

# VISION IAS

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## GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1418)

Name of Candidate	Narayan Amit Malempati		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	687682
Center	Online	Date	11 <sup>th</sup> Dec, 20

INDEX TABLE		
Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
2	10	
3	10	
4	10	
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18	15	
19	15	
20	15	
<b>Total Marks Obtained:</b>		
<b>Remarks:</b>		

## INSTRUCTIONS

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. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH & HINDI** इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. **All questions are compulsory.**  
सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
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. 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. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.  
प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
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।

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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. Discuss the need to strengthen the National Commission for Scheduled Castes to tackle the problems faced by the Scheduled Castes in India.

(150 words) 10

भारत में अनुसूचित जातियों द्वारा सामना की जा रही समस्याओं से निपटने के लिए राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जाति आयोग को सशक्त बनाने की आवश्यकता पर चर्चा कीजिए।

The NCSC is established under Art 338 of the Constitution. It earlier dealt with ST's too but after the 89th CA it has been relieved. Yet, it still looks after Anglo-Indians too.

< Why - need to strengthen >

1) As per PUCI present org<sup>21</sup> is a toothless body.

1.1 → Recommendations not binding

1.2 → vacancies in members.

1.3 → No security of tenure.

1.4 → expenditure subject to annual vote of parliament.

1.5 → It does mainly ex-post facto work & its reports to the

President have become a mere formality.

2) Even after SC/ST Atrocities act of 1989 which has stringent provisions yet the attacks on the SC have not come down as data found in the Law Commission reports.

Way - Forward

1) Appointment of Chairman & members must not be solely dependent on executive. Need Judicial members too in the selection committee

2) Expenditure to be changed, enhanced staff, security of tenure & certain recommendations to be made binding

3) DPSP enjoin state to act in interests of weaker sections  
reference returns are need of hour  
Thus Justice Pandey's suggestions must be enacted.

2. Does the Representation of People's Act ensure an effective mechanism against criminalization of politics in India? Discuss. (150 words) 10

क्या लोक प्रतिनिधित्व अधिनियम भारत में राजनीति के अपराधीकरण के विरुद्ध एक प्रभावी तंत्र सुनिश्चित करता है? चर्चा कीजिए।

The Constitution of India has left detailed provisions for elections to be enacted by the Legislature; hence Parliament has enacted the RPA, 1950 & RPA (1951).

### < Challenges >

- 1) The Language & mechanism are very limited & vague.
- 2) Inefficiency in the Judiciary & legal loopholes have further compounded the problems.
- 3) While people convicted for term > 2y are banned until byears after their release may say it is linear.
- 4) People convicted for sati, Dowry, untouchability cannot contest.

Thus we need SPL Courts to hear cases & ensure that politicians are debarred at charge forming stage with approval of court.

Ex: As per PRS, over 65% of MP's/MLA's have criminal charges against them. Such as Rape, Murder, etc. Further many cases have not yet reached trial stage.

(Case study)

In 2013, parliament added provision to Art 12 & Art 19 that allowed a 'convicted' MP/MLA to continue as member for 3 additional months. However, in the Lily Thomas vs Union of India

case; the SC found it to be ultra vires of the constitution.

Hence need of how is parliament to pass a strong law to prevent criminal elements.

3. Discuss the challenges that are being faced by Gram Nyayalayas in their effective functioning. (150 words) 10  
ग्राम न्यायालयों द्वारा प्रभावी रूप से कार्य करने में सामना की जा रही चुनौतियों की विवेचना कीजिए।

As per the ES-19/20 by K Subramania, over 3.5 crore cases are pending in the Judiciary of which  $\geq 75\%$  are civil cases. Thus Judicial Refoms, Alternative Dispute Resolution & Gram-Nyayalayas are needed to prevent: "Matsyanyaya" where big fish eats the small fish.

Features of Gram-Nyayalayas

- 1) Both civil & Criminal cases.
- 2) HQ at Panchayat Samiti level
- 3) Both centre & state contribute.
- 4) Only Judicial Magistrate 1st class can hear cases.
- 5) Appeal to District Judge.
- 6) IEA, 1872 doesn't apply but

Principles of Natural Justice follow  
 & mediators are allowed.

< Challenges >

1) Investigation by NLSA found  
 that  $\geq 15$  states haven't even  
 Setup Gram-Nyayalas.

2) Cooperative federalism, state  
 Cooperation & funding is missing.

3) Lack of ICT, Tech, etc is  
 hampering their effectiveness.

4) Many states have not passed  
laws & regulations to give  
 effect to the Act.

5) Lack of qualified & willing  
 judges to undertake it.

6) Awareness of citizens. Hence  
Gram Nyays remains a distant  
 dream for many.

< Way-forward >

Art 39 A of DPSP's enjoin state  
 to provide justice & legal aid  
 to all; hence above reforms needed.

4. Explain the rationale behind setting up 'Alternative Mechanisms' in ensuring effective decision making in the governance of the country.

(150 words) 10

देश के शासन में प्रभावी निर्णयन सुनिश्चित करने के लिए 'वैकल्पिक तंत्र' स्थापित करने का औचित्य स्पष्ट कीजिए।

Governance is indeed a complex, cumbersome, involved & time-taking process.



While certain decisions are timebound; so need for Alternative Mechanisms has arisen.

Ex: Arun Jaitley headed an empowered committee which decided which companies would be disinvested. It led to reduction in fiscal deficit.

< Rationale >

1) Decentralization is the 'Mantra' followed here.

2) Leverage of extended networks of Govt & Bureaucracy

3) The compact & wieldy body can take detailed facts into account, conduct extensive consultations & talk to experts before coming to decision.

↳ It would not be practical for the cabinet/council of Ministers to have done the same.

4) In relation to policy, many ground realities & ambiguities crop up; hence need for an empowered mechanism to resolve disputes, clarity, etc.

Ex: GST Advance Appellate Authority.

Note: A parallel word be the Alternate Dispute Resolution Mechanism as in the Judiciary. (way-forward)

While Alternative Mechanisms are needed, an review & accountability mechanism is needed to ensure their proper functioning.

5. The relationship between bureaucracy and democracy is both paradoxical and complementary. Comment.

(150 words) 10

नौकरशाही और लोकतंत्र के बीच संबंध विरोधाभासी और अनुपूरक दोनों हैं। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

The Bureaucracy is an instrument of the Executive Branch of Govt that helps in executing policies of the state. In this role constant interaction with the public is unavoidable.

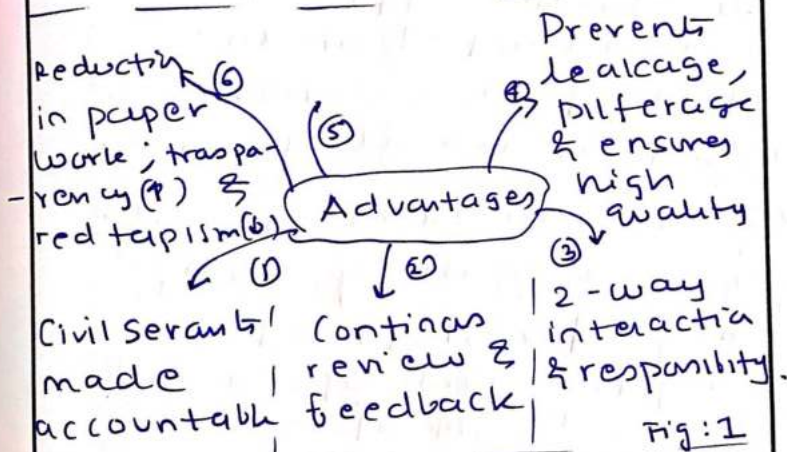
### < Challenges >

- ① Colonial mindset & Apathy
- ② status quo - mindset & silo mentality with superior attitude.
- ③ Lack of compassion & red-tapism.
- ④ Rule based approach.
- ⑤ Interference by politicians in working.
- ⑥ feeling of service compromised.
- ⑦ Lack of accountability to the public.
- ⑧ No transparency in decision making.
- ⑨ Disconnect with public & anti-people attitude.



6. By transforming the way governments work and reinventing people's participation in the democratic process, e-governance empowers the citizen in multiple ways. Discuss in the context of India. (150 words) 10
- सरकारों के काम करने के तरीके में परिवर्तन और लोकतांत्रिक प्रक्रिया में लोगों की भागीदारी का पुनर्निर्माण करके, ई-शासन अनेक प्रकार से नागरिकों को सशक्त बनाता है। भारत के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।

e-Governance refers to the use of ICT in ensuring better public service/goods delivery to the masses at large.



<Govt Initiatives>

➤ NIC has dev 'e-office' portal for files, leave, decision, fund approval, resource mgmt, planning, feedback, etc.

2) Cloud-computing & Storage via Meghdoot has revolutionized the office mgmt.

3) Digital India, e-Kranti; e-Dhara (Land Records); M-kisan (USSD crop data), etc are proving to be a boon for farmers.

4) All information, application, etc are broadcasted online; Customer feedback, reviews, grievances are also possible.

5) Zoom calls, WhatsApp Chat groups are enabling the sharing of best practices among the Govt officials & ensuring rural transformation  
(Way-forward)

Using these avenues; Enterprise-Resource Planning, Information-Mgmt Systems, GIS, MIS, etc; ease of living for general public is ensured.

7. The Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act 2019 dilutes the spirit of Supreme Court's NALSA judgement towards self-determination of gender. Discuss.

(150 words) 10

उभयलिंगी व्यक्ति (अधिकारों का संरक्षण) अधिनियम, 2019 लिंग के आत्मनिर्धारण के प्रति उच्चतम न्यायालय के नालसा (NALSA) निर्णय की भावना को कमजोर करता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

A Transgender is a person whose sex doesn't match the sex assigned at birth. The SC had taken an expansive meaning on Gender/sex & ensured effective protection for the rights of the transgendered community.

However, many groups such as "Autism", Transgender Concern etc opine that the 2019 Act has impinged on their protection as granted by the court.

< Characteristics >

It establishes a Transgender Protection Rights Council to

be headed by MoSJE.

- It would have nominate a members from the transgender community.
- Looks into laws, specific complaints & welfare of transgenders at large.

### < Issues >

- 'gender' definition is not suited to the liberal interpretation of the SC.
- Member term not fixed.
- Not same status as SC/ST in the NCST/NCSC.
- No reservations for the transgenders yet.
- Transgender members are not in the majority.

### < Way-forward >

- The constitution treats all equally hence parochial, paternalistic & suspicious attitudes towards transgenders to be avoided for their upliftment.

8. The worthwhile goal of Universal Health Coverage can be achieved by declaring the right to health as a fundamental right. Comment.

स्वास्थ्य के अधिकार को एक मूल अधिकार घोषित करके सार्वभौमिक स्वास्थ्य कवरेज के सार्थक लक्ष्य को प्राप्त किया जा सकता है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। (150 words) 10

The Right to Life & Personal Liberty as enshrined in Art 21 of the Constitution has been expansively interpreted by the SC. Thus many of the intelligentsia opine that the time is ripe for Right to Health Coverage as a fundamental right.

<(Case Study)>

The 'AYUSHMAN BHARAT' Yojana which gives '5L' health insurance cover to all poor families w/o any insurance premium is a step in the right direction. Over 50 cr are covered under it. It is core scheme & managed by National Health Authority. → (w/ 1L core allocation)

Even the UNDP's SDG Goals 3; wants to ensure healthy lives for all. Our CMR is 52 & life expectancy is only 68. Our performance in the

UNDP's Human Dev Report is hampered due to lack of universal health coverage.

Stunting, wasting, Polio, Deficiency, etc are widespread due to inadequate health care.

Thus if 'Right to Health' is made a FR; then it would ensure a 'justiciable' framework

for redressal. But mere declaration is not enough we need a good health care system, insurance monitoring, etc

< Way forward >

The principles of the Alma-Ata Declaration of 1978 are applicable

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9. Indian Diaspora in the Gulf countries is an asset beset with multiple challenges. Comment.  
खाड़ी देशों में भारतीय डायस्पोरा अनेक चुनौतियों से घिरी एक परिसंपत्ति है। टिप्पणी कीजिए।  
(150 words) 10

The Gulf Countries such as Qatar, Saudi Arabia, UAE, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, etc, are important to India from 2 aspects:

- 1) Energy security
- 2) Remittances & Diaspora

< Advantages >

1) Soft power in their nations as they are dependent on Indian Labor.

2) Reduce Balance of Payment crisis due to massive remittances. As per International Orgn of Migration, India receives the maximum remittances.

3) Helps present our case against state sponsors of terror in the orgn of Islamic Countries.

4) We get skilled labor back & also know-how exchange is a boom.

< Challenges >

1) Security challenge as in Yemen Civil war & kidnapping of Indian nurses in Iraq.

2) Religious freedom of Diaspora in Theocratic Countries

3) MUST avoid tendency to 'punctuate' middle east only as a counter-weight to Pakistan.

4) Many organized crime networks use West-Asian countries as their base of operation. Ex: D Company

5) NPCI needs to develop tech so that migrants send remittance easily.  
< way-forward >

As per UN SDG 15 - international collaborations are the need of hour hence more people-people collaboration is needed.

10. Briefly outline the genesis and functioning of World Food Programme (WFP). Also highlight its contribution to India's effort in addressing the issue of hunger and malnutrition.

(150 words) 10

विश्व खाद्य कार्यक्रम (WFP) की उत्पत्ति और कार्यप्रणाली की संक्षिप्त रूपरेखा प्रस्तुत कीजिए। साथ ही, भूख और कुपोषण की समस्या को दूर करने के भारत के प्रयासों में इसके योगदान पर भी प्रकाश डालिए।

The UNDP's SDG Goal 2 enjoins the world to ensure that by 2030 no hunger persists in the world. In sync with this ideology, the World Food Program was established to ensure better food availability.

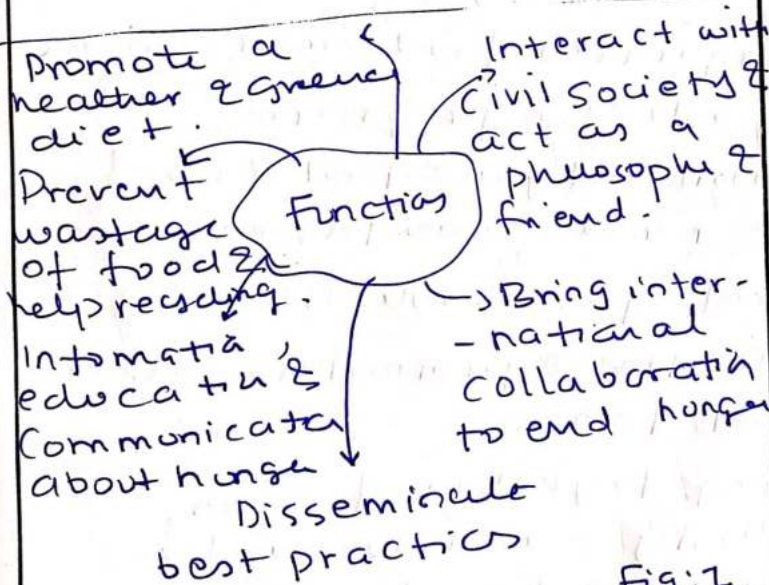


Fig:1

It is a specialized agency of the UN which is HQ at Rome, Italy; India is member.

India is country ranked (115/130) in the Global Hunger Index.

(1/2) of all Indian children below 5 years are stunted as per WHO. Thus the role of the World Food Program has become very crucial.

- Organizes food banks, community outreach programs, etc.
- Works at grass-root level & in rural areas for awareness
- Helps preventable diseases reduction & promotes healthier diets to increase IET.
- Brings together farmer, industry & academia to solve the food crisis.

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11. Action against civil society groups is seen as shrinking space for dissent by some while others point out to the imperatives of merit based action against certain groups. Examine with examples. (250 words) 15

कुछ लोगों द्वारा नागरिक समाज समूहों के विरुद्ध कार्रवाई को असहमति के लिए कम होती स्वीकार्यता के रूप में देखा जाता है, जबकि अन्य लोग कतिपय समूहों के विरुद्ध गुणावगुण आधारित कार्रवाई की अनिवार्यता की ओर इंगित करते हैं। उदाहरण सहित परीक्षण कीजिए।

Civil Society refers to those non-governmental actors that work as non-profit actors for humanitarian causes. They are so well recognised that their participation is extensive in UN & its associated bodies.

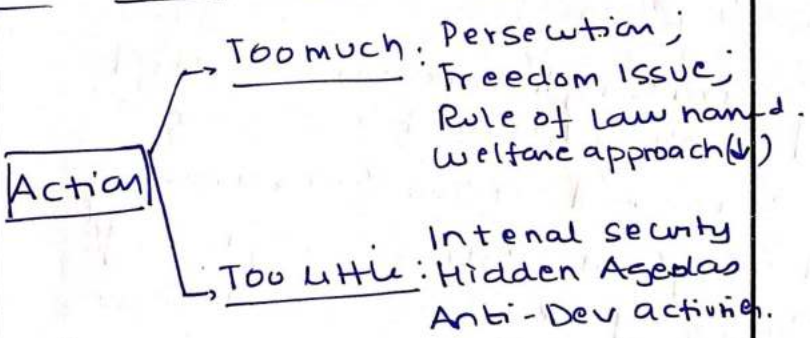


Fig: 1

## Challenges in Civil-Society

1) Lack of following of the transparency & audit rules.

Disregard for FCRA & FEMA

2) IB Report (2014) stated that foreign funded civil-societies have cost 2-3% of GDP.

3) Vested interests & working for foreign nations.

4) Stall dev projects by PIL industry & RTI overdose.

5) Forced conversions due to lure of the monetary benefits, etc.

Examples:

→ Amnesty International not following laws, hence banned.

→ 'Green-Peace' was working to destabilize India's energy mix, by anti-coal agitations.

→ Christian Concern was engaged in proselytization via force.

→ 'NE Review' inciting tribals to protest against dev projects

< How excessive action is bad >

- 1) Targetted and specific actions must be taken & targeting must be avoided.
- 2) Large fraction of civil society is honest, thus need to differentiate.
- 3) Rationalization of the compliance laws needed.
- 4) Coercision & Agenda Drive approach to be avoided.
- 5) Their rights under the Constitution & laws harmed.

< Way-forward >

Civil Society works in exposing state excesses, voices peoples concerns, improves scheme implementation hence a collaborative approach is need of the hour to achieve "Sabka Sath Sabka Vikas".

12. Discuss the implications associated with the Prime Minister's Office acting as the most powerful office due to its formidable influence in policymaking in India. (250 words) 15

भारत में नीति-निर्माण में अपने अत्यधिक प्रभाव के कारण प्रधान मंत्री कार्यालय के सर्वाधिक शक्तिशाली कार्यालय के रूप में कार्य करने से संबद्ध निहितार्थों की विवेचना कीजिए।

During the early years of our nation, the real centre of power was the 'Cabinet Secretariat', however with

decline in importance of cabinet; presidential themes in election; leadership cut & decline in role of the individual parliamentarian the

PMB has emerged as the de-facto decision making body effectively sidelining the cabinet.

< Structure >

It is headed by Principal Secy to PM, usually an IAS officer & is also tasked with supervising the space

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## Nuclear Energy & Personal Sector

### < Challenges >

1) Excessive centralization of power leads to policy-paralysis as Ministers of the State wait for PMO Approval before decision.

2) Many times even though good decisions are taken, yet the nation is so large & complex that bandwidth is insufficient.

3) Raghuram Rajan has stated that pace of Doing Business is being affected as many reforms are still in the pipeline & need action/approval from the PMO to be implemented.

4) Role of Minister heavily (↓); he can no longer act independently; his powers (↓) & ability to initiate policy or transfer

his officers is heavily restricted  
 5) Since our country doesn't follow Presidential form of Govt where excessive centralization of power occurs; this is not favourable. Many NBO's such as PUCF & CHR have voiced similar concerns.

6) The number of people in the PMO are limited thus it too affects decision making.

< Way-forward >

Recognising the strength of the 'Cabinet system' is needed where ministers & GeM take decision independently while at the same time having collective responsibility. Thus their potentialities are leveraged for max governance.

13. While judiciary's efforts to infuse accountability in the functioning of government institutions and engender human rights jurisprudence demonstrate the importance of judicial governance, it also leads to concerns around judicial overreach. Discuss. (250 words) 15

जहाँ सरकारी संस्थानों के कार्यकरण में जवाबदेही का संचार करने और मानवाधिकार न्यायशास्त्र उत्पन्न करने का न्यायपालिका का प्रयास न्यायिक शासन का महत्व प्रदर्शित करता है, वहीं यह न्यायिक अतिक्रमण के चतुर्दिक चिंताओं को भी जन्म देता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

## The Separation of Powers & Principles of Checks & Balances

One political doctrine established on the belief that too much power for any institution is a competing & undesirable influence.

### <Why Judicial Interference>

Apathy by the Legislature & Executive is one of the prime reasons. The examples are:

→ Guidelines for Euthanasia.

→ Outlawing of Triple Talaq

→ Procedure for detaining the office of Profit Caster.

→ Environmental Concerns &

Polluter Pays & Absolute Liability.

Thus in these circumstances, Judicial Activism is indeed welcome as it drives other organs out of their slumber ~~by~~ and encourages them to act fast.

### < Challenges >

However many times these events are seen by other organs as 'tyranny of the unelected' or 'Judicial overreach'. It entails a tug-of-war with Parliament passing laws to nullify the judicial pronouncements & the Executive repeatedly stalling implementation of the guidelines.

Ex: Land Reform issues in the 1950-70's time.

< Way-forward >

We must view Judicial-Activism as warning & signal that actions are necessary. As a responsible institution, the Judiciary too has been extremely restrained in its use & thus it poses no-challenge to the constitutional distribution of powers.

Many NGO's such as PUCL, CHR1 & even Law Commission along with DRSC on Law & Justice have welcomed it. Thus it is an important tool of Executive accountability.

< Conclusion >

In Madison v/s Marbury; the US SC opined that:  
"Judiciary is the Beacon of our society".

14. The power to punish for contempt of court is necessary for the administration of justice. Critically analyse. (250 words) 15  
न्यायालय की अवमानना के लिए दंडित करने की शक्ति न्याय के प्रशासन के लिए आवश्यक है।  
समालोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिए।

The Constitution provides, Power to punish for Contempt Under Art. 129 for SC & Under Art. 215 for HC as both are Courts of Record.

< Types of Contempt >

Civil Contempt | Criminal Contempt

<p>It refers to <u>disobedience</u> of a person <u>obstructs</u> the order of <u>the court</u> or <u>stand-dering</u> the <u>au-thority</u> of the <u>Court</u>.</p>	<p>It occurs when <u>the functioning</u> of court or <u>threatens</u> the <u>judges</u> &amp; <u>other staff</u></p>
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## < Initiation of case >

The regulations for the contempt of court are as stipulated in Contempt of Court Act, 1979.

1) Suo-Motu initiation of the case by the SC/HC.

2) Attorney General can initiate case himself.

3) Normal Citizen can initiate proceedings but only with the approval of AG.

Ex: Recent Prashant Bhusan case is a reference in point for his comments on the CJI.

Ex: Recently SC threatened MOC for irregularities in the Telecom Gross Revenue issue.

< Why required >

- Protects dignity of court
- Rise of post truth world, radical interests, foreign influences, etc → pose challenge for the court.
- Court must have the power to defend itself.

< Challenges >

- Law Commission has recommended that it affects the freedom of expression & hence must be sparingly used.
- Many times difficult to establish what is contempt.
- It should not be a criminal offence as opined by PUCJ.

< Way - Forward >

The judges are the most learned of men; hence 'their broad shoulders' should use powers judiciously.

15. What are the legal concerns associated with custodial violence? Discuss the challenges in curbing such incidents. Also, suggest some ways to address this issue. (250 words) 15

अभिरक्षा में हिंसा से संबद्ध विधिक चिंताएं क्या हैं? ऐसी घटनाओं पर अंकुश लगाने में सामने आने वाली चुनौतियों की विवेचना कीजिए। साथ ही, इस समस्या का समाधान करने हेतु कुछ उपायों का भी सुझाव दीजिए।

India is a 'nation of laws'  
we have consistently ranked high in the 'World Justice Projects Rule of Law Index'. Hence  
Custodial killings are an  
affront to our democracy  
& due process.

<Custodial violence>

It refers to use of unethical coercion or physical force to make the accused behave in a particular manner.

<Causes>

1) To get confessions, even though they are not admissible in court. Thus India has one

Of the largest undertrial prisoners in world as these confessions don't stand in court & cases drag on.

- 2) To become witnesses.
- 3) For corrupt favours, etc.

### < Challenges in Curbing >

1) Tough to prove violence.

2) Nexus by the police.

3) Police argue that to get information a 'certain' level of intimidation is necessary.

4) Policing works on the Indian Police Act, 1961 hence

the work-culture is apathetic & colonial attitude prevails.

### < Legal Concerns >

1) Covenant on Civil & Political Rights violated.

2) FR & Constitution have explicitly prohibited it.

3) Against principles of Natural Justice & the process of law.

< Way-forward: steps >

1) Prakash Singh v/s Union of India case recommendation of 2006 to be implemented.

2) Recently SC has directed CCTV in all police stations to curb custodial violence.

3) Strict action & Commission of inquiry to be established that would punish the culprits.

4) Sensitization & IEC of the police force.

5) Empowered citizenry who are aware of duties & obligations.

< Way-forward >

Art 20 & 22 accord protection to all in case of detention which must be protected at all costs.

Don't write anything in the margin  
 इन्हें पढ़ने से परहेज करें

16. Civil society interventions, ranging from confrontation to engagement with the government, have played an important role in ushering transparency and accountability in governance in India. Discuss with examples. (250 words) 15

सरकार के साथ टकराव से लेकर जुड़ाव तक सिविल सोसाइटी के हस्तक्षेपों ने भारत में शासन में पारदर्शिता और जवाबदेही का सूत्रपात करने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई है। उदाहरणों के साथ चर्चा कीजिए।

It is aptly opined that the Media & Civil Society are the 4th pillar of Govt.

"Civil society is the engine of social change"

- Dennis Mcswail

Civil Society refers to the non-profit org<sup>s</sup> that are independent of Govt control that work for humanitarian causes. Ex: Amnesty International, PUCL, Adim Janjati Sangathan, etc

< Collaboration >

i) NGO's implement schemes through CAPART & also get funding via DARPAN.

Portal developed by NITI Aayog.

2) The Draft Lokpal Bill was made with help of Team Anna.

3) Social Audit in the MGNREGS & PM Awas Yojana.

4) Citizens Charter, work culture changes & code of conducts due to civil society pressure are needed.

5) Civil Societies are active participants in Jai - Sunwai & Praja Vahinis.

↳ Interventions via Confrontation ↵

1) Fight of Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan via Anna Roy for RTI Act.

2) Medha Patkar in Narmada Bachao - Andolan protected rights of tribals.

3) Chipko - Movement was watershed for environmental action in India.

4) Demonstration, Bandhs, Gherao  
& Hantus by Civil society  
force the Govt to Act

5) Fight for Tribal rights in  
Kanha National Park for  
the Baigas due to Adm Jwari  
Sangathan & use of social media.

< Way-forward >

"United we stand, Divided we  
fall" is the mantra for prag-  
matic collaboration with civil society.

17. When it comes to hunger, India faces the paradox of plenty. Discuss. Also suggest ways in which this concern can be addressed. (250 words) 15

जब भुखमरी की बात आती है, भारत को प्रचुरता के विरोधाभास का सामना करना पड़ता है। चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, उन उपायों का भी सुझाव दीजिए, जिनके माध्यम से इस चिंता का समाधान किया जा सकता है।

Hunger is the distress that arises from insufficient Caloric intake.

<Context>

After Independence, India was still a net importer of grains as our Agri sector was not developed. We were dependent on PL480 contract with VSA where ships filled with grain would come.

However, the Green-Revolution led by M.S. Swaminathan, Bahadur Shastri & Norman Borlaug using HYV seeds changed us into net-exporter of grains. Thus while we have plenty of food

the poor are still hungry. India's  
ranks 115/131 in the Global  
Hunger Index by Welthungerate.  
Hence the Paradox.

### <Challenges>

1) Archaic Essential Commodities  
Act, has hampered the dev  
of cold storage & logistics.

2) APMC issues have caused  
inefficiencies in market.

3) Skewed - MSP policies have  
sent wrong price-signal hence  
pulses and millets are  
in shortage.

4) Heavy corruption in PDS  
distribution & lack of benefits  
for migrants.

5) Lack of Buffer Stock &  
modern Agri - Silos to  
store grains.

Way - forward

1) Computerization, Reform of the PDS System & One-nation 1 ration card system.

2) Recent APMC Reform & ECA curtailment are welcome.

3) Use of Big-Data, AI & ML to identify regions of stress & direct resources.

4) Exploring idea of Universal Basic Income. If not atleast explore DBT for Food security as done in Dadra & Nagar Haveli

5) Focusing on pulses which help not only vegetarians but also the poor

Way - Forward

With these steps hunger can be tackled by Protein Energy - Malnutrition remains to be addressed; then only can SDG goal

18. What is the role of wage employment in alleviating poverty? How is the MGNREGA different from the earlier Wage Employment Programmes in India? (250 words) 15

निर्धनता उन्मूलन में मजदूरी रोजगार की क्या भूमिका है? मनरेगा (MGNREGA) भारत में पहले के मजदूरी रोजगार कार्यक्रमों से कैसे भिन्न है?

The Indian State is a welfare State as enjoined in the Directive Principles of State Policy. Thus it is its duty to alleviate poverty which stands at '21%' as per the Suresh Tendulkar committee report. While Universal Basic Income is one solution; another approach is to use vast labor potential of country to build durable community assets. Here enters MGNREGA enacted in 2005, which functions as a rights based approach to 100 days of manual unskilled labor for every rural family.

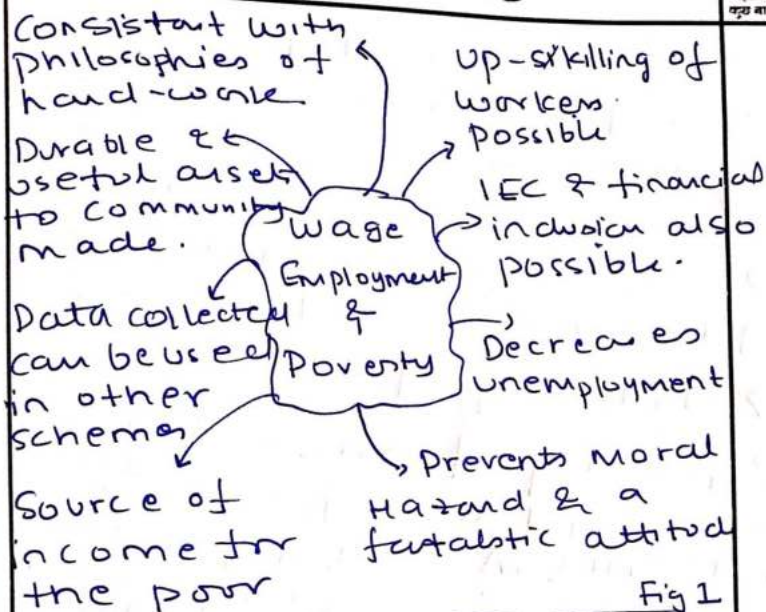
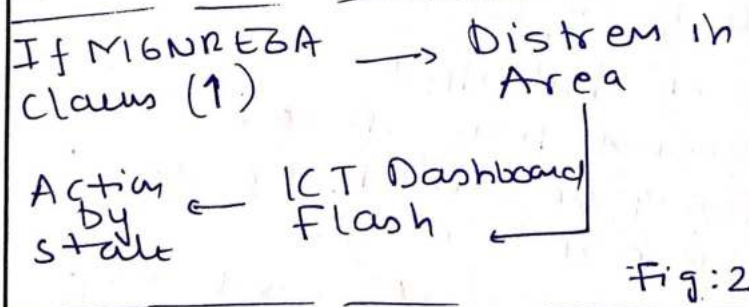


Fig 1

< How MGNREGA unique? >

- 1) Made a legal-right & if not fulfilled, can claim a pension from state.
- 2) Focus on audits by the stake holders.
- 3) ICT & e-Gov enabled by e-MGNREGA & Jan-Samadhan App
- 4) wages via DBT to the

- beneficiary directly.
- 5) Beneficiaries are identified by the Socio-economic factors & assets tailor made to community.
  - 6) Financial Inclusion of workers by Insurance, Jhan-Dhan Yojana.
  - 7) GIS tagging of assets.
  - 8) up-skilling of workers to reduce future dependence on MGNREGA & also focus on horticulture, vocational, etc.
  - 9) Data collected tells us:



Way-forward Thus MGNREGA is a lifeline of the Indian worker & must be made more better

19. China's aggressiveness in recent times presents not only challenges to India but also opportunities to strengthen itself internationally and domestically. Discuss.

(250 words) 15

हाल के दिनों में चीनी आक्रामकता न केवल भारत के लिए चुनौतियां खड़ी करती है बल्कि अंतर्राष्ट्रीय और घरेलू स्तर पर अपने आपको सशक्त बनाने का अवसर भी प्रदान करती है। चर्चा कीजिए।

The relation of China - India is indeed a peculiar one; though sharing interactions for over 3000 years we know little about each other & this can be attributed to the present misgivings.

< Pinch Points with China >

1) Occupied region of Aksai-Chin & Saksgham Glacier.

1.1) → Border issues with it in Himachal Pradesh.

1.2) → class in Arunachal Pradesh & issue of stapled visa.

2) Human Rights violation in Tibet, Taiwan & Hongkong.

3) Internment of Muslim Uygurs in Xinjiang Province.

4) Bids to foil India's attempt designate Lakshvi & Masood Azam as International terrorist

5) Agressive stances in the Indian Ocean Region. [String of Pearls]

6) One - Belt one - road & China's use of Debt - trap diplomacy.

6.1) China - Pak Economic Corridor in Pok.

6.2) Hambantota Port in Sri - Lanka.

7) Inciting neighbours such as Nepal to take on India.

Even Bhutan following a soft-glove approach in Doklam Stand off.

8) Opposition to UNSC Reform, Attacks in WTO, IPR issues & disregard for trade laws.

## < Opportunities for India >

1) India acting as Net Security Provider in IOR via SAGAR initiative.

2) QUAD grouping of Australia, India, Japan & USA for naval & maritime security.

3) SL & Rajapaksha have refused Chinese aid and firm allies of India.

4) Blue-Dot Network to counter China's policies.

5) Black listing of Pakistan & China as sponsors of terror in FATF body.

6) Aatma-Nirbhar Bharat & reduction of China's imports.

## < Way-forward >

If the world is going to be a safer place then the 'Dragon' & 'Elephant' must dance together.

20. Trade and connectivity hold the key for India to better engage its neighbours. Examine the opportunities and challenges in South Asia in this context. (250 words) 15

व्यापार और कनेक्टिविटी, भारत के लिए अपने पड़ोसियों से बेहतर तरीके से जुड़ने का सामर्थ्य रखती है। इस संदर्भ में दक्षिण एशिया में अवसरों और चुनौतियों का परीक्षण कीजिए।

In the era of Nation States, trade is the key point for dialogue. The rise of regional trade agreements such as RCEP, TPP are challenging the WTO & its Most Favoured Nations clauses & policies.

### < Challenges >

- 1) RCEP trade deal has been concluded w/o India.
  - 1.1) Tougher for our exporters
  - 1.2) Lack of competition in domestic market.
  - 1.3) Economic Survey of IC Subramania says it was a reasonable deal & we must

Shed our big-but-poor mentality  
& take part in give & take

2) Many countries impose un-  
fair trade practices such  
as Dumping, Counter-valuing  
duties, high tariffs, inverted  
duty structure & have less  
regard for IPR.

3) Currency Manipulation by  
China affect the competitiveness  
of our exports.

4) SAFTA has proved to be  
a failure. Most nations don't  
uphold their bargains.

5) Pak-India relations staid  
due to state-sponsored terror -  
ism thus cross-border trade  
affected. Impact even felt  
on Indus Water Treaty  
& other issues.

<Opportunities>

- We must try to engage with Afghanistan by Chahabahal-Zaraij - Qandahar link.
- Try to negotiate with ASEAN + RCEP countries & enter the regional trade agreements.
- Recently Mothang & Nepal gas pipeline started. Similarly Cooch-behar to Dhaka railway restarted after 50 years.
- Surplus electricity & exchanges transfer must be promoted.
- Bangladesh - Bhutan - Indian & Nepal (BBIN) motor vehicle agreement to promote the international connectivity.

<Way-forward>

A pragmatic approach is the need of the hour which would ensure prosperity for all.