

TEST CODE 6 1 2 3 0 1

ForumIAS MGP-2023 - Cohort-13 Alt - GS Paper 2 FLT #2

Time Allowed : Three Hours

समय : तीन घंटे

ForumIAS 2023

Maximum Marks : 250

अधिकतम अंक : 250

GENERAL STUDIES / सामान्य अध्ययन

Name Of Candidate

परीक्षार्थी का नाम

Shubham Behere

Roll No./अनुक्रमांक

1910129864

Medium/माध्यम

English हिंदी

Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र

Date/दिनांक

26/8/2023

*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		
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Total/कुल अंक	250	

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।

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।

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।

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।

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 :

End Time/समाप्त करने का समय :

15:00

18:00

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 समग्र रूप किसी अन्य विषय पत्र, जो मूल्यांकन कर्ता को आपकी कॉपी में पसंद आये के आधार पर (लेकिन इन्हीं तक सीमित नहीं) पर दिए गए अंक हैं।

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ECN CODE/
ईसीएन कोड :

EG/ईजी :

Evaluation Date/
मूल्यांकन तिथि :

① ② ③ ④ ⑤

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)

→ In democracy, media and journalism is called as Fourth Estate. ~~along~~ It is the high importance given to media and press on par with executive, legislature and judiciary who are called as first three pillars of democracy.

Press is a important stakeholder in democracy and helps citizens to hold government accountable for its liabilities and it is also a medium of social transformation.

Role of Press

- ① Accountability of government to the citizens and the constitution
- ② Transparency and honesty in governance
- ③ Medium of social education by promoting values of liberty, equality and fraternity

④ Vanguard of right of freedom to speech and expression which forms a fundamental part of democratic system

⑤ Spread awareness amongst the society

issues affecting press freedom in India

① Corporate Control : Many press and media houses owned by corporates who stifle free speech and impartiality.

② Political pressure on journalists and press owners to report official versions.

③ Commercial attitude of profit seeking is increasing

④ Use of Sedition law and official secrets law against journalists e.g. Mohandas case, JJK

⑤ Banning on social media accounts of journalists and media houses by government

All these issues have led to decrease in press freedom in India

Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

	G	A	P
AWIS			
CD & VA			
S & F			
P & R			

Please put tick marks in the above table.

Here G is Good, A is 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)

Indian electoral process is praised all over the world for its huge size and efficiency along with neutrality

Free and fair elections are the cornerstone of any democracy and Indian democracy draws the legitimacy and consent of people from the process of elections

In India, ECE ensures conduct of free and fair elections that are highlighted by its inclusionary nature. India has given constitutional right to vote to every citizen over 18 years irrespective of caste, class, place of birth, sex etc

Multi party democracy with parties having multitude of ideologies and interests

is ~~one~~ there in Indian electoral system. This denotes the inclusionary nature of the system but in practice many people cannot exercise their right to vote freely and openly due to factors like

- ① Migration and informal employment due to which poor not able to take a day off to go and vote
- ② Women not encouraged to vote or forced to vote as per the wishes of male member of family
- ③ Tribals and marginalised people living in forests and hills find it difficult to vote

Indian electoral system is plagued by the underrepresentation of women at higher level. Only 8% women MPs for 50% population. Voting percentage for women is also lower than men in many areas.

All these factors highlight that the electoral system needs to be reformed to make it more inclusive and accessible

Feedback

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CD & VA			
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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.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)

→ Human dignity was given by Immanuel Kant where he said that the every man is morally equal by the natural fact that he is a human being and we must not treat people as means to an end rather we must respect everyone's identity and dignity.

Death penalty as a punishment for crimes has been a controversial topic. as many argue that it goes against fundamental right to life of every human. No one can deprive a person of his life and it is a natural right of that person given to him due to his existence as a human beings.

In favour of capital punishment

- ① For heinous crimes like rape and murder capital crime act as a deterrent
- ② Loss of life can ^{only} be counterbalanced by taking the right to life of criminal.
- ③ Criminals doing crimes like rape do not deserve human dignity as they have shown animalistic tendencies.

Opposed to Capital punishment

- ① To 'court of law' has right to take away the life on anyone which is a natural right
- ② Death penalty has not resulted in decrease in rape and murder cases in the country.
- ③ Criminal justice should be based on reform and rehabilitation rather than punishment

There is need to consult experts and multiple stakeholders to study the relevancy and need of death penalty

Feedback

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CD & VA			
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Please put tick marks in the above table.

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TOTAL MARKS

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)

→ Inter state river disputes Act, 1956 was brought to provide a legal and institutional mechanism to solve the issues of distribution of water resources of interstate rivers that arised due to redistribution of states in 1956

It provides for the formation of tribunal to adjudicate on the issues of inter-state river disputes and bars the involvement of courts in the matter.

Issues with ISUP Act 1956 :-

- ① Not different from courts as tribunals are purely made up serving judges
- ② Tribunals take a very long time to give award e.g. Kanvery dispute
- ③ Awards not enforceable as state governments do not accept it.

④ Due to emergence of regional parties, consensus on interstate disputes has become difficult.

Impacts of delays in resolution of water disputes

- ① Water Scarcity - Due to improper management of resources
- ② Cost overrun - for the projects that are disputed and stayed by courts.
- ③ Social tensions - Between neighbouring communities due to political excitement
- ④ Breakdown of federalism - combative federalism rather than cooperative federalism
- ⑤ Court intervention - Judiciary has to intervene as tribunals failing to deliver eg. Kaveri dispute
- ⑥ Weak disaster response : in case of floods or draughts as states not willing to cooperate

Inter state River disputes should be seen with non-political eyes and new amendment is to be passed to increase efficiency of tribunals

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS	
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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)

→ India is a predominantly rural country. Nearly 60% of population lives in villages and 54% of them is engaged in agriculture. But this large section of population contributes only 20% to the GDP. This data shows the extent of rural underdevelopment and poverty in India.

To combat rural underdevelopment and ensure sustainable and inclusive economic growth, a participatory approach to development is needed.

Cooperative model of development scales participation of the rural stakeholders through cooperative institutions like SHG, FPOs, cooperative banks (PACS), etc. This cooperatives encourage people to come together to pool resources and capital to minimize the risk and ensure inclusive growth.

Significance of cooperative model

- ① Less financial burden on Govt. → By ensuring the inclusion of people's saving on cooperative basis, direct financial burden on govt is reduced
- ② Participatory and decentralised planning and execution as cooperatives consist of local people familiar with local problems.
- ③ Less Risk of defaults as incentives banking sector to give more credit to cooperatives. increasing rural credit
- ④ Inclusive growth as marginal farmers and landless labourers get access to ~~the~~ community resources and capital through cooperatives
- ⑤ Gender empowerment through women cooperative groups like SUGS to ensure financial and social freedom

Cooperative model of development is a inclusive and sustainable method to ensure a holistic growth in rural India

Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

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Please put tick marks in the above table.

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TOTAL MARKS

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)

Welfare state is a government where state through its legal and institutional interventions tries to minimize or eliminate the inherent inequality faced by marginalised section of society. Welfare state implies equality of opportunity and maximum advantage to most disadvantaged section of the society.

Modern welfare state achieve equality through ways like affirmative action, targeted subsidies, free and government funded health and education facilities etc.

According to WB, good governance includes features like consensus, participation, effectiveness and empathy. A welfare states effectiveness can be determined by the impact

It lies on the economic and social conditions of the people welfare should not only be procedural but its success should be determined by the outcomes of welfare

Particularly vulnerable tribal groups (PVTG) in India are one of most disadvantaged people PVTG development plan to uplift them through

- ① Providing alternate skill development through PM - skill development scheme
- ② Improving health indicators by providing and improving public health infrastructure
- ③ Education for tribal children at free of cost
- ④ In sustainable development in tribal areas through participatory planning.

PVTG faced poverty, unemployment and discrimination and governments forged welfare programme plans to ensure their holistic, inclusive and sustainable development

Feedback

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#	G	A	P
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Please put tick marks in the above table.

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TOTAL MARKS	
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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 Organizations (CSO) are groups of private citizens, experts & social workers that represent the interests of certain marginalised section or advocating for a certain common goal or purpose.

e.g. Internet Freedom Foundation for internet freedom and Right to Privacy, SEWA for women empowerment, PVLL for civil rights etc

India suffers acute poverty and malnutrition problems. According to NFHS-IV data 13% of children in India suffer from undernourishment and 21% of people suffer from poverty with much more people vulnerable to poverty.

To combat poverty and malnourishment state needs a targeted, expert advised and sustained approach that not only involves planning and financing but also extensive

groundwork to ensure proper implementation. CSO can help state in following ways

- ① CSO can provide data by surveys collected by them to the government which can be used to improve policy making and outcomes
- ② CSO provide expertise to the government civil servants who often lack domain specific knowledge
- ③ Multiple CSO represent multiple sections of people by collaborating with them through a consensus based approach government can ensure a proper poverty alleviation programme
- ④ Nutrition security can be ensured through SHG and NGO to provide nutritious food to children and poor mothers. increase awareness amongst

Poverty alleviation and nutrition security is a collaborative effort - and can only be done through comprehensive cooperation between civil society and the state

Feedback

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Please put tick marks in the above table.
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TOTAL MARKS	
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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 is experiencing a rapid economic growth at a macro level. IMF has predicted that it will become a 3rd largest economy by 2030. As it achieves economic growth, it is still plagued by lack of human development due to unequal nature of growth and high burden of population.

Social infrastructure is an important part of achieving holistic human development.

Social infrastructure consists of health-care facilities, education and skill development opportunities, safe and sustainable transport etc.

India suffers from lack of robust social infrastructure. Due to this even if it

achieves is target of bigger economy. The benefits of this growth will not be converted into better life conditions and income for many.

Challenges due to lack of social infrastructure

- ① Inequal benefits of growth - Only certain section of people can avail health and education benefits due to lack of public social infrastructure
- ② Regional imbalance in growth and development in the regions with absence of social infrastructure
- ③ Lack of government and social support to lower and marginalised section will result in loss of productivity

Social infrastructure is necessary to ensure an equitable and sustainable economic growth target by 2047

Feedback

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Please put tick marks in the above table.
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TOTAL MARKS

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)

→ West Asia is a region consisting of Arab countries rich in mineral resources. They also form a important part of global supply chain due to Mediterranean sea and Suez canal.

India is a major beneficiary and importer of oil and gas from West Asian countries like Iraq, UAE and Iran.

India's energy security is heavily dependent on the availability of oil and gas from West Asia. So it is imperative for

India that the otherwise restive region plagued with terrorism and sectarian conflicts remains peaceful.

In recent years, there have been a relative peace in West Asia due to following reasons

- ① End of Syrian Civil War as bidders have mostly stabilized
- ② elimination of ISIS
- ③ Abraham Accords between Israel and Arab countries
- ④ Iran and Saudi Arabia Peace talks etc

Benefits to India

- ① Stability in oil and gas supply
- ② Lower crude oil prices
- ③ Market for Indian exports
- ④ Safety of large Indian diaspora
- ⑤ Stable west Asia will control terrorism in the region

West Asia forms a important part of India's strategy of economic growth and stability and peaceful west Asia will be helpful in increasing India's influence and footprint in the region

Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

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Please put tick marks in the above table.
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TOTAL MARKS

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)

Water is a contentious topic world-wide as it is often said that water resources (rivers) know no man made boundaries. While countries can claim sovereignty over other natural resources in their borders, they cannot do so for rivers and lakes as they flow through multiple countries.

Water disputes are prominent feature in world politics and have led to frequent frictions between neighbouring countries over the use of water resources and management of river basins. eg. India - Bangladesh, India - Pakistan over Indus River, Mekong River etc

Water diplomacy in South Asia forms a important vector of dialogue and

Cooperation in the region -

India - Bangladesh have achieved a significant success in resolving water dispute over Ganga and Teesta through state and cooperative water diplomacy.

Though talks between India & Pakistan have broken down, water diplomacy through

Indus Water Treaty, 1960 provides a unique

avenue for both countries for dialogue.

Recently, Pakistan and India are engaged in legal battle regarding building of dams on the upper reaches of tributaries of

Indus

In such times, water diplomacy and

Indus Water Treaty provides a alternate

route of dialogue to India and

Pakistan

Feedback

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	G	A	P
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CD & VA			
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Please put tick marks in the above table.
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TOTAL MARKS

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)

Local governance and Panchayats were given constitutional backing by 73rd and 74th CAA in 1992. It led to establishment of institutional mechanisms for founding and functioning of Panchayats in India. Still the Panchayat system is plagued with the problems of funds, functions and functionaries.

As per Manohar Lal Khattar committee Panchayats has resulted in decentralisation corruption rather than decentralisation of governance.

Challenges to local governance

① Finance - Local governments is the state matter and states are themselves dependent on centre for funds make them reluctant to fund Panchayats. Also, No scope

for tax other central taxes and indirect taxes. This has resulted in no revenue stream for many local governance institutions.

- ② Delegation of functions - out of all the listed functions in 11th & 12th schedule, state governments have made very few functions to the local governments thereby the purpose of the act.
- ③ Indifferent Bureaucracy - Bureaucracy is indifferent to the demands of local representatives and local issues and acts in rigid manners while planning and fund release.
- ④ Corruption - Bureaucrat-politician nexus has resulted in increased corruption at local level.
- ⑤ Lack of skill and training - local representatives lack knowledge of planning and development, making them dependent on bureaucrats.
- ⑥ No significant independent revenue source and

Local institutions have to depend on the grants and loans from state government

⑦ Parallel schemes : Funds are given

through special purpose vehicles or some scheme of central government reducing local participation and freedom with planning and finance

⑧ Lack of Infrastructure - Many gram panchayats

lack basic facilities like computers. Some gram panchayats don't even have buildings or office

⑨ Feudal society In rural area politics still

dominated by upper castes which prevents participation of marginalised section weakening the democratisation of local governance

These structural deficiencies will only be removed by the combined efforts of Government, Bureaucracy and Society

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.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)

As per the constitutional, independent judiciary is one of the most important purpose of the constitution makers. Constitution through various provisions has given extraordinary powers to the judiciary to make it one of most powerful judiciary in the world.

Provisions in constitution for independent judiciary..

① Judicial review extraordinary power of judicial review through article 13 that enables judiciary to declare any act, law, order of the government as unlawful.

② Power of interpretation of constitution given to judiciary to protect the vision of

Constitution makers.

- ③ Federal court of law to adjudicate in the disputes involving central and state government
- ④ Protector of fundamental rights :- writ petition through article 32 gives power to judiciary to ensure the enforcement of fundamental rights
- ⑤ Selection process for judges to be done in consultation of judiciary only
- ⑥ Along with these provision, constitution has ensured that judiciary will be able to hold executive accountable for its action and protect the sanctity of the constitution and the rights of the people from executive overreach.

Issues of executive encroachment

- ① In pursuance of its role as protector of rights and interpreter of constitution, judiciary has acted ardently to restrict government

As time has resulted in the change of executive overreach by judiciary. Pratap Bhanu Mehta criticizes judiciary for being a self perpetuating, paradoxical and political institution - Effects of overreach.

- ① Just: Decrease in efficiency as many cases of appeal remain pending in courts due to divergence of resources and time to political cases
- ② Delay in justice for normal citizens
- ③ Politicisation of judiciary and judges giving rise to ideological partiality and corruption
- ④ Judiciary neither has expertise nor resources to act as executive, results in inefficient decisions.
- ⑤ Disturbs the notion of separation of power as given in the constitution

This leads to decrease in credibility of the judiciary and decrease in efficiency of its judicial functions.

Feedback
(For OFFICE use only)

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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)

Executive agencies act as an instrument of state to ensure the rule of law and prevent corruption, crime and terrorism in country. Executive agencies provide expertise to the government action while acting against violators of law.

Agencies like CBI, NIA, EB, NCB, CVC are backbone of law enforcement and corruption prevention in the country.

They are given special powers by the law to investigate and prosecute corrupt civil servants and government members.

But since their inception these agencies have been used as an

political tool by the ruling government against its political opponents and civil society

When executive agencies act in impartial manner pandering to vested interests of the ruling party, it resulted in erosion of trust and loss of

legitimacy in the minds of citizens.

It affects the professionalism and efficiency of the agencies, affecting their primary goal of prevention of corruption.

Rather than preventing corruption, it promotes corruption through the linkages between ruling party and investigation officers.

By applying the law in a biased way, it violates the principle of equality of law enshrined in the constitution of India.

Recent ED has been under special focus with various political parties and civil society members accusing it of acting in favour of government. For example-

- ① ED has been used disproportionately in opposition ruled states, compared to ruling party states
- ② Low rate of conviction - since 2016 ED has only 3% conviction rates in offences of corruption. It is argued that people close to ruling party are not convicted
- ③ Extension of Director Supreme court recently disallowed extension of director of ED without valid reasons
- ④ All these examples highlight the increasing politicisation of executive organs which can prove to be detrimental to the democratic values of equality of law and separation of power

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.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 of Women (NCW) was established on the recommendations of the 1974 report "Understanding Women" which led focused on the subordination and patriarchy faced by the women in India.

NCW is a six member body that is constituted by central government to ensure ~~that~~ the economic and social upliftment of women.

Role of NCW

- ① Investigate the acts of discrimination or violence against the women. It has power of civil court for this function.
- ② Ensure that the policy for the women is in accordance with the constitutional provisions and the international norms of women's rights.

③ Study the condition of women in the country in social, economic and political sphere and recommended the action or policy measures to improve the condition of women.

④ :

Issues with NCW structure and role

① Dependent on government for funds making it subordinate to the government policies

② Political appointments of members and chairpersons diluting the efficiency of the commission.

③ Lack of expertise and experience amongst the members of NCW regarding the issues of the women

④ Recommendations of the commission are not mandatory on state or

Central ~~govern~~ governments.

⑤ Tenure depends on the pleasure of the ruling government, hence NCA falls to hold government accountable for its actions

⑥ Lack of support and conflict with Ministry of women and child welfare regarding various issues of women

NCA is an important structural feature of government and it should be empowered by giving it more independence, financing, autonomy and expertise to ensure that it proves instrumental in social and economic upliftment of women in country

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.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)

National multidimensional poverty index introduced by NITI Aayog is based on the MPI published by UNDP. It includes 12 parameters in place of 10 parameters of global MPI.

Indian MPI includes Maternal health & financial inclusion in addition to health, education and living standards or income.

Features of NITI Aayog report

- ① MPI decreased to 14.96% in 2019-21 report compared to 24% in 2015-16
- ② Improvement in access to parameters like cooking fuel, sanitation, drinking water and bank accounts

But it has also highlighted challenges with Poverty in India as follows :

- ① Some states are very poor compared to others. Regional imbalance in poverty.
Bihar has 1/3rd population that is multidimensionally poor
- ② Though gross enrollment ratio has increased, parameters like access to higher education and year of schooling are critical
- ③ Nearly 30% population faces nutritional insecurity. Due to this malnutrition and food insecurity is widespread
- ④ Though there has been a significant increase in the people out of poverty, many are still vulnerable to poverty and MPE can increase substantially due to shocks like recession or pandemic

Way forward

- ① Data collection and monitoring to better assess poverty and its extent, distribution amongst the society
- ② Data driven and participatory poverty alleviation programmes to ensure better policy outcomes
- ③ Nutrition security to be provided by improving and diversifying, PDS mechanism
- ④ Water access and sanitation through schemes like TJM and awareness
- ⑤ Quality education to be provided at free of cost through public schools
- ⑥ Upgrade health infra in rural areas

MPI is a serious issue, and multi-dimensional poverty can be minimized only through a comprehensive approach that considers both the quality and quantity of poverty

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	
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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 the important feature of democratic system. They act as interest aggregators, political educators and tools of generating consent of the people towards the legitimacy and authority of the state.

In a representative democracy, political parties act as a competing interest groups to acquire the share of power.

In India, which is a multiparty democracy, the culture of political parties is widespread and deeprooted.

But political parties in India are essentially the reflection of traditional interest groups in the society like caste, region, religion etc.

Also, political parties are product of modernisation and in a traditional and overdeveloped country like India these unique arrangement of modern political system with traditional society has resulted in many challenges to political parties, as follows

- ① Lack of defined ideology : Many political parties are parties of convenience and product of social realities rather than guided by ideologies making them vulnerable to dynamic changes in the society
- ② Division on caste and religion : Indian Society divided on the caste and religion ~~make~~ restricting the base of many political parties to specific castes and regions.
- ③ Defections of members from one party to another in quest of power leads to instability and corruption

④ Lack of Intraparty democracy in parties
stifles the use of grassroots leaders

⑤ Feudal structure dominated by blood relations and caste still dominant in many parties
Preventing common worker to rise in party ranks as evident from many family owned regional parties

Christophe Jafferalot calls Indian political parties as modern structures with traditional processes and institutions.

Due to all these reasons, political parties in India have remained narrow in their base, and rigid in their ideology. It has resulted in the absence of democracy in the party leading them to family owned and restricted

by narrow interests like caste, religion and region. This has proved to be detrimental to the process of democratisation in the society.

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	
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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 plans to make household drinking water connection available to every village and family of India by 2024.

As per the goals of JJM, government plans to build a infrastructure of Storage, Transport, purification and monitoring of water supply in all parts of India.

Water is a essential need of health and livelihood and rural India will benefit largely due to the routine and safe availability of drinking water

Benefits of JJM

① Reduce hardships of rural women who

On average spend 30 minutes everyday in search of water

- ② Gender empowerment as women can use free time for skill development and other functions
- ③ Improved health indicators - safe and hygienic water will result in decrease on incidence of waterborne diseases amongst rural poor. Also decrease diarrhea which is a major cause of mortality in infants in rural area.
- ④ Availability of water at school and other public places will improve sanitation and hygiene in common places, which will lead to improvement in overall quality of life.
- ⑤ Cognitive development of children as they will have safe and assured access to drinking water and sanitation improving their health indicators and learning outcomes

Challenges to JJM

① Slow pace of implementation 100%.

access target moved from 2022 to 2024 due to slow pace

② Water scarcity in many areas of the country due to lack of water resource development and droughts.

③ Maintenance issues for pipelines, pumping stations and purification plants.

④ Absence of mechanism for water quality monitoring and control

⑤ Lack of funds from the states for the implementation of the scheme

Safe and assured drinking water is the human right of every citizen and government must ensure at earliest to achieve the goals of JJM.

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.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)

→ Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe act 1989 also called as atrocities act was passed to ensure the dignity of the SC-ST people and criminalise the discrimination and exploitation of the marginalised section of the society.

Indian Society is plagued by the fundamental disability of caste and caste has outsized effect on the every aspect of life in India. In such a case acts like atrocities act are supposed to ensure the wellbeing and human dignity of the members of SC-ST community.

Features of SC-ST act

① Establishment of special criminal code and criminalisation of discrimination against the SC-ST

② Establishment of special courts to hear matters of atrocity act.

③

But the act remains a mere legal instrument without the comprehensive participation and transformation of the civil society.

Issues with implementation of act

① Caste solidarity strong in civil society. Social transformation movements must be arranged to bridge gaps between different castes.

② Better and inclusive training to public functionaries like civil servants to make them aware of problems and sensitivities of the members of lower castes.

③ Legal ~~decisions~~ criminalisation must be backed with social punishment to the perpetrators of discrimination

④ Political use of caste has increased, which has resulted in the increasing division on the basis of caste lines. Therefore decriminalisation of politics is necessary to ensure removal of discrimination against SC ST

⑤ Awareness against atrocities included in the education from primary level to make children aware of caste discrimination and increase cohesion in the society

SC-ST act is just a reactionary method, to fight caste discrimination, it must be backed by preventative and pre-emptive methods like education, enlightenment and representation to SC-ST to ensure its effectiveness

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.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 हैं। व्याख्या कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

India - Africa ties have undergone a big shift as India is emerging fast as a major economy and Africa is trying to diversify its trade and strategic partners.

India Africa ties are rooted in ancient times when east coast of Africa traded with India for spice and diamonds.

They are also made stronger and democratic by the large and influential Indian diaspora in many African countries.

In recent times, India is trying to take its place as a leader of global South advocating for world institutions and system focused more on the problems of less developed countries like food security, climate change, technology transfer, free trade etc.

India is positioning itself as a leader of global south in multinational institutions like G-20, UNSC, UN assembly, IMF, WTO etc. This has naturally resulted into increased co-operation between India and Africa.

Measure features of Indo-Africa relationship:

- ① Climate change: African countries most affected by climate change due to their poverty and position. and India actively leading global south in UNFCCC for differential treatment
- ② Trade relations - India major trading partner of many countries after china
- ③ Developmental assistance by India to African countries to counterbalance Chinese influence and avenues of investment for Indian capital eg. IIT in Mozambique etc
- ④ Resource rich Africa solution to India's problem of resource like minerals and oil

- ⑤ Post-colonial solidarity
- ⑥ Strong people to people ties due to diaspora and Indian soft power.

India - Africa relationship is beneficial to both as India gains market for its products and source for natural resources, it also helps

India counterbalance Chinese influence in Indian Ocean. while Africa can get employment and investment through Indian projects. Indian leadership and championship for issues like food security, resource utilisation, climate justice, agriculture and finance in institutions like IMF, WTO & UNCTAD helps Africa in multiple ways

Hence, it can be said that India Africa ties are a beacon of inclusive, sustainable and equitable world.

Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

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

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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)

ASEAN is the organisation of eleven southeast Asian countries which form large chunk of world trade, GDP and population

Indo pacific is fastly emerging as a centre of global geopolitical happenings due to increase rivalry between china and USA. As china is trying to increase its influence through trade, military power and political arrangements, USA is trying to preserve its hegemony in the Indo-Pacific region by rebranding and reorienting its partnerships and strategy. India also has a large stake in Indo-Pacific not only as a outsider but it presents a large opportunity for India to emerge as a primary partner of

Indo-pacific nations like Ascon and islands that are seeking for strategic autonomy and neutrality in US - China conflict. India has unique geographic position, economical help and historical goodwill to counterbalance both USA and Chinese attempts to influence Indo-pacific region.

Ascon centrality refers to the notion that the South-east Asian countries are true stakeholders to any issue in Indo-pacific rather than outside powers. By increasing its engagement with Ascon nations through trade and ASEAN-India summit India can help Ascon countries solve the dilemma of taking sides in USA - China conflict while also reaping benefits for itself.

Similarly, many Indo-pacific island nations like Fiji, Solomon Islands, PNG also

face the same dilemma and India through providing developmental assistance and voice to them in global platform can gain influence with them. e.g. PNG PM called India as a leader of global South

But the major point of contention is the notion of Indo-pacific itself which many countries in SE-Asia think that is unnecessary and decreases their major force. They argue to call it as Asia-Pacific rather than Indo-pacific betting for Asian centrality and space for strategic maneuvering - so it is

necessary that India engages with Indo-pacific countries free from the influence of USA or the fear of China to fully utilize and optimize the relationship and role of India with regards to Indo-pacific

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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Mentor Feedback Questions

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Test Goal

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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.

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