTION / अनुदेश		
Q. No. प्र.सं.	Max. Marks अधिकतम अंक	Marks Obtained प्राप्तांक	1. Please do furnish Name, Email, Roll No and Mobile in the answer sheet. कृपया उत्तर-पुस्तिका में नाम, ईमेल, रोल नंबर और मोबाइल नंबर भरें।		
1			2. 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।		
2			3. 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।		
3			4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. 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।		
4			5. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum Answer Booklet must be clearly Struck off. 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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*Examiner's Discretion is the marks awarded at the discretion of the examiner 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 समग्र 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।			For Office Use Only / केवल कार्यालय प्रयोग हेतु		
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**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.

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### EXAMINER'S REMARKS



1. Discuss the role of the 'Fourth Estate' in upholding democratic values and analyse the issues affecting press freedom in India.

'Fourth Estate' of ~~an~~ democracy refers to the media, the other three estates being Legislative, Executive and Judiciary.

Role of 'Fourth Estate' in upholding democratic values :

1. To act as a link between public and government
2. To ensure government's responsibility accountability towards citizens
3. Create mass awareness about policies of government and raise the public's issues before government.
4. To finding out the problems in the society and raise such problems for solution
5. Objective reporting on various issues, events and any developments



To uphold Justice

Role of 4th Estate

Freedom of Speech & expression

Transparency & Accountability

Promote secular values

Issues affecting Press Freedom:

Article 19(1)(a) provides for press freedom in India implicitly. Issues affecting →

1. Use of sedition laws against media/journalists → Arrest & detention
2. Paid news → directly or indirectly
3. Media houses by politicians and business tycoons → Alleged biasness
4. TRP-oriented approach → Restricting a free and objective press.
5. Rise of Fake news on social media

Media / Press has a key role as 4th pillar of democracy. Therefore self-regulation through PCI, ~~or~~ like institution is need of the hour.



2. The electoral process, though inclusionary in theory, has been pointed out bore exclusionary tendencies in practice. Analyse, with special emphasis on role of women in India's representative electoral system.

Electoral process is inclusionary as Indian constitution provides for Universal Adult Franchise, irrespective of caste, religion or gender.

However, it turns out to be exclusionary in practice due to various reasons →

1. Vote bank politics - division within society on caste or religious line.
2. Less participation of women -  
Only 14% MPs are women.
3. Voters turn-out has also been low - around 60% to 70%.

Role of women in India's representative electoral system →

1. Provide representation to 50% of total population

2. Political empowerment of women would lead to social & economic empowerment.
3. To formulate Gender-inclusive policies — women participation is needed.
4. ADR report found that women participation would reduce criminalisation of politics.

### Challenges remain -

1. Patriarchal society
2. Gender prejudices - women as dependent on men
3. Political parties take womenability factor as consideration, which is viewed less for women candidate.

Therefore, Women Reservation Bill should be enacted for boost to women participation in Parliament and State assemblies. The effort should also begin with internal party democracy.



3. Human dignity, stemming from right to life, does not end with death penalty. In this context, throw light on various controversies surrounding capital punishment in the country.

Article 21 provides for Right to Life and Dignity, which can not be taken away even during Emergency.

However, Capital Punishment is legal and constitutional in India, which takes away that very right to life.

### Various controversies surrounding Capital punishment

Debates supporting death penalty :-

1. To create deterrence against heinous crime [eg] POCSO Act - for aggravated sexual offence on child.
2. To uphold justice for serious crime
3. To prevent crime against humanity.

Debates against death penalty :-

1. Right to life is absolute and human life is sacrosanct.
2. Justice system is based on



reformatory justice and not retributive justice.

3. Capital punishment could not create deterrence against heinous crime.  
[eg] Rise in rapes, gangrapes (NCRB data)

4. Against human rights - so abolished  
in many developed world  
↳ Maximum life imprisonment.

Way forward -

- Bachhan Singh Judgement - SC observed that capital punishment should be used in rarest of rare case.

- Proper protection against such penalties provided → Review petition, President's power of Pardoning such offence

- Guidelines for implementing a capital punishment → with dignity to the accused.

Overall, Capital Punishment is required for extreme crimes like Terrorist Attacks, Delhi gang rape case etc.

4. Assess the effectiveness of Inter-state River water disputes Act, 1956 in resolution of river-water disputes, Also describe the potential impact of delays in resolution of water disputes.

Article 262 provides for Parliament's power to create Interstate Water Dispute tribunals to deal with such disputes. The Act of 1956 was enacted under this provision.

### Effectiveness of ISRWD Act 1956

#### Positive aspect :

1. Dedicated tribunal for each river disputes eg Mahanadi, Krishna, Kaveri etc.
2. Tribunal consists of both judiciary and non-judicial experts.
3. Thorough analysis with field visits to reach a decision.

#### Limitations :

1. Extreme delays like 15 to 30 years for disposal of a dispute.  
eg Kaveri tribunal → > 15 years



2. Duplication of efforts — multiple tribunals.
3. Lack of skilled manpower and adequate technological infrastructure.
4. High rate of appeals under Article 136 (Special Leave petition) with the Supreme Court.

### Potential Impact of delays—

1. Stalled hydropower or irrigation projects
2. Politicisation of the issues
3. Gives rise to Regionalism
4. Climate change issues add more problems to it
5. Failure of dams to flood control due to such delays.

Therefore, Parliament has brought an amendment to the Act to create single tribunal for all such disputes, and fixed timeline for resolution.



5. Discuss the significance of the cooperative model of development in addressing the issues of rural growth.

Cooperative model refers to the creation of many intra-state or multi-state cooperatives out of stakeholders with democratic decision making system.

Significance of cooperative model of development →

1. Inclusionary approach with inclusion of rich-poor, large & small farmer equally. [eg] Anand Model, Gujarat
2. Creates integrated supply chains with cooperatives at various level.
3. Can address the land fragmentation issues by land pooling through cooperative.
4. Promote women empowerment  
[eg] SHG, - led development of Kerala - Kudumbashree scheme.
5. Cooperatives help in efficient mobilization of resources [eg] Credit supply

## Challenges with cooperatives +

1. Social barriers prevent equal participation. eg Caste & Gender divide
2. Domination of few powerful individuals over decision making.
3. Politicisation of cooperatives.
4. May prevent individual efforts in innovation

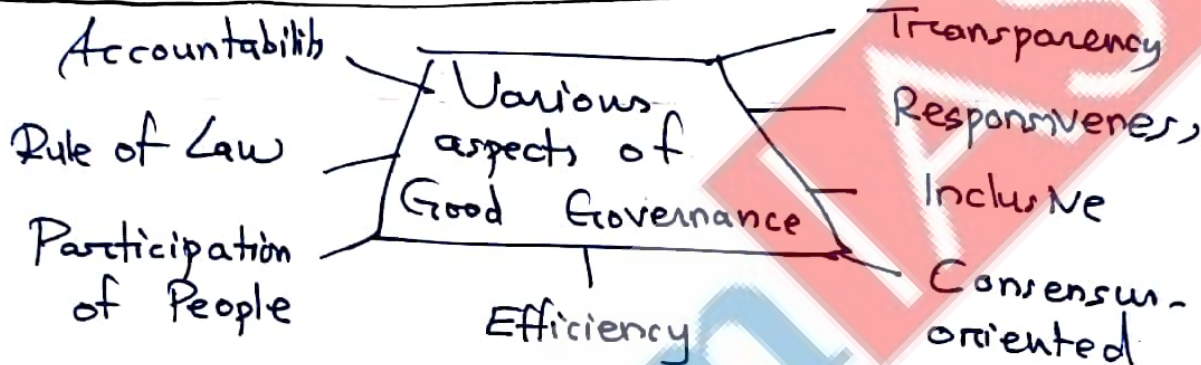
However, cooperative model of growth has been successful in Gujarat and parts of Maharashtra.

Govt's effort to promote this across India has been initiated with creation of Ministry of Cooperation which is a positive step towards cooperative-led rural development



6. In order to pass the ultimate test of good governance, welfare state should be close to the people, responsive to their aspirations, and inclusive in its approach. Discuss with special reference to PM PVTG Development Mission.

Good Governance refer to the efficient utilisation of resources for public interest minimising corruption and unethical practices.



### PM - PVTG Development Mission →

1. Targets Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups → 75 M India
2. Most of the PVTG members face issues of illiteracy, unemployment, health problems etc.  
↓  
To be addressed through PM - PVTGDM
3. Convergence of various scheme in PVTG villages.



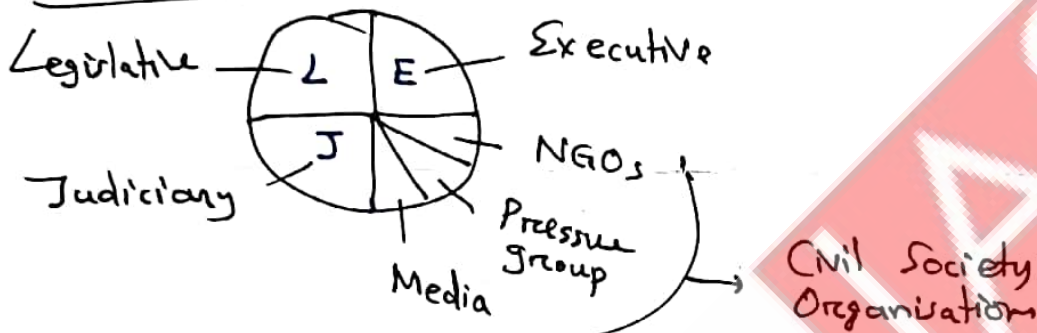
- 4. Infrastructure development for such villages eg water-supply
- 5. Promote economic development based on traditional livelihood . eg Van Dhan scheme
- 6. Political empowerment under PESA Act 1996

Therefore, PVTG Mission aims to ensure participatory governance , accountable administration as well as inclusion of various stakeholders; to ensure good governance for all.



7. To what extent collaboration between the state and civil society organizations (CSOs) help in addressing poverty and malnutrition in the country?

Post 1991, Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) have arised as 4th quadrant of governance.



Collaboration between CSOs & state to address poverty & malnutrition:-

1. Complements government's effort

eg Akhay Patra foundation → role in mid-day meal scheme.

2. Helps to address poverty through various initiative.

eg Employment generation role by SEWA India

3. Awareness against malnutrition

eg Rani Mistri STIG (Jharkhand)

4. Promotes poverty alleviation program by funding from various donor agencies  
es Bill & Melinda Gates foundation  
- Google + Govt implementing PMGDISHA scheme etc.

5. Govt and CSOs complement as  
Govt has financial power and  
CSOs have manpower and reach.

### Challenges -

1. Misuse of funds by NGOs,
2. Involvement in anti-government activities eg Greenpeace
3. Involvement in Maoism, Marxism, Insurgency in the name of civil society works.

Therefore, overall CSOs have to play a key role in poverty alleviation & addressing malnutrition, but they must be regulated and monitored.



8. Absence of a robust social infrastructure in the country may become one of the most significant challenges in achieving a developed status by 2047. Discuss.

Social Infrastructure refer to the educational institutions, healthcare infrastructure, water supply, housing etc.

Challenges due to absence of a robust infrastructure →

1. Poor educational outcome —  
Absence of basic numeracy & fundamental literacy skills (ASER report)

2. Health infra → 75% of tertiary care at metro cities —  
hosts less than 20% population

↳ Only 1.4 beds for 1000 population

↳ Lack of basic diagnostic facilities at PHCs.



Impact on health outcomes like

MMR, IMR etc

3. Lack of  $24 \times 7$  water supply

- ↳ Poor hygiene & sanitation
- ↳ More prone to diseases

4. Lack of housing facilities

[e.g.] → PM Awas - Yet to cover  
more than 50 lakh families

→ High slum population

All of these reduces  
Human capital formation and ~~prev~~  
slows down economic growth towards  
status of developed nation

Therefore, way forward  
is to invest 6% of GDP in education,  
5% of GDP in Health, 2% of GDP  
in research & development. as  
well as overall improvement in  
quality of life to successfully  
achieve the goal by 2047.



9. Though the changing paradigm towards dialogue and diplomacy in West Asia augurs well for India's interests in this otherwise restive region, presence of inimical actors may reverse the gains. Explain.

West Asia and India relations were out of a rollercoaster journey with hyphenation - dehyphenation policy with respect to Pakistan.

### Changing paradigm in West Asia :-

1. Focus on dialogue & diplomacy  
eg) Abraham Accords → UAE - Saudi Arab - Israel
2. New groupings formation  
eg) I2U2
3. Reduction in enmity between Arab & Israel as well as between Shia - Sunni  
eg) BRICS + include both Iran and Saudi Arab

### Augurs well for India's interest

1. Economic Interest - Chabahar port, INSTC, trade relations, energy security (70% of import) etc.



2. Strategic Interest → Promote relations with Israel as well as Arab  
→ Tackle Chinese dominance
3. People-to-people ties → More than 90 lakh diaspora in West Asia → source of remittances

Challenges by mimical actors :

1. Houthi rebels of Yemen
2. Israel-Iran war threats
3. ISIS presence over Iraq-Syria
4. Role of Pakistan — raises issue of Kashmir in OIC meeting

However, India's extended neighbourhood policy with rising economic ties with Arab world will further strengthen India's interest over the region.



10. Water diplomacy can redefine the contours of regional cooperation in South Asia. Discuss with special reference to Indus water treaty 1960.

Water diplomacy has become a major point between India & neighbourhood relationship

For example -

1. Indus Water Treaties (Ind - Pakistan)
2. Kali river dispute (Ind - Nepal)
3. Brahmaputra dams by China
4. Teesta river agreement pending with Bangladesh
5. Kaladan river project (India - Myanmar)

Indus Water Treaty 1960 -

↳ Has been successful treaty of Indus water sharing between India - (Sutlu), Ravi, Beas) & Pakistan - (Indus, Chenab, Jhelum)

## Challenges arised recently :

1. Pakistan objection against India's run-off the river project  
[E] Ratle over Chenab
2. India's need of water rivers →  
(80% with Pakistan)
3. Climate change led changes  
in river flow.
4. Pakistan's terror activity →  
possible water wars

Curator, India  
must ensure its national interest  
to promote equity in river water  
distribution among neighbours.

Adequate changes should be drawn  
with dialogues and a scientific  
study of both side.



11. Despite constitutional backing to the institutions of local governance, the idea of decentralisation has remained hostage to several structural bottlenecks. Elucidate.

73<sup>rd</sup> and 74<sup>th</sup> constitutional amendment Act of 1993-94 provided constitutional backing to the institution of local governance by adding Part IX and IXA in the constitution (Article 243 to 243 ZG).

Idea of decentralisation through institutions of local governance →

1. 3 tiers of Panchayati Raj Institutions → (PRIs)
  - [ Zilla Parishad (District level)
  - [ Panchayat Samiti (Block level)
  - [ Gram Panchayat (Village level)
2. Similarly various Urban Local Bodies at Urban areas → like,
  - [ Municipalities
  - [ Municipal Corporation etc.
3. Constitution provided Schedule XI and XII for functional devolution to these institutions,

However the idea of decentralisation remained hostage to several structural bottlenecks.

## Structural bottlenecks :-

### For PRIs :

1. Devolution of functions not compulsory — varies across states [e.g] UP → < 5 functions devolved, Kerala → > 20 functions
2. Financial decentralisation is lacking.
  - ↳ Lack of taxation powers of PRIs
  - ↳ Also populism-led reaction.
3. Multiple parastatal agencies like PWD, RD, Water Supply agencies etc having overlapped functions with PRIs.
4. Bureaucratic dominance at block and district level.
  - ↳ Limited participation of elected representative.
5. No formal mechanism to call Gram Sabhas → Misuse of quorum rule to bypass Gram Sabha vetting.
6. Finance Commission — giving tied funds removes autonomy of Gram Panchayats.



### For ULBs -

1. Different methods of election for Mayor in different state. (Direct vs Indirect debate)
2. Long-term vacancy in corporate & Mayor posts due to lack of timely elections.
3. Very limited focus on financial autonomy → Poor initiatives.
4. Lack of trained human resources as well as infrastructure.

To address these structural measures, there needs to be adequate amendments in the Constitution, as recommended by Iyer committee report to ensure potential benefits of local self governance as per Principle of Subsidiarity (2<sup>nd</sup> ARC).



12. Independent judiciary, as envisaged by the constitution, provides the bedrock for a thriving polity. However, executive encroachment may erode its credibility and affect its efficacy. Evaluate

Independence of Judiciary is a basic structure of constitution, as per Supreme Court's NJAC judgement. It is also one of the key federal feature of Indian constitution.

Independent Judiciary → Bedrock of a thriving polity :

1. It ensures separation of powers, as envisaged in Article 50.
2. Limits executive & legislative by keeping a check on despotic tendency,  
[e.g] Raj Narain case
3. Upholds fundamental rights of citizens against the tyranny of state.  
[e.g] KS Puttaswamy judgement on privacy
4. It ensures amicable solutions to centre-state disputes → Upholds federalism

5. Ensures trust on judiciary →  
Ultimately strengthens democracy.

Executive encroachment may erode its  
credibility and efficacy —

1. Such as executive interference in  
appointment [e.g.] NJAC amendment  
↳ SC declared it unconstitutional.
2. It may lead to biased judgement.
3. Reduces trust on judiciary
4. Against the doctrine of separation  
of power.  
[e.g.] Executive's effort to reduce  
judicial powers — 39th constitutional  
amendment
5. Creation of tribunals — with  
ministries control over them  
↳ Leads to tribunalisation  
of justice



However, executive's role in judiciary is provided in constitution →

1. President appoints CJI and other judges.
2. Executive does background checks of judges and recommends President.
3. Article 323A & 323B provides for creation of tribunals.

Even in other nations like UK, USA etc, executive plays a role in appointment of judiciary.

UK → Special Appointment Commission  
USA → President recommends name.

However, in Indian context, Supreme Court has reiterated the need for independence of judiciary by maximum separation from other two organs. This is necessary for a stronger democracy with constitutional supremacy.



13. Executive agencies, working as the watchdog against impropriety, are vital to act against the corrupt, however, pandering to vested interests may have the effect of turning the idea of rule of law on its head. comment, with special reference to controversies associated with the Enforcement Directorate (ED).

Executive agencies like ED, CBI, SFIO, NCB etc has important role in a democracy to ensure rule of law and for economic development.

Executive agencies

vital to act against the corrupt as watchdog & against impropriety

1. They uphold various laws — like ED Prevention of Money Laundering Act, CBI Prevention of Corruption Act, INCB NDPS Act — (~~NCB~~) etc.
2. They uphold economic justice, as envisaged in preamble.
3. Ensure Rule of Law — Important for order in the society.

However, there has been controversies regarding their functioning.

## Controversies associated with executive agencies, especially ED :-

1. To work for vested interest of ruling political party .  
 [eg] Targetting opposition parties
2. Violating rule of law → differentiating between corrupt politicians on party lines. based
3. Violation of SC judgement by extending director's tenure beyond 2 year
4. Low conviction rate (Less than 20%)  
 ↳ Raises doubt on efficacy
5. Long-term delay in cases due to lack of timely submission of charge-sheets and evidences

However, in recent time, ED has also shown some promising results through its investigation.



## Positive aspects of ED | :

1. Unearthed teacher recruitment scam in West Bengal
2. In Tamilnadu, alleged. money laundering case of Ministers under investigation.
3. Significant cases on Hawala, Money laundering involving business tycoons and politicians.

## Way forward -

1. Adequate autonomy & independence to ED
2. Appointment of Director through collegium like CVC.
3. Security of tenure to officers.
4. Strengthen manpower & technological infrastructure.

ED and other executive agencies are very important for national development. Therefore they must be independent, efficient and capable.

14. Critically analyse the role of National Commission for Women (NCW) in wake of its mandate to safeguard women's rights and uphold their socio-economic well being.

National Commission for Women (NCW) was formed as a statutory organisation in 1992, with mandate to safeguard women's right and facilitate their empowerment.

### Role of National Commission for Women

#### Positive aspects:

1. Takes suo-moto cognisance of any violation of women's rights.
2. Ensures independent investigation on sensitive cases.
3. Gives social and psychological support to victims of violence.  
↳ Helpline for domestic violence victims
4. Keep a check on Suadhar Griha and 'One Stop Centres' to ensure safe and supportive environment,



5. Recommends women - friendly steps like schemes & policies to Government!
6. Reviews working of various constitutional provisions for safeguard of women and recommends any amendment required.
7. Provides monetary compensation to victims of rape, violence etc.

### Limitations in NCW's role

1. Political appointments into the posts of NCW → limitation on autonomy & independence.
2. Limited manpower → unable to keep an eye over all states
3. Limited ground visits → leads to Nory Tower approach.
4. Limited financial powers for giving any compensation.

- 5. A statutory body - limited power of government agencies.
- 6. Recommendations are non-binding.
- 7. Does not have a dedicated investigation wing → depends on state police for investigation.

Way forward :

- 1. Constitutional Status to NCW
- 2. More autonomy with manpower to effectively monitor over states.
- 3. Binding provision for its recommendation.
- 4. Compulsory discussion on NCW report presented in Parliament.

NCW can play a greater role over Women's causes. Therefore adequate steps by Govt must be taken to empower NCW to ensure women empowerment and uphold Gender Justice.





15. Understanding the extent, source, and complexity of deprivations among the multidimensionally poor contributes to more informed policymaking. In this context, analyze the latest National Multidimensional Poverty Index Report by NITI Aayog.

### Multidimensional Poverty Index

analyzes the poverty from multiple perspective, where poverty is not just an income level, rather it counts quality of health, education, standard of living, assets one possess etc.

NITI Aayog

→ National Multidimensional Poverty Index Report

1. Major finding include India's efforts has imp uplifted nearly 15 crore people out of multidimensional poverty in last 5 years.
2. NITI Aayog lauded government's efforts like PM-KISAN, PDS & NFSA, social security schemes, Livelihood schemes etc. that contributed to poverty alleviation.

Positive findings →

1. Livelihood generation efforts contributed to address cycle of poverty.  
[eg] National Rural Livelihood Mission.
2. Formation of SHGs led to betterment of women status.  
↳ Increase women participation in economy.
3. Ayushman Bharat scheme reduced out-of-pocket expenditure, which was > 60% in 2017-18.
4. Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan improved educational outcome, combined with various skill development initiative.  
↳ Created better income opportunity.
5. Basic necessities were addressed through →  
 PM Awas - Housing  
 Jal Jeevan Mission - Water  
 Ujjwala Yojana - Cooking fuel  
 PDS system - Food Security.





## Challenges remain

1. Urban poverty — has arisen as new form of poverty → slum population rising.
2. Inflation ~~to~~ with post-Covid slowdown reduced the pace of poverty alleviation.
3. Regional inequality in multidimensional poverty is high [e.g.] Bihar ⇒ > 30%  
Kerala ⇒ < 5%.
4. Social divisions in poverty →  
— Tribal (STs) have higher poverty.  
↳ Reflected in tribal belts

NITI Aayog has suggested for steps like agricultural transformation, Make in India led industrialisation, improved investment in health & education will be required to make India poverty-free by 2030 as per SDG 1.0.

16. Though lifeblood of a representative democracy, political parties are beset with challenges of their own, limiting their larger role in democratization of the Society. Discuss.

Political Parties are lifeblood of a representative democracy like India, as they represent the voices of people, contributes to law-making and running the wheels of governance.

India is a multi-party democracy with more than 2500 political parties → 6 national parties.

Political parties — Challenges of their own →

1. Lack of internal party democracy  
↳ Dynastic nature of parties with nepotism
2. Absence of equal gender participation  
↳ Only 14% MPs are women
3. Opaque functioning → Not under RTI :- Reduces accountability towards people.





4. Funding of political parties is also non-transparent → Electoral bond further increases anonymity.

5. Inequal status of parties — dominance of national parties over state parties.

6. Also, parties accused with money laundering, as income out of purview of income tax.

[eg] Black money in elections

If limits their larger role in democratisation of society →

1. Keeps a larger section of society from participation in politics.

2. Money power over ethical practices  
↳ Criminalisation of politics

3. It leads to impact on efficiency of Parliament, state assemblies and overall governance.

4. Societal issues are ignored and parties function on non-issues.  
↳ Limits representative aspect of political parties.

5. Undemocratic, non-transparent functioning of parties is also reflected in governance after election.

Way forward -

1. Indrajit Gupta Committee - Internal democracy of parties must be maintained.
2. Political parties under RTI.
3. Transparent funding processes - partial state funding for level playing field (Dmesh Goswami committee)
4. Women reservation within parties as shown by BJD in Odisha → 30% candidates women

Strengthening political parties for democratic & transparent functioning will help strengthen democracy of India.



17. Safely managed drinking water services, as desired by Jal Jeevan Mission, are designated to give multifarious benefits cutting across generations. Discuss. Also, elaborate upon the challenges in ensuring the mission's success.

Jal Jeevan Mission is a flagship Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Government of India, that aims to provide piped water supply to every households by 2024-25.

### Jal Jeevan Mission

↳ Multifarious benefits across generations

1. Clean and affordable drinking water at home
2. Reduces burden on women, who used to ~~use~~ travel to get water.
3. Saves crucial time and energy — can be used in productive labour.
4. Address sanitation & hygiene issues
5. Prevents health hazards arising from polluted water like Cholera etc.

6. It complements Govt efforts to promote Open Defaecation Free India
7. Overall, standard of living and quality of life improves with this scheme.

### Challenges in ensuring success ::

1. Need collaboration of state Govts.  
↳ But lack of cooperative federalism as 40% funds to be given by states.
2. Stakeholder participation to manage water supply & storage system  
eg Pani Samiti  
↳ But faced with social divide on caste & religious line.
3. Availability of water as a challenge -  
↳ Ground water depletion  
↳ Drying of rivers.
4. Maintenance challenges of pipelines.



5. Lack of awareness may lead to wastage of water.

↳ Further increases water crisis

### Way forward -

1. Compulsory metering of water supply.
2. Complemented with Jal Shakti Abhiyan to ensure water availability through rain water harvesting.
3. Strengthen network of 'Pani Samitis' with skilled workers for maintenance.
4. Promote awareness about efficient use and reduced wastage -

Jal Jeevan Mission is an ambitious scheme to address the challenges of water in India.

By tackling the issues, it can be implemented across India to achieve

SDG Goal 4.6 → Clean Water for all.

18. Legislation like scheduled caste and Scheduled Tribe (Prevention of Atrocities) Act 1989 remains mere legal documents without intense sensitization of public functionaries and the civil society. Discuss.

Scheduled Caste & Scheduled Tribe (Prevention of Atrocities) Act 1989 aims to prevent caste discrimination and exploitation of STs / SCs in order to establish Social Justice.

SCs STs (PoA) Act remains a mere legal document →

Provisions like -

1. Non-bailable offence
2. Arrest without warrant
3. Punishment upto 7 to 10 years for atrocities.

↓  
All these stringent provisions have not created required deterrence against such caste-based atrocities.

Therefore, the need is to sensitise public functionaries & civil society.



## Need of sensitisation -

Among public functionaries :

1. To understand the objectives of P&A Act and social justice.
2. Create awareness about impact of social divisions.
3. Sensitisation about the human rights of every individual.

Among Civil Societies :

1. NGOs need to ~~be~~ play active role to promote tolerance and coexistence. [eg] Samatha NGO
2. Legal support to victims by DALSA, SALSA & NALSA

Other needs :

1. Behavioral training to civil servants and police — to be sensitive to such cases
2. Adopt democratic attitude within public functionaries

## Way forward :

1. Complement efforts through welfare schemes for STs/SCs
2. Promote 'inclusive education'.
3. Change in perception towards reservation.
4. Community Policing on such laws to raise awareness level.
5. Creates change agents in the society among other communities.

For the success of Prevention of Atrocities Act, the efforts must involve socio-economic empowerment of STs & SCs as well as changes in social attitude.



19. Harbinger of global rebalancing, India-Africa ties are a beacon of inclusive, sustainable, and equitable world. Explain.

India - Africa ties are historical in nature and linked to Gandhiji's South Africa stint. However, in recent time, this relationship is re-emerging with changing power dynamics of the world.

India-Africa ties :

Harbinger of global rebalancing →

1. India's call for inclusion of African Union in G20.
2. India's effort for UNSC reforms include African representation in Security Council.
3. India as leader of global south is supported by Africa.
4. Both promotes a multi-polar global order.

A beacon of inclusive, sustainable, equitable world →

### Economic ties

1. India provides alternative to China's assertive Belt & Road Initiative  
eg) India - Japan led Asia-Africa Growth Corridor
2. India allows duty-free access to African products into Indian market.
3. India's Line-of-credits to Africa  
↳ Declared through India-Africa summits

### Humanitarian ties

1. India's COVID diplomacy - supplied vaccine to African nations,  
↳ Reiterated by ~~G20~~ Western African leaders
2. HADR support → Operation Vanilla in Madagascar

## People-to-people ties |

1. African students' given scholarship to study in India [eg] India - Ethiopia agreement.
2. Cultural exchanges like bollywood, dance, music, foods etc.
3. Training and capacity building of African civil servants & military individuals.
4. Opening of IIT branches in Kenya will further strengthen people-to-people ties.

Therefore, where other nations' ties with Africa is based on economic gains from Africa's resources, India-Africa ties transcend beyond this towards a holistic relationship for a multipolar world.



20 How do ASEAN centrality, rules-based order, and development partnership with Pacific Island states make Indo-pacific a theatre of opportunity for India? What are the hurdles in realisation of an Inclusive Indo-pacific construct?

Indo-pacific region has become the theatre of new global politics due to its rising economic and strategic importance.

India's Indo-pacific strategy

1. ASEAN - Centric
2. FIPIC engagement
3. Rules-based order

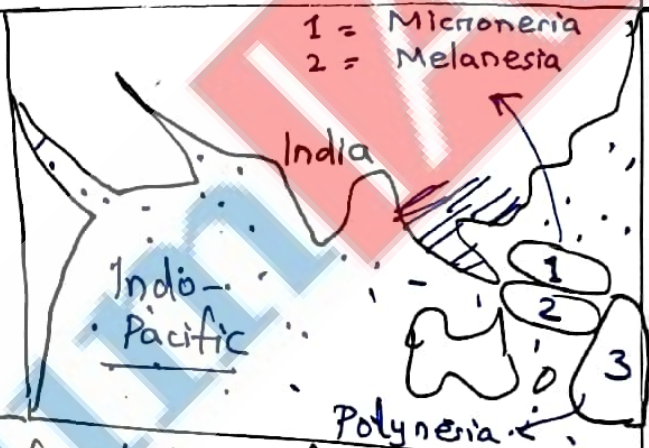


Fig: Indo-pacific strategy of India

## Indo-pacific - Opportunity for India

1. ASEAN centrality -

- (i) Opportunity for India-ASEAN ties
- (ii) Look-East Policy - Ultimate aim of development of North East India through ASEAN connectivity.  
eg) IMT trilateral highway.

- (iii) Trade opportunities with ASEAN  
[e.g] FTA deals with Indonesia, Malaysia.
- (iv) Defence deals with ASEAN  
[e.g] Tejas, Brahmos to Vietnam
- (v) Countering China's influence and assertion over the South China Sea

### Rule-based order

- (i) To ensure India's sea lines of communication safe from any attacks.  
[e.g] Chennai - Vladivostok sea line
- (ii) Promote groupings like QUAD, ASEAN to raise voices against violation of rule-based order  
[e.g] Nine-dash line, violation of Territorial Integrity etc

### Partnership with Pacific Island countries

- (i) Gives opportunity through FIPIC - small islands but important for



supporting India at UNSC.

(ii) Climate collaboration, under CDRI  
and International Solar Alliance.

(iii) India's aim to be Net security  
Provider of Indo-Pacific ~~is~~ goes  
through these pacific islands

Hurdles →

1. Chinese aggression [e.g] Militar  
base over Soloman island, Djibouti,  
~~Zaos~~ etc. Cambodia etc.
2. The perspective of India  
promises, China delivers
3. Limited resources with India
4. Rise of China - Russia - Pakistan Axis

However, Indo-Pacific provides  
India opportunity to further its  
economic, strategic & military interests,  
which needs to be utilised  
efficiently to establish India as a  
global super power in long run.