

Time Allowed : Three Hours
समय : तीन घंटे

ForumIAS

Maximum Marks : 250
अधिकतम अंक : 250

GENERAL STUDIES / सामान्य अध्ययन

Name Of Candidate परीक्षार्थी का नाम	Satish	Medium/माध्यम	English ☒ हिंदी ☐
Roll No./अनुक्रमांक	1910090836	Date/दिनांक	9/9/2023
Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र	1900		

*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 : 11:45 AM	End Time/समाप्त करने का समय : 3:00 PM
Total Marks/कुल अंक :			Mode Of Examination/ परीक्षा की विधि :	Online/ऑनलाइन ☒ Offline/ऑफलाइन ☐
*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 समय रूप किसी अन्य विषय वस्तु जो मूल्यांकन कर्ता को आपकी कॉपी में पसंद आये 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: Students are expected to incorporate suggestions from the solution provided in the answers. Discussion classes for the tests are also available online in your portal to aid in your preparation. Further, students are requested to see the good copies of the tests and learn from them. You can also discuss your copy with a Mentor and discover ways and means to improve your answers, or if you have any issues with this test / copy. Asks specific questions, to get specific answers

EXAMINER'S REMARKS

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)

'Fourth Estate' refers to media which helps in upholding democracy by debate and discussion on various issues.

Role of 'fourth estate' :-

- (i) Ensuring informed citizenry by organising various TV programmes (eg) satellite TV report.
- (ii) Drive public opinion on national issues.
(eg) coverage of riots/disasters.
- (iii) Link between citizens and government and influencing policy making (eg) conducting policy polls.
- (iv) upholds accountability of elected (eg) Investigative Journalism

However, there are issues affecting press freedom

- i. Crackdown on Journalists by use of colonial legacy law like sedition etc
- ii. Hindered freedom of speech and freedom of press under veil of 'reasonable restriction' in Art 19(2)
- iii. Allegations of Nexus between corrupt officials regarding murders of various journalists.
- iv. Recent IT rules and increased regulatory control on press.

Therefore, the need of hour is to ensure freedom of press for protecting vibrant democracy. Giving more autonomy and expanding scope of Press Council of India could provide adequate safeguards.

Feedback (For OFFICE use)

	①
AWIS	
CD & VA	
S & F	
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Please put tick marks in the above table. Here G is Good, Average and P is Poor.	
TOTAL MARKS	

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)

Elections are considered festival of democracy giving choice to people to elect leaders of their choice.

Electoral process inclusionary in theory:-

- i. Increased voter turnout (eg) highest 67% turnout in 2019 Lok Sabha elections.
- ii. Reaching last mile (eg) Polling booth in Gite forest for only 1 individual.
- iii. Expanding scope through reforms like remote voting, postal ballot etc.
- iv. Increased inclusion of vulnerable sections (eg) Availability of ramps for disabled people.

However, it is exclusionary in practice:-

- i. Low women representation (eg) only 14% of MPs are women.

- (ii.) Low right of choice to women, especially in patriarchal Indian society.
- (iii.) Lack of awareness among people to make informed choices.
- (iv.) Issues in press and media → collusive nexus and partiality towards certain parties distorting public opinion
- (v.) Lack of transparency and autonomy for CEC and ECs → more chance of partisan appointment.

Therefore, as held by supreme court, appointment of CEC and ECs should be made transparent. using SVEEP, VVPAT and other reforms could help lower the inequality gap.

Feedback

(For OFFICE use)

#	Q1	Q2
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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.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 उपजी 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)

Indian judicial system exercise the capital punishment in 'rarest of rare' cases.

Human dignity is part of right to life under Art 21 and must be safeguarded under rule of law.

In recent times, various controversies came up towards capital punishment:-

(i) Ethical Issue :- Right to give and take life is out of hands of human.

(ii) Issue of Judicial lacunas :- Risk and risk of awarding capital punishment increases mental trauma for under trial.

(iii) It is away from reformatory Justice idea is propounded by

supreme court.

However, some argue that it is required in society :-

- (i) Deterrence for criminals to protect society from heinous crimes (eg) Rape cases.
- (ii) upholding 'collective conscience' and step towards ethical altruism.
- (iii) safeguarding dignity of other individual (eg) rape victims.

Therefore, supreme courts must use this tool as measure of last resort to protect justice in society.

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TOTAL MARKS	

2.4) 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 सम्भावित प्रभाव का भी वर्णन कीजिए।
(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Inter-state river water disputes Act
was passed to resolve various river-water
disputes by creating specific tribunal.
(eg) Krishna tribunal etc

Effectiveness of Act to resolve disputes:-

- (i.) Helped in amicable talks between states and upheld federal spirit.
- (ii.) Resolved some cases (eg) canvey water sharing disputes.
- (iii.) Platform for states to raise demands for water sharing.

However, it has various issues:-

- (i.) failure to solve disputes in time.
(eg) delays to reach consensus.
- (ii.) multiple tribunals created for

same rivers (eg) Multiple tribunals
for Krishna river water sharing.

(ii) Prolonged delay towards dispute resolution and appeals against the tribunal awards in Judiciary.

Impact of delays in resolution of water dispute :-

- (i) Inadequate access to water to various regions leading to water scarcity.
- (ii) Creating feeling of enmity and lowering national unity.
- (iii) Politicization of river water issues
 - (a) Punjab-Haryana dispute.

Thus, we need to utilise platforms like Inter-state council and cooperative federalism to resolve disputes amicably for development of all regions.

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)

Cooperative model of development refers to pooled resources and shared responsibilities among various stakeholders to achieve common goal.

Significance in addressing issues of rural growth:-

① [Safeguards to peasants]:-

- Alternate source of income (eg) Amul milk cooperative
- Addressing disguised unemployment
- Increased awareness about other research based farming techniques.
- Improved marketing (eg) food grain warehousing.

② [Women development]:-

- Increased social image and opportunities for growth.
- Economic development through cooperation (eg) "sahkari se sameedhi" scheme.
- Blow to patriarchal attitudes.

(iii) Ensuring inclusive development :-

- Improved access to healthcare (anganwadi development) and education.
- Developing rural areas as centres of entrepreneurship. (eg) Basket making in rural - hinterland using bamboo!

Issues in cooperative model

- Lack of adequate finance and credit avenues.
- Low volunteerism in youth
- More focused towards agricultural sector

Therefore, we need to remove these issues to transform 'rural' areas to face of Indian development in New India

Feedb
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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)

Government in Budget 2023 announced PM PVTG Development Mission under 'Reaching last mile' provision of sept-mishri initiative.

welfare state principle fulfilled through PM PVTG Mission :-

- ① Close to people :- increased connectivity to hunderland regions of PVTGs
 - Building infrastructure projects
 - eg) Roads and missions eg) educational
 - improvement to build close ties with people
- ② Responsive to their aspirations :-
 - protecting their unique culture and not enforcing our culture.

- Meeting demands through collective decision making (e) role of gram sabha.

③ Inclusive in approach :-

- Development should be equal among all regions.
- Decreasing inequality and poverty levels among PVTGs.
- Increased opportunities for employment and resources for PVTGs.

Therefore, PM PVTG Development Mission can turn lives of PVTGs ~~into~~ by ensuring role of welfare state.

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)

India is home to 23 crore multi-dimensional poor population (UN-multidimensional poverty index).

Collaboration between state and civil society can help address poverty and malnutrition in country :-

- ① Filling - in missing gaps in hinterland areas by civil society organisations to provide services (eg) doctors for you working in flood struck regions.
- ② Better targeted policy - (eg) samagra an NGO working with UP government to solve inclusion/exclusion errors in scheme like PDS
- ③ collective decision making - using ground level data → better and effective evidence based policy making.

- ④ Reaching last mile to deliver essential services and reduce poverty levels.
- ⑤ Better technological solutions by civil society organisations supported by government resources to increase nutrition (e.g. food fortification).
- ⑥ Reduced burden on civil service facing force crunch.

Therefore, state and civil society can act as "co-partners" in development of poor to achieve SDG 1 and 2.

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)

India has entered aurit kaal of 25 years towards achieving 100 years of Independence to achieve developed status.

Absence of social infrastructure can become one of most significant challenges.

- ① Demographic disaster — supporting huge population without healthcare ~~and~~ would lead to fiscal burden.
- ② Low growth due to inadequate skilled workforce (eg) India skills report, only 11.2% of youth employable
- ③ Lack of education would create uninformed citizenry leading to social issues (eg) Poverty, social conflict etc
- ④ Increasing urbanisation demands

adequate social infrastructure for sustainable development (eg) ~~skolk~~ 40% of India would live in urban areas by 2050.

Thus other challenges in achieving developed status :-

- ↳ Lack of infrastructure creation for boosting economy (eg) \$5 trillion economy requires (\$1.4 trillion investment)
 - ↳ sustained savings rates and gross capital formation
 - ↳ Democratic institutions resilience (eg) free and fair elections.
 - ↳ Technological issues & how R & D would let other nations take advantage
- Thus, to become developed nation, India should remove these lacunas and shine as 'bright star' among developed world.

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 का उलट सकती है। व्याख्या कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

India's look west policy brings various opportunities to ensure development with west Asia.

changing paradigm towards dialogue & diplomacy :-

- USA brokered Abraham Accords for peace among arab nations and Israel.
- China brokered peace deal between Saudi Arabia and Iran.

It augurs well for India's interests :-

- ① safe and peaceful neighbourhood leading to less spillover effects. (eg) Terrorist attacks, Drug Trade etc
- ② Increased trade with west Asia with increased supply chain

meritence.

- (E) Oil prices would be standardised reducing import burden (F) Iran and Saudi Arabia both are one of largest exporters.

However, presence of trivial factors may otherwise meritence gain :-

- (1) China's presence :- China may cause issues w.r.t. India's soft power in West Asia.
→ Economic clout → burden for region.

- (2) Pakistan - and its deep state presence causing conflicts in region.

- (3) Taliban in Afghanistan may cause issue due to Against democracy ideology and connections with Islamic world.

Hence, India should manage these issues and make West Asia trade as tool of development.

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)

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

Indus water Treaty was signed between India and Pakistan where India had full control over waters of sauri, beas etc but less control over sathij, Chenab etc.

Water diplomacy refers to using water to affect the foreign policy of other nations.

It can redefine contours of regional cooperation in South Asia:-

① India - Pakistan → India being upper riparian has advantage regarding waters of river.

↳ Redefining Indus water Treaty can help manage Pakistan's Terror attacks.

② India - China :- Brahmaputra river
- China's non-transparent data
sharing and controlled flow is
one of reason of flooding.

- India can use water sharing
disputes in international forums
to increase our soft power.

③ History [India - Sri Lanka] - Blue
economy and water sharing of
India Ocean for sustainable development

Therefore, 'water diplomacy' can shape
contours in South Asia for regional
cooperation and ensuring peaceful
coexistence.

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 शिकार बना हुआ है। स्पष्ट कीजिए।

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Local governance institutions were provided constitutional backing through 73rd and 74th amendment Acts and insertion of 11th and 12th schedule for rural and urban bodies respectively.

Importance of constitutional backing:-

- (i) Uniformity throughout the country to ensure inclusive development.
- (ii) Defined areas of working and improving federalism and among 2nd and 3rd tier of governance.
- (iii) Enforcement of creation of grass root institutions (eg) Powers to gram sabha and development of panchayats
- (iv) Protection to vulnerable sections (eg)

SC/ST reservation along with $\frac{1}{3}^{\text{rd}}$ seats for women.

However, despite this backing, the idea of decentralisation remained hostage to various bottlenecks :-

(i) Lack of 3Fs

↳ Funds : low credit mobilisation by PRIs and ULBs (eg) PRIs - only 4% funds from taxes.

↳ functions : lack of devolution of discretionary functions by state legislature from 1st schedule (state list)

↳ functionaries : lack of adequate staff, institutions and infrastructure (eg) low internet penetration.

(ii) Attitudinal issues

↳ presence of 'panchayat patis' hindering true development of women.

1. Lack of finance mobilisation by using land and property tax.

Thus, need of hour is to take measures.

Measures to be taken

- More devolution of functions by state governments.
- use of municipal bonds as source of funding projects.
- Increase awareness about roles and responsibilities.
- Adequate monitoring of all-practices like parlayat patts.

Through these measures, local institutions would be transformed into institutions of bringing 'Sushasan' and door-step delivery of governance.

Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

I	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.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।
मूल्यांकन कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Independence of Judiciary is sine qua-
non for ensuring federation, which
itself is part of basic structure of
constitution.

Independent Judiciary as bedrock of
thriving polity :-

- i. Ensuring Justice delivery and safeguarding rights of people (eg) Art 32 providing constitutional remedies.
- ii. Keeping check on unbridled powers of executive i.e. checks and balances (eg) declaring various laws as unconstitutional.
- iii. Protection of democracy and ensuring rule of law throughout country (eg) safeguarding freedom of speech and

expression under Article 19.

- (iv) Promoting Harmony in society (eg) ensuring secular and equal practices across countries (Art 14)
- (v) Ensuring Inclusive development (eg) Protection of dignity of individual & victim of crimes.

However, executive encroachment may erode its credibility and efficacy:-

- (i) Against separation of powers principle which is basic structure of constitution.
- (ii) Executive encroachment would erode trust in governance and 'Justice' would take back seat.
- (iii) Lowers effectiveness of Judges to give judgements based on 'veil of ignorance' without fear or favour.
- (iv) It acts as time crunch for

already overburdened Judiciary.

(v) Partisan nature would create
an automatic system and hamper
democracy

thus, it is pertinent to ensure separation
of powers is maintained. At same time,
Judicial reforms are required to
lower the large pending cases and
improve transparency and accountability
while delivering Justice.

Feed
(For OFFICE)

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Please put marks in the table.
Here G is G Average and Poor.
TOTAL MARKS

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)

various intelligence agencies like CBI, Enforcement Directorate, CVC etc. act as watchdog against corruption in system.

Importance of executive agencies :-

- i. creating ~~the~~ environment of transparency and accountability in civil service.
- ii. checking malpractices eg corruption check by CVC etc.
- iii. upholding rule of law and following procedures and rules to investigate.
- iv. Protection of citizens' rights and upholding welfare state goals. eg checking misappropriation of funds.

However, pandering to vested interests may have effect of turning idea of rule of law on its head. :-

- (i) creates environment of fear and deterrence → hindering right to freedom and right to life (Art 21)
- (ii) Issue of working as tool for govern-
ment of day against opposition (eg) increasing ED suits controversies.
- (iii) using executive bodies as 'means' to achieve unethical ends (eg) harassment of others.
- (iv) Against rule of law, leading to misuse of power by various authorities
- (v) Against promoting idea of police state and leading to crony capitalism, authoritarian nature etc.

Thus, certain safeguards are required:

safeguards
against
uncontrolled
power.

- Accountability to parliament must be ensured
 - check on parliament power
 - Transparent appointments
- (eg) CBI → PM
 → leader of opposition
 → CJI.

↳ Extensions to terms should be avoided as per rule of law.

Thus, with these measures, we can make sure that executive agencies work towards promoting rule of law and not hinder it.

Feedback

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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.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)

National Commission for Women is a statutory body created in 1992.

Aim and Objectives of NCW

- Protect women related safeguards throughout India
- Monitor effectiveness of measures
- Report and recommend action to government for various safeguards.

Role of NCW in safeguarding women's rights and upholding socio-economic wellbeing:-

(i) Data collection for evidence based policy making (e.g) In its report 2017, 52% of married women faced domestic violence or sexual abuse.

(ii) Monitoring various mechanisms of empowerment (e.g) Monitoring health

benefits and schemes like Mahila Vandana Yojana

- (iii) Providing constant support to women using 24x7 call centre connectivity
- (iv) Promoting awareness among women about their rights and responsibilities.

However, there are various issues with NCW:-

- (i) Recommendations are not binding thus failure in ensuring justice in several cases.
- (ii) Failure to provide adequate safety to women (e.g) increased incidents of rapes, acid attacks.
- (iii) More focus towards urban areas leaving rural women to suffer from patriarchal society

(iv) failure in lowering inequality
with respect to women (eg) only 1/3rd of
women have internet access (Oxfam 2022)

(v) low awareness regarding healthy
practices (eg) 57% of women anaemic

Measures required to tackle issues :-

- (1) increase capacity and giving
power to provide monetary support.
- (2) Involving various civil societies (NGOs)
for awareness and monitoring
- (3) More focus towards societal attitude
change through persuasion and
social influence.

Therefore, by following these measures
we can ensure that India's 50% of
population feels safe, secure and propels
society towards path of development.

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 गरीबी 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)

As per UNDP's multidimensional Poverty Index, India is home of 60 world's largest poor population with 23 crore people multidimensionally poor.

Analyzing extent, source and complexity of poor contributes to more informed policy making:-

① Extent of poverty

- ↳ No. of multidimensional poor across country
- ↳ Regional poverty levels (eg) more poverty levels in rural areas etc
- ↳ Impacts on various sections (eg) women households etc

(i) source of poverty:-

↳ Health, food and nutritional source

(eg) nutritional insecurity due to revel food centric PDS.

↳ sector wise

(eg) NITI Aayogs MPI → peasants and farmers → economic poverty due to low income levels.

(ii) complexity of poverty:-

↳ schooling and educational

improvement (eg) No. of years and mean schooling years as parameters of NITI Aayogs MPI.

↳ Purchasing power and livelihood conditions of people ~~are~~ determine the complexity.

Thus, these data help in evidence based policy-making :-

- (i) More targeted approach to solve issues of poverty levels.
- (ii) Regional balancing in scheme implementation.
- (iii) Removing inclusion/exclusion errors.

Way forward :-

→ using data to formulate specific policies at grass root levels.

(eg) Aspirational Blocks programme focusing on 500 blocks for development.

Thus, poverty ~~can be~~ should be reduced to achieve SDG 1 and 2 for sustainable development.

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.

TOTAL MARKS

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 organisations formed by people with similar political ideology which aim to contest elections and exercise governance.

Political parties are lifeblood of democracy

- ① Provide platform to advocate various political ideas (eg) leftist, rightist ideas.
- ② Act as voice of electorate and create manifesto based on popular support.
- ③ organised institutions for leaders to spread ideas and contest elections.
(eg) giving tickets by various parties.
- ④ providing funding for candidates to secure Right to contest.

⑤ forms basis of legislature parties which act as parliament's key voice

However, they are beset with various challenges :-

⑥ Lack of Transparency in party working and funding (eg) ADR - 67% of funding from unknown sources.

⑦ creates division among society based on ideological clashes (eg) recent conflict among followers of different parties in west Bengal.

⑧ criminalisation of Politics → ^{Allegation of} Political parties forming nexus with muscle power and criminals. (eg) ADR - 43% of candidates in 2019 had criminal cases pending.

⑨ Affect democratic functioning of elected government (eg) recent defection in shiv sena by political members.

- v. Large parties (registered unrecognized political parties) take benefit of tax concessions and not contest election.

Way forward :-

① Role of ECI :-

- ↳ checks over influence of political parties during elections.
- ↳ power to deregister parties (eg) RUPP.

② Increased transparency (eg) Political parties should be brought under RTI.

③ Key Reforms in parliamentary working

- ↳ Reform in Anti-defection law to control influence of non-elected political party members.

- ↳ Role of speaker → More impartial to all parties.

Therefore, by following these measures, we can make parties bloodline of democracy in true sense.

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 प्रवर्धित 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)

India has world's 18% of population and just 4% of water resources, making management of water priority for sustainable development.

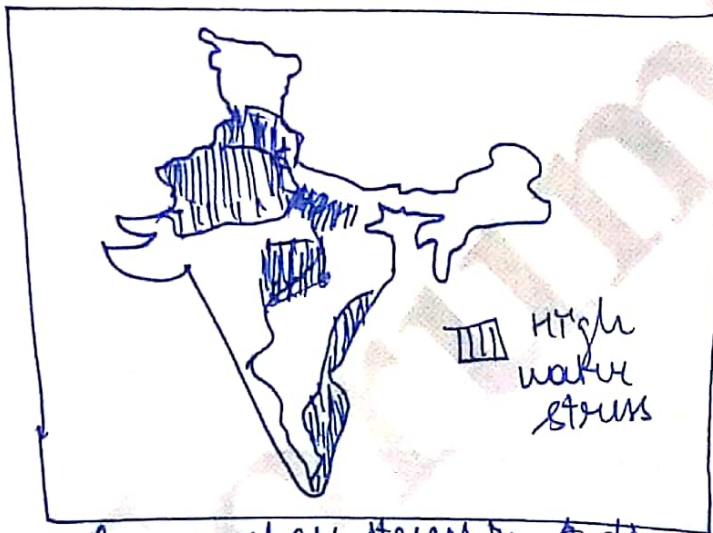


Fig: water stress in India

Jal Jeevan Mission can give multifarious benefits cutting across generations!:-

- ① functional Tap water connection → lowers burden on women to fetch water (eg) Bannari woman
- ② Increased access to safe and fresh water in hunderland areas.

- ③ Clean water → low transmission of diseases caused by polluted water
- ④ Diarrhoea etc.

- ⑦ Equitable sharing among all regions reducing water inequality due to monsoon dependent rainfall

- ⑤ Effective management → recharge of aquifers and promote sustainable use of water resources

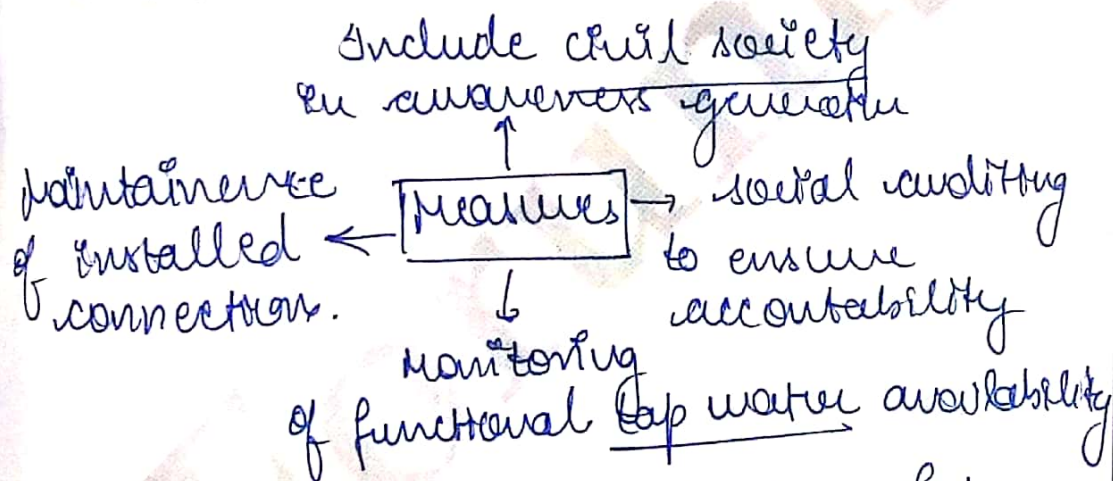
However, there are various challenges in ensuring effective implementation:-

- ① Financial constraints → fiscal resource limitation ② fiscal deficit of 5.9%.
- ② Low awareness of people to utilise water in sustainable way ③ use of drinking water for household activities.
- ③ Lack of connectivity to hinterland areas making water transport

a challenge.

④ unsustainable agricultural irrigation for water guzzling crops leading to groundwater depletion and salinisation of water.

⑤ Pollution caused by industries and river discharge polluting drinking water



Thus, we can safeguard our future by utilising water sustainably and ensure inclusive growth for all.

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.

TOTAL MARKS

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)

Law provides safeguards to vulnerable sections like SC, ST to promote equality in society and ensure Justice to all.

Relevance of SC, ST Act 1989 :-

- ① safeguarding sections from discrimination and ensuring equality (Art 14)
- ② Punishment and creating deterrence for changing societal attitude.

However, legislation like this remains only on paper and not in spirit due to

- ① Non sensitization of public functionaries :-
 - a. Lack of motivation to protect rights of individuals and uphold rule of law.
 - b. Rules becomes end in themselves, civil servants ~~are~~ do not take

individual initiatives to safeguard and protect rights.

(e) Taking action only on complaint and not suo moto

(f) Perpetration of injustice due to fear of bureaucracy and low awareness of victims.

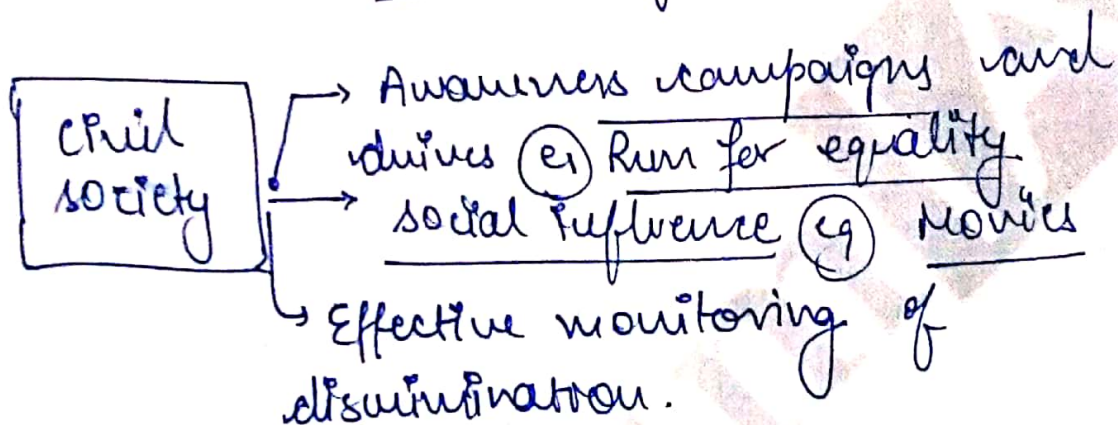
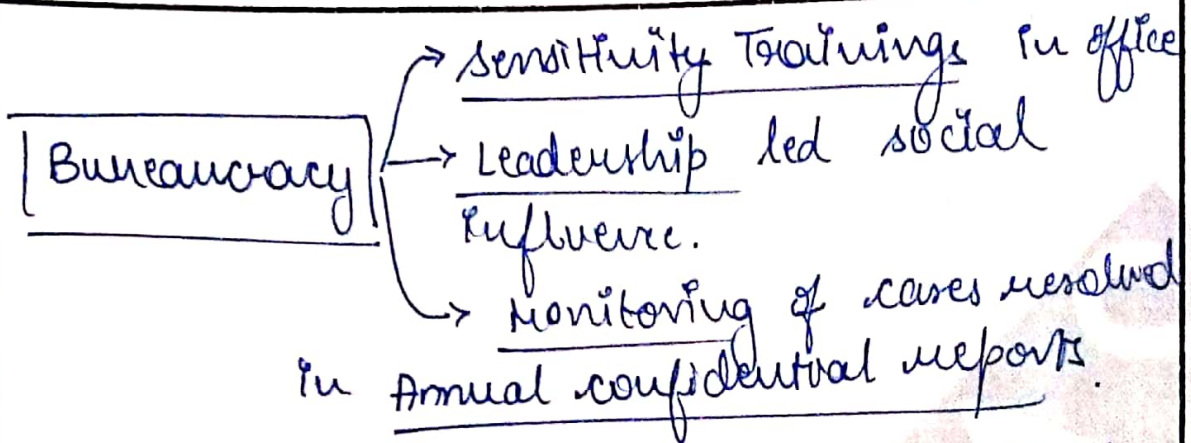
(2) Non mystification of civil society :-

(a) People do not change internal attitude and might cause discrimination behind closed doors.

(b) Sense of subjugation by social boycott $\Rightarrow$ indirect discrimination

(c) Rigid societal attitude leads to failure in social upliftment and development.

Thus, we need to take various measures to ensure implementation of law in spirit :-



Therefore, with programmes like Mission Kaumadgi and awareness campaign among society, we can transform society from medieval to modern and implement social changes in letter and spirit.

Q.19) Harbinger of global rebalancing, India-Africa ties are a beacon of inclusive, sustainable, and equitable world. Explain. (15 marks, 250 words)

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

India - Africa ~~refer~~ relations are prime example of South - South cooperation for ensuring prosperity and global rebalancing.

Harbinger of global rebalancing :-

- ① focussing on issues of Global South and raising voices at institutions (eg) UNGA.
- ② Increased trade and supply chains to link Asia - Africa. (eg) Asia - Africa growth corridor.

~~India~~ India - Africa as beacon of Inclusive world :-

- ① focus on Healthcare and public services to all sections equally (eg) vaccine exports.

- ② Increased track 2 diplomacy and people-people contacts.
- ③ focussing on developing countries demands to make development inclusive. (e) ITER - education programme

India - Africa as sustainable beacon :-

- ① focussing on biodiversity protection and increasing afforestation (e) Great green wall initiative
- ② Improving Blue economy for sustainable development (e) Arabia sea focus and removing piracy etc.

It is also beacon of equitable world.

- ① Against discriminative western practices and demands (e) Evergreening of patents and vaccine nationalism.

② Towards goal of food security in poor and developing nation (eg) advocacy for peace clause at WTO.

However, it faces various issues :-

Issues in India - Africa relations

→ Low trade despite convergences

→ Dis similarities about nuclear programmes and uranium supply

↳ delayed projects (eg) Asia - Africa growth corridor.

Therefore, need of hum is to solve these issues amicably. With various programmes like cheetah-reintroduction, increased security exercises, India - Africa ties can bring a model of cooperation for world

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 प्रगति में क्या बाधाएं हैं? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Indo-Pacific is the region extending from Arabian sea to Pacific ocean

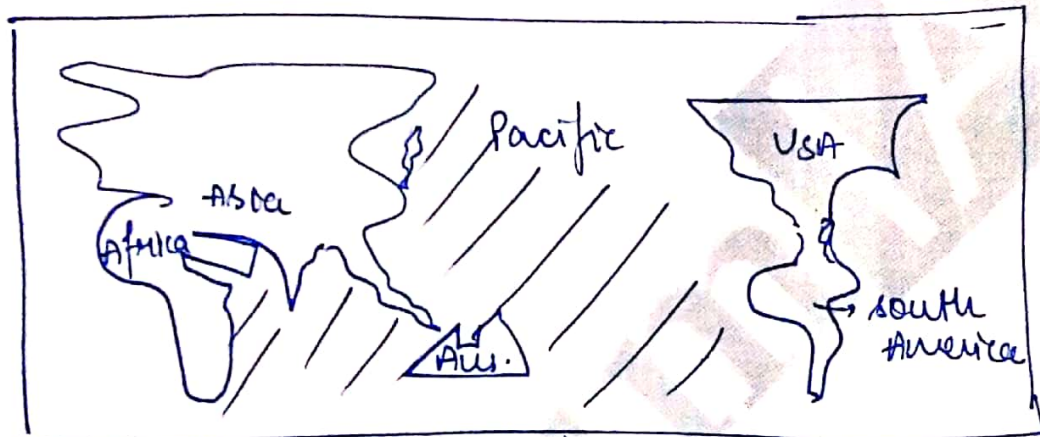


Fig: Indo-Pacific region

Indo-Pacific as theatre of opportunity for India :-

① ASEAN Centrality :- Indo-Pacific include ASEAN nations of Brunei, Thailand, Vietnam, etc

→ Increased trade with South-East Asia and making Indo-Pacific as region of export of products to world.

ii. Rules-based order →

→ securing supply chains and sea lines of communication through Indo-Pacific.

→ India could extend its sphere of influence as 'net security provider' in Indo-Pacific.

iii. Development partnership with Pacific Island states :-

→ increased access to oceanic resources with more partnership.

→ increased soft power by extending technical support (e.g.) International solar alliance initiatives.

→ Disaster resilience using CDRI (CRIS) and challenging China's influence in region.

Hurdles in realisation of inclusive Indo-Pacific construct :-

- ① Rise and Influence of China and using debt-trap diplomacy.
- ② Indo-Pacific becoming theatre of conflict between USA and China affecting neighbouring countries.
- ③ Prevalence of disasters (eg Tsunami, earthquakes) leading to destruction of life and property.

Therefore, India must take steps to utilise potential of Indo-Pacific and its strategic location to ensure it is a zone of peace and harmony.

Feed

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Here G is G
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TOTAL MARKS

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Test Goal

- 1 ☐
- 2 ☐
- 3 ☐

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.