

# VISION IAS

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## GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1418)

Name of Candidate	ARPIT SANGAL	Registration Number	SS4275
Medium Eng./Hindi	ENGLISH	Date	28/12/2020
Center	ONLINE		

### INDEX TABLE

Q No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
2	10	
3	10	
4	10	
5	10	
6	10	
7	10	
8	10	
9	10	
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17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
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 पत्रिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न संख्या और कोड नम्बर)।
2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI.  
इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं जिनमें से आठ अंग्रेजी में और बारह हिन्दी में दिये 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 उही माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और इस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-उत्तर (क्यूआर) पुस्तिका के मुख पृष्ठ पर उचित निर्देशों के साथ किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य माध्यम में दिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेगा।
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.  
प्रश्न पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

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Plot No. 857, 1st Floor, Banda Bahadur Marg (Opp Punjab & Sindh Bank), Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi-110009

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Interaction Competence
5. Structure - presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / Feedback / suggestions for learning purposes:

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

कार्य में अनुसूचित जातियों द्वारा सामना की जा रही समस्याओं में निपटारे के लिए राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जाति आयोग को मजबूत बनाने की आवश्यकता पर चर्चा कीजिए।

National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC) is a constitutional body under Article 338 A established for SC welfare -

Problems faced :-

- ① Independence related issues -  
↳ Selection and removal by committee with majority govt representation
- ② Conditions of service is determined by President
- ③ Only recommendatory in nature
- ④ Poor resource availability - manpower and financial
- ⑤ Ministerial coordination difficult - as SC welfare comes under various ministries.

Need to strengthen

- ① To effectively empower SC

- ② for socio-economic development of SC
- ③ Fulfillment of constitutional principles of abolition of untouchability (Article 17) and equality (Article 14)
- ④ To prevent caste based violence
- ⑤ To protect dignity Ex. of Manual scavenging

Ways to strengthen -

- ① Report regarding action taken on recommendations in Parliament
- ② Empowering already existing function - eg. of that of civil court
- ③ More functional autonomy to the Commission
- ④ More collaboration with ministries NITI Aayog and states
- ⑤ More manpower - trained in laws and procedural working -

NCSC strengthening is needed to protect SC from injustice and inequality as envisaged under Article 46.

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 गतिविधि करता है? चर्चा कीजिए।

### Representation of Peoples Act (RPA)

are two acts one in 1950 and other in 1951 to improve electoral process. However the following data points out otherwise :-

	2009	2014	2019
ADR Report : Criminals in Politics (LS MPs)	30	34%	43%

Provision to deal with criminalisation in RPA

- ① List of corrupt practices given  
 E.g. bribing voters,
- ② Disqualification from membership for 6 years for conviction in certain offences  
 E.g. in rape, murder
- ③ Those in jails (apart from preventive detention) & not allowed to vote
- ④ After SC judgement : instant disqualification of members after conviction

Reasons for ineffectiveness of RPA

- ① Winnability of criminal candidates  
2 times more chance as per ADR.
- ② Non-conviction on most cases  
 ↳ delay in criminal justice system  
 ↳ Poor investigation  
 ↳ witness turns hostile
- ③ Nexus with bureaucracy
- ④ More tickets to criminal quies

Ways to enhance RPA :

- ① SCI recommends - disqualification upon  
 after charge sheet in serious crimes
- ② SC ordered to put criminal records  
 on party website
- ③ Prevention of criminals from holding  
 posts in the party
- ④ Reforming criminal justice system  
 to deal with criminalisation  
 of politics need is to leverage Civil  
society to aware the citizens and improving  
 criminal justice system.

3. Discuss the challenges that are being faced by Gram Nyayalayas in their effective functioning.  
(150 words) 10

Gram Nyayalayas are established by Gram Nyayalaya Act for dispute resolution at rural level.

Challenges faced by Gram Nyayalayas :-

- ① No formation of nyayalayas by State government
- ② Availability of judges due to low remunerations and conditions of work.
- ③ Appointment of judges by State government - independence issues
- ④ Poor infrastructure -
  - ↳ Poor digitisation
  - ↳ Poor record keeping
  - ↳ Poor condition of court buildings
- ⑤ Options of appeal in sessions and civil court
  - ↳ effectively less resolution of dispute.

⑥ No standardisation or effective High Court oversight on these courts.

Solutions to deal with the problems :-

- ① Setting up more courts as mandated by the act
- ② Standardise the working - proper training of judges and administrative staff
- ③ Devolution of funds to digitise with computers and improve infrastructure
- ④ Integrating court records with higher courts
- ⑤ Appointment of judges in transparent manner

When lower courts have a backlog of ~3 cr need is to empower Gram Nyayalayas to reduce pendency and ensure effective justice.

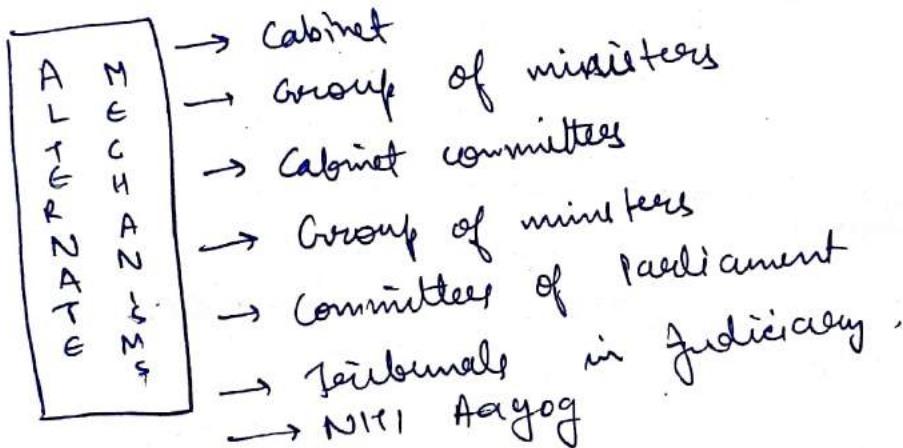


4. Explain the rationale behind setting up 'Alternative Mechanisms' in ensuring effective decision making in the governance of the country.

(150 words) 10

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

'Alternative Mechanisms' are additional and parallel mechanisms of decision making established to expedite decision making.



Rationale :-

- ① Reduce workload on the cabinet
- ② Enhance expertise in decision making  
↳ e.g. NITI Aayog
- ③ effective utilisation of resources  
↳ other ministers can focus on work specific to their ministries.

- (4) Expedite decision making → better governance.
- (5) Increased accountability - all ministers in particular Cabinet committees known
- (6) Deal with emerging issues in focused manner  
eg. New Cabinet committees on Investment, skill development
- (7) Streamline functioning within govern-ment
- (8) Better management of bureaucracy

With emerging challenges like climate change and Right based approach there is need of systemic reforms in governance - Decision making should be done in streamlined way with reduced hierarchical files as 2nd ARC recommends

5. The relationship between bureaucracy and democracy is both paradoxical and complementary. Comment. (150 words) 10
- नोकशाही और लोकतंत्र के बीच संबंध विरोधाभासी और अनुपूरक दोनों हैं। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

Bureaucracy is part of permanent executive while democracy works on representation where executive is temporary and responsible to people.

### Paradoxical relationship

- ① Democracy works on responsibility while Bureaucracy on accountability
- ② Democratic responsibility versus bureaucratic anonymity
- ③ Bureaucracy implements the laws made by democratically elected representatives

### Complementary relationship

- ① Democracy brings in public opinion and Bureaucracy necessary expertise
- ② Bureaucracy insures smooth transition during government change.

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- ③ Bureaucracy provides a real frame or sanction total aid to essentially democratic functioning
- ④ Democracy involves not bureaucracy is based on essence.
- ⑤ both works towards citizen welfare.

ways to enhance complementary character:-

- ① Promoting patronage systems and 'Yes mind culture:
- ② Honest and personal with integrity should have accountability promoting institutions like LVC
- ③ Reducing loopholes in disciplinary process against civil servant as per Article 311.
- ④ 2<sup>nd</sup> ARC recommended Civil transfer based on a committee or board's recommendation.

This will ensure that both bureaucracy and democracy is used to fulfill constitutional vision of welfare state.

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

संस्थानों के काम करने के तरीके में परिवर्तन और लोकतांत्रिक प्रक्रिया में लोगों की भागीदारी का पुनर्निर्माण करके, ई-शासन अनेक प्रकार से नागरिकों को मशान बनाता है। भारत के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।

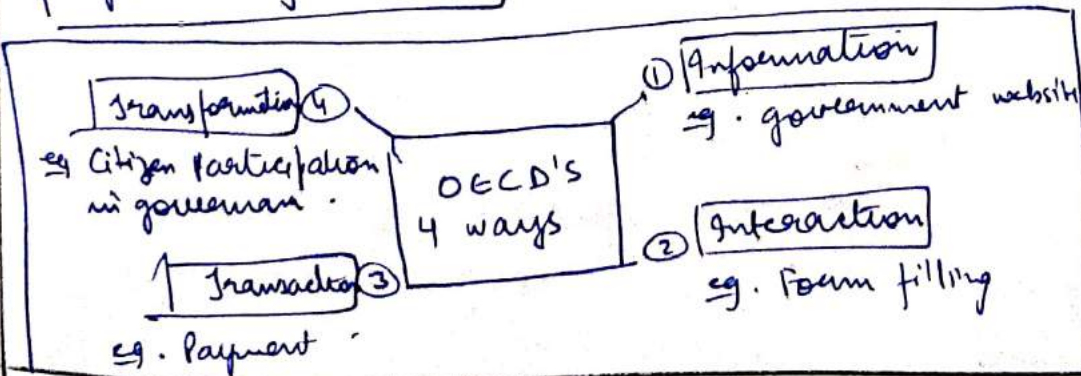
e-governance is the use of ICT in government functioning to bring forth SMART governance.

S	Smart
M	Moral
A	Accountable
R	Responsive
T	Transparent

e-governance to transform government's works :-

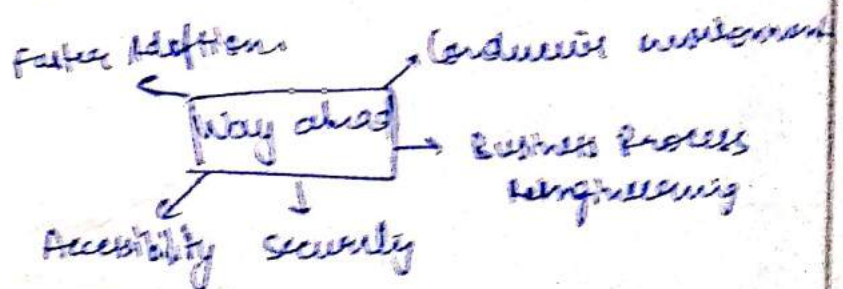
- ① Faster decision making E.g. Coal auction
- ② Reduced costs and multiplicity
- ③ Better information sharing among ministries
- ④ efficient resource utilisation E.g. PFMS - Public Finance management system.
- ⑤ Better service delivery E.g. Passport office.

Empowering citizens



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- ① Better ways to put public resources  
eg CIGFMS
- ② Better delivery of services eg. Delhi govern-  
ment home delivery of services
- ③ Holding government accountable eg. RTI
- ④ Ease of doing business - eg. GST portal
- ⑤ Better awareness about rights eg. Citizen  
charters on government websites.
- ⑥ Ease of accessibility eg. DigLocker
- ⑦ Enhanced social welfare eg. National  
Health portal
- ⑧ Increased geographical and demographic  
reach eg. SWAYAM portal



E-governance should be seen  
as a facilitator in larger governance  
efforts

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

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

SC in NALSA judgement not only decriminalised homosexuality but also empowered transgender right of self-determination. However recent transgender persons Act, 2019 dilutes this spirit.

Reason for dilution of this spirit =

- Transgender person has to receive a certificate proving him/her as transgender. This committee will contain medical experts and District Magistrate (DM).
- This is against self-determination as only this certificate will prove the person as being transgender.

Criticism

- ① Will lead to <sup>possibility of</sup> harassment by the Committee
- ② Possibility that committee members may not be respecting transgender's rights.
- ③ This is against basic human dignity
- ④ Again will lead to stereotyping of transgender

way ahead

Need is to change this provision by providing right to self-determine. Also spaces for personal development like schools, colleges, workplace, hospital should be made discrimination free.



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

(150 words) 10

स्वास्थ्य के अधिकार को एक मूल अधिकार घोषित करने मार्चभौमिक स्वास्थ्य कवरेज के मार्थक लक्ष्य को प्राप्त किया जा सकता है। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

Universal Health Coverage (UHC) is an aim of SDG-3 which messages good health and well-being :-

Advantages of declaring UHC as fundamental rights :-

- ① Prevent health expenditure induced poverty - 70% health expenditure currently out of pocket expenditure (OoPE)
- ② Increase government health expenditure from current 1.25% to 2.5%.
- ③ Improved access to hospitals
- ④ Better doctor to patient ratio -  
Current 1:1475 ; WHO recommends 1:1000
- ⑤ Enhanced affordability of medicines and medical devices
- ⑥ Improved medical insurance facility

Challenges that exist

- ① Government finances currently glaringly inadequate  
- Current health expenditure is 3.6% total of both government and public
- ② Increase in fiscal deficit of government
- ③ Increased judicial litigation

Way ahead - IMPROVE HEALTH CAPACITY

- ① Improved regulation of colleges
- ② Deal with rural-urban disparity
- ③ Better utilisation of funds
- ④ Leveraging AYUSH by enhanced research
- ⑤ Focus on mother-child healthcare

To fulfill UHC coverage aim  
 need is to adopt 'Cradle to grave  
system of healthcare' as done by UK's  
 NHS. Ayushman Bharat is the step  
 in right direction.

9. Indian Diaspora in the Gulf countries is an asset beset with multiple challenges. Comment. (150 words) 10

बड़ी देशों में भारतीय डायस्पोगा अनेक चुनौतियों से घिरी एक परिमपत्ति है। डिपपणी निजिगा।

house Gulf countries ~~own~~ assembly  
maximum Indian diaspora

eg - UAE = 2.2 million  
Saudi Arabia = 2.4 million

Indian Diaspora as an Asset :-

- ① Increased remittance inflow; International Migrant Stock 2019 found India to be largest remittance recipient -
- ② Increased soft power - Visible from close ties with Saudi Arabia and UAE
- ③ Increased livelihood opportunities for Indian diaspora
- ④ Helpful in leveraging globalization benefits by enhancing trade.

Challenges that exist :-

- ① Living condition of diaspora  
↳ Mostly low paid jobs.

- ② Political instability threatens peace security.
- ③ Move to radicalisation by terrorist elements having clout in Gulf countries
- ④ Money laundering and smuggling related issues

### Way ahead

- ① Improving livelihood in India by preventing stress induced migration
- ② Strengthening dialogue during Parvosi Mahatya days
- ③ Diplomatic relations enhancement with the Gulf countries.

This will ensure that not only diaspora enjoys human rights abroad but they prove as asset economically, socially and geo-politically.

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।

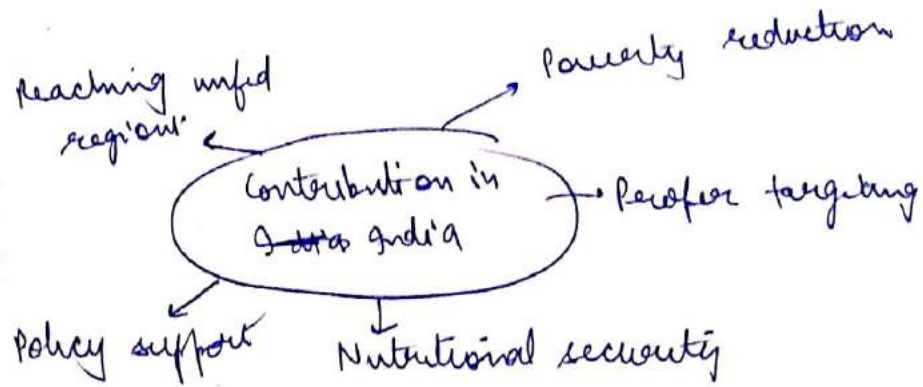
World Food Programme (WFP)  
 is a partnership between various int-  
national organisations under United Nations.  
 It recently received Nobel Peace Prize.

### Genesis

To combat hunger and poverty, FAO, UN, IFAW and other NGO's came together.

### Functioning

- Identification of gaps in hunger programmes of developing and least developed countries
- Supplementing their efforts through
  - ↳ Policy support
  - ↳ Food support
  - ↳ Monetary support
  - ↳ Personnel support.



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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 अतिव्यवस्था के रूप में देखा जाता है, जबकि अन्य लोग कतिपय समूहों के विरुद्ध गुणवत्ता आधारित कार्रवाई की अतिव्यवस्था की ओर इंगित करते हैं। उदाहरण सहित परीक्षण कीजिए।

Recent government crackdown on greenpeace and transparency international has brought forward issue of stifling dissent and role played by civil society organisations (CSO).

Criticisms of government action :-

- ① Stifling dissent of world renowned groups
- ② Hiding government failures by preventing such groups from raising voice
- ③ Misuse of law such as
  - ↳ foreign Contribution Regulation Act, 2010
  - ↳ foreign exchange Management Act (FEMA), 1999

⇓  
Using foreign funding issue illegitimately

④ Ideological opposition to certain specific groups

Merit in action taken -

- ① Using foreign funding as route for money laundering
- ② Using CSO to further own aims like
  - ↳ Religious conversions
  - ↳ Indoctrination
- ③ Conflict of interest - ex. Bill and Melinda Gates foundation investing in immunisation where they have stakes in pharma company
- ④ Threat to sovereignty and integrity of India - misuse of CSO by foreign countries
- ⑤ Financial record keeping not as per law

Amnesty and Greenpeace has blamed government of stifling dissent and has reduced their operations in India.



Way ahead - striking a balance

- ① Working in spirit of government Policy on Voluntary organisations, 2007
  - ↳ Government as facilitator
  - ↳ Consequence of efforts of CSO and government
  - ↳ Proper policy support to CSO
- ② Prevent misuse of laws against legitimate NGOs
- ③ Train intelligence agencies to deal with economic crimes
- ④ Proper electronic trail of money received
- ⑤ Regular monitoring of activities and impact assessment of NGOs

CSO are needed to enhance citizen participation, ensure resource mobilisation and social justice. 2nd ARC recommends that government should empower such NGOs by conducive environment

12. Discuss the implications associated with the Prime Minister's Office acting as the most powerful office due to its formidable influence in policy making in India. (250 words) 25

भारत में नीति-निर्माण में प्रमुख अवस्थिति प्राप्त है प्रमुख प्रश्नों को संभालने व महत्वपूर्ण अतिरिक्त कार्योक्त के साथ में कार्य करते हैं मुख्य विधि-पाली के विद्यमान स्थिति।

Prime Minister's Office (PMO) is at the helm of executive in this country. Many important decisions are taken from PMO. However there is a threat of over-centralization.

## Implications

### (A) Negative

- ① Not as per philosophy of Constitutional and Parliamentary democracy
- ② Threat of over-centralization leading to dictatorial attitudes. E.g. during emergency cabinet was bypassed
- ③ Poor decision making - as cabinet provides diverse views in decision making

④ Reduced accountability - as PM  
single handedly takes decision  
↓  
Dilutes Collective Responsibility (Article 75)

⑤ Reduced transparency in decision making

⑥ Positives

① Faster decision making

② Secrecy needed in certain issues  
of national importance E.g - National  
Security Adviser (NSA) under PMO

③ Act as ~~converging~~ converging point  
of governance

④ Increased collaboration between ministries  
eg. PRAGATI portal

⑤ Decision making in multi-faceted issues  
eg. Population policy, Atomic energy  
(Department of Atomic Energy), CSIR.

Way ahead

- ① Cabinet approval of PMO decisions in most cases
- ② Only important and administrative work which requires multi-faceted approach should be done at PMO.
- ③ Use as a coordinating point among ministries.

Though 'PM is first among equals' he is not the only one. Initiatives like PRAGATI portal shows how PMO can be best leveraged to balance between individual decision making and low PM's role.

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 जमावदेही का भयानक करने और मानवाधिकार व्यापक रूप से उभार करने का व्यावहारिकता का प्रधान व्यापिक भागन का महत्व प्रदर्शित करता है, वहीं यह व्यापिक अतिक्रमण के चतुर्दिग बिताओं को भी जन्म देता है। नया विधि।

Judiciary started path of  
Judicial activism by effects of P.N  
Bhagwati and Justice Krishna Iyer when  
they initiated PIL in Kangas Union Case,  
1976. Since then judiciary's activism  
has got mixed support.

Judiciary effects

⊕ Accountability Infusion

① Opening Judicial reviews (JR) in  
decision making

(i) Kiboto Hollohan Case - JR on speaker's  
decision under 10th schedule

(ii) Chanda Kumar Case - Right to appeal  
against tribunal orders in SC and HC

(iii) S.R. Bommai Case, 1997 JR against President's  
rule.

- ② Fourth Judges Case - involving NJAC to establish judicial supremacy.
- ③ Doctrine of Basic Structure - by K.B. Case, 1973
- ④ Electoral reforms -
  - ADK case 2002 → criminal antecedents of nominating members
  - PUCJ case - NOTA

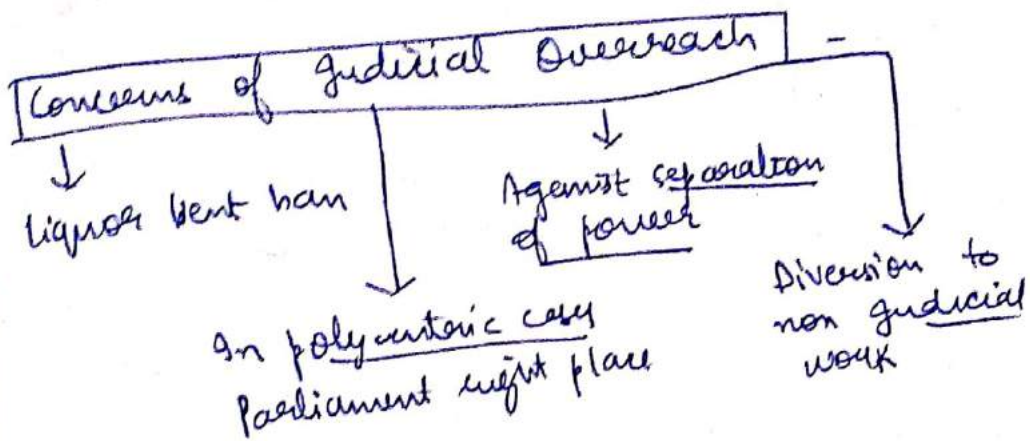
### ④ Engendering human rights

- ① Vishaka Guidelines, 1997 - free sexual harassment at workplace.
- ② upholding criminal punishment
- ③ 2005 - providing right in property to Hindu women

### Importance of judicial governance :-

- ① fill gaps left by executive and legislature
- ② executive often don't enter into religious reforms

- ③ Reformation which includes populist processes
- ④ to set high standards of modern day rights and justice
- ⑤ ensure Judicial independence



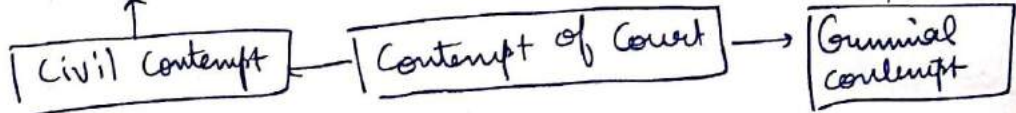
Need is to ensure that Judicial activism don't turn into Judicial over-reach. For this judiciary should follow Judicial restraint in cases related to stepping on executive or legislative functions.

14. The power to punish for contempt of court is necessary for the administration of justice. Critically analyse. (250 words) 15

न्यायालय की श्रवमानता के लिए केंद्रित करने की शक्ति न्याय के प्रशासन के लिए आवश्यक है। समानोचनात्मक विवेक्षण कीजिए।

Recent contempt proceedings against SC advocate Prashant Bhushan has reinvigorated debate about contempt of Court.

Not following SC orders



- Reducing SC dignity
- Presenting SC to function as per their mandate

SC can punish for contempt of court by fining upto 1L and jail upto 3 months

Need of contempt of court power :-

- ① ensure Judicial supremacy in justice delivery.
- ② promote Judicial independence.
- ③ prevent interference in judicial functioning.



- ④ Improve public trust in Judiciary
- ⑤ effective implementation of judicial pronouncements

Against contempt proceedings :-

- ① Antithesis to principles of Natural Justice (PNJ) - SC judge in its own case
- ② Stifles legitimate dissent regarding SC functioning.
- ③ Lower Judicial accountability - against democratic principles
- ④ Prevents reformation of SC as an institution with fair, legitimate judicial body

Way ahead

① SC should be cautious about contempt proceeding. It should be used

in rare cases where court functioning  
or administration of justice is really  
impacted by a person. This requires  
proper codification of such instances

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

अभियोग में हिंसा से संबंध विधिय चितानु 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।

Custodial violence is institutional violence which goes unnoticed due to hatred attached with criminals.

### Legal concerns

- ① Against human rights - violence is not a legal thing
- ② Against police ethics - role of police is to prevent crimes, investigate and maintain law and order
- ③ Roadblock in justice delivery - As police thinks a criminal should be beaten up.

### Challenges in curbing such incidences :-

- ① Over crowded prisons - 4.8 lakh inmates with capacity being 4 lakhs.



- ④ empowering institutions like National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)
- ⑤ Jail reforms
  - Increasing capacity in jails
  - special focus on women inmates
- ⑥ expediting judicial pronouncement
  - 76% currently in jails are undertrials
- ⑦ Random visits to jails by officers

SC recently formed  
Justice Anand Committee  
to recommend  
Prison Reforms. Need is to ensure  
keeper human dignity to these jail  
inmates so that they can be properly  
integrated into society after their release.

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 गिविल सोसाइटी के हस्तक्षेपों ने भारत में शासन में पारदर्शिता और जवाबदेही का सुवर्णयुग का महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई है। उदाहरणों के साथ चर्चा कीजिए।

Civil society has acted as a tool in both empowering government and holding them accountable.

Civil Society interventions :-

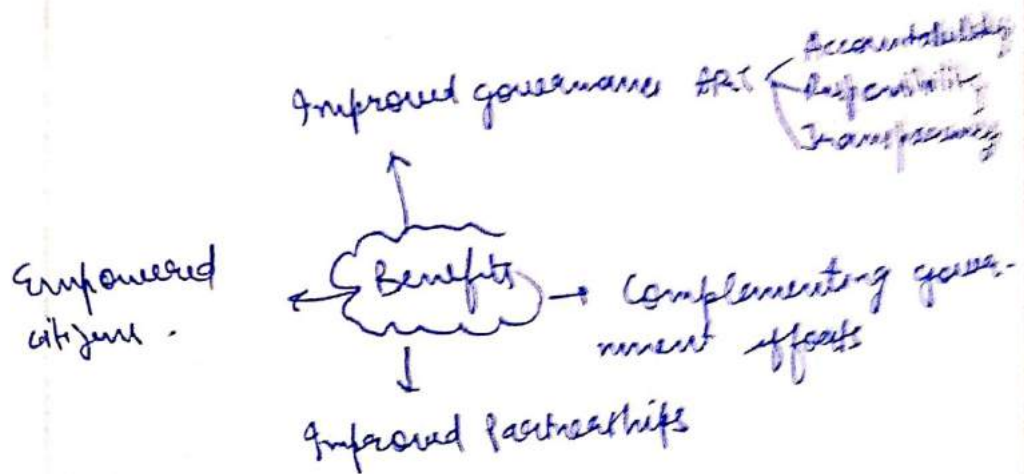
① Enhancing citizen participation

- Increased voice to citizens
- Persuade, Negotiate, Persuade government
- Holding government accountable E.g. social audit
- Demand better services e.g. Citizen Charters

② Enhanced governance

- Transparency - role played by Madhukar Kisan Shakti Sangathan (MKSS) in RTI promotion through Jan Sunwai
- Increased accountability by publishing <sup>about</sup> government efforts and functioning.
- e.g. Association of democratic reforms (ADR) in electoral reforms.

- ③ Engagement with the government  
- as private sector and government  
gainingly inadequate
- (i) social justice - empowering children, women  
farmers E.g. CRY foundation, Goonj
- (ii) Enhanced service delivery E.g. Akshay  
Patra Foundation in Mid Day meal  
scheme.
- (iii) Monetary support - by various NGOs  
E.g. SHGs's help during COVID-19
- ④ Confrontation as a tool
- (i) Businesses related civil society - E.g.  
ASSOCHAM, FICCI, FICCI - to improve ease  
of doing businesses
- (ii) Farmers organisation of AIKS and  
Bharatiya Kisan Union (BKU)
- (iii) Labour unions for labour reform  
eg Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS)



### Way ahead

- Impose government's accountability to CSO
- Government should facilitate their promotion
- Supporting them in administrative and financial resources

This will ensure all these mechanisms, private, government, civil society work towards fulfilling the aim of welfare state as envisaged in DPSP.

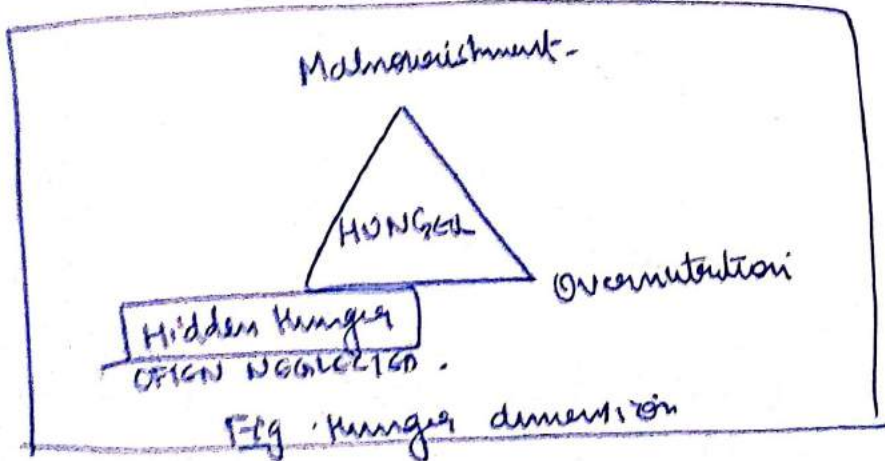


17. When it comes to hunger, India faces the paradox of plenty. Discuss. Also suggest ways in which this concern can be addressed. (250 words) 15

जब भूख की बात आती है, भारत को पर्याप्तता के विरोधाभास का सामना करना पड़ता है। इस कीटिका काय है। इस चर्चा का भी प्रभाव है। फिर माध्यम में इस चिन्ता का समाधान किया जा सकता है।

Recently FCI had found to have greater than 250 million tonnes of food grains stored as buffer stock. Still hunger is prevalent across the country.

Paradox of Plenty



① Global Hunger Index found that 73% of Indian children are stunted, wasted and malnourished.

② This was seen after National Food Security Act, 2013 and PDS system which provides subsidised foodgrains.

③ Reason is two fold :-

- (i) No focus on nutritional security - leads to HIDDEN Hunger
- (ii) Poor gut health of children - Poor absorption of nutrition

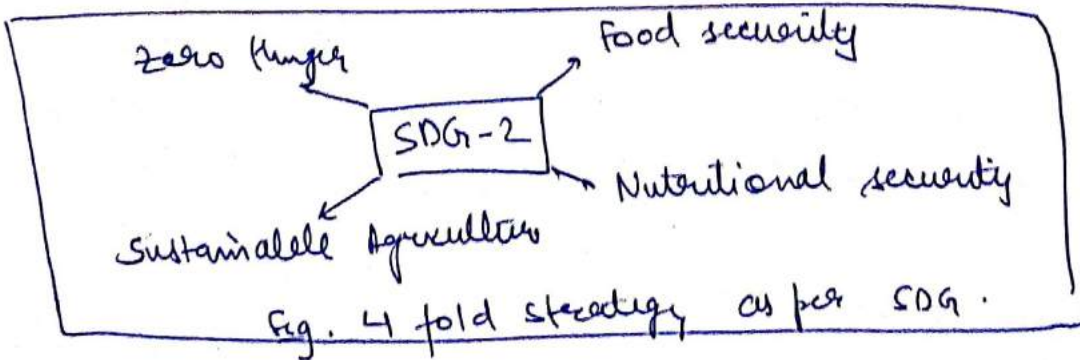
④ Another issue is PDS related problems :-

- Inclusion and exclusion errors of 75%.
- Grain wastage is about 20-30%.
- Corruption in PDS.

Ways to address the issue :-

- ① PDS reforms and FCI reforms
  - Improved storage and transportation
  - Following principles like targeted storage and first-in-first-out principle (FIFO)
  - Proper use of Open Market Scheme (OMS)
  - Reduced PDS corruption by digitalisation.

- ② Better targeting, especially migrants.  
→ Universalising One Nation one ration card
- ③ focus on nutritional security
  - (i) Leveraging Mid Day Meal scheme to provide pulses, eggs
  - (ii) Biofortification and fortification of oil, eggs wheat, milk, salt.
  - (iii) focus on dryland agriculture - 78%  
pulses, > 70% millets grown here
- ④ Improved health of children for better absorption of nutrition.



Fulfilling SDG-2 will ensure improving human development as well as reaping the benefits of demographic dividend.

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

Wage employment is employment provided on daily wage basis to unemployed.

Role

- ① Increased income support to poor
- ② Deal with seasonal unemployment. Eg. in Agriculture -
- ③ Improvement in civic amenities  
 ↳ Answer  
 Income increase + Infrastructure Development
- ④ women empowerment
- ⑤ Increased savings.

Ways in which MGNREGA is different

- ① Right based approach - minimum 100 days of work a year
- ② Unemployment allowance - if job not given within 15 day of application
- ③ Gram Sabha and Panchayat empowered to recruitment work
- ④ Social Audit provision
- ⑤ More focus on improving civic infrastructure

# VISION IAS™

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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

दाल के शिवा में चीनी आक्रामकता न केवल भारत के लिए सुनौतिया खड़ी करती है बल्कि अंतराष्ट्रीय और घरेलू स्तर पर अपने आपको सशक्त बनाने का अवसर भी प्रदान करती है। चर्चा कीजिए।

China's aggressiveness is a result of its ambitions to rise not just as a regional power but as a world hegemon.

Examples of China's aggressiveness :-

① Violating borders

- Galwan Valley spat in May between India and China
- Doklam Plateau dispute

② Militarisation of Indian Ocean Region (IOR)

- Chittagong Port, Bangladesh
- Hambantota Port, Sri Lanka
- Gwadar Port, Pakistan

③ Debt trap diplomacy - to increase influence in countries like Pakistan, Maldives, Myanmar by making them trapped

- ④ Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)
- ⑤ String of Pearls Policy against India
- ⑥ Manoeuvre in South China Sea
- ⑦ Blocking UNSC seat for India -

Challenges posed to India

- ① excessive expenditure on defence especially border management
- ② loosening diplomatic ~~to~~ relations with countries E.g. Nepal's issue over Kalapani
- ③ Threat to Peace and stability of Indo Pacific
  - ↳ 90% of India's trade dependent on this
  - ↳ Has important sea lanes of communication (SLOC) eg. Malacca Strait
- ④ Volatile South Asia - support of Pakistan by China
- ⑤ Chinese investment in critical sectors like digital infrastructure.



## Opportunities for India

### (I) Strengthening Internationally

- Leverage QUAD to counter China's negative influence.
- Push for UNSC reforms
- Use SCO as a tool to counter China
- Increase influence in ASEAN

### (II) Strengthen domestically

- More investments from within India
- enhanced space research
- Promoting ease of doing business to prevent Chinese dependence eg. API

Need is to counter China's aggressiveness as well as using diplomatic channels to strengthen dialogue. This should be done as per WUHAN spirit of collaboration and CHENNAI Connect where differences should not be allowed to convert into conflicts.

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 सामान्य रूप है। इस संदर्भ में दक्षिण एशिया में अवसरों और चुनौतियों का परीक्षण कीजिए।

Trade and Connectivity enhances better integration, convergence and people to people connect - this can be leveraged to connect South Asia, which is least integrated area economically (WTO), to a better connected region.

Opportunities

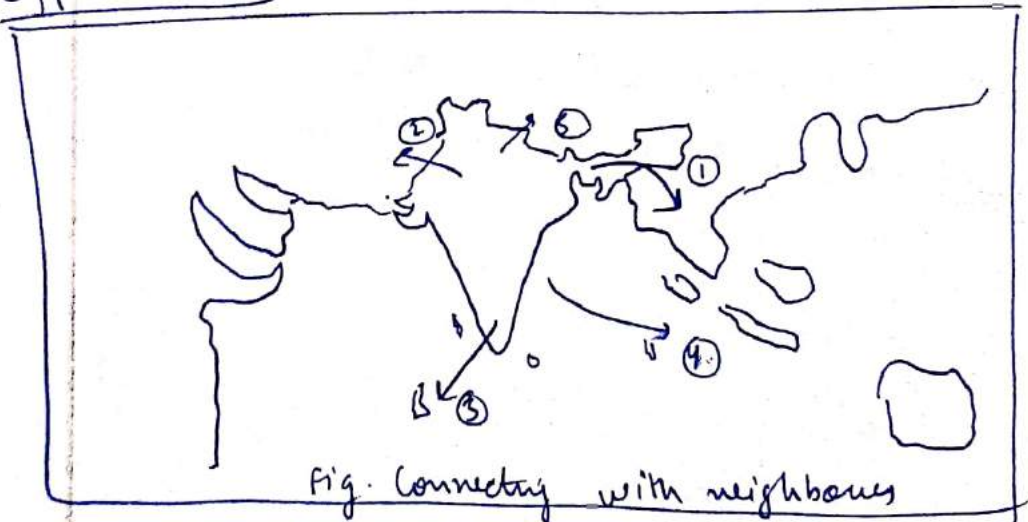
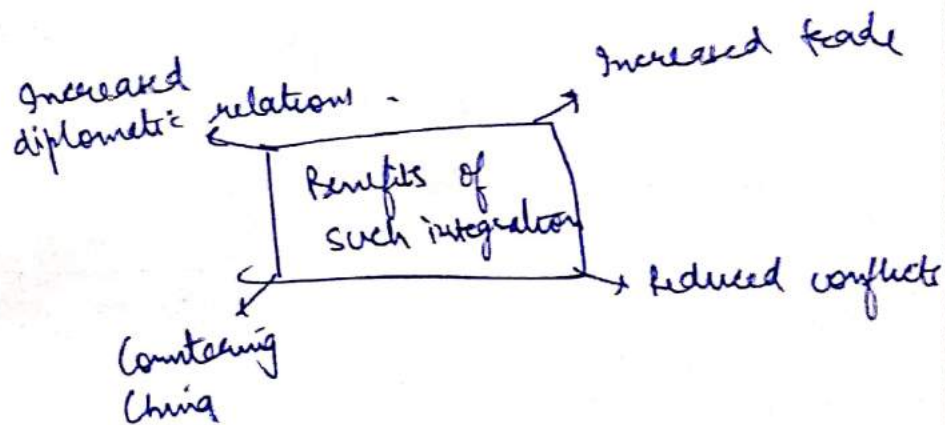


Fig. Connectivity with neighbours

- ① Leveraging North-East as a way to connect to ASEAN and improve trade.
- E.g. IMS trilateral highway → India, Myanmar, Thailand

- ① Better relations with Pakistan - connecting to Afghanistan and Middle East  
↳ Easy supply of crude
- ③ Enhancing shipping to connect to Islands in Indian Ocean eg. Maldives
- ④ Sea lanes through Malacca Strait
- ⑤ Increased connectivity to Bhutan, Nepal, Bangladesh Eg - BBIN



Challenges that exist :-

- ① India - Pakistan rivalry - this has been reason for poor SAARC performance.
- ② China's influence in the region - diplomatic and BR1

- ③ Increased terrorism and insurgency  
Eg. Golden Crescent and Golden Triangle
- ④ Unstable political regimes in the neighbourhood
- ⑤ Redundancy of institutional mechanisms like SAARC, BIMSTEC.

### Way forward

- ① focussing on Neighbourhood first policy  
→ Instruments like line of credit (LOC) and more collaboration
- ② Changing image of nat of big brother
- ③ Role as
  - ↳ Net security provider
  - ↳ Crisis manager Eg. Operation Vanilla
- ④ Countering China - Strengthening Indo-Pacific

Vision, 2018

Peace and increased integration will enhance not only trade but also improve people to people connect.