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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1523)

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Medium Eng./Hindi	ENGLISH	Registration Number	799194
Center		Date	10/12/2020

INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTIONS
Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained	
1	10		1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code). उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)। 2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं। 3. All questions are compulsory. सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं। 4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं। 5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other than the authorized one. प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे। 6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए। 7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off. उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।
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Total Marks Obtained:			
Remarks:			

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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. Enumerate the issues associated with functioning of the Central Information Commission. How can these issues be addressed?

(150 words) 10

केंद्रीय सूचना आयोग की कार्य प्रणाली से संबद्ध मुद्दों को सूचीबद्ध कीजिए। इन मुद्दों का कैसे समाधान किया जा सकता है?

Recent amendments to the RTI Act 2005 bring to limelight the issues associated with the functioning of CIC.

* Issues:

- (1) Non-constitutional nature:
which became reason for the govt. to decide on its non-equivalence with chief election commissioner.
- (2) Lack of funding leads to delay in its functioning.
- (3) Insufficient manpower: As RTI applications are continuously increasing.
- (4) Political pressure due to recent amendments as well as nature of selection & appointment.

* Addressing issues:

- (1) Empower CIC in lines with the new Lokpal office.
- (2) Devolve more funds & autonomy to ↑ efficiency of functioning.
- (3) As per 2nd ARC; empower the office of CIC with expanding its jurisdiction.
- (4) Sensitize the staff to involve public participation as it's their right to information a fundamental right under Art. 19(1)(a)..

Office of CIC is one of the bulwarks of INDIAN democracy which strengthen the credibility, accountability & transparency by making a Glass-state where
transparency = norm &
secrecy = exception.

2. In India, Governor's discretionary powers are wider than those of the President. Elaborate. (150 words) 10

भारत में, राज्यपाल की विवेकाधीन शक्तियाँ राष्ट्रपति की तुलना में अधिक व्यापक हैं। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए।

Art. 154 of Constitution
rests the executive power of the
state with the Governor.

Both Governor & President in
India, have situational discretion.
when:

- ① Choosing a Chief minister when
No party claims to form a govt
or when CM in office dies.
- ② To dismiss the CoM when it
loses the majority in house.
- ③ To dissolve the Assembly when
it loses confidence.

Some powers are vested in President
w.r.t. Prime Minister & Parliament.

However, Constitution also grants
Constitutional discretion to the
Governor thus, widening his/her
discretion.

- ① To reserve certain bills for President's assent.
- ② To recommend state emergency to President under Art. 356.
- ③ While executing powers related to Union territory
- ④ Acts as an agent of central govt.

Also, 42nd constitutional Amend. made it mandatory for ~~&~~ President to obey recommendations (advice) of Council of ministers. No such provision exists for Governor.

In a federal system like India, role of Governor is multi-vectoral. Thus, certain norms (conventions) have to be followed in this regard.
(Sarkari & Punchhi Commissions)

3. Highlight the objectives that were sought to be achieved through tribunals. How successful have they been in meeting them? (150 words) 10

उन उद्देश्यों को रेखांकित कीजिए जिन्हें अधिकरणों के माध्यम से प्राप्त करने का प्रयास किया गया था। वे उन्हें पूर्ण करने में कितने सफल रहे हैं?

Constitution of India in

Art. 323 (A) & Art. 323 (B) provides for administrative & other tribunals respectively.

* objectives:

- (1) Speedy dispersal of justice.
- (2) Uphold principle of Natural Justice.
- (3) Incorporate experts in technical fields for specific tribunals.
eg. Environmentalist in NAT.
- (4) Time bound adjudication & lessen burden on judiciary.
- (5) Facilitate business via timely disposal of cases.

* Success:

- (1) Central Administrative Tribunal has succeeded in speeding the justice.
- (2) 'CLAT' has ensured business ease (Insolvency - Bankruptcy Code).
- (3) 'NAT' has succeeded in enforcing EIA & polluter pays principle.
- (4) Telecom tribunal has sorted cases for BSNL at faster rate.

* Concerns:

- (1) Tribunals seem to encroach judicial sphere. (SC).
- (2) Though natural justice is admirable, they at times refer to FPC / CrPC.
- (3) Appeal system ^{→ to HC + SC} has hampered speedy disposal.

Promoting 'justice for all' has been on the agenda of SC since independence. Tribunals facilitate the same.

4. Instead of the government regulating Over-the-top (OTT) platforms, there have been calls for a self-regulating mechanism for such platforms, as in the case of print media. Discuss. (150 words) 10

सरकार द्वारा ओवर-द-टॉप (ओ.टी.टी.) प्लेटफॉर्म को विनियमित करने के स्थान पर, ऐसे प्लेटफॉर्म के लिए एक स्व-विनियमन तंत्र हेतु आह्वान किया गया है, जैसे कि प्रिंट मीडिया के मामले में किया गया है। चर्चा कीजिए।

OTT platforms like WhatsApp, Facebook, Telegram are continuously facing legal issues regarding govt regulation.

* Govt. regulation: Concerns:

- ① selective scrutiny with intention to curb dissent.
- ② May violate privacy as upheld in Puttaswamy case (Art. 21).
- ③ Govt. lacks expertise in doing so.
- ④ End-to-end encryption creates problems.
- ⑤ Can be used by the govt. to promote / demote specific ideology.
eg. allow / disallow NETFLIX to broadcast some series.

* Self regulation:

- ① OTT platforms can create a code of conduct/practices to follow regulation of content.
eg. obscene material would require age verification.
- ② Limit /sensor content which has potential to ignite violence, unrest and social criticism.
- ③ Adhere to strict implementation of self decided common norms.
- ④ Create a regulatory mechanism amongst themselves to check breach of values.

In times when social media is continuously used for fake news propagation & anti-national sentiments, a need to regulate these platforms becomes of utmost importance.

5. Bring out the arguments surrounding the issue of some states reserving jobs for locals in the private sector. (150 words) 10

कुछ राज्यों द्वारा निजी क्षेत्र में नौकरियों को स्थानीय लोगों के लिए आरक्षित किए जाने से संबंधित मुद्दे के चतुर्दिक तर्कों को स्पष्ट कीजिए।

Art. 15(4) allows for affirmative action by state to promote equality whereas Art. 16(4)(A) reserves jobs in government services.

* Arguments for local jobs in private sector:

- (1) Provide cheap labour to the industry.
- (2) Promote employment opportunities in states.
- (3) Establish a mandatory role of private sector in achieving social and economic justice.

Recently, Haryana Govt. reserved 75% jobs in private sector for the local population.

Issues with this:

- (1) Hamper productivity & efficiency of private sector.

- (2) Reduce ease of doing business.
- (3) It leads to go back to era of state led growth undermining the LP4 reforms of 1991.
- (4) Burden on companies to recruit from limited pool of talent.
- (5) Discourage investment in the state due to such policies.

Though private sector has a moral responsibility of promoting social development; mandatory provisions would only hamper 'wealth creation' as observed by Economic Survey 2019-20.

6. Identifying the key elements of Mission Karmayogi, briefly explain how it can lead to holistic development of the human resources and state's capacity.
(150 words) 10

मिशन कर्मयोगी के प्रमुख तत्वों की पहचान करते हुए, संक्षेप में स्पष्ट कीजिए कि इससे मानव संसाधन और राज्य की क्षमता का समग्र विकास कैसे हो सकता है।

Recently, ^{Min.} Dept. of Personnel announced Mission Karmayogi as a part of its long pending reforms and training to the public servants.

Karmayogi: Concept in Gita where Krishna explains to carry out our responsibilities without expecting fruits in return.
(A key to good governance).

* Mission Karmayogi:

- A plan to on-the job training for all central govt. employees over 4-5 years.
- sensitize them, provide code of ethics & conduct to improve govt. efficiency.

* State's capacity:

- (1) ↑ productivity & efficiency is expected.
- (2) More emotionally intelligent work force.
- (3) Public servants would be more integral, accountable, honest, objective & logical in decision making.
- (4) Capacity of state would multiply many folds in fields of governance.

The motto of IAS is 'Yogaha Karmasu Kaushalam' (Yoga is excellence @ work).

Mission Karmayogi works to strengthen this motto for all.

7. Highlighting the role played by ASHA workers in public health system of India, discuss the challenges faced by them. (150 words) 10

भारत की सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य प्रणाली में आशा कार्यकर्ताओं द्वारा निभाई गई भूमिका को रेखांकित करते हुए, उनके द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली चुनौतियों की विवेचना कीजिए।

The laudable work by health-care professionals was admired by the PM and country as whole during the COVID-19 pandemic.

ASHA workers : part of Ayushman Bharat Yojana, the largest healthcare scheme.

* Role :

- (1) Healthcare delivery to grass-root level.
- (2) Collection of data during COVID-19 pandemic.
- (3) Fill the gap of low doctor to population ratio. (1:1600 approx.)
- (4) Huge contributions in Swachhit Matritva Ashwasan (reducing maternal mortality) & child death at births.

* challenges:

- (1) Low salaries compared to rest of the world.
- (2) No benefits of being in the formal economic structure.
- (3) High working hours due to staff ~~an~~ insufficiency.
- (4) Work conditions not up to the mark.
- (5) Harassment & violence by patient relatives.

(eg. during COVID, people in UP spitted on a lady ASHA worker.)

In era of strengthening multi-level planning at recognizing role of grassroots workers, it is important for us to acknowledge & support overcoming of issues of ASHA workers.

8. While internationalisation of higher education has many potential benefits for India, certain challenges will need to be addressed in this regard. Discuss. (150 words) 10

यद्यपि उच्चतर शिक्षा के अंतर्राष्ट्रीयकरण के भारत के लिए कई संभावित लाभ हैं, तथापि इस संबंध में कुछ चुनौतियों का समाधान करने की आवश्यकता होगी। चर्चा कीजिए।

INDIA has been continuously trying to invite & welcome students from abroad to learn in India. SANEC university in New Delhi is one of the examples.

However, there are challenges associated:

(1) Already poor state of higher educational institutions.

(Even all IITs struggle to get listed in world's top institutions).

(2) Funds / Scholarships has to be provided which would bring fiscal burden.

(3) Existing capacity to admissions is insufficient for Indians at first instance.

∴ Internalization would create political issues.

* Way forward:

- (1) Invest in building world class institutions and modify / strengthen existing ones like IITs, IIMs, AIIMS etc.
- (2) Invite students with which India has strategic ties to build the people to people relations stronger.

To become a vishwa guru in true sense, we have a lot to deliver to the world. Thus, we must move towards using these capacities effectively.

9. India needs to adopt a more pragmatic stance in the context of the ongoing intra-Afghan talks. Discuss, in the light of India's engagement with Afghanistan. (150 words) 10

भारत को वर्तमान में जारी अंतरा-अफगान वार्ताओं के संदर्भ में अधिक व्यावहारिक रुख अपनाने की आवश्यकता है। अफगानिस्तान के साथ भारत के जुड़ाव के आलोक में चर्चा कीजिए।

Recently, constituted forum for Afghan talks by the UN excluded India, thereby challenging our ties with Afghans.

* Context: In the tussle between Afghan govt. vs. Taliban, India has supported the govt. to uphold democratic values.

- This has led to a dispute of India's stance into Afghanistan.

- The Khalizad deal also slowly retreated US out of Afghan which leaves India as a major power to look into the issue.

* India's engagement:

(1) India has supported many infrastructure (highway) projects in Afghan territory.

(2) People-to-people ties between India & Afghanistan are civilizational & therefore strong.

(3) The development of chabkhar in Iran & a highway (road) through Afghanistan would lead to infra development in the region.

(4) India's support to a democratically elected govt. & its successful restoration.

However, while dealing with (Afghan + Taliban + US + China + Russia), we must NOT lose the forest for the trees. (ie. our national interests are supreme).

10. In the geo-strategic context of West Asia, the recent efforts to normalise relations between Israel and UAE may open new possibilities for India. Analyse. (150 words) 10

पश्चिम एशिया के भू-रणनीतिक संदर्भ में, इजरायल और यू.ए.ई. के मध्य संबंधों को सामान्य बनाने के लिए हाल ही में किए गए प्रयासों से भारत हेतु नई संभावनाएं उत्पन्न हो सकती हैं। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

The signing of historic Abraham Peace Accords between Israel & UAE opens new possibilities for India.

* with Israel :

- Israel is always ready for technology transfer to India.
- Defence procurement from Israel has increased after US threat under CAATSA to buy from Russia.
- Israel has/had NOT taken opposite stance to India at Int. forums.

* with UAE :

- A large group of Indian diaspora lives/works for UAE remits a large sum.

- India has trade surplus with UAE making it a desirable trading partner.
- UAE requires technical workforce like medical experts, chemical eng. which India has in abundance.
- UAE looks for diversification beyond oil economy which is beneficial to India.

INDIA has trade & strategic benefits with both Israel and UAE. Their coming together would bring synergistic effects in our favour and strengthen our ties in West Asia.

11. It is not only the content of election manifestos but also the past performance with respect to promises made in election manifestos that need to be regulated. Discuss. (250 words) 15

केवल चुनावी घोषणा-पत्रों की विषयवस्तु को ही नहीं, बल्कि चुनावी घोषणा-पत्रों में किए गए वादों से संबंधित विगत निष्पादन को भी विनियमित किए जाने की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

SY. Gureshi (former CEC) in his book An undocument wonder says India is known for 3 things: Gandhi, Taj Mahal & Elections. This signifies importance of free & fair elections for world's largest democracy.

Over the years, breach of model code of conduct has become a norm. Political parties have also taken for granted no regulation in the content of their election manifestos.

* Regulation of manifestos to content:

(1) Parties often promise impractical things to the voters. This creates breach of public trust.

(2) At times, parties promise controversial things in the mani-

festos which are legally prohibited.
(eg. some MP in Maharashtra had
promised free liquor!)

(3) The 'unaware' public should made
to understand the consequences
& feasibility of some absurd
promises.

* Regulate past record 3.

(1) This would be a test of perfor-
mance i.e. accountability &
responsibility.

(2) Public awareness would be
generated. to maturely vote for
nation's fate.

(3) Disregard the communal &
hatred elements in political
sphere.

However, this raises concerns
because:

- ① In a democracy, it is people who decide the performance of govt. by exercising their votes.
eg. (Recent Bihar elections were taken as a test of govt. govt response).
- ② It would create havoc as political parties would show zero co-operation in this initiative.
- ③ NOT feasible in democracy like ours where people are unaware & illiterate. (voter is immature).
- ④ Violate the constitutional provisions as no mention in slightest tone is found in it.

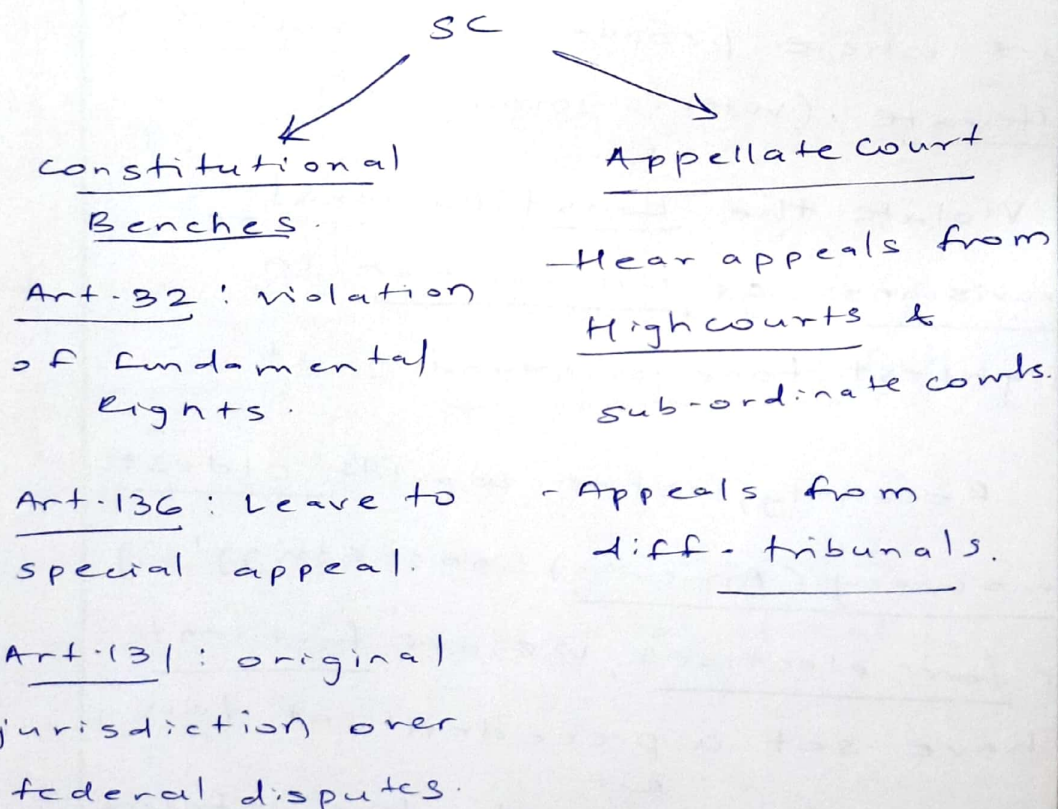
Recently, when world's oldest democracy (America) was struggling for fair elections, we are fortunate to have set a precedent of fair & free elections. ^{But} Constructive reforms are always welcomed.

12. In order to achieve a reduction in the pendency of cases and a return to the Supreme Court's original role as a final appellate court, setting up of a National Court of Appeal is the need of the hour. Discuss. (250 words) 15

लंबित वादों की संख्या में कमी लाने और उच्चतम न्यायालय को अंतिम अपील न्यायालय के रूप में उसकी मूल भूमिका में पुनः स्थापित करने के लिए, एक राष्ट्रीय अपील न्यायालय स्थापित करना समय की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

The SC has pendency of over 65000 cases let leave the rest of High courts & subordinate courts.

SC has 2 main functional roles to play:



Recently, Vice President Venkiah Naidu recommended to split the functions of SC and establish a National Court of Appeal in New Delhi with its branches in Mumbai, Kolkata & Chennai.

* Objectives & benefits:

- ① Decrease pendency in courts
(some matters are prolonged for over half a century).
- ② Provide dedicated judicial officers for constitutional & Appellate sides. This would ↑ efficiency.
- ③ Promote dispersal of justice with limited time & money resources.

* Cons:

- ① Lack of funds for existing infrastructure.

② SC is already short of judges leave aside splitting of functions.

③ ↑ fiscal burden on govt. as salaries & pensions are charged upon the Consolidated fund of India.

Thus, time has come to introduce reforms in judiciary so as to attain the objectives of social justice as enshrined in the constitution. As Upendra Baxi observes, 'Judiciary (SC) has been a chemotherapy to carcinogenic politics.' Thus, its role has to be strengthened.

13. The Constitution of India reflects an amalgamation of spirit of Indian freedom struggle and various administrative provisions of different acts of British rule in India. Explain. (250 words) 15

भारत का संविधान भारतीय स्वतंत्रता संघर्ष की भावना और भारत में ब्रिटिश शासन के विभिन्न अधिनियमों के अनेक प्रशासनिक प्रावधानों के मिश्रण को दर्शाता है। व्याख्या कीजिए।

The British legacy is heavily reflected in various constitutional provisions. Some acts during British Raj have also influenced Indian Constitution.

* British Raj's Influence:

① 'Rule of Law' (British Jurist. A.V. Dicey) as seen in Art. 14.

② Instrument of Instructions addressed to Governor General in GOI Act 1935 have influenced DPSP addressed to the state.

③ values like secularism (though Indian context & meaning is different).

④ Parliamentary form with leadership of Prime Minister is borrowed from 'Westminster' model.

⑤ Bicameralism (House of Commons & House of elders [Lords]) have come from British model.

⑥ Supreme Court as highest Court of Appeal [Privy Council during British].

* INDIAN Spirit:

① Republican polity as opposed to monarchy.

② Federalism (^{Tilak} ~~Tilak~~ ^{had} suggested linguistic reorganization during Home Rule movement)

③ Representation / Reservation to vulnerable sections like SC/ST as opposed to communal politics.

④ 'Preamble' based on 'Objective Resolutions' moved by Pt. Nehru.

⑤ India also embraced equal protection of laws (American concept) to intefurn affirmatively

⑥ Fundamental Rights (as proposed in Karachi session by Sardar Patel).

⑦ DPSPs though resemble GDI, 1935, the content is driven by Gandhian philosophy in many articles.
(eg. Art-40 : Panchayats).

In broader context, British influenced the skeleton whereas Indian spirit filled in the flesh.

As Gandhiji said;

"The govt. which holds cheap the liberty of its citizens has no right to rule."

This is the basis of Indian Constitution.

14. Mention the key components of the SVAMITVA scheme. Also, highlight its intended benefits and discuss the potential issues in its implementation. (250 words) 15

स्वामित्व (SVAMITVA) योजना के प्रमुख अवयवों का उल्लेख कीजिए। साथ ही, इसके अपेक्षित लाभों को रेखांकित कीजिए तथा इसके कार्यान्वयन में संभावित मुद्दों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

On occasion of Good Governance Day (25th Dec.), the PM unveiled the SVAMITVA Scheme.

SVAMITVA Scheme : to digitize land records of property at village level using satellite based survey.

* Intended benefits:

Issues

(1) Land administration after land reforms had become extremely complicated.

(2) Multiple organizations like city survey, revenue dept., Panchayats are involved in recording land transactions.

(3) Manual surveying involves lot of discretion leading to corruption.

to remove these shortcomings, digital ownership has been proposed.

other benefits:

- ① Provide proof of ownership to the rural poor.
- ② To help them avail credit & bank loans
- ③ sense of ownership boosts confidence (rationale for land reforms).

* Potential issues:

- (1) Original maps pre & post independence may NOT be present for basic marking.
- (2) Reluctance from Panchayats to carry out transparent surveying.

(3) Huge infrastructure costs & technical staff requirement.

(4) Increase judicial burden as new survey would create new disputes..

SVAMITVA is an important aspect of the e-governance reforms by the govt. Its implementation depends on the executive officials and public awareness.

15. Sharing of information among all stakeholders in government functioning is a leading practice towards good governance. Discuss with examples.

(250 words) 15

सरकारी कार्यप्रणाली में सभी हितधारकों के मध्य सूचना को साझा करना सुशासन के लिए एक महत्वपूर्ण परिपाटी है। उदाहरणों के साथ चर्चा कीजिए।

RTI is an important component in the rights based approach to public service delivery in the neo-liberal times.

Good governance refers to the umbrella term for practices which enhance efficiency of public service delivery.

* sharing of information:

(1) Jan Soochna Portal by Rajasthan govt. strengthens the proactive dissemination of govt. schemes & directives.

(2) Social auditing in MGNREGS increases accountability & transparency by examining ground level realities.

- (3) Regular data during Covid-19 times (of people affected, died, recovered) on real-time basis enhanced the responses of local govt. bodies across the country.
- (4) Recent decision of SC. to bring CJI's office under RTI ambit would further build public trust in judiciary.
- (5) In D.A.V. college case, the SC. pronounced that NGOs = substantially funded by govt. are open to RTI scrutiny. This would help to reduce misuse of funds by NGOs.

* Non-sharing of info :

- (1) The decision to not release NSSO data undermined the credibility of govt. towards public.

(2) Recent case to NOT reveal info. regarding PM-CARES fund creates dismay among public. (Although SC upheld it) -

(3) Also, data regarding money collected during 'demonetization' was NOT revealed. This leads to political mistrust in the nation.

Transparency & Accountability

make democracy a success.

they offer to form a Glass State

where

transparency = norm &
secrecy = exception.

16. India has an oversized and bloated government which acts as a drag on economic efficiency and growth. Critically evaluate. (250 words) 15
- भारत में आवश्यकता से अधिक आकार और अतिशय दायित्वों को वहन करने वाली सरकार है, जो आर्थिक दक्षता एवं वृद्धि के संबंध में एक अवरोध के रूप में कार्य करती है। समालोचनात्मक मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

INDIA is the largest democracy in the world. With this also comes a tremendous burden on gort. machinery.

* Reasons for oversized gort:

- ① Rule of Law: where everything needs to be formulated & regulated on a law established.
- ② Federal Nature: Union + state gorts. have own spheres of powers & functions. This at times leads to overlap of jurisdiction bloating its size.
- ③ Local gort. bodies: To fund these brings economic burden.
- ④ Different const. & statutory bodies: permanent commissions, tribunals, bodies, etc.

⑤ Vast public sector post the phase of Nationalization.

* Drag on economic growth & efficiency:

① Both state & central govt. have vast revenue expenditures leading to unsustainable fiscal deficits.

② High Debt to GDP ratio: combined is approx. 60% of GDP.

③ Irrational subsidies burden.
[eg. MSP to big farmers & not small & marginal]

④ Resource inefficiency due to duplication of work.

eg. elections: duplication for 3 voter lists (local, assembly & Parliaments). Also, 3 separate elections @ different times.

* Drag: Acceptable:

① India aims to promote distributive economic & social justice. Thus, expenditure is substantiated.

eg. PDS expenses.

② Expenditure leads Human Capital formation & this requires vast workforce which is not really oversized or bloated.

③ Social sector schemes & implementation requires high infrastructure leading to big size.

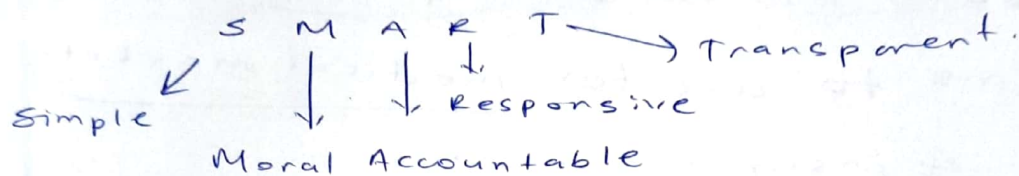
④ India promotes policy making, implementing, regulating, accounting by different offices to ensure transparency & accountability. Thus, oversizing is must:

However, the PM's vision of Minimum government & maximum governance builds a case for rationalising govt's wasteful expend & direct it in productive avenues.

17. Though the National Digital Health Mission is a step in the right direction for both patients and the healthcare system, concerns around data privacy need to be addressed. Examine. (250 words) 15

यद्यपि राष्ट्रीय डिजिटल स्वास्थ्य मिशन रोगियों और स्वास्थ्य देखभाल प्रणाली, दोनों के लिए उचित दिशा में उठाया गया एक कदम है, तथापि डेटा गोपनीयता से जुड़ी चिंताओं का समाधान किए जाने की आवश्यकता है। परीक्षण कीजिए।

NDHM is a part of e-governance initiative of the government. It promotes & facilitates SMART governance, where SMART stands for:



Objectives of NDHM: (Right step)

① Improve data monitoring by leveraging new technology like AI / Blockchain & IOT:

② Create a Nat. Health Stack i.e. a record of all patients / citizens's health conditions.

③ Analyse data to drive policy interventions in healthcare.

* Concerns around data privacy:

B.N. Gokrishna committee's Report formed the basis of New Data Protection Bill.

(1) Data could be used by the govt. for political purposes.

(2) Data could be espionaged by firms to use for medical marketing & insurance sector.

(3) It makes vulnerable population susceptible to organ transplantations (donation).
in coercive way.

(4) critical health information / genetic background of a family could be leaked.

* Addressing concerns:

(1) It has been assured that data would be stored only in Indian territory.

- (2) Once collected, it would become anonymous thus, tracing individual citizen would not be possible.
- (3) Data would be used to identify sectors where investment by public funds is needed so as to take care of public welfare.
- (4) Promote initiatives like e-Aspata (tele medicine)

When we aim to reap benefits of demographic dividend, Human Capital formation becomes important which demands initiatives like National Digital Health Mission.

18. One Nation One Ration card has the potential to significantly transform the lives of migrant workers in India. Analyse. (250 words) 15
वन नेशन वन राशन कार्ड में भारत में प्रवासी श्रमिकों के जीवन को महत्वपूर्ण रूप से रूपांतरित करने की क्षमता है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

The plight of migrants was witnessed throughout the country after the corona-induced lockdowns.

India under National Food Security Act 2013 has provided a statutory legal right to foodgrains to the BPL families in India.

These foodgrains are distributed through the public distribution system which requires a ration card assigned in the name of family's eldest woman.

* Issues with current PDS:

- (1) only valid in home-state.
(i.e. migrants cannot avail this in state of employment).
- (2) Leakages in PDS
- (3) Damage in FCI godowns.

(4) Beneficiaries are Not included in the list & bogus members are on the roll.

* Potential of one nation one Ration card :

(1) Allow the migrant to have access to centrally issued food-grains (and NOT state subsidized).

(2) 50% of the quota can be availed by the migrant.

(3) This could be operated from any state of India.

Currently, this system is operable in states - of

Gujarat & Maharashtra ;

Telangana & Andhra where it has

showed great potential to succeed nationwide.

It will also help to achieve target:

(1) Hunger & nutrition crisis

(Global Hunger Report : India $\rightarrow$ 94/107)

(2) Elimination of poverty

(28% of world poor live in India).

(3) Promote inclusive development.

(4) Strengthen our commitment to distribute justice (DPSP).

(5) Generate healthy population
for contributing to nation's growth.

In our attempt to attain
Sabka sath Sabka Vikas & Sabka
Vishwas ; we must prioritize the
migrant issues & One Nation one
Ration could be a potential solution
in true sense.

19. The World Trade Organization is buffeted by multiple challenges which have eroded the credibility of the organization. Analyse. (250 words) 15

विश्व व्यापार संगठन कई चुनौतियों से ग्रस्त है, जिसने संगठन की विश्वसनीयता को समाप्त कर दिया है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

After guiding world Trade for over two decades, WTO now, is surrounded by a number of challenges which erode its credibility.

* challenges :

- (1) Uncertainty over US's role in world politics. Leadership vacuum becomes a challenge.
- (2) Rise in protectionism : US-China trade war & its impact on world. has led to countries to look 'inward'.
- (3) Globalization → slowbalization :
Weak economic recovery post financial crisis of 2007-08.. world merely grew at 2% per annum.

(4) Funding Issue: US's withdrawal of funds has left WTO starving for funds.

(5) Dispute Resolution Panel:

Lack of funds → NO appointments
↓
Became non-functional. ← Incomplete Dispute Resolution Panel

(6) Recurrent violation of Trade Agreements:

eg. (i) china & India designate themselves as 'developing' which is objected by the US.

(ii) India invoked 'peace clause' to justify exceeding subsidies in paddy cultivation, (Agreement on Agriculture)

(7) Lacked solidarity during crisis:
India's demand to relax TRIPS

during COVID times met criticism.
WTO could not take a firm
stance even during the pandemic.

* Measures:

- (1) Reform provisions that promote multiculturalism in the upcoming multipolar world. (unipolar before fall of US which is expectable).
- (2) Accord special status & norms for developing world explicitly.
- (3) Make fund holding equitable as seen in BRICS. (categories like small & big nations based on GDP can be used).

In changing trends in world order, there becomes a need to reform multilateral organizations like UNSC, WTO, WHO for achieving Indian notion of Sarve Bhaanubh Sukhino (Prosperity for all).

20. BIMSTEC is indispensable for India's efforts in promoting regional cooperation and integration in the neighbourhood. Discuss. (250 words) 15
बिम्स्टेक (BIMSTEC) पड़ोस में क्षेत्रीय सहयोग और एकीकरण को बढ़ावा देने की दिशा में किए जाने वाले भारत के प्रयासों हेतु अपरिहार्य है। चर्चा कीजिए।

The recent invitation to BIMSTEC leaders to attend oath ceremony of central cabinet remarks the importance attached to this.

BIMSTEC : Bay of Bengal Initiative for multisectoral technical & economic co-operation.

* Promotion of regional co-operation & integration:

(1) After redundancy of SAARC (last conf. held in 2014), India has moved to BIMSTEC.

(2) South Asian region is world's most disintegrated block (World Bank). Thus, need to promote co-operation).

(3) INDIA is viewed as a balancing power (Big Brother) in Bay of

Bengal and has the onus to lead the association.

(4) Hegemonic urges of China leading to border aggression & close association with Pakistan has made us to look up to our neighbourhood.

(5) Indopacific stability:

US-Japan-Aus look India as a major power to establish peace & security in the Indo-Pacific against Chinese aggression.

Thus, it becomes important for us to first strengthen BIMSTEC.

(6) Dream of Asian century is

likely to come true. And India cannot be left behind to earn a 'major power' title for itself in the Asian region.

A way forward:

- (1) Hold regular talks with the BIMSTEC and support infra-structure projects in the region.
- (2) Counter chinese tactfully by promoting 'neighbourhood first policy' to gain confidence of the BIMSTEC partners.
- (3) Build strong trade & connectivity in the region.

There are no permanent friends & permanent enemies in Int. world.

There are only permanent interests.

Thus, it is for India to evolve a strong committed partnership with the BIMSTEC partners in the changing geopolitics.