

VISION IAS

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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 2212)

Name of Candidate	SOURAV SINHA		
Medium Eng./Hindi	ENGLISH	Registration Number	458407
Center	ONLINE	Date	09/08/22

INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTIONS
Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained	
1	10		<p>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)।</p> <p>2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।</p> <p>3. All questions are compulsory. सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।</p> <p>4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।</p> <p>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।</p> <p>6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।</p> <p>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।</p>
2	10		
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20	15		
Total Marks Obtained:			
Remarks:			

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VisionIAS

1. What do you understand by 'constitutionalism'? Highlight various ways in which the Indian Constitution underscores this principle. (150 words) 10

'संविधानवाद' से आप क्या समझते हैं? भारतीय संविधान में इस सिद्धांत को रेखांकित करने वाले विभिन्न उपबंधों पर प्रकाश डालिए।

Constitutionalism refers to the adherence to constitutional principles by limiting the powers of various organs of the government and delineating rights and duties of the citizens.

ways in which the principle is highlighted in the constitution

- ① Fundamental Rights - which are enforceable in the courts of law (Article 32, 226).

- 10
- ② Judicial Review Powers - with higher judiciary
 - ③ Principle of checks and balances
 - ④ Recognizing minority rights.

This has ultimately helped in preserving the unity and integrity of the Indian Union.

2. The Competition Commission of India (CCI) effectively reflects a shift from the era of Licence Raj to a conducive regulatory ambience for enhancing consumer welfare by encouraging competition in the market. Discuss.

(150 words) 10

भारतीय प्रतिस्पर्धा आयोग (CCI) बाजार में प्रतिस्पर्धा को प्रोत्साहित करके उपभोक्ता कल्याण को बढ़ाने के लिए लाइसेंस राज के युग में एक अनुकूल नियामकीय परिवेश में स्थानांतरण को प्रभावी ढंग में प्रदर्शित करता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

CCI was established through Competition

Act 2002.

Purpose — enhance competition in the market by curbing monopolistic tendencies

Significance

- * Enhance competition by promoting fair practices.
- * Protect Consumer Rights
- * Enhance Consumer Choice.

4
Q2) # More Competition \Rightarrow Process of creative destruction

promote innovation.

Issues

\rightarrow New challenges posed by technologies such as AI, Meta

\rightarrow Shortage of Personnel for implementation of its orders

Thus, it is time to reform CCI by amending the CCI Act 2002 to adjust to the challenges of the future.

3. Mention various initiatives taken for online delivery of judicial services in India. Also, discuss the challenges faced in their implementation.

(150 words) 10

भारत में न्यायिक सेवाओं की ऑनलाइन प्रदायगी के लिए प्रारंभ विभिन्न पहलों का उल्लेख कीजिए। साथ ही, उनके कार्यान्वयन में आने वाली चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Online delivery of judicial services is key to increase effectiveness and swiftness of justice in the society.

Initiatives taken

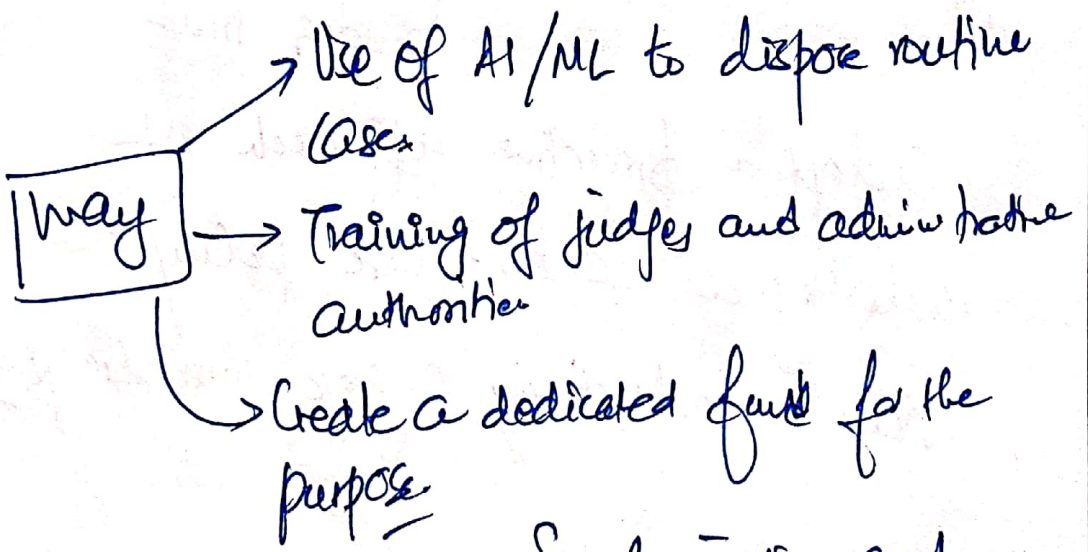
1. e-Courts Mission Mode Project - for online filing and disposal.
2. SURAAAS - an AI software for translation of judgments in local language.
3. Virtual Courts, and Online Streaming of judicial proceedings

2/8

4. FASTER - for online transmission of bail orders to police authorities

Challenges in the Implementation

- 1. Funding Gaps.
- 2. Shortage of trained personnel
- 3. Inadequate in-house expertise in the Courts - especially lower courts
- 4. Lack of will by the State governments
- 5. Issues of rights and privacy - especially in sensitive cases



Smart justice system will be a key for Smart India

4. Bring out the similarities and differences in the Bill of Rights in the Constitution of the United States and Fundamental Rights in the Constitution of India. (150 words) 10

संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका के संविधान में उपबंधित बिल ऑफ राइट्स और भारत के संविधान में मूल अधिकारों के मध्य समानताओं और भिन्नताओं को रेखांकित कीजिए।

~~The oldest and the largest democracies~~
India and US share similarities as well as show differences in so far as the rights of citizens are concerned.

Similarities between Bill of Rights and Fundamental Rights

- * A Comprehensive list of positive and negative rights
- * Enforceable in courts of law - judiciary
Can issue writs for restoration of the said rights

Q. 4

Differences

- * Rights such as Right against Untouchability (Article 17) not present in USA
- * Earlier US rights didn't recognize rights of slaves and Black people, while Indian Rights were egalitarian from the start.
- * ~~Ex.~~ Suspension during emergency - unique feature in India while not present in the US.

Due recognition of the rights of citizens is sine qua non for the functioning of a stable democracy.

5. It is often argued that the implementation of The Forest Rights Act (FRA), 2006 has so far been tardy and ineffectual. Discuss. (150 words) 10

प्रायः यह तर्क दिया जाता है कि अभी तक वन अधिकार अधिनियम (FRA), 2006 का कार्यान्वयन धीमा और निष्प्रभावी रहा है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Forest Rights Act 2006 was enacted to protect the interests of forest dwellers and other traditional communities by granting individual and community rights over forest resources and produce.

However its implementation is tardy

Reasons :-

- ① Resistance by forest bureaucracy
- ② Lack of political will from the respective state governments.
- ③ Lack of information with the forest community and capacity to demand.

- ④ Development projects - necessity to occupy forest lands, e.g. river interlinking projects like Ken-Betwa.
- ⑤ Recognition of individual as well as community rights is low.
- ⑥ Lack of data, land records
- ⑦ Issues in judiciary — justice delayed.

Way Forward

- * Sensitise forest bureaucracy and fix accountability on them
- * Digital maintenance of forest rights — use of Blockchain can be imagined.
- * Capacity building and training of the local indigenous population.

FRA will go a long way to boost confidence among forest community and achieve inclusive growth.

6. Explain the rationale behind the creation of a Social Stock Exchange in India. Do you think this move would boost social impact investing in the country? (150 words) 10

भारत में सोशल स्टॉक एक्सचेंज के सृजन के पीछे निहित तर्क की व्याख्या कीजिए। क्या आपको लगता है कि इस कदम से देश में सामाजिक प्रभाव वाले निवेश को प्रोत्साहन प्राप्त होगा?

Social stock exchange are financial market institutions that allow NGOs and civil society organisations to raise capital for social works, e.g. housing, sanitation etc.

Rationale behind SSEs

- ① Channel domestic as well as foreign savings for social purposes.
- ② Market making for development industries who couldn't raise capital in traditional stock exchanges.
- ③ Boost impact investment and philanthropic activities in the country.

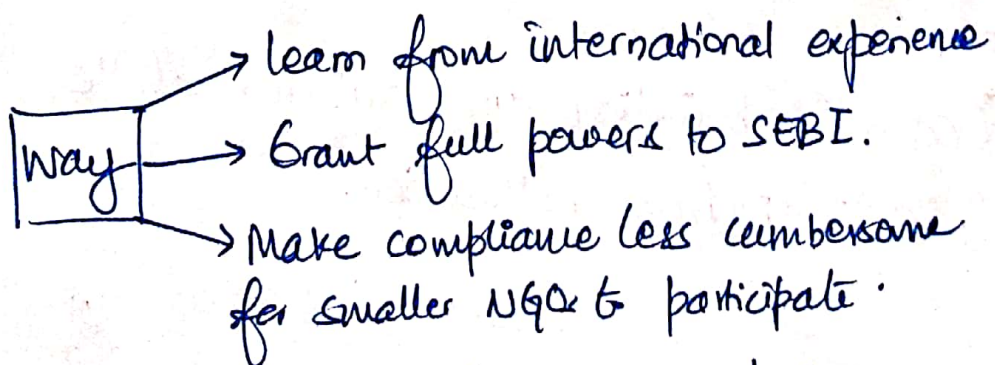
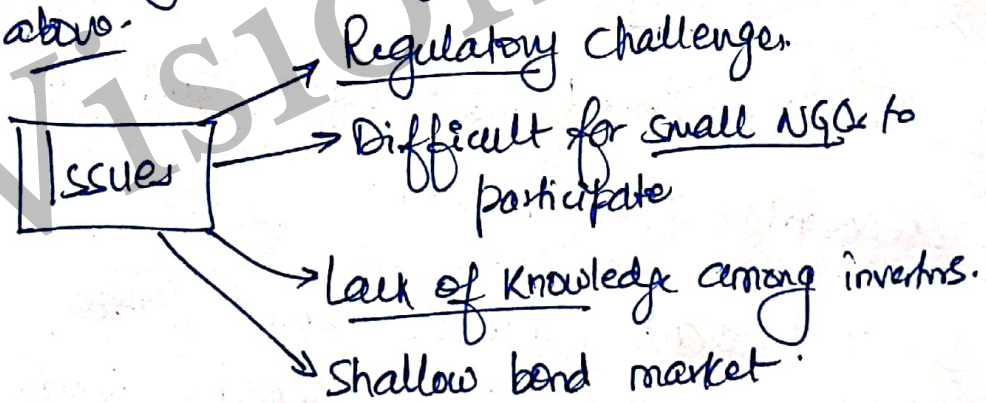
2.

6. (4) Deepen the Bond Market

(5) Enhance credibility of NGOs/CSOs.

(6) Build a general environment of social harmony by tackling development challenges.

Yes, the creation of SSEs will go a long way in boosting social impact investing because of opportunities discussed above.



The success of SSEs will pave way for 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas.'

7. The National Digital Health Mission (NDHM) has the potential to bring a new revolution in India's health sector in multiple ways. Explain.

(150 words) 10

राष्ट्रीय डिजिटल स्वास्थ्य मिशन (NDHM) में भारत के स्वास्थ्य क्षेत्रक में कई तरह से एक नई क्रांति लाने की क्षमता है। व्याख्या कीजिए।

Newly proposed National Digital Health Mission (NDHM) can prove to be a true game changer for the health sector.

Potential of NDHM

1. Maintenance of online Health records

- 1.1. Seamless retrieval by various stakeholders
- 1.2. Doctors can easily access past medical records of patients.
- 1.3. Insurance companies for deciding premium on health insurance.
- 1.4. By government for making evidence-led policy and making suitable demographic interventions.

3.7 2. Use of New Age Tech like AI, Blockchain

2.1. for Research and Development purpose.

2.2. Developing personalised medicines.

2.3. Teleconsultation will be lot easier.

e-g. IBM's Watson.

2.4. Immutable health records using Blockchain - will make leakages in health scheme quite difficult.

3. Other

3.1. Effective management of pandemics.

3.2. Achieve the goal of e-Health.

However challenges remain

1. Lack of Data Protection law
2. Data Theft and Data Privacy
3. Lack of Capacity with public agencies.
4. Funding and regulatory issues.

NDHM will be a game

pivotal to revamp our health sector

... 1. Admission, Demographic Dividend

8. While participation of private sector in the higher education system of India is a necessity, it creates issues that need careful redressal. Discuss. (150 words) 10

हालांकि भारत की उच्चतर शिक्षा प्रणाली में निजी क्षेत्र की भागीदारी एक अनिवार्यता है, लेकिन यह ऐसे मुद्दे उत्पन्न करता है जिनका सावधानीपूर्वक निवारण किए जाने की आवश्यकता है। विवेचना कीजिए।

India spends only 1.6% its GDP on Education. Thus, participation of private sector in higher education is a necessity.

Significance of private sector

1. Complementary role in enhancing expenditure on education.
2. Enhance industry-academia linkage, especially when private industries invest in higher education.
3. Necessary Competition — increased diversity of players in the knowledge ecosystem will motivate even public colleges to perform better.

Issues with private participation

8.

- * High fees - creates divide between haves and have not, e.g. in private medical college.
- * Substandard level of education - many private engineering colleges were shut down by government last year.
- * Unskilled and semi-skilled graduates - demographic burden.

Way Forward

- * Expand Institute of Eminence (IOE) scheme to more colleges.
- * Grant more autonomy to invite foreign players - students and teachers.
- * Regulate fees - e.g. NMC Act regulate fees of medical colleges.

Careful assessment of private participation and swift redressal of issues is the right way forward.

9. Highlighting the significance of Central Asia for India, discuss the challenges in strengthening the Indo-Central Asian relationship. (150 words) 10
 भारत के लिए मध्य एशिया के महत्व पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, भारत-मध्य एशियाई संबंधों को मजबूत करने के समक्ष विद्यमान चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

The Central Asian Republics present immense opportunities as well as diverse set of geopolitical challenges for India.

<p>Significance</p>	
<p>① <u>Resource rich region</u>, e.g. Rare Earth Metals etc.</p>	<p>Fig. Central Asia and India</p>
<p>② <u>Huge Market</u> for India's exports as well as <u>field of investment</u> for India's <u>Capital</u></p>	
<p>③ <u>India's soft power influence</u> in the region - e.g. popularity of Bollywood films.</p>	
<p>④ <u>Significant partners</u> in India's fight</p>	

5. ⑨ against terrorism, extremism and radicalisation.

Challenges

- ① Geographical Constraint - topographical barriers and rugged terrain
- ② Presence of Pakistan and Afghanistan makes building a land route difficult.
- ③ Increased influence of China - through BRI.
- ④ Multilateral fora like Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) are ineffective.

Way Forward

- ① Expedite infrastructure projects like INSTC.
- ② Improve trade relations by formulating a trade deal.
- ③ Move to India-centric multi lateral for like BIMSTEC, ISA, CDRI etc.

A strong India-CAR relation will be key to shared prosperity in future.

10. Discuss the role that the Indian diaspora can play in the making of "Aatmanirbhar Bharat" (self-reliant India). Also, mention the challenges in this regard. (150 words) 10

"आत्मनिर्भर भारत" के निर्माण में भारतीय डायस्पोरा द्वारा निभाई जा सकने वाली भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, इस संबंध में विद्यमान चुनौतियों का भी उल्लेख कीजिए।

Indian Diaspora can play an effective role in India mission to become Aatmanirbhar (Self-Reliant)

- ① Knowledge sharing to the local industries
- ② Handholding and support to MSMEs
- ③ Enhance FDI in critical sectors - eg. health.
- ④ Remittances - help to build local resilience

70. ⑤ Gamer support of foreign players in the mission

However challenges remain

* Low involvement both from the part of diaspora as well as government

* Volatile geopolitical conditions — is inducing reverse migration.

* Challenges in foreign universities

— e.g. medical colleges in Ukraine

India must

adopt a proactive approach by adopting a sector-wise policy on how to productively engage with diaspora

11. A critical appraisal of the outcomes of the 74th Constitutional Amendment Act underlines the need for second-generation reforms to strengthen decentralisation of urban local governance in India. Discuss. (250 words) 15

74वें संविधान संशोधन अधिनियम के परिणामों का आलोचनात्मक मूल्यांकन भारत में शहरी स्थानीय शासन के विकेंद्रीकरण को सुदृढ़ करने हेतु दूसरी-पीढ़ी के मुद्दों की आवश्यकता को रेखांकित करता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

74th Constitutional Amendment granted Constitutional recognition to the Urban Local Bodies (Municipalities) by adding Part IX A.

A critical Appraisal

Successes	Failures.
1. Increase political participation 2. Women empowerment - reservation of seats	1. States reluctant to devolve power. 2. weak internal generation of resources

3. Devolution of Funds,
Functions, Functionaries
(DF)S

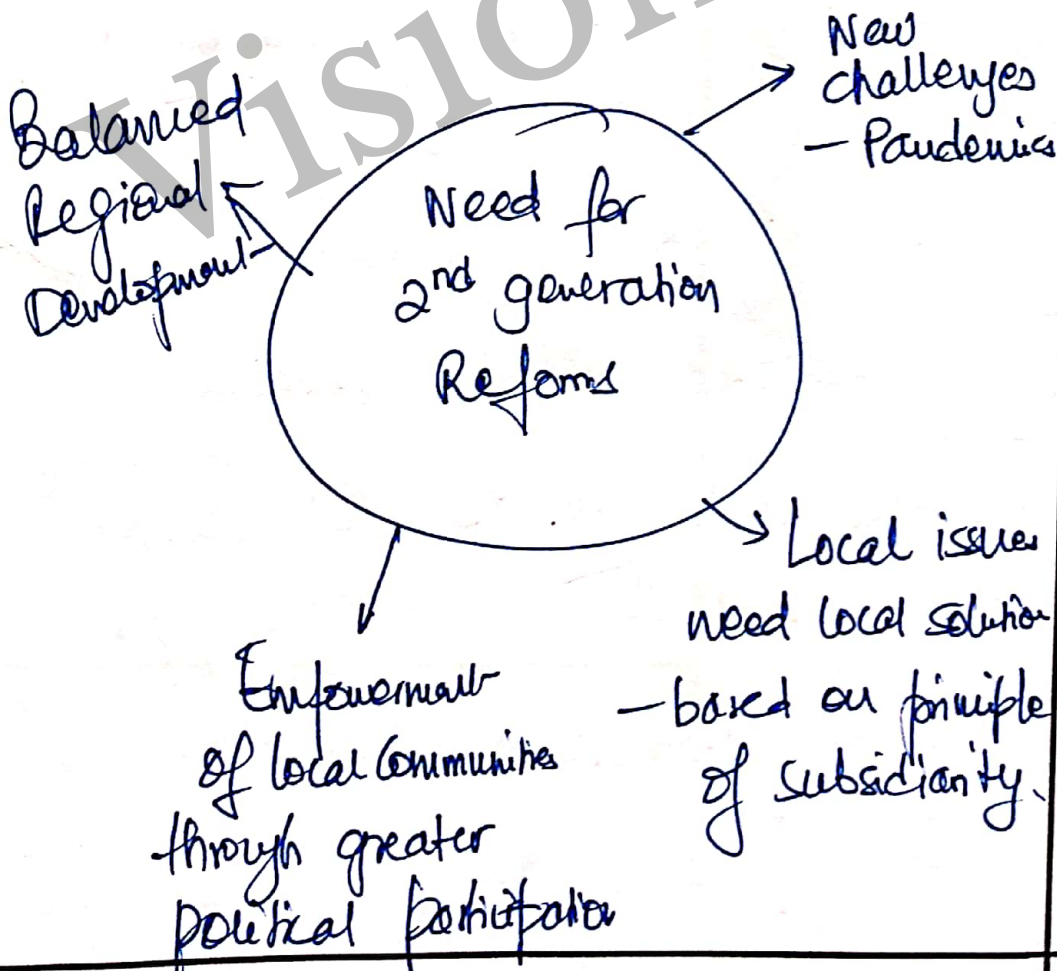
4. ULBs being partners
in implementation
of Govt. schemes

5. Rentierism - of Kerala
ULBs during Pandemic

3. NO equivalent
body as Gram
Sabha

4. Parallel body
like Parastatal

5. Infrequent elections



Way Forward for ULBs

* Urban Consolidated Fund in every State

* Nudge states to devolve more power - through fiscal incentives
- Create indices to rank states

* Create equivalent body in Urban areas as Gram Sabha - for enhanced citizen participation

Use of Technology by ULBs to become more efficient.

An effective local Government will be a central pillar of the New India based on the jol of Sabka Saath Sabka Vikaas

12. It is argued that unchecked and rampant exercise of the power to insert laws in the Ninth Schedule results in undermining of Constitutional supremacy and creation of Parliamentary hegemony. Do you agree? Justify your stand with logical arguments. (250 words) 15

यह तर्क दिया जाता है कि नौवीं अनुसूची में विधियों को सम्मिलित करने की शक्ति के अनियंत्रित और व्यापक स्तर पर प्रयोग से संवैधानिक सर्वोच्चता में कमी और संसदीय आधिपत्य का सृजन होता है। क्या आप सहमत हैं? उचित तर्कों के साथ अपने मत की पुष्टि कीजिए।

The laws inserted in the 9th schedule by the Parliament grants protection from being reviewed by the judiciary. However, Supreme Court in I.R. Coelho case ruled that it does not provide a blanket immunity from judicial review as it is a basic feature of the Constitution.

Yes, it creates Parliamentary hegemony and undermines Constitutional Supremacy

* Undermines Article ~~87~~ ⁽¹³⁾ ~~and 226~~
of the Constitution - ~~as~~ judicial
review.

* Undermines the separation of
powers and mutual checks and
balances.

~~No~~ No it does not create Parliamentary
sovereignty

* Judiciary can still review - I.R. Coelho
Case.

* Gives a headroom to Parliament
to bypass unnecessary judicial
interference (an activist judiciary).

27

Both the organs must
be mindful of the Constitutional
mandate granted to them and hence
the issue around 9th Schedule
must be handled in the same spirit

VisionIAS

13. Asymmetry is an important characteristic of federalism in India, which has helped in the accommodation of diverse demands inherent in our democracy. Discuss. (250 words) 15

असममिति भारत में संघवाद की एक महत्वपूर्ण विशेषता है, जिसने हमारे लोकतंत्र में निहित विविध मांगों के समायोजन में सहायता प्रदान की है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Federal Asymmetry is a principle which recognizes that different federal units must enjoy different rights and ~~its~~ their relations with the Union based on their relative situation.

Elements of Asymmetry in Indian Federalism and their significance

1. Special Treatment to North Eastern States ~~Articles~~ (cf. Schedule 6).
 - * Counter insurgency and curb secessionist tendencies.
 - * Recognition of unique tribal culture

2. Schedule 5 areas also gives due autonomy to tribal areas in other states.

→ Popular participation in the democratic process induces confidence in the people

→ helps in their integration into the mainstream

3. Special Category states

→ for balanced regional development

→ Greater share of union grants helps to bring greater development

4. Special treatment to J&K (pre 2019)

— Historical reasons to accommodate J&K into the Indian Union

5. Part - IX of the Constitution (Panchayats) apply with modifications to tribal areas
① through PESA Act.

Thus, the asymmetry has helped to preserve the integrity of the Indian Union by recognising diversity and accommodating them.

14. In India, the Finance Commissions are established pursuant to the constitutional mandate. In this context, do you think the State Finance Commissions have been effective in promoting fiscal federalism? Substantiate with arguments. (250 words) 15

भारत में वित्त आयोगों की स्थापना संवैधानिक अधिदेश के अनुसार की जाती है। इस संदर्भ में, क्या आपको लगता है कि राज्य वित्त आयोग राजकोषीय संघवाद को बढ़ावा देने में प्रभावी रहे हैं? तर्कों के साथ पुष्टि कीजिए।

Article 280 of the Indian Constitution establishes a Finance Commission of India. Article 243-I establishes Finance Commissions of the States. Thus, State Finance Commissions are constitutional bodies envisaged to promote fiscal federalism.

Salient Features

- Established by the Governor of the State every five years.
- On the lines of FCI.

- recommends grants and distribution of revenues of states to the local level bodies - Panchayats and Municipalities.
- advices on other matters as referred to by the Governor.

However, the performance of various SFCs has been lackadaisical

- ① Lack of technical and expert support
- ② Absence of financial data at the state levels and local levels - for meaningful recommendations.
- ③ Non-implementation of the advices by respective state government.

④ Lack of coordination between FCI and SFCs — for translating fiscal planning from Union to State to local levels.

Way Forward

* Build in-house technical capacity for data-driven recommendations.

* Accountability on part of states for non-implementation of recommendations.

* Partnership with FCI — for mutual learning and holistic approach towards fiscal policy.

SFCs must be strengthened for achieving a strong fiscal credibility in India

15. Reduction in the overall size of the bureaucracy has been seen as the underlying idea behind civil services reforms. Is it a good idea to reduce the size of the Indian bureaucracy? Examine in light of the experience of India.

(250 words) 15

नौकरशाही के समग्र आकार में कमी को सिविल सेवाओं में सुधार के पीछे अंतर्निहित विचार के रूप में देखा गया है। क्या भारतीय नौकरशाही के आकार को कम करना एक उपयुक्त विचार है? भारत के अनुभव के आलोक में परीक्षण कीजिए।

Reduction in the overall size of
bureaucracy is often mooted as a
key idea in Civil Service Reforms.

Pros

- ↳ Greater Efficiency
- ↳ More Competition - 'Perform or Perish'
- ↳ More accountability -

Currently large bureaucracy ⇒
diffusion of responsibility.

↳ Savings for the public exchequer —
Currently large expenditure in
salaries pensions

↳ Expedite decision making —

Currently too many points of
decision web in bureaucratic architecture

Cons

- * Issue of representation of diverse
section of population
- * Upcoming new challenges due to
disruptive technologies and India's
role as a welfare state.

* Increase in Work load \Rightarrow decrease
in efficiency of the individual
bureaucrat

* check and balances within an
organisation will be reduced \Rightarrow
corruption might increase

Reduction in size
of bureaucracy must be balanced against
other forms of lateral entry, greater
training (190T), and critical appraisal
(360° approach).

16. There is a need to ensure better ethical standards, accountability and management of temples in India. Discuss in the context of issues associated with state intervention in management of temples. (250 words) 15

भारत में मंदिरों के बेहतर नैतिक मानकों, जवाबदेही और प्रबंधन को सुनिश्चित करने की आवश्यकता है। मंदिरों के प्रबंधन में राज्य के हस्तक्षेप से संबंधित मुद्दों के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।

Some of the temples in India are managed by the state, e.g. Tirupati Tirumala temple.

Issues with state intervention

- * Corruption among priests and mahants
- * Against secular characteristic.
- * Unnecessary ~~at~~ in many situation
- * Might create conflict between bureaucracy and local population

Necessity

- * Address issue of corruption and wasteful expenditure
- * Ensuring rights of devotees - to
women temple entry.
- * Crowd management - law and
order etc
- * Planning expenditure of the
temple causing

State must be
Careful in handling religious issues but
the interference is often warranted
in the public interest.

17. What do you understand by feminisation of old age? Highlight the issues associated with it in the Indian context. Also, mention the measures taken by the government in this regard. (250 words) 15

वृद्धावस्था के नारीकरण से आप क्या समझते हैं? भारतीय संदर्भ में इससे जुड़े मुद्दों पर प्रकाश डालिए। साथ ही, इस संबंध में सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए कदमों का भी उल्लेख कीजिए।

Feminisation of old age refers to a greater share of females in the elderly population.

Naturally, it is observed that in most of the ~~society~~ societies, the sex ratio in the 65+ years age group is skewed in favour of females.

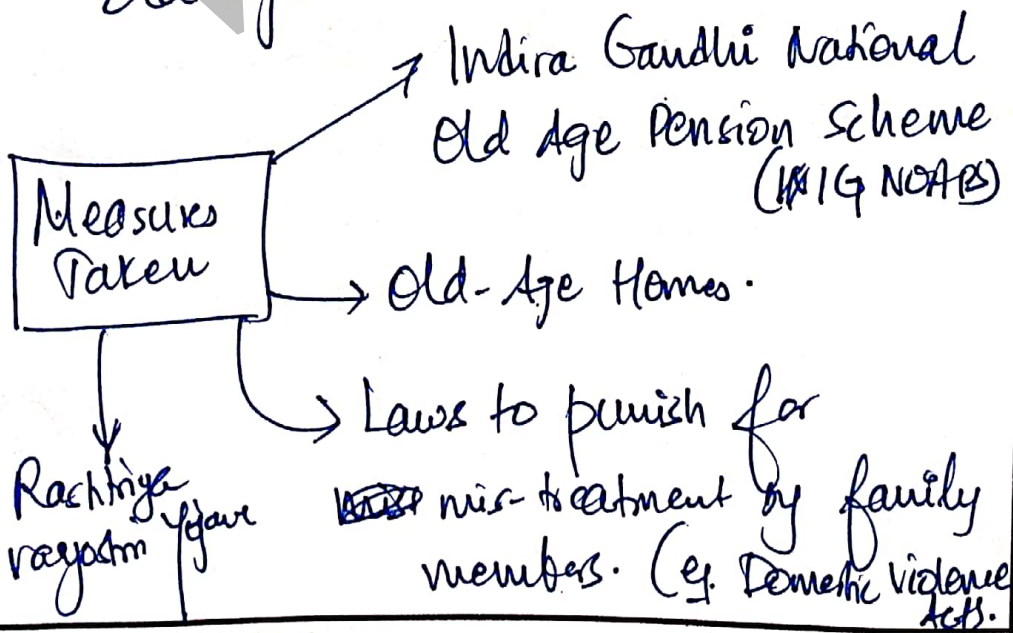
Issues associated with feminisation of old age in India

* Lack of adequate coverage of social security schemes like pension, insurance.

⑧ Emotional problems - ~~not~~ mis-treatment by children and family - a high portion of elderly suffer from depression

⑧ Nascent level of gerontology and care economy in India.
- insufficient old-age care houses.

⑧ Lack of property rights with female make them especially vulnerable in old age.



Way Forward

* A National Commission to take up the issues associated with female elderly.

* Funding for R&D in gerontology
suiting Indian context.

* Strengthen the network of old-age
homes with strong regulatory architecture.

To care for those who have once cared for us, is the greatest honour. In this spirit, every citizen must care for the elderly population.

18. Given its impact on both individual resilience and the resilience of the economy, is there a case for strong universal social protection in India? Discuss. (250 words) 15

व्यक्तिगत लचीलेपन और अर्थव्यवस्था की प्रत्याम्भता दोनों पर इसके प्रभाव को देखते हुए, क्या भारत में मुद्दत सार्वभौमिक सामाजिक सुरक्षा की स्थिति विद्यमान है? विवेचना कीजिए।

Universal Social Protection is a situation where almost all of the its population is adequately covered by appropriate social protection schemes viz pension, insurance, unemployment benefits etc.

Impact of Universal Social protection

On Individual

* Security ~~is~~ both income and health during time of distress.

- * Increases motivation to work hard and contribute more productively
- * Break the cycle of intergenerational transmission of poverty.
- * Raise the level of health and education among the population

On Economy

- * Boost to insurance industry
— increase penetration and coverage.
- * Move towards greater formalization of the economy.
- * Increase productive capital and achieve demographic dividend.
- * Achieve agenda of Inclusive growth

Challenges

- * Inadequate fiscal capacity with public expenditure
- * Diversity and informality in the economy — makes targeting difficult
- * Lack of adequate data.

Universal Social Security is the need of the hour.
This can be achieved through

Greater
Formalization
of
Economy

Universal
Basic
Income

Targeted
Schemes
like
Prati Jeevan
Jyoti Bhe Jyoti

19. There have been arguments that with the old global multilateral order failing to manage rising challenges, issue-based coalitions are gaining traction and have become the arenas of functional cooperation. Discuss.

(250 words) 15

ऐसे तर्क दिए गए हैं कि पुरानी वैश्विक बहुपक्षीय व्यवस्था बढ़ती चुनौतियों का प्रबंधन करने में विफल रही है, जबकि मुद्दे-आधारित गठबंधन लोकप्रियता प्राप्त कर रहे हैं और कार्यात्मक सहयोग के क्षेत्र बन गए हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।

Old multilateral order is gradually fading giving rise to issue-based coalitions.

Reasons for demise of old order

- * Lack of timely reforms - e.g. United Nations Security Council has become inequipped to handle modern issues
- * Lack of enthusiasm among nations.
- * Adversarial geopolitics and zero-sum game politics - e.g. as witnessed during vaccine emergency (Covid).

Issue-based coalitions are gaining traction

- * Easier to Cooperate without the need for full-fledge bilateral/multilateral cooperation.
- * ~~Much~~ Much more effective due to singular focus and well-directed funding by partner countries.
- * De-hyphenation between geopolitics and geo-economics.
- * Ineffectiveness of old institutions is prompting countries to look for new avenues of cooperation.

* Multidimensional challenges posed by disruptive technologies like AI, Blockchain as well as modern problems like Climate Change

Issues in issue-based Coalitions

- ↳ Fragmented approach to problems
- ↳ Buildup of adversarial coalitions
- ↳ Power asymmetry between countries
— which influence agenda setting

India must be careful in not only reviving the old multilateral institutions but also carefully participate in issue-based coalitions to extract maximum benefit out of them.

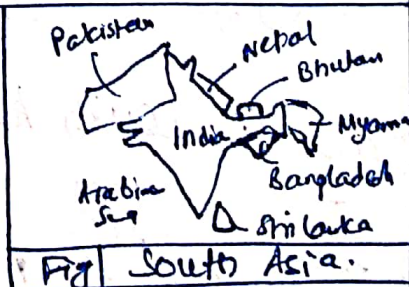
20. India intends to achieve a balanced and optimal development of energy infrastructure in the South-Asian region through mutual understanding and cooperation. In light of this statement, discuss the need as well as existing gaps in South Asia's energy cooperation. (250 words) 15

भारत पारस्परिक समझ और सहयोग के माध्यम से दक्षिण-एशियाई क्षेत्र में ऊर्जा के बुनियादी ढांचे में एक संतुलन और उसका इष्टतम विकास सुनिश्चित करना चाहता है। इस कथन के आलोक में, दक्षिण एशिया में ऊर्जा सहयोग की आवश्यकता और इस संदर्भ में विद्यमान कमियों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

One of the areas in which the South Asian nations must actively cooperate in Energy to achieve Sustainable Development Goals for the region.

Need for Energy Infrastructure in South Asia

① Development of modern and shared infrastructures need active cooperation in energy.



- ② Address the developmental challenges of the region.
- ③ Reduce import dependence from the Gulf-countries — which has influence on the region's geopolitics.
- ④ Harness the unutilized potential —
e.g. Hydropower potential in Nepal and Bhutan.
- ⑤ Generate Harmony and Good will among nations — tackle insurgency.

Gaps in South Asia's Energy Infrastructure

- * Technical → • lack of harmonization of supply and distribution standards
- * Geographical — Difficult terrain

along the borders make laying transmission lines difficult.

* Administrative - Price and Tariff policy
- maintenance of infrastructure.

* Geopolitical - mutual distrust among nations

* Influence of external actors - e.g. China

* Issue of funding - Countries of South Asia are developing countries.

→ Establish a South Asia Power Institute

Way → Expedite work on one world one sun, one grid project

→ Invest in hydropower

→ leverage SAARC.

Energy cooperation will be a springboard for greater geopolitical cooperation in South Asia.