

TEST CODE 7 1 2 3 0 4

MGP 2024

Time Allowed : Three Hours

समय : तीन घंटे

ForumIAS

Maximum Marks : 250

अधिकतम अंक : 250

GENERAL STUDIES / सामान्य अध्ययन

Name Of Candidate परीक्षार्थी का नाम	Lakshay Aggarwal		
Roll No./अनुक्रमांक	1910160322	Medium/माध्यम	English <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> हिंदी <input type="checkbox"/>
Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र	Online	Date/दिनांक	14.09.2024

*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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20			
Total/कुल अंक	250		

- 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।
- 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।
- 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।
- 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।
- 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 : 10.00pm	End Time/समाप्त करने का समय : 01.00am
Total Marks/कुल अंक :	Mode Of Examination/ परीक्षा की विधि : Online	Online/ऑनलाइन <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Offline/ऑफलाइन <input type="checkbox"/>

*Examiner's Discretion is the marks awarded at the discretion of the examiner based on your overall impression, on the basis of (but not limited to) your handwriting, presentation, use of diagrams, flowcharts, facts and figures or absolutely anything that he/she liked in your copy.

मूल्यांकन कर्ता का विवेक अंक, आपकी लिखावट, प्रस्तुति, आरेखों के उपयोग, फ्लोचार्ट, तथ्यों और आंकड़ों या समग्र रूप किसी अन्य विषय वस्तु, जो मूल्यांकन कर्ता को आपकी कॉपी में पसंद आये के आधार पर (लेकिन इन्हीं तक सीमित नहीं) पर दिए गए अंक हैं।

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ECN CODE/ ईसीएन कोड :	EG/ईजी : ① ② ③ ④ ⑤	Evaluation Date/ मूल्यांकन तिथि :
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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

WJEC OLYMPIAS

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) The Indian Constitution does not embody a strict separation of powers rather it introduces a system of checks and balances, with overlapping functions and interdependencies among the legislature, executive, and judiciary. Elaborate. (10 marks, 150 words)

भारतीय संविधान में शक्तियों का कठोर पृथक्करण नहीं है, बल्कि यह विधायिका, कार्यपालिका और न्यायपालिका के बीच अतिव्यापी कार्य और अन्योन्याश्रितता के साथ नियंत्रण और संतुलन की प्रणाली प्रस्तुत करता है। विस्तृत वर्णन कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Hon'ble Supreme Court in Indira Gandhi vs. Raj Narain said that Indian Constitution did not follow strict separation of powers.

Strict separation of powers implies siloed power among three branches i.e. like USA.

However, in India the function and interdependencies clash :-

① Executive & legislature :-

- executive's members i.e. ministers are collectively responsible to Lok Sabha (Article 75)
- cabinet's membership in legislature.
- Article 123 ordinances (law) issued by executive.
- Delegation legislation.

also, legislature exercise executive power via Article 356 (President's rule) approval.

② Legislature & Judiciary

- legislature may impeach judges in removal proceedings
- Judiciary exercises legislative power in Judicial Activism
 - ⊕ standing up for National Anthem in cinema

③ Executive & Judiciary

- President approves appointment of judges.
- Administrative & Other tribunals established by executive (Art. 323A & 323B)
- Judges exercise executive power over judicial support staff

Here, in India, all three branches keep effective check & balance over each other, to uphold a healthy democr-
-acy, sustained over 75 years.

Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

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

Q.2) Recently, the Supreme Court has expanded the scope of Articles (14 and 21) to include the "right against the adverse effects of climate change". In this context, citing relevant case laws, discuss the role played by Indian judiciary in 'constitutionalization' of environmental issues.

(10 marks, 150 words)

हाल ही में, सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने "जलवायु परिवर्तन के प्रतिकूल प्रभावों के खिलाफ अधिकार" को शामिल करने के लिए अनुच्छेद 14 और 21 के दायरे का विस्तार किया है। इस संदर्भ में, प्रासंगिक केस लॉ को उद्धृत करते हुए, पर्यावरणीय मुद्दों के 'संवैधानिकीकरण' में भारतीय न्यायपालिका द्वारा निभाई गई भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए।

(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Article 14 and 21 are enshrined in part-III fundamental rights of the Indian constitution which give equality before law and right to life respectively.

Expansion of Article 14 and 21 by Supreme Court (SC) is done by - Judicial Activism and Public Interest Litigation.

New Dimensions added by SC in respect of environment;

- In MC Mehta case, via a PIL, SC recognised right to clean environment as part of right to life via (21).
- In Subhash KV vs. State of Bihar, also, supreme court mooted the idea

of right to environment.

- Hon'ble SC recently recognized river as a living thing, and having same rights as human being.
- SC recently banned mining within 1 km of Sariska tiger reserve to protect environment & biodiversity.
- Enactment of National Green Tribunal (NGT) has also given impetus to environmental issues being coming to fore.

Other dimensions and steps taken for constitutionalisation of environmental issues :-

↳ enactment of environment protection Act.

recently, SC said, "Forest" under law, should be treated as dictionary meaning of forest and not as per records as to protect non-notified forest.

Hence, Judiciary is on its way to help us achieve SDG (3).

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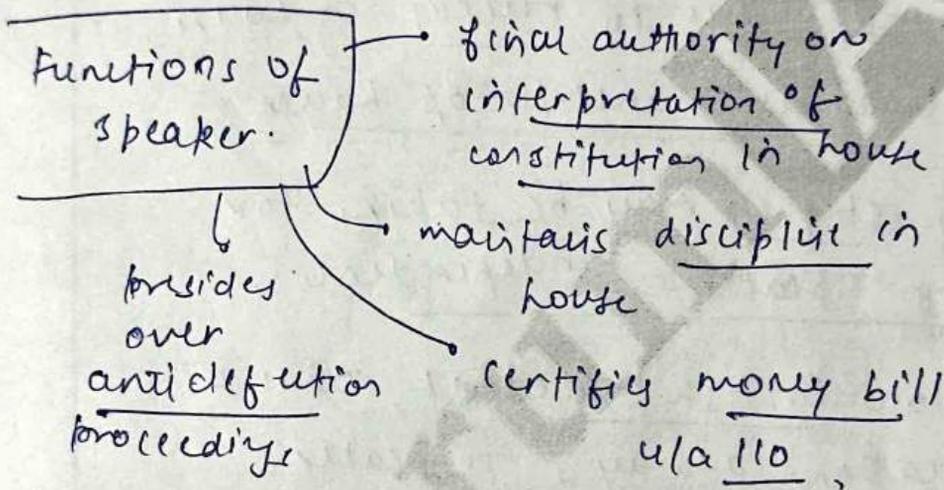
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Here G is Good Average and P is Poor.	
TOTAL MARKS	

10/7

Q.3) The Speaker's inclination to cater to party loyalties often undermines the dignity and impartiality of the office, eroding public trust in the legislative process. Analyse with the help of recent examples. (10 marks, 150 words)

दलगत निष्ठा को पूरा करने की स्पीकर की प्रवृत्ति अक्सर पद की गरिमा और निष्पक्षता को कम करती है, जिससे विधायी प्रक्रिया में जनता का भरोसा कम होता है। नवीनतम उदाहरणों की सहायता से विश्लेषण कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Office of Speaker under article 93, is the presiding office of lower house of Parliament.



Questions on Speakers' impartiality.

• speaker as presiding officer of house is supposed to be objective, however recently -

- wholesale expulsion of ~30 MPs in 17th LS.

= putting Aadhar bill amendments and certifying it as money bill

- Not allotting enough time to opposition members on floor.

were some examples of biasness of Speaker.

However, on the other hand,

- expunctions may have been needed due to ruckus in house.
- to maintain sanctity of house.

Following steps may be taken for ensuring speaker's independence:

- Follow British precedent, once a speaker always a speaker.
↳ to promote independent security of tenure.
- Resignation from party upon selection in office.
- Anti-defection powers to be taken away (Law Commission recommended)

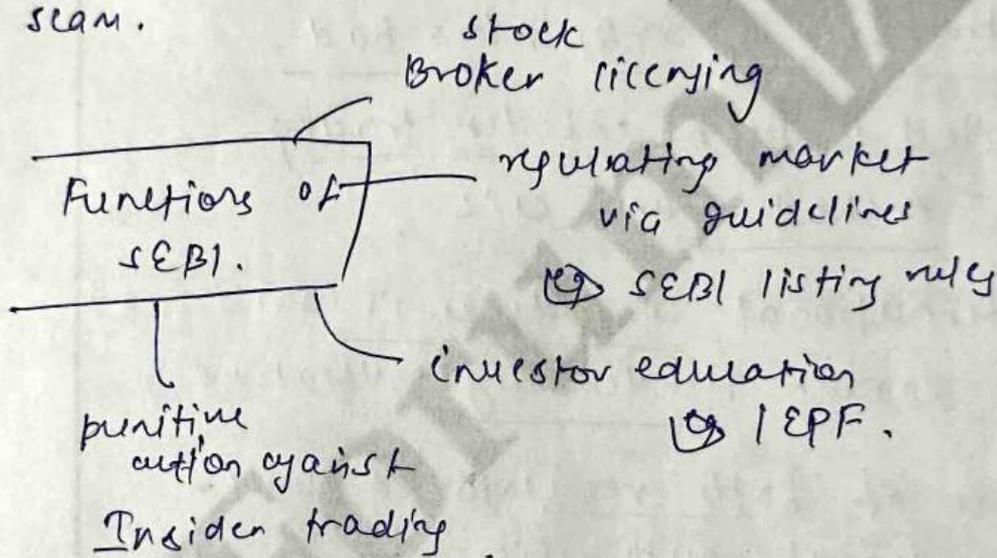
Hence, Speaker as the head of the house should be objective and must be rejuvenated.

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Q.4) Assess the effectiveness of SEBI in fulfilling its envisaged role of regulating the securities market, ensuring transparency, and protecting investors' interests. (10 marks, 150 words)

प्रतिभूति बाजार को विनियमित करने, पारदर्शिता सुनिश्चित करने और निवेशकों के हितों की रक्षा करने की अपनी परिकल्पित भूमिका को पूरा करने में सेबी की प्रभावशीलता का आकलन कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) was established under SEBI Act 1992, to regulate securities market, in light of Harshad Mehta scam.



Effectiveness of SEBI: the good

- Successful in improving market transparency,
eg) ESG reporting for companies on stock exchange
- More precise and stringent regulations

Red Herring prospectus rules (DRHP) section 124A amendment

Investor Education

- campaigns like "SEBI kehtakai"
- IEPF fund for compensation of loss
- PALL case

Ineffectiveness of SEBI : the bad.

- Failed to curb insider trading
 - Arshad Warsi case
- International confidence is low
 - Recent Hindenburg allegations
- Issue of both regulator & quasi-judicial authority
 - SEBI both makes rules & adjudicates via SEBI tribunal
- Issue of market fluctuation

Hence, following improvements in transparency capacity buildup is required for cleansing & regulating our markets.

Feedback

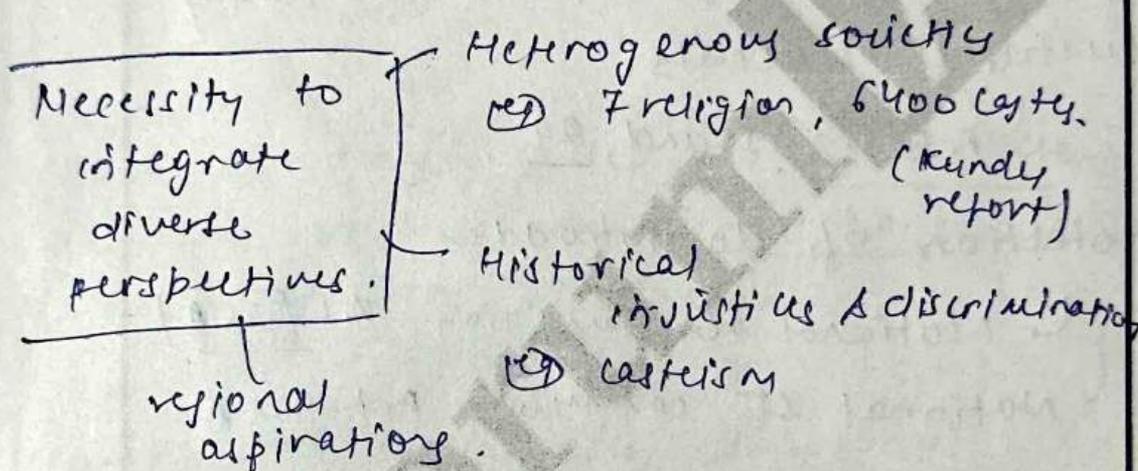
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Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.			
TOTAL MARKS			

Q.5) The foundational strength of the Indian Constitution stems from its ability to integrate diverse socio-political perspectives. Elucidate. (10 marks, 150 words)

भारतीय संविधान की आधारभूत शक्ति विविध सामाजिक-राजनीतिक दृष्टिकोणों को एकीकृत करने की इसकी क्षमता से उत्पन्न होती है। स्पष्ट कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Being made by over 500 representatives from different backgrounds, our constitution is a salad bowl of various perspectives and interests.



Manifestation of integrating diverse socio-political perspectives:-

(A) Capitalism and socialism.

- Preamble states India to be socialist (Gandhian type)
 - Article (19) gives right to profession.
- Hence, both perspectives upheld,

② Federal yet unitary.

- Dr. Ambedkar called constitution to be federal i.e. VIIIth schedule,
- yet centralising tendency like Article 356, to prevent disintegration
- ↳ balance of unity & diversity.

③ Freedom of religions and maintaining cultural practices.

↳ Article 25 and 29.

④ Protection of downtrodden:

- ↳ National SC commission Art. 338A
- ↳ National ST commission Art. 338A

⑤ Keeps in mind, regional imbalances

- ↳ special provisions for North East.
- Article 371A.

Here, our constitution - keeping in mind the heterogeneous order of our nation, represents diverse interests and perspectives for wisdom of sabka sath, sabka vikey

Feedback

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

Q.6) Parliamentary committees serve as vital tools for legislative oversight, ensuring accountability and transparency in governance processes. In light of the statement, examine the role of the Public Accounts Committee in establishing financial accountability of the executive. (10 marks, 150 words)

संसदीय समितियाँ विधायी निरीक्षण, शासन प्रक्रियाओं में जवाबदेही और पारदर्शिता सुनिश्चित करने के लिए महत्वपूर्ण उपकरण के रूप में कार्य करती हैं। कथन के आलोक में, कार्यपालिका की वित्तीय जवाबदेही स्थापित करने में लोक लेखा समिति की भूमिका की परीक्षण कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

"Parliament in house is for spectacle,
Parliament in committee is parliament
at work!"

- Lord Gladstone
(British PM)

NCRWC, has rightly called the Public Accounts Committee as the conscience keeper of financial matters of India.

Functions of Parliamentary Committee :-

→ Due deliberation over bill
→ Wage amendment bill

Building consensus among opposition members.

taking public opinion & suggestion

Gathering expert advice for thoughtful legislation.

(Don't Write in this Area पर कुछ न लिखें)

Role of Public Accounts Committee (PAC) in India :-

- with CAG's guidance, PAC examines.
 - Financial Accounts
 - Appropriation Accounts, and
 - Public undertakings Accounts
- to check the efficiency and propriety of public expenditure.
- to examine if expenditure made was actually sanctioned or not.
- to examine any other accounts called as to be checked by legislature for it
- it presents its reports to Parliament President who lays it on floor
 ↳ Members in opposition have backed up arguments.
 ↳ holds executive accountable.

Concern with PAC } advisory role (non-mandatory)
 } reports are post facto
 } capacity issues. (staffing)
 } absence of members.
 Hence, the conscience keeper needs revamping

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

TOTAL MARKS	
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Q.7) Without addressing the issues that hinder the full and effective participation of persons with disabilities in political and public life, the goal of achieving inclusiveness and their empowerment will remain unattainable. Analyze. (10 marks, 150 words)

राजनीतिक और सार्वजनिक जीवन में दिव्यांग व्यक्तियों की पूर्ण और प्रभावी भागीदारी में बाधा डालने वाले मुद्दों को संबोधित किए बिना, समावेशिता और उनके सशक्तिकरण का लक्ष्य अप्राप्य रहेगा। विश्लेषण कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

India has (~ 2.15%)* person with disabilities (PwD), recent paralympic has shown what the value they hold for our nation (crisis data)

Issues that hinder full participation is :-

political life no reservation available

↳ lack of mobility

↳ issues in voting, public stigma

↳ perception of strong leader

public life

↳ accessibility issues

↳ only 7% buses in Delhi, PwD friendly.

↳ discrimination-by mass

↳ Economic way

↳ problem in foreign employment.

Suggestions to boost participation of PwD:-

- Accessible India Campaign
(Suganya Bharat) & make public spaces PwD friendly.
- making change in public perception
eg recent paralympics performance
- political reservation
- proper availability of prosthesis
(↳ pbi scheme for medical devices.
APMD-CR scheme)
- making proper classifications of disability
eg no one size fits all approach.

Hence, to achieve goal of sabka saath sabka vikas we need to hand hold our PwDs.

Feedback

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

Q.8) What roles do community-based interventions play in enhancing access to preventive and promotional healthcare services in India? (10 marks, 150 words)

भारत में निवारक और प्रोत्साहनकारी स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं तक पहुंच बढ़ाने में समुदाय-आधारित हस्तक्षेप क्या भूमिका निभाते हैं? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Preventive healthcare in India

Community based interventions

- ↳ Aarogya Matri
- ↳ Aasha workers

Help in - raising pre natal awareness,
 - nutrition levels via
information dissemination
 - improving maternal health post delivery.

↳ packets of oats under PM
Mahila Vandana scheme

for prevent, IMR in

1999	2015
90	25

(IMRHS).

(Don't Write in this Area)
पर कुछ न लिखें

Forum IAS

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.9) The current composition of the UNSC, with under-representation and un-representation of key regions is detrimental to its legitimacy and effectiveness, underscoring the urgent need for reforms. Elaborate. Also, present a case for India's permanent membership in the UNSC. (10 marks, 150 words)

संयुक्त राष्ट्र सुरक्षा परिषद की वर्तमान संरचना, जिसमें प्रमुख क्षेत्रों का अल्प प्रतिनिधित्व और अप्रतिनिधित्व है, इसकी वैधता और प्रभावशीलता के लिए हानिकारक है, जो सुधारों की तत्काल आवश्यकता को रेखांकित करता है। विस्तार से बताइए। साथ ही, संयुक्त राष्ट्र सुरक्षा परिषद में भारत की स्थायी सदस्यता के लिए पक्ष प्रस्तुत कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Current world order was decided by victors of WW II which is redundant in current era

- Observer
Research
Foundation

Current composition of UNSC issues:

- Includes only 5 permanent members.

(Leaves behind 20% population (India). Under representation
Veto powers insure by Russia & China

- No voice to global south, no nation from entire Africa, but,

3 nations from Europe.

unrepresentation

(Don't Write in this Area)
पर कुछ न लिखें

Case for India's permanent membership at UN Security Council.

- world's largest population,
- 5th largest economy.
- voice of global south.
- ↳ developing economy.
- clean track record of peacefulness
↳ never started a war.
- Peacekeeping missions
(3rd largest contributor)
- Relief operations
↳ Operation Pawan
↳ Operation Dosti
- ↳ supported by Japan,
↳ USA
↳ African nations

Feedback

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#	G	A	P
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P & R			

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TOTAL MARKS

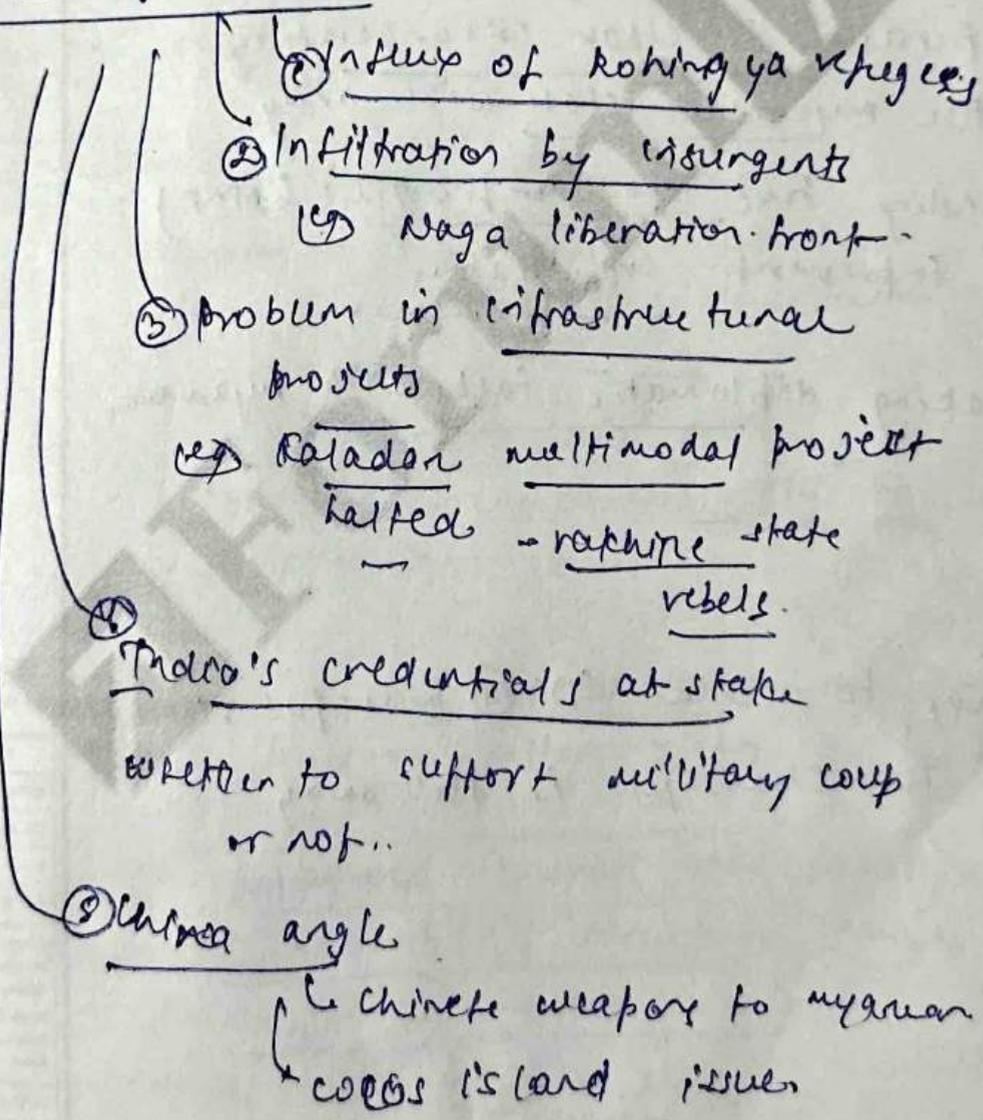
Q.10) "The ongoing internal crisis in Myanmar is impeding India's Act East Policy." In light of the statement, discuss the measures taken by India to deal with the crisis and associated challenges.

(10 marks, 150 words)

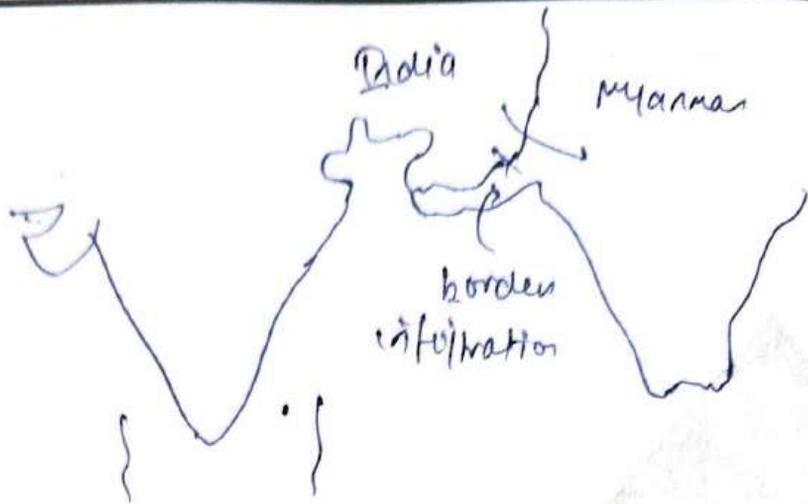
म्यांमार में चल रहा आंतरिक संकट भारत की एक्ट ईस्ट नीति में बाधा डाल रहा है। इस कथन के आलोक में, संकट और संबंधित चुनौतियों से निपटने के लिए भारत द्वारा उठाए गए उपायों पर चर्चा कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Myanmar is embroiled in a civil war with military junta on one side and youth rebels on other.

Challenges to India



(Don't write in this Area पर कुछ न लिखें)



Suggestions (Measures taken by India)

- Operation to clear insurgents in the myanmari state with army
- ending free movement regime (FMR) to prevent infiltration
- making diplomatic talks with myanmar

Hence, to achieve SDG 16 peaceful resolutions to challenges is still away.

Feedback
(For OFFICE use only)

#	Q	A
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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.11) "The Basic Structure Doctrine, lauded for safeguarding the core principles of the Constitution against majoritarian impulses, is also criticized for enabling judicial overreach and disturbing the balance of power as envisioned by the Constitution." Elaborate. (15 marks, 250 words)

"आधारभूत संरचना सिद्धांत, जिसे बहुसंख्यकवादी आवेगों के विरुद्ध संविधान के मूल सिद्धांतों की सुरक्षा के लिए सराहा जाता है, साथ ही इस सिद्धांत का न्यायिक अतिक्रमण करने तथा संविधान द्वारा परिकल्पित शक्ति संतुलन को बिगाड़ने के लिए भी आलोचना की जाती है।" सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Basic Structure Doctrine is the set of basic principles on which the soul of constitutional tenets lie. It represents immutable portion that are identity of Indian constitution.

Evolution

Shankari Prasad Case
Supreme Court (SC) said legislature
can amend anything in constitution

↓
Golaknath Case
SC called Fundamental rights to
be sacrosanct.

↓
42nd, 25th constitutional amendments
tried to alter rights

↓
Keshwanand Bharati case finally
made SC root basic structure which
couldn't be amended via law
re ideals like welfare state

It is the pinnacle of judicial creativity

Positivity

- Prevented despotism.
- eg) SC scrapped NJAL bill due to it
encroaching upon basic tenet of
independent judiciary
- maintaining unity of nation &
minority rights
- eg) In S.R. Bommai case, Federalism &
secularism were treated part of
basic structure
- Acts as north star of constitutional
ideals.
- Helps in maintaining credentials
of constitution as mentioned
in preamble,
- Keeps the vision of founding fathers
alive
- eg) Tenet of democracy - scrapped
electoral bonds scheme
- Judicial review to strike down
unconstitutional laws

Issues

- Basic structure was basically made by non elected judiciary.
- Democracy is by the people, and unelected judges can't decide what a democratic constitution should be.
- Constitution should be dynamic and ideals change with time
- Judicial activism issue - interference in religion. ~~case~~ Sabrimela case.
- Issue of judicial overreach ~~case~~ liquor ban on highway.

However

Basic structure has time & again proven effective to uphold rights of masses under article (13), (32) and (226) via Judicial review.

This upholds courts' reputation as defenders of constitution.

Feedback

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

Q.12) Enumerate the salient features of Representation of People's Act, 1951. In your opinion, what amendments are needed in the Act to further the cause of free and fair elections in light of contemporary challenges. (15 marks, 250 words)

जनप्रतिनिधित्व अधिनियम, 1951 की प्रमुख विशेषताओं का उल्लेख कीजिए। आपकी राय में, समकालीन चुनौतियों के मद्देनजर स्वतंत्र और निष्पक्ष चुनावों को आगे बढ़ाने के लिए अधिनियम में क्या संशोधन आवश्यक हैं? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Representation of People's Act, 1951 (ROPA '51) was enacted to conduct free and fair elections and addressing issues left by Act of 1950.

Features of ROPA 1951:-

1. It states the disqualification of legislators and candidacy standing for elections.
2. Lily Thomas case: conviction of 2 years or more debar for five years.
3. It also enlists electoral offences and the punishments for same.
4. It mentions the procedure for electoral dispute settlement and adjudication.

5. ROPA helps in addressing electoral malpractices.
6. It signifies electoral expenditure and affidavit for the same.
7. New amendments require :-
 - (criminal record and convictions)
 - educational qualifications (not-mandatory)
 to be filled with certifying nomination papers.

Electorate process 1.

However, ~~ROPA~~ is distraught with certain challenges in India.

1. Issue of defections, (eg) Shivde + Shiv Sena split
2. Criminalisation of politics.
 - ~ 47% legislators are criminals with 26% serious crimes (ADR).
3. Money power.
 - ~ Floor cr. (constituency) was spent in 18th US elections. (ADR)
4. Issue of Sarpanch pati. (ADR)

Hence, amendments are necessary in ROPA 1951.

- ①. Expenditure limits on candidacy should be extended to political parties
 ↳ to solve excessive spending via proxy
- ②. Making political parties' ITR on record, public.
- ③. Model code of conduct (MCC) must be legalised. in the ROPA itself
 ↳ to prevent polarizing speeches in rallies.
- ④. Anti-defection law must be made properly circumscribed in ROPA itself.
 ↳ to prevent speakers' discretion.
- ⑤. Fast track adjudication of legislators is required to prevent criminalization
- ⑥. Use of ICT must be increased
 ↳ eg) VVPAT reforms.

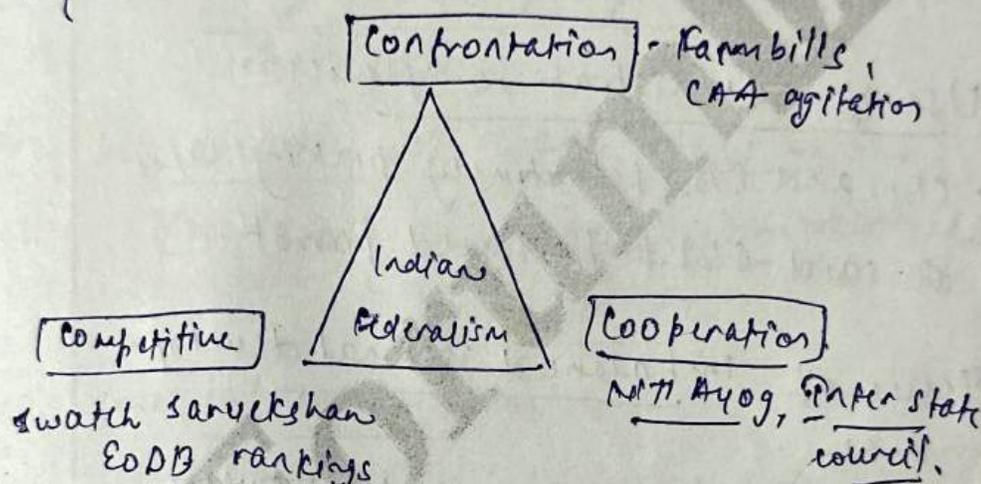
Hence, to uphold democracy in free and inclusive manner, ROPA amendments are necessary.

Q.13) The cooperative nature of Indian federalism is being increasingly challenged by emerging differences in Centre-State relations. Discuss. What steps can be taken to strengthen the cooperative spirit of Indian federalism? (15 marks, 250 words)

केंद्र-राज्य संबंधों में उभरते मतभेदों के कारण भारतीय संघवाद की सहकारी प्रकृति को लगातार चुनौती मिल रही है। चर्चा कीजिए। भारतीय संघवाद की सहकारी भावना को मजबूत करने के लिए क्या कदम उठाए जा सकते हैं? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

"Indian constitution is a federal one, but it can be made unitary based on circumstances". - Dr. Ambedkar,

Federalism in India.



Cooperative federalism: is one based on mutual respect & understanding of states and centre, or inter se.

① Cooperation in Inter state water tribunal awards

However, recently certain hiccups in cooperative federalism can be seen:

i - Increasing Centralisation

☞ increased union list matters in 11th schedule 97 → 100.

ii - Fiscal issues.

Lack of equitable devolution

☞ southern states' disagreement on population formula of 15th FC.

☞ GSTC cess. inadequate

iii - Use of administrative agencies

• CBI and ED selectively picking cases

☞ SC said CBI to be caged parrot.

iv - Issue of imbalanced regional development.

☞ farmer subsidies help North west more.

☞ Deficit in development of Bihar

v - calls for special category status by Bihar

vi - Issue of politicization of issues

☞ recent Rajiv Kar case.

vii - Mutual distrust among states and centre

① Article 356 used 125 times in 75 years

steps to improve cooperative federalism

① Office of governor.

↳ be made impartial, and less politicized.

↳ not West Bengal issue, Delhi 24 case

② Free independence of agencies.

↳ CBI, ED.

③. Hardholding of states left behind

↳ grant and devolution increased to 42% in PL

④. mutual cooperation

↳ increase inter state council meetings

↳ only met once in 3 years since inception

⑤. developing consensus based policy

↳ smart city mission

to uphold ideal of constitution and India's development, federalism is a must - NITI Aayog

Feedback

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



Q.14) Parliamentary privileges are fundamental for lawmakers to discharge their duties without undue influence. However, ensuring the responsible exercise of these privileges is crucial for fostering public trust and ensuring the accountability of public institutions. Analyse. (15 marks, 250 words)

संसदीय विशेषाधिकार विधि निर्माताओं के लिए बिना किसी अनुचित प्रभाव के अपने कर्तव्यों का निर्वहन करने के लिए मौलिक हैं। हालाँकि, इन विशेषाधिकारों का जिम्मेदारी से उपयोग सुनिश्चित करना जनता के विश्वास को बढ़ावा देने और सार्वजनिक संस्थानों की जवाबदेही सुनिश्चित करने के लिए महत्वपूर्ण है। विश्लेषण कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Article [105] of Indian constitution prescribes parliamentary privileges of legislators.

Necessity of privileges.

- to maintain impartiality and undue influence away from the lawmakers
- ensuring freedom of speech on floor.
- preventing public eye on sensitive matters & via secret meetings
- prevent scandalising the house by restricting publication of proceeding.
- to ensure healthy democracy
eg prevents civil case arrest
40 days of house meetings
- for smooth functioning of law making exercise.

Misuse of privileges.

- Causing ruckus in the house.
- ↳ case of MP flying slippers in house slogan chating.
- Disruptions via protests. by legislators
- Request expunctions by speaker to maintain discipline.
- Issue of escaping arrest while house is in session.
- Interrupting speeches to not let the speaker finish
- ↳ Mirumala Sittaraman vs. Rahul Gandhi case.

Effect of disruptions.

- Tarnishy sanctity of house
- Loss of public trust.
- ↳ remark of buffoonism by western media
- Decline in moral values of legislators.
- ↳ ex-VP Venkaiach Naidu's lament
- Issue of disrupting the working of house → 17th Lok Sabha way

The second least productive LS that lasted full term.

Suggestions

- Encouraging proper floor time to each speaker.
- Making sure no slogan chanting is done & issuing whips.
- Increase working schedule of the parliament for proper deliberation.
- Codified ethical code for do's & don'ts in house.
- Strengthening ethics committee.
- Proper disqualifications of mps in case of ephemity.
- Setting right precedent in Lok Sabha will change state assemblies too.

Here, the privileges are a safeguard for independence not, weapon of anarchy in house.

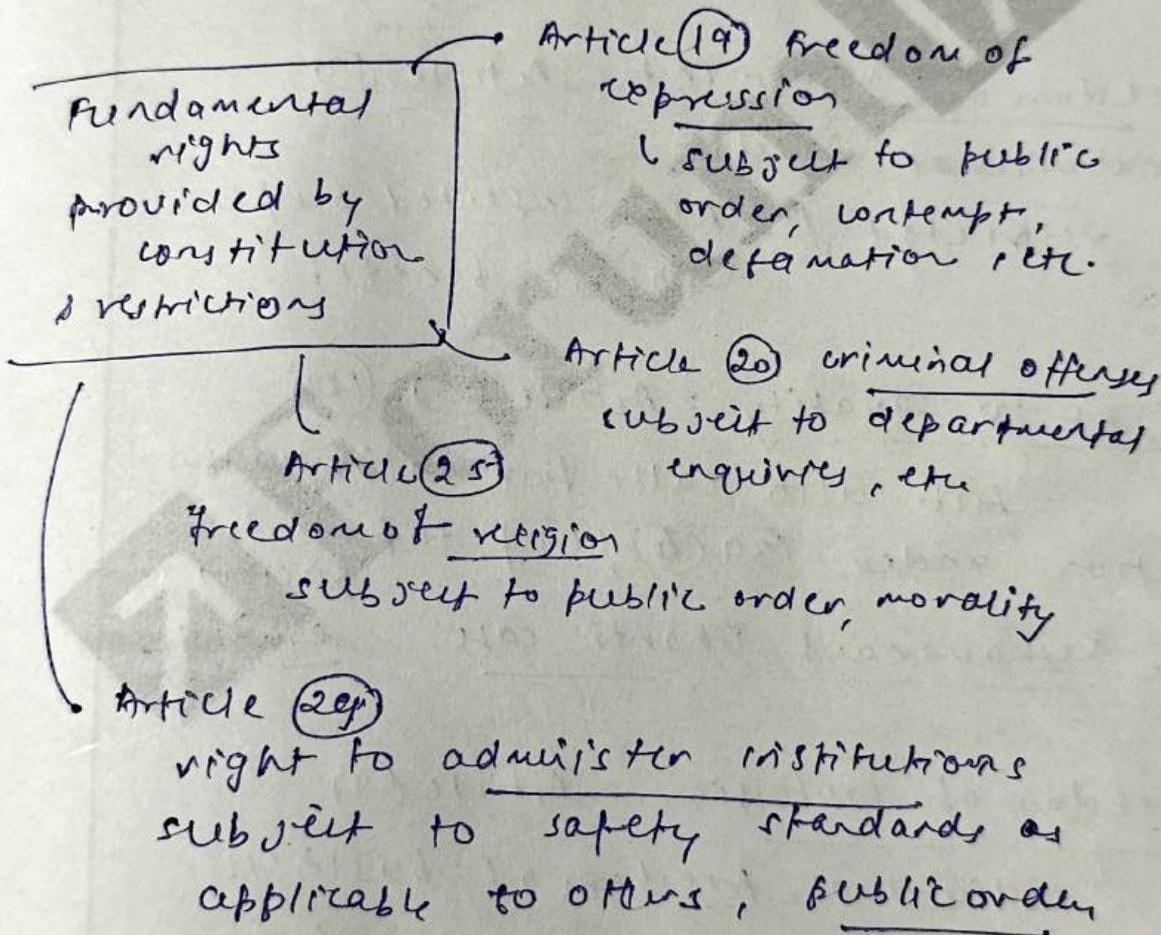
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TOTAL MARKS	

Q.15) The Constitution of India provides several rights that empower the individual, yet it balances these freedoms with reasonable restrictions in the larger public interest. Discuss how constitutional restrictions on fundamental rights strike a fine balance between individual interests and societal interests. Also, mention the principles that are considered in evaluating the reasonableness of restrictions with reference case laws. (15 marks, 250 words)

भारत का संविधान ऐसे कई अधिकार प्रदान करता है जो व्यक्ति को सशक्त बनाते हैं, फिर भी यह इन स्वतंत्रताओं को व्यापक सार्वजनिक हित में उचित प्रतिबंधों के साथ संतुलित करता है। चर्चा करें कि मौलिक अधिकारों पर संवैधानिक प्रतिबंध व्यक्तिगत हितों और सामाजिक हितों के बीच कैसे एक अच्छा संतुलन बनाते हैं। साथ ही, प्रासंगिक केस लॉ के साथ प्रतिबंधों की तर्कसंगतता का मूल्यांकन करने में जिन सिद्धांतों पर विचार किया जाता है, उनका उल्लेख कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

"Absolute liberty is no liberty."
- Margaret Mead.



Constitutional rights: balance individual & social rights.

①. Freedom of speech. - allowed as codified in Shreya Singhal case,

however, courts struck a balance between late speech & free speech in the Anusha Deygan case,

②. Freedom of movement - Article 19, individual freedom,

but, restricted for AIDS infected people social benefit.

③. Right to equality: Article 15, 16

but also calls for affirmative action under 134(b), (c) to promote social

④. Keshavanand Bharti case. equality.

④. Freedom of profession Article 19

individual freedom of business but, subject to public order & immorality.

eg) SC in Songrahi case & QB road case
Delhi HC

Principles considered in evaluating the effectiveness & reasonableness of restrictions.

① Doctrine of proportionality.

eg) Anuradha Bhasin case - internet shutdown to be only for temporary duration.

② Direct violation of restrictions.

eg) Shreya Singhal case :- speech should explicitly incite violence.

③ Public interest.

eg) striking down of electoral bond for violating information right

Hence, courts in India strike a balance between individual & social rights with certain limitations.

Feedback

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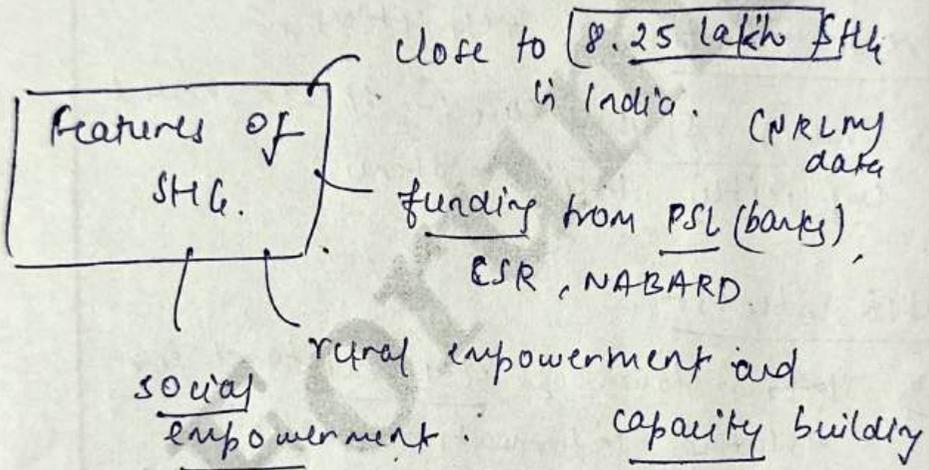
Q.16) Self-Help Groups (SHGs) can play a crucial role in alleviating rural poverty by providing women with access to microfinance, enabling them to start small businesses and improve their livelihoods.
Examine. (15 marks, 250 words)

स्वयं सहायता समूह (SHG) महिलाओं को सूक्ष्मवित्त/माइक्रोफाइनेंस तक पहुंच प्रदान करके, उन्हें छोटे व्यवसाय शुरू करने और अपनी आजीविका में सुधार करने में सक्षम बनाकर ग्रामीण निर्धनता को कम करने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभा सकते हैं।
परीक्षण कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

"Self help groups (SHG) are nation help groups (NHA)"

- PM Modi

SHG are voluntary organisations that collectively work for welfare of members.



Role of SHG is :-

- Alleviating rural poverty :
 - (microfinance) → loans ₹3 lakhs (NR call (RBI definition))
 - 1. Promoting small savings.

2. Linking with cooperative banks
 (eg) Mahila Sahakaribank in Maharashtra

3. Economic freedom of women.
 ↳ Chit funds scheme

ii) Entrepreneurship development

1. Help in training the women about entrepreneurship.

(eg) NGO Asha in Delhi's outskirts

2. Help in accessing cooperative societies like AMUL.

(eg) AMUL's list of women millionaire entrepreneurs.

3. accessing government initiatives for micro business (eg) Startup India scheme

(eg) Lakshmi Aidi scheme

iii) - Improving livelihoods

1. Helping learning new trades

(eg) Bark sakti, Beema sakti, Pashu sakti - (NSIC)

- SEWA - self employed women's association
- Kudumbashree program in Kerala.

Issues with SHG

- Lack of formal credit ($\sim 98\%$ agri. credit is informal) RBI.
- Capacity issues
 - ↳ illiteracy ($\sim 40\%$ women)
 - ↳ lack of awareness
- social awareness of initiatives.
- Issue of training
 - ↳ Only 47% women got successful business with only funds
 - ↳ but, 93% when both funds & training (~~NITI~~ NITI data)

Way forward

- ↳ linking PALS to SHGs
- ↳ making training available via CSO, NGOs.
- ↳ adopting Kudumbashree model in other states.

Hence, the road from SHG to NHG is yet incomplete to achieve SDG (5).

Feedback

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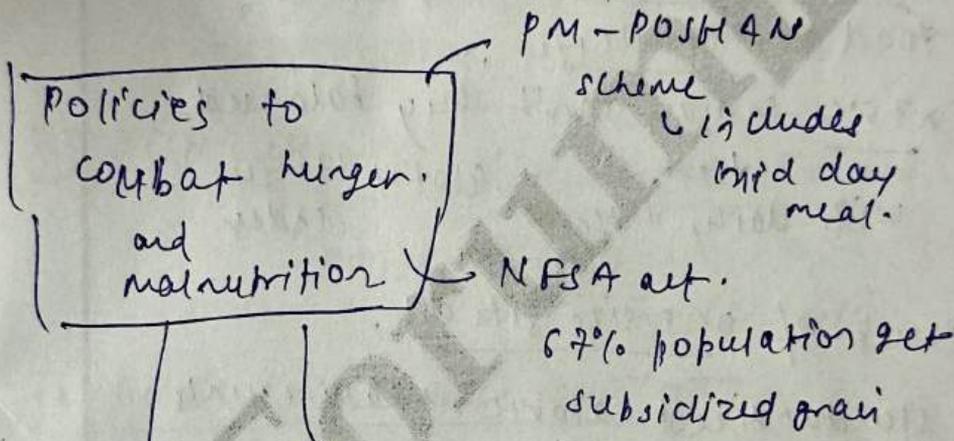
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TOTAL MARKS

Q.17) Despite the implementation of numerous policies and schemes aimed at combating hunger and malnutrition in the country, their effectiveness remains limited. Analyse. (15 marks, 250 words)

देश में भूख और कुपोषण से निपटने के उद्देश्य से अनेक नीतियों और योजनाओं के क्रियान्वयन के बावजूद, उनकी प्रभावशीलता सीमित बनी हुई है। विश्लेषण कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

India's rank of 111th in Global Hunger Index and one of world's highest rates of child stunting @ 19%, India's malnutrition and hunger schemes are lacking.



DDU-KAY

PM matru vandan yojna
grain & powder to women

However, its effectiveness is limited

- Leakages in PDS system

~40% grains leaked (Sharma Kumar) committee report

- focus are regionally

disbalanced → more focused to north & west India

is writing straight from question wrong?

- Hunger removal, not nutrition is focused

eg ↑ anaemia in women @ 56% - NFHS 5

- Issue of labour quality of food grains.

eg UP's sorbhadra - stores in food grains

- Affordability of quality nutritious food is challenge,

eg ~75% Indians can't buy balanced diet. - global Hunger Index with daily wage

- Issue of one size fits all.

eg standardized caloric measurements without individual needs

Distribution Issues.

- Butter stock dispatchment, centralized
- Issue of inclusion-exclusion error.
- Ration card portability issues

Solutions

- ① Acquisition :- more nutritionally diverse food
 ↳ Govt. approved millet diet in mid day meal.
- ② Stocking → regionally balanced stocking
 (Shanta Kumar committee).
 FCI's reforms.
 needed - PPP model → (Arund Subramanian committee)
 reduce stocking loss
- ③ Distribution → one nation one ration card,
 proper identification of beneficiaries
- ④ Adolescent girls' nutrition.
 ↳ protein diet should be given.
 ↳ PM POSHAN scheme
- ⑤ Dewormification - Albendazole tablets distribution in schools.

Hence, there is a long way to achieve SDG 2 No hunger in India

Feedback

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



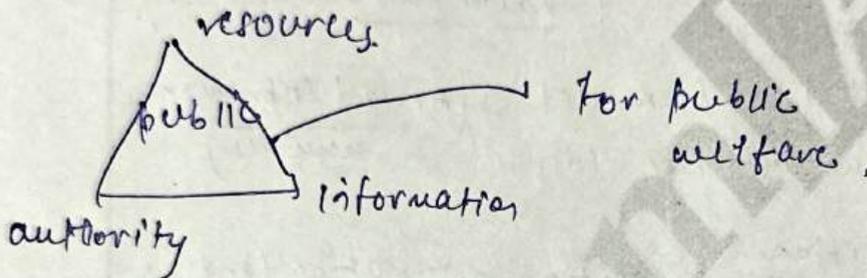
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Q.18) The true test of good governance is the degree to which it ensures accountability towards citizens and delivers on the promise of sustainable and inclusive human development. Discuss in the context of challenges to good governance in India. (15 marks, 250 words)

सुशासन की असली परीक्षा इस बात से होती है कि वह किस हद तक नागरिकों के प्रति जवाबदेही सुनिश्चित करता है और सतत एवं समावेशी मानव विकास के वादे को पूरा करता है। भारत में सुशासन के समक्ष चुनौतियों के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Good governance refers to the one in which the public resources are used for public welfare in inclusive manner.



Truly good governance ensures accountability

i- via social audit.

eg MGNREGS, PM POSHAN

ii- via promoting transparency in administration

eg RTI, CGRAs.

iii Grievance redressal mechanism

It ensures the inclusive & sustainable human development

↳ via last mile delivery

↳ citizen charter :- quality & standard of service

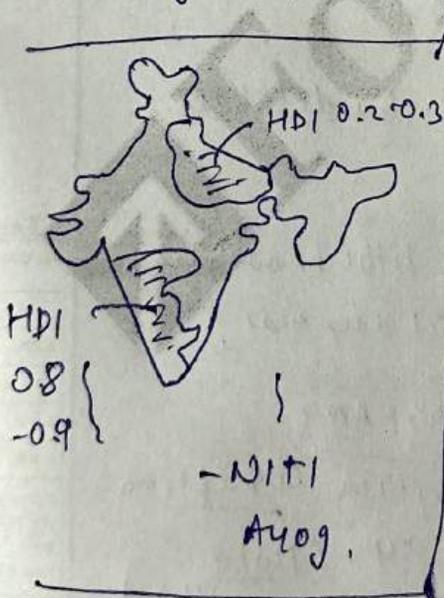
Issues in creating good governance:-

Accountability challenges

- issue of awareness in people.
- ⊙ paper social audit in MGNREGS
 - reluctance to share power to ULBs. & panchayats.
- ⊙ no state devolved all 29 matters of 73rd amendment
 - Overlapping jurisdiction in para-statal departments
 - ↳ escape of responsibility

sustainable & inclusive human development

- regional imbalance



- issue of capacity building & fund devolution
- problem of departmental apathy.

Suggestions

- ① Coordination between centre, state & local bodies
 - ↳ synchronized policies, & duplication
- ② Beneficiary identification
 - ↳ NITI aayog found Nai Roshni beneficiaries already had cycles.
- ③ Usage of ICT
 - ↳ DBT — prevent leakage
- ④ Include public participation
 - ↳ in formulation of policy
 - ↳ Jan Bhayidari, Delhi
 - ↳ in implementation
 - ↳ Jal Saheli, Bundelkhand
 - ↳ in monitoring
 - ↳ social audit of Kitti bhajan in bridal day near,
- ⑤ Ensure accountability in CPGRAMS.
 - ↳ Strengthen complaint app. (Hota com/Hel)

Here, good welfare for all cases achieved only by good govt man.

Feedback

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

TOTAL MARKS	
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Q. 19) As the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) provides a judicial mechanism for the peaceful resolution of international disputes. In this context, throw light on the structure and mandate of ICJ. Also, highlight the challenges it faces in fulfilling its mandate. (15 marks, 250 words)

संयुक्त राष्ट्र के प्रमुख न्यायिक अंग के रूप में, अंतर्राष्ट्रीय न्यायालय (ICJ) अंतर्राष्ट्रीय विवादों के शांतिपूर्ण समाधान के लिए न्यायिक तंत्र प्रदान करता है। इस संदर्भ में, ICJ की संरचना और अधिदेश पर प्रकाश डालें। साथ ही, अपने अधिदेश को पूरा करने में आने वाली चुनौतियों पर प्रकाश डालें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Recently, South Africa raised case against Israel for "genocide" in Gaza strip in wake of operation Iron Swords.

International Court of Justice (ICJ)

- Headquartered in Switzerland, Geneva
- ~~is~~ most supreme court of adjudication in international law
 - (
 - ↳ Arbitration cases.
 - ↳ cases against UNCTAD convention.
- In line with Article 6 on UN charter → peaceful resolution of international matters.
- Does (not) try individuals, but only nations, corporations.

Structure of ICJ

- ① 10 judges each with a fixed tenure.
- ② judges are appointed in round robin format with absolute unilateral vote of all the judges.
unanimous
- ③. judges try the cases on basis of international common law.

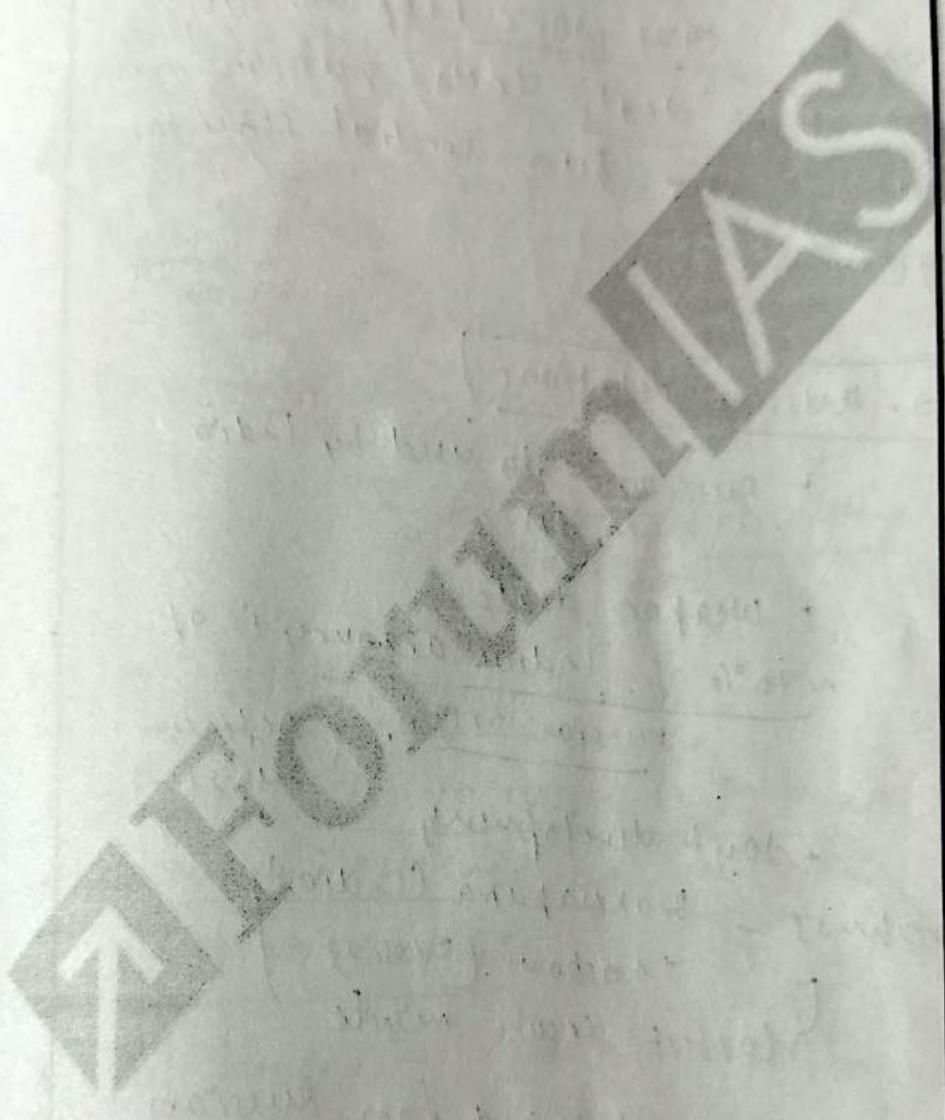
Mandate of ICJ

- ① uphold the ideals of UN charter.
- ② Proper justice in fast manner to the litigants.

Issues with ICJ

- ①. Lack of sanctioning capacity
↳ is not linking with UN security council.

- ② Issue of blockages by other superpowers.
- ③ - Issue of



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.20) Geopolitical shifts pose challenges to India-Russia relations, yet the relationship remains robust, driven by deep-rooted trust and a shared commitment to sustain a multifaceted strategic partnership. Analyse. (15 marks, 250 words)

भू-राजनीतिक बदलाव भारत-रूस संबंधों के लिए चुनौतियां पैदा करते हैं, फिर भी संबंध मजबूत बने हुए हैं, जो गहरे विश्वास और बहुआयामी रणनीतिक साझेदारी को बनाए रखने के लिए एक साझा प्रतिबद्धता से प्रेरित हैं। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

From the 1971 war's help to the recent S-400 deal, Indo-Russian relations have been cordial since the beginning.

Indo-Russian relations

- Russian veto used by India in UNSC
- Weapon deals
- ~70% of Indian armoury is of Russian origin, (Defense Minister)
- Joint developments.

(Brahmos - Brahmaputra (India) + Moskovi (Russia))
fastest cruise missile

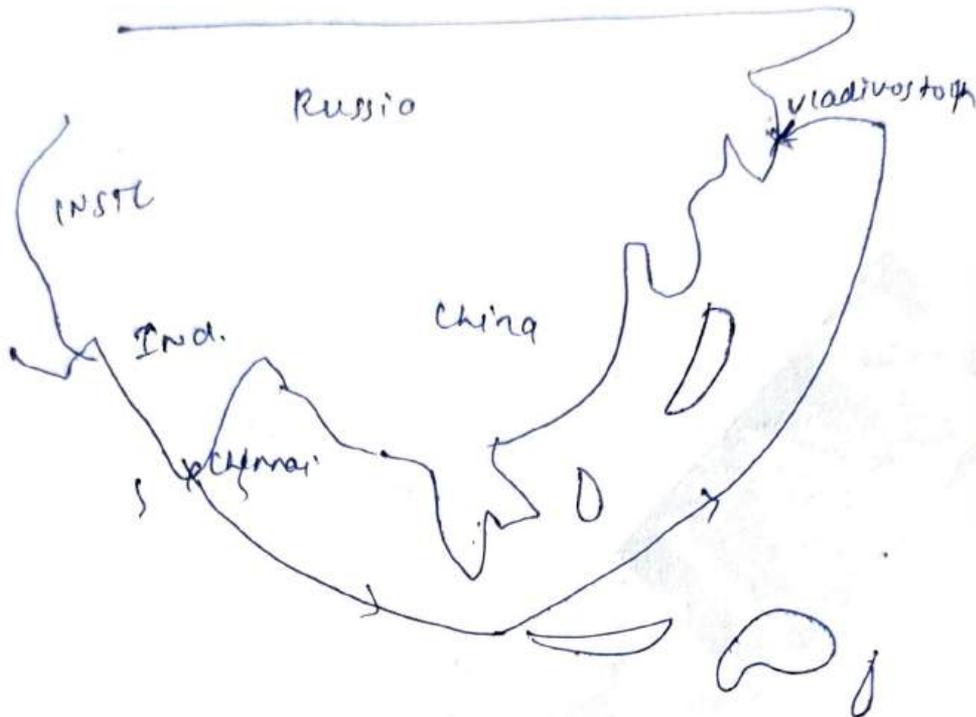
- India abstained from Russian operation in Ukraine's voting
- India-Russia ⇒ Rupee-Rouble trade deal.

Strains in Indo Russian relations.

- Rise of China
(Russia's biggest oil buyer and investor.)
- Problem of North Korean weapons in Russia
(North Korean hackers attack Indian grid)
- Issue of constitutional morality
(Russian invasion of Ukraine was unjustified)
↳ allegation of fence sitting on India

Yet, the relationship is robust.

- recent visit to Russia by PM Modi.
- consensus achieved on New Delhi Declaration of G20.
- Oil buying → India one of the highest buyers
- INSTC corridor talks.
- Chennai Vladivostok navigation route.



Hence, India - Russian relations are strong as ever.

ForumIAS

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			

Mentor Feedback Questions

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

Test Goal

- 1
- 2
- 3

Outcomes

-
-
-
-

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		

* Subject to change without prior notice.