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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1418)

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Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	257547
Center	Online	Date	17/12/2020

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	
10	10	
11	15	
12	15	
13	15	
14	15	
15	15	
16	15	
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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. Discuss the need to strengthen the National Commission for Scheduled Castes to tackle the problems faced by the Scheduled Castes in India.

(150 words) 10

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

National Commission for Scheduled Castes (Art. 338) is a body looking after the interests of one of the most vulnerable social groups in India. Though original constitution had only provided for one commissioner, with time it has evolved into a multi-member body (5).

Its major functions include :

- ① Checking sufficiency of constitutional safeguards provided for SCs.
- ② Suggesting policy formulations
- ③ Looking into complaints of violations of constitutional & legal safeguards.

It has been successful in safeguarding the interests of SC in many fields :

- ① Bhanwari Devi rape case
- ② Instrumental behind legal provisions for banning manual scavenging (2013 Act)

③ Rescuing bonded labourers from Gujarat

However, the recent Nathwas rape case signifies the lack of wide-scale deterrence against crimes related to SCs.

Thus, there is a need to make NESC an even more powerful body :-

- ① It lacks independent budgetary power, required to maintain its autonomy
- ② The appointment process has largely been bureaucratised, leading to lack of expertise in the body
- ③ Lack of investigative staff, making its tasks tedious
- ④ It has only recommendatory powers, & can't punish the accused.

Thus, there is a need for more vibrant, responsive & strong NESC.

2. Does the Representation of People's Act ensure an effective mechanism against criminalization of politics in India? Discuss. (150 words) 10
क्या लोक प्रतिनिधित्व अधिनियम भारत में राजनीति के अपराधीकरण के विरुद्ध एक प्रभावी तंत्र सुनिश्चित करता है? चर्चा कीजिए।

RPA, 1951 deals with all the matters related to elections in India, a task most important for a vibrant democracy.

Section 8 of RPA debar any person convicted for more than 2 years from contesting elections. Apart from this, it also prohibits several morally significant crimes like dowry, untouchability, etc.

However, there have always been loopholes in the law, that the political parties use to pursue the interests of candidates with criminal backgrounds. The presence of 43% MPs with criminal records prove this point. Some of these are:

- ① It made distinction between sitting MPs / MLAs & the contesting persons. However, SC in Lily Thomas Case

nullified this distinction

- ② It allows a detrained person to contest the elections, despite him being unable to vote.

(Jan Chowkidar case)

- ③ It has not been able to check nexus between muscle & money power, making Indian elections one of the most expensive in the world.

Thus, there is a need to make this law more inclusive, updated & stringent, so that it can deter the criminals from entering politics. Legalising MCC & giving ECI power to deregister political parties can be a better ways to stop criminalisation of politics

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

Recently, SC instructed all the states to set-up Gram Nyayalayas, in accordance with Gram Nyayalaya Act, 2008. This order came in background of the fact that ~~so~~ only 200 GNs have been set up in past 10 years as against expected 5000.

- * GRAM NYAYALAYAS : ○ Set up by state govt. in consultation with state HC
- Presiding officer = Judicial magistrate of first class
 - Mobils courts at intermediate level
 - Deals with both civil & criminal cases
 - Not bound by rules of evidence & follow principle of natural justice

- * CHALLENGES ⇒ ○ Lack of funds :
Though govt provides 20L per each,

they have either been insufficient or often misutilised

- ② Lack of functionaries : Not many lawyers, notary or officials want to work in rural areas
- ③ Non-uniform jurisdiction : Each state delineates their jurisdiction in the executive order, and hence there is inconsistency of both the procedures as well as judicial jurisdiction.

In order to fulfill the DRP 39A for providing free legal aid to every citizen, there is a need to empower & mainstream GLNs.

- * WAY FORWARD :
- ① Separate budget
 - ② Effective monitoring process
 - ③ Separate judicial cadre
 - ④ Spreading awareness among common people

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

(150 words) 10

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

Decision-making forms the core of Governance in any country. The efficiency, effectiveness & responsiveness of a government can be gauged by its quality of decisions.

India, for most part of its post-independence existence, followed a centralized decision-making policy. However, this not only resulted into wasteful use of resources, but even turned authoritarian after some point, e.g. Indira Gandhi's forced family control measures.

Thus, the country has evolved several ALTERNATIVE decision-making approaches, depending upon the demand of tasks:

- ① Local Self - govt : decentralising & devolving authority to local representatives having grass-root level knowledge
- ② Community DM : Gram Sabha in V scheduled areas are empowered to decide on minor forest, water & mineral resources
- ③ Committee DM : Parliamentary committees provides an efficient & responsive mechanism for effective legislations & budgetary controls
- ④ Clowd - group DM : Some tasks requiring secrecy & expertise are often dealt within elite circles.
Ex → NSA, PMO, etc.

Hence, decision-making in a diverse country like India is bound to be diverse for good governance.

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

Democracy is a government by the people, for the people & of the people.

However, the existence of this system depends upon an elite machinery: the bureaucracy. Such is the paradoxical relationship between these two.

- * COMPLEMENTARY :
- ① People's representatives formulate policies, bureaucrats implement them
 - ② Democracy can lead to chaos due to popular participation, bureaucracy helps in maintaining law & order
 - ③ Democracy is all about transition of power on the whims of people, bureaucracy provides a continuation in administration
 - ④ Representatives often have popular ^{mandate} but lacks expertise, which is provided

by the bureaucracy

- * PARADOXICAL :
- ① Democratic representatives often seek to undermine bureaucracy to further their political interests
 - ② Transfers, disciplinary proceedings, etc. are used as means to punish bureaucrats seen to be belligerent
 - ③ Bureaucracy, being the strongest interest group in India, often seeks to further its interests at the cost of people
 - ④ The relationship between people & bureaucrats is hardly one of service-provider, but rather that of personal despotism.

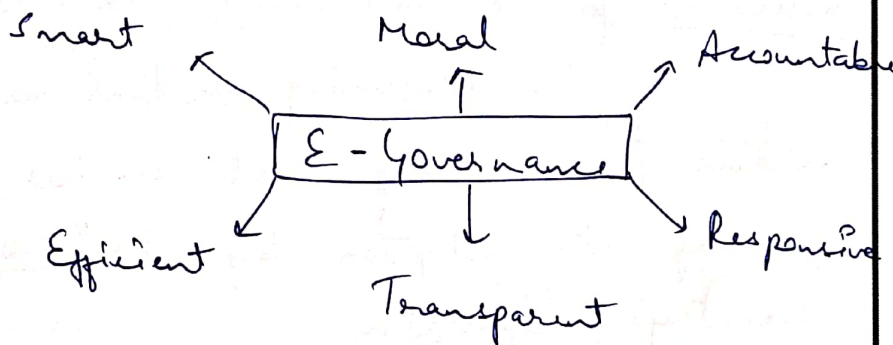
There is a need to strengthen 'Steel frame of India' so as to preserve the largest democracy in the world.

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

E-governance refers to reinventing
& reimagining governmental
processes through the use of ICT.

— II A/c

*



* Transferring Govt.

- ① Direct citizen connect. Ex → CPGRAMS
to handle citizen grievances
- ② Door-step service delivery. Ex → e-PDS
in Delhi
- ③ All-time accessible, anywhere available
governance. Ex → Land records

modernization process, helping people to access them any time, anywhere.

- ① No discretion, No corruption. Ex → CSC
reducing citizen-facing nature of bureaucracy, helping in reducing corruption & delays.

* PEOPLE'S PARTICIPATION

- ① Preference for e-governance. Ex → People preparing Aadhar as a means for accessing govt. services, showing its adoption by 95% of country's adult population
- ② Reaching all strata of society. Ex → Farmers selling their produce through e-NAM
- ③ Success of PM - Jan Dhan Yojana, giving a boost to e-banking

Thus, good governance rests on two pillars of citizen's participation & govt's responsiveness, and e-governance is acting as a bridge

7. The Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act 2019 dilutes the spirit of Supreme Court's NALSA judgement towards self-determination of gender. Discuss. (150 words) 10

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

Govt. has recently passed Transgender Persons Act, 2019, providing many socio-cultural rights & medical benefits for transgenders. Ex → right to reside in a shared household, or the provision for separate ~~was~~ facilities for them in hospitals.

However, one provision has attracted significant public scrutiny : the District - Magistrate will issue a certificate to the transgender person certifying his/her preferred gender

But this goes against the spirit of NALSA judgement, where the SC has given everyone a right to identify their gender, irrespective of the gender assigned to them on birth.

This provision of the Act has some egregious limitations like:

- ① Taking away a legal right for self-determination
- ② Concentration of authority in one person
- ③ Repeated needs to get the certificate after every sex-reassignment surgery

Thus, it will make the whole process bureaucratised, and will also deprive transgenders of their right to Equality (Art. 14). If no hetero-person needs sex certificate for ~~ground~~ claiming social benefits, asking one from transgenders is a blatant discrimination against an already marginalised community

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

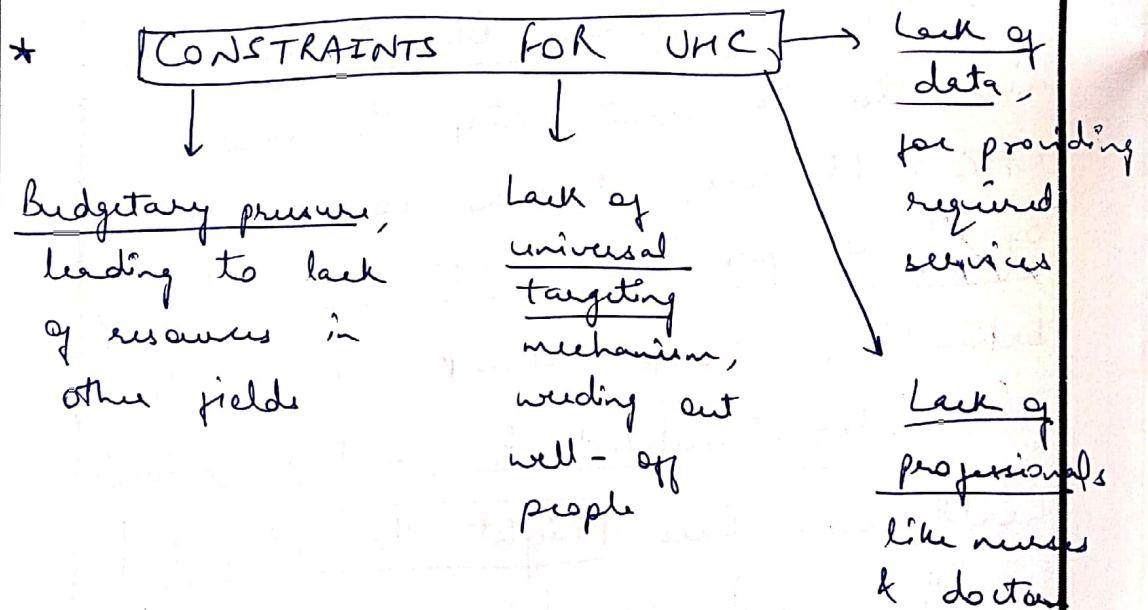
स्वास्थ्य के अधिकार को एक मूल अधिकार घोषित करके सार्वभौमिक स्वास्थ्य कवरेज के सार्थक लक्ष्य को प्राप्त किया जा सकता है। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

WHO defines universal health coverage as the provisions making sure that everyone has access to effective, affordable & quality healthcare, needed to live a productive and active life.

In India, Ayushman Bharat can be said to be first step towards UHC. However, it only covers 33% of total population (130 cr), leaving behind a large chunk of people for sub-standard & costly private healthcare. Thus, Right to Health is the need of hour because:

- ① Instrumental for fulfilling right to life & dignity (Art. 21)
- ② Education is already a fundamental right

- ③ India is a welfare state, and investing in its human resources is important for taking advantage of its demographic dividend
- ④ Every year, 7% population is pushed BPL due to out-of-pocket expenditure
- ⑤ APSP make it imperative for striving towards health & well-being of people



India needs to progressively work towards UHC if it wants to emerge as a skill capital of the world, as well as a global superpower.

9. Indian Diaspora in the Gulf countries is an asset beset with multiple challenges. Comment.

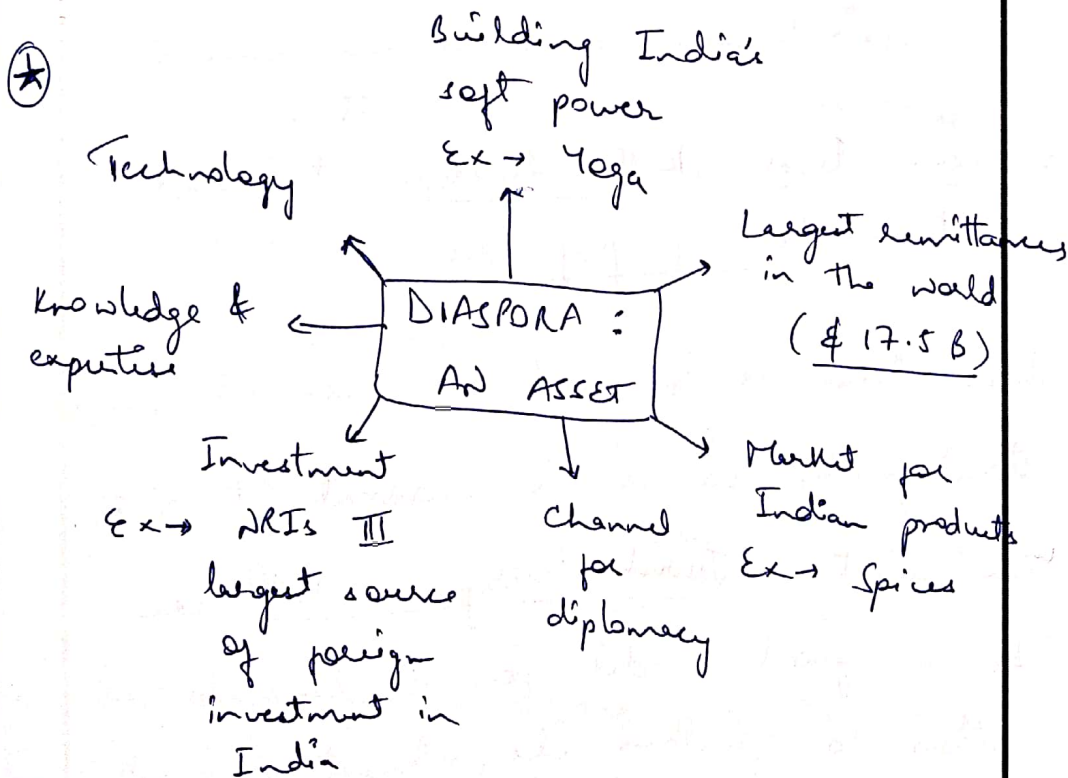
(150 words) 10

खाड़ी देशों में भारतीय डायस्पोरा अनेक चुनौतियों से घिरी एक परिसंपत्ति है। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

India has the largest diaspora among all the countries of the world (17.5M)

— UN World Migration Report 2019

Out of this, the biggest chunk goes to Gulf, especially countries like UAE, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, etc. They not only send back home remittances, but are also a source of India's cultural power.



* CHALLENGES

- ① Unstable political conditions.
India had to evacuate its citizens from Yemen due to ongoing civil war in 2018
- ② Domestic laws discriminating against migrant workers
Ex → NITAGAT system (SA)
- ③ Anti-migrant sentiments world over
- ④ Rising extremism.
They often transmit radical ideas back home. Ex → Kerala recruits in ISIS
- ⑤ Low-level skill development, and thus low-paying jobs

Thus, there is a need to use diaspora strategically so as to convert it into an asset. Jewish lobby in USA can be a good model for India to follow to further its interest in

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 Program is a member of UN Developmental group, with its headquarters in Rome. It has been taking care of supplying food to hunger-stricken areas for past many decades.

Its genesis lies in the observations made by Thun - FAO chief about the conditions of poverty & hunger world over in general, and war-affected areas in particular.

Thus, FAO, UN & IFAD came together in 1960s to launch WFP : world's largest humanitarian organisation now. Its major objectives are :

- ① To aim for achieving SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) by 2030.

- ② To provide food aid to people suffering from poverty world over
- ③ To deal with micronutrient deficiency, i.e., hidden hunger

* INDIA & WFP

- ① India's Mid-day meal programme is world's biggest school nutrition program. WFP is playing an important role in its implementation.
- ② Campaigning for food-participation so as to deal with hidden hunger
- ③ Providing relief in drought & famine stricken areas. Ex → Orissa's Kalahandi district
- ④ Helped during large-scale disasters. Ex → Kuala floods (2006)

Recently, WFP received Nobel Peace Prize 2020 for its unstoppable pursuit towards human well-being, marking its pivotal role in fighting hunger.

11. Action against civil society groups is seen as shrinking space for dissent by some while others point out to the imperatives of merit based action against certain groups. Examine with examples. (250 words) 15
- कुछ लोगों द्वारा नागरिक समाज समूहों के विरुद्ध कार्रवाई को असहमति के लिए कम होती स्वीकार्यता के रूप में देखा जाता है, जबकि अन्य लोग कतिपय समूहों के विरुद्ध गुणावगुण आधारित कार्रवाई की अनिवार्यता की ओर इंगित करते हैं। उदाहरण सहित परीक्षण कीजिए।

The Press Freedom Index 2019 had ranked India among bottom-most bucket, even behind areas like Sudan & Yemen. This shows the global outlook against the civil society curbs being placed in India.

Due to Art. 370 abrogation, internet shutdowns remained in place for most part of the year. The detention of CAA - NRC activists under UAPA, 1967 attracted global outcry. The killing of journalists like Gauri Lankesh or their detention for being Urban Naxals added to the long list of such actions. The cherry on the top is new FCRA rules, leading to shutting down of many humanitarian org. like Amnesty International.

* SHRINKING SPACE FOR DISSENT

- ① Against freedom of speech & expression - (A.19)
- ② Recently, ^{keels} HC ruled that internet is a fundamental right for realization of all other rights.
- ③ Atmosphere of fear, leading to retreat of civil society.
- ④ Government taking advantage of COVID to get bills passed in the Parliament without proper deliberation. This is giving rise to new movements. Ex → Farmers' movement against recent farm bills.

* MERIT BASED ACTION AGAINST MISCREANTS

- ① Maintaining law & order is a sovereign function. Thus, govt. had to take action against people.

harming public property. Ex → CAA - NRC protests

② JAPA, 1967 necessary to deal with anti-national elements. Also, there are strong checks & balances, thus no misuse.

③ FRs can't be entertained at the cost of other people's FRs.

For ex → Sheheen Bagh protests were clashing with fundamental right of movement (A. 19) of other common people.

Thus, it can be safely said that Indian democracy has sufficient checks to prevent misuse of power. Curbs are necessary to maintain an orderly existence.

However, govt. needs to indulge more with civil society org. so as to alleviate their pain & make them useful partners in the governance of the country.

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

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

PMO was setup in 1964 under Lal

Bahadur Shastri's administration.

Starting as the PM's administrative office, it slowly acquired life & blood of its own.

The credit for making PMO the powerful institution it is today goes to Indira Gandhi, who believed in personal oversight of the administration. Later due to coalition politics, its importance increased even more. However, it got a new shot of life during Modi govt, due to his maxim of 'Minimum govt, Maximum governance'.

* PMO as a multi-faceted player

- ① Getting best officers from all depts. to oversee functioning of all the ministries
- ② Even the NSA reports to PMO
- ③ Nuclear command & control authority placed under it
- ④ Major defence decisions. Ex → Uri & Balakot strike
- ⑤ Major foreign policy decisions, by appointing envoys on diff. regions or matters. Ex → Summit diplomacy a brainchild of PMO
- ⑥ Oversight mechanism extended upto state level. Ex → PRAGATI portal

* IMPLICATIONS :-

- ① Turf wars between various ministries & PMO
- ② Friction between centre & state machineries

- ③ Emergence as parallel decision-making centre.
- ④ No legal or constitutional mandate.
- ⑤ This ambiguity helps it in extending its jurisdiction as per the contingencies of the time. However, once extended, it's difficult to roll back.
- ⑥ Tendencies towards authoritarianism.

Hence, it is said that PMs should paddle governance-ship, rather than steering it through ^{administrative} enter-_{machinery}.

There needs to be sufficient balance between diff. ministries & the PM.

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

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

In the words of Bhikhu Parekh,
"India is a case of judicial
co-governance." Though the constitution
has maintained separation of powers,
Art. 142 gives the judiciary powers
to do complete justice.

Judiciary in India has
given many significant judgements to
maintain accountability in governance

- ① Social audit of MNRGA
- ② ~~R~~ CBI to be an independent org.
and not Centre's 'Caged Parrot'
- ③ NRC in Assam
- ④ RTI judgement
- ⑤ Cancelling coal-black allocation &
pushing for better auction mechanism.

Also, it has mainstreamed HR jurisprudence by enunciating following principles:

- ① Right to privacy (~~HR~~ Kirtaswamy case)
- ② Right to internet (Shirin Fatima v/s Kerala)
- ③ Right to environment (Enviro-legal authority of India v/s UoI)
- ④ Encounter - killings in Hashimpura massacre

Hence, judiciary has helped in plugging loopholes which existed due to faulty legislative or executive processes.

It not only strengthened people's trust in the government, but also acted as a check on other two organs of the government.

However, this is not without 'its own share of problems' like:

- ① Judicial activism turning into judicial adventurism
- ② Often seen as perpetuating 'itself' at the cost of other two organs of govt.
- ③ Of all the organs of govt, judiciary is least accountable & transparent. Thus, 'it can't propound theories' it doesn't follow 'itself'
- ④ Against separation of powers
- ⑤ Leads to rise in PILs, causing burden over already stretched courts.

Thus, there is a need to lay down proper standards of judicial activism, so that 'it doesn't turn into judicial overreach.'

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

न्यायालय की अवमानना के लिए दंडित करने की शक्ति न्याय के प्रशासन के लिए आवश्यक है।
समालोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Under Art. 129 & 215, the Constitution has provided for power of contempt to SC & HCs respectively.

Though the constitution doesn't explicitly define contempt, it's defined in the Contempt of Courts Act, 1971 as follows :

- ① **Civil** : Contravention of court's orders wilfully. Ex → not appearing in the court even after summons are issued
- ② **Criminal** : Obstruction of justice, or judicial process in any manner. It also includes activities which slanders court's authority

* IMPORTANCE OF CONTEMPT POWERS

- ① Upholds the sanctity of the court
- ② Helps in smooth administration of justice
- ③ Maintains people's trust in judiciary
- ④ Necessary to get executive follow its orders, by threatening them for its contempt.

However, in recent times, it has increasingly come under scuder for being 'excessive, colonial-era & redundant' in a democratic country like India.

The reasons for its redundancy are:-

- ① Modelled on British-era laws, when Britain itself has repealed it
- ② Against freedom of speech (A619)
- ③ Very wide & ambiguous provisions, may result into unprincipled application

- ④ Reason for conflict between judiciary & executive
- ⑤ Even Law Commission in its report recommended to repeal it

In the words of Justice Ravindran,
"Judges, like other people, can't demand respect. They have to earn it"

Thus, there is a need to reform this law as per present times & lay down written rules for its objective application.

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.

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

(250 words) 15

Custodial violence means torture, rape, death, etc. happening in police or judicial custody. In India, it accounts for 75% of custodial deaths.

⊛ Legal Concerns Associated

① Against right to life & dignity
 (A. 21)

② Against Human rights, while UDHR explicitly prohibits inhuman torture & India is a signatory to it

③ Lack of evidence, and consequently, data

④ Lack of witnesses

⑤ Very low conviction rate due to systematic bias in favour of accused policemen

* CHALLENGES IN CURBING CUSTODIAL VIOLENCE

- ① Often goes unreported due to family being afraid of further victimisation
- ② No compulsory medical examination, thus hard to prove its existence
- ③ Lack of witnesses & evidence made the process practically immune from trial.
- ④ Citizens can't sue the policemen responsible for such incident, only govt. has such powers
- ⑤ Culture of police high-handedness in India
- ⑥ People glorify such instant justice.

* ADDRESSING THIS ISSUE

- ① Ratify the UN convention against Torture & make it into a law as early as possible

- ② Lay down proper standards for police accountability
- ③ Set up Police Complaints Authority
(Parkash Singh Judgement)
- ④ Follow due process during arrest & custody. Ex → informing next of kin, medical examination, etc.
(DK ~~Madhwa~~ ^{base} judgement)
- ⑤ Ensure swift trial & effective justice in such case so as to set a precedent.

Hence, police needs to be transformed into a state agency to a service agency. Policemen need proper HR training as well as professional training for dealing with accused persons better.

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

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

According to II ARC,

$$\text{Monopoly} + \text{Discretion} - \text{Accountability} = \text{Corruption}$$

Thus, accountability is the only balancer in governance process, in order to keep it legitimate & honest.

Civil society has played an important role in maintaining this accountability.

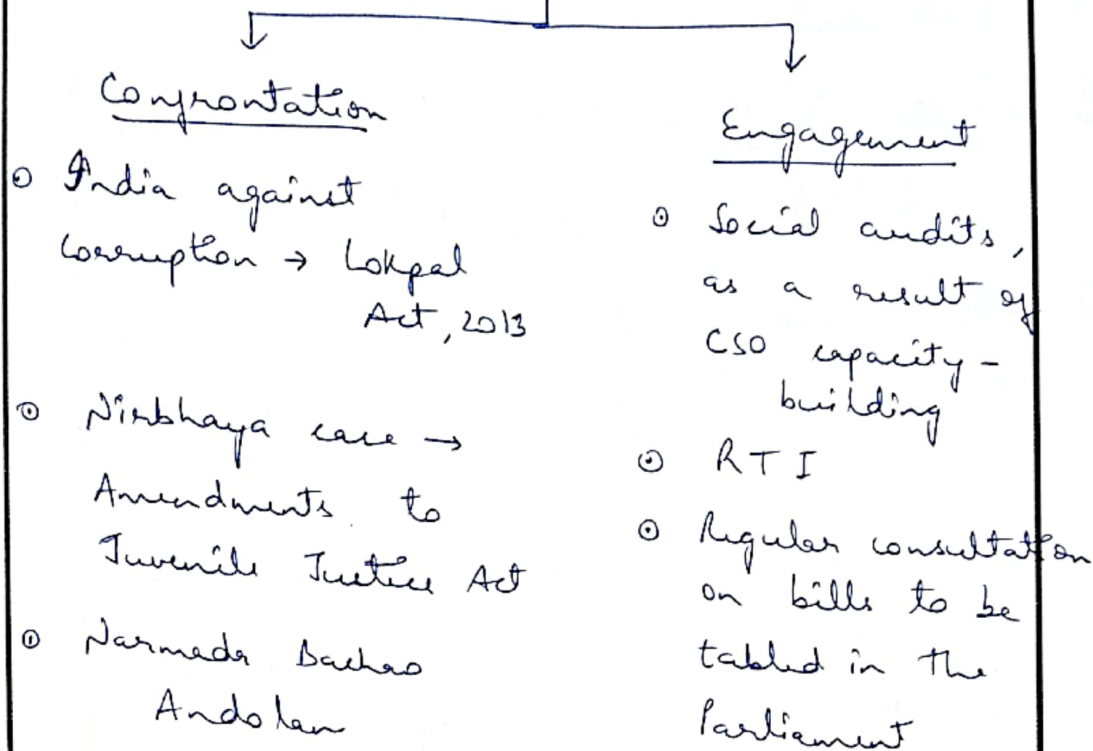
Be it the Mazdoor Kisan Sangharsh

Samite which is ultimately brought

RTI or the Association for Democratic

Reforms for electoral transparency, Civil society organisations (CSOs) have played a crucial role.

* Civil society interventions



* Role in ushering Transparency & Accountability

- ① E-governance made govt. programmes, policies & results available online, for everyone to see
- ② Major initiatives like Right to Education, Right to privacy on CSO initiatives

- ③ Citizen's charters, as a result of CSO demanding accountability
- ④ Assets & liabilities of MPs & MLAs
(ADK v/s UoI case)
- ⑤ DBT, banking with SMS, etc. Helping in people gauging financial accountability

Thus, civil society & govt. acts as two aspects of the same coin; without one, other can't exist.

In India, there has been exemplary interaction between two, leading to a flourishing, yet accountable, govt.

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

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

Recent World Hunger Report has placed India at 94th position, even below its neighbours like Pakistan & Bangladesh. Being one of the largest agri. producers, this situation is nothing less than a paradox.

* The Plentiness

- ① Largest producer of fruits, vegetables etc.
- ② II largest producer of rice & wheat
- ③ Largest producer of pulses
- ④ Major population living in rural areas & directly dependent upon agriculture. Thus, no access issues
- ⑤ Govt. godowns overflowing with food-grains (FCI report)
- ⑥ Initiatives like Mid-day meal &

★ The face of scarcity

- ① One-third of its population goes hungry every day.
- ② 273M people living BPL
- ③ Wasting of children = 20%.
Stunting of children = 38%.
- ④ 50% women anaemic
- ⑤ Widely prevalent situation of micronutrient deficiency (Hidden hunger)

Thus, India represents a paradoxical situation where food banks & hungry population lie side-by-side, but are not joined. Govt, as the bridge between these two, has largely failed to put an end to hunger as well as malnutrition.

* Ways to address hunger

- ① Effective implementation of PDS.
One nation, one ration card scheme
is a right step
- ② Efficient targeting so as not to leave anyone behind. Ex → Aadhar
- ③ Food fortification for hidden hunger
- ④ Promoting local home-grown food.
- ⑤ Implementation of PDS, MDM, etc. alongwith proper monitoring
- ⑥ Involving civil society organisations like WFP, Akshaypatra foundation, etc.

Also, there is a need to spread awareness among people for right nutrition strategies. In order to achieve SDG-2, multi-sectoral approach is the need of the hour

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

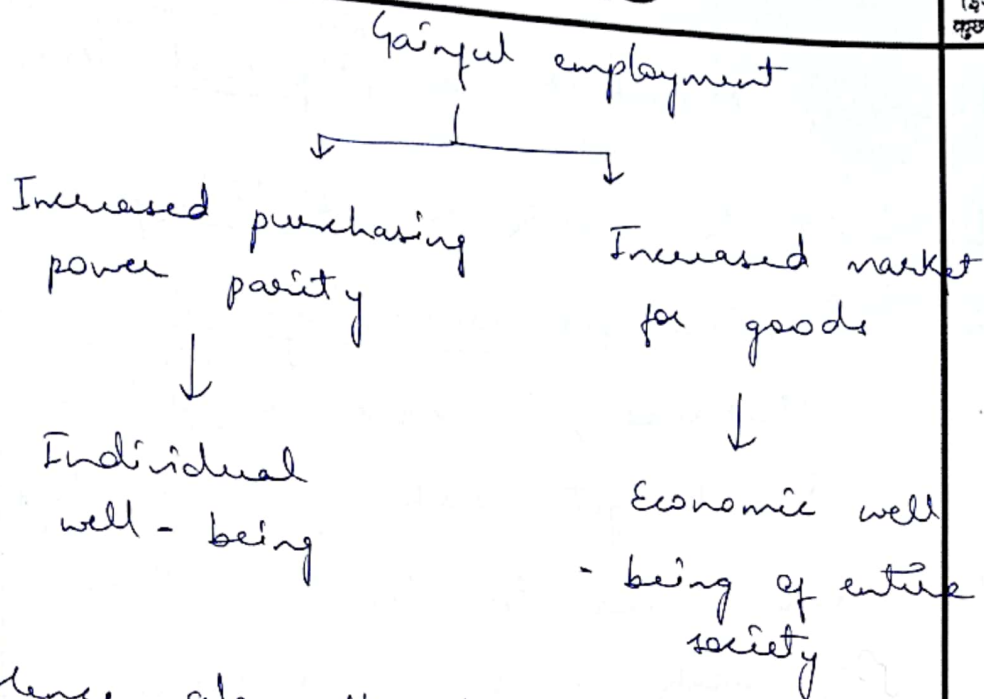
निर्धनता उन्मूलन में मजदूरी रोजगार की क्या भूमिका है? मनरेगा (MGNREGA) भारत में पहले के मजदूरी रोजगार कार्यक्रमों से कैसे भिन्न है?

With SC expanding Right to Work as a basic fundamental right, Govt. of India brought MGNREGA as a statutory wage employment programme.

Beginning from 2005, it has made sure that wage employment become a mainstream policy objective

* WAGE EMPLOYMENT & POVERTY ALLEVIATION

- 273 M people in India living below poverty line
- No matter how much debt govt. gives out, wage employment is the only sustainable option
- It helps people get gainful employment



Hence, along with basic human needs like Edu. & healthcare, wage employment is equally important for leading a fulfilling life.

* Wage employment ^{program} in India began from 1975, when India's government brought food-for-work programmes.

However, it was soon scrapped due to WTO conventions, in order to prevent market distortion. Later on, various other programmes like Swarnajyanti Gram Rozgar Yojana were launched.

However, MGNREGA is different because:

- ① Right to work as statutory right
- ② Provision for unemployment allowance, in case a ^{willing} person doesn't get work for 15 days
- ③ Gram Sabha to decide nature of work to be undertaken. Thus, effective decentralisation
- ④ 33% reservation for women

Hence, MGNREGA is a good step in right direction to put India out of middle-income trap.

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

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

(250 words) 15

Pt. Nehru used to call China as India's closest friend, giving the slogan 'Hindi Chini Bhai Bhai'. However, 1962 war caught him off-guard. Since then, the relationship has been equally paradoxical.

While Summit diplomacy between PM Modi & President Xi Jinping took place twice in Wuhan & Mamallapuram, Chinese incursions never really stopped. Post-Doklam, China is now laying its claim to Galwan Valley.

And not only India, all other countries of both - & Southeast - Asia are feeling the weight of Chinese rise. Ex → South China Sea conflicts, Senkaku island conflict, etc

* CHALLENGES

- ① Compromising India's borders in North & Northeast.
- ② Colluding with Pak through CPEC
- ③ String of pearls strategy to encircle India in maritime sphere
- ④ Presence in almost all international forums. Ex → UNSC permanent seat
- ⑤ Creating new international institutions.
Ex → AIIB, SCO, NDB, etc.
- ⑥ Threat of Chinese hegemony
- ⑦ Rise of two global powers in one continent, i.e., Asia might result into new - Europe

* OPPORTUNITIES

- ① Strengthening its military & intelligence infrastructure
- ② Going for harmonious relations

with neighbours to balance China

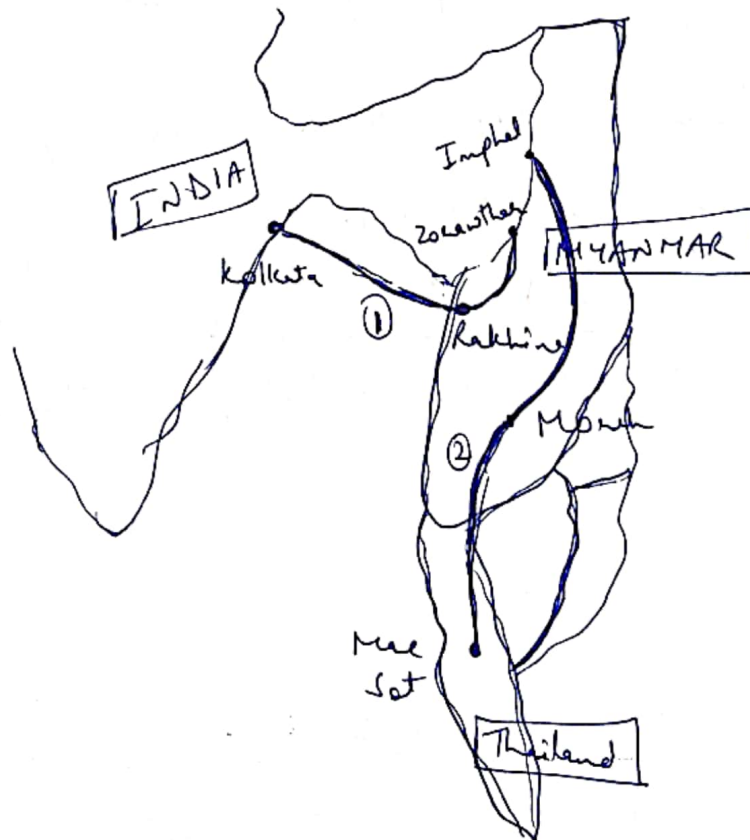
- ③ Balancing China in Indo-Pacific through QUAD: a grouping of India, Australia, Japan & USA
- ④ Allying strategically with US to balance both Pak & China
- ⑤ Emerge as responsible global power in contrast with high-handed approach of China.
Ex → Hongkong & Taiwan crisis

Thus, every challenge is equally an opportunity. India only needs to tread strategically on this path to counterbalance China.

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

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

South Asia inter-regional trade is only 5% of its total trade. Hence, it is often said that ~~the~~ South Asia is world's least integrated region & India is world's least integrated regional hegemon.



* INITIATIVES FOR TRADE

- ① SAPTA : 0 In existence since 1990s
 - ① ~~No~~ sensitive list approach
- ② SAFTA : 0 Was supposed to come into existence from 2016
 - ① Inconclusive now due to Uri attacks
- ③ India largest partner of Sri Lanka & Bangladesh
- ④ India - Nepal & India - Myanmar having free movement regime

* INITIATIVES FOR CONNECTIVITY

- ① Joining Kolkata to Rakhine Port, and further to Mrohan
- ② IMT Highway, joining S. Asia & SE - Asia
- ③ India provide part connectivity to both Nepal & Bhutan

* Challenges

- ① No link between Pak & India,
& consequently entire S-Asia
- ② Poor air connectivity
- ③ Road & railway infrastructure practically
non-existent in Northeast India
- ④ Afghanistan largely cut-off due
to hilly terrain, while most of
Sri-Lanka trade is maritime only.
- ⑤ Lack of complementarity due to
largely similar geography

In today's world of economic inter-dependence, trade is a means for both peace & prosperity. Thus, S-Asia needs to give it its due share of concern on an urgent basis.