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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1071)

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Medium Eng./Hindi	ENGLISH	Date	11/9/18
Center	PUNE		

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
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20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

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.

1. It has been argued that over the years there has been a steady decline in the efficacy of Parliament as an institution of accountability. Analyse and also suggest appropriate measures to address the relevant concerns.

(150 words) 10

यह तर्क दिया जाता है कि वर्षों से एक जवाबदेह संस्था के रूप में संसद की प्रभावकारिता में निरंतर गिरावट आई है। विश्लेषण कीजिए और साथ ही, प्रासंगिक चिंताओं का समाधान करने हेतु उचित उपाय भी सुझाइए।

→ Indian Parliament represents aspirations of 125 crore people. However, there is decline in its efficacy and accountability of executive to it has reduced. Former Vice President Hamid Ansari called Parliament a 'federation of anarchy'.

→ Reasons for decline:

1. Anti-defection law and use of whips by parties.
2. Criminalization of politics has made law breakers law makers. They disrupt House.
3. Lack of much needed electoral reforms like checking

criminalization.

4. Coalition politics which led to all regional parties asserting themselves.

5. Disruptive opposition that has preferred 'dhaarnas', walk-outs than devices like question hour.

6. Executive and judicial activism ex → passing ordinances (Art. 123).

7. The agenda of Parliament is decided by executive only.

→ Measures:

1. Training, capacity building of MPs.

2. Venkatachaliah Commission asked that Lok Sabha should sit for 120 days a year.

3. Media to play constructive role.

4. Strengthen Committee system.

This can arrest decline and raise accountability.

2. Panchayati raj institutions (PRIs) are simultaneously a remarkable success and a staggering failure, depending on the goalposts against which they are evaluated. Discuss (150 words) 10

पंचायती राज संस्थाएं (PRIs) एक उल्लेखनीय सफलता होने के साथ-साथ स्तब्धकारी विफलता भी हैं, यह केवल इस बात पर निर्भर करता है कि इनका मूल्यांकन किन लक्ष्यों के आधार पर किया जा रहा है। चर्चा कीजिए।

→ The 73rd Amendment aimed to make Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) as institutions of self-governance. They are success as well as failure depending on goalposts:

→ Successes:

1. Representation → provided access to political power to women, SC, STs.

2. Socio-economic sphere → They have brought positive changes like reduction in crimes against women, linking them with Self Help Groups, etc.

ex → Fatima Bi, Sarpanch in Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh was rewarded by UNDP.

3. Gram Sabha → They have been successful to mobilise people in political sphere.

4. Accountability → PRIs have raised answerability of government to people.

5. Financial mobilization has enhanced in several areas.

→ Failures:

1. Audit → it has not happened leading to corruption.

2. Planning → PRIs failed to plan their resources.

3. Financing → They do not have necessary funds.

4. Gram Sabha → Have been misused by powerful.

Way Ahead:

1. Punchhi Commission called to make National Commission on Panchayats.

3. The Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) is more than just the keeper of our national accounts; it is also a conscience-keeper and a watchdog. Examine the statement in light of making the auditing process more effective. (150 words) 10

भारत का नियंत्रक एवं महालेखा परीक्षक (CAG) केवल हमारे राष्ट्रीय खातों के रक्षक से कहीं अधिक है; यह अंतःकरण का संरक्षक और वॉचडॉग (प्रहरी) भी है। लेखापरीक्षा प्रक्रिया को और अधिक प्रभावी बनाने के आलोक में इस कथन का परीक्षण कीजिए।

→ Constitution mentions the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) under Art. 148 - 149. Dr. Ambedkar called CAG as most important officer under the Constitution.

CAG's primary role is auditing of accounts → the Consolidated, Public Accounts and Contingency Funds of Centre and States. However, CAG is also conscience keeper and watchdog seen by:

1. He recommends the ~~govt~~ President about manner in which accounts have to be presented to Parliament.

2. He acts as friend, philosopher and guide of Public Accounts Committee (PAC).

3. He provides audit reports on public undertakings, etc.

CAG's role was crucial in cases like 2G telecom scam and coal block allocation case.

In current times, the role of CAG only enhances as governance is expanding. Scope for discretion and collusion corruption has increased after 1991 economic reforms.

Way Ahead:

1. Allowing CAG to audit the PPP projects and local bodies.
2. Giving CAG more resources.
3. Supplementing CAG with social audits ex → Meghalaya has passed law for it.

4. The concern for transparency in political funding is at odds with the Electoral Bond Scheme notified by the government. Critically discuss

(150 words) 10

राजनीतिक वित्तपोषण में पारदर्शिता की चिंता सरकार द्वारा अधिसूचित चुनावी बॉण्ड योजना से असंगत है। समालोचनात्मक चर्चा कीजिए।

→ According to Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR),

69% funds of political parties come from unidentified sources. Among several efforts, the electoral bonds scheme was announced in Budget 2017.

→ Pros of electoral bonds:

1. They are bonds that are anonymous hence prevent victimization of donors.
2. Are available only for 15 days and only in State Bank of India (SBI).
3. Tax exemptions and parties have to file returns on them.

However, issue of transparency is not completely addressed as:

1. The limit of donating maximum 7.5% of profit of 3 years has been done away with.
2. No need for company to be existent for 3 years → thus shell companies may rise.
3. Donors and political parties not to disclose amount donated.
4. Finance Act 2016 had removed prohibition on foreign companies from donating.
5. SBI is government owned bank and ruling party can manipulate transparency rules for its benefit.

Way Ahead:

1. Certain donations above a threshold have to be made public.
2. Former CEC S. Y. Quraishi had asked to create National Electoral Fund for donations.

5. Lobbying in India exists in a perennially grey legal and policy arena. In this context, discuss the need to formally recognize and regulate lobbying in India. (150 words) 10

भारत में लॉबिंग हमेशा से ही विधिक और नीतिगत क्षेत्र में अपरिभाषित रूप से विद्यमान रही है। इस संदर्भ में, भारत में लॉबिंग को औपचारिक रूप से मान्यता प्रदान करने और विनियमित करने की आवश्यकता की चर्चा कीजिए।

→ Lobbying means pushing forward one's interests during decision making process. Lobbying is quite popular in West particularly in USA. In India, lobbying is not allowed.

However, lack of recognition leads to many people lobbying in an illegal manner. This includes:

- Influencing political parties by donating them.
- Trying to lobby to ministers and officials.
- Even Members of Parliament

are used to assert influence.

Thus this creates an unholy nexus. Moreover, lobbying cannot be completely eliminated due to many hierarchies of governments and decision making.

Hence lobbying must be recognized and regulated that has following benefits:

1. Reduces scope of putting undue pressure by certain powerful lobby groups from outside.
2. Ensuring fair play for all.
3. Checking favoritism and corruption.
4. Government gets to know view of all sections of society.

Thus India can learn from western model and allow lobbying.

6. More than a decade after it was passed, the implementation of the RTI Act leaves much to be desired. Comment. Also discuss the issues associated with the recent proposals to amend the RTI Act. (150 words) 10

पारित होने के एक दशक से भी अधिक समय बाद, RTI अधिनियम के कार्यान्वयन में काफी कुछ वांछित है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। RTI अधिनियम में संशोधन के हालिया प्रस्तावों से जुड़े मुद्दों की भी चर्चा कीजिए।

→ The Right to Information (RTI) Act, 2005 was result of years of civil society activism. 2nd ARC called it ~~masterp~~ masterkey for good governance. There have been some successes of RTI:

- ↳ Villagers of Himmatsar village, Rajasthan used it to check leakages in PDS.
- ↳ Adarsh housing scam was unearthed.

However, RTI has not met all expectations as:

1. Much information is secret under Section 8 of Act.
2. Political parties are still not under the ambit of RTI.
3. Judiciary despite being public

authority has been reluctant to open to RTI.

4. Lack of awareness among people.

5. Staff shortages in Information Commissions.

6. Attack on RTI activists.

7. Reluctant of bureaucracy.

→ Proposal to amend RTI Act:

Recently, it has been suggested that salary, allowances of Chief Information Commissioner and other commissioners will be decided by Centre. Currently, they are ~~as per~~ at par to Chief Election Commissioner and other Commissioners.

There is fear of politicisation due to this.

The government should go for more consultations. All stakeholders should work to make RTI successful.

7. Critically discuss the evolving policy on reservation in promotions in India with special focus on its ability to meet the objectives of social justice.

(150 words) 10

सामाजिक न्याय के उद्देश्यों को पूरा करने की इसकी क्षमता पर विशेष बल देते हुए भारत में प्रोन्नति में आरक्षण पर विकसित हो रही नीति की समालोचनात्मक चर्चा कीजिए।

→ According to Ramachandra Guha, reservation debate generates more heat than light in India. It has always been matter of high politics.

→ The policy on reservation in promotion is traced to Article 15 of Constitution that enables State to make provisions for SC/STs. Thus reservation in promotion was introduced to enhance representation of SC/STs in top positions.

→ In Nagaraj case,⁽²⁰⁰⁶⁾ the Supreme Court (SC) asked government to provide reservation in promotion if:
↳ Community is not adequately represented.

- SC asked to bring verifiable data to give reservation.
- SC suggested that it should not impact efficiency of administration.

Thus since 2006, many reservations in promotions have been stalled.

The current policy has not been able to meet social justice as:

- As of 2017, there were only 4 secretaries of SC/ST community in government.
- Reservation in promotion helps only few microscopic members of community.

Way Ahead:

The government should bring a law that will bring clarity on reservation in promotion along with efficiency.

8. India produces enough food for its people, but not all people get enough food to eat. Discussing this paradox, highlight some of the major interventions taken in the past few years in this regard. (150 words) 10

भारत अपने लोगों के लिए पर्याप्त खाद्यान्न उत्पादित करता है, फिर भी सभी लोगों को खाने के लिए पर्याप्त भोजन नहीं मिलता है। इस विरोधाभास की चर्चा करते हुए, इस संबंध में विगत कुछ वर्षों में उठाए गए कुछ प्रमुख कदमों पर प्रकाश डालिए।

→ India ranks at low 100/119 nations in Global Hunger Index. At same time, with over 250 million tonnes of production, India is largest foodgrain producer in world.

→ Reasons for paradox:

1. Lack of adequate warehousing infrastructure to store grains.
2. Loss of grains as they are transported from Punjab, Haryana to other parts.
3. Problems in buffer stocks policy that creates artificial shortages.

+ Inefficiency in Public Distribution

System (PDS) due to leakages and corruption.

5. Lack of coordination among agencies and coverage among schemes.

6. International factors like public stockholding limit of WTO.

→ Major interventions:

1. National Food Security Act, 2013 provides rice, wheat, coarse grains at ₹ 3, 2, 1 respectively.

2. Mid Day Meal Scheme.

3. National Nutrition Policy.

4. NITI Aayog's National Nutrition Strategy.

5. Giving MSPs to farmers to spur growth of crops.

There can be learning and sharing ex → Chhattisgarh PDS model to provide food security.

9. India sees Indian Ocean as not just a water body, but a global stage for continued economic, social, and cultural dialogue. Elaborate. (150 words) 10

भारत, हिंद महासागर को मात्र एक जल निकाय के रूप में ही नहीं, बल्कि निरंतर आर्थिक, सामाजिक और सांस्कृतिक संवाद के एक वैश्विक मंच के रूप में भी देखता है। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए।

→ The triangular shaped Indian Ocean is the smallest ocean of world but has huge

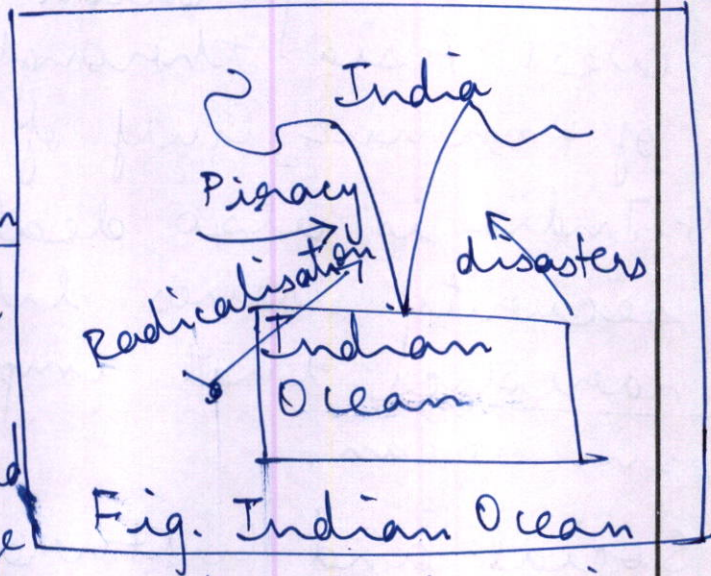


Fig. Indian Ocean

importance for India. India aims to use the ocean to facilitate its rise as a global power.

This is seen by:

→ Economic dialogue:

1. India is promoting economic cooperation in Indian Ocean through initiatives like Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA).

2. India is involved in mining, exploration of minerals,

poly-metallic nodules that are found in region.

3. Energy cooperation with Africa, West Asia through Strait of Hormuz, Gulf of Aden, etc.
4. India is also dealing with security issues like piracy, narcotics that impact trade in ocean.

→ Social and Cultural dialogue:

1. India is promoting people-to-people contacts and cultural exchanges in region.
2. Project Mausam has been started to rejuvenate the cultural relations.

Way Ahead:

1. India needs a National Security doctrine.
2. We have to come out of continental mindset to fully explore Indian Ocean.

10. In the context of India taking greater responsibility in management of the global commons, there has been a shift in India's climate change negotiation stance. In this context, analyze the evolution of India's climate policy.
(150 words) 10

भारत द्वारा ग्लोबल कॉमंस के प्रबंधन में बृहत्तर दायित्व ग्रहण करने के परिप्रेक्ष्य में, भारत के जलवायु परिवर्तन संबंधित वार्ता दृष्टिकोण में परिवर्तन आया है। इस संदर्भ में, भारत की जलवायु नीति के विकास का विश्लेषण कीजिए।

→ India is pitching itself as a 'leading global power' and is taking many issues of global commons:

- South-South cooperation
- Contribution to UN Development funds
- WTO negotiations
- Nuclear disarmament.
- Climate change

In case of climate change, there is a shift in approach that can be seen by evolution of India's climate policy.

→ Evolution :-

→ India always played lead role in climate change diplomacy and was active participant

of Stockholm Conference, 1972

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi highlighted at Stockholm that 'poverty is biggest polluter'.

→ India participated in 1992 Rio summit, negotiated various conventions like UNFCCC, etc. India accepted Agenda 21 document.

→ India believes that developed nations have to provide funds, technology to deal with climate change. India is ready to take responsibility.

→ India argues that it is still developing nation and has to emit for economic growth.

India is moving towards efforts like International Solar Alliance on its own. This shift is due to western inertia and India's aim to fight climate change.

11. Highlighting the constitutional role of the Finance Commission (FC), discuss the issues which are being debated w.r.t. terms of reference (ToR) of the 15th Finance Commission. (250 words) 15

वित्त आयोग (FC) की संवैधानिक भूमिका पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, उन मुद्दों की चर्चा कीजिए जिनपर 15वें वित्त आयोग के विचारार्थ विषयों (ToR) के संदर्भ में बहस की जा रही है।

→ Article 280 of Constitution (FC) creates the Finance Commission that has to be appointed by President every 5 years. It acts as a balance of India's fiscal federalism.

→ Constitutional role of FC:

1. To recommend distribution of proceeds between the Centre and States obtained from taxes.
2. To recommend principles that should guide grants-in-aid from Centre to States.
3. To suggest measures to augment Consolidated funds

of States to supplement Panchayats and local bodies.

4. Any other function that President may ask for.

→ Issues with respect to Terms of Reference (TOR) of 15th FC:

The 15th FC was appointed under Chairmanship of N.K Singh and its TOR have issues like:

① Using 2011 census:

1. FCs have used 1971 census while allocating resources.
2. Using 2011 census make Southern states at disadvantage as their population levels have reduced.

② Revenue deficit grants:

1. The 14th FC abolished

Special Category Status but asked to give revenue deficit grants as needed.

2. 15th FC has been asked to review it that may impact hilly, N-Eastern states.

③ Incentivising for Central schemes:

1. This creates tensions as states have their own schemes and are asked to implement Centre's schemes like Digital India.

④ Checking populism:

1. States feel this is against federalism.

⑤ Impact of GST:

1. FC should not discuss it as GST Council exists.

Way Ahead:

- 15th FC may go for wide consultation.
- Inter-State Council can be used to resolve disputes.

12. The spirit of the constitution of India represents a synthesis of Indian values, democratic and socialist movements in west and our independence movement. Elucidate (250 words) 15 →

भारतीय संविधान की भावना भारतीय मूल्यों, पश्चिम के लोकतांत्रिक व समाजवादी आंदोलनों एवं हमारे स्वतंत्रता आंदोलन के संश्लेषण को निरूपित करती है। स्पष्ट कीजिए।

→ According to Granville Austin, Constitution should be credited for India's success as democracy.

Indian Constitution has been result of various influences and it is seen by its spirit.

→ Independence movement:

1. Throughout national movement, leaders asked for sovereignty and equality ex → Karachi resolution (1931) → Lahore session (1929). This is seen in Preamble, Fundamental Rights (FRs) and directive principles (DPSPs).

2. National movement saw

horrors of communalism thus secularism, strong centre was created.

3. Gandhiji had called for reorganization of states in 1920s and Art. 2, 3 of constitution ensured it smoothly.

4. Press freedom, civil liberties came under Art. 19(1).

→ Democratic, socialist movements:

Many movements in West like in Russia, USA after Industrial revolution asked for rights, liberties that is found in constitution:

↳ The word socialism was added by 42nd Amendment, though India always had socialist tilt.

↳ Freedom to assemble peaceful and without arms

under Art. 19(1).

→ DPSPs like Art. 47, 43, 44, etc. that argued for living wage, participation of workers in management of industries, etc.

→ Indian values:

Indian values like tolerance, secularism, cosmopolitanism are also reflected:

↳ Art. 25-28 giving freedom of religion

↳ Art. 29-30 → special rights to minorities.

↳ Art. 51 → respect international treaties.

Thus India's Constitution is mixture of many ideals.

13. What is the importance of an independent judiciary in a democracy? Highlight the safeguards in our political-constitutional setup to ensure the independence of judiciary. (250 words) 15

लोकतंत्र में स्वतंत्र न्यायपालिका का क्या महत्व है? न्यायपालिका की स्वतंत्रता सुनिश्चित करने हेतु हमारी राजनीतिक-संवैधानिक व्यवस्था में निहित रक्षोपायों पर प्रकाश डालिए।

→ Out of all 3 organs of state, the judiciary is only one who do not depend on people to get its powers. It is thus made independent with its powers directly coming from Constitution.

→ Importance of independent judiciary:

1. It checks tyranny of majority
ex → Bommai case where Supreme Court (SC) gave safeguards on use of Governor's rule.
2. Maintains sanctity of Constitution.
ex → Kesavananda Bharati case where SC restricted amendment powers of Parliament.

3. Provide justice and legal aid without any fear.

ex → SC institutionalising Public Interest litigations.

4. Removing certain derogatory customs, traditions.

ex → SC decriminalising homosexuality → Section 377 of IPC. Also SC declaring triple talaq unconstitutional.

5. Maintains rule of law.

ex → asking states to act against mob lynchings.

→ Safeguards for independent judiciary:

1. Appointment process where the judges themselves appoint their successors.

2. Difficult impeachment process:

3. Expenditure charged on consolidated

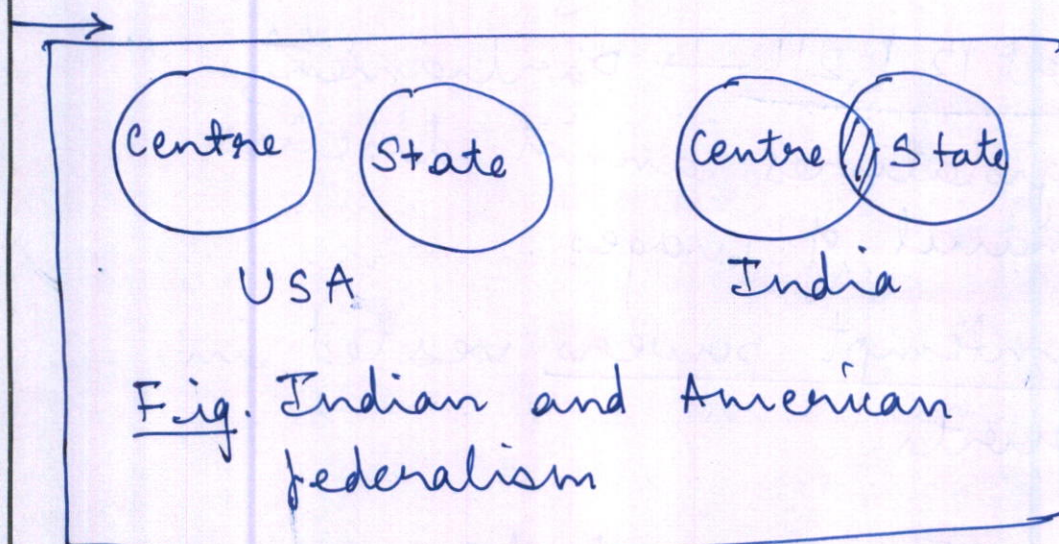
Fund of India.

4. Ban on practice after retirement.
5. Art. 50 → separation of executive and judiciary.
6. Art. 121, 211 → Parliament, legislatures cannot discuss conduct of judges.
7. Contempt powers vested in courts.

In current times, independence and accountability needs to be balanced and any attempt to politicise judiciary has to be eliminated.

14. Even though Indian federalism has matured quite a bit, with states having far greater control of their economic and political management, serious structural problems still remain. Discuss. (250 words) 15

यद्यपि भारतीय संघवाद काफी हद तक परिपक्वता प्राप्त कर चुका है जहाँ राज्यों को अपने आर्थिक और राजनीतिक प्रबंधन पर पर्याप्त नियंत्रण है, तथापि गंभीर संरचनात्मक समस्याएं अब भी विद्यमान हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।



Unlike American model of coming together, Indian federalism is of type holding together. After independence, Constitution created a strong Centre but events like change in party system, coalition politics, 73rd and 74th Amendment have strengthened the states. This can be seen as:

1. Reduction in centrally sponsored schemes.

2. Abolition of Planning Commission and setting up of NITI Aayog that works on cooperative federalism.

3. Finance Commissions ^(FCs) devolving far greater amount of resources to states. 14th FC gave 42%.

4. Reduction in use of Governor's rule ^(Art. 356) after Bommai judgement.

However, many structural problems remain like:

→ Legislative:

1. Parliament has powers to legislate on state list subjects ^(Art. 249) with Rajya Sabha's ^(RS) consent. RS is hardly federal chamber.

2. Under Art. 250, if two or more states ask then Parliament makes laws for them but then other governments in states cannot change it.

3. Treaties are signed by Centre but Parliament can make laws to

implement them ex → on
agriculture that is state list
subject.

→ Executive:

1. The urge to use Art. 356 has not gone ex → Arunachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand case.
2. Suspicions that Governor acts as agent of Centre.
3. The All India Services have limited accountability to States.

→ Financial:

1. States still cannot borrow from abroad.
2. Professional tax limit of ₹ 2500 is too less.

→ Environment:

1. Mining royalty rates not revised.
2. Centre does not share export duty.

Way Ahead:

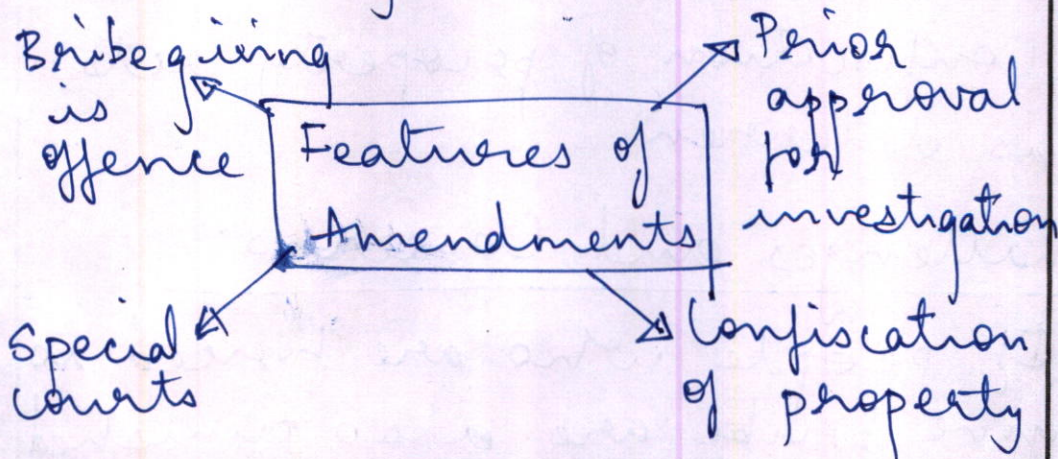
Punchhi and Sarkaria Commission
ask to use Inter-State Council.

15. The recent amendments to the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 strike a balance between enforcement overzealousness and the need for stringent action against corrupt public servants. Discuss. (250 words) 15

भ्रष्टाचार निवारण अधिनियम, 1988 में हालिया संशोधन प्रवर्तन के प्रति अतिउत्साह और भ्रष्ट लोक सेवकों के विरुद्ध कठोर कार्यवाही की आवश्यकता के बीच एक संतुलन कायम करता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

→ India ranks at low 81/180 in Transparency International's Corruption Perception Index.

The Prevention of Corruption Act (PCA), 1988 was enacted to deal with corruption in governance. However, it had many flaws ex → it was not applicable to retired officials. Even 2nd ARC had asked for amendments and thus recent amendments have been brought.



The amendment balances enforcement overzealousness as:

1. Prior approvals are needed for investigation, prosecution for all officials.
2. It will protect honest officials.

It also helps to take stringent actions against corrupt:

1. Even bribe giving is made an offence subject to giving information in 7 days.
2. Applies to retired officials as well.
3. Special courts will fastly resolve cases.
4. Confiscation of property acts as deterrent.

→ Challenges and Concerns:

1. If people who are forced to give bribe are also punished

it will give rise to collusive
corruption.

2. Bribe giver may never report out of fear.
3. The approval required against all officials is not correct.
4. The amendment do not meet the UN Conventions on Corruption.
5. The concept of Special Courts have not worked. It is also violation of Article 14 of Constitution that provide equality for all.
6. Enforcement agencies are already strained.

Way Ahead :

The amendments are correct but following needs to be done:

1. 2nd ARC asked to give Constitutional status to Lokpal.
2. Making people aware about reporting corruption.

16. Identifying the various issues plaguing the voluntary sector in India, discuss the need for a national accreditation agency to overcome them. Discuss.

(250 words) 15

भारत में स्वैच्छिक क्षेत्र को अवरुद्ध करने वाले विभिन्न मुद्दों की पहचान कीजिए एवं इन पर काबू पाने हेतु एक राष्ट्रीय प्रमाणन एजेंसी की आवश्यकता की चर्चा कीजिए।

→ India has 1 NCO for every 600 people. Even Constitution recognizes right to form associations under Article 19(1).

Voluntary sector in India has done many positive works:

- ↳ Association for Democratic Reforms for party funding
- ↳ NCO Pratham in education etc.

However, voluntary sector is plagued with many issues:

1. Exemption under Section 80G of Income Tax Act get

- delayed by large amount of time.
2. Laws related to them vary in many states with lack of all-India uniformity.
 3. There are many NCOs that do not have credibility and issues of credible NCOs remain unaddressed.
 4. Excess government control
ex → Foreign Contribution Regulation Act is draconian in its provisions and also has no appeal mechanisms.
 5. Huge powers to bureaucracy to seize their property, inspect.

Under these circumstances, the national accreditation agency is a need of hour as:

1. It can find capability of NGOs as per their accreditation.
2. Those NGOs that are only formed to get exemptions can be weeded away.
3. It will also avert fear that certain voluntary groups are involved in destabilising governments.

Way Ahead :

S. Vijaya Kumar
Panel report

→ Reduce physical interface of NGOs and officials

→ Reform registration process

→ Create national board.

These recommendations along with Centre-State cooperation is needed.

17. Given the importance of a teacher in affecting the learning outcomes of children, discuss the problems in the present system of teacher training in India. How can these be addressed? (250 words) 15

बच्चों के अधिगम परिणाम को प्रभावित करने में शिक्षकों के महत्व को देखते हुए, भारत में शिक्षक प्रशिक्षण की वर्तमान प्रणाली में विद्यमान समस्याओं पर चर्चा कीजिए। इनमें कैसे निपटा जा सकता है?

→ According to Annual Status of Education Report (ASER), only 43% children in 14-18 years group can do simple division. One of reason for it is poor quality of teachers along with their training.

→ Problems of teacher training:

1. The focus is more on rote learning that teachers further propagate to children.
2. Teacher training has become more bookish and outdated from current needs.
3. Lack of necessary infrastructure.

classrooms for teachers.

4. Limited trainers in states.

5. There is huge variability in states relating to standards, curriculum of training.

6. Politicisation in training process ex → recent Vyapam scam.

7. Frequent updation of training syllabus is not done.

8. Retraining is also neglected to deal with new demands of education.

→ Solutions:

1. The Centre should use cooperative federalism to bring uniformity in states.

2. Filling of all vacancies of

trainers.

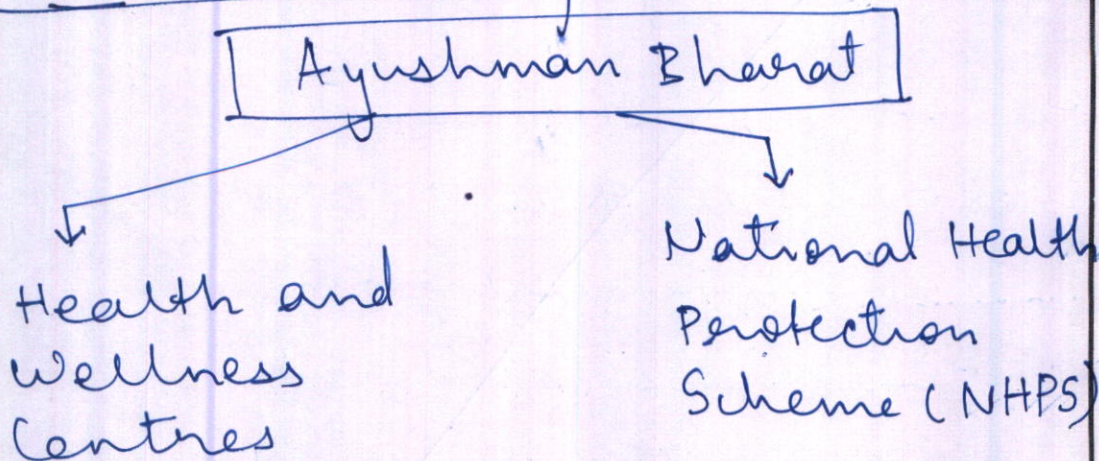
3. Creating infrastructure.
4. Using technology to monitor irregularities in them.
5. Competition can be promoted among training schools.

The recent DIKSHA portal that has been created for teacher quality education improvement is right step.

18. The implementation of a scheme with such scale and benefit as Ayushman Bharat is likely to face many obstacles. Critically discuss. (250 words) 15

आयुष्मान भारत जैसी अति व्यापक और लाभकारी योजना के कार्यान्वयन में कई बाधाओं का सामना करना पड़ सकता है। समालोचनात्मक चर्चा कीजिए।

→ The Ayushman Bharat is one of most comprehensive health insurance scheme that will provide upto ₹ 5 lakh insurance to 10 crore households. It also includes Health and Wellness Centres to provide comprehensive healthcare. Beneficiaries will be identified by Socio-Economic Caste Census (SECC) and certain hospitals have been designated for scheme



However, this ambitious scheme has many obstacles.

1. Availability of doctors → India has 0.7 doctors per 10,000 against UN recommendation of 1.
2. Lack of health infrastructure like hospitals, beds, nurses, medicines and technology.
3. It impacts federal system → many states like Maharashtra have their own schemes and may opt out.
4. Previous failure of Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana has not be studied.
5. In world, insurance based coverage has not worked well.
6. There may be collusion between hospitals and insurance companies.

7. The scheme has not given due consideration to gender and caste based discrimination.

8. The ₹ 5 lakh limit is criticized to be ad-hoc and may be less for severe diseases like cancer.

However, proper steps can make scheme successful that includes:

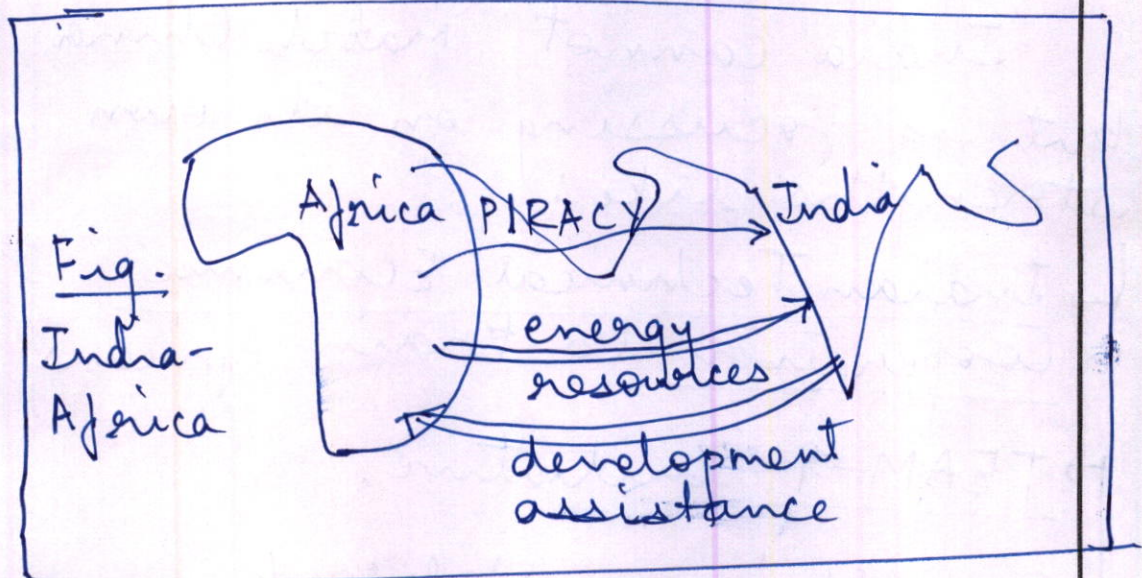
1. Ensuring coverage with state schemes.
2. Monitoring, professional support.
3. Regulating private hospitals.

Sikkim's model of CATCH that provides Comprehensive Annual Health Check-Up to All Citizens of Sikkim can be learned from.

19. Given the fact that India cannot match China's financial clout, it is seen to be diversifying the ways in which it can enhance cooperation and promote its diplomatic profile in Africa. Discuss. (250 words) 15

इस तथ्य को देखते हुए कि भारत, चीन के वित्तीय प्रभुत्व की बराबरी नहीं कर सकता, यह देखा जा रहा है कि भारत ऐसे विविध तरीके अपना रहा है जिसके तहत यह अफ्रीका में सहयोग में वृद्धि और अपनी कूटनीतिक सक्रियता को बढ़ावा दे सके। चर्चा कीजिए।

→ India and Africa form a geo-strategic landscape. Both nations share historical and cultural ties. Pandit Nehru said that India's independence is incomplete without liberation of Africa.



India has significant interests in Africa:
↳ Trade, investment

- ↳ Maritime security
- ↳ Food security
- ↳ Africa being hub of radicalisation, Islamic fundamentalism.

China has made strong clouts in Africa and its trade is already over \$200 billion compared to India's \$72 billion. It has more resources, FOREX that it is using in region. Recently, China-Africa summit also took place.

India cannot match China but is focussing on its own strengths like:

- ↳ Indian Technical Economic Cooperation to train Africans
- ↳ TEAM-9 initiative.
- ↳ Pan-Africa e-Network
- ↳ India-Africa Forum Summit
- ↳ Building schools, hospitals
- ↳ Asia-Africa Growth Corridors

↳ Initiatives like 'Solar Mamas' to train African women to use solar equipments.

Recently, Honourable Prime Minister addressed Uganda's Parliament and gave 200 cows to Rwanda. India had also signed strategic partnership with Rwanda.

It is misnomer that there is China-India competition. Both have enough space and can complete one other ex → China can build hospitals and India can train doctors.

Way Ahead:

1. Develop more embassies in Africa.
2. Expand from East Africa to other parts of Africa.
3. Use private sector.

India - Africa thus can become 'natural allies' of each other.

20. Discuss how American sanctions on its adversaries affect India. Taking the example of CAATSA, analyse how India can shield its strategic interests in face of such sanctions. (250 words) 15

चर्चा कीजिए कि अमेरिका द्वारा अपने विरोधियों पर लगाए जाने वाले प्रतिबंध भारत को किस प्रकार प्रभावित करते हैं। CAATSA का उदाहरण लेते हुए, विश्लेषण कीजिए कि किस प्रकार भारत ऐसे प्रतिबंधों की स्थिति में अपने रणनीतिक हितों की रक्षा कर सकता है।

→ Former ^{USA} President Barack Obama called India-USA partnership as most defining partnership of 21st century.
Former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee called India-USA as 'natural allies'.

However, despite this rhetoric, there are tensions in India-USA ties and American sanctions on its adversaries only aggravate it. This is seen by:

→ Impacts on India:

→ Iran:

→ USA's ambitions are perhaps for regime change in Iran.

→ USA has come out of Joint

Comprehensive Plan of Action
and this has strained Iran-
USA ties.

- India will be impacted as:
- Rise in oil prices.
 - Problems in Chabahar project,
Afghanistan's stability.
 - Delay in International North
South Transport Corridor.
 - Iran moving closer to China,
Pakistan.

→ Russia:

- Russian sanctions impact India's
strategic and privileged partnership
with Russia.
- Problems in defence procurement.
- Russia-China-Pakistan triangle
may be formed.

→ North Korea:

- While India has limited ties

with N. Korea, sanctions on it lead to N. Korea going close to China.

→ India is also 2nd largest trading partner for N. Korea that gets impacted.

→ Pakistan:

→ USA sanctioning Pakistan is good in short-run but is going to make Pakistan go in hands of Chinese dominance.

→ CAATSA :

1. CAATSA may impact India's purchase of S-400 Triumf system from Russia.

2. Also, India's trade with Iran particularly of oil may reduce.

India can shield its interests by ~~talking~~ arguing that it only accepts UN sanctions.

It also has to convince USA that Iran is essential for Chabahar and Afghanistan's prosperity.