

TEST CODE 8 1 2 4 1 4

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 | Jitendra | | |
| Roll No./अनुक्रमांक | 1910047578 | Medium/माध्यम | English <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> हिंदी <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र | Karolbagh - 1901 | Date/दिनांक | 07 August 2025 |

*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 | | | 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 | | | 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 | | | 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 | | | 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 | | | 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 | | | |
| Examiner's Discretion/मूल्यांकन कर्ता का विवेक : | | | For Student Only / केवल परीक्षार्थी प्रयोग हेतु | |
| | | | Start Time/शुरुआत करने का समय : | End Time/समाप्त करने का समय : |
| | | | 1:00 | 4:20 |
| Total Marks/कुल अंक : | | | Mode Of Examination/ परीक्षा की विधि : | Online/ऑनलाइन <input 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 आदि के उपरान्त, फ्लोचार्ट तथ्यों और आंकड़ों या समग्र रूप से किसी अन्य विषय वस्तु, जो मूल्यांकन कर्ता को आपकी कॉपी में पसंद आया के अलावा पर (लेकिन इन्हें तक सीमित नहीं) पर दिए गए अंक हैं। | | | For Office Use Only / केवल कार्यालय प्रयोग हेतु | |
| | | | ECN CODE/ ईसीएन कोड : | Evaluation Date/ मूल्यांकन तिथि : |
| | | | ① ② ③ ④ ⑤ | |

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

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

Preamble as mentioned by Kan Murshid

is the horoscope of constitution, encompasses ideals, vision and objectives of constituent assembly and Indian constitution.

⇒ Preamble successfully realising its ideals

① The ideal of socialism and welfare state are witnessed in government's developmental paradigm
Ex: - MGNREGA - 100 days employment
- Land reforms - redistribution

② Free and fair elections, attesting affidavit about backgrounds of contesting candidate, empowered ECI (Art 324) creates Republicanism and deeper democracy also 73 and 74th CA (1992) ensures grassroot participation (Art 40) - DPSP.

③ The idea of principled distance Model of secularism leads to accommodation of diverse spirit (Rajeev Shrivastava)

④ India exercises autonomy in foreign policy decisions reflecting sovereignty
Ex: Defense deals with both USA and Russia.

→ However some features of Preamble are unfulfilled

① Oxfam report - HI. holding 50% resource reflects inequality question socialism and welfare.

② Communal violence, ethnic conflicts raises suspicion on secularism

③ Electoral malpractices, decriminalisation of politics erodes democratic ethos.

However, largely Preamble have been successful in realising its ideal, while creating developmental society.

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

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

(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Right to property, a constitutional right mentioned in Article 300A of Part XII of Indian Constitution, thus institutionalising the property rights (John Locke)

⇒ Evolution of property rights in India is as follows:

- ① Earlier property rights was fundamental right under Article 19 of Part III of constitution, prioritising individual liberties.
- ② Governments socialist role strove for redistributive justice (land reforms) thus ~~is~~ creating tussle between fundamental right to property and public welfare.

③ Supreme court in A.K. Gopalan case prioritised parliamentary sovereignty, however petitions against FR were filed.

④ Parliament added 9th schedule to constitution, to save laws from judicial review

⑤ Supreme court in Keshavnanda Bharati case gave basic structure doctrine, further in Minerva Mills and Cooper case the doctrine for judicial review was explicitly mentioned.

⑥ This property can be taken by state for public welfare, by procedure established by law (Article 21), while equitable compensation given back was accepted by courts and parliament.

In this way property rights have evolved in India, balancing individual rights while focusing on public welfare.

Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

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

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

National Emergency as mentioned in

Article 352 under part XVIII of constitution

is special measure to maintain law and order and national security of country

→ Conditions on which National emergency can be proclaimed

- War
- External aggression
- Armed rebellion (earlier internal disturbance replaced by (44th CAA) (1978))

→ It was last imposed in 1971 during Bangladesh liberation war and India-Pakistan crisis, further extended during 1975 due to internal disturbances and political conflicts.

→ Consequences of National emergency

- ① State legislative and executive power comes under control of parliament and president.
- ② State legislative can continue, however overriding condition by central laws and president's power.
- ③ Lok Sabha's tenure can be increased by 1 year at a time ~~by~~ during National Emergency is in operation.
- ④ It can be imposed all or any certain part of India (with CAA, 1978).

Thus National Emergency impact the administrative and federal relations between centre and state, while creating avenues for unification (centralising tendency) when country faces threats.

Feedback

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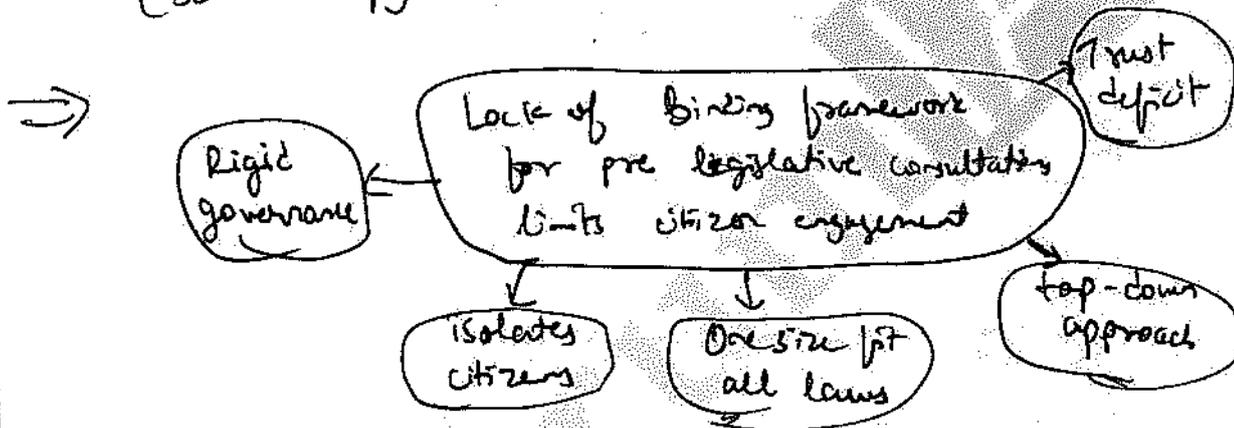
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Q.4) 'Lack of a binding framework for pre-legislative consultations in India limits citizen engagement in the lawmaking.' Propose measures to strengthen the role of public consultation in the legislative process. (10 marks, 150 words)

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

Participatory democracy as envisioned by Ambedkar in his book "Kind Swaraj", envisaged greatest role and influence, responsive law making (bottom up).



⇒ Measures to strengthen role of public consultation in legislative process

- ① Creating public spheres (Habermas) where citizens can participate in law making (Ex: Platforms, debates, etc).
- ② Capacity building (Arten) to empower citizens so that they can effectively

participate in pre-legislative consultations.

- ① Compulsory putting bills under public scrutiny, while publishing it on social media for awareness generation.
- ④ Leveraging social capital (CSO, NGO) for increasing public participation.
- ⑧ Political will, bureaucratic proactiveness, administrative flexibility and procedural easing are other structural bottlenecks, which can be made adaptable for increasing role of public consultations.

Pre-legislative consultations are

single-point for participatory democracy, where citizens engagement is crucial for making responsive, inclusive, collaborative laws.

Feedback

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

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

Finance Commission is ~~also~~ established under Article 280 of Constitution, appointed by President of India, thus creating avenues for fiscal federalism in India.

⇒ Recommendations of 15th FC have improved fiscal condition of state in following ways

① The terms of reference reflected allocation ~~for~~ based on area wise, forest, population control which distributed finances based on pragmatic measures.

② The direct vertical devolution (41%) of taxes increased resources for states, while (-) reduction ~~due~~ from 14th FC was in response to creation of IT&K and Ladakh as uti.

③ Other grants give extra resources to states, thus improving fiscal space.

⇒ However 15th FC was criticised due to certain factors

- ① The extra grants recommended were tied in nature, thus limiting space for localised expenditure.
- ② It reflected "one size fit" approach in disbursing funds.
- ③ Non consideration of 'loss due to GST' further limited fiscal space of state in devolution of taxes.
- ④ Recommendatory nature, lack of expertise, rigid terms of reference are other challenges marking 15th FC.

With increasing flexibility in granted resources and bottom up approach, the recommendations of 15th FC and 16th FC (future) ~~can~~ have potential to enable the states to improve their fiscal conditions.

Feedback

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

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

India adopted democratic socialism where private sector also contribute to overall socio-economic development of country.

⇒ Industries contribute to socio-economic development in following ways

① Companies are legally mandated under Companies Act, CSR activities to take responsibility for social development.

② They provide funds for social developmental projects
E.g. Water resource project in eastern Rajasthan.

③ Business associations contribute

Through planning and expertise they help in managing social security
 Ex: Afforestation drives.

(4) Free education, health benefits etc are other avenues of redistributive justice.

However challenges like aid-dependency, discriminatory policies etc need to be checked, so that they can effectively contribute to overall inclusive growth.

Feedback

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

(10 marks, 150 words)

"भारत की निर्धनता देखने वाले की आँखों में है।" इस कथन के आलोक में, देश में एक विश्वसनीय और समय-समय पर अद्यतन किए जाने वाले निर्धनता आकलन ढाँचे की आवश्यकता का परीक्षण कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

According to Nikhil Aranyan MPI (2023)

there are around 23-1 multidimensionally poor in India.

⇒ Need for credible and periodically updated poverty estimation is as follows:

- ① Different committees gave different criteria for poverty estimation in India based on restriction, income
Ex: - Rangrajn committee
- Tendulkar committee
- ② Amartya Sen mentioned about deprivations among poors as measurement.
- ③ World Bank's MPI, encompasses deprivation based approach, which is considered inclusive to assess poverty.

④ Localised and bottom up estimation framework should be formulated which reflects objective reality.

⑤ However present frameworks are considered holistic, inclusive and based on various parameters which nullify the updation of poverty estimation.

Nevertheless, in evolving society, economically and politically, different framework to estimate poverty are needed for quality and quantity assessment.

Feedback

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

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

POCSO Act 2012 was enacted to protect children from sexual offences and abuses, ensuring basic rights of childrens.

⇒ Objectives of POCSO Act, 2012

- ↳ Definition of sexual act
- ↳ Punishment (strict) criteria
- ↳ ~~State~~ Maintaining dignity of victim
- ↳ Strict timeline for investigation.

⇒ POCSO Act fall short in following ways

- ① Its intended objectives of strict timelines are violated by police.
- ② Lack of police's proactiveness to file case timely (FIR).

③ fear of ostracisation, stigmatisation deter victim families to register case

④ POCSO Act does not cover online sexual abuse, digital rapes etc

Amending POCSO Act, while reflecting present realities and enforcing accountability will go long way to achieve its objectives and protect child rights.

Feedback

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

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

World Health Organisation way needed to maintain global health and address major health crisis, diseases, access to medicines etc.

→ Criticism of WHO

- ① WHO is being criticised due to its late reaction against China and delayed response during COVID-19.
- ② WHO is facing challenge of expert doctors, administrative staffs -
- ③ USA's withdrawal of funds exposed it to doomancy thus paralysing the body.

⑦ WHO's incapacity is visible in ~~many~~ various domains from vaccines to medicine

However WHO effectively played role during pandemic, disease in Africa (M.P.O.C) global research in health sector.

~~but~~ Present challenges call for effective ^{measures} ~~measures~~ funding, manpower and capacity building to make WHO function again to address global health problems.

Feedback

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

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

Presently, universal definition of Terrorism is not accepted and codified which creates challenges in taking action against such acts.

→ The world continues to operate in a 'my terrorist' versus 'your terrorist'

↳ Geopolitical factors impact terrorist actions

↳ Countries' National interest drives action against terrorism

Ex: Pakistan support for terrorism

→ Strategies to ~~develop~~ tackle terrorism

① Developing global consensus on definition of terrorism.

- ② Using CCIT (UN) , RATS (ILO)
to tackle terrorism.
- ③ Targetting breeding grounds of
terrorism (Ex: Pakistan, Middle East)
- ④ Curbng financing mechanism of
terrorist support and acting
against organised crime.
- ⑤ Deploying UNPKF against terrorism

Tribal terrorism is blot on
peaceful global society, which calls for
strict action against human rights violations
and threat to life creating terrorist
acts.

Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

| # | G | A | P |
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MARKS

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

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

Representation of People Act, (1951) create

institutionalized framework for regulation of election, procedures, protocols, manpower and various other parameters associated with elections.

⇒ Procedure for registration of ECI

- ① ECI has the power to register political parties.
- ② Political parties having common ideology, group of people, manifesto, party structure can approach ECI for registration.
- ③ Filing form under RPA, 1951, post verification by election officials and attesting documents parties are registered.
- ④ Parties get symbol based on its vote base and election districts, ECI (ECI choose among group of symbols)

⇒ Registered unrecognised political parties are ~~not~~ officially registered parties but not having significant voter base and electoral outcome, and their symbol is also allocated by ECI. The rationale behind their creation was to create level playing field for participation in elections and giving opportunity to everyone to contest.

⇒ Concerns associated with them

- ① Registered unrecognised parties are created to gain advantage of political freedoms, and privileges given to political parties
- ② They are not driven by national interest rather personal aims and selfishness.
- ③ They create burden on electoral

machinery for their registration, documentation, verification and cost associated.

⇒ ECI does not have the power to de-register a political party.

↳ Time and again various committees and Law Commission raised concerns to give power to ECI to deregister parties.

↳ It will deter electoral malpractices as well as check mushrooming of newer parties.

Reforms in RPA, 1951, as well as ECI are needed to ensure free and fair elections (basic structure - Indira Gandhi vs Raj Narain case).

Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

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

TOTAL MARKS

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

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

NITI Aayog was established in 2014, while replacing erstwhile Planning Commission of India (National Institute for Transforming India).

⇒ NITI Aayog successfully promoting cooperative and competitive federalism

- ① Participation of state in Niti Aayog council meetings leads to bottom-up planning thus promoting cooperative spirit.
- ② Niti Aayog driven by the vision of inclusive, deliberative policy making create plan which are localised in nature (3 year strategy statement, vision document)
- ③ Various indexes released by NITI Aayog

promotes competition among states

Ex: - Composite water management Index
- State education quality Index.

- ④ Its innovative programs like Aspirational district program, Atal innovation mission have decentralized development and elevated competitive federalism.

⇒ However NITI Aayog was criticised for not accommodating federal features

- ① NITI Aayog policies, statements were considered by ^{some} ~~some~~ state as universal and "one size fit" without carrying out extensive local data analysis, thus threatening cooperative federalism.
- ② Further its indexes have benefited more developed states, while ignoring poverty, underdevelopment in some northern states, thus eroding competitive federalism.
- ③ Lack of voice and effective participation

and lack of power to allocate funds erodes its nature of working for cooperation and collaboration.

(4) Despite its cooperative and competitive stance, its policies, advises are recommendatory in nature demoralising states to participate effectively.

With increased implementation of its policies, giving more voice to states in NITI Aayog meetings and participation of experts, NITI Aayog can truly emerge as platform of cooperative and competitive federalism.

Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

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

(15 marks, 250 words)

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

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Parliamentary form of government

adopted in India, where lower house (Lok Sabha) has speaker and dy speaker as head to maintain its effective functioning as mentioned in Part V of Indian constitution.

⇒

Post of Dy speaker goes beyond ceremonial significance and is indispensable to parliamentary democracy, due to following reasons:

- ① Dy speaker act as speaker of house, when speaker is absent or not able to work due to ill-health.
- ② He get similar power and privileges acting as speaker.
- ③ A Deputy speaker automatically gets authority of speaker, when removal motion (substantive) of speaker is in place.

- ④ He presides joint sitting in absence of speaker
- ⑤ His post is indispensable due to his role in ^{maintaining} continuity in house functioning.

⇒ Implications of prolonged vacancy of the Deputy speaker's post:

- ① Lack of election of Dy speaker reflects declining parliamentary efficiency and functioning
- ② It erodes public trust and credibility of ~~off~~ elected government (legitimacy crisis and trust deficit)
- ③ Overburdening of speaker due to procedural burden, where Dy speaker at time can act as ~~shock~~ buffer to share burden
- ④ It impacts overall functioning of

The Loksabha, as deyspeker
presides committees of which he is
member.

⑤ Impact accountability, scrutiny of
legislative works.

Thus regular election of
deputy speaker, and its efficient functioning
are crucial for representative
parliamentary form of democracy.

Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

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

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

The increased penetration of internet, and rapid flow of information, with infodemics call for regulation of online content.

⇒ Stricter regulation of online content is justified due to following reasons:

① Mis information, fake news, propaganda, etc create social conflicts, disturbs law and order.

② Pornographic content and its rapid penetration create moral and ethical repugnance.

③ The misuse of social media platforms by fabricating content for vested interests raised threats democracy (Ex: during elections).

④ Further online content accessibility also give rise to privacy concerns, data theft, hacking etc.
(Putaswamy case - Right to privacy).

⇒ Regulation of online content is threat to right to freedom of speech and expression in following ways:

① Social media platforms provide avenues for expression of views, opinions, beliefs.

② Access to online content is voluntary and not forced, it is based on free will of individual, he can restrict its use.

③ Supreme court in Anuradha Bhasin case recognised internet rights for doing trade (e-commerce).

④ Internet shut downs are increased in

frequency also threatens right to freedom expression, information and internet, which is also linked with online content.

⑤ Regulating online content will be like earlier press censorship.

Thus consensus building by dialogue and deliberation to regulate online content is required balancing individual rights and social morality.

Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

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

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

Indian constitution envisaged active judiciary which actively participates in ensuring free and fair justice system not only in country but also in its own functioning.

⇒ "The in house procedure" adopted by Apex court to inquire into allegations of misconduct against judges, have successfully ~~ensured~~ deterred erring judges in following ways:

- ① The formation of inquiring committee act as ~~to~~ small court inside court to inquire upon misconduct.
- ② It has power to call upon evidences, check records and ask for witnesses to effectively investigate misconduct.

③ The in-house procedure first ~~as~~ consult the alleged judge for neutral views and opinions based on evidences.

④ ~~It~~ These procedures ~~debars~~ judges from corruption, bribe and biased ~~the~~ judgements.

→ However in house procedure is criticised due to following reasons

① The in house procedures are considered biased to senior and famous judges.

② Lenient judge syndrome, favoritism, nepotism are also visible in the inquiries.

- ③ It have not deterred judges of misconduct.
- ④ Overall Impacted justice delivery as increase in pendency of cases (around 4 crore cases) -

With effective reforms in "house procedure" setting committee mandatorily to inquire with third party expert members from other courts, can increase effectiveness of "in-house procedure" in Apex Court.

Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

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

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

Free and fair elections are in-ques-
tion for representative democracy, which call
for procedural fairness in electoral rolls
and voting ids.

⇒ Need of linkage of Aadhaar with voter ID

- ① Increased cases of electoral malpractices, proxy voters and unauthorised voting ~~also~~ distorts electoral field.
- ② Demography changes due to refugees or migrants impact electoral outcome.
- ③ Delimitation based on old census and fixation of constituencies call for

Linkage of Ahaar with voter id to
reflect people's choices effectively.

(4) Instances of fake votes, ~~fake~~ ^{ghost} family
members necessitates ahaar - voter link.



However it is not needed due to
following reasons:

(1) Unnecessary burden on administration.

(2) Already strict mechanism to
register voters.

(3) Procedural machinery and fairness
in election procedure is ensured
by ECI, by flying squads,
voter awareness (JvEE), social media
regulation etc.

However, Athen - voter id link will have advantage, while broadly reflecting demographic changes, informed electoral choice in the light of increasing fake voter ids, thus creating fair and just electoral system in India.

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

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

Lateral entry means recruitment of individuals from private sector at joint-secretary level having domain knowledge and expertise.

⇒ Lateral entry as reformative step due to following reasons:

① It will invite expertise and knowledge persons thus increasing quality of service delivery.
Ex: Private infrastructure sector as chairman of NAI.

② Efficient functioning of bureaucracy, while ensuring responsiveness and capacity building.

③ Will make bureaucracy adaptable

flexible and outcome oriented.

- ④ Also recommended by Hota Committee,
to increase efficiency and
good governance.

→ However, lateral entry has faced
following criticism

- ① Favouritism, Nepotism and biased
recruitment, thus compromising
the purpose.
- ② Lateral entry might demotivate
students to work hard for
competitive exams.
- ③ Can lead to discriminatory
practices for political and
socio-economic gains.

④ Lack of acceptance of new lateral players from erstwhile traditional bureaucracy, thus creating siloes in governance framework.

⑤ With fair recruitment principles, while building capacities of traditional bureaucracy and adhering to Karan Aggarwal committee recommendations (ethos, ethics, equity, efficiency) civil services can serve its purpose.

Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

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

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

Rankings of Higher Education Institutions

(HEIs) reflects their relative performance and promotes them to increase their quality of education in the spirit of competition

⇒ Concerns about current ranking framework

① Lack of inclusive parameters

Ex: Western countries institutes have high class infra, while regional institutes lack such infra, but scaled on same parameters.

② Rigid approach of ranking having limited factors to consider results in ineffective rankings.

③ The inter disciplines have common ranking framework, which does not reflect broader goals of education.

④ Ranking based on ^{number of} citations, students rather on quality of outcome.

⇒ Measures to make ranking system more objective, inclusive and aligned with societal outcomes.

① Ranking based on new-societal parameters linked with infrastructure and other regional indices.

② Based on quality of outcome rather than procedural quality.

③ Ranking should consider country's GDP, per capita income, cultural ethos

So that qualitative framework to compare HEI can be derived.

- ④ New parameters like foreign students, scholarships, targetted outreach activity, innovation solving regional problems etc should also be considered.

As recommended by NEP 2020, reform in HEIs as well as ~~the~~ overhauling ranking framework is much needed to create inclusive comparative parameters for broader ^{goals} goals of education.

Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

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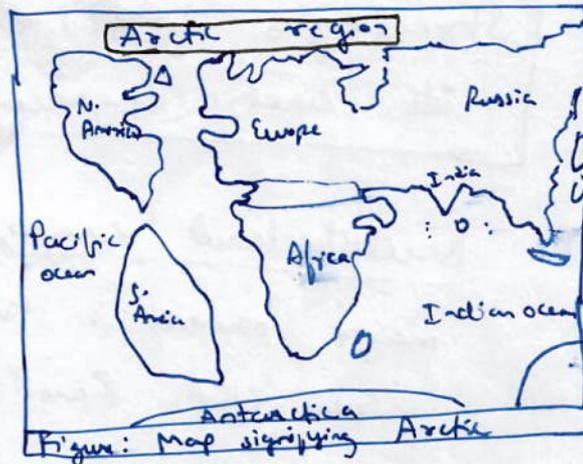
Q.19) Examine the factors behind the growing salience of the Arctic region in international politics. Discuss, in this context, strategies for India to recalibrate its Arctic engagement. (15 marks, 250 words)

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

Arctic region in the north pole of earth presently frozen offers opportunities for resources, navigable waters thus attracting global politics.

⇒ Factors behind growing salience of Arctic region in international politics:

① Arctic region have best potential of natural resources including natural gases thus ensuring energy security.



② This area ~~contains~~ have concentrations of rare earth minerals and other critical resources necessary for technology (IoT, Industry 5.0) and semiconductors.

- ③ After de-freezing of Arctic region it will offer potential routes for global trade, thus navigable waters.
- ④ Aquatic food potential, seafood etc attracts global fishing communities.
- ⑤ Countries trying to build their stations and colonising efforts reflects its emerging strategic concerns.



Strategies for India to recalibrate its arctic engagement:

- ① Multilateral engagements with all major powers in the region.
Ex: USA, Russia
- ② Establishing centres in Arctic to increase its outreach and utilising efficiently.
Ex: Umanotri, Bharati in Antarctica

- 3) India should effectively collaborate with regional partners to counter Chinese incursions in region (pragmatic politic).
- 4) India should follow principle of franchised of inclusive governance, while voicing against neo-colonialism of global commons (Arctic).
- 5) India strategy should be guided by SS Norms approach (Samman, Samvat, Samridhi, and Sanskriti, sabhyata).

This Arctic region holds critical importance in International politics, needing needing India to strategically converge its synergies and engage pragmatically.

Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

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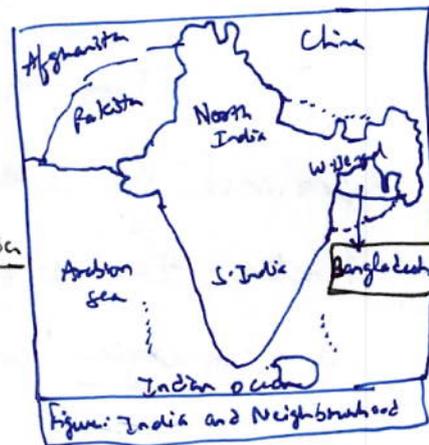
Q.20) Bangladesh is a key pillar of India's Neighborhood First policy, but recent developments on both sides threaten to disrupt the 'Sonal Adhyay' in bilateral relations. Analyze. (15 marks, 250 words)

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

Neighbourhood First policy as part of trilateral doctrine encompasses priority, respect and non-interference in internal matters, thus establishing cordial relations among neighbours.

→ Bangladesh as key pillar of India's Neighbourhood policy in following ways

① Bangladesh lies as India's eastern border, critical for handling insurgency in North East India



② Strategically important to address India's chicken's neck issue

③ Effective relationship with Bangladesh is

necessity for peaceful North east, connectivity in region.

- ④ Increasing influence of China in Bangladesh, calls for India's deepening ties with Bangladesh.
- ⑤ Bangladesh ~~is~~ further India's Act East policy and various connectivity projects (BBIN).

→ Challenges to India-Bangladesh relations

- ① Trade imbalance and increasing reliance on Chinese imports creates foreign policy ^{challenge} ~~issue~~ for India.
- ② Regime change in Bangladesh, which is not in favour with Delhi, creates strategic challenges.
- ③ Disruptive relations breeds insurgency.

and other security challenges in India's North east.

⑦ It also impact hydrodiplomacy and other cooperation parameters
Ex: people to people exchange.

India needs to strategically handle the political regime change in Bangladesh, while building trust between both countries is sin-que-non for 'sonech' Achaary in bilateral relations.

Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

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

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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 | | |

* Subject to change without prior notice.

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