

TEST CODE 8 1 2 4 1 4

MGP 2025

Time Allowed : Three Hours

समय : तीन घंटे

ForumIAS

Maximum Marks : 250

अधिकतम अंक : 250

## GENERAL STUDIES / सामान्य अध्ययन

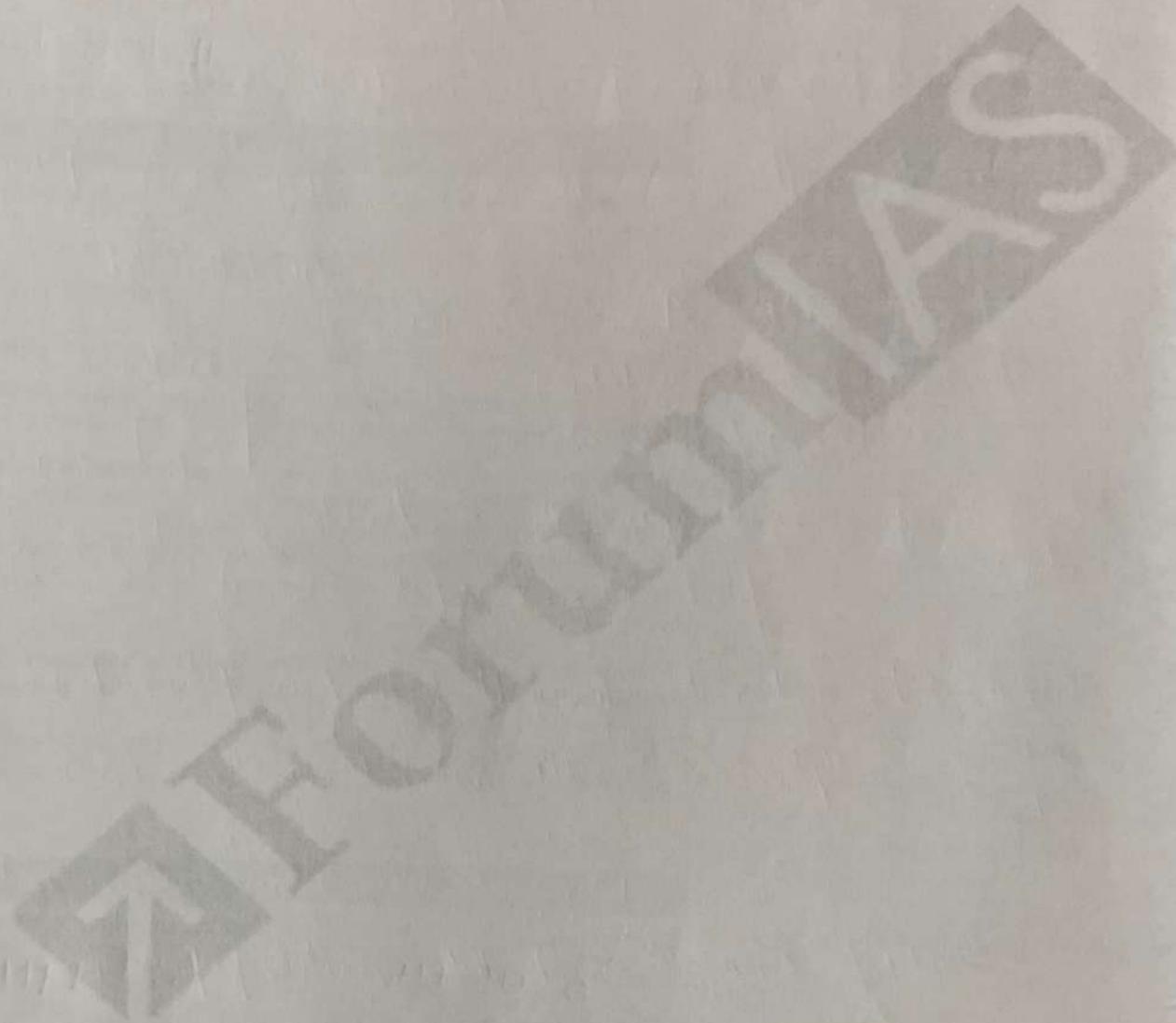
Name Of Candidate परीक्षार्थी का नाम	Aryan Divya Rao		
Roll No./अनुक्रमांक		Medium/माध्यम	English <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> हिंदी <input type="checkbox"/>
Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र		Date/दिनांक	12/08/2025

\*Center Code : For Online - 1900 / Delhi : Karol bagh - 19G1, 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 <b>TWENTY</b> 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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Total/कुल अंक	250		For Student Only / केवल परीक्षार्थी प्रयोग हेतु		
Examiner's Discretion/मूल्यांकन कर्ता का विवेक :			Start Time/प्रारंभ करने का समय :	End Time/समाप्त करने का समय :	
			3:05 PM.	6:04 PM.	
Total Marks/कुल अंक :			Mode Of Examination/ परीक्षा की विधि :	Online/ऑनलाइन <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Offline/ऑफलाइन <input type="checkbox"/>	
			For Office Use Only / केवल कार्यालय प्रयोग हेतु		
*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 आयी के आधार पर (लेकिन इन्हीं तक सीमित नहीं) पर दिए गए अंक हैं।			ECN CODE/ ईसीएन कोड :	EG/ईजी :	Evaluation Date/ मूल्यांकन तिथि :
			① ② ③ ④ ⑤	① ② ③ ④ ⑤	

**Note:** Students are expected to incorporate suggestions from the feedback provided in the answers. Discussion class the tests are also available online in your portal to aid in your preparation. Further, students are requested to see the 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. Ask specific questions, to get specific answers.

## EXAMINER'S REMARKS



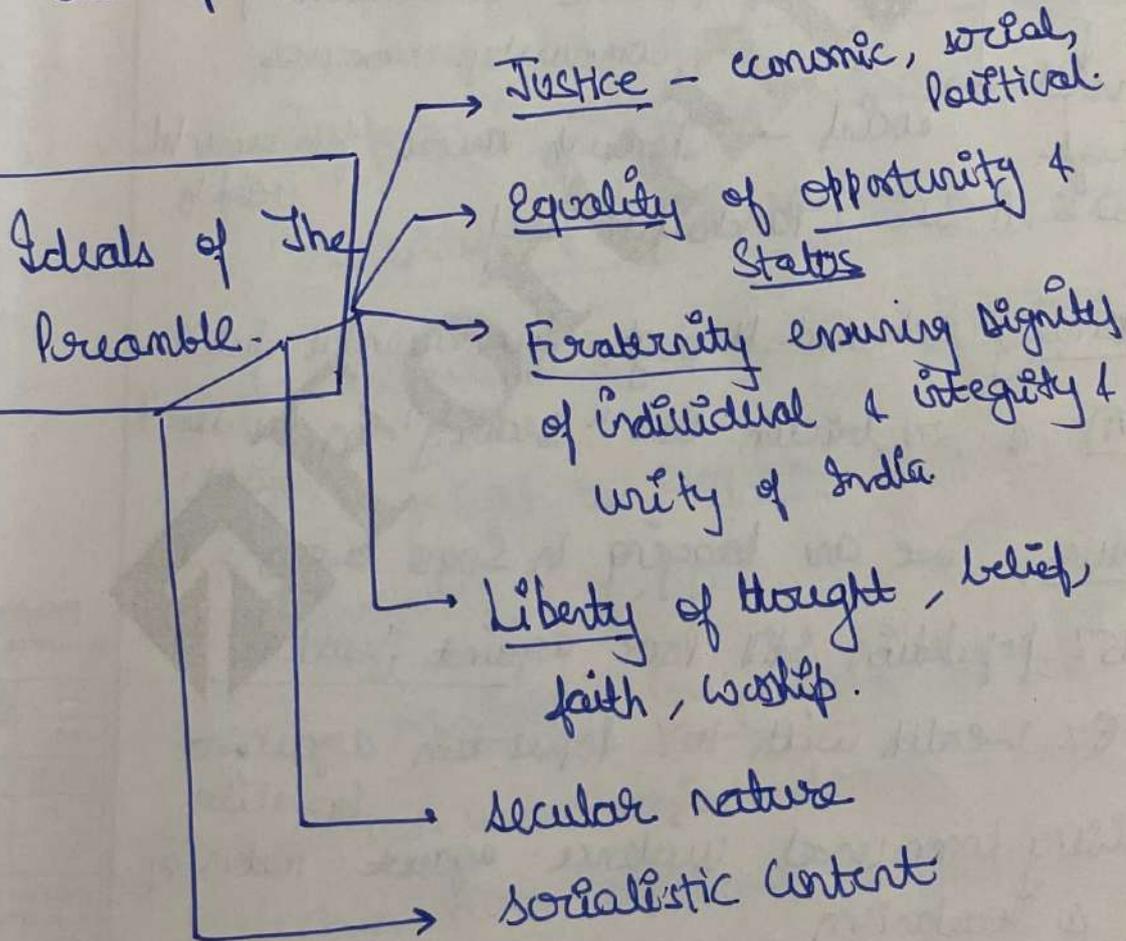
### CRITERIA FOR THE FEEDBACK SECTION AT THE END OF EACH QUESTION

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 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 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 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, 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 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 subjective components of assessment.

Q.1) To what extent, in your opinion, have the ideals of the Preamble been realised in the country's 75-year constitutional journey? (10 marks, 150 words)

आपकी राय में, देश की 75 साल की संवैधानिक यात्रा में प्रस्तावना के आदर्शों को किस हद तक साकार किया गया है? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Eminent jurist NA Patkhilala calls the preamble the "identity card" of the Constitution laying down its objectives as well as being a yardstick for measuring development.



## Achievement of Ideals

(i) Liberty ensured through Art-19 & A-21  
ensuring freedom of speech & Expression

(ii) Socialistic nature & Equality fulfilled through  
A-14, A-15, A-16 as well as welfare programmes

Ex) MGNREGA

(iii) Justice

- Economic → A-39(b) calls for equitable distribution of community resources
- Political through A-325, A-326 & Panchayati Raj
- Social → Through various fundamental rights

(iv) Fraternity achieved through fundamental duties  
A-51(A) & restriction like "security" on fundamental rights.

However, we are lagging in some areas:

(i) ~15% population still poor against Justice

(ii) 70% wealth with 10% population against Equality

(iii) Rising communal violence against Fraternity & Secularism

Thus while significant achievements have been made more is to be done to fully realise preamble

Q.2) The evolution of property rights in India reflects an intricate relationship that exists between individual rights and public welfare. Discuss this statement with the help of relevant constitutional provisions and case laws. (10 marks, 150 words)

भारत में संपत्ति अधिकारों का विकास व्यक्तिगत अधिकारों और लोक कल्याण के बीच एक जटिल संबंध को दर्शाता है। प्रासंगिक संवैधानिक प्रावधानों और निर्णय-विधियों (केस लॉ) की सहायता से इस कथन पर चर्चा कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Recently the Supreme Court in Property Owners Association case declared that A-39(b) is not absolute highlighting right to property of individual owners.

Right To Property - Intricate Relation  
between Individual & Public welfare

(i) Original Constitution provided for 2 provisions

↳ A-19 → right to acquire, dispose & use property

↳ A-31 → Mandatory compensation in case of acquisition under eminent domain and protection from arbitrary acquisition of property

(ii) The 1st Constitutional amendment Act added A-31(A) as well as 9th Schedule which allowed acquisition of private property for eminent domain.

(iii). Art-31(C) - provided for acquisition for property to implement 39(b) - use of community resources for common good & 39(C).

(iv) 17th Constitutional amendment provided for mandatory compensation if land held was under individual cultivation & under ceiling limits.

(v) 44th Constitutional Amendment - removed right to property as fundamental right & made it a legal right - A(300(A))  
↳ Compensation mandatory in case of minority educational institution

The recent SC judgement provides a balance between weight of individuals as well as mandatory acquisition for public welfare

**Feedback**

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CD & VA		
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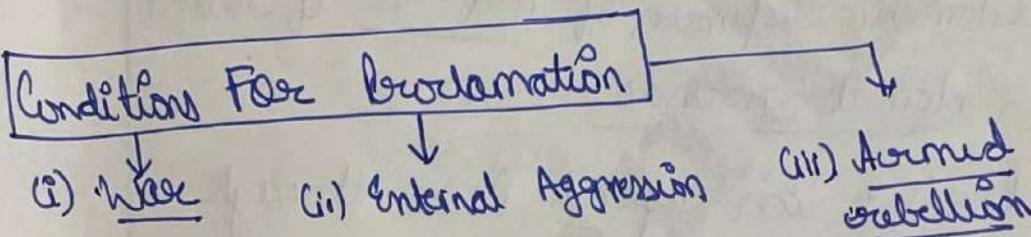
Here G is Good, A Average and P is Poor.

TOTAL MARKS

Q.3) Under what conditions can the 'National' Emergency be proclaimed by the President of India? What are the consequences when such a proclamation remains in force? When was it last imposed in the country? (10 marks, 150 words)

भारत के राष्ट्रपति किन परिस्थितियों में 'राष्ट्रीय' आपातकाल की घोषणा कर सकते हैं? ऐसी घोषणा के प्रभावी रहने पर इसके क्या परिणाम होंगे? देश में यह आखिरी बार कब लगाया गया था? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Art 352 of the Constitution provides for proclamation of National Emergency by the President of India.



The (iii) was added by 44th Constitutional amendment and replaced the ambiguous criteria of "Internal Emergency".

Consequences of Proclamation

(1) Executive → Executive power of Center extends to all states and can give any direction, but State government not suspended.

(2) Legislative →

↳ (i) - life of parliament can be extended by 1 year at a time

↳ (ii) - State legislation become subordinate to central

(3) On Fundamental rights

↳ (i) automatic suspension of Art-19 if declared on internal grounds

↳ (ii) President can suspend A-32 through presidential order for specified fundamental rights

1st Declaration → Declared in 1975 by Indira Gandhi government on ground of Internal Emergency

(ii) Most controversial & held illegal by 'Shah Commission'

As we mark 75 50 years of Internal Emergency we must resolve to not misuse emergency powers and use it only for protecting the Sovereignty & integrity of India.

### 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

Q.4) 'Lack of a binding framework for pre-legislative consultations in India limits citizen engagement in the lawmaking.' Propose measures to strengthen the role of public consultation in the legislative process. (10 marks, 150 words)

'भारत में विधान-पूर्व परामर्श के लिए बाध्यकारी ढाँचे का अभाव, विधि-निर्माण में नागरिकों की भागीदारी को सीमित करता है।' विधायी प्रक्रिया में सार्वजनिक परामर्श की भूमिका को सुदृढ़ करने के लिए उपाय प्रस्तुत कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Recently Parliamentary Standing Committee on Law highlighted the importance of best legislative impact assessment using the "power of Indian Citizenry".

Measures To Strengthen Public Consultation

- (i) Using e-governance tools like Myspam to seek suggestions and remedies in bills
- (ii) Use of diverse pressure groups for public consultation process.
- (iii) Farmers Association roped in for amending farmer laws.
- (iv) Parliamentary committees should be

Required to seek public consultations during  
Committee Consideration stage

(iv) Using online debate forums to float  
Proposed bills

(v) Draft a law mandating public consultations  
for certain laws

### Issues with Public Consultation

(i) Lack of required expertise

(ii) May lead to inequality as many illiterate  
rural populace can be consulted

(iii) May lead to delay in legislation

India can adopt measures such as in  
direct democracies like Switzerland, Finland  
to fully transform representative democracy  
to participative democracy

#### Feedback

(For OFFICE use)

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

TOTAL MARKS

Q.5) 'The recommendations of the 15th Finance Commission have enabled the States to improve their fiscal conditions.' Comment. (10 marks, 150 words)

15वें वित्त आयोग की अनुशंसाओं से राज्यों को अपनी वित्तीय स्थिति सुधारने में मदद मिली है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The 15th Finance Commission was appointed under A-280 of the Constitution for the period 2021-2026 by the President of India.

Terms of Reference of 15th FC

Suggest distribution of revenue from net proceeds of taxes between States & Center and among States

Measures to be taken to augment consolidated fund of state to improve funding of local body

15th FC Recommendations Improving State's Fiscal Position

(i) Inclusion of Governance reforms in devolution formula has improved efficiency due to

## Performance linked funding

### & Rural sector reforms

- (ii) Increased weightage to forest management has ensured sustainable development
- (iii) widening ambit of GST to include petroleum, alcohol etc to increase decentralisation
- (iv) Shift of certain budget items to State to improve finances.
- (v) separate Fiscal + Budgetary reforms for States with para-fiscal conditions.

### Shortcomings

- (i) States like Punjab continue to have precarious debt to GDP (~49%)
- (ii). Central's share of cess + surcharge has increased to 27% from 11%

Thus while some positive measures have been taken there is need for further fiscal consolidation.

### Feedback

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

TOTAL MARKS

Q.6) In what ways do industry and business associations contribute to socio-economic development in the country? Explain with suitable examples. (10 marks, 150 words)

उद्योग और व्यावसायिक संघ देश के सामाजिक-आर्थिक विकास में किस प्रकार योगदान देते हैं? उपयुक्त उदाहरणों सहित समझाइए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Industry & Business Associations like ASSOCHAM, FICCI etc are pressure groups which influence government policies directly or indirectly thus impacting socio-economic development.

Industry & Business Associations Furthering socio-economic Development

(i) Promotion of various important schemes of welfare & development

(ii) FICCI organises Annual Make In India Summit

(iii) Raises diverse issues → relating to economy, employee conditions etc

(iv) ASSOCHAM studied impact of efg

workers of tech firms (Zomato) on Indian labour force

(iii) Women Empowerment - (e) FICCI & world economic forum launched "women in Economy" summit

(iv) Empowering vulnerable populations such as dalits - (e) Dalit Indian Industrial Chamber of Commerce (DICC)

(v) Participate in advisory capacity during government roundtables and bill consultations

### Issues

(i) May promote narrow interests - (e) (Sunbday in USA)

(ii) Tend to empower already powerful

(iii) May lead to Gross Capitalism

Adopting a light regulation approach will help resolve above issues and improve contribution of the association for a Viksit Bharat

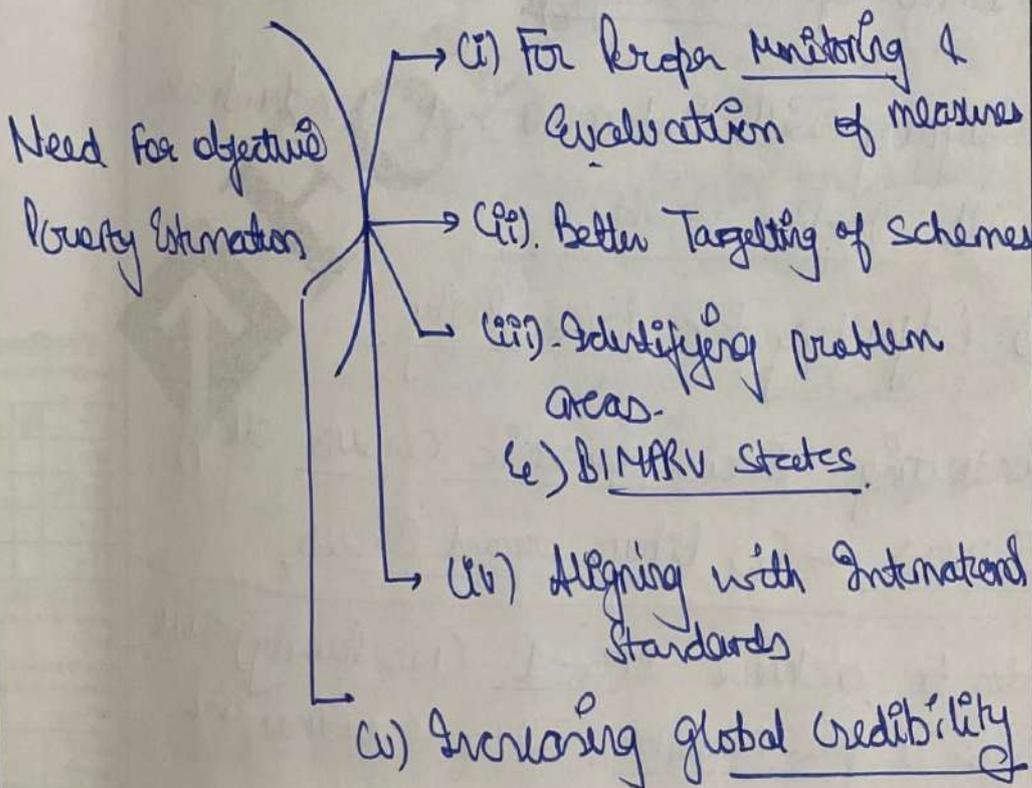
Q.7) "India's poverty lies in the eyes of the beholder." In light of this statement, examine the need for a credible and periodically updated poverty estimation framework in the country.

(10 marks, 150 words)

"भारत की निर्धनता देखने वाले की आँखों में है।" इस कथन के आलोक में, देश में एक विश्वसनीय और समय-समय पर अद्यतन किए जाने वाले निर्धनता आकलन ढाँचे की आवश्यकता का परीक्षण कीजिए।

(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

While Nikhil Rajoo's Multi Dimensional Poverty Index states that 135 cr Indians have been removed from poverty, an international think tank estimates that 1/5 of Indians continue to be poor. This highlights the need for objective poverty estimation.



## Creating An Objective Framework

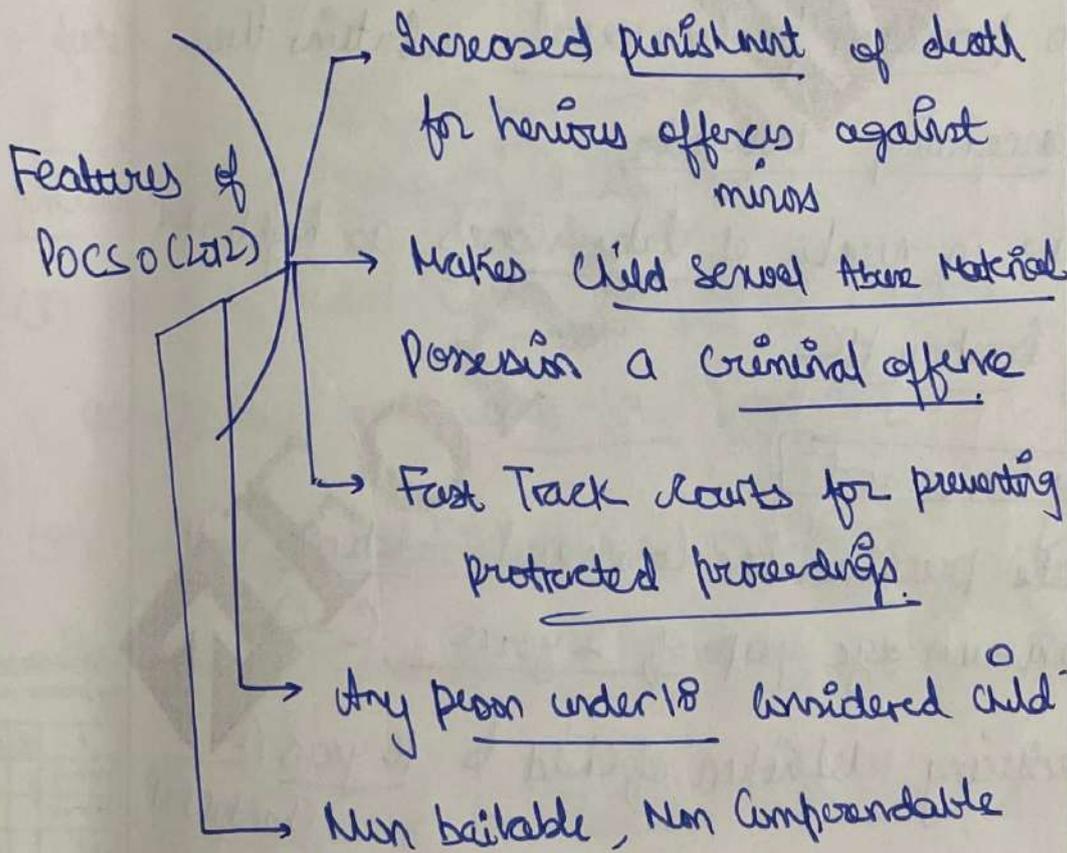
- (i) Objective criteria - must include basic necessities as well as minimum income
- (ii) Autonomous body - outside control of government to measure
- (iii) Independent Department of monitoring & Evaluation  
 Ex) DMED of Niti Aayog
- (iv). Aligning with International standards along with Indian conditions.  
 Ex) Adjusting for price parity
- (v). Conducting socio-economic census every 5 years - Ex) Bihar census

In order to achieve SDG-1 (No Poverty) credible data is a pre-requisite. This measures are required to ensure credible poverty estimates

Q.8) The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012 falls short of achieving its intended objectives. Comment. (10 marks, 150 words)

यौन अपराधों से बच्चों का संरक्षण (POCSO) अधिनियम, 2012 अपने इच्छित उद्देश्यों को प्राप्त करने में विफल रहा है। टिप्पणी करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The POCSO Act was created in 2012 with the objective of "fast justice" and deterrence against sexual offences of minors.



POCSO - Falling short of objectives

(i) Continued sexual offences against minors

## Forum IAS

(i) Highlighted by NCLC in Karkar where 46 minors were repeatedly sexually violated in School.

(ii) FTC do not adhere to established timeline leading to delay.

(iii) No provision for consensual relations thus incarcerating innocent.

(iv) Rise in number of false cases as highlighted by Bombay HC.

### Way Forward

(i) Make provision for consensual relation with maximum age gap of 2 years (SC)

(ii) Reducing definition of child to 16 years (CJI Chandrachud)

(iii) Stringent control over ESAM on social media & deepfakes

Incorporating above steps will ensure that original objectives of laws will be attained for protection of minors

Q.9) 'Starved of funds, shackled by geopolitics, WHO is facing a crisis of capacity and credibility' Discuss the statement in the light of USA's withdrawal and its accusation of the health body of being 'biased towards China and mishandling the COVID-19 pandemic'. (10 marks, 150 words)

अधन की कमी से जूझ रहा और भूराजनीति से घिरा विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठन क्षमता और विश्वसनीयता के संकट का सामना कर रहा है। अमेरिका के WHO से पीछे हटने और स्वास्थ्य संस्था पर 'चीन के प्रति पक्षपाती होने और कोविड-19 महामारी से ठीक से निपटने के आरोप के आलोक में इस कथन पर चर्चा कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Recently USA, which funds about 19% of total contributions of WHO withdrew from the global health body raising concerns over its future.

### Accusations & Issue of WHO

(i) Failed to hold China / any other country accountable for COVID-19 pandemic

(ii) Increasing contributions by China the raising concerns of biasness.

(iii) Disproportionate contributions by Developed nations yet had minimal WHO

programmes in their country  
eg) 70% of WHO programmes in Africa & ASIA

which contribute least

(iv) Allegations of Corruptions & misappropriation of funds

(v) Insufficient Impact → (e) frequent viruses outbreaks in Africa continue.

## Importance of WHO

(i). Global coordination during public health crisis - (e) During COVID directed joint research

(ii) Bringing equity in global health by focussing on global south.

(iii) Important global vaccination programmes like Kala Campaign in India

Annual report showing impact assessment → every forward → Increase Transparency in use of funds  
· Increase Contributions of India

Despite its criticisms WHO has & will play a crucial role in achieving SDG-3 - Good Health

### Feedback

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AWIS			
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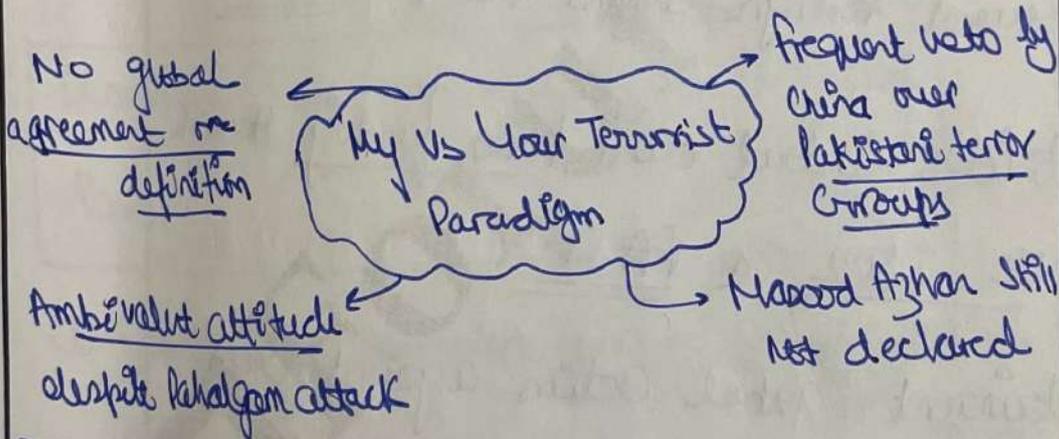
TOTAL MARKS

Q.10) The world continues to operate in a 'my terrorist' versus 'your terrorist' paradigm. Explain. What strategies would you suggest to develop a unified, comprehensive, and rules-based global approach to tackle the menace of terrorism? (10 marks, 150 words)

दुनिया आज भी मेरा आतंकवादी बनाम तुम्हारा आतंकवादी के सिद्धांत पर चल रही है। स्पष्ट कीजिए। आतंकवाद के खतरे से निपटने के लिए एक एकीकृत, व्यापक और नियम-आधारित वैश्विक दृष्टिकोण विकसित करने हेतु आप कौन सी रणनीतियाँ सुझाएंगे? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The biased approach of UNSC in designating global terrorist based on Strategic objectives

¶ P-5 members highlights the "My terrorist" Vs "Your terrorist" paradigm



Strategies To Develop - Unified, Comprehensive & Rules Based Global Approach

(i) Agreement on global definition on terrorism & terror groups

(i) Strengthening voice on Non KS members  
in UNEC

(ii), promote fair use of veto power instead  
of strategic

(iv) Highlight boundary-less impact of  
terrorism

eg) Several foreign citizens killed in 26/11

(v) Stricter control over terror funding through  
UNEC 2482 & FATF

(vi), Stringent global action against cross  
border terrorism supported by nations  
e) Pakistan

In the wake of devastating lakhmgarh terror  
attack it is imperative that the global  
leaders engage successfully to eliminate  
terrorism

Q.11) Briefly explain the procedure laid down in the Representation of the People Act (RPA), 1951 for the registration of political parties with the Election Commission of India (ECI). What are Registered Unrecognised Political Parties (RUPPs)? What concerns are associated with them? Does the ECI have powers to de-register a political party? (15 marks, 250 words)

भारत के निर्वाचन आयोग (ECI) में राजनीतिक दलों के पंजीकरण के लिए जनप्रतिनिधित्व अधिनियम (RPA), 1951 में निर्धारित प्रक्रिया का संक्षेप में वर्णन कीजिए। पंजीकृत गैर-मान्यता प्राप्त राजनीतिक दल (RUPP) क्या हैं? इनसे क्या चिंताएँ जुड़ी हैं? क्या निर्वाचन आयोग के पास किसी राजनीतिक दल का पंजीकरण रद्द करने का अधिकार है? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

The registration of political parties is dealt with by ROPA, 1951 which empowers election Commission to register & recognise political parties.

### Procedure For Registration of Political Party

(i). Submission of concerned form & affidavit to Election Commission of India.

(ii) Party Constitution must be spelt out and be in line with Constitution & laws.

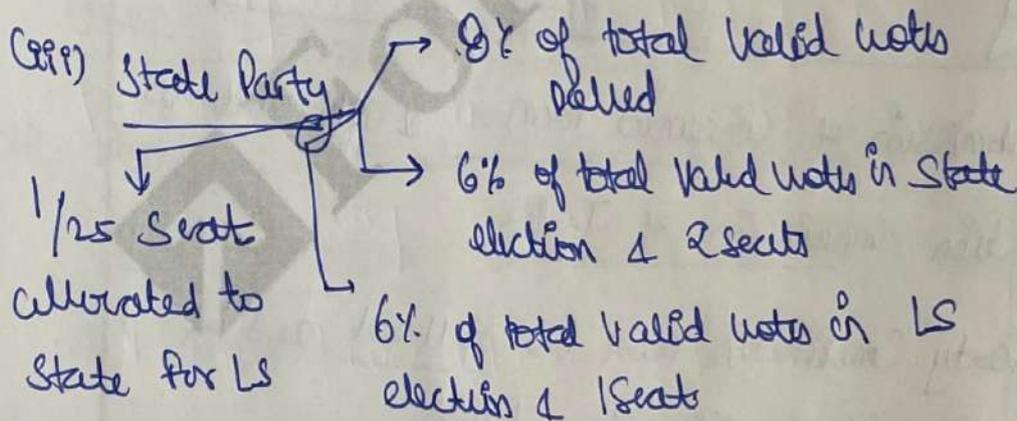
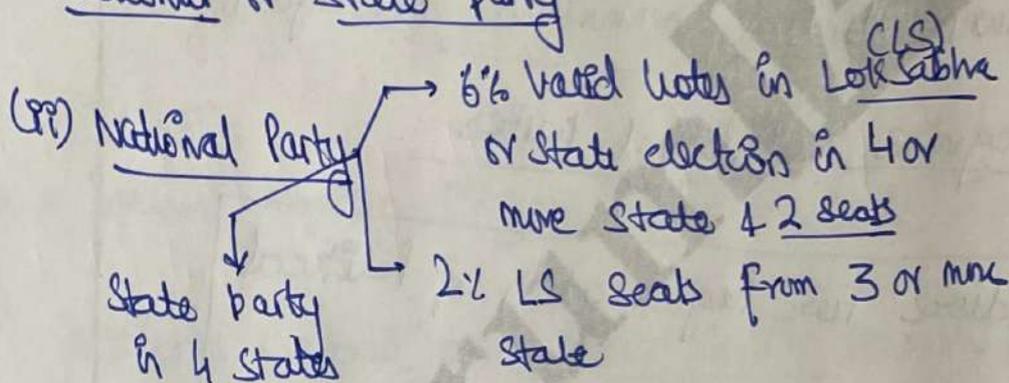
(iii) Must uphold all rules, laws and inner Party democracy.

(iv) Submission of required fees after

verification along with security deposit,

**Registered Unrecognised Political Parties**

(i) Those parties which are registered but do not have any recognition as National or State party



**Concerns of RUPP**

- (i) Corruption & Misappropriation of funds.
- (ii) Used by recognised political parties to

launder money & engage in illegal  
activities - (i) vote Buying

(iii) increases workload of ECI

(iv). Threat to National Security - may be  
used for money laundering, promoting interests of  
Foreign State etc.

### Power of ECI - To Deregister Party

(i) according to Supreme Court ECI has no  
Power of De-registration of Party

(ii) only has power of granting / revoking  
recognition

In line with Law Commission's 244th  
report ECI should be empowered to  
deregister political parties to ensure free &  
fair elections

#### 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			

Q.12) Assess the role of NITI Aayog over the past decade in promoting cooperative and competitive federalism. (15 marks, 250 words)

सहकारी और प्रतिस्पर्धी संघवाद को बढ़ावा देने में पिछले दशक में नीति आयोग की भूमिका का आकलन करें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Niti Aayog was created on January 1st 2015 replacing the Planning Commission as the Central think tank of Government of India.

Role Played By NITI Aayog In Cooperative Federalism

(i). Governing Council of Niti Aayog has representation of both States & Center as against Planning Commission.

(ii) Various forums like regional council, Niti forum of North East enable improved coordination.

- (iii) Team India of Niti Aayog involves representatives of all states and are engaged in continuous consultation
- (iv) Various policy reports of Niti Aayog based on collaborative approach
- (v) Collaborates with individual states to frame policy
- (vi) Enabling states to form own Transformation Institutions
- e.g) Maharashtra formed own SIT - MITRA

### Niti Aayog - Enabling Competitive Federalism

- (i) Responsible for releasing various important indices such as Export Competitiveness Index which foster competition.

(i) Recommended Performance linked incentives for power sector reforms.

(ii) Development Monitoring & Evaluation office (DMEO) of Niti Aayog reports on development level of various states.

### Issues with Niti Aayog

(i) Only recommendatory in nature as opposed to previous planning commission.

(ii) No role in deciding allocation of funds.

(iii) States allege only superfluous involvement.

### Way forward

(i) Increase mandatory meetings of Governing body.

(ii) Keep framework of appointments to Niti to avoid patronage appointments.

(iii) Consultation of Niti during bill drafting.

Thus Niti Aayog marks the dawn of the new Competitive - Collaborative federalism in India.

Q.13) 'The post of Deputy Speaker goes beyond ceremonial significance and is indispensable to Indian parliamentary democracy.' Discuss with relevant constitutional provisions and conventions. Also, examine the implications of the prolonged vacancy of the Deputy Speaker's post.

(15 marks, 250 words)

'उपसभापति का पद औपचारिक महत्व से कहीं बढ़कर है और भारतीय संसदीय लोकतंत्र के लिए अपरिहार्य है।' प्रासंगिक संवैधानिक प्रावधानों और परंपराओं के साथ इस पर चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, उपसभापति के पद के लंबे समय तक रिक्त रहने के निहितार्थों का भी परीक्षण कीजिए।

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Art 93 of the Constitution provides for office of deputy speaker who holds a important role in functioning of temple of democracy i.e. Parliament.

### Importance of Office of Deputy Speaker

(i) Art 93 provides that deputy speaker shall preside over house when the office of Speaker is vacant or during absence

(ii). Art 108 provides deputy speaker as the presiding officer of joint sitting in case of unavailability of speaker.

## ForumIAS

(iii) He heads various important committees of Parliament

e.g. > Committee on Private Members Bills  
in Lok Sabha

(iv) He is the Vice-President in all Parliamentary forums guiding discussions on important matters such as Water Management

(v) According to Conventions he is selected from opposition thus improving executive accountability over legislature

Implications of Prolonged Vacancy - The

17th Lok Sabha for the 1st time in history failed to elect a deputy speaker

(i) Violation of Constitution → provides for Deputy speaker as important officer of Lok Sabha.

(ii) Reduces the executive's accountability over legislature as in Deputy's absence Speaker nominated panel of Chairman dictates proceedings

(iii) US Page Committee highlighted importance of Deputy Speaker as a counter-balance to a biased Speaker

(iv) Reduces parliamentary efficiency as unprepared members preside over house in absence of Speaker

(v) Committee of not members resolutions becomes less effective - (e) In 17th Lok Sabha only 2 out of 729 Private bills discussed

Way forward → ① Make it mandatory to appoint Deputy Speaker

② Increase responsibilities of Deputy including representation in important committees

This Deputy Speaker's office is seque non in parliamentary democracy to maintain legitimacy of house

**Feedback**

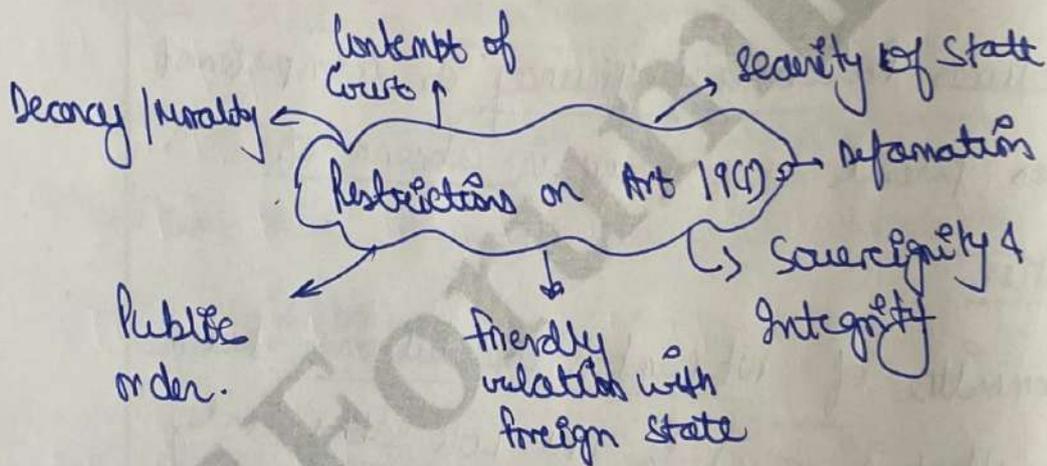
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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.14) Is the growing demand for stricter regulation of online content justified, or does it pose a threat to the right to freedom of speech and expression? Examine in light of recent judicial pronouncements. (15 marks, 250 words)

क्या ऑनलाइन सामग्री के सख्त नियमन की बढ़ती माँग उचित है, या यह अभिव्यक्ति की स्वतंत्रता के अधिकार के लिए खतरा है? हाल के न्यायिक निर्णयों के आलोक में इसका परीक्षण कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

The article 19(1) of the Constitution provides for freedom of speech & expression, however it is limited by certain constitutionally provided safeguards.



### Demand for Regulation Justified

(i) Preservation of social harmony & peace

eg → hate Twitter comment on "V daipura films" led to communal clashes.

(ii) Upholding societal values & culture.

Ex) Dully Bai app → Sharing of obscene pictures

(iii) uphold Harm principle ⇒ one man's freedom of expression should not violate other man's feelings

(iv) In line with Supreme Court's ruling in Ranjit udshi case (Hicklin test) & Auset

Sutter (Community standards test)

(v) social responsibility of social media intermediaries to protect its users under safe harbour guidelines

(vi) Ensuring national interest & foreign policy are protected

Ex) Seditious tweets during JNU Controversy

Ex) Counter Terrorist propoganda

Not Justified

(vii) Subjectivity of content → Some may find indecent / others may not

## Forum IAS

(vi) SC in Shreya Singh case highlighted chilling effect of ambiguous regulation on Freedom of Expression

(vii) Reduce Accountability of Government

(e) SC held PIB's fact checking unit unconstitutional

(iv) Impinges upon creative expression of artists

(e) Recent 'Samay Raina' Controversy

(v) May threaten right to livelihood (Olga Tellis case)

### Way Forward

(i) replace Hicklin & Community Standards with more appropriate tests

(ii) Create Independent regulator to oversee obscene content

(iii) Establish clear & transparent content guidelines

"First Amendment is the mother of all liberties". Thus a balanced & light regulation is required

Q.15) Critically examine the 'in-house procedure' adopted by the Apex Court to inquire into allegations of misconduct against judges of constitutional courts in India. (15 marks, 250 words)

भारत में संवैधानिक न्यायालयों के न्यायाधीशों के विरुद्ध कदाचार के आरोपों की जांच के लिए सर्वोच्च न्यायालय द्वारा अपनाई गई 'आंतरिक प्रक्रिया' का आलोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

The Supreme Court Chief Justice ordered an inhouse inquiry against a delhi High Court judge due to wash of wash recovered from his house.

Based on Bengaloe principles

(i) & restatement of values of judicial life.

Provision of  
In House  
Mechanism

(ii) Constituted by CJI or CJ of a high Court

(iii) Composed of 3 members

→ A Chief Justice of HC & 2 other neutral HC Judges

(iv) May recommend warning or mandatory resignation/retirement.

(v) May recommend impeachment to Parliament

### Merits of In House Proceedings

- (i) Judicial Members have requisite experience for adjudicating such cases
- (ii) For minor infractions where impeachment is not suitable.
- (iii) For inter-judiciary complaints
- (iv) Protects judicial independence in line with Art-50

### De-Merits of In House Proceedings

- (i) Goes against the principle of checks & balances
- (ii) Reduces public trust in Judiciary
- (iii) No Constitutional basis → created,

Operated & perpetrated by Judiciary  
(a) violation of Natural Justice → wrongdoing  
body becomes adjudicator.

Way forward

(i) Create Permanent discipline Committee for  
inquiring into minor infractions. (Law Commission)

(ii) Establish National Judicial Commission  
to investigate & adjudicate Misbehaviour  
(NCRWC/02)

(iii) Re-emphasise Bangalore principles &  
Statement of Judicial Values

Judiciary as a upholder & protector of  
Constitution must be held to even stricter  
standards of accountability

### 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			



Q.16) Recent controversies over alleged malpractices in the electoral rolls have renewed demands for the mandatory linkage of Aadhaar with Voter ID. What is your opinion? Give reasons in support of your answer. (15 marks, 250 words)

मतदाता सूची में कथित गड़बड़ियों को लेकर हाल ही में उठे विवादों ने आधार को मतदाता पहचान पत्र से अनिवार्य रूप से जोड़ने की माँग को फिर से बल दिया है। आपकी क्या राय है? अपने उत्तर के समर्थन में कारण बताएँ। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

The Election Amendment Act (2021) Called for  
Aadhar - Voter ID link to ensure free  
fair elections as promised under A-324

Merits of linking Aadhar & Voter ID

- (i) Rationalisation of voter list by removing duplicate votes
- (ii) Reliable authentication of votes due to biometric verification of Aadhar ⇒ will eliminate proxy voting
- (iii) Universal Coverage of Aadhar around 99.7% (UIDAI)

(iv) Reduces cost & Simplifies regular  
updates of Electoral roll

(v) Presently only Voluntary in nature thus  
in line with Consent.

### De-Merits of Aadhar - Voter Link

(i) will lead to "functional creep" of Aadhar  
in violation of Puttaswamy judgement.

(ii) Threat to privacy due to data leak  
Eg) Aadhar breach 123 - 81.5 cr account  
details leaked

(iii) Disfranchisement of around 30L  
votes especially in southern belts like Tamil  
Nadu

(iv) Around 12% error rate in Aadhar  
bio-verification (UIDAI)

(v) Against Free & fair elections → May lead to  voter surveillance by combining  demographic & voter ID information

(vi) Several Illegal Immigrants have an Aadhar ⇒ Even they may get added to electoral roll.

Way forward

(i) Ensure 100% accuracy of biometric before linking

(ii) Explore better alternatives such as block chain voting

(iii) wider stakeholder consultation before any decision

Elections are the greatest "signposts of a democracy"  
 Thus all necessary measures should be taken to ensure integrity of electoral process

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TOTAL MARKS

Q.17) Lateral entry into civil services is seen as a reformative step, yet it continues to attract criticism and controversy. Discuss. (15 marks, 250 words)

सिविल सेवाओं में पार्श्व प्रवेश (लेटरल एंट्री) को एक सुधारात्मक कदम के रूप में देखा जाता है, फिर भी यह आलोचना और विवाद को आकर्षित करता रहता है। चर्चा कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Lateral Entry refers to entry into civil services from outside fields at mid or Senior level.

### Lateral Entry - Reformative Step

- (i) Improves Expertise thus improving quality of Civil services (Montek Singh)
- (ii) Induces competition for career civil servants thus improving performance.
- (iii) Increased efficiency of civil servants due to involvement of subject matter experts.

(iv) Improved collaboration between govt, Civil Services & original field of lateral entrants

E.g.) Industry - govt collaboration

(v) Fulfill large scale vacancies in Civil Services ~ 2500 (Hota Committee)

### Criticism & Controversy

(i) short tenure of lateral entrants may not enable adequate impact

(ii) May lead to political cronyism & patronage appointments

E.g.) fix of give & take culture

(iii) No provision of reservation for vulnerable sections due to limited vacancies

(iv) Strong resistance by bureaucrats

Way forward

(i) Lateral Entry only at Ad-sec or Joint  
Sec level to allow sufficient powers

(ii) proper framework & authority to  
appoint to avoid cronyism

(iii) Adequate training to new entrants

new entrants

(a) Through Karmayogi Mission

(iv) regulatory clarity regarding  
reservations

Lateral Entry are a novel method to  
prevent monopolization of civil services  
in India & must be implemented with necessary  
safeguards

### Feedback

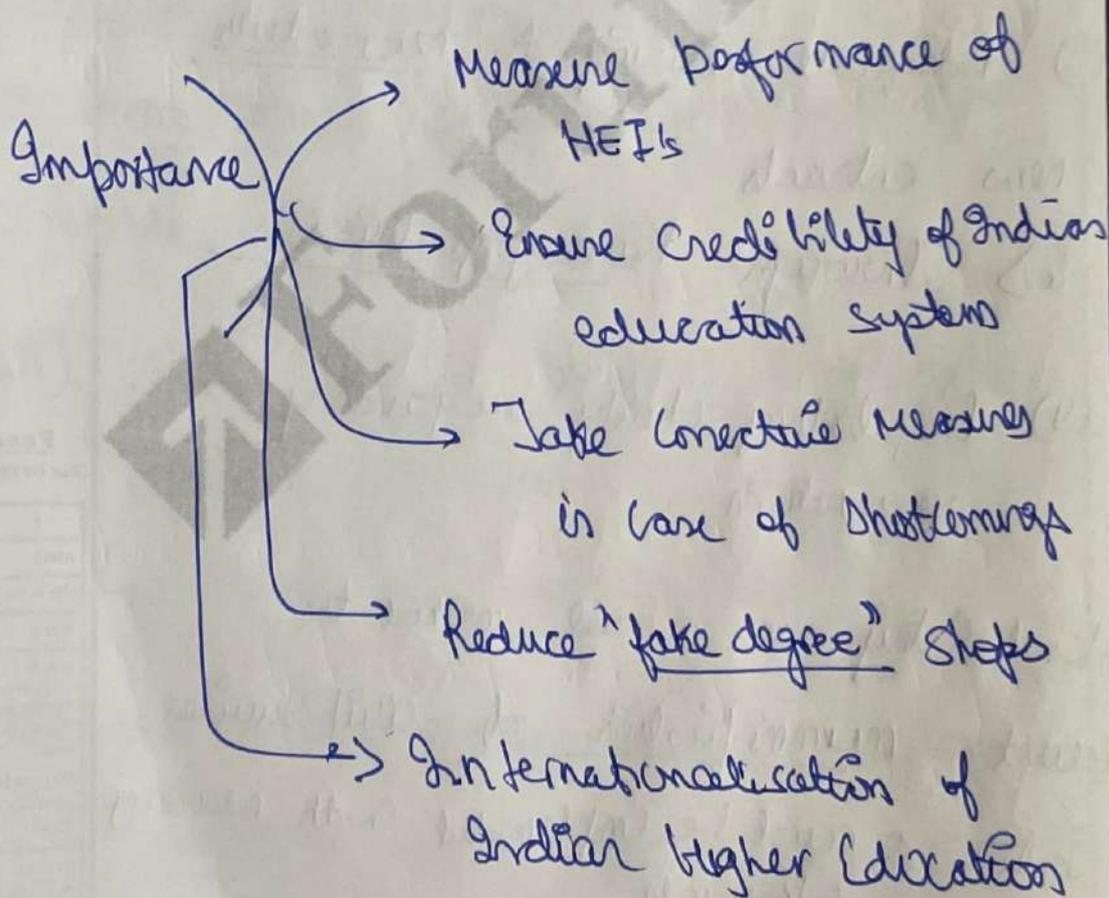
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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.18) While rankings aim to benchmark the performance of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), concerns remain about whether current ranking frameworks reflect the broader goals of education. Suggest measures to make the ranking system more objective, inclusive, and aligned with educational and societal outcomes.  
(15 marks, 250 words)

हालाँकि रैंकिंग का उद्देश्य उच्च शिक्षा संस्थानों (HEI) के प्रदर्शन का मूल्यांकन करना है, फिर भी इस बात को लेकर चिंता बनी हुई है कि क्या वर्तमान रैंकिंग ढाँचे शिक्षा के व्यापक लक्ष्यों को प्रतिबिंबित करते हैं। रैंकिंग प्रणाली को अधिक वस्तुनिष्ठ, समावेशी और शैक्षिक एवं सामाजिक परिणामों के अनुरूप बनाने के उपाय सुझाएँ।  
(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

In order to improve accreditation & standards of Indian Higher Education the government has created various ranking indices such as NIRF, NAAC etc.



## Problems with Current Framework

(i) Institutional Juggle → Several bodies  
such as - NAAC, NIRF, State level  
bodies etc

(ii) Allegation of bias → favouring  
central universities & premier institutes

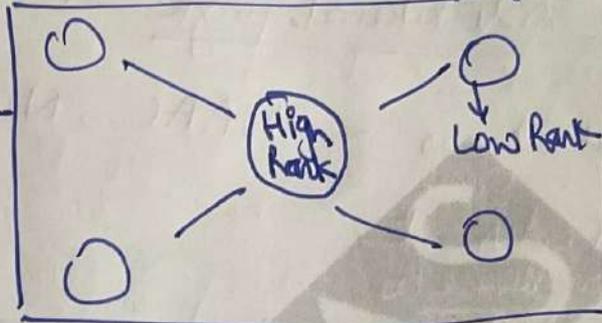
(iii) Inadequate Coverage - Only 39%  
universities have been accredited

(iv) Poor quality & outcomes of top rated  
institutions → e.g. No Indian institute  
in top 100 of QS World ranking.

## Measures Required

(i) Subsume all accrediting body under  
single National Board for accreditation

(ii) creation of Hub + Spoke model where higher ranked institutions act as hubs helping lower ranked institutions



2) PAIR Programme of National research foundation

(iii) Performance linked funding of universities (निर्ति आयोग)

(iv). Align standards with International metrics

(v). create independent autonomous body for ranking regularly.

These measures will enable us to achieve goal of becoming Ushwaguru in higher education

### Feedback

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

Q.19) Examine the factors behind the growing salience of the Arctic region in international politics. Discuss, in this context, strategies for India to recalibrate its Arctic engagement. (15 marks, 250 words)

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय राजनीति में आर्कटिक क्षेत्र की बढ़ती प्रमुखता के पीछे के कारकों का परीक्षण कीजिए। इस संदर्भ में, आर्कटिक में भारत की भागीदारी को पुनः संतुलित करने की रणनीतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

'Globally there has been a greater & growing interest in Arctic region especially due to increased glacial melting which will increase accessibility of Arctic.

### Growing salience of Arctic region

- (i) Rich in natural resources - predicted to have rich reserves of REB, & other critical minerals
- (ii) Rich in fossil fuels - (e) Russia's Siberia one of wealth in oil
- (iii) transit over critical lanes of shipping & sea trade → increases revenue through tolls, levies etc

(iv). Enhance Maritime Power & Control over Northern Sea

(v). Scientific Importance of Arctic region  
Such as study of climate change, impact of melting etc.

Strategy for India To Reclaim Arctic Engagement

(i) Increase engagement in Arctic Council  
established through Swalbard treaty

(ii) Using unmanned stations like Umanadze  
to stake greater claim in Arctic  
scientific research.

(iii). Leverage good ties with Russia &  
Scandinavian countries to improve  
visibility in Arctic

(iv) Arctic Engagement through space technology

e.g.) launch satellite like NISAR to study  
changing Arctic region

(v) Form dedicated Arctic team in Ministry  
of External affairs and Earth sciences.

As the Arctic is expected to be ice free by  
2070 there is an urgent need of India to  
improve its diplomacy with countries in  
Arctic

**Feedback**

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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.20) Bangladesh is a key pillar of India's Neighborhood First policy, but recent developments on both sides threaten to disrupt the 'Sonalī Adhyay' in bilateral relations. Analyze. (15 marks, 250 words)

बांग्लादेश भारत की "पड़ोसी प्रथम" नीति का एक प्रमुख स्तंभ है, लेकिन दोनों पक्षों के हालिया घटनाक्रमों से द्विपक्षीय संबंधों में 'सोनाली अध्याय' के टूटने का खतरा है। विश्लेषण करें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

"You can change Friends, Not Neighbours" - Atal Bihari Vajpayee

India & Bangladesh share a boundary of 4096 km and share a close historic & strategic ties rooted in India's involvement in liberation of Bangladesh (1971)

Bangladesh - A Key Pillar of Neighbourhood First

① Geopolitical Importance

1) Counter growing rise of China in the region - (e) Acquired Chittagong port development tender

2) Realise India's goal of regional leadership & leader of global South

## ② Economic Importance

2.1) Bilateral trade of \$ 15 Bn highest amongst  
South Asian partners

2.2) undertake key infrastructure projects such  
as Kaladan, Akhaura rail link etc

## ③ Security Importance

3.1) counter illegal immigration into India

3.2) reduce radicalisation against India

## ④ Cultural

4.1) Enhance India's soft power in region

4.2) collaborate on conservation of  
Sunderban project

## Recent Developments Creating Challenges

(i). Political instability in Bangladesh.  
Cause of Anti India sentiments

(ii) Disagreement of value sharing especially  
regarding Jeeba

(iii) Rise of illegal immigration & India's  
deportation

(iv) Jamaat & Islamic rise leading to  
extremism & human rights violation

(v) Use of excessive force by Border security  
force

Way forward

(i) Increase dialogue with new govt

(ii) Increase trade integration

(iii) Creation of integrated check points to  
reduce illegal immigration

India can not be a rising power & ignore  
the region it is rising in - S. Jaishankar