

TEST CODE 8 1 2 4 2 6

MGP-2025

Time Allowed : Three Hours
समय : तीन घंटे

Forum IAS

Maximum Marks : 250
अधिकतम अंक : 250

GENERAL STUDIES / सामान्य अध्ययन

Name Of Candidate परीक्षार्थी का नाम	KIRAN. KAMATE		
Roll No./अनुक्रमांक	1910086644	Medium/माध्यम	English <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> हिंदी <input type="checkbox"/>
Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र	1901	Date/दिनांक	09.08.25

*Center Code : For Online - 1900 / Delhi : Karol bagh - 1901, ORN - 1902, Mukharji Nagar - 1903 / Patna : Boring Rd. - 2001 / Hyderabad : Jawahar Nagar - 2101

INDEX TABLE / अनुक्रमणिका			INSTRUCTION / अनुदेश	
Q. No. प्र.सं.	Max. Marks अधिकतम अंक	Marks Obtained प्राप्तांक	1. Please do furnish Name, Email, Roll No and Mobile in the answer sheet. कृपया उत्तर-पुस्तिका में नाम, ईमेल, रोल नंबर और मोबाइल नंबर भरें।	
1			2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI, all questions are compulsory. उत्तर पुस्तिका में अंग्रेजी/हिंदी में बीस प्रश्न दिए गए हैं, सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।	
2			3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के लिए निर्धारित अंक उसके सामने अंकित किए गए हैं।	
3			4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. उत्तर प्रवेश पत्र में अधिकृत माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए, जो कि दिए गए स्थान में इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के कवर पर स्पष्ट रूप से लिखा जाना चाहिए।	
4			5. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum Answer Booklet must be clearly Struck off. प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, यदि निर्दिष्ट हो, का पालन किया जाए। प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़े गये किसी भी पृष्ठ या पृष्ठ के भाग को स्पष्ट रूप से काट दें।	
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Total/कुल अंक	250		For Student Only / केवल परीक्षार्थी प्रयोग हेतु	
Examiner's Discretion/मूल्यांकन कर्ता का विवेक :			Start Time/प्रारंभ करने का समय : 2:30 PM	End Time/समाप्त करने का समय : 5:30 PM
Total Marks/कुल अंक :			Mode Of Examination/ परीक्षा की विधि : offline	Online/ऑनलाइन <input type="checkbox"/> Offline/ऑफलाइन <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
*Examiner's Discretion is the marks awarded at the discretion of the examiner based on your overall impression, on the basis of (but not limited to) your handwriting, presentation, use of diagrams, flowcharts, facts and figures or absolutely anything that he/she liked in your copy. मूल्यांकन कर्ता का विवेक अंक, आपकी लिखावट, प्रस्तुति, आरेखों के उपयोग, फ्लोचार्ट, तथ्यों और आंकड़ों या समग्र रूप किसी अन्य विषय वस्तु, जो मूल्यांकन कर्ता को आपकी कॉपी में पसंद आयी के आधार पर (लेकिन इन्हीं तक सीमित नहीं) पर दिए गए अंक हैं।			For Office Use Only / केवल कार्यालय प्रयोग हेतु	
			ECN CODE/ ईसीएन कोड :	EG/ईजी : ① ② ③ ④ ⑤
				Evaluation Date/ मूल्यांकन तिथि :

Note: Students are expected to incorporate suggestions from the feedback 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. 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 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.

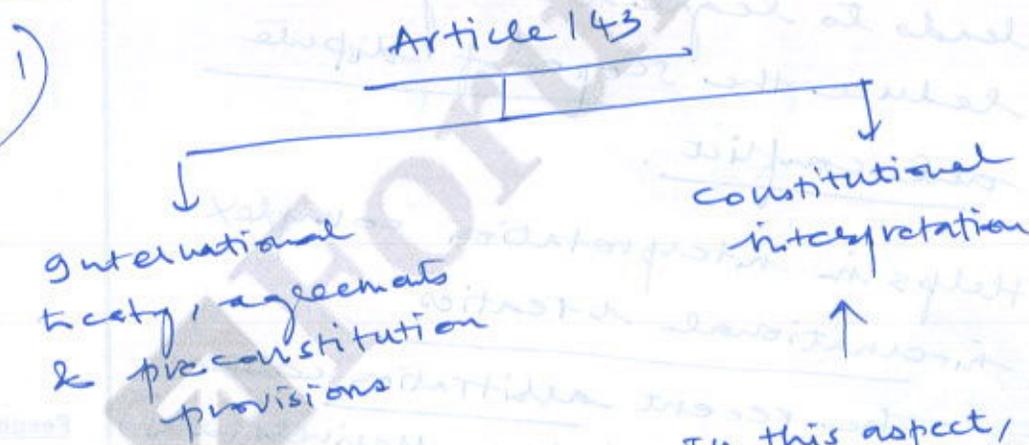


Q.1) Examine the scope and significance of the Supreme Court's advisory jurisdiction under Article 143 of the Constitution. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

संविधान के अनुच्छेद 143 के तहत सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के परामर्शदात्री क्षेत्राधिकार के दायरे और महत्व का परीक्षण करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Article 143 provides for the President to seek advisory on 'constitutional silences' from the Supreme court.

scope of SC's advisory jurisdiction



2) the SC is bound to give its advisory

In this aspect, it may (or) may not tender its opinion

3) The advice so given to president, is recommendatory only, not binding

Significance

1. address the constitutional silence

eg) The recent seek of clarity by President MURMU regarding the Article 142 given by SC in (TN Governor case)

2. It helps in averting and addressing the 'executive interregnum'

3. leads to legal clarity and reduce the scope of dispute and conflict.

4. Helps in interpretation complex international treaties

eg) The recent arbitration case related to Italian Nationals (2021)

Thus, article 143 provides for SC advisory jurisdiction and forms a crucial role in SC as the ultimate interpreter of the constitution.

Feedback

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#	G	A	P
AWIS			
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			



Q.2) What is delimitation, and why is it important? What challenges are associated with the delimitation exercise in India? (10 marks, 150 words)

परिसीमन से क्या तात्पर्य है और यह क्यों महत्वपूर्ण है? भारत में परिसीमन प्रक्रिया से जुड़ी चुनौतियों की विवेचना कीजिए? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

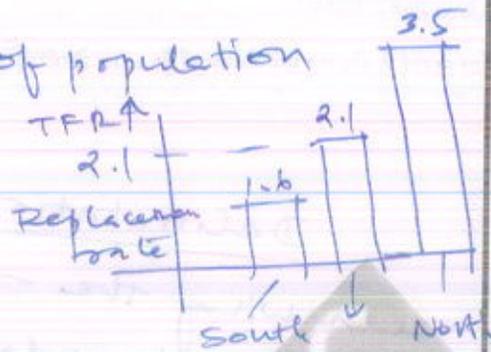
Delimitation is the exercise of redrawing the constituencies territorial boundaries under article 82 of constitution.

- Why important
- ① "principle of one man - one vote - one value"
 - ② equitable representation of states in Lok Sabha
 - ③ Mandate under Article 82 and impact on Article 330 and 332 (SC/ST rep.)
 - ④ To ensure the census data is reflected properly
 - ⑤ The 106th CAA - Nara Shankar Advhiyan - will seek to reflect the change only after delimitation.

Challenges

1. uneven growth of population

(Total fertility rate - TFR)



2. leads to unfair increase of North states

against South

North	MP, UP, Bihar, Jaj	will gain +32 seats ↑
South	KL, TN, KAR, TS	will lose -17 seats ↓

3. Census not taken place - leading to halting of delimitation

4. the verdict of delimitation cannot be challenged in courts.

Thus, solutions like challenging the terms of reference of delimitation, (or) weighted avg. system (or) halting for another 25 years - or some way forward.

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			



Q.3) How has asymmetric federalism helped India accommodate its diverse regional needs? Discuss with suitable examples. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

असममित संघवाद ने भारत को अपनी विविध क्षेत्रीय आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करने में किस प्रकार मदद की है? उपयुक्त उदाहरणों के साथ चर्चा कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Asymmetric federalism is when the UNION has an asymmetric relationship with the states. This is provided for taking into account the cultural / social / economic backwardness of few states compared to others.

helped the cause of accommodate diverse needs

1. Article 241

→ makes changes in executive structure of sixth schedule areas.

2. Fifth and Sixth schedule

→ Arunachal Pradesh, Tripura, Mizoram & Meghalaya

→ (10) schedule area states special privileges in terms of cultural, and legislative manners

3. Article 371 (A to J)

→ makes special development boards

eg Hyderabad Karnataka under 371 J

4. Sikkim as a protectorate state under article 371 F

5. 69th Amendment - gave separate status to Delhi under Article 239 AA & AB

6. Article 275 and 282 → statutory and discretionary grants

- challenges
- 1) demand for more such status eg Kodak
 - 2) creates a feeling of lack of integration with mainstream
 - 3) politicisation eg PESA Act is misused

Asymmetric federalism, thus needs to timely requested. However, it has led to cooperative federalism

Feedback

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CD & VA			
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TOTAL MARKS			



Q.4) Explain how the terms 'socialist' and 'secular' in the Preamble embody specific meanings in the Indian context. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

स्पष्ट कीजिए कि प्रस्तावना में 'समाजवादी' और 'पंथनिरपेक्ष' शब्द भारतीय संदर्भ में किस प्रकार विशिष्ट अर्थ रखते हैं।

(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The terms were added via the 42nd constitution amendment and the recent Dr. Balmukund Singh upheld it to be a valid addition.

Meaning of SOCIALIST in Indian context

1. Indian constitutional makers envisaged India as 'welfare state'
2. Article 36 to 51 (DPSPs) are socialist principles that needs to be promoted.
3. India has income and wealth inequality (OXFAM) \Rightarrow 1% top income and wealth (40%)
 \Rightarrow socialist meaning becomes imperative
4. The social indicators of health, education, skills India struggles,
 \Rightarrow therefore a necessity.

Meaning of SECULAR

1. India has 6 major religions in INDIA and numerous minorities

2. Multicultural citizenship is needed.

(eg) Article 25-28 / 29-30

3. to counter majoritarianism under the guise of uniformity.

4. India follows a "politically negotiated" and "principled distance model" - meaning

States maintain equal distance

① LPK Reforms - diluted the socialist consciousness

② intercommunal conflict and riots / hate speech

③ gndrah state is secular, while society is not.

The fact is constitution contains various provisions which would render socialist & secular only explicit what was till now implicit.

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			



Q.5) The role of State Finance Commissions in building regional equity and strengthening the federal link has largely been underutilized. Discuss. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

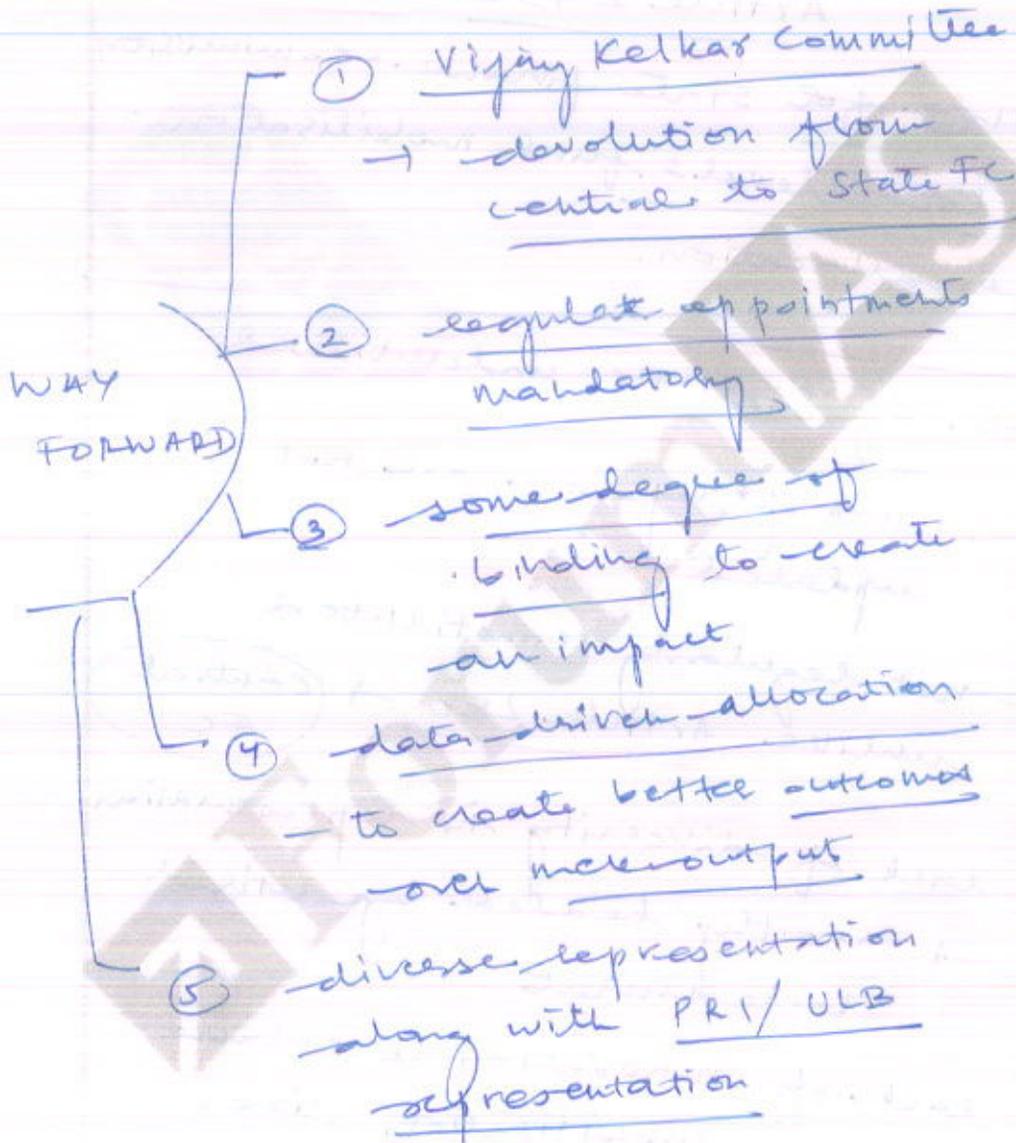
क्षेत्रीय समानता के निर्माण और संघीय संबंध को मजबूत करने में राज्य वित्त आयोगों की भूमिका का व्यापक स्तर पर अल्प उपयोग किया गया है। चर्चा करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Article 243 I and 243Y
provide for state finance commission
at local levels fund mobilisation
and allocation.

Role of State FC underutilised

1. Terms of reference are not updated.
2. not regularly constituted
unlike Article 280 → Central FC
3. lack of diversity in representation
⇒ mostly headed by letterhead bureaucrats.
4. lack of innovation to enhance
finance mobilization like
→ Green Bonds / Muni Bonds.
5. Recommendations are non-mandatory.

6. The reports are not placed. If placed before Parliamentaries \Rightarrow not discussed.



State F.C are not just symbolic, they are capable of creating substantive changes

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.6) How far do you think has the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) been successful in protecting and promoting child rights in India? (10 Marks, 150 Words)

आपके अनुसार राष्ट्रीय बाल अधिकार संरक्षण आयोग (NCPCR) भारत में बाल अधिकारों के संरक्षण और संवर्धन में कितना सफल रहा है? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

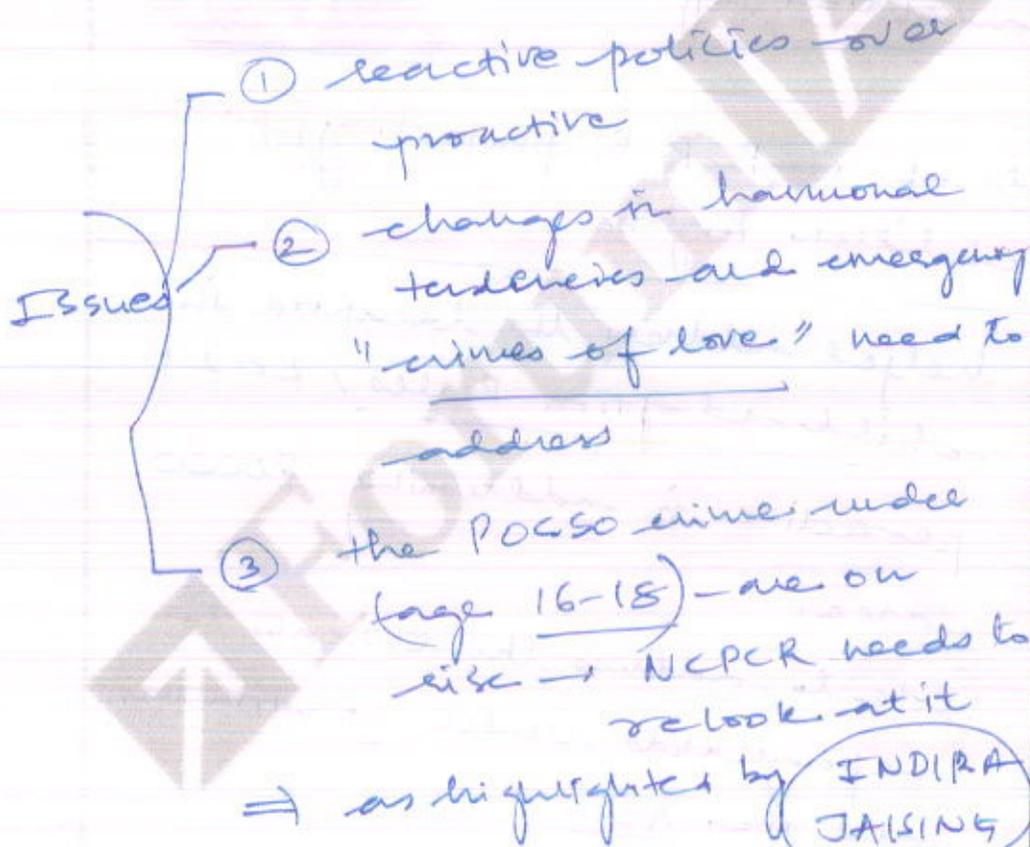
The NCPCR is a statutory body created under the POCSO act and Protection of Rights of Children Convention of UN.

Role of NCPCR in protecting / promoting children rights

1. helped address the lacunae in child adoption Rules / 2021
2. proactive in addressing POCSO cases.
3. role to address the threats to safeguards under constitution and the Act
4. study / research over new emerging threats to these rights
5. Child Labour (Prevention) Act, holds credit to NCPCR efforts

6. Immoral traffic of children esp. girl child → NCPER

7. awareness building, advocacy of rights through collaboration with NGOs like CRY and Karesh Satyarthi foundation



Thus, NCPER as been at the cornerstones to protect & promote. More support & collaboration is needed to truly reflect its intent.

Feedback

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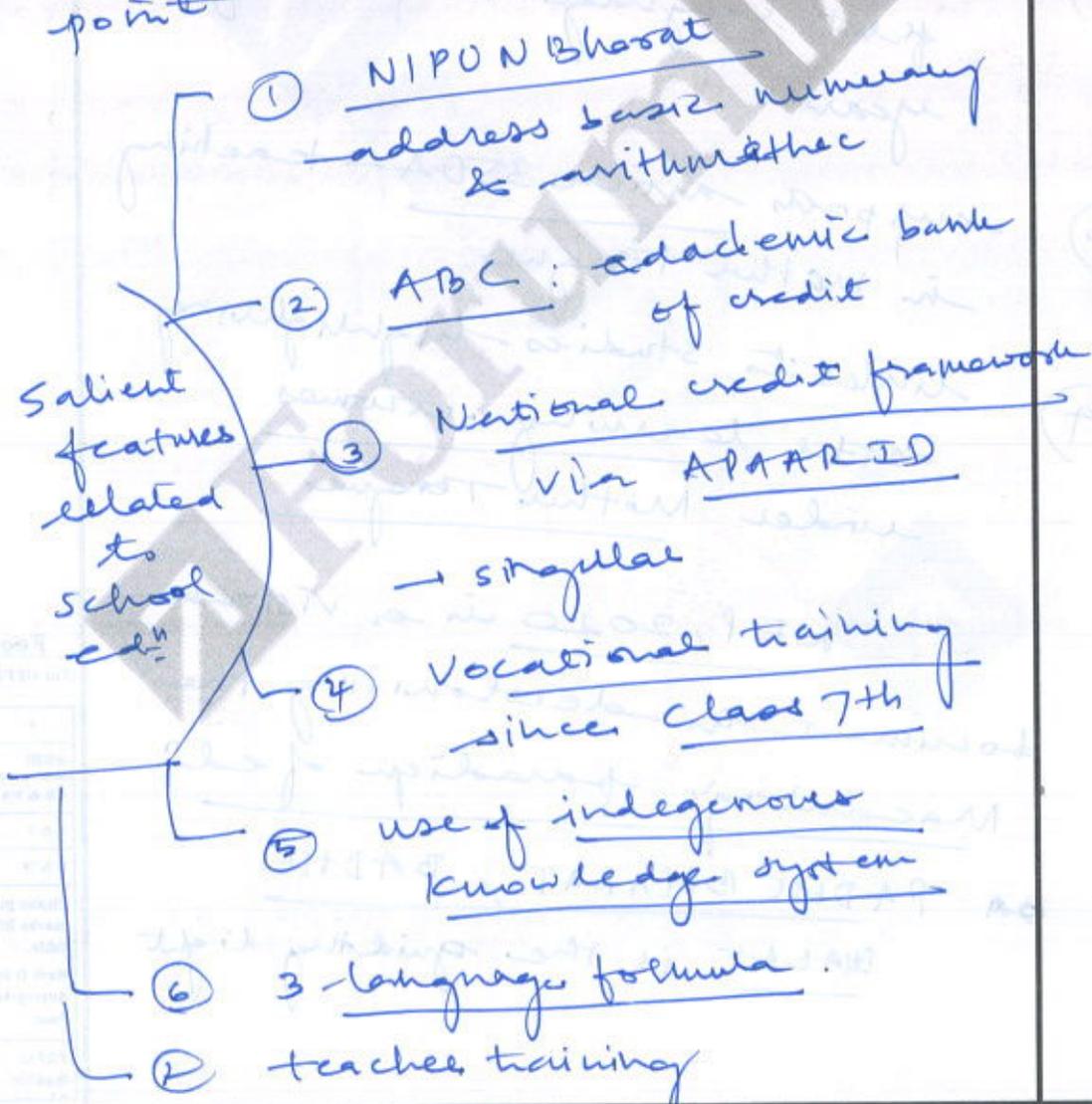
TOTAL MARKS	
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Q.7) Outline the salient features of New Education Policy (NEP) 2020 related to school education. What does it state about the medium of instruction in schools? (10 Marks, 150 Words)

विद्यालयी शिक्षा से संबंधित नई शिक्षा नीति (NEP) 2020 की मुख्य विशेषताओं को रेखांकित करें। यह विद्यालयों में शिक्षा के माध्यम के बारे में क्या उद्घृत करती है? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The recent controversy around 3-language Formula under the mandate of NEP, 2020 and its 5 years in making is the case in point.



On Medium of Instruction

- 1) like its predecessor of NEP 68' and NEP 82' → NEP 2020 too focuses on 3 language formula
⇒ however, is less lenient compared to previous.
- 2) Mother tongue as the regional first language in primary years.
- 3) supports article 350A → teaching in mother tongue
- 4) links to studies highlighting better learning outcomes under Mother Tongue

NEP, 2020 is a visionary document in decolonising the Macaulay's paradigm of edn

BA PADHE BHARAT, BADHE

BHARAT is the guiding light

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TOTAL MARKS



Q.8) Throw light on the legal frameworks that are in place to ensure women's safety in India. What further steps are needed to enhance their safety and well-being? (10 Marks, 150 Words)

भारत में महिलाओं की सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करने के लिए मौजूद विधिक ढाँचों पर प्रकाश डालें। उनकी सुरक्षा और कल्याण को बढ़ाने के लिए और क्या कदम उठाने की आवश्यकता है? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Dr. Ambedkar said "a measure
the progress of a society, based on
the progress made by its women" and
in this regard INDIA has wide ranging
legal frameworks in place to ensure
safety.

Legal Frameworks in place to ensure
women's safety

1. Vishaka Guidelines — leading to
POSH Act — prevention of sexual
harassment at workplace
2. Domestic Violence (DV) Act
— to ensure safeguards to women
against violence by husband
(e) NCRB highlights 56,000+ cases
every year
3. PCPNDT Act
— prevention of female foeticide

4. Act against women trafficking
 (c) immoral traffic of women Act and the Vijwal scheme for the same
5. Pink Police @ state level
6. BNS framework
- > section 65, 64 - Rape & sexual harassment
 - > section 675 - outraging the modesty
 - > section 85 - Domestic violence & dowry case

- Steps needed to enhance
- ① marital rape should be criminalised
 - ② dowry prohibition only says minimum dowry is permissible - this is vague & misused
 - ③ Mandatory ICC in both educational & workplace

Ethics, empathy and enforcement is needed to improve the impact of these frameworks and to transform women empowerment to women led empowerment

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Q.9) "A multipolar world order is not merely an option but a necessity". Elaborate. How can India leverage its position to strengthen multipolarity in the global arena? (10 marks, 150 words)

"एक बहुध्रुवीय विश्व व्यवस्था केवल एक विकल्प नहीं बल्कि एक आवश्यकता है। विस्तार से चर्चा कीजिए। वैश्विक क्षेत्र में बहुध्रुवीयता को मजबूत करने के लिए भारत अपनी स्थिति का लाभ कैसे उठा सकता है? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

According to Kishore Mahabadi
The world order can be described as
a 'Multiplex' - a multipolar world

- Not an option, but a necessity
- ① representation of Global South - historically marginalised
 - ② reflect the current power calibrations
 - ③ UK no more a power it used to be
 - ④ Not become a party to a New Cold War
- (David Sanger)

How India can leverage its position to strengthen multipolarity

1. India as the moral voice of Global South - S. Jaishankar
2. India is the next rising power who aspires to be a leading power.

3. India is a country of considerable consequence (Subasini Haider)

→ connect West and East, North & South.

4. India's positive unilateralism (C. Raja Mohan) can be a leverage with its development diplomacy

5. India to seek a permanent seat at the UNSC

6. India's demography, dividend, democracy are all factors that are significant — [Amitabh Muttoo]

- Challenges
- ① USA's tariff tantrums and singular isolation by EU.
 - ② China's growing footprint in the region
 - ③ India suffers from power-delusion (Ashley Telling)

Thus, India wants to be a pole in the emerging multipolar world

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Q.10) "ASEAN is the cornerstone of India's Act East Policy and its Indo-Pacific vision." Elucidate. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

"आसियान भारत की एक ईस्ट नीति और उसके हिंद-प्रशांत दृष्टिकोण की आधारशिला है।" स्पष्ट करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

ASEAN is at the intersection of India's Act East policy and Indo-Pacific vision - [PM Modi]

ASEAN as the cornerstone of Act East and Indo Pacific

1. ASEAN focuses the "Law of Prosperity" to India acc to Rajeev Sibal
2. North-East states can act as the Gateway to ASEAN
3. 3Cs - connectivity, commerce and culture are all common to both ASEAN and India's Act East + Indo Pacific vision
4. The fact that Myanmar & Thailand form common point of ASEAN and BIMSTEC helps the cause

5. infrastructure projects like Kaladan Multimodal project and IMT - Indo - Myanmar Thailand highway is a case in point.
6. can help the cause of China + 1 strategy of de-risking supply chain resilience.
7. counters the saagar manthan (C. Raja Mohan) - China's salami-slicing of South China sea islands and string of pearls to India.

- challenges
- ① ASEAN's dependence on China - 60% trt deficit
 - ② RCEP fallout of India
 - ③ common areas of competition eg Textile b/w Bangladesh, Thailand, Vietnam & India

Thus, ASEAN needs to be seen as the gateway to India's aspiration to become net security provider and free-prosperous, open Indo Pacific

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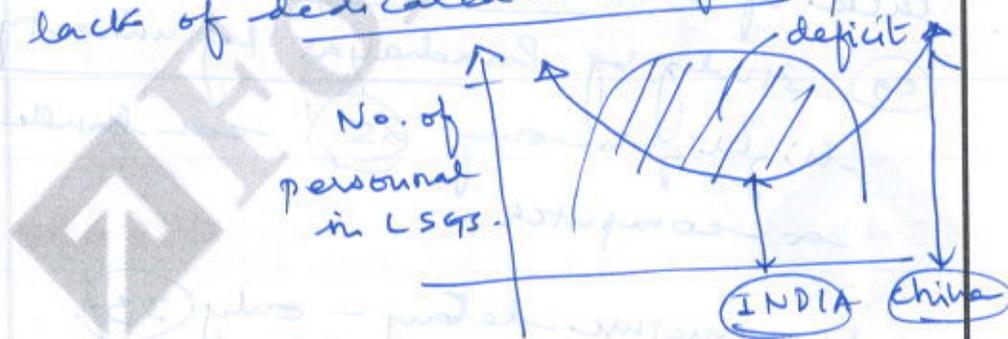
Q.11) Discuss the various administrative challenges faced by local self-governments (LSGs). What measures do you suggest for devolving administrative powers to LSGs, enabling them to function as institutions of genuine self-governance? (15 marks, 250 words)

स्थानीय स्वशासन (LSGs) के सामने आने वाली विभिन्न प्रशासनिक चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए। स्थानीय स्वशासन को प्रशासनिक शक्तियाँ सौंपने के लिए आप क्या उपाय सुझाते हैं, जिससे वे वास्तविक स्वशासन की संस्थाओं के रूप में कार्य कर सकें? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

The 73rd and 74th constitution amendment (1992) led to creating Panchayat Raj and Urban local bodies as the self-government giving life to Gandhian aspiration under Article 40

Administrative challenges faced by LSGs.

1. lack of dedicated work force/cadre



2. lack of [3Fs] - funds, functions, and functionaries

"devolution of responsibility without authority"

3. uneven devolution of functions by different state govt.
4. Sarpanch Pati culture
— failing the very objective of women empowerment
5. Functionality — the fourth F
— evaded by created parallel parastatal bodies
 (eg) BWSSB — sewage board against BBMP (the ULB) in Bangalore
6. lack of skilled manpower
 (eg) study by Panchayat Raj university highlights only 25% can handle a computer.
7. infrastructure delay — only 33% of PRIs have separate building and computer systems.
8. Tied Funds by central / state govt
 → lack of utility leading underutilization

- Measures Needed
- ① dedicated cadre for LSGs
→ on the lines of China
 - ② institutionalised training programme
 - ③ penalty against Sarpanch Pati culture
 - ④ Mandatory freezing of women reserved seats for 2-3 cycles
 - ⑤ devolution of funds via GST and Central Finance Commission
⇒ recommended by VIJAY KELKAR committee
 - ⑥ self-revenue-generating powers
⇒ property taxation via SWAMITVA yojana
 - ⑦ phased closure of panchayat bodies

The PLIs/ULBs are the vision of Gandhi's Ram Rajya. Reforming them should be a top priority

Feedback

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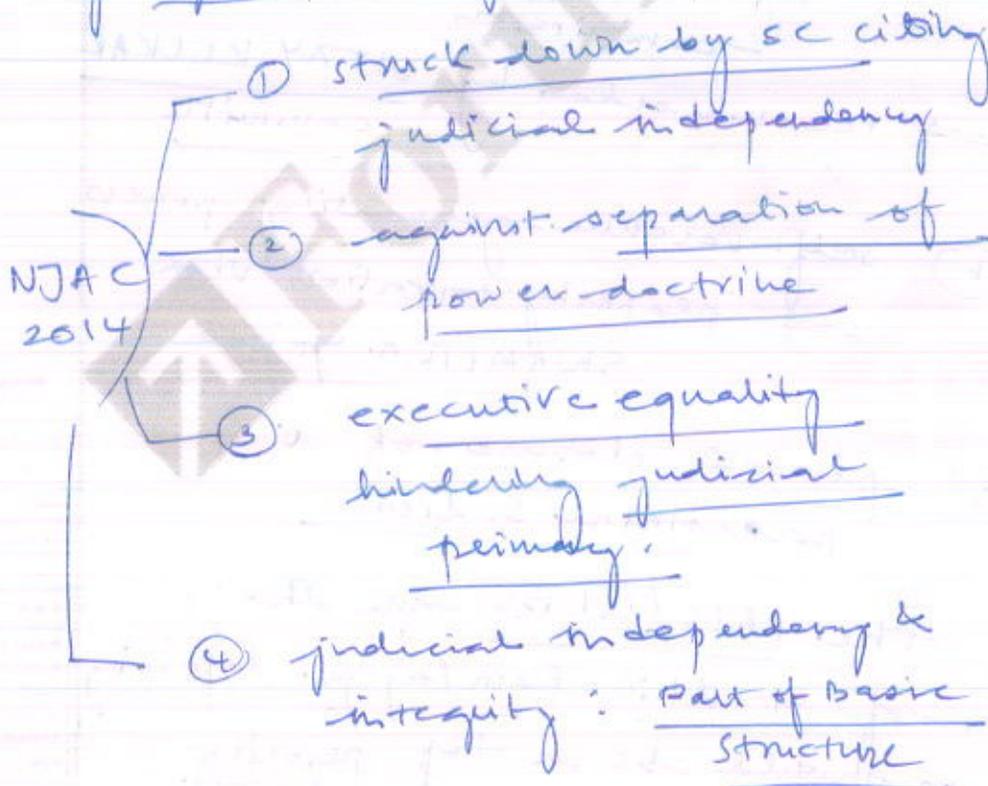
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Please put tick marks in the above table. Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.			
TOTAL MARKS			



Q.12) In light of recent developments, the Collegium system and the Supreme Court's decision to strike down the National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC) Act, 2014 have once again come under scrutiny. Do you think that a NJAC-like body can make judicial appointments more transparent, broad-based, and accountable? Justify your answer. (15 marks, 250 words)

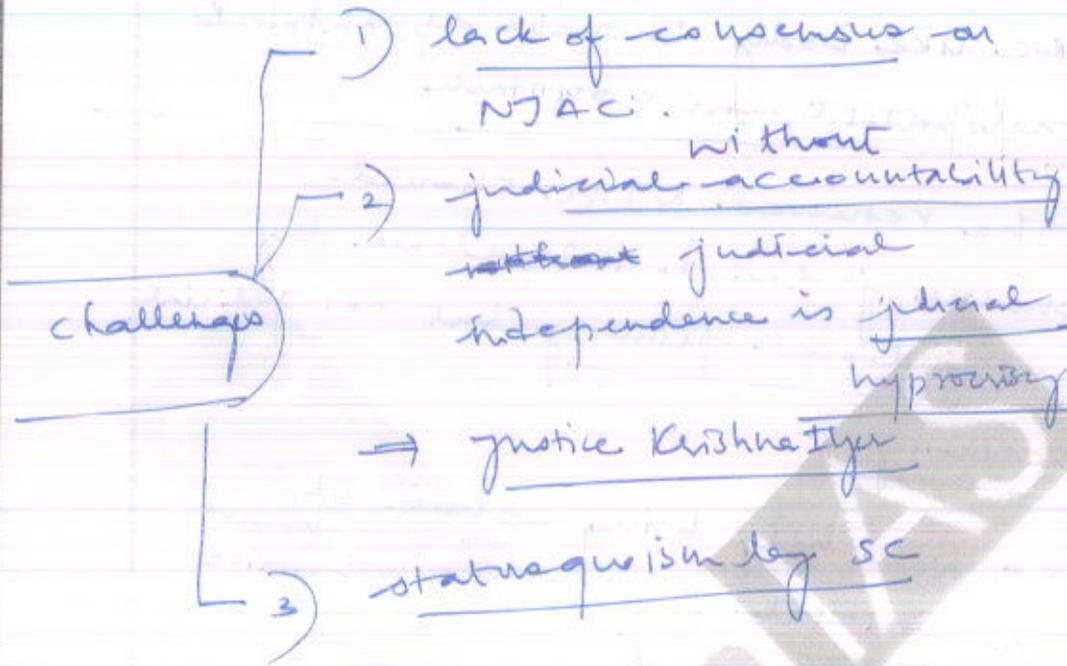
हाल के घटनाक्रमों के मद्देनजर, कॉलेजियम प्रणाली और राष्ट्रीय न्यायिक नियुक्ति आयोग (NJAC) अधिनियम, 2014 को रद्द करने का सर्वोच्च न्यायालय का फैसला एक बार फिर जांच के दायरे में आ गया है। क्या आपको लगता है कि NJAC जैसा कोई निकाय न्यायिक नियुक्तियों को अधिक पारदर्शी, व्यापक और जवाबदेह बना सकता है? अपने उत्तर का औचित्य सिद्ध कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

The recent controversy of Justice Yashwant Varma and hoards of cash found at his official residence cast the light on lack of judicial accountability and system of "judges appointing judges"



NJAC like body to make appointments
transparent, accountable

1. The renewed NJAC should
ensure judicial independence by
give judicial primary but not judicial
exclusivity
2. It will help bring chain of
accountability with executive
being a part.
3. address the "under judge syndrome"
⇒ of nepotism, favouritism
4. Merit based appointments
- based on quality of judgment -
years of service etc.
5. faster appointment → less
vacancies
↓
faster
adjudication
←
reduce the
pendency of cases.
6. bring the appointment closer to
public and more representative



WAY FORWARD

1. Renewed NJAC with SC primary and executive minority instead of career Model.

2. build consensus on the matter in Parliament

3. Social Movements also can be a way forward just like #INDIA against CORRUPTION

No one is above law. Immunity without responsibility & accountability is just IMPUNITY.

Feedback

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Q.13) Differentiate between the clemency powers of the Presidents of India and the USA. Also, critically examine the vesting of clemency power in the executive. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

भारत और अमेरिका के राष्ट्रपतियों की क्षमादान शक्तियों के बीच अंतर बताइए। साथ ही, कार्यपालिका में क्षमादान शक्ति के निहित होने की आलोचनात्मक जांच कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

The clemency powers for similar to pardoning powers in Indian context are extraordinary powers bestowed on the head of the executive that is PRESIDENT.

INDIA	USA
1. Article 72 provides for pardoning power	1. Similar provision in USA constitution
2. can pardon the death sentence.	2. US President, too can.
3. commute, remit, reprieve the sentence of convict	3. Similar powers but India has more elaborate

4. exercised on the aid and advise of Council of Ministers

4. can be exercised unilaterally.
[CoM-advise not binding, unlike Indian context]

5. shares similar power with the state heads i.e. governors.
(Article 161)

YES, but very limited.
however, can pardon the death sentence

examination of demerit powers on the executive

1. create a secondary chamber to avoid extreme / misjudged cases.
2. act as second line of defence or protection to the convict

3. ensure the exception to normal proceeding due to extraordinary situation

eg) Pregnant Person/convict;
lack of evidence / public sentiment
in support of convict

To correct bonafide mistakes

4.

Issues

- 1) creates a parallel power to the judiciary
- 2) politically motivated cases
- 3) reduce the scope & structure of judiciary and the trust of public

thus, clemency powers are almost parallel to presidents of both USA & INDIA.

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			



Q.14) What constitutes corrupt practices under the Representation of the People Act, 1951? Also, discuss the challenges in curbing such malpractices and suggest remedial measures.

(15 Marks, 250 Words)

जनप्रतिनिधित्व अधिनियम, 1951 के तहत भ्रष्ट आचरण क्या है? साथ ही, ऐसे कुप्रथाओं को रोकने में आने वाली चुनौतियों पर चर्चा करें और उपचारात्मक उपाय सुझाएँ।

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Section 123 of Representation of People's Act, 1951 (RoPA, 1951) clarifies on what are the corrupt practices "

- Corrupt practices under RoPA, 1951
- ① outraging the modesty of women
 - ② bribery and material inducement to the citizen
 - ③ Vote Rigging & Booth capturing
 - ④ Rape, Murder
 - ⑤ use of official machinery during election
eg. Indira Gandhi vs. Raj Narain
 - ⑥ use of scriptures like religion, caste, gender to gain votes

Challenges in Curbings

1. Disqualification under section 8
max only for 6 years.
⇒ makes a comeback later
2. can approach the HC for petition
within a limited time period of 45 days
only
3. lack of statutory status to MCC i.e
Model code of conduct
4. limit on finance under art section
77
→ only for pol. parties
→ for individual candidates no such
5. lack of ECI's power to deregister
the party.
6. collusion with official govt.
during electoral rallies.
7. use of digital technology like
Blockchain to address the
booth capturing & vote rigging

Remedial Measures

1. Power of ECI to deregister
2. In Subramanian Balaji Case, ECI is given power to regulate provisions on FREEBIES.
3. Mohinder Singh Gill case - SC said ECI has plenary powers under Articles 326/324 \Rightarrow thus ECI should utilise it.
4. Section 8(4) - conviction more than 6 years to create disbarment
5. mandatory disclosure of criminal antecedent (PUC case) \Rightarrow failure of which should lead to conviction.

ROPA 1951, is the framework to create fair & free election which is a part of BASIC structure. It needs to further strengthen in light of social media offences like hate speech.

Feedback

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Q.15) Discuss the role of the Vice-President as the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha. Also describe the procedure for his/her removal from office. (15 marks, 250 words)

राज्य सभा के सभापति के रूप में उपराष्ट्रपति की भूमिका पर चर्चा करें। साथ ही, उनके पद से हटाए जाने की प्रक्रिया का भी वर्णन करें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Recently, Jagdeep Dhankar tendered his resignation. He was also the first vice-president against whom an impeachment motion was started for his removal.

Role of Vice President as chairman of Rajya Sabha

1. He acts as the curator of decorum of the house.
2. He acts as the ultimate interpreter of rules of house and the constitution in the house.
3. He assigns work to the various parliamentary committees.
4. He decides on the removal of any member for his violation of privileges / absentism.

5. He acts on the report tendered by the Ethics/Privileges Committee to seek his removal.
6. He gives the ultimate assent to the bill originating from RS.
7. He allocates the time for various businesses of the house.
8. He approves the various resolutions and motions in the house. (eg) Point of order
9. He allocates time to various members to make their point in the house - enabling it as house of debate/discuss and discussion
10. He approves the bill to be enacted in exercise of power of Rajya Sabha under (249) Art.
11. \Rightarrow The creation of AIS services and its approval lies with V.P.

Procedure for removal

①

Motion for his removal should be signed by 50 Members

↑
should originate in the Rajya Sabha

— conditions are not mentioned in detail

②

this motion then should be approved by 2/3rd Majority (TOTAL)

③

once passed, he stands removed

④

while the motion for his removal is going on he cannot vote → both in casting vote & in first instance

↳ Rajya Sabha Chairman - or - the VP. acts as the mirror to the pluralism that the house holds "

Feedback

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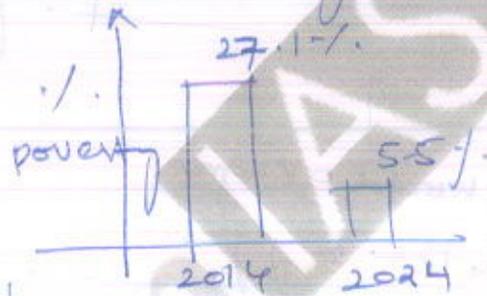
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Q.16) "Universal Basic Income (UBI) is a viable solution to eradicate extreme poverty in India." Critically discuss the statement. (15 marks, 250 words)

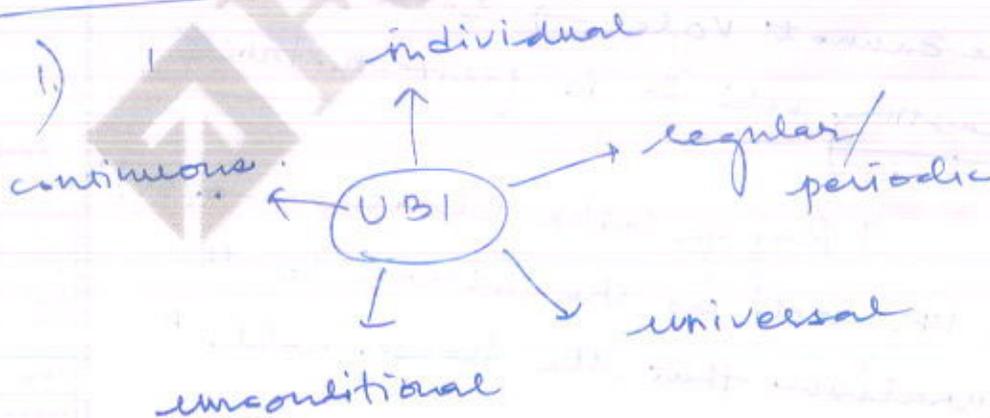
"भारत में अत्यधिक निर्धनता को मिटाने के लिए सार्वभौमिक बुनियादी आय (UBI) एक व्यवहार्य समाधान है।" इस कथन का आलोचनात्मक वर्णन करें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

According to World Bank recent report, Absolute poverty in India decreased (as per \$2.15)



⇒ however as per MPI of NITI still 0.6% poverty exists. The UBI in this context becomes an imperative

UBI as a viable solution



⇒ Features of UBI

2. It helps in diving demand as it reduces the pressure of not able to spend on Non food items.
3. gives choice to the individual
 ⇒ help make choices for own needs rather than "one-size-fits-all"
4. going beyond calorie based poverty measures and giving free food
5. This is non-discriminatory
 ⇒ no fears of inclusion-exclusion errors
6. Targetting is easier → universal
7. gives periodic income
 → reduces "income insecurity" especially among those under GLS economy
8. Gives additional sources of income
 → augments the INCOME.

- Issues with UBI
- ① will lead to parasite conditions — SC on freebies
 - ② will lead to increase in labour wages ↑ esp. in agriculture & manufacturing
 - ③ fiscal health of state
RBI Report highlights dangers of fiscal indiscipline
 - ④ wastage / leakage as it is universal
 - ⑤ reduces the scope for (year-end earn)

- WAY FORWARD
- 1) targetted instead of universal.
 - 2) capabilities approach — Prof Amartya Sen

As the Chinese proverb goes, 'give a man a fish, you feed him for a day; Teach him to fish, you feed for life.' Thus, other avenues beyond UBI need to be looked

Feedback
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Q.17) What are the key determinants of malnutrition among under-five children in the country? Also, elaborate on the role of nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions in addressing this issue. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

देश में पांच वर्ष से कम आयु के बच्चों में कुपोषण के मुख्य निर्धारक क्या हैं? साथ ही, इस मुद्दे को संबोधित करने में पोषण-विशिष्ट और पोषण-संवेदनशील हस्तक्षेपों की भूमिका पर विस्तार से चर्चा करें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

According to NHFS-5, India suffers from malnutrition and over nutrition among children.

Stunting - low height
36% currently

Wasting
low weight
17%

Determinants of Malnutrition

Obesity
~~obesity~~
- doubling per decade

Anemia
- 56% children are anaemic.

Role of Nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive intervention

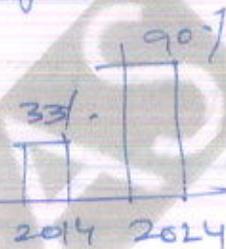
- Biofortified Food
 - ⓐ Rice with Folic Acid / iron.
 - Potato - with micronutrients

2. expanding the food basket beyond cereals

eg) Ragi millets

3. Inclusion of fruits and vegetables

→ acc to Shanika Ravi
consumption at bottom third has increased.



4. Eggs and Meat

→ Mid Day Meal scheme

eg) Maharashtra & Karnataka

5. Sugar Boards by NCERTS schools

→ awareness of sugary diets

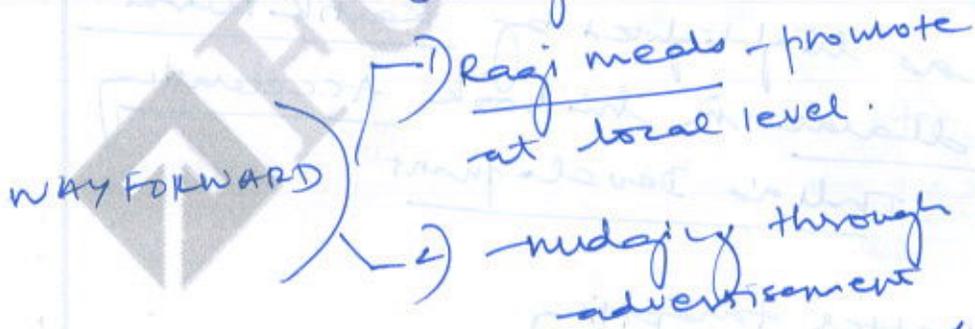
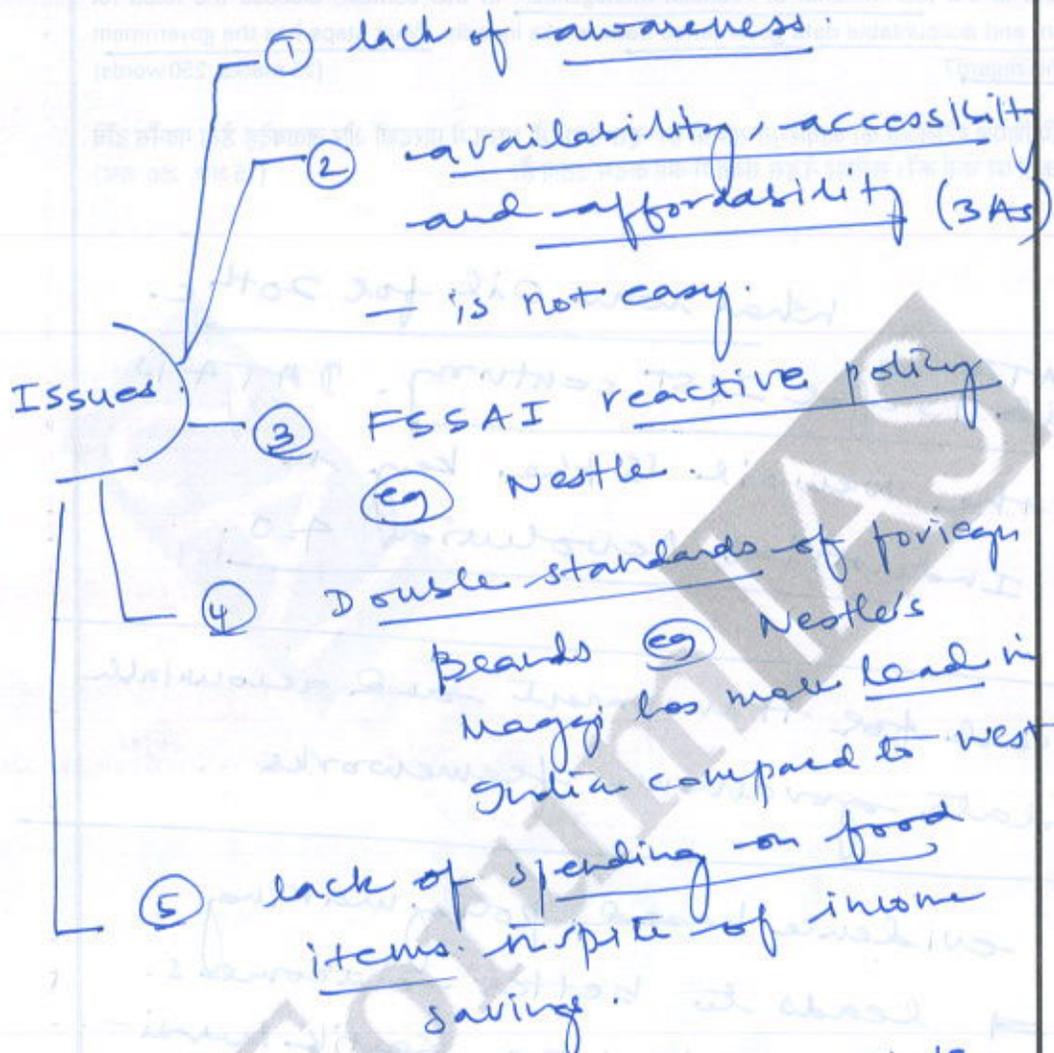
6. Recent FSSAI calls for

addressing HFSS (high fat sugar salt) items like Samosa

7. learning from best practices

like Finland & Saudi Arabia

eg) Taxation on HFSS foods



YASATI POSTIAN, DESTI ROSTIAN
is the key to address problem of under and over-nutrition.

Feedback

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Q.18) "Data is the raw material of Artificial Intelligence." In this context, discuss the need for transparent and accountable data governance frameworks in India. What steps has the government taken in this regard? (15 marks, 250 words)

"डेटा आर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस की आधारभूत सामग्री है।" इस संदर्भ में, भारत में पारदर्शी और जवाबदेह डेटा गवर्नेंस ढाँचे की आवश्यकता पर चर्चा करें। सरकार ने इस संबंध में क्या कदम उठाए हैं? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

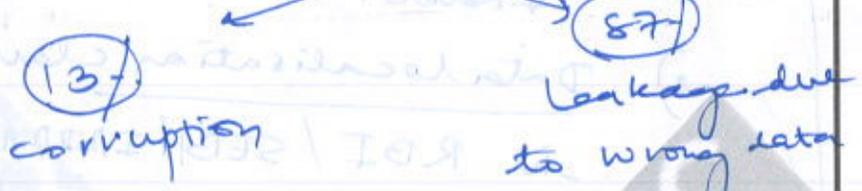
What was oil for 20th c.
DATA is for 21st century. DATA is
the new oil is the key in
Industrial Revolution 4.0.

Need for transparent and accountable
data governance frameworks

1. evidence based policymaking
⇒ leads to better outcomes.
as highlighted by Kartik Murli-
dhara in his book Accelerating
India's Development

2. better targeting
⇒ reduce errors of inclusion
and exclusion

3. prevent of leakages / pilferages
 ⇒ (eg) of the total leakages in govt spending.

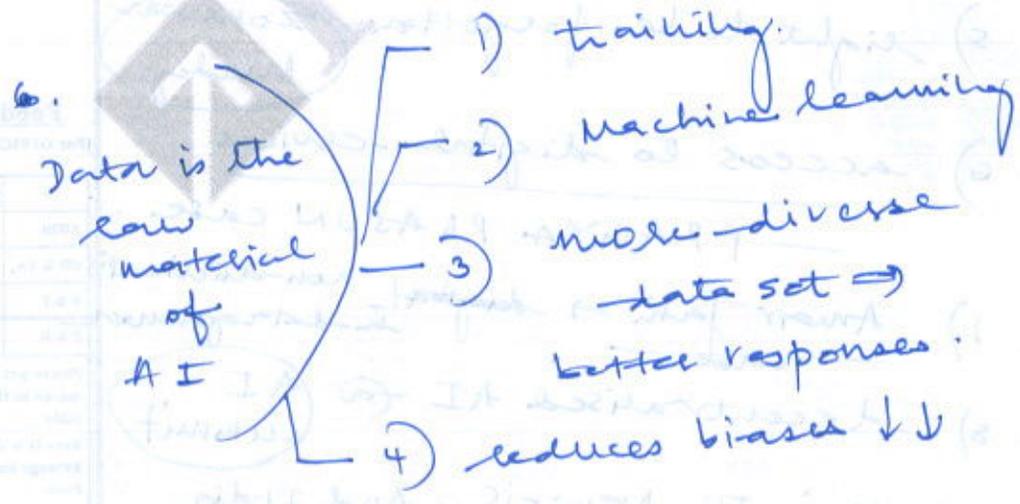


→ highlighted by ECOSURVEY (2021)

4. transparent data will help in better training of the AI systems. ⇒ better & inclusive response.

5. increase the public trust in the governance.

⇒ increases participation ↑↑



- Steps taken by Govt
- 1) National AI Policy
"AI for All, AI for India"
 - 2) Data localisation clauses in RBI/SEBI/IRDAI Act
 - 3) DPDP Act
data fiduciary and principle \Rightarrow responsibilities
 - 4) creation of Data protection Board (DPB)
 - 5) Article 21 \rightarrow right to privacy
 \rightarrow K.S. Puttaswamy Case
 - 6) right to be forgotten - Zorawar Mundy
 - 7) access to digital services
PRAGYA PRASUN case
 - 8) Amrjani \rightarrow digital non-discrimination in digital services case
 - 9) decentralised AI @ AI Summit

Data is the New oil. And India need to be proactive in regulating it.

Feedback

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Q.19) Critically examine the role of International Monetary Fund (IMF) in addressing debt distress in the Global South. How can India use its post-G20 presidency momentum to push IMF reforms? (15 marks, 250 words)

वैश्विक दक्षिण में ऋण संकट से निपटने में अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मुद्रा कोष (IMF) की भूमिका का आलोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए। भारत G20 की अध्यक्षता के बाद अपनी प्रसिद्धि का उपयोग IMF सुधारों को आगे बढ़ाने के लिए कैसे कर सकता है? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

IMF along with World Bank
form the pillars of Bretton Woods
institutions. They were created to
address the redevelopment projects
post WWII

Role of IMF in addressing debt
distress in Global South

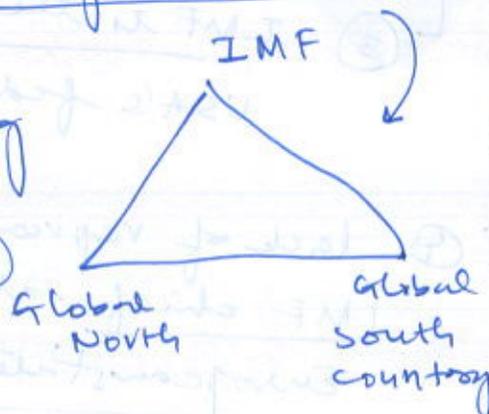
1. Structural Adjustment Programmes
(SAPs)

→ (9) India's 1991 LPG Reforms.

2. Funding via triangular partnership

3. helped in giving
loans based

on quota-SDR



4. It helped in creating economic integration with global value chains.

⑨ South Africa, Namibia, Argentina

5. It increased in addressing fiscal discipline and inculcated a culture of prudence.

- Negatives
- ① Acc. to scholars like AG Frank & Samir Amin
→ it has led to neo-imperialism
 - ② it has made Global South as a resource provider ⑨ central Africa as raw material hub.
 - ③ "IMF is the extension of USA's federal reserve"
— Jeffrey Sachs
 - ④ lack of representation as the IMF chief also comes from European state

India and IMF Reforms

1. India has been a votary of "Reformed Multilateralism" starting with IMF
2. changes in the IMF structure
 (eg) Representation of Asia, Africa and Latin America in proportion
- 3- India as the voice of Global South
 - in its summit said "there is a crying need for reforms"
4. It has advocated changes in the SAP that are less extractive & more developmental ⇒ equity based

- challenges
- ① status-quoism
 - ② lack of unity among G20 - differing interests

IMF Reforms are long due.

"It must reform itself (or) else see itself become irrelevant" - S. Jaishankar

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			



Q.20) "In a fluid geopolitical arena, engagement without formal endorsement is a pragmatic middle path." Do you agree? Explain in the context of India's current approach towards the Taliban regime in Afghanistan. (15 marks, 250 words)

"एक अस्थिर भू-राजनीतिक क्षेत्र में, औपचारिक समर्थन के बिना जुड़ाव एक व्यावहारिक मध्यम मार्ग है।" क्या आप सहमत हैं? अफ़गानिस्तान में तालिबान शासन के प्रति भारत के वर्तमान दृष्टिकोण के संदर्भ में व्याख्या करें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

India's Foreign Secretary
~~and~~ VIKRAM MISRI and his
counterpart in Taliban met in DOHA
for the ^{first} time after USA's fallout in
Afghanistan since 2021

Engagement without endorsement
in a geopolitical area that is fluid

1. S. Jaishankar - called for renewed ties with Taliban, showing that realpolitik is the way ahead.
2. He gave the idea of "engagement without endorsement" where India seeks to walk the geopolitical tightrope by securing its national interests.

3. This is an extension of Shiv Shankar Menon's "engagement without entanglement" — as the world order is in a flux
 - Taliban engagement need active response in a tense and tumultuous South Asia.
4. New Delhi — seeks to secure its investments in Afghanistan
 - eg) Salma Dam; Zarang Dera Dam
5. similar, India has overcome looking Afghanistan through the Pakistan lens → active engagement
6. Renewed focus on Taliban to counter Pakistan's doctrine of using Afghanistan as 'strategic depth'
7. An active engagement ensures that there is no lack of communication leading to 'geostrategic miscalculations' (Harsh V. Pant)

- limitations
- ① Increasing China-Pakistan-Afghanistan axis -- axis of upheaval
 - ② "Age of instability" and "uncertainty" - Afghanistan as said by Rajiv Sikri
 - ③ Afghanistan's Human Right violations and India as the voice of democracy creates contradictions
 - ④ India's policy is seen as "force sitting" and opportunistic by critics

Thus, Taliban as the head of Afghanistan is a reality that India has realised a bit late. And now, however, New Delhi has shown the India seeks play the game of realpolitik and secure its National interests via strategic Autonomy

Feedback

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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			

Mentor Feedback Questions

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

Test Goal

- 1
- 2
- 3

Outcomes

- 1
- 2
- 3

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
20 Marker	7.75 - 10	6 - 7.5	< 6
	Key / Relevant Point		
	Vague / Irrelevant		

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