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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1429)

Name of Candidate	ABHISHEK JAIN		
Medium Eng./Hindi	ENG	Registration Number	46438
Center	ONLINE	Date	

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
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11	15	
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15	15	
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.

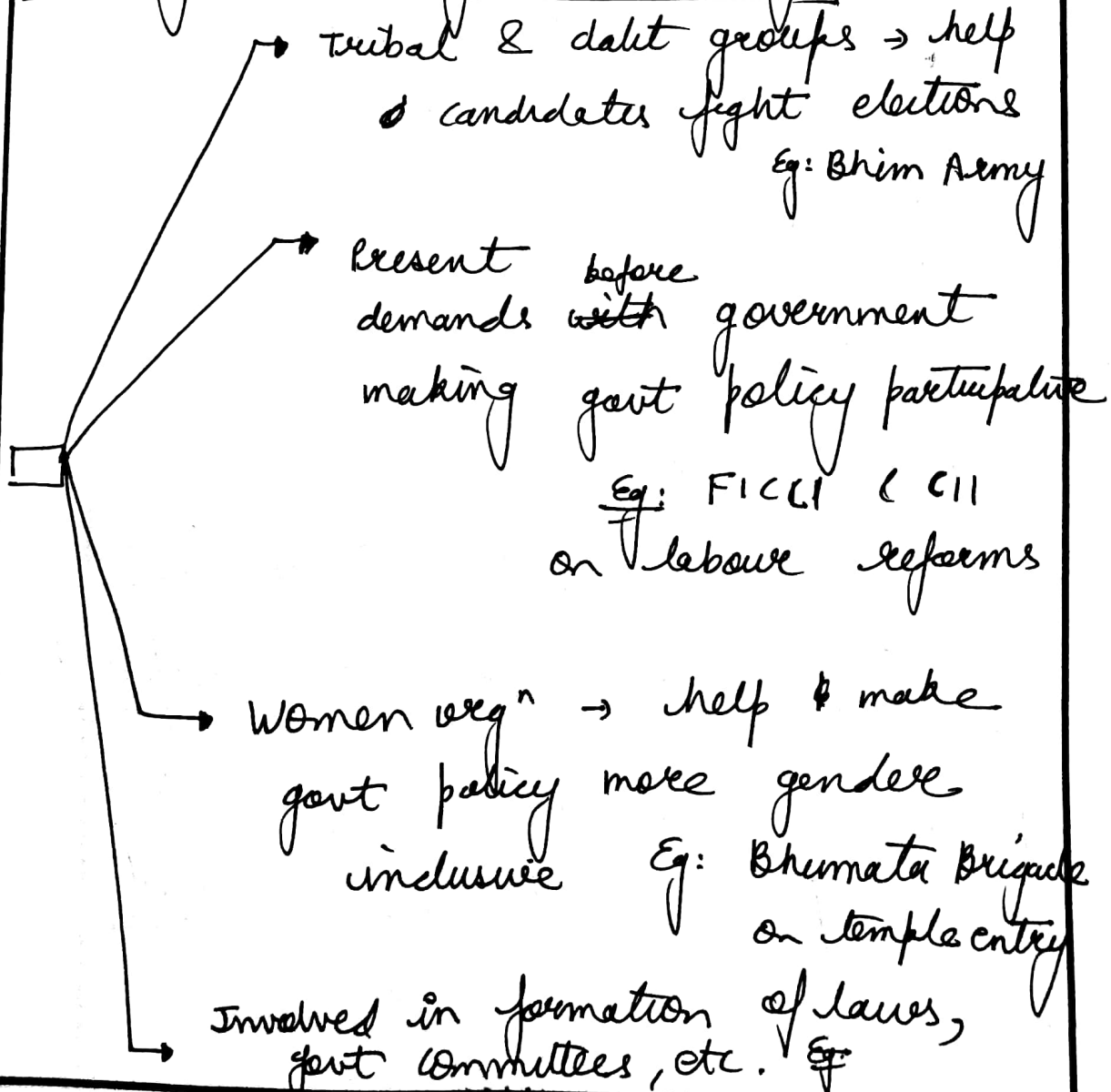
All the Best

1. Illustrate how pressure groups have emerged as a strong mechanism for making democracy participatory and responsive. (150 Words) 10 Marks

उदाहरण प्रस्तुत करते हुए समझाइए कि किस प्रकार दबाव समूह, लोकतंत्र को सहभागी और अनुक्रियाशील बनाने हेतु एक सुदृढ़ तंत्र के रूप में उभरे हैं।

Pressure groups are non-governmental voluntary organisations of people promoting their group interests.

Making democracy participatory



Responsive

- Raise voice of group members & their present grievances
eg: Union of Safai Karamcharis concerned on manual scavenging deaths
- Force govt to take corrective steps
- Help formulate citizen opinion on govt measures & help make it more efficient.

The need of the hour is to formulate a designated law to promote & regulate pressure groups and to make them important stakeholder in governance. This will help in achieving Good Governance

2. Explain the significance and controversies, if any, associated with the Article 35A of the Indian constitution. (150 Words) 10 Marks

भारतीय संविधान के अनुच्छेद 35A के महत्व और उससे संबद्ध विवादों, यदि कोई हो, की व्याख्या कीजिए।

Recently, parliament passed J&K Reorganisation Act 2019 and abrogated sections of Art 370 including Art 35A.

Significance of Art 35A

① Gives rights to J&K ~~people~~ ^{assembly} to determine "Permanent Residents" of J&K.

② Allows certain special privileges to them like :-

- Outsiders cannot purchase property in J&K
- ~~Spe~~ Only residents can apply for J&K govt jobs
- Special privileges in govt schemes & scholarships

Controversy

- Added by a Presidential order in the constitution → unconstitutional
- Against national integrity & unity
- Fuels separatism
- Discriminatory for J&K women who loose rights if they marry non J&K man,
- Against Dalit population in Jammu who do not have rights

After the abrogation of Art 35 A, efforts must be made to boost investment in J&K & involve all stakeholders in maintaining peace & tranquility.

3. The ambiguity surrounding lobbying in India is further exacerbated by the country's endemic corruption. In this context, critically examine the case for legalising lobbying in India. (150 words) 10 Marks

भारत में लॉबिंग को लेकर विद्यमान अस्पष्टता देश में व्याप्त भ्रष्टाचार से और भी गंभीर हो जाती है। इस संदर्भ में, भारत में लॉबिंग को वैध बनाने के प्रश्न का समालोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए।

Lobbying refers to different pressure groups influencing government policy & decisions through various measures like dialogue, money, etc.

Yes it should be legalised

No it should not

① Makes governance more participative as various stakeholders are involved.

① Only the strong i.e. big corporates will benefit. Poor & marginalised will further be alienated.

② Government gets to know the ground realities.

② Chances of corruption, quid-

by interaction

③ Legalised lobbying
will make the
system more
accountable &
reduce corruption

④ It is already
prevalent in
several countries
like USA.

pros are very
high.
Eg: Nereva Radio
tapes

③ There is already
democratic ways
where citizens can
give their inputs
to govt. Eg: my gov
So, ~~need~~ no need
of lobbying.

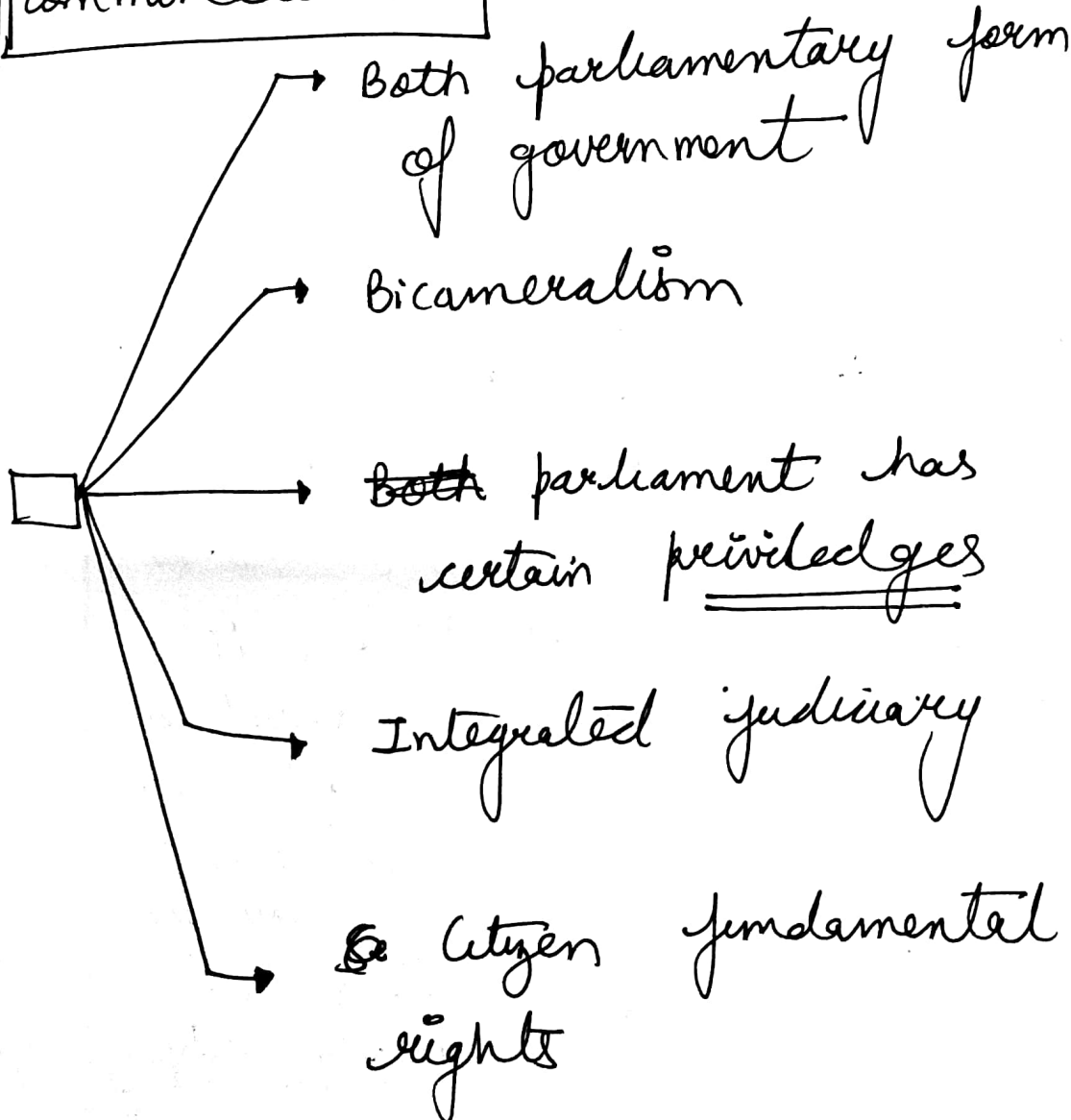
There are several ^{better} other ways,
~~apart from~~ ^{than} lobbying, that can
be used to make governance
more participative. Legalising
lobbying will just fuel corruption
& nepotism

4. Independent India adopted a modified version of the Westminster model of government. In this context discuss the commonalities and differences between the political system of India and UK. (150 Words) 10 Marks

स्वतंत्र भारत ने सरकार की वेस्टमिंस्टर प्रणाली का एक संशोधित संस्करण अपनाया। इस संदर्भ में, भारत और UK की राजनीतिक व्यवस्था के मध्य समानताओं और विभेदों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

To give political continuity, India adopted the British model of government after gaining independence.

Commonalities



Differences

	India	Britain
①	Written	Unwritten
②	Federal	Unitary
③	Balance between parliamentary sovereignty & judicial supremacy	Parliament is supreme
④	India is a republic with <u>no</u> hereditary ruler.	Queen/King ↓ hereditary
⑤	No such system	A well developed shadow council of minister system

India must learn from Britain in
certain aspects like ~~today's~~ codifying
privileges & shadow govt system for

5. Political parties are an integral part of the democratic set up of India. In the context, discuss the need for strengthening the process of institutionalization of intra-party democracy in political parties in India. (150 Words) 10 Marks

राजनीतिक दल भारत की लोकतांत्रिक व्यवस्था के अभिन्न अंग हैं। इस संदर्भ में, भारत में राजनीतिक दलों में अंतः दलीय लोकतंत्र को संस्थागत किए जाने की प्रक्रिया को सुदृढ़ करने की आवश्यकता पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Intra party democracy refers to the equitable & free participation of party members in key decision making of the party.

Need

- will help strengthen grass roots democracy
- Help in fighting nepotism & dynastic politics
- Help people from marginalised sections & women to rise to the top party ranks

- will help in effective functioning
- of parties + ~~the~~ ○
- bring transparency in their funding
- Law Commission has recommended it

Challenges

- Dynastic politics ingrained in all parties
- Lack of political will to reform
- Citizen apathy to this key issue

Way forward

- Pass the draft intra party ~~reg~~ democracy bill by Venkatiah Committee
- Provide authority to Election Commission to carry out intra party elections in a free & fair manner

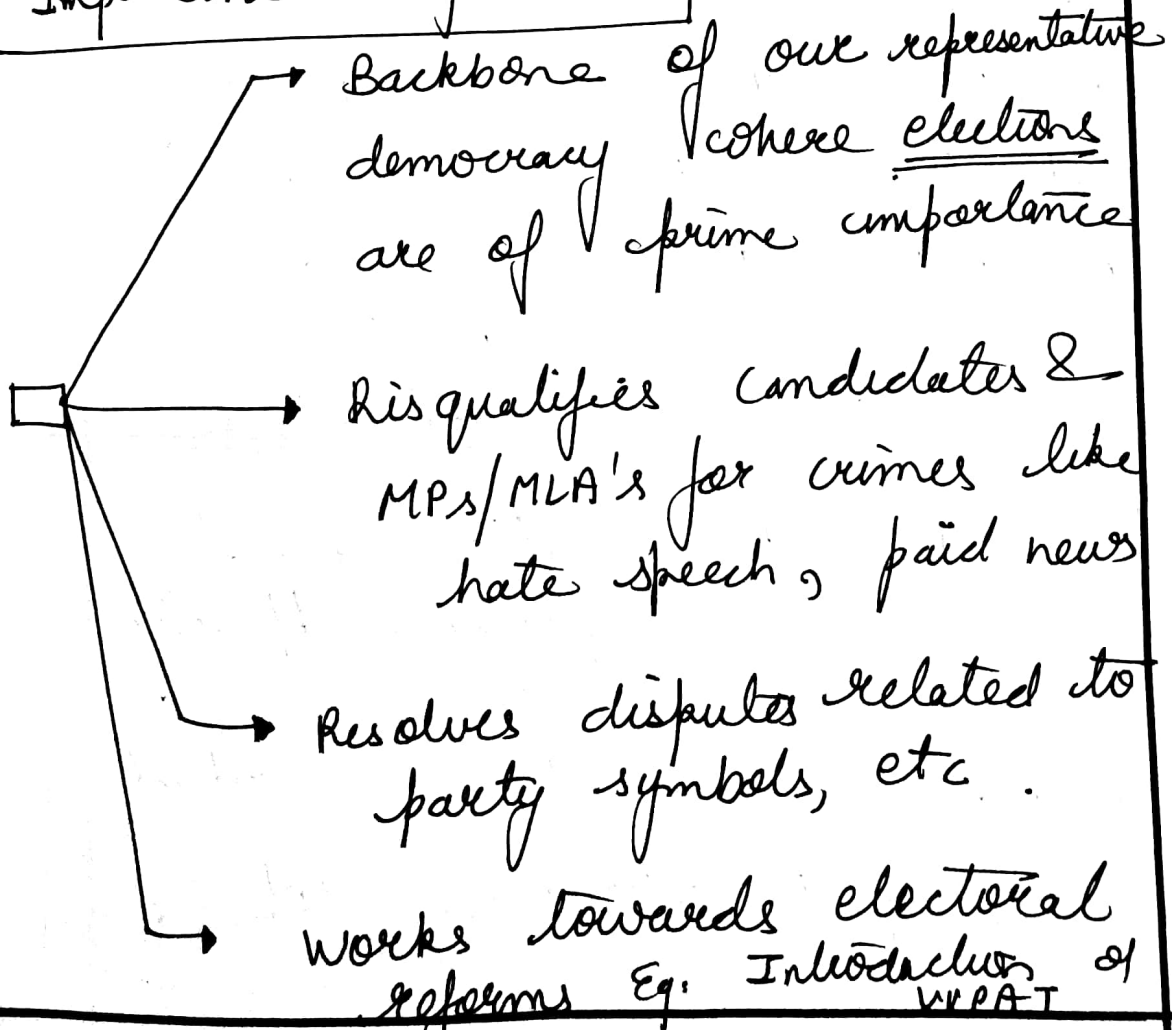
6. It is of paramount importance to ensure that the Election Commission of India (ECI) be fully insulated from political pressure to maintain the purity of elections. In this context, discuss the need to have a relook at the process of appointment and removal of election commissioners to the ECI.

(150 Words) 10 Marks

चुनावों की शुचिता बनाए रखने के लिए यह सुनिश्चित करना सर्वाधिक महत्वपूर्ण है कि भारत निर्वाचन आयोग (ECI) राजनीतिक दबाव से पूर्णतया मुक्त रहे। इस संदर्भ में, ECI के निर्वाचन आयुक्तों की नियुक्ति और पदच्युति की प्रक्रिया पर पुनर्विचार करने की आवश्यकता पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Several political parties levelled allegations of political interference in the election working of EC in the recent 2019 Lok Sabha elections.

Importance of EC



Problems with appointment & removal

Appointment

① No qualifications have been prescribed in the Constitution

② ~~No~~ No role of opposition in appointment

③ No system of parliamentary scrutiny of appointed candidate like that in USA.

Removal

① No bar on post retirement ~~work~~ govt posts
↓
conflict of interest

② Extremely difficult to remove by ^{CEC} impeachment

↓
even if there are charges of corruption

③ Ambiguity on removal of election commissioner.

way forward

① An independent committee consisting of both - ruling party & opposition shall select candidate

② Qualifications must be prescribed

③ Bar on post retirement job

7. In post-liberalised India, it is imperative that the role of state be that of a facilitator and not one of a regulator. Analyse. (150 words) 10 Marks
उदारीकरण के पश्चात् के भारत में, यह अत्यावश्यक है कि राज्य की भूमिका एक सुविधाप्रदाता की हो, न कि एक नियामक की। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

The government is going ahead with the agenda of "Minimum Government & maximum governance".

Regulate less

Facilitate more.

① State planning by Planning Commission

Policy guidance by NITI AAYog.

② License & quota Raj

Liberalisation of economy

③ Interference in people's ^{liberty} lives through regressive laws like Sec 124 A of IPC

~~the~~ Facilitating citizen liberty & privacy

Why needed

- Excessive regulation → fuels corruption & bureaucratic red tape
- Hampers economic development & curtails rights of citizens
Eg: Recent order for surveillance of social media
- Free market brings competition ~~and~~ innovation & better customer choice

Thus, steps can be taken in this direction —

- ① Liberalise labour laws which are highly restrictive & complex
- ② e-governance for facilitating citizen
Eg: UMANG App → one stop app for accessing various govt schemes

8. By providing new pools of leadership talent, lateral entry will help in addressing the most crucial challenges that the civil services in India currently face. Critically evaluate. (150 words) 10 Marks

प्रतिभावान नेतृत्वकर्ताओं के नए समुच्चय प्रदान कर, पार्श्व प्रवेश भारत में सिविल सेवाओं के समक्ष वर्तमान समय में व्याप्त सर्वाधिक महत्वपूर्ण चुनौतियों को दूर करने में सहायता करेगा। समालोचनात्मक मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

Recently, 10 Joint secretary posts in govt of India were filled up by the process of lateral entry.

will help address challenges of civil services

will not help.

① will bring in specialised talent to handle complex issues in otherwise generalistic bureaucracy

① Don't have necessary "field experience" as traditional civil servants have

② will fuel in competition & merit

② corruption & nepotism in selection process may ~~breed~~ breed in

③ Help bring

innovation & private sector experience

③ NO long term vision → as 3-5 yr contracts only

④ Good governance & as contract renewal of lateral entrants is dependent upon their performance

④ NO reservation
↓
Inadequate representation of dalit & tribals

⑤ Help fill vacant posts quickly

⑤ May become victims of inefficient system

⑥ Recommended by 2nd ARC & NITI

Ayog

way forward

① The process of selection must be handled by UPSC

② Public Service Bill to prevent political interference must be brought

This will help bring Good governance

9. Discuss the need for an effective and functional working relationship between Gram Panchayats and SHGs. How can an efficient synergy between the two be achieved? (150 words) 10 Marks

ग्राम पंचायतों और SHGs के मध्य एक प्रभावी एवं कार्यात्मक कार्यकारी संबंध की आवश्यकता पर चर्चा कीजिए। दोनों के मध्य एक कार्यक्षम सहक्रियता किस प्रकार प्राप्त की जा सकती है?

Self Help Groups are voluntary association of people where they try to resolve their problems by mutual self help.

Need for better relationship between GP & SHG

- GP can help SHG in procuring funds from bank
- GP can help SHG in obtaining members by convincing people to join
- GP can help in resolving disputes among SHG members
- GP can leverage & use SHG's to implement its

schemes Eg: SHU's being used
to operate e-rickshaws in
villages under Aajeevika Gramin
Express Yojana

Measures

- Liason officer to coordinate between Gram Panchayat & SHU's.
- ~~Be~~ Capacity building of GP members in how to leverage SHU for development.
- A portion of GP funds must be kept aside for funding SHU activities.

By these, we can bring about inclusive development & strengthen grassroots democracy.

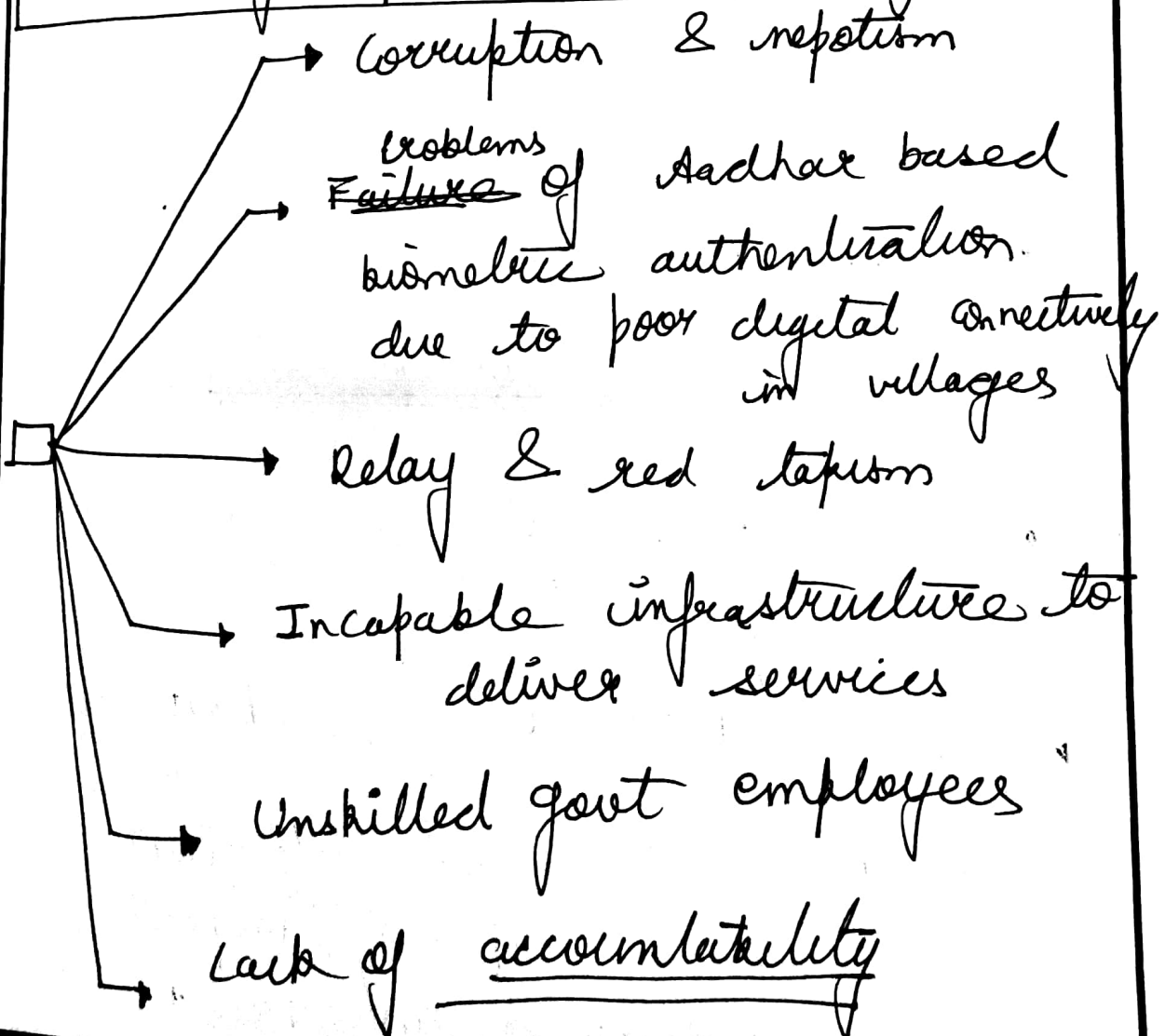
10. Public service delivery in India has long been marred by various issues leading to poor service delivery outcomes. While discussing the reasons for the same, suggest ways to make public service delivery more efficient.

(150 words) 10 Marks

भारत में सार्वजनिक सेवा वितरण दीर्घकाल से विभिन्न समस्याओं से ग्रसित रहा है जिसका परिणाम निम्नस्तरीय सेवा वितरण है। इसके कारणों पर चर्चा करते हुए, सार्वजनिक सेवा वितरण को अधिक कुशल बनाने के उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

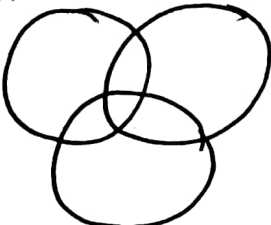
Public service delivery refers to the providing of services by govt like Public distribution system, document verification, etc.

Reasons for poor service delivery outcome



4 ways to make more efficient

→ Implement Sevottam model of public service delivery
 Citizen Charter Capacity building as ~~per~~ recommended by 2nd ARC



Corruption Addressed

→ Leverage technology & e-governance Eg: Direct benefit transfer

→ ~~Enact~~ Bring in a law for mandatory Social audit

→ Stringent punishment for corrupt officials

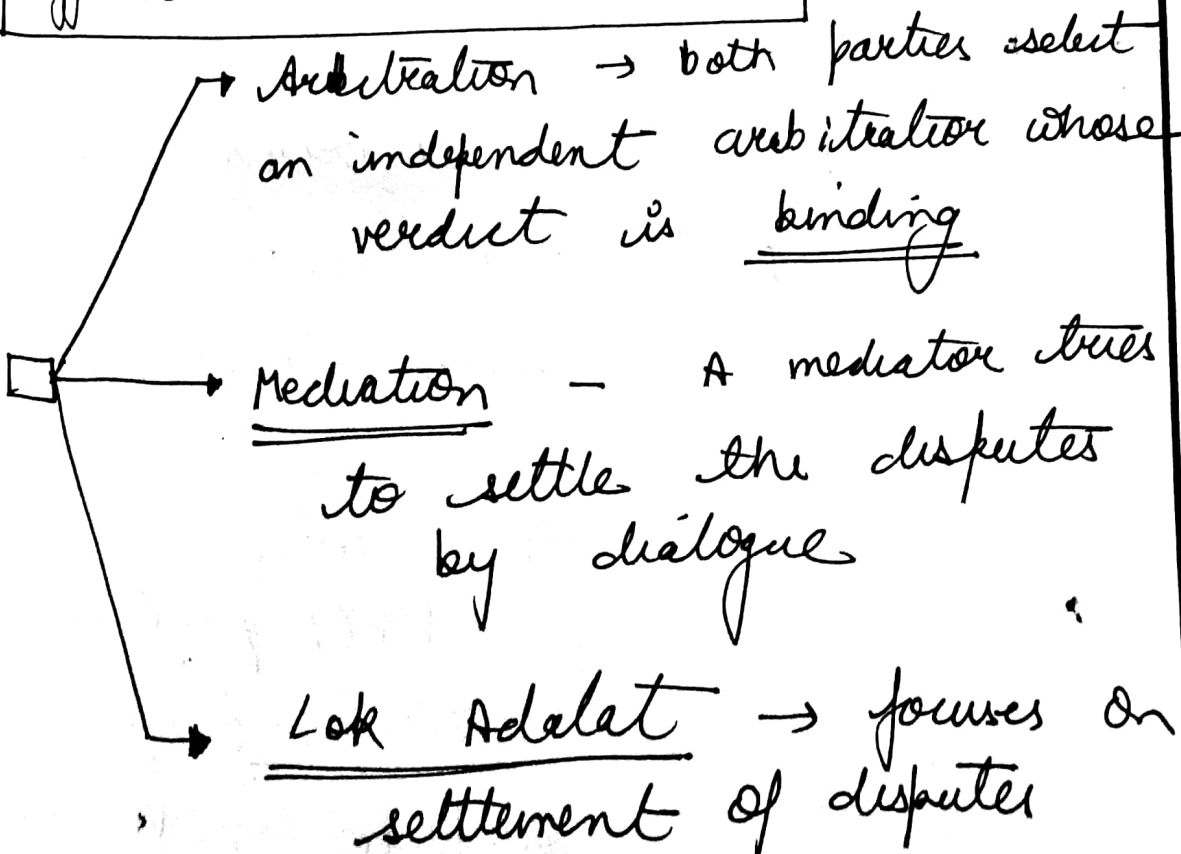
→ Explore Public Private Partnership for better & cost effective service delivery. Eg: Passport services outsourced to TCS

11. Highlighting different Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR) mechanisms available in India, explain their importance. Also, mention different measures that have been adopted to further improve the framework of ADR in India. (250 Words) 15 Marks

भारत में उपलब्ध विभिन्न वैकल्पिक विवाद समाधान (ADR) तंत्रों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, उनके महत्व की व्याख्या कीजिए। साथ ही, भारत में ADR के ढांचे में आगे और सुधार लाने के लिए अपनाए गए विभिन्न उपायों का भी उल्लेख कीजिए।

Economic Survey 2019 highlights that the present costly & tardy judicial system has turned into "Matasyanyaya" "Matasyanyaya" - Law of the jungle. Thus ADR is necessary to improve it.

Different ADR mechanisms



Importance

- Cost effective justice - affordable to the poor
- Faster decisions
- Relieves courts of high pendency
- Promotes FDI & Ease of doing business
- Important to resolve disputes in backward & tribal areas where there is no court infrastructure
- Creates a win - win situation for both parties by focus on settlement of dispute

Measures adopted to improve ADR

- ① Lok Adalat Act → to provide legal sanctity to Lok Adalats & prescribe their functioning.
- ② Tribunals — like National Green Tribunal to resolve disputes out of ~~our~~ traditional courts.
- ③ Technology → Tele law at Common Service Centre to make citizens aware of ADR options.
- ④ Sikrishna Committee — an international arbitration ~~to~~ was setup

~~ADR~~ Strengthening ADR is necessary to ~~ens~~ fulfill Art 39A of the Constitution → to provide free & equitable justice to all.

12. Success of the institutions of local self-governance depends largely on the attitude of state governments. Discuss in the context of constitutional provisions and recent experience of the working of these institutions in India. (250 Words) 15 Marks

स्थानीय स्व-शासन की संस्थाओं की सफलता मुख्य रूप से राज्य सरकारों की प्रवृत्ति पर निर्भर करती है। संवैधानिक प्रावधानों और भारत में इन संस्थानों के कामकाज संबंधी हालिया अनुभव के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।

73rd & 74th Constitutional amendment Acts provided for establishment of Panchayats in rural areas & municipalities in urban areas.

If state govt attitude → Positive

→ Then it devolves more powers (11th & 12nd Schedule) & finances to the Panchayats thereby strengthening them
Eg: In southern states like Kerala.

→ It provides for efficient working of State Election Commission & regular elections.

→ It makes local bodies important part of delivery of schemes

Eg: Municipalities leveraged by Madhya Pradesh to play key role in Swachh Bharat Abhiyan
Consequently → Indore - cleanest city.

↓ state govt attitude - negative

→ ~~Ex~~ Does not devolve appropriate finances Eg: MCD in Delhi → unable to pay its employees

→ creates ~~para~~ parallel bodies interfering in their functioning
Eg: Haryana Rural Devⁿ Agency

→ Does not effectively implement provisions of constitution Eg: District Planning Committees still not working in Gujarat

- continuously ~~to~~ enters ~~to~~ into conflict with them Eg: MCD of Delhi (vs) Delhi Court
- Does not allow proper elections Eg: violence in Samhayat elections in West Bengal

way forward

- Capacity building ~~building~~ of Samhayat members as recommended by Sumit Bose Committee
- Effective devolution of powers & performance based grants
- Technological & infrastructure support
- Behavioural change in state leaders → towards democratic decentralisation

With right state attitude, we can strengthen local governance & achieve Ambedkar's vision of Swaraj.

13. Right to freedom of religion cannot be allowed to deny right to equality and individual dignity (Discuss) in the light of constitutional provisions and recent judicial pronouncements. (250 Words) 15 Marks

धर्म की स्वतंत्रता के अधिकार को समानता और व्यक्तिगत गरिमा के अधिकार को नकारने की अनुमति नहीं दी जा सकती है। संवैधानिक प्रावधानों और हाल की न्यायिक घोषणाओं के आलोक में चर्चा कीजिए।

~~Sabar~~ Restriction of entry of women of menstruating age in Sabarimala temple sparked off a debate about right to freedom of religion vs Equality & dignity.

It ~~cannot~~ be allowed to deny equality & dignity

- Art 25 allows religious denomination to decide on its own practices
- No need of interference of govt or courts in religious matters
- Threat of riots & unrest if religious matters are interfered

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...वाणी
(दृष्ट शब्द)
कृष्ण वा विर

Right to equality & individual liberty
is supreme

- ① Art 25 cannot be used to violate Art 21 which provides each citizen right to life & personal liberty.
- ② Art 25 is subject to "reasonable restrictions" of equality & ~~of~~ public dignity of individual.
- ③ Art 25 is only applicable to "essential religious practices".
- ④ SC in Sabarimala Judgement upheld women's right to enter the temple, because Art 25 equally applies to women also i.e. women also have right to freedom of

religion -

⑤ SC said that the yardstick of morality in modern life has to be "constitutional morality" & not religious morality.

⑥ SC in Nartej Johar Case upheld rights of LGBTQ community despite opposition of religious groups.

way forward

We need to bring about behavioural change among people to uph develop rationalism & humanism in them. This can be done by value based education system.

14. Identify the key areas of reforms required in the judicial system in India. In this context, examine the significance of the idea of putting in place an All-India Judicial Service.
(250 Words) 15 Marks

भारत में न्यायिक प्रणाली में आवश्यक सुधारों के प्रमुख क्षेत्रों की पहचान कीजिए। इस संदर्भ में, एक अखिल भारतीय न्यायिक सेवा स्थापित करने के विचार के महत्व का परीक्षण कीजिए।

~~Economic Survey~~ Indian Judiciary suffers from extremely high pendency, high cost, low conviction & allegations of corruption & nepotism.

Key areas of reforms

- Appointment of judges → must be made through a transparent process like AIJS.
- Court infrastructures shall be ramped up by providing more public funds
- Use of more technology
Eg: e-courts project →
online filing of documents

- Transparency in court proceedings
by live streaming them
- Filling up of vacancies fast
as recommended by Eis Survey 19
- Promote alternate dispute
settlement like Lok Adalats
esp for backward areas
- Make tribunals more autonomous

All India Judicial Services

In this, the district judges
will be selected by an all-
India competitive examination
like that of IAS & IPS.
AJS can be created by a
special resolution passed by
Rajya Sabha.

Significance	Challenges
① Faster filling up of vacancies	① High courts authority will be eroded
② <u>Merit based</u> examination	② Language barrier for candidates from diff states
③ End of corruption & nepotism	③
④ Attract best legal talent across India	
⑤ <u>Law Commission</u> has recommended.	

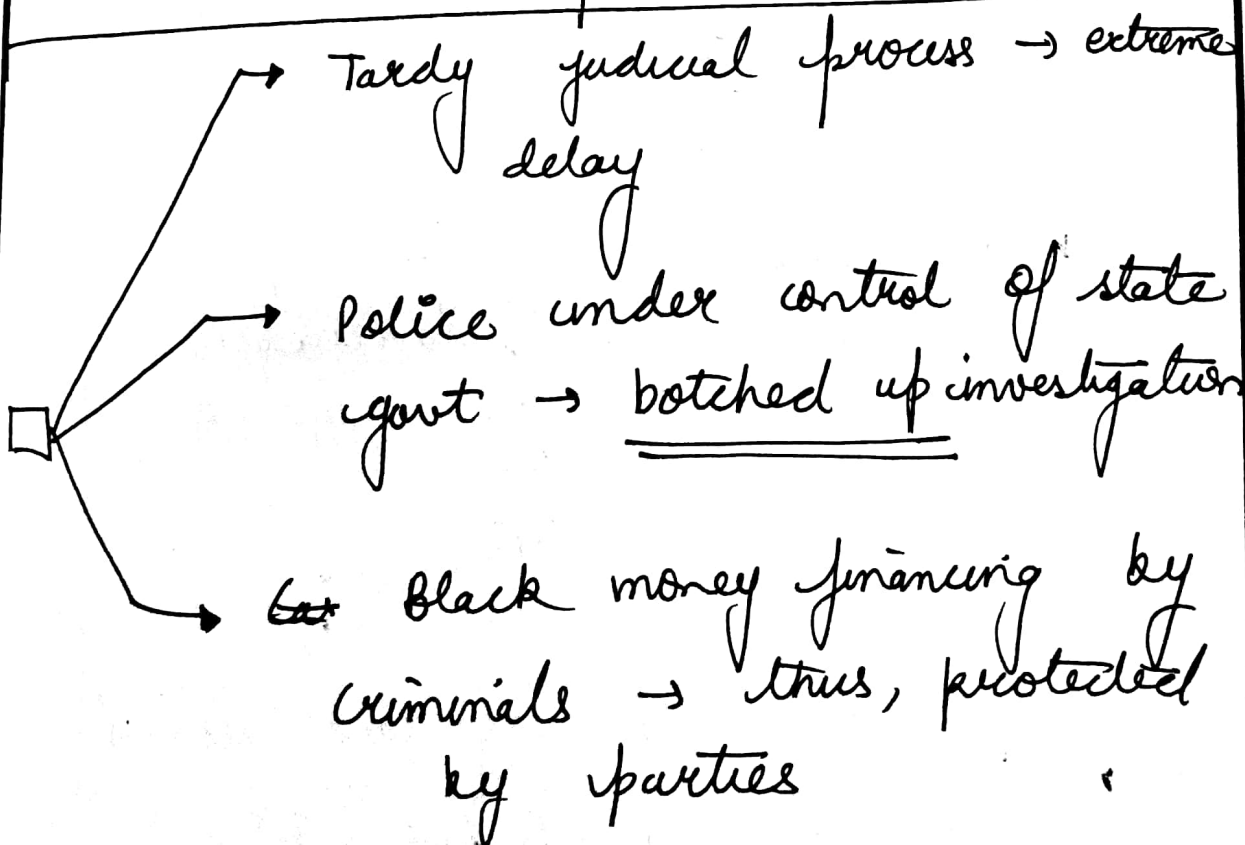
The need of the hour is to build more consensus on this issue as it has the potential to resolve significant problems of our judiciary & ensure true → "Nyaya" for all.

15. While there are existing laws for the same, substantial efforts still need to be undertaken to prohibit people with criminal antecedents from entering into politics. Discuss in context of the problem of criminalization of politics in India and resulting issues. (250 words) 15 Marks

यद्यपि इस हेतु कानून विद्यमान हैं, तथापि अपराधिक पृष्ठभूमि वाले लोगों का राजनीति में प्रवेश रोकने के लिए अभी भी काफी प्रयास किए जाने की आवश्यकता है। भारत में राजनीति के अपराधीकरण की समस्या और परिणामी मुद्दों के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।

Acc to ADR data, — % of MP's in the newly constituted Lok Sabha have pending criminal cases against them.

Failure of existing laws in preventing criminalisation of politics



Issues arising from this

- Criminals now become the law makers
- Lack of focus on development
- Corruption, nepotism & misuse of political power
Eg: Unnao Rape case
- Electoral malpractices on rise
Eg: Cash for votes
- Reliance on hate speech & communal polarisation by criminals to win election
- Opposition to reforms aimed at decriminalisation of politics

Reforms needed

- ① Disqualification of candidates against whom chargesheet has been filed in serious criminal cases.
- ② Disqualification of convicted criminals for entire life & not just 6 years.
- ③ Fast track courts to hear cases against MP's & MLA's.
- ④ Police reforms as recommended by Padmanabhaiah Committee to make it autonomous & allow it to investigate politicians effectively.
- ⑤ ~~Discourage~~ Citizen awareness so as to "nudge" them ^{not} to vote for candidates with criminal antecedents.

16. On the recent World Press Freedom Index (WPFI) India ranks 140. Elucidate the significance of media in a democracy like India. Identify the major issues affecting the media in contemporary times. In this context, enumerate the measures to address these issues. (250 Words) 15 Marks

हाल ही के विश्व प्रेस स्वतंत्रता सूचकांक (WPFI) में भारत 140वें स्थान पर है। भारत जैसे लोकतंत्र में मीडिया के महत्व को स्पष्ट कीजिए। समकालीन समय में मीडिया को प्रभावित करने वाले प्रमुख मुद्दों की पहचान कीजिए। इस संदर्भ में, इन मुद्दों का समाधान करने हेतु उपायों को सूचीबद्ध कीजिए।

Media is the 4th pillar of our democracy as it performs significant functions to strengthen it.

Significance

- Upholds freedom of speech & dissent against govt malpractices Eg: during emergency
- Brings out citizen grievances & presents it to govt
- Boosts right to information of citizen Eg: The Hindu in Rafale case revealed facts
- Uproots corruption Eg. 2G, Coal scam
- Disaster management Eg: Infor during floods

Issues

Sensationalism by media channels for TRP

Fake news & paid news especially on social media
Eg: Fake news of cow slaughter caused mob lynchings

Owned by corporates
→ conflict of interest as editors are not free

Regressive acts like Official secrets Act, Sec 124 A of IPC → curbing media freedom

Allegations of govt gagging media
Eg: In J&K
Eg: Censorship

Measures

- ① ~~Separate~~ A dedicated law on media to separate ~~at~~ owners from editors & provide editorial freedom
- ② A mechanism of citizen grievance where people can report fake news
- ③ Strong penal provisions on editors convicted of spreading paid news or hate propaganda
- ④ Review of acts to make them more liberal.
- ⑤ Uphold privacy right on social media by a data protection law
- ⑥ Mandatory disclosure of ownership details by media houses.

By these, we can strengthen the functioning of media in our country.

17. Explain why the doctrine of separation of powers is considered as an indispensable part of a democratic setup. Also, discussing this doctrine in the context of India, explain the principle of 'checks and balances'.
(250 words) 15 Marks

व्याख्या कीजिए कि शक्ति के पृथक्करण के सिद्धांत को लोकतांत्रिक व्यवस्था का एक अनिवार्य घटक क्यों माना जाता है। साथ ही, भारत के संदर्भ में इस सिद्धांत पर चर्चा करते हुए, 'नियंत्रण और संतुलन' के सिद्धांत की भी व्याख्या कीजिए।

doctrine of separation of powers propounds that the powers of executive, legislature & judiciary must be clearly demarcated & performed by separate institutions.

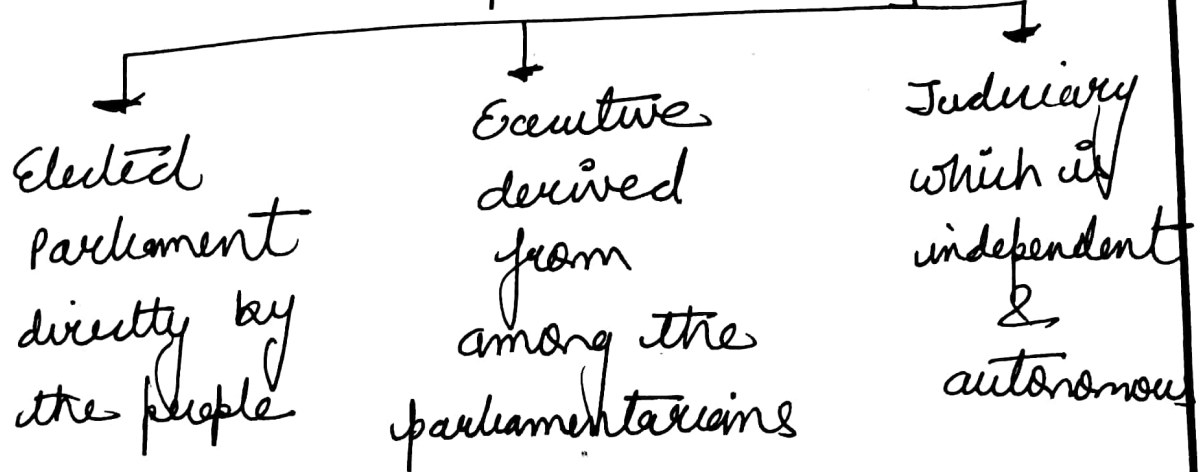
Indispensable part of democracy

- ① Ensures rule of law - ^{single} ~~a~~ person must not have all the powers which may be misused arbitrarily.
- ② Ensures appropriate checks & balances on each others powers.
- ③ checks corruption & malpractices
Eg: Judiciary convicts MPs/MLA's.

- ④ protects citizen rights from being usurped by any of the institutions
- ⑤ develops specialisation → better performance & service delivery

India

The Indian constitution provides the following separation of powers



Checks & balances

refers to the principle wherein no particular branch of govt is supreme. Each branch keeps a check on & prevents another branch

from misuse & ~~abuse~~ abuse of power.

① Parliament

controls executive via no-confidence motion, budget passing, etc

Checks judiciary by impeachment of judges

② Judiciary

checks executive by ~~uph~~ preventing violation of citizen rights Eg: Puttaswamy Judgement

- Checks parliament by electoral reforms Eg: Ban on convicted politicians
- Judicial review Eg: NJAC Act

③ Executive

~~calls~~ calls & dissolves parliament

appoints judiciary

A fine balance & cooperation among various branches of govt is required

18. Government schemes in India have long suffered from monitoring and implementation challenges. What steps have been taken by the government recently in this regard? Also discuss the potential of social audit in addressing these challenges. (250 words) 15 Marks

भारत में सरकारी योजनाएं दीर्घकाल से निगरानी और कार्यान्वयन संबंधी चुनौतियों से प्रभावित रही हैं। हाल में सरकार द्वारा इस संबंध में क्या कदम उठाए गए हैं? साथ ही इन चुनौतियों को दूर करने में सामाजिक लेखापरीक्षा की क्षमता पर भी चर्चा कीजिए।

Despite innumerable government schemes for citizen welfare, we still have a poverty rate of 22%, gender inequality, poor education & health. This is because of monitoring & implementation challenges.

Steps Taken

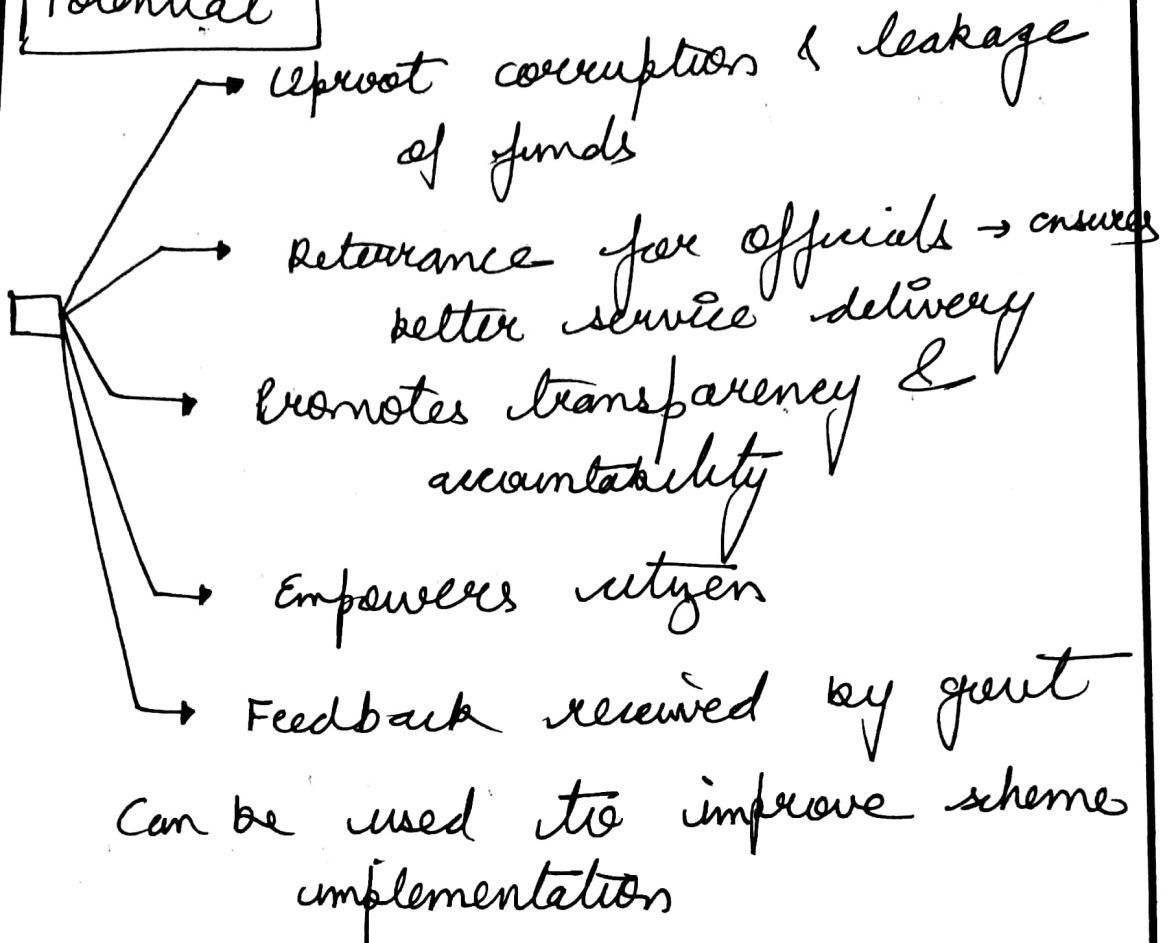
Monitoring	Implementation
<p>① Autom <u>Autom</u> <u>Automa</u> based budgeting → to establish clear targets</p> <p>② Online portals to monitor scheme progress <u>Eg: Sarva <u>Sarva</u></u> public finance mgt system</p>	<p>① Use of technology <u>Eg: PBT <u>Aadhar</u></u> based PBT for better service delivery</p> <p>② Focused on convergence of schemes in</p>

- ③ Mandatory social audit in schemes like MGNREGA
- ④ ~~For~~ Review of schemes by independent agencies
Eg: ~~Swachh Survekshan~~ by quality Council of India
- ⑤ PRAGATI portal
↓
PM directly reviews & monitors
- 115 aspirational districts
- ③ Decentralised implementation
Eg: Involvement of Panchayats in POSHAN Abhiyan
- ④ Skill building of govt. personnel like Anganwadis & ASHA workers

Social Audit

Social audit refers to the process of verifying the claims of the govt (in terms of beneficiaries, benefit received, etc) by ~~not~~ civil society & beneficiaries themselves

Potential



Way forward

- ① Bring a dedicated social audit law Eg: Meghalaya social audit law
- ② Capacity building of citizens & civil society to conduct social audit
- ③ Behavioural change among officials to be more transparent & accountable

19. In the context of recent concerns related to functioning of NGOs in India, discuss the need for self-regulatory guidelines and transparency mechanisms to restore the credibility of voluntary organisations. (250 words) 15 Marks

भारत में NGOs के कार्यकरण से संबंधित हाल की चिंताओं के संदर्भ में, स्वैच्छिक संगठनों की विश्वसनीयता को पुनर्स्थापित करने के लिए स्व-नियामकीय दिशा-निर्देशों और पारदर्शिता तंत्रों की आवश्यकता पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Recently, Ministry of Home Affairs ~~has~~ cancelled the licenses of a more than 20000 NGO's for failure to file return for several years.

Concerns with NGO's

- Lack of transparency in their funding especially foreign funding
- allegations of running foreign agenda & hampering development in India Eg: On Greenpeace
- Non compliance with regulatory provisions Eg: ~~For~~ Non filing of returns

- Sewing as channels of money laundering
- Undemocratic functioning → NRO's controlled by boards where activists have little say

Need for self regulatory guidelines

- ① To avoid excessive government intervention in their functioning
- ② To bring in transparency & accountability in their funding
- ③ To make them function in a democratic & inclusive manner.
- ④ To make them responsible for ~~complying~~ complying with necessary regulations.

Transparency mechanism

- ① disclosure of their ~~or~~ membership status & directors
- ② disclosure of their (a) source of funding
(b) Areas of expenditure
- ③ Social audit of NCO's themselves by people.

NCO's play a critical role in the welfare of the poor, environmental protection & fighting for citizen's rights. But reforms are needed to make them ~~and~~ more credible. Thus, (a) dedicated law to regulate them (b) Easy compliance mechanism (c) Independent institutional framework for regulation is required.

VISION IAS

20. Focusing on technology without realizing that e-Governance is basically about ushering reforms in governance has meant that the potential of e-governance has not been realized. Discussing the statement, suggest what should be done to address this situation. (250 words) 15 Marks

ई-गवर्नेंस मूलतः शासन में सुधारों का सूत्रपात करने के लिए है, यह समझे बिना प्रौद्योगिकी पर ध्यान केंद्रित करने का अर्थ यह हुआ कि ई-गवर्नेंस की क्षमता का दोहन नहीं हो पाया है। इस कथन पर चर्चा करते हुए, सुझाव दीजिए कि इस स्थिति से निपटने हेतु क्या किया जाना चाहिए।

e-governance refers to the use of technology by the government for its functioning as well as for public service delivery.

Unrealised potential of e-governance

① ~~Addition~~ Adoption of new technology without necessary capacity building of govt staff → ineffective

② Overfocus on technology → without citizen awareness & realising practical problems → leads to poor public service delivery [Eg.]
Failure of biometric authentication

in Aadhar based PDS system .

- ③ Behavioural change in govt employees not carried out → find ~~so~~ loopholes in e-gov technologies & carry on corruption .
- ④ Govt process & procedures → not updated → lead to delays even in e-gov online applications .
- ⑤ Poor digital infrastructure in rural areas → Lack of access to e-governance initiatives
- ⑥ Lack of inclusivity ~~in~~ & citizen participation in e-governance reforms → leads to problems like language barrier where e-gov websites are not compliant with regional languages

Measures

- Capacity building of govt staff in e-governance
- Re-engineer govt processes to suitable to e-governance initiatives as recommended by 2nd ARC
- Provide digital infrastructure & digital literacy in rural areas
- Ensure cybersecurity
- Behavioural change & sensitisation of officials + Awareness among citizens

e-governance thus can be leveraged to provide convenient & responsive governance to all