

Time Allowed : Three Hours
समय : तीन घंटे

ForumIAS

Maximum Marks : 250
अधिकतम अंक : 250

GENERAL STUDIES / सामान्य अध्ययन

Name Of Candidate परीक्षार्थी का नाम	SHIVANSH RATHEE		
Roll No./अनुक्रमांक	1910085229	Medium/माध्यम	English <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> हिंदी <input type="checkbox"/>
Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र		Date/दिनांक	06/01/2023

*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			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/मूल्यांकन कर्ता का विवेक :			Start Time/प्रारंभ करने का समय : 05:00 p.m.	End Time/समाप्त करने का समय : 08:00 p.m.
Total Marks/कुल अंक :			Mode Of Examination/ परीक्षा की विधि :	Online/ऑनलाइन <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Offline/ऑफलाइन <input type="checkbox"/>
*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 आकड़ों 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	
			ECN CODE/ ईसीएन कोड :	Evaluation Date/ मूल्यांकन तिथि :
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Note: You can discuss your answer 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.

EXAMINER'S REMARKS

FORUM IAS

CRITERIA FOR THE FEEDBACK SECTION AT THE END OF EACH QUESTION

1. **AWIS = Answered What is Asked.** This means whether you have addressed the core demand of the question or not. Addressing the core demand of the question gets you an objectively fair score. It is examiner's perception if you have understood the question and if you know the answer in the first place. Creative answer writing, sometimes missing the core demand, may fetch very high or very low scores, and exposes your answer to the subjectivity of the examiner.
2. **CD & VA = Content Density & Value Addition.** Examiner will evaluate the quality and quantity of your content in the answer. In the same word limit and space limit have you (a) written what is asked (b) gone beyond what is asked (c) enriched answers through combination of (but not all!) suggestions, ideas, quotes, flowcharts, diagrams, facts and figures, data etc. This affects objective components of assessment.
3. **S & F = Structure & Flow** = Whether you have structured your answer properly or not. Whether the answer has been broken into parts and sub-parts and each part has been addressed appropriately or not. Whether the flow of the answer is maintained. Affects both subjective and objective components of assessment.
4. **P & R** = How your answer performs on the criteria of **presentation, ease of read, clarity and apparent effort** in writing the answer. This affects the subjective components of assessment.

Q.1) Discuss the role of the 'Fourth Estate' in upholding democratic values and analyse the issues affecting press freedom in India. (10 marks, 150 words)

लोकतांत्रिक मूल्यों को बनाए रखने में 'चौथे स्तंभ' की भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए और भारत में प्रेस की स्वतंत्रता को प्रभावित करने वाले मुद्दों का विश्लेषण कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Press and media are often called the '4th Estate' in a democracy, the other 3 being legislature, exec. & judiciary.

Role in upholding democratic values

- i) Voice of the people is resonated to reach the policymakers & legislators.
 ↳ Nishhaya case.
- ii) Dissent against ruling party and highlighting regime's shortcomings.
- iii) Debates on crucial issues of national importance, thus enriching vocabulary of public discourse. ↳ CAA debate.
- iv) Accountability of lawmakers & govt. to the public through press conferences.

Issues affecting press freedom

- i) Paid news and fake news to satisfy personal interests & propaganda.
- ii) Curbing dissent using IB ~~tax~~ raids on media houses & abrupt delicensing.
Eg) Media One case.
- iii) Free news on google and web browsers, w/o making payment to media houses.
- iv) Yellow paper journalism, sensationalisation, media trials & Kangaroo courts.

Way Ahead

- media regulator appointed fairly by committee including PM, LoP, CJI.
- Australia & Canada legislations.

CJI Chandrachud has rightly said - "dissent is the safety valve of a democracy!"

Feedback

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Q.2) The electoral process, though inclusionary in theory, has been pointed out for exclusionary tendencies in practice. Analyse, with special emphasis on role of women in India's representative electoral system. (10 marks, 150 words)

चुनावी प्रक्रिया, यद्यपि सिद्धांत रूप में समावेशी है, व्यवहार में बहिष्करणीय प्रवृत्तियों की ओर इंगित किया गया है। भारत की प्रतिनिधिक चुनावी प्रणाली में महिलाओं की भूमिका पर विशेष जोर देते हुए विश्लेषण कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Art. 324-326 in Part 15 of the constitution refer to the voting process.

Art 325 gives the right to all citizens to vote irrespective of religion, race, caste, sex; while Art 326 talks about adult suffrage. Thus, in theory, electoral process is inclusive.

Exclusionary tendencies

i) Women's voting rights controlled by husbands/fathers in patriarchal Indian families.

ii) Voter percentage of women is comparatively lower than men in most regions.

Eg Chattisgarh, Bihar.

iii) Voter turnout of women is low due to dual work burden of household domestic & job.

iv) Voter awareness is low for women due to political rallies being a male dominated event.

v) Intersectionality concept (K. Wrenshaw) when women of backward castes & poor households face cascading disabilities. \rightarrow Dalit poor woman in a village.

vi) Freebies targeting uneducated women to 'buy' votes. \rightarrow Sewing machine.

Way Ahead \rightarrow Voter education through mainstream & social media.

\rightarrow ASHA workers to encourage women's votes.

Swami Vivekananda said - "like a bird can't fly on one wing; a nation too can't progress if one gender is ignored."

Feedback
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Q.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. (10 marks, 150 words)

जीवन के अधिकार से उत्पजी मानवीय गरिमा, मृत्युदंड से समाप्त नहीं होती है। इस संदर्भ में, देश में मृत्युदंड से जुड़े विभिन्न विवादों पर प्रकाश डालिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

In the Maneka Gandhi Case (1978), the SC extended meaning of Right to Life ^(Art 21) to include various aspects of life with dignity.

Death penalty controversies

- i) Right to Life vs Justice :- There is a dilemma b/w RTL (Art 21) of convict vs giving justice to victims.
- ii) Retributive justice instead of restitutive justice, seen as a sign of backward societies. [eg] Nibhaya case, 2012
- iii) Caste-class nexus :- SC recently observed in Pradeep Kumar vs MP case judgement that most death penalty convicts are from SC/STs and poor classes.

- iv) Global practices with 150+ countries have already abolished death penalty. Eg Sweden.
- v) Human rights listed in UN's Geneva protocol call for respect to human dignity.
- vi) Judicial discretion in deciding the 'rarest of the rare cases' ~~x~~ not written code.
- vii) Presidential discretion (Art-72) in Pardons.

Suggestion - ~~K~~ Karnataka HC issued directive to public prosecution to present a file of convicts' socio-econ. background, psych eval., and scope of improvement whenever demanding death penalty.

Feedback

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Q.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.

(10 marks, 150 words)

नदी-जल विवादों के समाधान में अंतर-राज्यीय नदी जल विवाद अधिनियम, 1956 की प्रभावशीलता का आकलन कीजिए। जल विवादों के समाधान में विलम्ब के संभावित प्रभाव का भी वर्णन कीजिए।

(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The Inter-state River Water Disputes Act, 1956 provides for formation of water tribunals (Part 14A, Art. 323 B) for resolution of water disputes b/w 2 states.

Effectiveness

- Tribunals provide for a speedy mechanism. Eg. Ken-Betwa tribunal.
- Stakeholder interests of all parties are considered & addressed. Eg. Cauvery water dispute.
- Dispute resolution mechanism is also provided. Eg. Yamuna tribunal.

Shortcomings

- Prolonged disputes with no resolution b/w parties. Eg. Cauvery dispute.

→ Appeals to tribunal decision don't lie in appellate jurisdiction of SC.

→ Competitive federalism allows inter-state rivalries. Eg. Haryana Punjab SYL issue.

Impact of delays

- Wastage of river water due to non-utilisation effectively.
- Justice delayed is justice denied.
- Agricultural crops are sensitive & irrigation specific (37% in India).
- Droughts & drinking water shortages. Eg. Central Indian highland.

Way Ahead

- Multistakeholder approach, including local people.
- River linking programmes. Eg. Ken-Betwa

This will help in ensuring SDG 6 (Clean water & sanitation) & SDG 16 (peace, justice & strong institutions).

Feedb

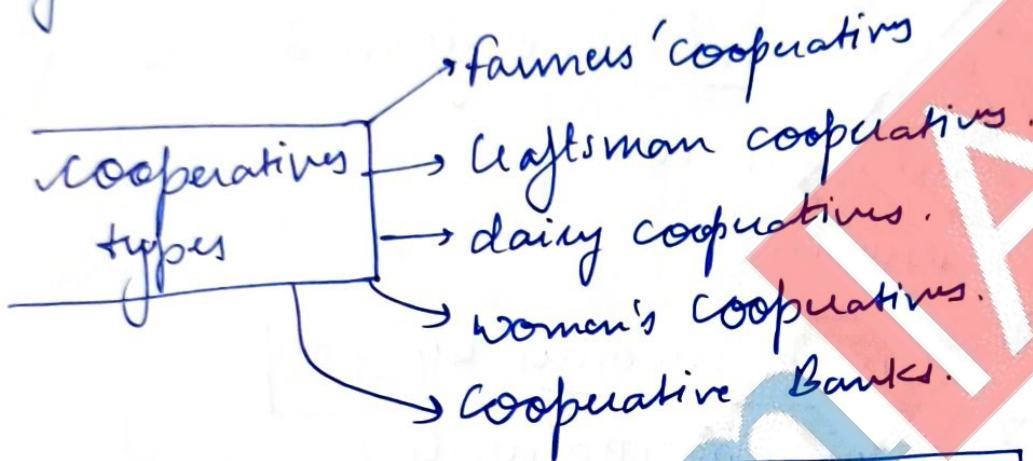
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Q.5) Discuss the significance of the cooperative model of development in addressing the issues of rural growth. (10 marks, 150 words)

ग्रामीण विकास के मुद्दों के समाधान में विकास के सहकारी मॉडल के महत्व पर चर्चा कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Art. 243 ZH to 243 Zt in Part IX-B of constitution deals with cooperatives.



Significance of Cooperatives in rural growth

- i) Cheap credit to the members to rural cooperative banks & money pooling. Eg. Gramscen Bank.
- ii) Democratic process due to joint ownership of resources & management.
- iii) Market access to rural products after substandarding to increase value. Eg. AMUL brand.

iv) Women's development by providing avenues to women to participate in economic sphere.
 Eg Lijjat Papad Vdyog.

v) Formalisation of rural economy and generating employment.
 Eg Nandini milk.

vi) Doubling farmers incomes by group negotiations for raw materials & joint ownership of tools.
 Eg PACS.

vii) Govt. schemes and policies like PM-KISAN can travel faster to grassroots.

Suggestions → PSL lending target increased.
 → support in branding.

govt. initiative of "Sahakar Shamsiddhi" in 2023 budget by Ministry of Cooperation will go a long way in this.

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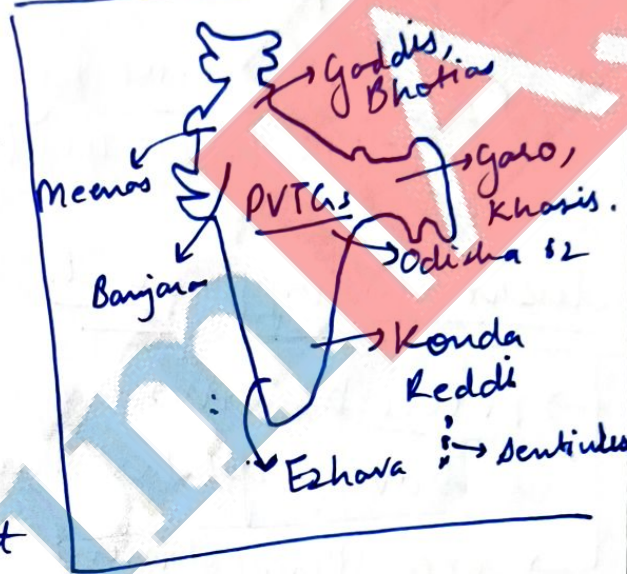
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Q.6) In order to pass the ultimate test of good governance, welfare state should be close to the people, responsive to their aspirations, and inclusive in its approach. Discuss with special reference to PM PVTG Development Mission. (10 marks, 150 words)

सुशासन मौलिक परीक्षा पास करने के लिए, कल्याणकारी राज्य को लोगों के करीब होना चाहिए, उनकी आकांक्षाओं के प्रति उत्तरदायी होना चाहिए और अपने दृष्टिकोण में समावेशी होना चाहिए। PM PVTG विकास मिशन के विशेष संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

India is a home to 700 SC communities, out of which 75 are PVTGs.

PM PVTG development mission in Budget 2023 aims to focus on holistic — social, economic, political, cultural development of India's PVTGs.



Welfare state

1) Close to the people

- PM PVTG mission aims to understand problems of PVTGs.
- PVTG helpline to listen to concerns.
- decentralisation & grassroot work by bureaucrats.

2) Responsive to aspirations

- Eklavya model schools for education of PVTG children
- Healthcare by special focus on Sickle Cell Anemia (eliminate by 2050) affecting PVTGs
- Economic focus by branding of tribal products under TRIPED

3) Inclusive in Approach

- PVTGs are most socially backward & have depleting numbers.
- PVTG development living in remote areas & low numbers.
eg Konda Reddis.

Way Ahead → Special ministry for PVTGs.
→ Xaxa Committee recommendation on autonomy.

India's "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" value shall be reflected in its upliftment of its PVTGs.

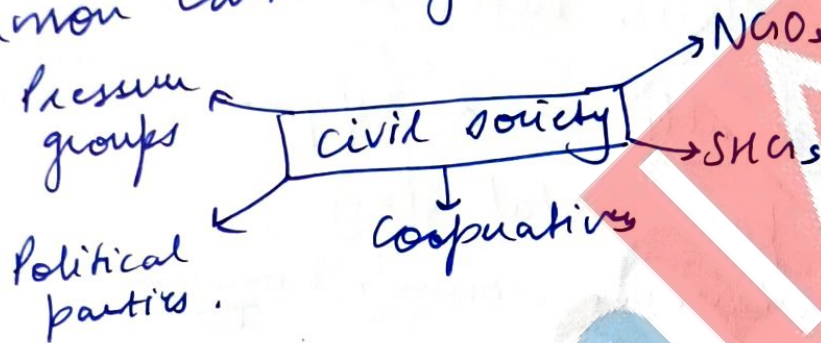
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Q.7) To what extent collaboration between the state and civil society organizations (CSOs) help in addressing poverty and malnutrition in the country? (10 marks, 150 words)

राज्य और नागरिक समाज संगठनों (सीएसओ) के बीच सहयोग किस हद तक देश में गरीबी और कुपोषण को दूर करने में मदद करता है? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Civil society organisations consist of all groups of people who come together for a common cause & goal.



Addressing Poverty by state & civil society

- i) 'Reaching the Last Mile' as the civil society generally has wider reach than the govt. [Eg] Kudumbashree in Kerala.
- ii) Employment opportunities generation by SHCs & cooperatives. [Eg] AMUL.
- iii) Pro-poor legislations by pressure groups. [Eg] Repeal of farm laws.
- iv) Women's inclusion in economic sphere, thus doubling family's

income. Eg Millet sisters network.

Addressing malnutrition

- i) Focus on millets & nutrition as 2023 is UN FAO's international year of millets.
Eg Millet sisters network.
- ii) Maternal health and support at pre-natal & post-natal stage.
Eg Kudumbashree women's hospital.
- iii) Mid-day meals quality can be improved by collaboration with SHCs.
Eg Assam model.

Way Ahead

→ Digital portal for soliciting civil society cooperation
→ reducing anomic pressure groups.

Thus, civil society can play an essential role in addressing India's developmental needs & making it prosperous in Amrit Kaal @2047.

Q.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. (10 marks, 150 words)

देश में एक मजबूत सामाजिक बुनियादी ढांचे की अनुपस्थिति 2047 तक विकसित स्थिति प्राप्त करने में सबसे महत्वपूर्ण चुनौतियों में से एक बन सकती है। चर्चा कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

In the Ameit Koal, the country aims to become a developed nation by 2047.



Challenges by absence

i) Healthcare

- India's OoP (Out of Pocket) expenditure is more than 63%.
- Preference of people to private hospitals.
- Absence of doctors (31% vacancy)
- Low hospital beds.

ii) Education

- Govt. schools w/o playground (47%)

- no schools in 17% rural areas.
- Lack of rural quality colleges.
- Technical trade i.e. doctors, engineers colleges shortage.

iii) Governance infra

- lack of Panchayat office manpower.
- dilapidated district courts hazardous.

iv) Other infra

- PDS shops not equipped with e-POS.
- community centres for common gathering.

Way forward

- demarcate 40% of CAPEX budget for social infra.
- autonomy to village Panchayats.

Social infrastructure is the 1st step in making a self-sufficient, stable & developed India in Amrit Kool.

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Q.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. (10 marks, 150 words)

हालांकि पश्चिम एशिया में संवाद एवं कूटनीति के प्रति बदलते प्रतिमान इस अशांत क्षेत्र में भारत के हितों के लिए अच्छा संकेत है, लेकिन प्रतिकूल तत्वों की उपस्थिति लाभ को उलट सकती है। व्याख्या कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Recently, Beijing accord, signed b/w Iran & Saudi Arabia to restore diplomatic ties was mediated by China.

Dialogue & diplomacy in West-Asia
Good for India :-

- i) Indian exceptionalism - Only country to maintain friendly relations with all 3 - Iran, Saudi & Israel.
- ii) Indian diaspora is largest in the world (14 mn) with heavy presence in West Asia.
- iii) Indian import dependence on Saudi, UAE, Iran etc. for fossil fuels. (80% of oil needs imported)
- iv) Indian investment in Iran, Afghanistan & Saudi Arabia → Chabahar Port.

Inimical actors may reverse gains

→ China's BRI and OBOR with major West-Asian members.

→ China's Debt Trap diplomacy with recent \$400bn investment in Iran.
↳ threat to Chabahar-Zhedan.

→ Pakistan's influence due to Islamic ties with Saudi, Afgh. etc.

→ Terrorism funding of LeT, Zem from Saudi, UAE etc.

Way Ahead

→ proactive role in 6+2+1 dialogue

→ utilising I2U2 summit

→ soft power relations.

eg UAE Soaminarayan Temple.

We need to move ahead of the paradigm "India plans China implementations" to garner a long-lasting presence in West Asia.

Q.10) Water diplomacy can redefine the contours of regional cooperation in South Asia. Discuss with special reference to Indus water treaty 1960. (10 marks, 150 words)

जल कूटनीति दक्षिण एशिया में क्षेत्रीय सहयोग की रूपरेखा को फिर से परिभाषित कर सकती है। सिंधु जल संधि 1960 के विशेष संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

World Bank mediated the Indus Water Treaty, 1960 b/w India and Pakistan,

which allowed :-

- i) Satluj, Beas, Ravi — India
- ii) Indus, Chenab, Jhelum — Pakistan.

Water diplomacy in South Asia

i) Dependence on water for irrigation and agriculture by various countries.
 Eg) Pakistan's 60% agri watered by Indus system.

ii) Dams & hydroelectric projects on ~~the~~ inter-country rivers proving a bone of contention.
 Eg) Indian plan on Chenab project.

iii) Dispute resolution — The mechanism laid down in treaties should be

followed.

eg Pakistan rushed to PCA over IWT.

iv) Weaponisation of water sources in times of war by power to create floods and droughts.

v) Water transport through each other's territories can boost trade & ties.

eg India - Bangladesh.

vi) Power generation through rivers can be distributed among countries.

eg B-I-N grid.

Way Ahead → Renegotiation of Indus Water Treaty.

→ SDG-6 (Clean Water & Sanitation) & SDG-14 (Life under water) -

It has rightly been said - "In 21st century, water is the new oil."

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

(15 marks, 250 words)

स्थानीय शासन संस्थानों को संवैधानिक समर्थन के बावजूद, विकेंद्रीकरण का विचार कई संरचनात्मक बाधाओं का बंधक बना हुआ है। स्पष्ट कीजिए।

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

The 73rd & 74th AA of 1991 added Part IX (Art. 243-243 O) & Part IX A (243 P-243 ZG) in the constitution regarding Panchayats & Municipalities respectively, thus providing the constitutional backing.

Constitutional backing

- Regular elections to local bodies every 5 yrs.
- State Finance Commission to ensure devolution to local bodies.
- State Election Commission to ensure smooth electoral process.
- devolution of powers & functions.

Structural bottlenecks

i) Bureaucratic redtapism & non cooperation by BDOs and officials with ~~#~~ Sarpanch.

ii) 3-F → funds
 → functions
 → functionaries.
 ↳ devolution of these 3 does not take place in a real level.

iii) Poll violence in local body polls despite SECs.
 Eg Bengal violence.

iv) Lack of trust in local bodies by govt. and bureaucracy.
 Eg Karnataka - e-tendering.

v) Non-uniformity :- There is a lack of uniformity as some states have 3-tiered (Kaj.) while some have 2 (Goa).

vi) Centralisation of power and lack of autonomy to carry out projects by the community.

vii) Tax-collection power not utilised because of community taboos and social relations.

viii) Sarpanch-Pati culture preventing women's participation.

Suggestions

- Balwant Rai Mehta Committee recommended budgetary allocations to local bodies.
- bottom-up approach.
- education of Sarpanches under Soakshan Bharat.

The recent TV series "Panchayat" aptly showed how educated secretaries to local bodies can help assist their roles.

Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

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Please put tick marks in the above table.
Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.

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Q.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. (15 marks, 250 words)

स्वतंत्र न्यायपालिका, जैसा कि संविधान द्वारा परिकल्पित है, एक समृद्ध राजनीति के लिए आधार प्रदान करती है; हालाँकि, कार्यकारी अतिक्रमण इसकी विश्वसनीयता को कम कर सकता है और इसकी प्रभावकारिता को प्रभावित कर सकता है। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)
मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

Art. 40 (DPSP) envisaged separation of power b/w judiciary and executive.

In the Minerva Mills case (1980) and the NJAC case, SC added judicial review & independent judiciary in the "basic structure" of constitution.

Independent judiciary for thriving polity:-

- i) Safeguards fundamental rights of the citizens against state.
Eg. Nartej Singh Johar case.
- ii) Prevents executive overreach by protecting powers of various institutions. Eg. Rojer Mathew case tribunal.
- iii) Protects democracy and prevents

tyranny in the country.
 Ex) India Gandhi Emergency.

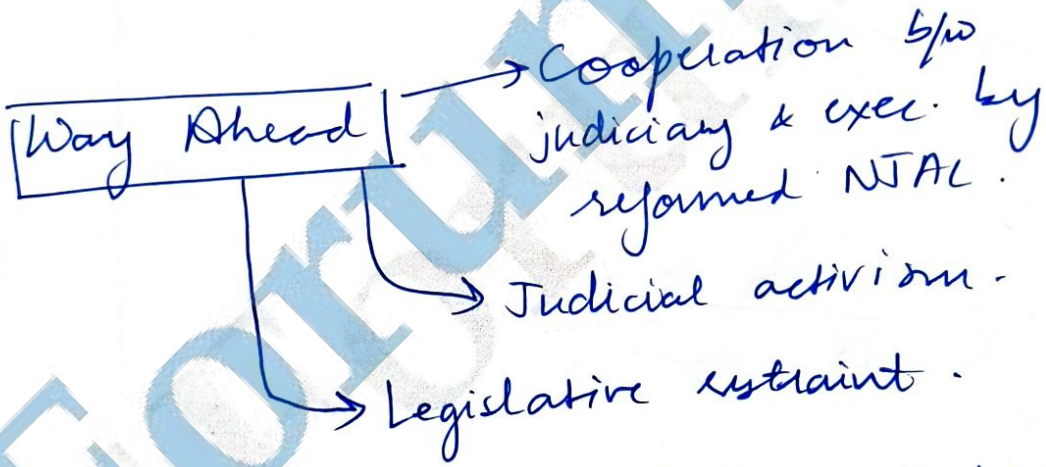
Exec. action may erode credibility
and efficacy:-

- i) Populist policies and vote bank politics of executive instead of doing justice.
- ii) Principles of Natural Justice also call for an unbiased & non-partisan judiciary.
- iii) Separation of powers b/w the 3 organs of govt. — exec, legislature & judiciary is not followed.
- iv) Judicial expertise is overruled and thus primacy is given to executive will.
 Ex) Godavarman Thirumulpad vs Forest Bill, 2023.

v) Credibility & trust in judiciary eroded when rulings overturned by legislative / executive action.

eg) Shah Bano Begum case & Muslim Personal Law Board Act.

vi) Democratic & constitutional values of justice (social, economic and political) as mentioned in Parliament overturned.



A harmonious relationship b/w judiciary & executive will shape the India of 21st century.

(Don't ...
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Here G is Average of Poor.
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Q.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). (15 marks, 250 words)

अनौचित्य के विरुद्ध प्रहरी के रूप में कार्य करने वाली कार्यकारी एजेंसियाँ, भ्रष्टों के खिलाफ कार्रवाई करने के लिए महत्वपूर्ण हैं; हालाँकि, निहित स्वार्थों को बढ़ावा देने से कानून के शासन के विचार को उल्टा करने जैसा असर हो सकता है। प्रवर्तन निदेशालय (ईडी) से जुड़े विवादों के विशेष संदर्भ में टिप्पणी कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Recent arrest of T. Nandu minister.
V. Senthilbalaji by E.D has refocused
the public discourse on politicisation
of corruption watchdogs like ED,
CBI etc.

Vital against corruption

- Statutory framework provided to prevention of corruption.
Eg DSPE act gives CBI powers.
- Specialised agencies with requisite expertise and training to deal with corruption & black money.
- Deterrence effect on govt. officials against corruption & graft.

↳ Procedural availability to report incidents of corruption by aggrieved parties.
 ↳ ED office in organisations.

Vested interests harming rule of law

i) Political misuse of ED for personal political gains and targeting leads to injustice.

↳ MK Stalin accusations in Senthilbalaji case.

ii) Cooperative federalism principle harmed and rivalrous centre-state relations created.

↳ W. Bengal - centre relations.

iii) Public trust in govt. and govt. agencies may decline due to indiscriminate arrest of opposition members.

iv) Principles of Natural Justice and unbiased investigation may be affected.

Ex ED has right to custody case.

v) Constitutional values

→ Preamble (Justice, Equality, Liberty)

→ Fundamental Rights Art (14-18)
Right to Equality.

vi) Global image may be impacted.

Ex "Democratic backsliding" accusations on India

Suggestions

→ independent appointment to ED & CBI

→ cooperative federalism.

An unbiased & ethical ED will also reflect SDG 16 (Peace, Justice & Strong Institutions).

Feedback

(For OFFICE use on)

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Please put tick marks in the above table.

Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.

TOTAL MARKS

Q.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 wellbeing. (15 marks, 250 words)

महिलाओं के अधिकारों की रक्षा और उनकी सामाजिक-आर्थिक भलाई को बनाए रखने के लिए राष्ट्रीय महिला आयोग (एनसीडब्ल्यू) की भूमिका का आलोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Established in 1992, the National Commission for Women (NCW) is a statutory body.

Role of NCW

i) Safeguarding women's rights - The NCW has the powers of a civil court w.r.t. summoning parties, hearing cases & looking at evidences.

ii) Raising women's issues with the government and advising govt. on policy issues -
 Ex: Jaya Jaitly committee on women's age of marriage.

- iii) Report to President tabled annually in Parliament on recommendations, policies and suggestions.
- iv) social issues :- Hearing cases & addressing issues on -
- Domestic violence.
 - Dowry.
 - Sexual harassment at workplace.
 - Dalit & tribal women.
- v) Economic well-being
- conducts seminars to inform & sensitize women on economic opportunities.
 - SHGs are involved by NCW to track economic participation.
 - ↳ Kudumbashree in Kerala
 - advises econ. policy of govt. in schemes like Ujjawala, MANKURA for women.

Shortcomings

- i) Toothless tiger due to lack of power to punish or award compensation.
- ii) Non-binding recommendations on the govt.
- iii) Approachability issue by dalit, poor, rural & illiterate women.
- iv) Overlap of responsibilities with courts, leading to confusion.

Suggestions

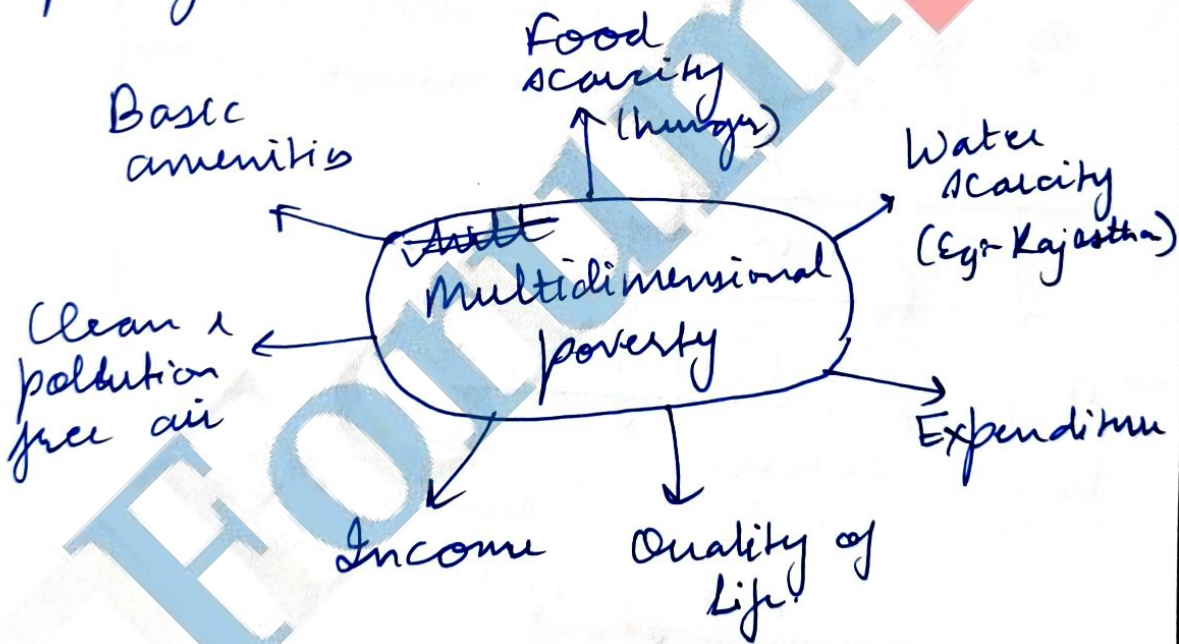
- Law Rajput committee recommendation on giving power to compensate -
- for public outreach.

NWC can play a transformative role in addressing patriarchal oppressive mindset of India & uplifting its women.

Q.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. (15 marks, 250 words)

बहुआयामी गरीबों के बीच वंचितों की सीमा, स्रोत और जटिलता को समझना अधिक सूचित नीति निर्माण में योगदान देता है। इस संदर्भ में, नीति आयोग द्वारा नवीनतम राष्ट्रीय बहुआयामी गरीबी सूचकांक रिपोर्ट का विश्लेषण कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

NITI Aayog recently published the MPI Report in which it was stated that 10 crore + people were lifted out of multidimensional poverty in 2014-2022 period.



Informed policymaking by understanding deprivations

Extent of deprivation

- Number of people suffering from a particular deprivation.
- Allocation of budget to address a deprivation if data available.
Eg High MMR in MPI index.
- Polycymaking to reach the last mile.
Eg Tubel conurus in MPI index.
∴ Eklavya model schools.

Source of deprivation

- mapping & charting down of various sources.
Eg water, food, shelter.
∴ PMAY for shelter.
- targeted approach by specific polycymaking.
Eg ~~the~~ JSM to address water poverty.
- inclusive development by addressing

concerns of all sections.
 → PMKVY for minorities

Complexity of deprivation

- highlights new policy issues like sickle cell anemia in tribals.
- tracks progress of govt. policy initiative on addressing concerns.
- intersectional deprivations understood & addressed.
 → Drought creating hunger

Way forward

- better & more comprehensive data collection.
 - MPI indicators during census.
- Informed policymaking can help reduce inequalities (SDG 10) & help attain no poverty (SDG 1)

Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

#	G	A	P
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Please put tick marks in the above table.
 Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.

TOTAL MARKS	
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Q.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. (15 marks, 250 words)

हालांकि एक प्रतिनिधिक लोकतंत्र की जीवनरेखा, राजनीतिक दल अपनी स्वयं की चुनौतियों से घिरे हुए हैं, जिससे समाज के लोकतंत्रीकरण में उनकी बड़ी भूमिका सीमित हो गई है। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Political parties are civil society organisations which mobilise people and resources to capture legitimate political power through elections. Eg BJP, RJD, Congress etc.

Lifeblood of a representative democracy

i) Raise people's concerns through their manifestos.

Eg BJP manifesto Article 370.

ii) Platform to people for participation in elections & contesting for polls.

iii) Law making on public issues after winning elections.

iv) Mobilising public opinion on issues of national interest.

Challenges, limiting democratisation

- i) Nepotism in political parties, with 'connected' individuals getting election tickets.
- ii) Divisive politics inciting riots and communal fault lines.
 Eg AIMIM speech
- iii) Vote-bank targeting and mobilising on basis of caste, religion etc. in place of policy issues.
 Eg DMK for Dravidas.
- iv) Demerit freebies without fiscal prudence promised without consideration in election manifestos.
 Eg Punjab free electricity leading to fiscal deficit
- v) Hierarchical top-down membership, preventing fuller participation of

grass root workers.

vi) Election funding is not transparently acquired, leading to malpractices & corruption.

Ex) SBI electoral bonds.

Suggestions

- ECI model 'code of conduct'
- merit vs demerit subsidies.
- avoiding "rowdi culture" of jeebis-
- internal democracy in party.

Political parties are microcosm of the country's political values, and thus they should reflect highest levels of integrity & transparency.

Feed
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Here G is Average of Poor.
TOTAL MARKS

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Q.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. (15 marks, 250 words)

जल जीवन मिशन की इच्छानुसार सुरक्षित रूप से प्रबंधित पेयजल सेवाएं, पीढ़ियों तक विविध लाभ देने के लिए नामित की गई हैं। चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, मिशन की सफलता सुनिश्चित करने में आने वाली चुनौतियों के बारे में भी विस्तार से बताएं। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) aims

for "Har Ghar Nal se Tal" (tap water to every household, and has been able to provide tap water connection to 60% households.

Multifarious benefits

- i) Inclusive development by providing water, a basic necessity, to all sections & regions.
- ii) Women's empowerment as they won't have to walk long distances to fetch water from wells.
- iii) Healthcare by tackling menace of waterborne diseases like cholera,

dysentery, typhoid etc.

iv) Agricultural safeguard by provision of adequate water for crops. (37% dependent)

v) Nutritional safeguard as water loss causes dehydration & prevents absorption of nutrients by body.

vi) Sanitation & cleanliness by water for toilets.

vii) SCs benefit by abolishing dry latrines & manual scavenging.

Challenges in mission's success

i) Remote and tribal areas might not be accessible to the mission.

ii) Funding & finance as the centrally sponsored scheme will have major

impact on public exchequer.

iii) water scarcity - ~~to~~ 40% of groundwater in country is in water-stressed areas.

iv) Wastage of water due to leaking taps & unscrupulous consumption.

v) Backwardness of infrastructure preventing installation of pipelines.

Way Forward |

- ↳ involve panchayats & local bodies
- ↳ public sensitisation.
- ↳ reaching the last mile.

This will help us in ensuring attaining SDG 6 (clean water & sanitation) & ensuring budget softness of "inclusive development".

Feedback

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Q.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. (15 marks, 250 words)

अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जनजाति (अत्याचार निवारण) अधिनियम, 1989 जैसे कानून सार्वजनिक पदाधिकारियों और नागरिक समाज की गहन संवेदनशीलता के बिना केवल कानूनी दस्तावेज बनकर रह गए हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Recent suicide of SC student in IIT-Bombay due to caste-based segregation has highlighted the pitiful state of affairs regarding caste based discrimination.

Legal remedies

- SC & ST Act, 1989 prescribes punishment & imprisonment on abuse and harassment.
- Art. 17 provides fundamental right against untouchability.
- Art. 15 prohibits discrimination based on caste.
- Art. 21 highlights a life with dignity.
- Manual scavenging act

Need of sensitization of public functionaries & civil society:-

- i) Wider outreach to general public through public functionaries & civil society.
 Eg Dalit Panthers society.
- ii) Countering traditional taboos and biases of purity & impurity associated with caste.
 Eg separate utensils.
- iii) Legislative ignorance of backward regions regarding laws for protection of SCs & STs.
- iv) Intersectional disabilities (K. Genshow) against poor Dalit women in rural areas.
 Eg Mathias Rafe case.

v) Harmonic system when laws of society are in sync with values of society. (Dipankar Gupta)

vi) Public functionaries are representatives of masses & their actions are reflected in people
Eg Caste Panchayats

Way forward

- Civil servants to act as role models
- Media's responsibility via films.
- sensitisation in schools,

It has been said - "A chain is only as strong as its weakest link". Thus, our nation is only as strong as its weakest sections.

Feedback

(For OFFICERS)

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Here G is Good Average and P is Poor.	
TOTAL MARKS	

1) Harbinger of global rebalancing, India-Africa ties are a beacon of inclusive, sustainable, and equitable world. Explain. (15 marks, 250 words)

एक पुनर्संतुलन के अग्रदूत, भारत-अफ्रीका संबंध समावेशी, टिकाऊ और न्यायसंगत दुनिया का एक प्रतीक हैं। व्याख्या करें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

India invited AU (African Union) as an observer to G20 summit in 2023 under its presidency.

Indi-Africa ties

i) Global rebalancing

↳ Demographic advantage of India & Africa.

↳ New Great Game & race for neo-colonisation of Africa.
 ↳ Niger. civil war.

↳ Global peace by India & Africa's shared vision of NAM.

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ii) Inclusive world.

- Multidimensional poverty of Africa being addressed by Indian investments.
 - ↳ South-Africa.
- Global South, with India considered the leader of Global South.
- multilateral reforms with demand of UNSC reform.

iii) Sustainable world

- Great Green wall of Africa has inspired Indian Green wall b/w Guj. & Haryana.
- Climate financing solidarity on CBDR
- Polluter pays principle on Paris agreement compensation.

iv) Equitable world

- Food, fuel & fertiliser shortage of Africa (Ukraine war) being addressed by Indian aid.
- Peace & justice by Indian peacekeeping force (UNSC)
 - ↳ Nyaiagongo volcano evacuation
 - ↳ Mission Kaveri in Sudan.

Way Ahead

- ↳ AV permanent membership in G20.
- ↳ Countering China's debt trap.
- ↳ India as "pharmacy of world" :- provide cheap generic drugs.

MEA S. Jaishankar said — "India is the leader of global South. Today everyone wants to be seen with India."

Feedback

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Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.

TOTAL MARKS	
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Q.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? (15 marks, 250 words)

प्रशांत द्वीप देशों के साथ आसियान केंद्रीयता, नियम-आधारित व्यवस्था और विकास साझेदारी हिंद-प्रशांत को भारत के लिए अवसर का मंच कैसे बनाती है? एक समावेशी हिंद-प्रशांत निर्माण की प्राप्ति में क्या बाधाएं हैं? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Recently, India participated in the FIPIC (Forum for Indo Pacific Island Countries) in PNG. Also, ASEAN meet was held too recently.

ASEAN as opportunity

i) ASEAN centrality in Indo-Pacific, and India is a major trading partner (India-ASEAN FTA).

ii) Rules based order

- Free & open Indo Pacific
- Countering Chinese aggression & wolf warrior diplomacy.
- 9 dash line in SCS.
- protecting SLOC in Pacific.

iii) Development Partnership with PIC

- compliments India's role in FICP & PNC investment.
- India as Net Security Provider in Region.
- Designating Indo-Pacific as zone of peace.
- 60% world trade flows through Pacific

Muddles

i) Chinese aggression

- largest navy
- bipolar order (USA vs China)
- string of pearls ~~eg~~ Hambantota
- debt trap diplomacy ~~eg~~ BRI
- territorial aggression ~~eg~~ South China sea.

ii) Multilateral groupings like AUKUS,

excluding India.

iii) RCEP negotiations with India not a part of RCEP deal.

iv) Sinicization of ASEAN with 85% Chinese diaspora.

Way forward

→ Soft Power - Buddhism

→ Quad grouping.

→ Myanmar - Thailand land route to ASEAN.

Thus, as PM Modi said - "Asia of unity will make us stronger & Asia of conflict will push us back!"

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TOTAL MARKS

Mentor Feedback Questions

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Test Goal

Outcomes

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Marking Scheme

Mark	Good	Average	Below average
10 Marker	3.75 – 5.0	3.0 – 3.5	< 3.0
15 Marker	5.75 – 7.0	4.0 – 5.5	< 4.0
✓	Key / Relevant Point		
✗	Vague / Irrelevant		

* Subject to change without prior notice.