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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 2212)

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|-------------------|----------------|---------------------|------------|
| Name of Candidate | DIKSHITA JOSHI | | |
| Medium Eng./Hindi | ENG. | Registration Number | |
| Center | ONLINE | Date | 10/07/2022 |

| INDEX TABLE | | | INSTRUCTIONS |
|-----------------------|---------------|----------------|--|
| Q. No. | Maximum Marks | Marks Obtained | |
| 1 | 10 | | 1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code). उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)। |
| 2 | 10 | | 2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं। |
| 3 | 10 | | 3. All questions are compulsory. सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं। |
| 4 | 10 | | 4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं। |
| 5 | 10 | | 5. 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. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other than the authorized one. प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे। |
| 6 | 10 | | 6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए। |
| 7 | 10 | | 7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off. उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए। |
| 8 | 10 | | |
| 9 | 10 | | |
| 10 | 10 | | |
| 11 | 15 | | |
| 12 | 15 | | |
| 13 | 15 | | |
| 14 | 15 | | |
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| 16 | 15 | | |
| 17 | 15 | | |
| 18 | 15 | | |
| 19 | 15 | | |
| 20 | 15 | | |
| Total Marks Obtained: | | | |
| Remarks: | | | |

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

1. What do you understand by 'constitutionalism'? Highlight various ways in which the Indian Constitution underscores this principle. (150 words) 10

'संविधानवाद' से आप क्या समझते हैं? भारतीय संविधान में इस सिद्धांत को रेखांकित करने वाले विभिन्न उपबंधों पर प्रकाश डालिए।

Constitutionalism refers to abiding by the spirit or core principles of a constitution. For instance - Sovereignty, Democracy, Republic are major principles of Indian Constitution.

Various ways in which our constitution reflect these principles are :-

1. Preamble → principle of justice, equality, fraternity, are underscored here.

2. Fundamental Rights → Article 32, 13 ensures strict adherence to constitutionalism, and principles of liberty, equality etc.

2. Directive Principles and State Policy - Art. 38, Art. 39, Art. 46, Art. 49, Art. 51 are all key for underscoring spirit of constitutionalism in public policy.

3. Fundamental Duties → require citizens to adhere to constitutionalism. Prevention of insult of to National Honour Act - sense the duty to respect constitution

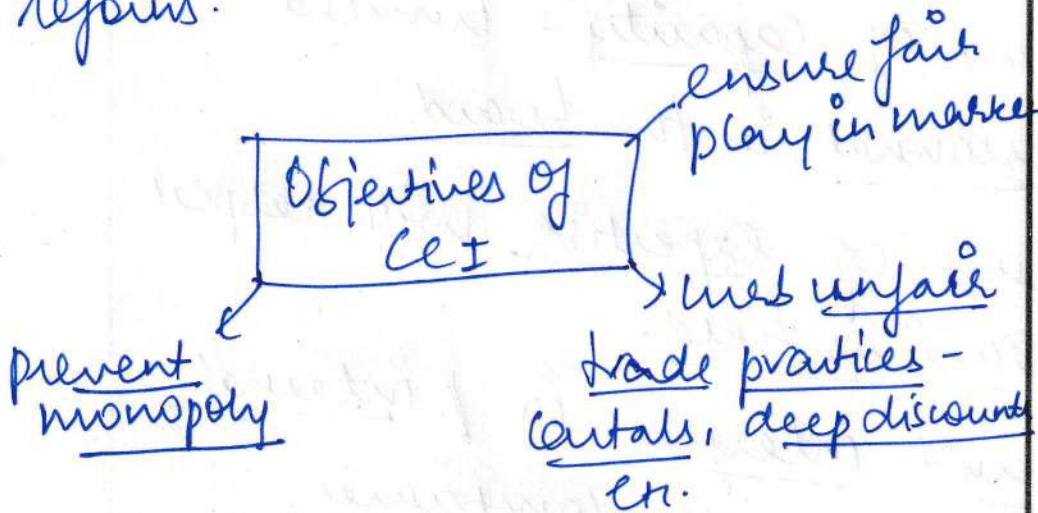
4. Bulwarks of Constitution - Judiciary, election commission, CAG and UPSC are bulwarks of Constitution, democracy, fiscal responsibility and merit respectively. Art. 100, Federalism rules, Constitution itself secures spirit of constitutionalism in these ways.

2. The Competition Commission of India (CCI) effectively reflects a shift from the era of Licence Raj to a conducive regulatory ambience for enhancing consumer welfare by encouraging competition in the market. Discuss.

(150 words) 10

भारतीय प्रतिस्पर्धा आयोग (CCI) बाजार में प्रतिस्पर्धा को प्रोत्साहित करके उपभोक्ता कल्याण को बढ़ाने के लिए लाइसेंस राज के युग से एक अनुकूल नियामकीय परिवेश में स्थानांतरण को प्रभावी ढंग से प्रदर्शित करता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Competition Commission of India envisaged for regulation in view of liberalisation, privatisation and globalisation reforms.



It's role has been effective :-

- 1) Preventing Predatory Pricing by MNCs in India e-commerce

market. Ex- Amazon using
deep discounts.

2) Preventing illegal merger and
acquisitions to prevent capitalisation
in market.

However, it has Certain
limitations :-

- 1) Lack of Capacity → limited
personnel in the board.
- 2) Lack of expertise with respect
to various field.
- 3) Can't interfere in internal
governance of companies.

Thus, its role can be further
made effective by expanding
Capacity and bringing expertise.

3. Mention various initiatives taken for online delivery of judicial services in India. Also, discuss the challenges faced in their implementation.

(150 words) 10

भारत में न्यायिक सेवाओं की ऑनलाइन प्रदायगी के लिए प्रारंभ विभिन्न पहलों का उल्लेख कीजिए। साथ ही, उनके कार्यान्वयन में आने वाली चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Online Delivery of Judicial Services is envisaged to ensure effective access to justice (Art. 39A) of constitution.

Measures taken :-

- 1) e-Courts Mission
→ online proceedings of courts.
- 2) National Judicial Data Grid - track record of all data.
- 3)

Challenges in Implementation

① Connectivity and infrastructure issues - lack of internet penetration
(only 60% - TRAI).

② Independence of Judiciary
→ Recording of proceeding may result in swaying of judiciary to serve Public Morality.
→ It may also be misused to serve vested interest of certain sections.

③ Elitism and reach of poor is limited - Affert equal access to justice.
Hence, provisions to increase penetration and safeguarding judicial independence must be taken.

4. Bring out the similarities and differences in the Bill of Rights in the Constitution of the United States and Fundamental Rights in the Constitution of India. (150 words) 10

संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका के संविधान में उपबंधित बिल ऑफ राइट्स और भारत के संविधान में मूल अधिकारों के मध्य समानताओं और भिन्नताओं को रेखांकित कीजिए।

Indian Constitution framers have derived the fundamental Right from American Constitution's Bill of Rights. Yet, there are certain similarities as well as Differences:-

SIMILARITIES

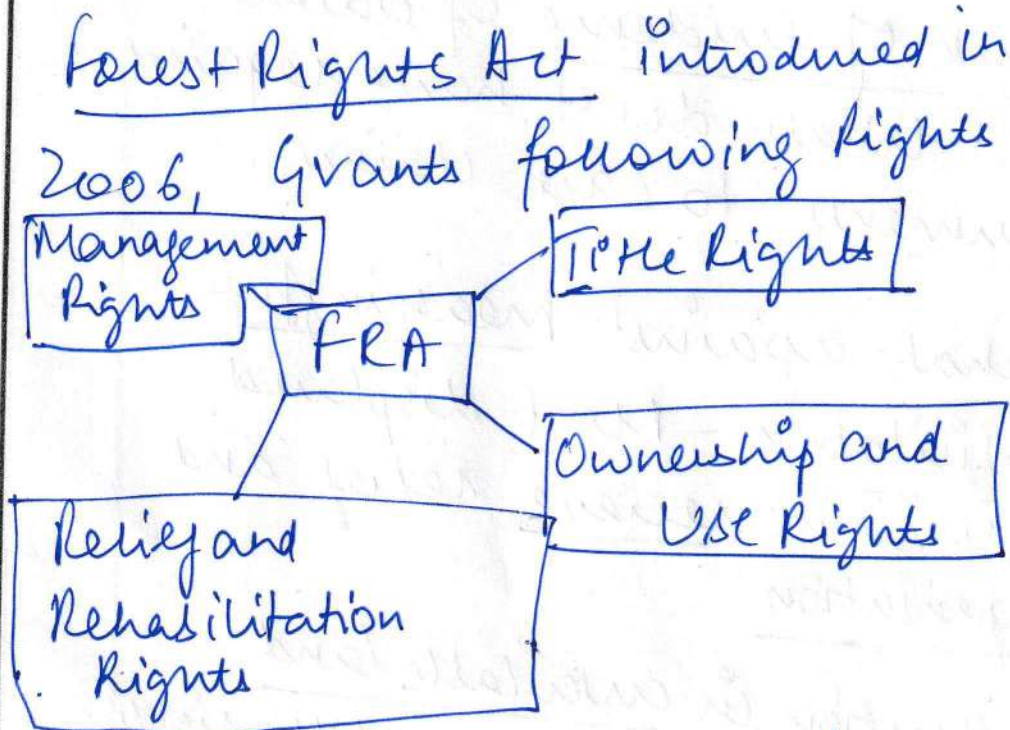
- ① Right to Equality - Equal protection of laws - taken from American Constitution
- ② Right to Freedom → Religious freedom, freedom of speech and expression are similar.

3) Right to Life - Now, Indian
(Art. 21)
Constitution also implements due
process of law, protection from
arbitrary legislation as well as
executive action.

| <u>Differences</u> | India |
|--|---|
| USA | |
| ① <u>Due process of law</u> - Right to equality. | ① Procedure <u>established by law</u> . |
| ② <u>Freedom of Religion</u> - negative secularism | ② <u>Freedom of Religion</u> - positive secularism. |
| ③ <u>Writ Power</u> - can't be expanded by Parliament. | ③ Writ Power can be <u>expanded by Parliament</u> . |
| ④ <u>lesser reasonable Restrictions</u> | ④ <u>More Reasonable Restrictions</u> . |

5. It is often argued that the implementation of The Forest Rights Act (FRA), 2006 has so far been tardy and ineffectual. Discuss. (150 words) 10

प्रायः यह तर्क दिया जाता है कि अभी तक वन अधिकार अधिनियम (FRA), 2006 का कार्यान्वयन धीमा और निष्प्रभावी रहा है। चर्चा कीजिए।



Its implementation has been tardy :-

- ① Accepting claims for Land Deeds
- Only 36% of total claims of title have been accepted so far.
- ② Apathy of bureaucracy - due to lack of awareness among

tribals. laws are misrepresented
for vested interest.

3) lack of evidence of claims -
most tribals don't have required
documents to back claims

4) Rehab. against meaningful
rehabilitation - Most displaced
don't even receive relief and
compensation

5) Reduction in available land
further reduces chance for title rights

WAY FORWARD

1) Tripura has highest record of
land deed grant, also patta
holders have been integrated in
various economic schemes. Their
Forest Department model can be
emulated across country.

6. Explain the rationale behind the creation of a Social Stock Exchange in India. Do you think this move would boost social impact investing in the country? (150 words) 10

भारत में सोशल स्टॉक एक्सचेंज के सृजन के पीछे निहित तर्क की व्याख्या कीजिए। क्या आपको लगता है कि इस कदम से देश में सामाजिक प्रभाव वाले निवेश को प्रोत्साहन प्राप्त होगा?

Social Stock Exchange of India is unmissable for providing opportunity to non profit agencies and social sector organisation to secure capital for their work.

It has potential to boost social impact investing :-

- 1) Visibility will increase. As lot of willing investors don't have any platform currently to find ways to fund these organisation.
- 2) ~~Help~~ help in channelising

CSR meaningfully by way
of integration of interest

3) Ensure credibility of social
sector organisation, which often
suffer due to lack of reputation
bankings.

4) Prevent shady funding of
NGOs and hence, their immoral
use.

However, certain concerns
must be taken care of, like incentives
for corporates or investors to
participate. Handholding of small
NGOs, as they lack skills to
attract capital.

SEBI'S BRSR report project may
complement SSE incorporation.

7. The National Digital Health Mission (NDHM) has the potential to bring a new revolution in India's health sector in multiple ways. Explain.

(150 words) 10

राष्ट्रीय डिजिटल स्वास्थ्य मिशन (NDHM) में भारत के स्वास्थ्य क्षेत्रक में कई तरह से एक नई क्रांति लाने की क्षमता है। व्याख्या कीजिए।

National Digital Health Mission

is aimed at :-

- 1) Digitisation of Health Record
- 2) Unique Health Id for all citizens.
- 3) e-delivery mechanisms like telemedicine etc.
- 4) Creation of Health Stack.

It can bring revolution in health sector :-

- 1) Improve access in healthcare
- Ex. - telemedicine can address problem shortage and skewed distribution of human resources.

2) Ensure continuum of care
+ by digitisation of health
record → referrals from primary to
secondary to tertiary will be easier.

3) Improve health policy
intentions - with health stake-
evidence based, targeted health
intentions possible.

4) curb Malpractices - Digital
payments etc. will reduce mal
practices in private health sector.

5) Ensure Monitoring and Regulation
of quality of health services.
Thus, if effectively implemented,
NDHM can help meet our goals
of SDG-3 and commitment to Auro
Ata Declaration

8. While participation of private sector in the higher education system of India is a necessity, it creates issues that need careful redressal. Discuss.
(150 words) 10

हालांकि भारत की उच्चतर शिक्षा प्रणाली में निजी क्षेत्र की भागीदारी एक अनिवार्यता है, लेकिन यह ऐसे मुद्दे उत्पन्न करता है जिनका सावधानीपूर्वक निवारण किए जाने की आवश्यकता है। विवेचना कीजिए।

The recent trends have shown shifting of Indian Students to private sector.
Mostly for better quality, infrastructure, placement assurance or global presence and networks.

However, there are certain issues associated with them:-

- 1) Lack of Monitoring and Regulation of quality of education.
- 2) Non uniformity in standards across the country

2. High cost of education -
Inaccessible for poor and
weaker sections.
3. Compromisation of Merit -
As student can get admission
through donations and advancement
4. Sustainable Placements -
Often the companies drop off
the students recruited from
private universities after a year or
two.
5. Indiscriminate Proliferation
of private universities. Ex. engineering
institutes.
Thus, a need of adequate
monitoring mechanism and national
standard is needed to ensure
quality higher
education

9. Highlighting the significance of Central Asia for India, discuss the challenges in strengthening the Indo-Central Asian relationship. (150 words) 10

भारत के लिए मध्य एशिया के महत्व पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, भारत-मध्य एशियाई संबंधों को मजबूत करने के समक्ष विद्यमान चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Central Asia comprises of countries like Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan.

Significance of Central Asia:-

- 1) Energy Needs - High energy resources - oil, Natural Gas in Central Asian countries. Ex - TAPI gas pipe line.
- 2) Economic Cooperation - Central Asia is important market for India's Pharmaceutical, tourism, service sector.
- 3) Strategic - Central Asia will ensure connectivity

- with Europe, Russia and
beyond.
- helps in bypassing Pakistan
and Afghanistan
- 4) Political significance - helps in
countering China's influence in
the region.

Challenges :-

- 1) China's Debt Diplomacy in
region - Ex-Kazakhstan is under
Chinese Debt.
- 2) Connectivity - INSTC and
Ashgabat Agreement are yet to
take form for improving connectivity
- 3) Limitation of Indian Diplomacy.
Thus, Central Asia's strategic
significance has increased in view of
the Russia-Ukraine war.

10. Discuss the role that the Indian diaspora can play in the making of "Aatmanirbhar Bharat" (self-reliant India). Also, mention the challenges in this regard. (150 words) 10

"आत्मनिर्भर भारत" के निर्माण में भारतीय डायस्पोरा द्वारा निभाई जा सकने वाली भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, इस संबंध में विद्यमान चुनौतियों का भी उल्लेख कीजिए।

India has 2nd highest diaspora in world and is 2nd highest remittance receiving country.

Role of Diaspora in making Atmanirbhar Bharat :-

1) Aid Development Ex-Gujarat's Vatan Prem Yojana uses NRI remittance for native village development.

2) Marketing and Brand Building
→ Indian Missions can connect with diaspora to expand market for Indian products.

- 3) Influence policies - Ex - USA has ^{Share} huge Indian diaspora (3rd highest Population) it can influence policies of US government in favour of India.
- 4) Capital and Knowledge sharing.
Ex - GIAN network enables Indian diaspora to share expertise in R&D.

Challenges :-

- 1) Technology Transfer - may not be possible with help of diaspora.
- 2) Structural Issues with economy
→ manufacturing infrastructure,
protectionism need separate
interventions.

Thus, Indian diaspora can aid in Atma Nirbhar Bharat, yet government interventions are paramount.

11. A critical appraisal of the outcomes of the 74th Constitutional Amendment Act underlines the need for second-generation reforms to strengthen decentralisation of urban local governance in India. Discuss. (250 words) 15

74वें संविधान संशोधन अधिनियम के परिणामों का आलोचनात्मक मूल्यांकन भारत में शहरी स्थानीय शासन के विकेंद्रीकरण को सुदृढ़ करने हेतु दूसरी-पीढ़ी के सुधारों की आवश्यकता को रेखांकित करता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

74th Constitutional Amendment Act introduced in 1992 inserted Article 243-W in 12th schedule of Constitution. Intended to devolve 18 items to urban local bodies in governance.

However, the devolution and implementation of this devolution has been limited in its effect :-

1. low fiscal capacity of local bodies - ULBs facing acute financial crisis
2. Political independence is

limited by nominal powers with
Mayor, head of Urban local bodies.

3. Inconsistency in ULB elections
→ in some cities Mayor is
directly elected while in others
indirectly elected.

4. Lack of real decentralisation
- as real power rests Municipal
Commissioner or CEO of Urban body.

Hence, need for second generation
reforms, some of them are :-

1. Decentralisation of taxation
powers to increase fiscal capacity.
for example - Scandinavian countries.
Local bodies collect direct taxes from
citizens.

2. Mayor as head of Municipality
be given real powers and be
directly elected - 2nd ARC.

3. Set 5 years of tenure for Mayor

4. Powers to ULBs with respect
to planning and execution.

For example - land monetisation,
land use change, user charges for
services be devolved to ULBs.

As the urban population is
expected to grow to 50% by 2030,
74th Constitutional Amendment Act,
becomes imperative for India to
achieve its SDG-13 goal by 2030

12. It is argued that unchecked and rampant exercise of the power to insert laws in the Ninth Schedule results in undermining of Constitutional supremacy and creation of Parliamentary hegemony. Do you agree? Justify your stand with logical arguments. (250 words) 15

यह तर्क दिया जाता है कि नौवीं अनुसूची में विधियों को सम्मिलित करने की शक्ति के अनियंत्रित और व्यापक स्तर पर प्रयोग से संवैधानिक सर्वोच्चता में कमी और संसदीय आधिपत्य का सृजन होता है। क्या आप सहमत हैं? उचित तर्कों के साथ अपने मत की पुष्टि कीजिए।

9th schedule was inserted
in constitution by 1st Constitutional
Amendment Act in 1951.

It was introduced to secure
parliamentary power of constitutional
Amendment from Judicial interference.

However, over time, its use
undermined the principle of
constitutional supremacy in following

ways :-

1. Blanket ban from Judicial
Review resulted in violation of

Fundamental Rights - like Article 14
with respect to laws on land reforms

2. Parliamentary hegemony in
creating ultra-vires legislations.

13. Asymmetry is an important characteristic of federalism in India, which has helped in the accommodation of diverse demands inherent in our democracy. Discuss. (250 words) 15

असममिति भारत में संघवाद की एक महत्वपूर्ण विशेषता है, जिसने हमारे लोकतंत्र में तिहित विविध मांगों के समायोजन में सहायता प्रदान की है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Asymmetry refers to unequal treatment among units, owing to special needs of certain units.
India's diverse culture and economy, - geographic makeup demanded Asymmetry for ensuring unity in diversity.

It has helped in accommodation of diverse demands :-

1) Addressing cultural diversity :-
for example - Schedule 5 and 6 of constitution, secure cultural autonomy of tribal areas.

2) Address economic diversity :
 → for example Art 371 - requires
 separate development board for
Vidarbha (underdeveloped) region for
Maharashtra.

3) Address Political diversity :-
 → for example, PESA Act extends
Panchayat Raj to schedule areas
 but with checks and balances.

4) Address social diversity :-
 for example - 33-1 mandatory reservation
 for women in Panchayat Raj institutions
 and urban local bodies.

+ further autonomy to states like
Nagaland (Art. 371A), Mizoram (Art. 371C)
 with respect to their traditional
laws.

5) Addressing geographical diversity
 → Special Category States recommended
 by Gadgil Committee - amount for
 special needs of hill and bordering
 States.

However, there have been
 certain limitations of Asymmetric
Federalism :-

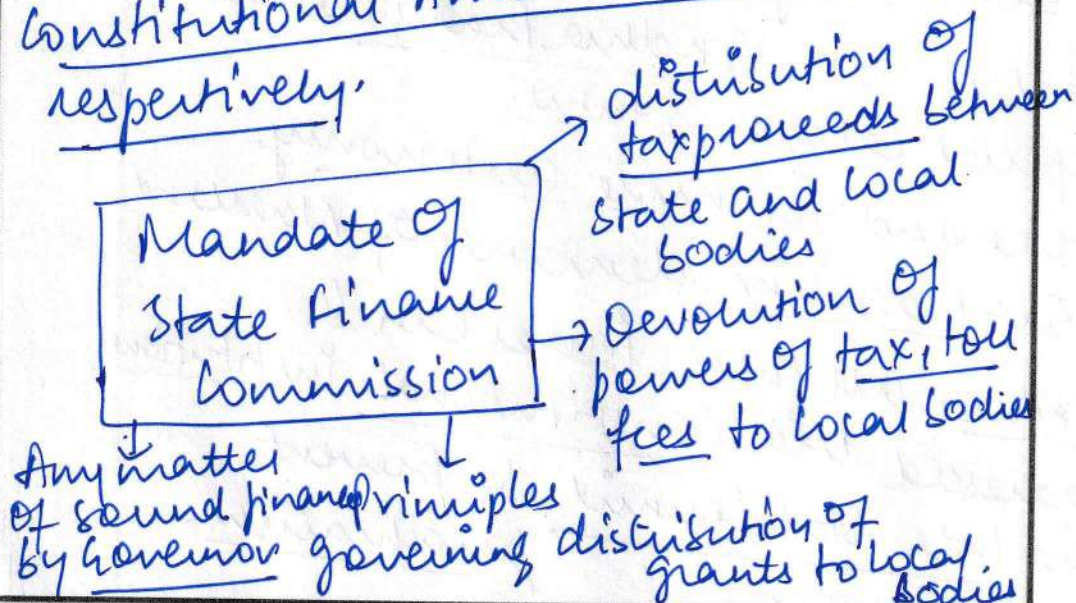
- 1) Lack of effective implementation
 of certain provisions. Example-PESA.
- 2) Demand for special category by
 States. Ex - Andhra Pradesh demanding
Special Category Status.
- 3) Demand for more autonomy.
 Ex - Nagaland demands of Nagaland.

Hence, all these issues can be
 addressed via Constitutional institutions
 like Inter-State Council, to prevent
parochialism.

14. In India, the Finance Commissions are established pursuant to the constitutional mandate. In this context, do you think the State Finance Commissions have been effective in promoting fiscal federalism? Substantiate with arguments. (250 words) 15

भारत में वित्त आयोगों की स्थापना संवैधानिक अधिदेश के अनुसार की जाती है। इस संदर्भ में, क्या आपको लगता है कि राज्य वित्त आयोग राजकोपीय संघवाद को बढ़ावा देने में प्रभावी रहे हैं? तर्कों के साथ पुष्टि कीजिए।

Finance Commission is established under Article 280 of the constitution. It is called the balancing wheel of fiscal federalism. State Finance Commission are envisaged under 243-I and 243-V Articles of 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendment Act respectively.



Their effectiveness in promoting fiscal federalism :-

1) Devolution of taxation powers to Urban Local Bodies - like entertainment tax, tolls, etc.

2) Distribution of grants under 243E and 7

However there have been following limitations with respect to SFCs :-

1. Lack of periodicity and regularity in their constitution. - Some states have not even constituted SFCs.
2. Lack of alignment with Finance Commission of India.
3. Their recommendations are not binding, hence often ignored.

by States.

4. Financial limitation of State
consolidated funds due to decrease
in revenue collection owing to
GST.

Thus, following measures can
be taken :-

1. Mandatory constitution of State
Finance Commission by States - 15th
Finance Commission has made it a
condition for devolution of grants to
States.

2. Alignment of SFC with Finance
Commission of India - to ensure
both can align recommendations.
- 2nd ARC.

Thus, State Finance Commission must
be used as balancing wheel of fiscal
federalism within
States.

15. Reduction in the overall size of the bureaucracy has been seen as the underlying idea behind civil services reforms. Is it a good idea to reduce the size of the Indian bureaucracy? Examine in light of the experience of India.

(250 words) 15

नौकरशाही के समग्र आकार में कमी को सिविल सेवाओं में सुधार के पीछे अंतर्निहित विचार के रूप में देखा गया है। क्या भारतीय नौकरशाही के आकार को कम करना एक उपयुक्त विचार है? भारत के अनुभव के आलोक में परीक्षण कीजिए।

Several Reports - ARC, Nih° Nyog

reports have recommended
rationalisation of Indian
bureaucracy.

The merits given for reduction
in size of bureaucracy are :-

1. Minimum Government, Maximum
Government idea → Rationalisation
of departments to ensure quicker
delivery.

2. To curb Red Tapisms - with
expansion of bureaucracy - procedural

work also gets lengthy and complex. Hence, to curb Red Tapism

3. E-governance - It is envisaged that as ICT takes place of various official duties, capacity will shrink. For instance - introduction of DBT, has curbed need for officials.

4. Ease of Doing Business → Single window clearances, quicker service delivery is possible with simplification of bureaucratic structure.

5. International experiences. For example Singapore, S. Korea have undertaken streamlining of bureaucratic work to increase efficiency.

However experts have also highlighted certain concerns associated with rationalisation:-

1. Already shortage of civil servants in country
2. Disparity in distribution of officials across departments and cadres. - While some departments are overstaffed other face human resource crunch.
3. Capacity for transformation - Adoption of ICT does not reduce need for discretionary decision making.

Thus, rationalisation, equitable distribution of officials can be ensured instead of outright downsizing of bureaucracy

16. There is a need to ensure better ethical standards, accountability and management of temples in India. Discuss in the context of issues associated with state intervention in management of temples. **(250 words) 15**

भारत में मंदिरों के बेहतर नैतिक मानकों, जवाबदेही और प्रबंधन को सुनिश्चित करने की आवश्यकता है। मंदिरों के प्रबंधन में राज्य के हस्तक्षेप से संबंधित मुद्दों के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।

17. What do you understand by feminisation of old age? Highlight the issues associated with it in the Indian context. Also, mention the measures taken by the government in this regard. (250 words) 15

वृद्धावस्था के नारीकरण से आप क्या समझते हैं? भारतीय संदर्भ में इससे जुड़े मुद्दों पर प्रकाश डालिए। साथ ही, इस संबंध में सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए कदमों का भी उल्लेख कीजिए।

Elderly population in India amounts for 8.6% of total population as per Census 2011. It is expected to grow to 20% by 2030 - LANCET.

Women elderly account for 55% of total elderly population. The increased proportion of women in elderly population is referred to as feminisation of old age.

One of the reason cited for this is higher life expectancy of women compared to men.

ISSUES associated with this :-

1) Social

- Majority of elderly women are widows, subjected to various discrimination associated with widowhood. Example - White cloth.
- Ageist stereotypes - limits use of their social capital.

2) Economic

- Asset ownership - Women elderly own less than half of property owned by their male counterpart. Male inheritance in Indian society).
- Pension or Insurance coverage - only 9-1% of elderly population is covered under pension, further less for women.
- Paradox of staying healthy and

employed. Women lack formal skills,
hence, casual labour - mostly in menial
areas.

3) HEALTH and SECURITY

→ Women are less likely to avail
healthcare service compared to men.
→ Security issues like abandonment,
rapes, property grabbing render them
helpless.

→ further, mental health issues are
seen as normal part of ageing.

Measures taken by government :-

- 1) National Programme for Old Age.
- 2) Rashtriya Vayoshani Yojana
- 3) Rashtriya Vaya Vandana Yojana.
- 4) Provisions for Geriatric Care in
National Health Policy.

18. Given its impact on both individual resilience and the resilience of the economy, is there a case for strong universal social protection in India? Discuss. (250 words) 15

व्यक्तिगत लचीलेपन और अर्थव्यवस्था की प्रत्यास्थता दोनों पर इसके प्रभाव को देखते हुए, क्या भारत में सुदृढ़ सार्वभौमिक सामाजिक सुरक्षा की स्थिति विद्यमान है? विवेचना कीजिए।

Universal Social Protection

refers to unconditional security to individual by state. Constitution under Article 41 of constitution envisages social protection in case of unemployment, old age and sickness.

Its impact can be beneficial in following ways:-

I. FOR INDIVIDUAL

1. Capacity Development - income support will ensure expenditure on health, education, hence, capital development.
2. Prevent delinquency - riots,

arise from restless youths of
country.

3. Protect Vulnerable - transgenders,
person with disabilities, elderly
who are facing economic, social
exclusion.

II. FOR ECONOMY

1. Sustain Demand even in
difficult times, hence, sustain
growth.
2. Capital Development for
production - healthy, secure
population imperative to reap
demographic dividend.
3. Prevent public disorders due to
riots, etc.
4. Increase social capital hence,
productivity of population.

However, there are certain concerns with universal social protection

- 1) fiscal capacity of state - Already under bearing fiscal deficit and therefore fiscal consolidation
- 2) It may reduce motivation to work among poor, as unconditional coverage of social protection.
- 3) One size fit all social protection won't work, hence, complexity in design of social protection.

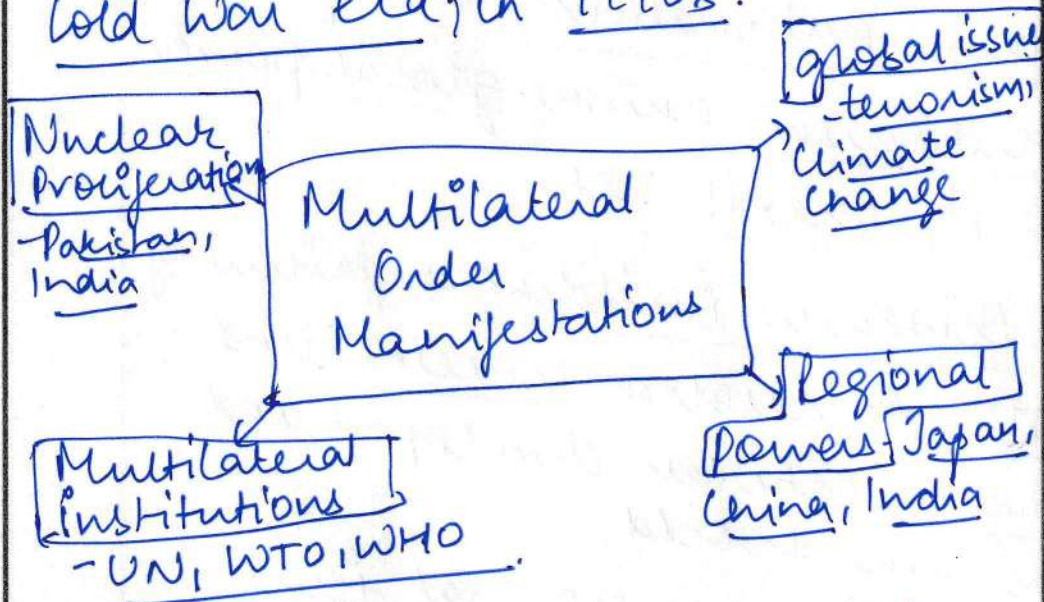
Thus, universal social protection can be designed by accommodating specific interest of various sections like women, elderly, disabled etc. It can aid India's achievement of SDG-10 reduction of inequality.

19. There have been arguments that with the old global multilateral order failing to manage rising challenges, issue-based coalitions are gaining traction and have become the arenas of functional cooperation. Discuss.

(250 words) 15

ऐसे तर्क दिए गए हैं कि पुरानी वैश्विक बहुपक्षीय व्यवस्था बढ़ती चुनौतियों का प्रबंधन करने में विफल रही है, जबकि मुद्दे-आधारित गठबंधन लोकप्रियता प्राप्त कर रहे हैं और कार्यात्मक सहयोग के क्षेत्र बन गए हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।

World evolved into the
multilateral order post the
end of polarised world of
cold war era, in 1990s.



However, the multilateral Order
has faced failures in rising
challenges. can be witnessed as :-

① Afghanistan issue → limitations of United Nations in resolving conflicts - Afghanistan, Israel-Palestine, etc.

② Multilateral cooperation →
Example - COVID-19 saw rise of 'vaccine nationalism', rising protectionism among global powers - USA, Brexit etc.

③ Consensus Building → failure of WTO to resolve concerns and disputes between developed and developing world.
Hence, rise of regional issue based coalitions :-

1) For regional security - Ex- QUAD envisaged to secure Indo-Pacific region from Chinese aggressions.

2) Regional economic integration :-

Example - BIMSTEC, RCEP for
regional economic growth.

3) for equitable multilateral order

Example - G4 group for expansion
of permanent membership in UNSC

4) Political cooperation - Ex-SCO

for ensuring regional stability in
Central Asia and South Asia

region.

5) for environmental cooperation

Example - Small Island Development
States cooperation to address issues
with respect to climate change.

Thus, proliferation of regional
groups signifies further diffusion of
power in modern world.

20. India intends to achieve a balanced and optimal development of energy infrastructure in the South-Asian region through mutual understanding and cooperation. In light of this statement, discuss the need as well as existing gaps in South Asia's energy cooperation. (250 words) 15

भारत पारस्परिक समझ और सहयोग के माध्यम से दक्षिण-एशियाई क्षेत्र में ऊर्जा के बुनियादी ढांचे में एक संतुलन और उसका इष्टतम विकास सुनिश्चित करना चाहता है। इस कथन के आलोक में, दक्षिण एशिया में ऊर्जा सहयोग की आवश्यकता और इस संदर्भ में विद्यमान कमियों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

South Asian Region is

endowed with extensive river system of Himalayan Rivers. Hence, harnessing hydroelectric energy and its distribution has been a common intent of all South Asian countries.

India's efforts in achieving South Asia's energy cooperation :-

1. Energy Cooperation Projects
 - ↳ Pancheshwar Multipurpose Project with Nepal
 - ↳ Khonglachen and Magdehri with Bhutan.

2. Inter-country transmission of electricity by public as well as private utilities

3. Use of regional forums - SARL, BIMSTEC - for energy cooperation projects.

Need of these Projects :-

1) low energy per capita utilisation in region that reflects in low Human Development Index.

2) Environmental concerns - India's Panchsmit Goals, concern with hydroelectric project, need for diversification of energy cooperation to solar, nuclear.

3) To resolve inter-country disputes

Over river water (Gndus Water Treaty, Teesta dispute) - cooperation is must.

Gaps in these Projects

- 1) Delayed implementation - Ex-
Pancheshwar.
- 2) Consensus building mechanisms
Ex- collapse of SAPRC, has stalled
energy cooperation.
- 3) Limited to Hydroelectricity.
Need to diversify.
- 4) Advent of Chinese projects
in region. Example with Nepal
and Bangladesh.
Thus, Energy can become a focal
point of South Asian integration to
ensure increase in per capita energy
consumption of region.