282980_712302_1910110652_(2024-07-27 00:47:29)

TEST CODE	7	1	2	3	0	2

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	Vikash Patel		
Roll No./अनुक्रमांक	1910110652	Medium/माध्यम	English ☑ हिंदी ☐
Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र		Date/दिनांक	

*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

Q. No. प्र.सं.	Max. Marks अधिकतम अंक	Marks Obtained प्राप्तांक
1		
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20		
Total/कुल अंक	250	

Examiner's Discretion/मूल्यांकन कर्त्ता का विवेक :

Total Marks/कुल अंक :

*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 कर्त्ता 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।

INSTRUCTION / अनुदेश

1. Please do furnish Name, Email, Roll No and Mobile in the answer sheet.
कृपया उत्तर–पुस्तिका में नाम, ईमेल, रोल नंबर और मोबाइल नंबर भरें।

2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI, all questions are compulsory.
उत्तर पुस्तिका में अंग्रेजी/हिंदी में **बीस** प्रश्न दिए गए हैं, सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।

3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के लिए निर्धारित अंक उसके सामने अंकित किए गए हैं।

4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided.
उत्तर प्रवेश पत्र में अधिकृत माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए, जो कि दिए गए स्थान में इस प्रश्न–सह–उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के कवर पर स्पष्ट रूप से लिखा जाना चाहिए।

5. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum Answer Booklet must be clearly Struck off.
प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, यदि निर्दिष्ट हो, का पालन किया जाए। प्रश्न–सह–उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़े गये किसी भी पृष्ठ या पृष्ठ के भाग को स्पष्ट रूप से काट दें।

For Student Only / केवल परीक्षार्थी प्रयोग हेतु

Start Time/प्रारंभ करने का समय : 3 hrs 10 mins.	End Time/समाप्त करने का समय :
Mode Of Examination/ परीक्षा की विधि :	Online/ऑनलाइन ☑ Offline/ऑफलाइन ☐

For Office Use Only / केवल कार्यालय प्रयोग हेतु

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

IFoS IAS

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.

ForumIAS

(Don't Write anything in this Area / इस स्थान पर कुछ न लिखें)

Q.1) How will you explain that the Government of India Act 1935 was seminal in giving shape to the Indian constitution? (10 marks, 150 words)

आप यह कैसे समझाएंगे कि भारत सरकार अधिनियम 1935 भारतीय संविधान को आकार देने में महत्वपूर्ण था? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Constitution is a dynamic, sancrosanct document that contains the foundational laws of land and guides the democratic operation of nation.

Constitution of India was enacted on 26 Nov, 1949 after years long debate and discussion. Throughout its journey till taking final shape, it was influenced by many factors.

Constitution of other countries | Government of India Act 1935

Seminal Role of Government of India Act 1935

1) Political setup - The federal nature of polity was taken from provision of GoI Act 1935. Though 1935 gave more authority to states.

2) Judiciary - provision of supreme court was there in GoI Act 1935 which subsequently was made part of Indian constitution.

3) Power dynamics - distribution of power among centre and state was inspired from 1935 Act. Though act gave residuary power to governor, Indian constitution it ~~lis~~ with centre.

4) Institutions & bodies - 1935 Act inspired for setting up of bodies as - Public Service commission
Reserve Bank of India

5) Dyarchy and bicameralism
→ Current parliamentary setup where two houses play role in legislative domain is also inspired from 1935 Act.

6) Role of governor - governor as a link between centre & state is also inspired from 1935 Act.

→ Though 1935 Act played an important role in shaping of Indian constitution, other equally determining factors were inspired from constitution of other nations like Fundamental rights from USA, Fundamental duties from Russia

Feedback
(For OFFICE use only)

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

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

TOTAL MARKS	

Q.2) Strengthening the National Commission of Scheduled Tribes (NCST) through various complementary mechanisms can go a long way towards mainstreaming the welfare of the tribals. Explain. (10 marks, 150 words)

विभिन्न पूरक तंत्रों के माध्यम से राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जनजाति आयोग (NCST) को सशक्त बनाने से जनजातियों को कल्याण की मुख्यधारा में लाने में काफी मदद मिल सकती है। व्याख्या कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Article 338A of Indian constitution provide for NCST. Initially part of NCSC it was later separated as NCST through 65th CAA.

NCST plays a vital role in ensuring welfare of tribals and mainstreaming their concerns.

Monitor safeguard

Annual Report on Progress ← Role → grievance Redressal

advisory Role

Despite playing a seminal role it is facing certain challenges →
- Resource constraint
- Lack investigation Machinery
- Lack power of enforcement
- Only Recommadatory power

In light of above, certain complementary mechanism / provisions can go a long way in determining its efficient functioning.

ForumIAS

(Don't Write anything in this Area / इस स्थान पर कुछ न लिखें)

1) Dedicated investigation Arm - a separate investigative mechanism will help expedite cases relate to STs.

2) Dedicated fast track courts - to expedite the cases with respect to tribals bringing a speedy resolution and relief.

3) A research wing - data collected can be utilised to further chart out welfare measure and take a targeted approach.

4) A welfare board - To specifically focus on welfare measures and their impact.

5) A dedicated body to promote economic interests and enterpreneurship among tribals.

6) A unified grievance redressal portal.

7) A dedicated window to disseminate information about welfare measures.

These complementary mechanisms with NCST playing the role of supervision & monitoring can help mainstream the welfare measures.

Feedback
(For OFFICE use only)

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Please put tick marks in the above table.
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TOTAL MARKS	

Q.3) In what ways does the preamble reflect the ideals and aspirations of the Indian Constitution? To what extent have these aspirations been realised? (10 marks, 150 words)

प्रस्तावना किस प्रकार भारतीय संविधान के आदर्शों और आकांक्षाओं को दर्शाती है? ये आकांक्षाएँ किस सीमा तक साकार हुई हैं? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Preamble is an introductory text at the beginning of Indian constitution which provide a gist of the constitution and encshrines its foundational values & tenets.

Preamble reflect ideals and aspirations of constitution -

Ideals and aspiration	Extent of their realisation
1) Nature of polity - A democratic & republic	- India has been world largest functioning democracy, marked by change of power in various elections - President being elected heads the state.
2) Sovereign in its functioning & governance	Indian state has maintained its sovereignty and pursued actions that serve its own national interest eg. - Not taking side in cold war - Russia-Ukraine balancing

ForumIAS

(Don't Write anything in this Area / इस स्थान पर कुछ न लिखें)

3) Secularism as a basic tenet
- Constitution guarantees right to religion under article 25/26.
- State doesn't favour any religion and promote all equally
eg - Buddha circuit, Sufi circuit, Ramayan circuit

4) Socialist economy
- The socialist economy model in India is not about rigid state control over resources
- There is freedom to acquire asset & wealth & pursue business
- State intervene to address availability of basic resources to all as - Indian Railways

5) Freedom of belief, expression, faith, thoughts etc
7) These are guaranteed under fundamental rights and enforced by court.

7) Justice social, economic, political.
- to ensure it various provisions like - reservation in job, women reservation in Lok Sabha, Act like - Minimum Wages Act. etc

6) equality, fraternity, integrity and unity among all.
These are marked by provisions like - single citizenship, no special treatment to anyone, rule of law, celebration of diversity as - festivals etc

Feedback
(For OFFICE use only)

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

Q.4) How will you explain that Indian federalism is a happy mix of Unitarianism and confederalism? (10 marks, 150 words)

आप कैसे समझाएंगे कि भारतीय संघवाद एकात्मकतावाद और परिसंघवाद का एक सुखद मिश्रण है? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Nature of polity of Indian state is defined by Article 1 as union of states. It has further been termed as Quasi-federal by K.C. Wheare which indicate elements of both Unitarinism & confederalism.

A happy mix of Unitarinism & confederalism

1) Unitary feature-

1) Integrated nature of judiciary like in U.K.

2) Certain provisions like article 352, 356 which gives power to centre over state affairs under certain emergencies.

3) Article 2, 3, 4 of constitution which allows centre to change name, area and boundary of states.

4) All India services, provisions of GST further give a unitary feature.

5) Single citizenship, single flag.

6) More subject in Union list and doctrine of federal supremacy.

2) Confederal feature (powers with states)

ForumIAS

(Don't Write anything in this Area / इस स्थान पर कुछ न लिखें)

1) Article 246 - clearly demarcates power of states where they have exclusive subject matter jurisdiction.

2) Constitutional Amendment (A/368) - certain provisions can't be changed without assent of half of states as- A/246, election of President etc.

3) State to have own State language, separate bodies as - State finance commission, State Public service commission etc

4) State are independent to formulate own policy, take fiscal decision.

* Thus, we see a mix of provisions of unitary and confederism which has been succeful in running world's largest functioning democracy

As former CJI Chandrachud has said India polity is amphibian which changes between unitary and federal as per the need of time.

Feedback
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TOTAL MARKS	

Q.5) Leveraging real-time data in policymaking has become indispensable for achieving good governance. In this context, analyse the role of e-governance in enhancing the effectiveness of developmental policies. (10 marks, 150 words)

सुशासन के लिए नीति निर्माण में रियल टाइम डाटा का लाभ उठाना अपरिहार्य हो गया है। इस संदर्भ में, विकास त्मक नीतियों की प्रभावशीलता को बढ़ाने में ई–गवर्नेंस की भूमिका का विश्लेषण कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

E-governance is use of the information and communication technology at various levels of government with the purpose of enhancing delivery of services, participation etc.

Role of e-governance in enhancing effectiveness of policies

1) Cost-effective - For example maintaining digital land records or online application for services.

2) Transparency and accountability - for example government through Bhagati Portal monitors implementation of various scheme bringing accountability and transparency.

3) Grievance Redressal - CPGRAMS, Lokvani etc portal provide citizen with platform to seek redressal of their grievances.

4) Better public service delivery - through portals like UMANG where person can access multiple services.

5) Plug loopholes - use of Aadhar has led to better beneficiary targeting like in PM Awas Yojana.

6) Promoting better access to Education & healthcare facilities - through schemes such as - SWAYAM (online learning platform), DIKSHA (teacher training programme), and Ayushman Bharat digital Mission, e-Sanjeevani etc

7) Promote economic development - like - UPI, e-NAM, e-Rupi etc.

However, there are certain challenges -

- digital divide
- Access to internet
- lack awareness
- data privacy & security

Steps Needed → utilise PPP model
→ increase digital literacy
→ Strength data security laws

As PM has said that beauty of e-governance is that in a few keystrokes one can bring smile on millions of faces.

Feedback
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TOTAL MARKS	

Q.6) Critically assess the role of microfinance in satisfactorily addressing the interconnected challenges of poverty and unemployment. (10 marks, 150 words)

गरीबी और बेरोजगारी की परस्पर जुड़ी चुनौतियों को संतोषजनक ढंग से संबोधित करने में माइक्रोफाइनेंस की भूमिका का आलोचनात्मक आकलन कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

'Microfinancing' is providing financial assistance in terms of soft loans where the amount is generally less than 1 lakh.

* Poverty and unemployment together form a vicious cycle where by one leads to other –

Poverty → lack access to education, Health → lack skilling → No employment opportunity → informal job → poor income, no safety net → Poverty

These above interconnected challenges can be addressed by microfinance as –

1) Access to education & Healthcare – small education loans can enable an individual to pursue higher education after free & compulsory education till class 8 (RTE).
– also small loans can help address health emergencies.

2) Skilling opportunity – microfinance

can help individual to ~~enroll~~ enroll for various vocational courses and learn market relevant skill eg - A person can learn skills needed to be an electricians, plumber etc

3) Create job opportunities - with market relevant skills as mentioned above an individual can easily fetch jobs. as - electricians.

4) Promote entrepreneurship - A person with access to soft loans can develop risk taking attitude thus investing in new business ideas as - grocery shop

5) Other associated challenges it can address as with economic betterment it will bring social cohesion and harmony. Law and order situation will improve.

However, there is further need to - enhance access to microfinance
- softer terms
- MFI incentivised
- create awareness
- more formal source of financing
- organise in SHG etc.

As well said that investing in poverty & unemployment elimination is not a work of charity but ~~it~~ a responsibility to help realise basic human right of dignified life

Feedback
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TOTAL MARKS	

Q.7) What are the reasons behind the limited success of the co-operative movement? How can co-operatives be made more effective in fostering rural development? (10 marks, 150 words)

सहकारी आंदोलन की सीमित सफलता के क्या कारण हैं? ग्रामीण विकास को बढ़ावा देने में सहकारी समितियों को और अधिक प्रभावी कैसे बनाया जा सकता है? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Cooperatives are associations of people who come together to achieve common economic interests. as - AMUL cooperative of milk producers.

Cooperatives have played vital role in economic upliftment of people at grassroot. However, several factors have led to their limited success -

1) Regional disparity - In south & west India cooperatives are largely concentrated and states like Bihar, Jharkhand are not seen proper growth of cooperatives.

2) Political interference - A major cause for limited success whereby local elites have captured the whole machinery for their benefit.

3) Dual control over coop-banks - It has led to lack of due deligence by banks eg - PMC case.

4) Poor social capital - major thought

which led to growth of cooperative is mutual trust among members. In case it is missing a viable cooperative can't be imagined.

1. Others - Lack of professionalism, Lack timely elections.

How to make more effective in rural development

1. Build social capital - by sensitising the people and help them understand mutual benefit that can be drawn.
2. Improve governance - with proper elections, following a transparent governance mechanism, decisions are taken in a fair & inclusive manner.
3. Digitalisation - use of ICT to improve governance, being transparency like - disbursing digital loans.
4. Training programmes - to build professionalism.
5. Enhance credit pool and focus on regions with poor cooperative growth.

With successful examples of cooperatives in uplifting rural economy like IFFCO further focus on this sector can help ensure & achieve Sabka Sath and Sabka Vikas.

Feedback
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TOTAL MARKS	

Q.8) The principles of accountability and participation are vital to ensure the smooth implementation of welfare schemes, ensuring their success in reaching the last mile. Examine. (10 marks, 150 words)

कल्याणकारी योजनाओं के सुचारू कार्यान्वयन, अंतिम छोर तक उनकी सफलता सुनिश्चित करने के लिए जवाबदेही और भागीदारी के सिद्धांत महत्वपूर्ण हैं। परीक्षण कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

- Welfare schemes are policy actions taken by government to specifically target certain needs of a particular section of society eg - PM Fasal Bima Yojana for farmers, Eklaya school for tribal students. ~~These~~
- ~~The Account~~ These implementation face challenges as →
  - → poor targeting
  - → Leakages & corruption
  - → Lack evaluation,
  - → Lack of awareness

To address these issues, accountability & transparency plays vital role

Accountability -

1) Fixing responsibility - by ensuring accountability the role and responsibility of individuals in the delivery chain of scheme is ensured.
   as - holding owner of PDS responsible

2) Better targeting of beneficiary - as beneficiary of PM-Awas Yojana can be better approached with accountability at each stage.

(Don't Write anything in this Area / इस स्थान पर कुछ न लिखें)

3) Checking corruption - With defined roles, corrupt practices can be easily checked as - siphoning off of money.

Transparency -

1. Brings trust in the process - eg. individual can monitor his own application status and act accordingly.

2. Helps in monitoring of scheme - like - use of Pragati portal to monitor scheme.

3. Helps in mid-course corrections thus make it more effective eg - UJJAWLA beneficiary number increased

4. Checks Leakages - like use of digital delivery of services at PDS shops, e-sarathi to issue license

5. Feedback - A transparent system promote individual to participate in improving it.

* Welfare schemes are designed to achieve the tenets of equality and justice for all. In achieving this noble goal utilising of ICT tools can go a long way.

Feedback
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TOTAL MARKS

Q.9) The realization of a successful Asian century is premised upon stable India-China relations. Comment. (10 marks, 150 words)

एक सफल एशियाई सदी की प्राप्ति स्थिर भारत–चीन संबंधों पर आधारित है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

India and China both are civilisational states with their own ambitions & aspirations. In recent developments, Shri S. Jaishankar termed India-China relations as full of challenges which he further said that India is confident of managing amicably.

Current State of Relations.

- economic engagements
- global cooperation
- differences on border
- BRI passes through Kashmir

convergence

differences

One of most significant relationship of Asian century is key to Asian century

1) Economic growth in the region - with both countries as economic power house can jointly work in economic development of region as - BMIC corridor.
- can jointly invest in 3rd countries as - in central asian country

2) Maritime security - Navies of both can cooperate to ensure rule based, open sea lanes of communication eg - Joint

cooperation of both in Somali piracy issue.

3) Regional stability & peace - eg - to address issues in the region as - crisis in Srilanka, Coup in Myanmar, ensuring human rights of women are respected in Taliban governed Afghanistan

4) Cooperation in technological sphere - to ensure inclusive nature of technology like - cooperation in AI, 5G, Renewable energy.

5) Addressing common global concern - like - tackling climate change and its effect on SIDs through forums like - BRICS, G20, UNFCCC etc.

6) Others like - improve connectivity, address humanitarian crisis, energy security etc

Much Needed is to → maintain healthy and stable relations through mechanisms like BPTA, BDCA and other confidence building measures.

As PM has said "both India & China are Inch towards Miles (Millennium of exceptional synergy)." With this positive spirit dream of Asian century is no far away.

Feedback
(For OFFICE use only)

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Please put tick marks in the above table.
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TOTAL MARKS	

Q.10) ASEAN serves the twin purpose of developing India's Northeast and augmenting the country's reach in the Southeast Asian region. Comment. (10 marks, 150 words)

ASEAN भारत के पूर्वोत्तर को विकसित करने और दक्षिण पूर्व एशियाई क्षेत्र में देश की पहुंच बढ़ाने के दोहरे उद्देश्य को पूरा करता है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Recently, 20th India - ASEAN summit was held where relationship was elevated to comprehensive strategic partners level. This indicate the vitality of relationship.

ASEAN plays a crucial role in developing North east region.

1) Connectivity - Various schemes like - India - Myanmar - Thailand trilateral provide the region access to sea routes.

2) People to people movement - with ethnic ties across border. People movement brings economic opportunities.

3) Access to nearby market in the region.

4) Checking transboundary criminal activities like drug, animal, human, currency trafficking.

5) Also ensuring peace & stability in the region by checking insurgent groups like - operation Sunshine.

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Augmenting reach in South East

1. connectivity - through improved connectivity via Myanmar or maritime routes like sabang port.
2. Economic opportunities - like access to large market, investment opportunities eg - India - ASEAN FTA, 2010, 2015
3. Access to mineral resources - like India's interest in the offshore crude oil in vietnam
4) Defense cooperation in the region - like selling of Brahmos to philippines, joint maritime exercises like - SIMBEX with Singapore.
5) Part of regional governance & decision making through cooperation on platforms like - ASEAN defense ministerial meeting etc.
6) Political engagement - improve political relations through continuous engagements, frequent dialogue.

India has given priority to Act East policy which signifies the role ASEAN as a collective entity can play to pursue interest in the South east region and fulfil developmental needs of North East.

Feedback
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Q.11) The tenets of independent judiciary, life-breath of constitutional democracy, stand perpetually undermined by the executive encroachment into the judicial domain. Discuss. (15 marks, 250 words)

स्वतंत्र न्यायपालिका के सिद्धांत, जो संवैधानिक लोकतंत्र की प्राणवायु हैं, कार्यपालिका द्वारा न्यायिक क्षेत्र में अतिक्रमण के कारण लगातार कमजोर होते जा रहे हैं। चर्चा कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Independent judiciary is cornerstone of our democracy. and it is the key principle of separation of power among different organs of state that ensure a healthy and functional democracy.

Tenets of Independent judiciary

- Art 124 (fair appointment and removal process
- Article 121 (legislature can't discuss conduct of judges
- Rigid process of Removal
- expenditure is charged on consolidated fund of India
- Article 32 of judicial review
- Article 142 – power to do complete justice
- Article 136 of special leave petition

However, encroachment of executive undermine judicial independence

1. Reversing judicial pronouncements through

legislation - examples are - recent reversal of judgement of selection of election commissioner through Election Commission (Conditions of service) Act 2024

- Reversal of judgement in Government of NCT of Delhi case where SC gave authority in appointment in service matter to Delhi government.

2) Subsuming key role in judicial appointment
- through NJAC Act, however it was nullified by SC.

3) Delay in judicial appointment - It further undermines judicial strength and its independence.

4) Objection on certain recommendations proposed by collegium leads to delay in appointments.

5) Limiting power of judiciary -
Examples are - 42th CAA, 25th CAA limited judicial review power of court with respect to constitutional amendment Act
- The provisions for tribunal limited appeal to SC. However got struck in

L. Chandrakumar case.

6) Executive role in determining terms of service conditions, salary etc further highlight role of executive.

7) The insufficient status of infrastructure as highlighted by CJI Chandrachud also highlight role of executive as- 30% lower judiciary lack separate women toilet.

However steps have been taken to ensure the separation of power

1) Judicial pronouncements - like K.Bhatia case, Minerva Mill case struck down provisions taking judicial review away., also establish doctrine of Basic structure.

2) SC assumed power of appointment through collegium. (3rd Judges case).

3) MoP between Ministry of law and SC highlighting procedure for appointment.

4) Constitutional provision as discussed above.

Independent judiciary act as the guardian of Indian democracy ensuring a balance of power among different state organs.

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Q.12) Highlight the shortcomings in the Representation of People's Act. Also, recommend corrective measures to make it more effective. (15 marks, 250 words)

जन प्रतिनिधित्व अधिनियम की कमियों पर प्रकाश डालिए। साथ ही इसे और अधिक प्रभावी बनाने के लिए सुधारात्मक उपाय भी सुझाएं। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Representation of people's Act 1950, 1951 were enacted under article 102 of Indian constitution to streamline election process. They provide for various provisions related to electoral process.

RPA 1950 → seat allocation to states
→ Preparation of electoral Roll
→ electoral officers
→ Qualification of Candidate & voters

RPA 1951 → provide for disqualification of candidate
→ penal provision for corrupt practice
→ disqualification of voters

These acts have played significant ~~yet~~ role yet face certain short comings as-

1) Limited postal ballot provision - which denies large no. of people from participating in election as- migrant workers, NRI.

2) No separate provision against use of religious sentiments in election. Also no separate provision to check use of Armed forces in

pressuring voters. eg- Recent elections saw use of armed forces in rallies

3) Unable to prevent corrupt practices - as increasing role of money as muscle power

- ADR - 43% of MPs in 18th LS have criminal cases

4) Not in time with evolving challenges - as use of social media or AI tools for voter targeting eg- Cambridge Analytica case

5) False disclosure of assets by candidates

6) Not allowing undertrials to participate in voting thus denying them of Right to vote

To make the laws ready for present needs certain corrective measures are needed

1. Separate sections to be included to prevent use religious sentiment or sentiment associated with armed forces getting used.

2. Postal ballot expanded to migrant workers (as- This election ECI expanded it to those above 80 YRS)

3. e-voting - This idea can be also tested on pilot basis then amplified accordingly.

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4) Provisions to regulate of social media platforms during elections.

5) Checking fake information - which can impact outcome of elections in a malicious way.

6) Steps to address criminalisation of politics - where candidate with serious criminal cases are barred from election.

7) Steps to check increased use of money in elections eg - ADR - in 18th LS election 1.35 lakh crore rupee was used, highest in world.

Alongside reform in RPA, there is need to take a holistic view on electoral reform like - reforms associated with strengthening ECI. With this wholesome approach electoral process can be further strengthened to have a well functioning democracy as per needs of 21st century.

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Q.13) Examine the role of the National Commission for Women (NCW) in protecting and promoting the rights of women in India. (15 marks, 250 words)

भारत में महिलाओं के अधिकारों की रक्षा और संवर्धन में राष्ट्रीय महिला आयोग (NCW) की भूमिका की परीक्षण कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

NCW is a statutory body established to secure women rights and address specific issues of women

It has played a seminal role in protecting and promoting rights of women

1) Creating awareness :- It plays important role of sensitising women of their rights and women specific laws and schemes

eg- NCW carries out campaigns & publishes magazine to highlight women specific laws as- Anti Domestic Violence Act, Anti-dowry provisions.

2) Raising women specific issues - It has raised concern of women with legislature including Policy Advocacy as- commission has raised issue of sexual violence at work place. as

3) Advisory role - provides input in policy formulation as - gave inputs in formulation of POSH Act.

4) Suo-Motu actions - commission has pro-actively taken issues concerning women. eg - Raising Nirbhaya incident of Delhi.

5) Seek compensation - commission seek appropriate compensation in case of women victims.

6) Participate in judicial process to ensure justice to women victims. as commission has actively played role in ensuring speedy justice in Bihar shelter case.

7) Umbrella body - NCW act as a supervising & coordinating body between various women specific bodies operating in different states.

However, there are certain challenges associated with functioning of commission —

1) Political interference or executive influence - it affects its impartial functioning.

2) Delay in taking actions - as in case of Manipur where two women were subjected to inhumane beatment.

3) Lack of autonomy with respect to selecting its own staff.

4) Financial reliance over state. weakens its operational efficiency.

Certain steps are needed to further strengthen it → give it a constitutional status

Address Human Resource issue

Independent investigation machinery

financial autonomy (expenditure charged upon Consolidated fund)

Empowering women by empowering NCW will go a long way in achieving SDG-5, SDG-16 : a just, inclusive & peaceful society.

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Q.14) Despite constitutional backing, urban planning and governance have given limited dividends on the ground. Enumerating the reasons for the same, suggest measures to ameliorate the situation. (15 marks, 250 words)

संवैधानिक समर्थन के बावजूद, शहरी नियोजन और शासन ने जमीनी स्तर पर सीमित लाभ दिया है। इसके कारणों को गिनाते हुए स्थिति को सुधारने के उपाय सुझाएँ। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

74th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1991 gave constitutional backing to urban planning and governance by adding schedule 12 to Indian constitution which includes 18 subject of planning & governance with powers given to municipalities subject to state will.

Despite these provisions the results are not in proportion and only limited success

as - 1. urban planning is not upto future needs (Population - 2 times by 2050)

2. governance is marked by inefficiencies
↳ poor provision of services as- Roads, housing, water etc

3. financial performance also questionable

Reasons for these limited success

1. Municipalities lack financial autonomy -
- Depend upon state for financial resources.
- State don't allocate sufficient funds
- SFC is not formed periodically.

2) Lack of devolution of functions - State feel shy in delegating powers to municipality eg - subject like road etc not in its purview

3) Para-statal body - they hijack the functioning of municipality eg - Delhi Jal Board.

4) Elite capture of power - These bodies are overwhelmed by MPs, MLAs.

5) Lack of dedicated & trained manpower - It affects its efficient functioning.

6) Bureaucratic hijack of functioning - elected members don't get to have a say in crucial decisions.

7) State apathy - as - lack of timely elections - dissolving before stipulated time

8) Poor resources of ours - as poor civic tax collection. property tax collection is meagre

Measures to ameliorate

1. Devolution of functions & finances by states - SFC regularly formed and recommendation are followed

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2) Tap into Municipalities own resources -
eg - Pune Municipality, Lucknow Municipality floated municipal bonds.
- Survey of property - explore civic funds.

3) Dedicated cadre to address Human resources issue -
as - Rajasthan has a dedicated cadre.

4) ARC-II - suggest abolishing para-statal bodies and also ending MLA & MP Local area development fund. (LADS).

5) Capacity building of Municipalities - through use of ICT where experts can communicate.
- push for research & development to come up with solutions to challenges Urban areas are facing - as - clean water, pollution etc.

6) Establish a city economic council to further improve financial aspect

Municipalities serve as a vital unit of governance, their effective functioning will help facilitate democracy at grass root level.

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Q.16) The distinct characteristics of the Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and the government create a unique symbiosis in improving the governance and developmental process in the country. Discuss. (15 marks, 250 words)

सिविल सोसायटी संगठनों (CSOs) और सरकार की विशिष्ट विशेषताएं देश में शासन और विकास प्रक्रिया को बेहतर बनाने में एक अद्वितीय सह – अस्तित्व बनाती हैं। चर्चा कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

CSO encompasses a diverse range of non-profit entities such as - NGO, labour unions, charitable organisations etc as defined by World Bank.

These distinct characteristic create a unique symbiosis with government -

1) Driven by social good and non-profit motive
2) Provide representation and advocacy to members.
3) Improve delivery of public services as - education, healthcare.
4) complement government services.

Their complementary role further improve governance

1. Provide expert opinions - like Centre for Science and Environment provide inputs to government on issue of climate change.

2. Improve communication with public - through creating awareness of government schemes and policies.

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3) Enhance transparency & Accountability -
- eg. Association for democratic reform highlight corruption in system.

4) Promote democracy & rule of law - as PSR advocate through its advocacy, ADR gathers data on corruption cases against MP/MLAs

Improve developmental process -

1) Improve access to healthcare education -
like - 1. Nanhi Kali promote education
2. Agewell foundation provide healthcare facilities to elderly.

2) Empower marginalised to reap benefit of development process - eg - SEWA organisation advocate for women rights

3) Mobilise resources - as Tata trust harness private wealth to provide healthcare services.

4) Role in ensuring developmental process is in balance with nature so as to cater to environmental concerns - eg - Sankalp Taru.
CSE consistently raise environmental concern related to development.

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4) Research and innovation - provide feedbacks/ policy inputs based on sound research work. as- WWF-Nature on issues of animal trafficking come up with data bends.

The symbiotic relation also faces certain challenges -

- Anti-developmental Activities
  - as opposition of Nuclear power plant in Kudankulam
- lack of scrutiny of CSO.
- lack of human resource.
- misappropriation of fund
- lack of support from administration

Recommendation of Vijay Kr. Committee to setup a nodal body to act a interface between government & CSOs can further strengthen the symbiotic relationship between both.

Q.15) The role of the civil service is not limited to the mere welfare of the people but extends to the realm of upholding the spirit of the constitution. Elaborate. (15 marks, 250 words)

सिविल सेवा की भूमिका केवल लोगों के कल्याण तक ही सीमित नहीं है बल्कि संविधान की भावना को बनाए रखने के दायरे तक फैली हुई है। विस्तार से बताएं। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Civil services play a crucial role in not just realising developmental goals but also adhering to principle of constitution.

Dual role of welfare as well as upholding constitution

1. Upholding rule of law - civil servants ensure public law & order is maintained, thus ensure rights of citizens are protected.

2) Ensure accountability & transparency - civil servants are involved in auditing programme as well, also they are expected to act with integrity thus ensure transparency & accountability in governance.

3) Safeguard democratic values - as - equality, justice, liberty.

4) Ensure free & fair elections - role of civil servants is crucial in conducting an impartial election

5) crisis management - In times of disaster they are key in ensuring relief measures reach the needy

6) Promote social justice - by fair & just implementation of schemes. Their role in empowering of marginalised is crucial.

7) Strengthen institutions (constitutional bodies) - Civil servants are essential in functioning of these institution such that they are free from political & social pressures

8) Policy formulation and development - Play key role in formulation of policy to help achieve various principles mentioned in constitution as - policies to realise DPSP etc.

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9) Foster national unity & integrity - by promoting inclusive development.

10) Create a well-informed citizenry - aware of their rights through various awareness and education programmes.

In essence, civil services are backbone of constitutional governance ensuring spirit of constitution is upheld in every aspect of public administration.

Q.17) Evaluate the efficacy of digital interventions in transforming the educational infrastructure of the country. (15 marks, 250 words)

देश के शैक्षिक बुनियादी ढांचे को बदलने में डिजिटल हस्तक्षेप की प्रभावकारिता का मूल्यांकन कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

NEP 2020 aims to transform India into a vibrant knowledge society and digital interventions play a very vital role in helping to achieve it.

Digital interventions in multiple forms have come up

- online applications
- e-lab
- streaming on DTH
- e-library
- Ed-tech platforms
- teacher training
- Chatbots to assist
- e-tools to solve problems

These contributions to transform educational infrastructure has been crucial -

1) Promote inclusion - through digital devices access to quality education can be imparted to even very far located places eg- e-Pathsala

2) Provide customised content to the need of child - through use of AI tools content is curated as per child's need

3) Regular training to teachers - eg - through portals as - DISHA, NISHTA.

4) Use of various e-tools to help understand complex problems - like use of projectors to help understand molecule and atoms

5) Provide creative content - which engage students & improve learning outcomes. as - NISHTA portal provide animated stories.

6) Improve access - as through Massive Online courses eg - SWAYAM available free of cost.

However, it poses challenges -

1) Digital divide - access of electronic devices limit access to such electronic educational content.

2) Lack of socialisation through education - physical classroom provide avenues to child to learn social skills equally important eg - Learning through peers - teachers as role models

3) Access to age inappropriate content - can have significant impact on psyche of child.

4) Victims of cyber crime - can further make child feel insecure and impact his development.

5) The situation demands further steps to be taken

→ Parental monitoring of devices

→ A complementary approach where digital education complement classroom education not replace.

→ promote physical activities as sports.

→ Push for holistic development of child not just academic.

As has been said, education is not just learning of facts but training of mind to think - Einstein.

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Q.18) Enumerating the challenges faced by the elderlies in India, discuss ways for mainstreaming the paradigm for geriatric care. (15 marks, 250 words)

भारत में बुजुर्गों के सामने आने वाली चुनौतियों को गिनाते हुए, वृद्धावस्था देखभाल के प्रतिमान को मुख्यधारा में लाने के तरीकों पर चर्चा कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

As per census 2011, 8.6% population is above 60 years age which as per some estimate will become 16% by 2041. This highlights the importance of mainstreaming geriatric care.

Challenges faced by elderlies in India -

1) Isolation - elderlies at times feel neglected and with emergence of nuclear families further are getting isolated.

2) Loss of partner - it leads to an emotional & psychological shock for elderly where they require most the support of their children.

3) Violence - Moral corruption in society has gone down to the extent that even elderly people often get victim of violence.

4) Lack of financial security - lack social security measures, and rely on others.

5) Lack of proper medical care -

6) Social stigma - associated with elderlies further perpetuate their isolation and neglection.

7) Mental Health care issue - as per LASI survey 20% elderly face mental health issue which as per Age well foundation goes to 40%.

8) digital exclusion - it make them feel less valued.

The most significant challenge being lack of proper geriatric care needs to be mainstreamed.

1) Policy priority - geriatric care should be made a priority in policy making eg - Inclusion of elderly in Ayushman Bharat Yojana.

2) Right to health for elderly - to ensure free & accessible healthcare.

3) Elderly specific schemes - to help them support financially as - Indira gandhi old age Pension scheme

4) Investment in infrastructure - to develop specific infrastructure as -

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elderly friendly hospitals - ramps in hospital,
- Medical equipment considering their special needs

5) Use of ICT - to provide remote access to distant places as- e-sanjivani, use of smart mist bands to monitor vitals.

6) Create awareness & sensitisation among people to be ready for old age as it sets quietly & slowly.

7) A dedicated department in MoHFW to cater to the needs of elderly healthcare.

8) Dedicated allocation for elderly healthcare infrastructure & policies.

By investing in elderly healthcare, healthy and active ageing of elderly can be ensured which will not help reap benefits of silver dividend but also bolster India's global image.

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Q.19) India has a pride of place among the comity of nations with strong credentials in the arena of soft power. Identifying the key attributes of India's soft power, assess the extent to which it has been leveraged in India's foreign policy matrix. (15 marks, 250 words)

सॉफ्ट पावर के क्षेत्र में मजबूत साख वाले देशों के समूह में भारत का गौरवपूर्ण स्थान है। भारत की सॉफ्ट पावर की प्रमुख विशेषताओं की पहचान करते हुए, यह आकलन कीजिए कि भारत की विदेश नीति निर्माण में इसका किस हद तक लाभ उठाया गया है। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Soft power refers to leveraging one's culture, people to people linkage and global stature to pursue national interests in international setting.

India being a civilisational state have used soft power as a key tool of its diplomacy. Key attributes of India's soft power are-

- Culture and religion as- Buddhism.
- Cuisine as- Indian delicacies like - Biryani is well known
- Traditions & customs like - festivals
- historical linkages as- with South East Asia
- sports, Music, Art etc

It has used frequently by India and one can see its extent of use as-

1) Forty neighbourhood relations - India has used shared buddhist heritage to develop relations & strengthen relations as- With Nepal, Srilanka, Also Ramayana circuit

2) Use of sports to strengthen diplomatic engagements with others as- India asking to host olympics,

3) To normalise relations -
As- with Pakistan - Use of Medical Tourism, Kartarpur - Gurudaspur corridor has been key in improving relations.

4) Language & cultural connect - as Tamilian connection been used to foster India - Sri Lanka relations and seek investment opportunities.

5) Seeking reform in Multilateral institutions - as at UNSC, India has been 2nd largest contributor to UN peacekeeping mission thus leveraging it to claim a seat at UNSC.

6) Using its historical image as a staunch supporter of global peace & being impartial - India has proposed to placate situation between Ukraine & Russia. - also been able to secure its energy interest from Russia.

However, there are instances where soft diplomacy turned out to be a failure.

1) India - Pakistan wars - despite commonality of

language, culture and cuisine.

2) India-China relations - Chinese aggression at border defies the principles of a shared Buddhist heritage.

3) Similarly, case of Maldives which ~~p~~actively is pursuing pro-China policies.

4) Case of Srilanka portray same picture. Where Joint Tamil culture could not give much result as - Fishermen issue.

The need is to pursue an optimum combination of hard and soft power i.e. smart power diplomacy to pursue national interest.

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Q.20) The latent potential of the India-EU strategic partnership is deterred due to a slew of factors. Elaborate. (15 marks, 250 words)

भारत–यूरोपीय संघ रणनीतिक साझेदारी की छिपी हुई क्षमता कई कारकों के कारण बाधित हुई है। विस्तार से बताएं। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

India - EU relationship is based on complementaries shared by both which include plural society, market based economy and democratic polity.

The relationship has vast potential as-

- economic engagement - 90BUSD FDI 2020
- cooperation in science & technology
  - cooperation with UK on innovation
- cooperation in emerging sector
  as - Horizon 2020 with France on climate change
- Strategic cooperation
  - As joint Indopacific vision of India and France.
- connectivity as - IMEC, Blue dot network
- People to people engagement - 3-4 million people of Indian origin in the region

However, the relationship is deterred due to factors as-

1) Poor economic engagement - India is

- EU 10th largest partner
- Free trade Partnership negotiations remain stalled.

2) Political reasons - EU leaders has been vocal in raising Human Rights issue in Kashmir or latest Citizenship Amendment Act which are sensitive issue for India

3) IPR issue - where EU demand stricter IPR right protection in India for its investment.

4) Connectivity issue - It also act as a hurdle in realisation of full economic potential

5) New Carbon related taxes proposed by EU will significantly impact India export to EU market as - Steel export

6) Lack of frequent & periodic political engagement - also delays the dialogue & discussion on key issues

Steps taken to realise potential

1. Recent Trade & Economic Partnership agreement with 4 EU nations as - Norway, Sweden etc

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2. Launch of Enhanced trade Partnership between India and EU

3. Joint cooperation in Maritime domain as Anti-Piracy operations, Maritime exercise.

4. EU supporting India's Green Grids initiative.

5. India & Sweden launched Lead IT 2.0 at COP28.

Further steps can be taken

→ Speedy negotiation on FTA.

→ Address political sensitivities of each other.

→ More political engagement on a periodic basis

→ work on connecting solutions

→ Cooperate on emerging issues as AI, 5G, Renewable energy etc.

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