

TEST CODE 8 1 2 4 2 6

Time Allowed : Three Hours
समय : तीन घंटे

ForumIAS

Maximum Marks : 250
अधिकतम अंक : 250

GENERAL STUDIES / सामान्य अध्ययन

Name Of Candidate परीक्षार्थी का नाम	AKASH NIYAM		
Roll No./अनुक्रमांक	1910166338	Medium/माध्यम	English <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> हिंदी <input type="checkbox"/>
Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र	1901	Date/दिनांक	09 Aug 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. Please do furnish Name, Email, Roll No and Mobile in the answer sheet. कृपया उत्तर-पुस्तिका में नाम, ईमेल, रोल नंबर और मोबाइल नंबर भरें।		
1			2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI, all questions are compulsory. उत्तर पुस्तिका में अंग्रेजी/हिंदी में बीस प्रश्न दिए गए हैं, सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।		
2			3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के लिए निर्धारित अंक उसके सामने अंकित किए गए हैं।		
3			4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. उत्तर प्रवेश पत्र में अधिकृत माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए, जो कि दिए गए स्थान में इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के कवर पर स्पष्ट रूप से लिखा जाना चाहिए।		
4			5. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum Answer Booklet must be clearly Struck off. प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, यदि निर्दिष्ट हो, का पालन किया जाए। प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़े गये किसी भी पृष्ठ या पृष्ठ के भाग को स्पष्ट रूप से काट दें।		
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Examiner's Discretion/मूल्यांकन कर्ता का विवेक :			Start Time/प्रारंभ करने का समय :	End Time/समाप्त करने का समय :	
			2:30	5:30	
Total Marks/कुल अंक :			Mode Of Examination/ परीक्षा की विधि :	Online/ऑनलाइन <input type="checkbox"/> Offline/ऑफलाइन <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
*Examiner's Discretion is the marks awarded at the discretion of the examiner based on your overall impression, on the basis of (but not limited to) your handwriting, presentation, use of diagrams, flowcharts, facts and figures or absolutely anything that he/she liked in your copy. मूल्यांकन कर्ता का विवेक अंक, आपकी लिखावट, प्रस्तुति, आरेखों के उपयोग, फ्लोचार्ट, तथ्यों और आंकड़ों या समग्र रूप किसी अन्य विषय वस्तु, जो मूल्यांकन कर्ता को आपकी कॉपी में पसंद आयी के आधार पर (लेकिन इन्हीं तक सीमित नहीं) पर दिए गए अंक हैं।			For Office Use Only / केवल कार्यालय प्रयोग हेतु		
			ECN CODE/ ईसीएन कोड :	EG/ईजी :	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

AWIS

CRITERIA FOR THE FEEDBACK SECTION AT THE END OF EACH QUESTION

1. **AWIS = Answered What is Asked.** This means whether you have addressed the core demand of the question or not. Addressing the core demand of the question gets you an objectively fair score. It is examiner's perception if you have understood the question and if you know the answer in the first place. Creative answer writing, sometimes missing the core demand, may fetch very high or very low scores, and exposes your answer to the subjectivity of the examiner.
2. **CD & VA = Content Density & Value Addition.** Examiner will evaluate the quality and quantity of your content in the answer. In the same word limit and space limit have you (a) written what is asked (b) gone beyond what is asked (c) enriched answers through combination of (but not all!) suggestions, ideas, quotes, flowcharts, diagrams, facts and figures, data etc. This affects objective components of assessment.
3. **S & F = Structure & Flow =** Whether you have structured your answer properly or not. Whether the answer has been broken into parts and sub-parts and each part has been addressed appropriately or not. Whether the flow of the answer is maintained. Affects both subjective and objective components of assessment.
4. **P & R =** How your answer performs on the criteria of **presentation, ease of read, clarity and apparent effort** in writing the answer. This affects the subjective components of assessment.



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

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

⁶ I judge a nation's success based on the performance of its judicial institutions - Lord Bryce

Advisory jurisdiction of Supreme Court - Scope & significance

① provided under Article 143 - SC can give advice to president when asked for.

② Under clause (1) of 143 the SC may or may not provide such advice.

③ However under clause (2) the 'proviso' uses the word 'shall'

④ The scope of advisory jurisdiction includes - matters of 'constitutional concern'

⑤ Further the matters dealing with

larger National Interest involving legal jurisprudence can be taken up.

⑥ Advisory jurisdiction also includes in its scope matters of legal aid, and interpretation. Ex: ECI decisions.

⑦ President can also seek answers on interpretation of judgements

Ex: Recent Tamilnadu v/s Governor (Art. 142) of Tamilnadu Case
 SC was asked 14 set of questions by Hon. Pres. Droupadi Murmu.

⑧ Significance of Art. 143

- (A) provides legal guidance
- (B) creates linkage between executive & judiciary
- (C) leads to consensus based approach
- (D) Clarifies various legal ambiguities

As per (NCWRC), the Article 143 (advisory jurisdiction) should be used on

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

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

Delimitation refers to changing the boundaries of 'constituencies' (inter-state / intra constituency).

Delimitation and its importance

- ① delimitation leads to fairly uniform representation of populace Ex! - during independence 1million/MP
- ② delimitation requires geographical boundary change thus leading to increased seats Ex! - loksabha seats 200+ expected.
- ③ delimitation enhances participatory governance & voting outcomes
- ④ It augments the 'constitutional spirit' enshrined in Art. 80
- ⑤ The reservation of SC/ST

seats is uniformalised.

⑥ It is in line with population census ref:- 84th & 87th CAA

⑦ Delimitation also enhances women representation (positively) — after 106th CAA Act (Nani Vandan)
 ↳ 2026 - delimitation

challenges associated with delimitation Exercise →

- ① southern states will get less representation (low-fertility)
- ② punishing the 'best-performers' of population policy.
- ③ Fear of Govt. (Union) based on 'North states' alone due to 50% representation.
- ④ Issues of 'regional' party bias

As NITI Aayog suggested delimitation should take consensus-oriented objective criteria for 'representation'

Feedback

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

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

'Asymmetric federalism' is the cornerstone of India's Federal polity - K.C. Wheare

Asymmetrical Federalism accommodates diverse needs →

① Article 371 → provisions for special - states is given especially hilly regions (unequal development)

② A(371A)H → tribal regions with distinct cultural diversity is accommodated

③ Schedules 5 & 7 → provisions on Schedule Areas - through creation of Tribal Advisory Council

④ Schedule 6 → accommodates tribal areas needs - Autonomy

→ more district councils (ADCs)

⑤ Finance Commission criteria for Special Category States for special needs
 (Ex: - Bihar & Ladakh's demand)

⑥ provision on centrally sponsored schemes → 60:40 contribution v/s 90:10 contribution

⑦ Enactment of FRA in 2006, PESA Act for extension of district panchayat extension

⑧ Fiscal federalism provisions → 15th FC → 41% accommodating regional economic needs

However there is need to further promote! → ① 2nd ARC - subsidiarity principle

② Punchhi Commission → implementation of 16th Schedule issues

③ NCRWC → accommodation of fiscal needs (debt to GDP ratio)
 This will fulfil spirit of Co-operative Federalism - Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas

Feedback

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

स्पष्ट कीजिए कि प्रस्तावना में 'समाजवादी' और 'पंथनिरपेक्ष' शब्द भारतीय संदर्भ में किस प्रकार विशिष्ट अर्थ रखते हैं। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Preamble of 'Indian constitution' is a key-note to open the minds of constitution makers
- SC in KBCase 1973

Preamble → provides objectives of Indian state
→ showcase source of power
→ enhances fraternity
Guides constitutional philosophy & interpretation

Meaning of Socialist in Indian Context

- ① As per SC in DS Natra 415 Union of India case - Indian socialism is 'democratic socialism'
- ② Indian socialism refers to socio-economic justice realising Ambedkar's goal of socio-economic democracy
- ③ Socialism in India calls for

welfare measures as given in DPSD-Part IV.

(*) It is part of state policy to uplift the down trodden - applying John Rawls (social justice - substantive -ive sense)

(*) Schemes like MGNREGA Antyodaya -a Anna Yojna, poverty alleviation programmes embody this spirit.

Meaning of secular

(1) In India it is known as Dharm-
-niropeksha (not dhanmniropeksha)

(2) not complete compartmentalisation of state & religion (principled - distance model - 'Rajiv Dharama')

(3) positive interventions are allowed to curb intra & inter-religious discrimination Ex:- shayra Bmo, shakti Bmo, sarla Mudgal Cases

Indian secularism is not new it existed from Ashoka to Akbar to current syncretic tradition - Christopher Jaffer

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			

Preamble is the identity of constitution - Nani Palkhiwala



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

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

State Finance Commission promotes the fiscal prudence in Gandhian Gram swaraj (Oceanic Circle) -
under Article - 243(I)

Role of SFC has been underutilized in building equity & strengthening Federal link

① As analysed by NITI Aayog India@75 - SFC have not been formed in 54% states

② SFC reports have been delayed by more than 20 years

③ - Rajasthan.

④ Even if reports tabled no initiative taken on Fiscal recom - mendation

⑤ lack of linkage b/w

Finance Commission (Art-280) & SFC

- ⑤ Uniformity of recommendation and consistency not observed leading to clash - Federal link breaks.
- ⑥ Social Audit & people's participation has not been present
- ⑦ Panchayats & ULBs face Low equilibrium trap - no money for investment
- ⑧ devolution of corruption - Manishankar Aiyer Committee report

Measures needed

- ① strengthen link & consistency b/w SFC & FC(280)
- ② create provisions for initiatives taken on recommendations of SFC reports
- ③ Enhance people's participation
- ④ link them with Civil society organizations & NGOs

This will fulfil Constitutional

goal of 'fiscal federalism' & 'cooperative federalism'

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

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

NCPCR is a statutory body created for protection and promotion of child rights in line with UN convention on child rights (UNCER)

How far NCPCR successful:-

① NCPCR calls for promotion of child rights, it took institutional means Ex:- School Books awareness program.

② Augmenting policy and decision making on the matter of child rights.

③ Created 1 'special cells' for girl child and disabled children each in 2018.

④ recommends advice on all matters of child protection to govt.

- 5. Has the power of civil courts, but remains underutilized.
- 6. Launched child rights defender portal during COVID-19.
- 7. promotes 'awareness' and sensitization workshops Ex:- via DENCIL Portal.
- 8. Took cognizance of child trafficking cases & child labour.
Ex:- Comic Commandos (Assam)

However Challenges remain -

- 1. vacancy and delayed appointment
- 2. lack of wider powers to implement
- 3. 'toothless tiger' called by - H.L. Dattu
- 4. Executive / administrative dependence and interference

This needs diversified appointment participation of all stakeholders. fulfilling Article 23 & 24

Feedback
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TOTAL MARKS			



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

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

NEP 2020 was created for promoting far-reaching changes in Indian Educational System - stuck with colonial hangover

Salient features related to School Education

- ① Implement for 5+3+3+4 model replacing 10+2.
- ② promotes value education as part of curriculum.
- ③ calls for vocational training since class 6th itself.
- ④ Aims at 6% of GDP exp. on education.
- ⑤ Aim of GER - 100% in Schools.
- ⑥ reduction in school dropouts

- ⑦. Integrates online courses and curriculum (PARAKH Portal)
- ⑧. Augments teacher training and capacity building
- ⑨. Multiple board exams - introducing peer-based learning outcomes
- ⑩. Promotion of indigenous knowledge systems (IKS)

Statement on medium of instructions

- ① Three language formula
↳ Hindi, English & Mother tongue
- ② Courses in Hindi / mother tongue.
- ③ lead to south v/s north debate
↳ Tamil Nadu, Kerala WB.
non-implementation

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			



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

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

I measure the progress of society by
Women's progress - Ambedkar

Legal Frameworks for Women's Safety

① Vishalcha Guideline 1977

Postal Act 2013

↓
Creates Internal Complaints
Committee.

② Nishchay fund creation

③ Constitutional safeguards

- abstain violence fundamental

duty (CSIA)

④ Mission Shakti -

Samarthy & Sabla Component

Sabla - promotes women safety

⑤ Creation of NCW 1992 for safeguarding women rights.

⑥ Justice Vema Committee guidelines on women's safety

- ↳ legal help → 1090 helpline
- ↳ medical help → PM JSY
- ↳ social help → Tele-Mans

Needed measure

- ↳ ① Jaya Jaitly committee
↳ women health
- ↳ ② Pam Rajput Committee
↳ domestic violence → reduction
recommendation.

This will fulfil spirit of
Nari-Shakti - Yatra Nari
Durgate Remante taba
devta)

Feedback

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

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

Multipolar world order refers to more than two centres of power (bipolar) or unipolar world order

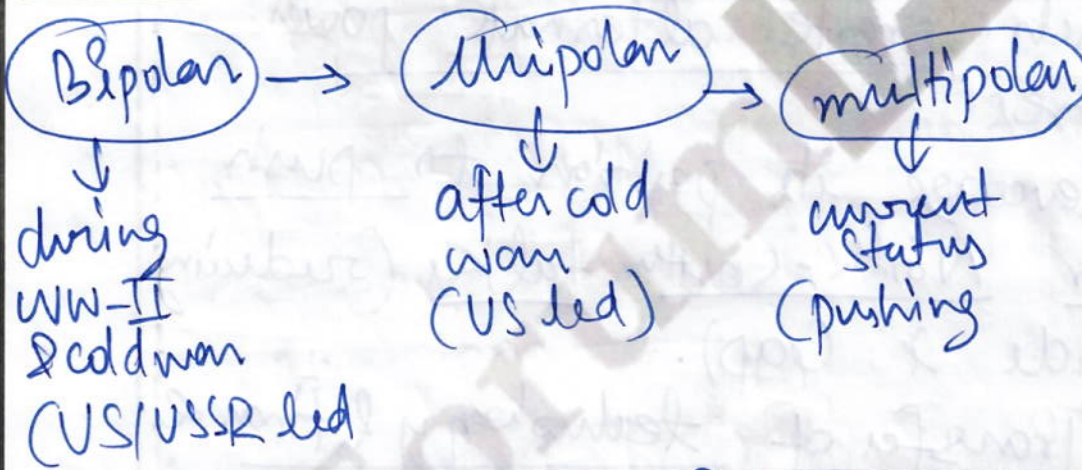


Fig:- Evolution of world order.

How can India leverage its position for a Multipolar world

- ① India can push for multipolarity as 'voice of global south'
- ② Enhance representation of global south nations in UNSC

- permanent seats.
- ③ Call for reform of Global economic Governance Institutions - IMF, WB, WTO
 - ④ Global peace is contingent on reform of Global Institutions - PM Modi
 - ⑤ push for BRICS led forums which create alternate power centres
 - ⑥ leverage its position to push for North-south talks (reducing divide & Gap).
 - ⑦ Transfer of technology & finance
 - ⑧ promote its vision of Vishwabandhu and Kanudhaina Kutumbam
 - ⑨ Engage with balancing act - SCO vs QUAD, RLC & VJAI
 - ⑩ Follow strategic autonomy - Geo-economic reality as 4th largest economy.
India as a seater of a 'sweet

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS	
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spot in Global diplomacy can entail multipolarity



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

"आसियान भारत की एक ईस्ट नीति और उसके हिंद-प्रशांत दृष्टिकोण की आधारशिला है।" स्पष्ट करें।

(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Indo-Pacific is return of history, and manifestation of modernity,
- Strasbourg - why Bharat matters

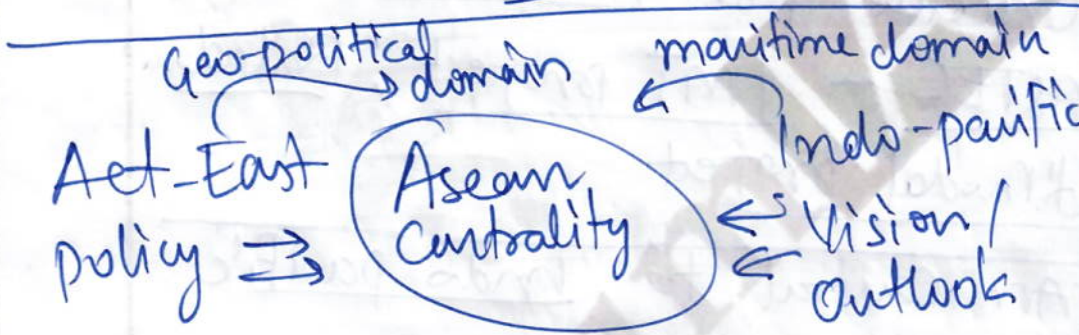


Fig:- ASEAN as cornerstone

ASEAN as central to India's Act East policy!

- ① Act East policy launched in 2014 calls for relationship with S-E Asia, far-east Asia but ASEAN remain central.
- ② With ASEAN's multifarious trade-ties, geo-economic linkages.

- 100 Bn + trade (2024)

③ Engagements through ASEAN regional Forum (ARF) & India-ASEAN FTA (AIFTA)

④ Cultural & historical connect of Imperial Cholas

⑤ Crucial for North-East & DMSTEC - IMT project, Kaladan Multimodal project

ASEAN central to Indo Pacific Vision

① 7 out of 10 nations part of Indo-Pacific Outlook - maritime & diplomacy, security, DRR pillars.

② Crucial for countering China's dominance - 999 Bn trade / of BRI connect.

③ Maritime security → Strait of Malacca / Sunda, Lombok and Bali,

④ Crucial for Sea Lanes of Comm. (SLOC)

Thus Indo-Pacific and Act East

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P & R			
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TOTAL MARKS			

have ASEAN as permanent realm



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

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

From Gandhian 'Gram Swaraj' and M.N. Roy's Radical democracy to Deen Dayal's Antyodaya - Local self Governance meant to uphold direct democracy under (Article-40) - DPSI (Part IV)

Committees that recommended LSGs → Balwant Rai Mehta
↳ Achul Mehta → G.V.K. Rao
↳ L.M. Singhvi Committee

Various Administrative challenges faced by local self governments

- ① Panchayats face phenomena of proxy participation (panchayat-patis)
- ② lack of 'funds' & siphoning in bureaucratic delays.
- ③ lack of devolution of power by 'state governments'

under Sch 41 & Sch (12) - 73rd

& 74th CAA

- ④ lack of capacity building initiatives of presidents and members.
- ⑤ bogus gramsabha & panchayat samiti meetings
- ⑥ There is devolution and decentralisation of 'corruption' - Mani Shankar Ajan Committee
- ⑦ panchayats and municipalities face delayed elections, rigging schedules and influence of money and muscle power (Den of Ignorance)
- ⑧ Chandigarh MLB elections - SC Intervention
- ⑧ Lack of true civic participation
↳ social audit introduced by CAG but non-implementation
- ⑨ State Finance Commission indefinite lized and delinked from

Finance Commission (280)

- ⑩ LSGs face low-equilibrium trap as per (Eco Survey 2019-20)
- ⑪ there is lack of principle of subsidiarity by state governments
- ⑫ phenomena of Bureaucratic interventions and delays caused at Zila panchayat level ~~Ex~~:- Panchayat case

Measures needed →

- ① Implement 4th & 12th Schedule function in letter and spirit
 - ② Enhance funds of ULBs (1-1. Funds received with 60% contribution)
 - ③ Implement SFC & SEC reports. timely
 - ④ Capacity building through initiatives like - Panchayat to Parliament
500 representatives trained
 - ⑤ devolution of power & civic participation
 - ⑥ Enhance the real third-tier of federalism
- This will ensure the true realisation

Feedback

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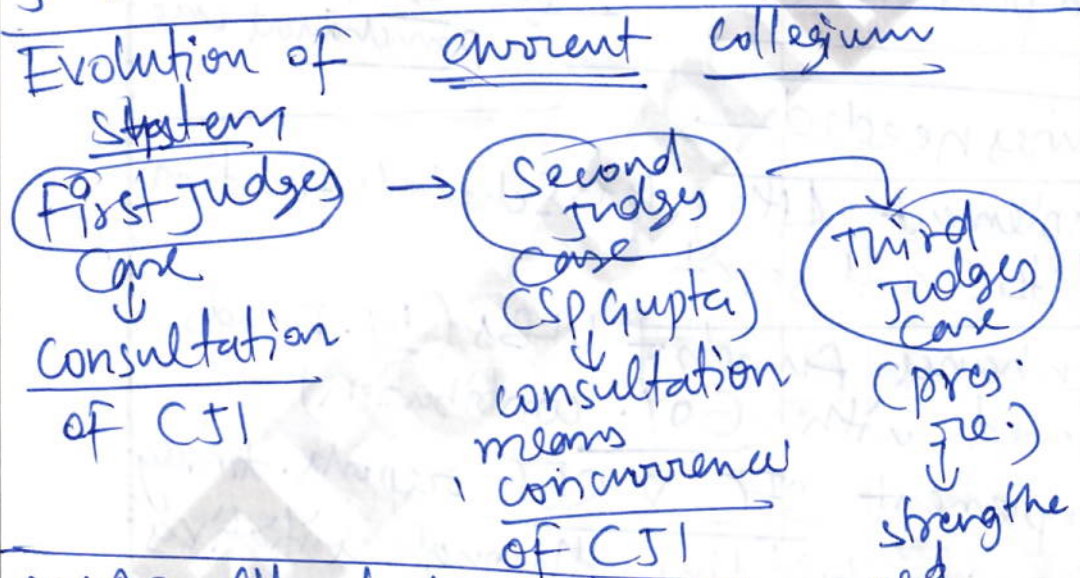
of people centric deliberative democracy



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

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

NJAC Act 2014 was enacted by 100th CA Act, it was to replace the current collegium system of appointing judges →



NJAC-like body make judicial appointments more transparent: Yes CJI + 4 senior most judges.

① It will resolve the under-
kith judge syndrome.

- ② Create appointment process more consensus-based and reasonable
- ③ Involvement of Executive + Judicial members 'balanced power' of appointment.
- ④ Erade the challenges of 'extra-constitutional collegium system'
- ⑤ If reports published the appointment would enhance trust on judiciary (currently under 'trust-deficit' - Justice Gauri)
- ⑥ NTA would streamline the aper Judicial appointments - reduce delays due to opinion mismatch.
- ⑦ reduce vacancy in higher 'Judiciary'.
- ⑧ Enhance accountability of both govt - and Judiciary.
- ⑨ resolve the overarching issues of 'nepotism' in collegium -

appointments: (Empire within empire) - Ambellken

- (10) Streamline with world democracy practices ex - USA, UK and South Africa

However there are challenges of NJAC too :-

- ① might strengthen the role of executive if membership tilted / skewed
- ② Cause bureaucratic delays and difference of 'opinion'.
- ③ follows a majoritarian approach - need 'consensus based' - CJI-ex Chandrachud
- ④ declared unconstitutional due to resistance from judiciary.
- ⑤ implementation challenges could make SC - house of cohabitation

AK Ayer (Constituent Assembly) → Independence of judiciary should not be raised to 'level of dogma' that it becomes 'third chamber' or 'super chamber'

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

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

Indian president is deemed as close to UK's Monarch (de-jure executive) - Nominal head whilst USA's president is (de-facto head) real executive in United States

Difference between Clemency powers :-

US President	Indian President
① US president can pardon <u>sentences of life imprisonment</u>	Indian president can pardon even ' <u>death sentence</u> ' (<u>Clemency petition</u> - <u>home-ministry</u>)
② US president does not to take <u>recommendation of 'Home-Secretary'</u>	Indian president must act on <u>aid and advice of Council</u>
③ <u>US president</u>	<u>Indian president</u>

can directly take the matter of pardon.

can also take cases through SC' decisions.

④ powers are not divided constitutionally

Measures like - Reprieve, Respite, Remission etc are given in Constitution.

⑤ US president's power are delinked from US state Governors

In India Governor can't pardon death sentence so overlap is present.

⑥ US president has narrow clemency powers

Indian president has wider powers of pardon

Vesting of Clemency powers to Executive - Pres.

① Enhance the spirit of reformatory justice as given in BNS 2023

- ② lead to reduced burden on judicial decisions (under trials with no conviction - 40% + prisoners prison manual)
- ③ provide alternate sources of seeking 'clemency' as against judiciary.
- ④ Augments state's role in jurisprudence - balance of power stored

Challenges of Vesting Clemency powers in Executive →

- ① Misuse of power for political gains Ex: - 2002 riots case Gujarat
- ② State bodies do not follow fair judicial trial as held by SC in its judgement
- ③ The time-limit set in IPC (BNS, 2023) is less for heinous crimes
- ④ lead to subjugation of natural justice principles.
- ⑤ might hampers fair-justice to victim in case of pre-release

Thus proper checks and balances

Feedback

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need to be present.



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

(15 Marks, 250 Words)

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

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Representation of peoples Act 1951
implements the 'democracy's most
sacred ritual' - Elections

Corrupt practices under RPA
Act 1951 →

- ① Usage of 'hate speech' against 'particular sections
 - ② Using Caste and religious-symbols which 'fuel hatred to gain votes
 - ③ criminalisation of political candidates - Not filing expenses-over expenditure
 - ④ Using defamatory remarks against particular community
- Ex :- Rahul Gandhi's Case

- ⑤ Usage of money and muscle power to garner support.
- ⑥ Illicit sources of funding for electoral expenses.
- ⑦ Bribing and trying to rig the 'electoral process's integrity'

In Lily Thomas Case Sec 8(4) struck down - 2 years - conviction 6 years ban on elections but struck down by govt.

Challenges in curbing such malpractices

- ① differentiation b/w electoral offences and corrupt practice leading to ambiguity.
- ② Complexity of collecting evidence against usage of corrupt practice
- ③ Politicisation of criminals & criminalization of politics (Tarkunde Committee)

- ④ Involvement of state bureaucracy,
- ⑤ Lack of power to deregister in the hands of Election Commission
- ⑥ Non-statutory nature of MCE.

Remedial Measures to curb malpractices

- ① Sensitization of candidates via programs.
- ② Usage of MCE and power to delete candidates void
- ③ state funding of election (potential - Indrajit Gupta Committee)
- ④ Dinash Goswami Committee - statutory role of MCE - to curb offences.
- ⑤ PIF foundation case - criminal antecedents of candidates

This will fulfil the goal of world's largest electoral democracy acting truly is spirit of it

Feedback

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

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

Vice president is the ex-officio chairman of Rajyasabha and assumes 'presidency' when there is vacancy or death

Role of Vice President as the chairman of Rajyasabha

- ① Guiding light of the house (Council of States)
- ② Interprets the provisions of Constitution - his/her say is final.
- ③ Crucial role in conducting proceedings of the 'house of elders'
- ④ Maintains decorum, discipline and conduct in the house.
- ⑤ Can appoint Committee chairman members!

- ⑥ He/she can declare question hour and time limits strict.
- ⑦ He/she has power to adjourn - sine die the house.
- ⑧ Acts as a friend / philosopher and guide to house proceedings
- ⑨ can declare a member's suspension.
- ⑩ His/Her assent is required for taking up criminal / civil proceedings
- ⑪ Has power of casting vote in case of equality of votes
- ⑫ Allocates time-limit for discussion and deliberation on bills
 ex - Jagdeep Dhankar on Waf Bill.

Procedure for removal of
Vice president →

- ① He/she can be removed by the Rajya Sabha itself
- ② It requires assent of majority of members present and voting
- ③ 14 days notice must be given before such resolution
- ④ Fair opportunity to be 'heard'.
- ⑤ The 'resolution' introduced must also be agreed to by the Lok Sabha.
- ⑥ Members of Rajya Sabha only participate in formal voting for removal
- ⑦ Vice-president may also resign before his term on certain grounds
- ⑧ - Current V.P. - resignation

Vice president of India plays a role of 'lynchpin', he/she guides the democratic ethos of temple of democracy - parliament

Feedback

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

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

'Universal Basic Income' refers to minimum 'income' support to be provided by Govt. to all citizens regardless of their status.

UBI as a viable solution to eradicate extreme poverty

- ① UBI can be assessed in Indian economic system - Eco survey (2016-17)
- ② It will provide minimum income like DBT - PM-KISAN - leading to multifarious benefits.
- ③ Reduce poverty as a outcome of economic deprivation
- ④ Enhance health and educational outcomes
- ⑤ might augment women's

participation due to reduced
dependency.

- ⑥ Lead to reduced dependency of old age.
- ⑦ Would be helpful for marginalised sections with no income support.
- ⑧ Lead to better health - nutrition outcomes - still 53% women anaemic, 21% child stunted, 18.7% wasted.
- ⑨ Augment socio-economic indicators
- ⑩ Further reduce extreme - poverty → current 5.28% (World Bank report 2024)
- ⑪ lead to reduction in multilayered deprivation - Multidimensional poverty index - 11% (MPI)
- ⑫ Guaranteed income to those who are unemployed (disguised & structural unemployment)

Challenges in Implementation of UBI

- ① Antithetical to fiscal prudence and fiscal deficit goals.
- ② Lead to benefitting some stagnating others
- ③ does not have a proven track record as stated by IMF report
- ④ poverty has multi-f (UBI-challenges) - various reasons like a 'vicious cycle' - UBI not a panacea.
- ⑤ requires deft - handling - vast - population like India
- ⑥ might disrupt taxation and monetary system.
- ⑦ Inflationary pressures could augment.

Thus UBI requires a 'balanced approach' at the face of existing challenges to fulfil

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

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

Malnourishment of under-five child is often a result of inter-generational transfer of malnutrition

Key Determinants of malnutrition among under-5 children →

- ① Prevalence of stunting children
- low height to age -
country at 31% app
(NFHS-5)
- ② prevalence of Wasting under
- 5 - low weight to age
- at 18.7% (NFHS-5)
- ③ Anaemia and Health outcomes
53% women anaemic - intergenerational transfers.

- ④ Availability of essential nutrients and balanced diet
- ⑤ Age-specific interventions
early -breast feeding initiatives
- ⑥ Availability of proper meals
(Hidden Hunger).
- ⑦ Evading the Asian Enigma
(Amartya Sen).
- ⑧ Food Fortification issues also
determine malnutrition.
- ⑨ Availability and accessibility
of water - absorption of
nutrients.
- ⑩ Social and environmental
determinants with participation
of community programs.
- ⑪ Awareness of mother → lack
of it due to child
↳ ↓ women's education marriages
↳ literacy rate only (63-1)

Nutrition-sensitive and Nutrition specific interventions of Govt.

- ① Full saturation of POSHAN 2.0 scheme via mid-day meal scheme
 - ② provision of Food-Fortification and tablets (Anaemia Mukt Bharat)
 - ③ Introduction of novel state initiatives.
 - ↳ Buddy Mother in Assam
 - ↳ Project Sampurna
 - ↳ Breakfast (Mid-day Meal - in Tamil Nadu)
 - ④ PM Mamta Vandana Yojna & PM Mother's Absolute Affection for maternal Health.
 - ⑤ PM Janni Swakha Yojna & Angushman Bharat
 - ⑥ Mother as head in Ration Cards
 - ⑦ Child sensitive nutrition schemes
 (x) Multivitamins - Jan Aardhi
Kudra
- Malnutrition requires a multipronged approach to curb this - mena@

Feedback

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

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

In the era of '4th Industrial Governance' data is the new oil and it is crucial raw material for AI.

Need of Transparent data Governance Frameworks in India

- ① To monitor the data-leak, and fraud.
- ② To curb AI-led challenges like deepfake, voice-mimicry
- ③ To prevent IPR rights of artists AI-litrary works
- ④ To protect the personal data of citizens.
- ⑤ It also strengthens case for data localisation of large firms.

⑥ At the face of rising social-media crimes and cyber attacks
 ex) - Digital Arrest via fake data.

⑦ to curb citizens' vulnerability to data-sharing
 ex) :- Stalch + Aadhar on Internet (openly accessible)

⑧ In era of new challenges posed by AI - reinforcement learning - LLMs - deepseeks and ChatGPT

⑨ Companies vague policy on data storage and sale on Internet ex) :- Facebook ads.

Steps taken by Govt. to create these Frameworks.

① Justice BN. Srikrishna Committee's Digital personal Data protection Act 2024.

- ② making the data fiduciaries responsible and accountable
- ③ Enhancing the rights of 'data-principals' via consent system
- ④ In line with European Union's GDPR. / JAM trinity
- ⑤ pitching for data localisation in India (Significant data fiduciaries)
- ⑥ Amendment to IT rules 2011 for augmented security. / Digital public infra
- ⑦ Creation of 14C, Cert-IN etc for curbing data-related cyber crimes.
- ⑧ regulation of responsible & ethical AI - Dushpals Bhatta - dhanya Committee
- ⑨ following Global data-AI governance frameworks - GPAI summit France India Co-host

Thus at the face of rising role of AI utilising data a be-orient

in outlook towards it is needed

Feedback

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

(15 marks, 250 words)

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

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

IMF and World Bank were created as a part of Bretton Woods Institutions after the world war - II

Role of IMF in addressing debt stress Global South: pros.

- ① provides immediate short term funding to countries in Global South ex - Sri Lanka Crisis
- ② Through Extended Fund Facility provides aid during crisis (loans).
- ③ Utilises Special Drawing Rights (SDR) mechanism for implementing crisis-era projects.
- ④ Rapid financing facility provides rapid rescue ex! - Pakistan

received 500 mn after recent crisis

⑤ Augments developmental goals
via funding facility.

⑥ Aids during financial emergency
Ex: - India - 1990s LPG reforms.

Challenges of IMF's support.

① discriminatory global regime
with voting rights tilted towards
'Global North'

② Forced implementation of
economic reforms and policies.

③ promotes US-led international
liberal order (capitalism)

④ In line with Spirit of
'Washington Consensus' causes
US neoliberal principles to
emulate

⑤ often used loan as a
means for geopolitical gains

❌! - funding Pakistan's state-sponsored terrorism (indirect)

India Utilising post-G20 presidency for IMF reforms

- ① promote spirit of voice of Global South
- ② By pitching for equal rights to Global South - not on economic but equity terms.
- ③ use its diplomatic leverage to gain support.
- ④ Form alliance of distressed nations via Global public outreach diplomacy.
- ⑤ push for a multipolar economic world order.
- ⑥ promote BRICS Bank, ADM MDB as alternative to 'IMF'
This would further enhance India's stature as a 'South-western

Feedback

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power' - S Jaishankar (India-Way)



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

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

India-Afghanistan relations are embedded in the civic-'people to people ties', since takeover by Taliban regime in Sept 2021

Fluid Geopolitical Arena in Afghan -

- ① Taliban takeover enhanced the great game on Afghan Geography.
- ② Afghan is a graveyard of empires - USSR, USA, UK all faced dist.
- ③ Current Taliban is supported by multiple nations
- ④ presents a complex geo-econo-mic tensions amidst Indian

policy matters.

- ⑤ Projects worth 4 Bn - Parliament, Salma Dam etc are at risk.
- ⑥ Fear of spillover effect on cross-border terrorism.
- ⑦ Taliban if unstable would 'direct attention' towards neighbourhood - not consistent with regional security - (C. Rajamohan)

Engagement Not Endorsement →

- ① It was remarked by S. Jaishankar key of recent Taliban's regime engagement (2024)
- ② This follows pragmatic attitude balancing regional security with geopolitical challenges.
- ③ It accommodates India's stance - need a democratic humanitarian, Afghani people

led govt

④ It also safeguards India's strategic autonomy and geo-strategic positioning.

⑤ It prevents the spill over of security challenges on economic infra.

However India is also pushing for! — ① a democratic govt.

② called for peace process (Moscow-format talks)

③ Humanitarian concerns especially women rights.

④ Talks 2: diplomacy

⑤ Establishment of diplomatic channels ex: Istanbul talks

This not only reflects India's broad vision but its human-centric attitude for Afghan people

Feedback

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Mentor Feedback Questions

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- 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		

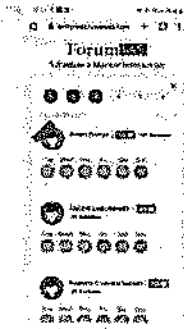
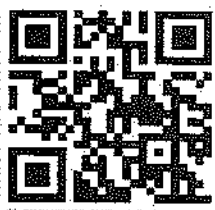
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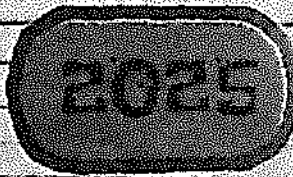
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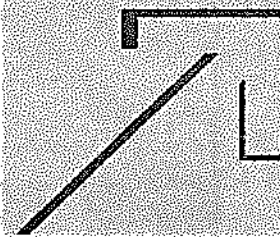
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