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03

GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1071)

Name of Candidate	ANKUR	Registration Number	26 775
Medium Eng./Hindi	ENGLISH	Date	28/08
Center	ORN		

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
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9	10	
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16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

- 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)।
- There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH & HINDI** इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
- All questions are compulsory.**
सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
- The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
- 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।
- Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
- 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. 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 सुझाएं।

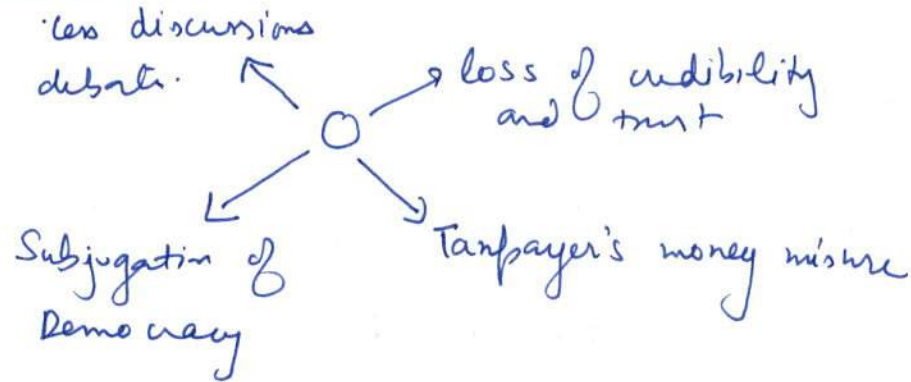
Parliament has been envisaged as
'Temple of Indian Democracy'. A place
for 4 D's → Discuss, Debate, Dialogue and
Dissent to implement Constitutional ethos.

Recent Decline

- ① Average sessions have decreased from 120 days a year to 60 days a year (DARSHI)
- ② Only 26% of the Bills are referred to Parliamentary Committees (ADR report)
- ③ Only 34% of MP's have >90% attendance
- ④ The incidents of disruptions, unparliamentary Behaviour even led President to remark Parliament as 'Confederation of Anarchists'

⑤ Use of Money Bill provisions (110) to bypass Rajya Sabha e.g. Aadhaar Bill etc.

Implications



Solutions

- ① NCRWC recommended to fix no. of parliamentary sittings to 120 days a year
- ② Performance linked pay system for MP's.
- ③ Penalizing disruptive Behaviour in parliament
- ④ Rationalizing use of whip culture by issuing whip only for substantial voting.
- ⑤ Enforcing code of ethics for parliamentarians
- ⑥ Use of ICT in Parliament e.g. e-Vidhaan, e-SANSAD etc.

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।

73rd Amendment to Indian constitution
established PRIs as grassroot level
Governance institutions. PRIs as Iyer committee
reports have been light and dark ages
to Indian democracy.

Successes

- ① Based on establishing of PRIs ⇒ nearly all states have set up PRIs
- ② Reservation of women ⇒ More than 16 states have extended reservation to 50% women
- ③ Setting up SFC's, SEC's has been periodical in most states
- ④ SC/ST representation has been successfully implemented in PRIs.

Leggards

- ① PRI devolution Index reports that less than 50% states have devolved functions and requisite powers to PRI's.
- ② Only 5% of PRI's had autonomy while ~~ad~~ using funds. 95% ^{grants} were tied (Economic Survey)
- ③ Pandit-Pati Syndrome or Proxy women sarpanchs was prevalent
- ④ Lack of municipal ~~to~~ local cadre in functioning led to inefficiency.

Way Forward

- ① Sonit Bose committee recs to introduce local cadre, compulsory weekly gram Sabha meeting.
- ② Iyer committee recommends Activity Mapping to reduce conflicts between Parastatels and PRI's.
- ③ Enforcing recommendation of 2nd ARC.

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 वाचडॉग (प्रहरी) भी है। लेखापरीक्षा प्रक्रिया को और अधिक प्रभावी बनाने के आलोक में इस कथन का परीक्षण कीजिए।

Article 148, establishes office of CAG to keep and value auditing and accountancy standards in organisations / Government / departments.

Article 150 empowers CAG to establish form standards of accounts to be maintained.

In recent times CAG has gone beyond mere book-keeping audit to Proprietary Audit i.e. wisdom behind transactions, policy.

It thus has rightly been called Bulwark of Indian constitution.

2G Scam, Commonwealth Scam, Railway Accounting Scam (2017), Laxness in National Health Mission (2014) are few of the various reports that led to unearthing scams in Government functioning.

14th Report of 4th ARC finds various issues with functioning of CAG :-

- ① Delays in reporting
- ② Post-mortem i.e. reporting after acts were commissioned
- ③ State assemblies had 10-12 year delay on tabling reports
- ④ No coherence with Internal auditors and fault-finding tendencies not improvement tendencies.

Making audit more effective

- ① Concurrent Audit system
- ② Time-Bound tabling of reports
- ③ Honest mistakes in auditing must be provided for
- ④ Suggesting ways to improve rather than mere fault finding
- ⑤ Issuing reports in Public domain
- ⑥ Action taken report by states / departments must also be time-bound.

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।

ADR report on Political funding finds out that more than 80% of political party donations were under 20,000 Rs and hence anonymous and undisclosed.

Law commission in its 255th report, Election Commission in its 2016 paper called for reforms in political funding.

Why reforms

- builds credibility and trust in government
- Reduces political-Criminal nexus
- Curbs Crony Capitalism
- Brings in transparency and accountability
- Black money prevalence in donations

Recently Electoral Bond scheme notified by government ① reduces amount for anonymous donation to Rs 2000/-.

② Issuance of electoral Bonds by SBI for 15 days

③ Only parties which got 1% of LS votes in LS elections can use electoral Bond facility.

Benefits ① Reduces amount of anonymous disclosure

② KYC norms in Banks will reduce Black money

③ Transparency and Accountability Increase.

Issues

① Reducing amount to 2,000 will just fragment donations in multiples of ₹2,000.

② SBI is a centrally controlled bank hence party at centre gains an edge over funds.

③ No linking Aadhar or online verification to donation

④ Additional measures like reducing liberal FCRA regulations, removing cap of 7.5% on private donations hamper cleansing of party functioning.

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 refers to influencing policy makers and policies by pressure groups, interest groups etc.

In India, lobbying hasn't been legally recognized and regulated hence it takes place informally and unregulated. e.g. Tobacco manufacturers in K'nataka got central direction for 85% pictorial warning stayed.

Benefits of legalizing

- ① More open discussions, debates in policy making
- ② Interests of various pressure groups in public domain.

(52)

③ Will reduce instance of cronyism and populist measures.

④ Easier to regulate.

Lawmakers

① People or Interests of marginalized may not be represented

② Regulation will not be easy

③ Earlier committees like Law Commission have suggested against legalizing lobbying.

Lobbying thus has both favourable and unfavourable outcomes. Hence, it must be widely discussed in public domain before acceptance.

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. 10, 510, 110 (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।

RTI Act of 2005, puts citizen at the centre of governance and grants them right to seek info regarding Government functioning.

A report by Parivartan NGO on RTI functioning found out that :-

- ① RTI had increased Transparency in Government functioning.
- ② RTI had helped unearth scams like 2G, Adarsh housing society scam
- ③ It had brought reduced instances of corruption as well.

- Issues
- ① Only 2% of population had used RTI
 - ② Conviction rate of only 3% for non-disclosure of information by officials
 - ③ Many AO's and also CIO posts remained vacant for long time
 - ④ Government is still poor at record keeping and no voluntary disclosures were done.
 - ⑤ Pendency of even 5-6 years in many states.
 - ⑥ Recent amendments to RTI which enable Governments to decide re-orientation of SIO's, and PIO's may affect functioning of RTI and bring in loyalist officials rather than Citizen centricism.

Hence, 2nd ARC reforms in RTI to promote voluntary disclosure, amending sec-8, and also supplementarily with whistleblowers.

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।

Article 46 of Indian constitution empowers state to take measures for benefit of SC/ST's. Recently, Centre provided for reservation in Promotions and Supreme Court decided to review Nagaraj judgment on Reservations.

Need of Promotion Reservation

- ① Only entry level promotions hampers the representation of marginalized sections at higher levels.
- ② Only 4/57 secretaries were from SC/ST.
- ③ In Maharashtra, an official was not promoted on vague grounds citing administrative efficiency.
- ④ Unless, representation is proportional at all levels, Reservation fails to achieve its objectives.

⑤ It deprives sections to be at policy making levels.

Issues

① Nagaraj Judgement → Reservation in promotion should be valued on altar of administrative efficiency

③ Reservation policy has entrenched class-conflicts rather than reducing it.

③ Internationally too Reservation is provided only at Entry-level

Way-Forward

① Article 335 must be given preference while making any policy ② Grounds for promotion must be reasonably defined

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 in 2017 produced 277 MT of food grains, cereal crops. And was world's largest producer in Rice, and 1st in Milk and Milk Products. At the same time India ranked 100 of 119 on global hunger index, having one of the world's largest hungry population.

Reasons for Paradox

- ① Accessibility of food: limited to certain areas.
- ② Leakages in PDS system
- ③ Lack of proper storage facilities leads to 40 lakh crore loss annually.
- ④ Regional imbalance i.e. PDS presence in North east and eastern regions is still asymmetrical.
- ⑤ Quality / Macro nutrients in food are still not found upon
- ⑥ Inequality / Gender Bias - 53%. Women are anemic.

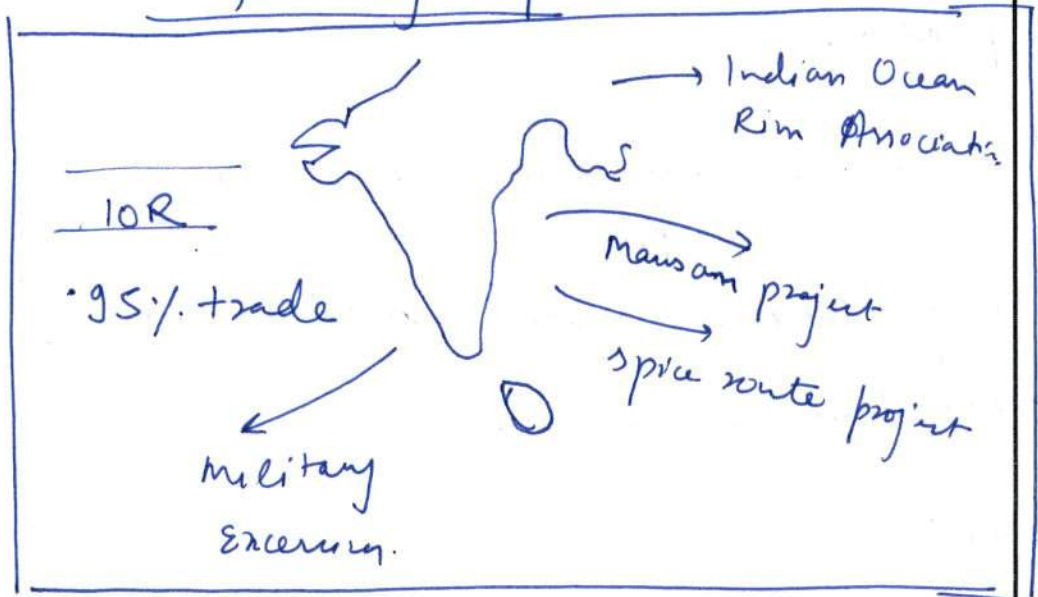
Steps in the Past

- ① TPOS act which provides subsidized food to BPL families
- ② BGREI ⇒ Bringing Green revolution to eastern India to balance Regional food production.
- ③ National Nutrition Strategy which provides for Kuposhan Mukh Bharat
- ④ Mid-Day meal scheme to provide nutritious meals to school children.
- ⑤ SABLA, SAKSHAM schemes to look after macro-nutrient needs of adolescents.
- ⑥ NFSA ⇒ National Food Security Act To achieve the goal of Kuposhan, Bhukha Bharat, Food Security that guarantees Access, Affordability, Sustainability and Utility must be ensured

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।

Indian Ocean Region forms a "hotspot" for India for its Economic, social, Cultural, Security importance.



Economic Importance 90% of economic trade by volume and 75% by value takes place via IOR

⊙ Vast Energy resources in EEZ of Indian Ocean Region.

Social With 6% coast population in coastal regions. Fisheries, aquaculture,

depend upon IOR.

Cultural → Traditional trade routes, link to S. east nations, Project Mausam, spice route are dependent upon IOR.

Security • securing sea lanes, fighting piracy.

International • Countering China's string of pearls

• Dugem Base in Oman, change in Singapore

• Assumption in Seychelles

Political

• Security and Growth of all regions i.e. SAGAR approach for collective IOR development.

Hence, IOR is more than a water body and a global platform to engage Indian and Global interests.

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

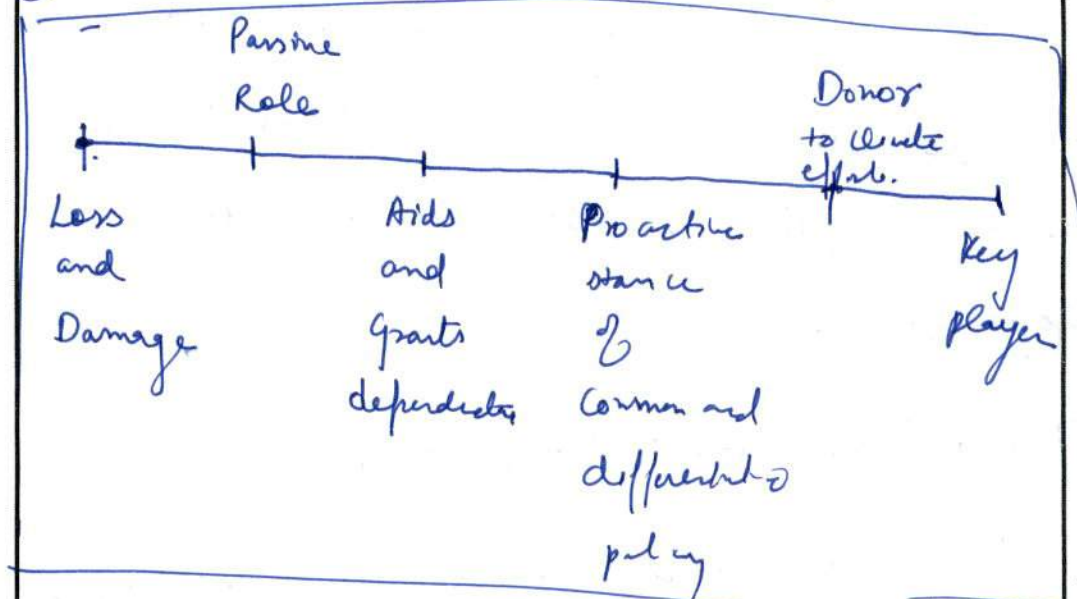
भारत द्वारा ग्लोबल कॉमंस के प्रबंधन में बृहत्तर दायित्व ग्रहण करने के परिप्रेक्ष्य में, भारत के जलवायु परिवर्तन संबंधित वार्ता दृष्टिकोण में परिवर्तन आया है। इस संदर्भ में, भारत की जलवायु नीति के विकास का विश्लेषण कीजिए।

India has committed to Paris Climate Conference by adopting INDC's to reduce emissions by 33-35% and also to a gross carbon sink of 3-3.5 mn tonnes. Hence adopting a major role in climate governance.

Change in climate change stance.

- ① from loss and damage i.e. responsibility of developed nations to global responsibility.
- ② Common and differentiated responsibility approach.
- ③ Identification of gender role in climate change by adopting gender Action plan

- ④ With US Backing out of Paris deal Onus has shifted to Asian countries as well.
- ⑤ Signing of ISA with France, and establishing NISE in Gurgaon.
- ⑥ Policies like NAPCC etc. adopted.



India has taken up a proactive role in climate governance. It has also set targets of Renewable energy (175 GW) and curbed use of fossil fuels to achieve INDC's.

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 Indian constitution
establishes FC as Fiscal Wheel of
Fiscal Federalism (KC Wheare)

Article 280 mandates FC to look into :-

- sharing arrangements between Centre and states
- Augmenting revenue sources of both Centre and state
- advise on sharing funds to local self-governance institutions
- enforce and suggest principles to reduce fiscal profligacy and introduce fiscal discipline
- Other matters as referred by President in Terms of reference. (ToR)

Issues in 15th Commission TOR's

① Population data for devolution to be based on 2011 census.

Since southern states have stabilized their populations, they may suffer.

② Look into sharing formula of 14th FC

Reconsidering the 32→42% devolution share suggested by 14th FC

③ To look into incurring or not incurring expenditure on populist measures which hampers the freedom of states

④ Reducing cap on Fiscal debt to 1.8% for states.

⑤ Suggest a debt roadmap for states.

15th TOR curbs on freedoms of states
and violates Basic principle of Federalism

Way Forward

- ① NCRWC commission in 2002 recommended to fix TOR's in consultation with States.
- ② Members of 15th FC must ^{have} ~~be~~ representative of states as well
- ③ Finance Commission reports to be tabled in Inter-state councils, other platforms before acceptance by central government.

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।

Indian Constitution is rightly referred to as Cosmopolitan Constitution as it instills values from both indigenous and exogenous sources. (KC Wheare)

Synthesis of Western Movements

- ① French revolution ideals of liberty, equality and fraternity as visible in Article 14-19
- ② Idea of Russian revolution Justice in Preamble and DPSP's.
- ③ ^{Idea of} Socialist welfare state in DPSP's
- ④ Right to life, liberty (American revolution) in Article 21.
- ⑤ Participation of labour in management of industry under DPSP
- ⑥ Article 39(b), 39(c) to prevent concentration of wealth

Indian Independence and Values

- ① A Union of states to establish a Unbreakable Nation (Princely states secessionist tendencies)
- ② Gandhian ideals as reflected in DPSP's Article 40 (Panchayat), 43 (cooperatives)
- ③ The idea of Secular nation to accommodate interests of all religions
- ④ Positive affirmation under Article 15, 16 to provide security to oppressed sections
- ⑤ Abolishing Untouchability under Article 17.
- ⑥ ~~Freedom~~ Fundamental Duties under Article 51A → respect national ideals
 - Fraternity, Brotherhood
 - renounce practices derogatory to women
 - respect national symbols

- ⑦ 73rd / 74th Amendment give meaning to Gandhian model of grass-root democracy.
- ⑧ Right to Education for all

Hence, it can be seen that Indian constitution embodies spirit of liberty, equality, tolerance from various sources still is a case deu generis (Granville Austin),

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।

Judiciary seeks to achieve equality, liberty, freedom, federalism and Independent Judiciary guarantees so. (Justice Thomas)

Indian Judiciary with provisions of Judicial review, Activism has safeguarded the democratic nature of constitution.

Importance

- ① Reviewing of legislative acts ensures constitutionalism e.g. NJAC striking down.
- ② Ensures democratic justice to marginalised e.g. PIL in Hussainara Khatoon Case.
- ③ Builds Credibility and Trust in Government functioning e.g. Uly Thomas Case, PULL case by

- ④ Recently a more biocentric role to ensure sustainability of development e.g. CNG use, CAMPA ruling.
(MC Mehta case)
- ⑤ Provides against legislative adventurism and Executive excess e.g. DC Wadhwa Case (ordinance), SR Bommai Case to enforce federalism.
- ⑥ Writs to guard against arbitrary use of power hence, Independence of Judiciary is of ^{by legislature} paramount importance in sustaining democracy. _{Executive}

Safeguards

- ① Emoluments charged on Consolidated Fund of India
- ② Impeachment procedure has been provided in details under Judicial Enquiry Act 1968.
- ③ Barring of practicing in courts after

retirement

- ④ Appointment of Secretarial staff is done by the Judiciary itself.
- ⑤ Appointment of Judges ~~are~~ only on recommendation of Judiciary (S.P. Gupta case)
- ⑥ Article 50 provides for separation of Judiciary and Executive
- ⑦ Conduct of Judges cannot be discussed except ~~for~~ impeachment motion in parliament.

Hence, independence of Judiciary is guarded by constitution. Moreover provisions of Judicial review, Writs, special leave (136) add to Judicial governance and prudence.

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 काफ़ी 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।

Federalism is defined as sharing of roles and responsibilities between Core and constituent units. Indian

federalism has matured with increasing devolution of fiscal / political control to states viz: →

- ① 14th FC increase share of states from 32% → 42%.
- ② Rationalization of Central Sector schemes gives states fiscal independence.
- ③ Recently, States were allowed to borrow from International lending platforms.
- ④ Setting up of NITI Aayog, GST Council enforce Fiscal federalism.

- ⑤ Schemes like UDAY, Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samakhya where states are given Fiscal space to manage debt and borrowings.
- ⑥ Abolishing Special category states brings more objectivity in centre-state relations.
- ⑦ Reduced use of Article 356 since Bommai Judgment has enhanced relative federalism.

Structural Problems

- ① Office of Governor has again been in news for misuse of power in recent Karnataka, Goa, Manipur states.
- ② Inter-state Council's meetings have been irregular (not met since 12 years)
- ③ Bias towards weight of Centre's votes in GST Council ($\frac{1}{3}$ to centre)

- ④ NCRWC, Sarkaria Commission recommendations on Centre-state relations have not yet been adopted.
- ⑤ Recently setting of 15th FC TOR without state's consultation.
- ⑥ Paradiplomacy (sub-national foreign engagement) still lacks as visible in recent UAE-Kerala disaster relief issue.

Way Forward

- ① Accept Poochi Commission recs of
 → strengthening ISC
 → consulting CM for appointing Governors
- ② Venkatchilash report of fixing TOR with state's concurrence
- ③ Adopting and Adhering on SR Bommai's case ruling
 There can set up ^{Sustains} aid 'Wise and Unique' Indian Federal setup.

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।

Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 forms the major backbone of Indian Anti-Corruption efforts.

Recently Proposed Amendments

- ① Protection of Retired civil servants as well \Rightarrow sanction required to prosecute retired civil servants too.
- ② Bribe taker as well as Bribe giver covered under Corruption Act.
- ③ Corruption is classified as heinous crime category : minimum imprisonment to 7 years.
- ④ Lokpal is identified as sanctioning Authority for senior civil servants.
- ⑤ 'Intent' should also be considered along with abuse of authority to convict civil servants.

- ⑥ Non Gratification in 'kind' also covered
- ⑦ Corporate houses, Commercial businesses can also be charged for corruption.

While the amendments appear to be strict and a feather in cap for Anti-corruption but it faces severe shortcomings as:→

- ① Lokpal has not been set up yet, hence no sanctioning authority present.
- ② Collusive and Coercive Bribery have not been differentiated
- ③ Extension of protection to retired Civil Servants can be counter-productive
- ④ Proving 'Intent of Abuse' is vague and is difficult to objectively prove.

Hence recent amendments need to be tweaked on lines of 2nd ARC, & Vohra committee recommendations :-

- ① Differentiate between Collusive and Coercive Bribery
- ② Amend Article 311 which guarantee against removal / dismissal
- ③ Release of Assets of Civil servants in Public domain etc.
- ④ Care to Care Basis sanctioning Authority. (At max 3 levels up the authority being questioned)

Corruption is far worse epidemic than any other hence stringent punishment and overzealousness must be met with swiftness and surety of Act.

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 houses almost 32 lakh NGOs and over 80 lakh SHGs. It is home to world's largest voluntary sector.

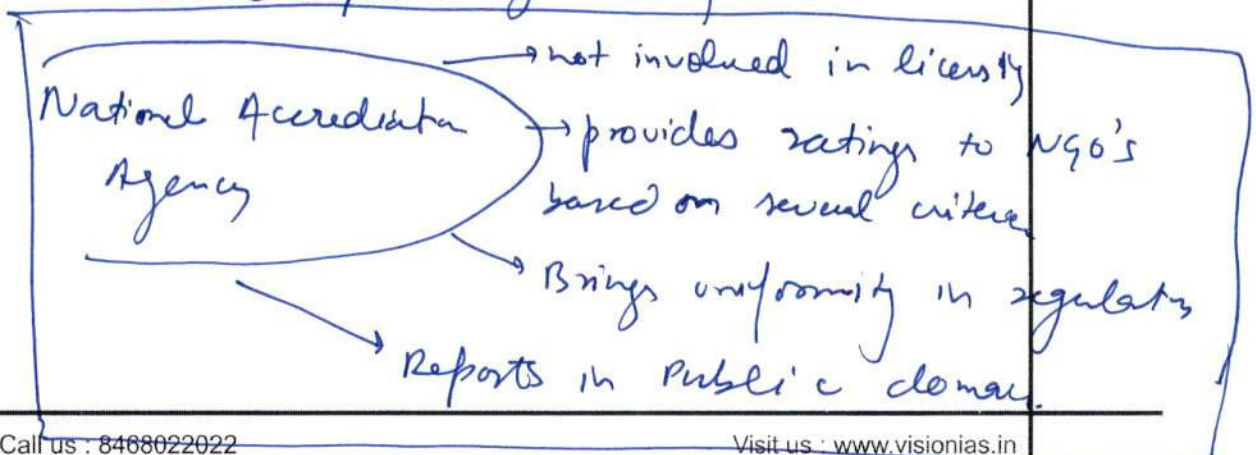
Issues Plaguing Voluntary Sector

- ① Only 2% of NGOs filed their foreign returns
- ② IB report suggests NGOs engaged in anti-national, anti-development activities e.g. Kundankulam protest
- ③ Sabrang Trust, IRF were financed from enemy countries and extremist organisations.
- ④ ~~Sri~~ Vijaya NGOs like Vijaya Trust engaged in corruption and money-laundering.
- ⑤ Over-regulation by Government e.g. cancellations

of licenses of 10,000 NGOs

- ⑥ Sri Vijay Kumar Panel reported nexus between NGOs and Bureaucrats to siphon off money.
- ⑦ Report, 'Devonia Home etc. NGOs engaged in illegal activities like Prostitution, Sex Trafficking etc.

Sri Vijay Kumar Panel suggested reforms like online report filing, reducing interface between civil servants and NGOs and reports by 2nd ARC, National Policy on Voluntary sector 2006 also recommended setting up of National Accreditation Agency for NGOs to streamline and discipline functioning.



Hence, establishment of National Accreditation Agency can bring in more Transparency and Accountability in Voluntary Sector functioning. NITI Aayog has recently been appointed Accreditation Council for Voluntary Sector, which is a welcome step.

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। इनसे कैसे निपटा जा सकता है?

A Teacher shapes not only the child in classroom but a nation outside classroom as well (Tagore)

A Teacher's presence in school guides, directs student's learning and future outcomes. Hence, Training of Teachers is of critical importance. Various schemes like Teacher education scheme, Shalagunavatta programme and tests like TET, CTET ensure eligibility and trained Teacher cadre.

Problems

- ① ASER Survey found that most of the teachers did not hold desired eligibility degree for teaching.
- ② States and Centre had different training

patterns for teacher training

- ③ Absence of uniform training patterns affected teacher performance
- ④ More than 7,000 schools had no eligible teachers and 87,000 schools had only a single teacher.
- ⑤ Lack of infrastructure for Teacher training, no use of ICT to provide timely updation was reported.

Addressing Issues

- ① National Education Policy 2016 recommends setting up of specialised Teacher training institutions.
- ② Uniform training criteria and curricula for teachers
- ③ K. Kasturirangan panel suggested for an Indian Education Service

to regulate, monitor standards of education including Teacher Education

- ④ Timely up-training courses for teachers on lines of TSR Subramanian report.
- ⑤ Use of ICT to deliver training to remote areas as well
- ⑥ Increasingly fund allocation for teacher training (only 1.46% of education allocation used for training)
- ⑦ Online exams to curb corruption in recruitment of teachers e.g. Haryana teacher recruitment scam.

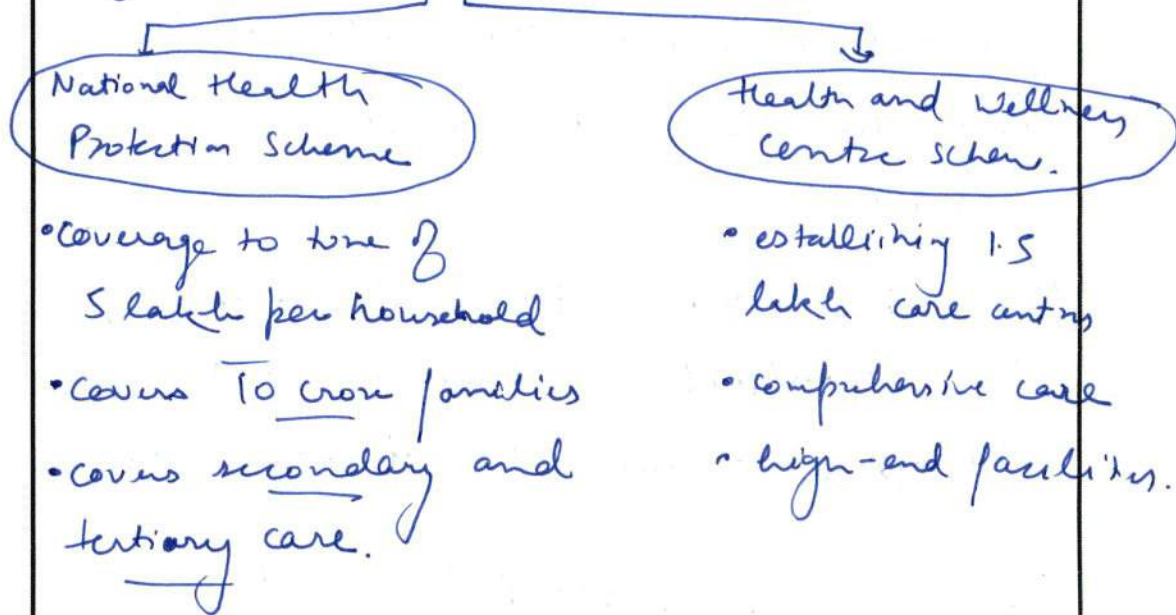
Teachers form an inevitable part of student's career and growth, hence a renewed focus on Training via schemes like Integrated education development scheme are need of the hour.

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।

India performs poorly on Lancet's Health Index (120/122). Increasing burden of NCD's (60%) and huge out of pocket expenditure (70%) call for major policy reforms.

Ayushman Bharat



The scale of Ayushman Bharat is largest among any country, it is the world's largest healthcare scheme.

OBSTACLES

- Funds ⇒ India's health expenditure is only 1.4% of GDP. Hence, funds to finance Ayushman is a major obstacle.
- Functionaries India has doctor availability only 0.7/1000.
- Infrastructure : Beds, drugs, medicines procurement is to be done on a large scale
- Identification of Beneficiaries No criteria has yet been defined
- Grass-root Integration CAG in its 2014 report on healthcare recommended to improve ground-level health institutions as priority. → access for all.
- Stability of scheme many schemes have vanished coz of change in central government, hence a legal/statutory backy is must

- Coverage of orphan diseases, AMR has not been substantiated

Way Forward

- Reforms in MCI to ensure availability of doctors
- Implementing reforms like National Health Stack, ICT in healthcare.
- Using SECC 2011 deprivation criteria as identification measure.
- Integrating goals of National Health policy with scheme to cover AMR, orphan diseases etc.
- Training ANM's, ASHA, PHCs to provide services at grass root level
- Increase health expenditure to 2.4%
- 3% of GDP to finance such scheme

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।

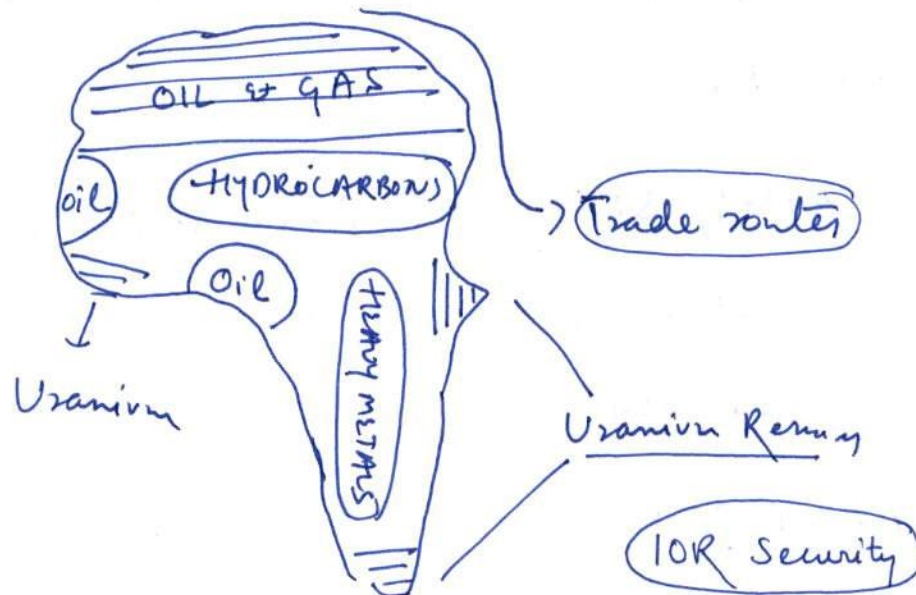
Africa is termed as 'El Dorado'

the financial Utopia for its vast manpower and resources. India-

- African trade at present is \$52

Bn (Economic Survey) compared to China's

\$268 Bn trade with Africa.



Resource Map of Africa

China has in recent times expanded its financial clout in Africa with more than 2900 ventures, ~~make~~ Djibouti as Chinese base, investments to large scale in Africa. India has taken a Smart power approach to counter Chinese incursions and alleviate India-Africa relation.

- ① Asia-Africa Growth Corridor with Japan to invest in Africa and enhance cooperation.
- ② TEAM-9, SITA to enhance socio-economic cooperation in West and East Africa respectively.
- ③ AARDO :- India is a founder member and largest investor in Asia-Africa Rural development Organisation.

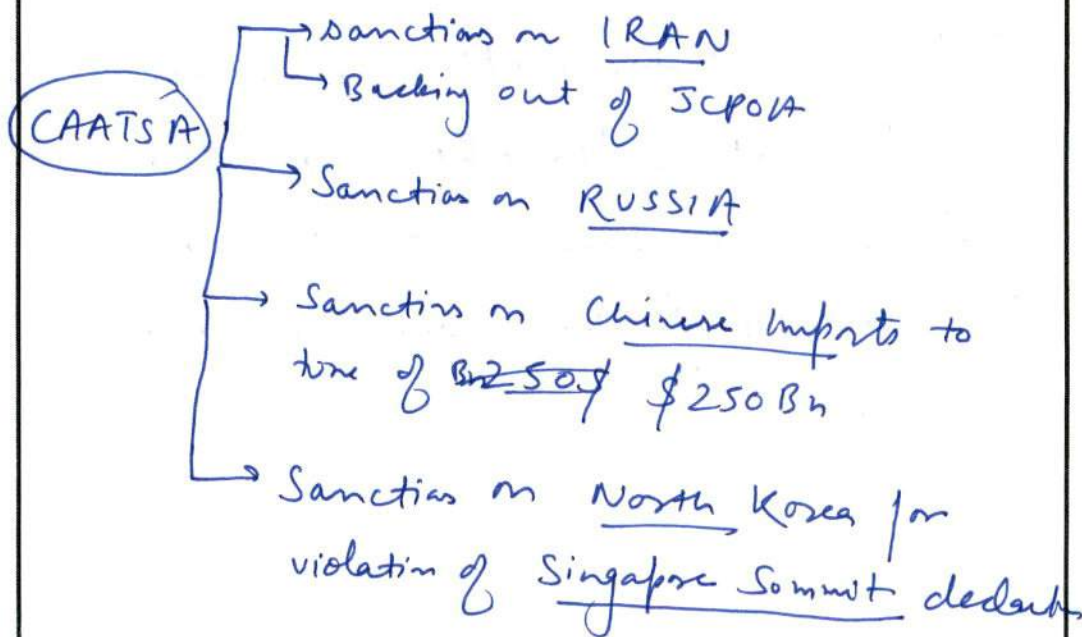
9) India-Africa Forum Summits since 2015 to jointly resolve economic/ social issues in Asia-Africa _{India}

China's presence in Africa has faced criticism because of employing Chinese people rather African nationals, lack of environment concern etc. India with its socio-economic cooperation and also taking measures to provide safety to African nationals in India can augment India-Africa relations and increase trade to 300 Bn\$ from current 150 Bn\$ (India-Africa Forum vision).

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।

Recent times have seen protectionism and deglobalization measures by U.S to safeguard its interests. Recently launched U.S security strategy and CAATSA (Countering American Adversaries by Trade sanctions Act) affect India as well.



Impact on India

- ① Iran is 3rd largest exporter of oil to Indian continent. Iran accepts payment in Indian Rupees
- ② Sanctions impact India-Russia defence relations (\$-4000 millions etc)
- ③ China is second largest Indian trade partner at \$84 Bn trade.

Hence, India's economy, defence, diplomatic ties are affected by US sanctions.

Shielding Indian Interests

- ① India's policy on non-affected by sanctions of other nations must be carefully traded.
- ② Focusing on newer markets like Africa.

- ③ Building stronger ties with ASEAN, Mercosur, EU.
- ④ Increasing Domestic Production and consumption of Goods
- ⑤ Joseph Nye's concept of smart power i.e. Soft Power and Hard Power to stabilise relations with other countries.

Indian paradigm of NAM, panchsheel which involves mutual respect and sovereignty in international affairs can help balance U.S sanctions and Indian interests.