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(To be filled by candidate)

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Roll No. : MT23RCA[illegible]PA083

Registration Number : ..... Date of Examination : .....

Exam Centre : Old Rajinder Nagar ☐ Bhopal ☐ Online ☐

Test - 6

Code : TC708

RCA Batch 2023

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

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.....

SUBJECT/PAPER
GENERAL STUDIES

Invigilator's Sign. : .....

[To be filled by the STUDENT]

Student's Queries for the Evaluator (if any write them below)

[To be filled by the EXAMINER]

Evaluator's response

(For filling by Examiners only)

Evaluator Code :

Q.No	Pg No.	Maximum Marks		Marks	Total
1	1				
2	3				
3	5				
4	7				
5	9				
6	11				
7	13				
8	15				
9	17				
10	19				
11	21				
12	24				
13	27				
14	30				
15	33				
16	36				
17	39				
18	42				
19	45				
20	48				
Grand Total					

Signature

MACRO COMMENTS

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1. "अंतरराज्यीय सीमा विवाद, यदि शीघ्र और निष्पक्षतः नहीं सुलझाए गए, तो स्थायी विवादित मुद्दों में परिवर्तित हो सकते हैं जो विकास में बाधक बनते हैं और टकराव या संघर्ष उत्पन्न करते हैं"। अंतरराज्यीय विवादों को हल करने के लिए संवैधानिक और विधिक ढाँचे पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, स्पष्ट कीजिए कि स्वतंत्र भारत अंतरराज्यीय सीमा विवादों को सुलझाने में क्यों विफल रहा है। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

"Interstate border disputes, if not promptly and impartially settled, can transform into persistent issues that impede development and generate friction". Highlighting the constitutional and legal framework to resolve interstate disputes, explain why Independent India has failed to resolve inter-state border disputes. (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Interstate disputes has been a persistent issue in horizontal federalism and created tussle between States

Interstate border disputes
- 1. Belgaum – Karnataka & Maharashtra
- 2. Kotia village – Odisha & Andhra Pradesh
- 3. Assam and Neighbouring States.

Constitutional and legal framework to resolve interstate disputes

1. Interstate Council: Constituted under Article 263 of the Constitution.
   - ↳ Calls for deliberation regarding any dispute

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2. Interstate River Council: under Article 262. eg Cauvery Council

3. Zonal Council: under State Reorganisation Act, @ 1956.

4. NITI Aayog:

Reason Independent India failed to resolve inter-State border disputes

1. Others priorities: @ of the nation during independence.

2. Linguistic basis of State formation - issue in clearly demarcating @ places

3. Lack of & following natural geography as boundary. eg Division of Assam

4. ~~Political~~ Lack of ~~lack~~ Coordination between Centre-State & States.

Ex The recent firing incident in Assam Meghalaya has reinforced the urgency of the issue to be solved ~~one and~~ at the earliest

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2. ऊर्ध्वाधर (केंद्र–राज्य) और क्षैतिज (अंतर–राज्य) अंतर–सरकारी सहयोग और समन्वय को बढ़ावा देने में अंतर–राज्य परिषद् की भूमिका का परीक्षण कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

Examine the role of the Inter-state Council in promoting vertical (Centre-State) and horizontal (Inter-State) Intergovernmental cooperation and coordination. (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Article 263 of the Constitution calls for the creation of Inter-State Council by the President with Prime minister as its Chairman

Role of Inter-State Council in promoting Vertical and Horizontal intergovernmental Cooperation and Coordination

A. **Vertical (Centre-State) Cooperation and Coordination**

1. **Membership**: Prime Minister and Chief Ministers of States — platform for ~~deb~~ deliberation

2. ~~Solut~~ Solving issues related to

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federal ~~Structure~~ character

3. Exchange of vision for nation and state.

4. Coordination and cooperation in information sharing

5. Making Joint declarations

B. Horizontal Cooperation and Coordination

1. Membership: Chief Ministers of all States are present — platform for deliberation

2. Exchange of information — especially border states

3. Cooperation in sharing best practices

4. Resolving outstanding issues. eg Border disputes.

Thus Inter-State Council has the potential to promote Cooperative and Collaborative federalism

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3. लोक लेखा समिति (PAC) के प्रमुख कार्यों पर चर्चा कीजिए। सार्वजनिक धन के सच्चे संरक्षक के रूप में इसकी प्रभावशीलता को बढ़ाने के लिए लोक लेखा समिति (पीएसी) में सुधार के लिए क्या कदम उठाए जाने चाहिए?
(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

Discuss the key function of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC). What steps should be taken to revamp the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) in order to enhance its effectiveness as a true guardian of public funds?
(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Public Account Committee (PAC) was founded in 1921 to check the financial transactions of the government

Key function of PAC

1. Analysing expenditure
2. Proposing Suggestion for expenditure
3. Checking extravagance
4. Financial accountability ensured

Steps to revamp PAC

1. Insulate PAC from political agenda

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2. More involvement of experts

3. Support System be provided to MPs

4. Increase representation

5. Ensure timely meeting

These steps can make PAC more effective ensuring financial accountability.

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4. राष्ट्रीय आर्थिक विकास के चालक के रूप में नगरीकरण की अहम् भूमिका को स्वीकार करते हुए, पंद्रहवें वित्त आयोग ने शहरी स्थानीय निकायों (ULBs) के लिए प्रमुख सुधारों का सुझाव दिया है। भारत में यूएलबी को बढ़ावा देने और पुनर्जीवित करने के लिए पंद्रहवें वित्त आयोग द्वारा दी गई सिफारिशों का मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

Recognizing the pivotal role of urbanization as a driver of national economic growth, the Fifteenth Finance Commission has suggested major reforms for Urban Local Bodies. Evaluate the recommendations put forward by the Fifteenth Finance Commission in promoting and revitalizing ULBs in India.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

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5. मौलिक अधिकारों की तुलना में संसदीय विशेषाधिकारों के तहत् प्रदान की गई वाक् और अभिव्यक्ति की स्वतंत्रता के दायरे में प्रमुख अंतरों पर प्रकाश डालिए। संसदीय विशेषाधिकार और मौलिक अधिकारों के बीच संतुलन बनाए रखना क्यों आवश्यक है?
(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

Highlight the key differences in the scope of Freedom of speech and expression as provided under Parliamentary privileges vis a vis Fundamental rights. Why is it necessary to maintain a balance between parliamentary privilege and fundamental rights?
(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Freedom of Speech and Expression is a fundamental right (FR) guaranteed to Indian citizens under Article 19 of the Constitution whereas Parliamentary privileges (PP) are guaranteed to Member of legislature.

Key Scope

However the two, freedom of speech differ in their

Feature	Under FR	Under PP
1. Source	Article 19	Article 105 and Article 194.
2. Applicable to	Citizens of India	Member of Parliament and State legislature.
3. Scope	Wide	Narrow by Article 121 and 211

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Necessity to maintain a balance between parliamentary privilege and fundamental rights

1. Member of parliament to express her after opinions
2. Upholding Sanctity of the house.
3. Ensuring Separation of power between different organs
4. Speaker's duty to maintain decorum in the house.
5. Protection from any Court proceeding — Article 122 and Article 222

Thus the differential nature of Freedom of Speech and expression is apt and as per demand of the situation

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6. नागरिक समाज संगठन, "सार्वजनिक कल्याण के लिए सामूहिक निजी कार्रवाई" को बढ़ावा देने में महत्त्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाते हैं। स्थानीय संसाधन जुटाने (एलआरएम) और निगमित सामाजिक उत्तरदायित्व (सीएसआर) के माध्यम से कॉर्पोरेट (निगमों द्वारा) वित्तपोषण प्राप्त करने में उन्हें किन चुनौतियों का सामना करना पड़ता है? साथ ही सार्थक उपाय भी सुझाएँ। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

Civil society organizations, play a pivotal role in fostering "collective private action for the public good". What challenges do they face in local resource mobilization (LRM) and corporate funding through corporate social responsibility (CSR)? Also, suggest measures. (Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Civil Society are one of the three pillars of public service delivery in a democracy along with Government and Private businesses

The Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) provision in Companies Act, 2013 has linked the role of Civil Society and Corporates in their societal impact.

Challenges faced by Civil Society Organizations

A In Local Resource Mobilization

1. Paucity of funds.
2. Lack of trained workforce/volunteers

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3. Limited Capacity of Civil Society organization

4. Territorial reach of Civil Society limited to urban areas

B. In getting Corporate funding through CSR

1. Different vision of development for Corporate and Civil Society organization

2. CSR focus on few areas. eg Health, Education

Measures needed

1. Capacity building of Civil Society organization
2. Injeti Srinivas Committee - CSR funds should be diversified
3. Vijay Kumar Committee - Civil Society organisation Should be light regulation
4. Government support in plugging gap

These efforts will ensure the people-centric governance and shows

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7. गरीबी उन्मूलन की दिशा में पहला कदम कार्यक्रम के डिजाइन, कार्यान्वयन और निगरानी के लिए आवश्यक विश्वसनीय गरीबी मूल्यांकन करना है। इस संदर्भ में नीति आयोग के राष्ट्रीय बहुआयामी गरीबी सूचकांक की पद्धति और महत्त्व पर चर्चा कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

The first step to eradicating poverty is reliable poverty assessment for program design, implementation, and monitoring. In this context discuss the methodology and significance of NITI Aayog's National Multidimensional Poverty Index. (Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Poverty refers to the State where an individual is unable to full participate in Social, Cultural, economic and political affairs in a society like any other person.

There has been a number of poverty assessment reports like Rangarajan Committee, Tendulkar Committee.

Recently NITI Aayog has come up with National Multidimensional poverty Index

Methodology and Significance of NITI Aayog National Multidimensional Poverty Index

1. Per capita income: defines economic status.

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One of the main criteria of earlier poverty assessment methods. It defines Purchasing Power

2. Education level: Signifies enrollment and number of years of schooling

↳ Signifying educational poverty as indicated by ASER Report

3. Standard of living — Cooking fuel, House, Assets, Drinking water, House.

It defines other enabling features associated with poverty

Government measures
- 1. Income — 1. MGNREGA, 2. Stand up India
- 2. Education — RTE, NIPUN Bharat
- 3. Standard of living — PAHAL, PM AWAS, Jal Jeevan Mission.

Thus the new methodology has the potential to eradicate poverty and achieve SDG 1 of No poverty

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8. भारत के संदर्भ में, संवैधानिक प्रावधानों, कानूनी पूर्व–उदाहरणों और अंतर्राष्ट्रीय प्रतिबद्धताओं की उपस्थिति के बावजूद, जो स्वास्थ्य के अधिकार के लिए एक मजबूत आधार स्थापित करते हैं, इस अधिकार की स्पष्ट कानूनी मान्यता का अभाव क्यों रहा है? (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

In the context of India, despite the presence of constitutional provisions, legal precedents, and international commitments that establish a robust foundation for a right to health, why has there been a lack of explicit legal recognition of this right? (Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Right to health has been recognised as a fundamental right under Article 21 under various Supreme Court (SC) Judgements

Provisions related to Right to Health

A. **Constitutional** – Article 21 – Right to clean water, Right to clean environment

B. **Legal** – National food Security Act, 2013.

C. **International** – under Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

However the Right to Health is not having explicit Legal recognition.

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Reason of Right to Health not given legal recognition

1. Constraints in Health Infrastructure
   - ↳ Shortage of Hospitals, beds.
   - ↳ Lack of qualified doctors
   - ↳ Regional divided in urban and rural areas.
2. Poor State of Primary Health Centres
3. Approach to health – Curative rather than preventive
4. Narrow definition – ~~not in~~ Mental health Seldom recognized
5. Issue of Orphan disease – rare disease have treatment cost.

Thus there is a need to give explicit legal recognition to Right to health for universal health accessibility.

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9. ब्रिक्स राष्ट्रों की सामूहिक शक्ति असंख्य मुद्दों पर सार्थक सहयोग की अनुमति देती है, हालाँकि, द्विपक्षीय संबंधों के प्रक्षेप पथ को प्रभावित करने की मंच की क्षमता सीमित है। क्या आप सहमत हैं? (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

The collective strength of BRICS nations allows for meaningful cooperation on myriad issues, however, the platform's ability to influence the trajectory of bilateral relationships remains limited. Do you agree? (Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

BRICS is a minilateral organization of developing Countries who have a different vision of Global Order.

BRICS Collective Strength

1. Population - nearly 50% of world population
2. GDP -
3. Huge share world trade.

Due to its collective Strength, BRICS Can Cooperate on myriad issues like

Issues BRICS Can Cooperate on

1. Bilateral issue - India-China, Ukraine-Russia
2. Global issue - Climate change, New world order
3. Reforms in Global institutions
4. Expansion of UNSC
5. Global Non-proliferation

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However the platforms ability to influence trajectory of bilateral relationship remains ~~limited~~ limited because :

Reason for limited bilateral relationship

1. Border Disputes : between India and china
2. Ensuing war – Russia and Ukraine.
3. Less focus on BRICS
4. Changed Status of china as a global power shifted its focus away from BRICS
5. Constitutional crisis in member Countries : e.g erratic decisions of Jair Bolsonaro (Brazil), Cyril Ramaphosa.

In order to address the issue, the group has called for expansion.

Thus BRICS can provided an alternative to the world based on New World Order.

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10. सिंधु जल संधि में संशोधन की हालिया माँगों के आलोक में, भारत और पाकिस्तान के बीच जल–बंटवारा व्यवस्था पर पड़ने वाले इसके संभावित प्रभावों की चर्चा कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

In light of the recent demands to amend the Indus Waters Treaty, discuss the possible implications it could have on the water-sharing mechanism between India and Pakistan.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

The Indus water Treaty was signed between India and Pakistan in 1960 with World bank as the negotiator regarding water sharing of Transboundary rivers of Indus and its five left bank tributaries.

Provision of treaty
- Western rivers – used by India and Pakistan in 20:80 ratio.
- Eastern rivers – to be used by India.

However there have been recent demands to amend the treaty having implications for both the nations.

Implications of demands to amend Indus water treaty

A. Pakistan: 1. will be at disadvantage

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in water sharing

2. Affect food security

3. Q6 Apprehension of use of dam as strategic weapon

4. Affecting industries and settlement pattern.

B. India 1. More hydro power electricity generation

2. More water resources and irrigation capability.

However there are some negative impacts

1. ~~Dam~~ Ecologically ~~sure~~ suicidal: to make large dams in Himalayan ecosystem.

2. May enhance Pakistan - China nexus: China being upper riparian of Brahmaputra

3. Dent India's global image of violating International treaty

Thus the issue must be resolved through dialogue and discussion as mentioned Article 51 of Indian constitution.

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11. संसदीय संप्रभुता और न्यायिक सर्वोच्चता के सिद्धांत ने भारत और संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका के संवैधानिक ढाँचे को आकार देने में अत्यधिक महत्त्वपूर्ण प्रभाव डाला है। प्रासंगिक न्यायिक निर्णयजन्य विधियों का हवाला देते हुए इन देशों में संविधान को प्रभावित करने में न्यायपालिका की भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। क्या भारत में न्यायिक समीक्षा का दायरा व्यापक है?
(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

The doctrine of Parliamentary sovereignty and judicial supremacy has exerted considerable influence in shaping the constitutional frameworks of India and the USA. Citing relevant case laws discuss the role of the judiciary in influencing the constitutions in these countries. Is the scope of judicial review wider in India?
(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

The Indian Constitution is founded on the bedrock of Principle of Separation of powers and checks and Balances.

There has been Constant debate regarding the doctrine of Parliamentary Sovereignty and Judicial Supremacy in World's largest democracy India and Strongest democracy USA

Case Laws explaining the role of Judiciary in influencing the Constitution and Parliamentary Sovereignty

1. 1st ~~Amd~~ Constitutional Amendment Act (CAA), 1951 — Parliament amended Certain

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Fundamental Rights (FR) eg Article 19, 31

2. Shankari Prasad Case, 1951 – Supreme Court (SC) upheld 1st CAA.

3. Golaknath Case, 1967 : SC restricted Parliament Power to amend Constitution. Te
* Termed FR as Sacrosanct.

4. 24th and 25th CAA, 1971 – restoring Parliament's power to amend Constitution.

5. Kesavananda Bharati Case, 1973 - SC came up with Basic Structure doctrine.
* Any amendment to Constitution will be subject to this test from 24 April, 1973.

6. 42 CAA, 1976 – Parliament restored its power to amend any part of the Constitution

7. Minerva Mills Case, 1980 - SC declared Judicial review as basic structure of the Constitution

8. D.C. Wadhwa Case, 1981 - Basic Structure

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doctrine to be applied even before 24 April, 1973

9. I. R. Coelho Case, 2006: SC said even Ninth Schedule is subject to Basic Structure doctrine

Scenario in USA The ~~Judiar~~ Judiciary enjoys the Supremacy and ~~is~~ in case of tussle between Judiciary and Parliament, the former's decision will prevail.

Thus USA has a judicial Supremacy whereas Indian Scenario presents harmonious relation between Parliamentary Sovereignty and Judicial Supremacy.

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12. 'निष्पक्ष-प्रतिनिधित्व सुनिश्चित करने और एक मत, एक मूल्य के सिद्धांत को बनाए रखने के लिए सीटों का परिसीमन आवश्यक है।' निर्वाचन क्षेत्रों में अप्रतिनिधित्व से उत्पन्न हुई चुनौतियों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए संघीय तनाव पैदा करने में जनसंख्या–आधारित परिसीमन के प्रभावों का विश्लेषण कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

Delimitation of seats is essential to ensure fair representation and uphold the principles of one vote, one value'. Highlighting the challenges posed by misrepresentation in constituencies analyze the ramifications of population-based delimitation in creating federal tension. (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

As per Article 81 of the Indian Constitution, Delimitation Commission are Constituted to draw electoral Constituencies after each Census.

However till now, four delimitation Commissions has been Constituted, last being in 2008

Challenges posed by misrepresentation in Constituencies

A. **People** 1. Flawed representation.

2. Inaccessibility to representative

3. Not able to Communicate grievance

B. **Legislators** 1. Too Large Constituency to manage

2. Disconnect with the masses, reducing

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performance

3. Regional disparity in development in the Constituency

c. Democracy 1. Failure of representative democracy.

2. Increasing mistrust between legislator and public — sign of weakening democracy

3. Smaller groups will have miniscule chance of representation

The Delimitation process has been frozen till 2026 but the next delimitation is expected after the ~~ext~~ incumbent census

Ramifications of population based delimitation in creating federal tensions

1. Advantage to numerically superior states ~~eg~~ ~~UP~~

2. Disadvantage to demographically small

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States.

3. Punishing ~~dem~~ States which are successful in family planning eg Kerala, Tamil Nadu.

4. Apprehension of South Indian States – of losing political significance at national level.

5. Lopsided democracy – with few states calling the shots eg North-Indian Hindi belt

Way Forward

1. Mechanism to award states who have controlled population
2. Maintaining federal balance across regions
3. Invoking Inter-state Council for debate, discussion and deliberations

~~bit~~ The delimitation process along with the new parliament ~~is~~ complex will be a way towards making our democracy more ~~refre~~ representative and vibrant

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13. देश में स्वतंत्र और निष्पक्ष चुनाव कराने की निर्वाचन आयोग की संवैधानिक ज़िम्मेदारी के निर्वहन में उसके हाथों को मजबूत करने में भारत के सर्वोच्च न्यायालय की भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

Discuss the role of the Supreme Court of India in strengthening the hands of the Election Commission in the discharge of its constitutional responsibility of conducting free and fair elections in the country.

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Article 324 of the Constitution empowers Election Commission of India (ECI) to Superintend, direct and control elections to Parliament, State legislatures, President and Vice President. and ensure a free and fair election.

In its pursuit of free and fair election, Supreme Court (SC) has Strengthened the hands of ECI.

~~How SC has~~

Role of SC in Strengthening hands of ECI

1. Lily Thomas Case, 2013 - Declared

Candidates must not write on this margin

Convicted legislators cannot hold their seat.

Candidates must not write on this margin

Candidates must not write on this margin

14. 'संसद की घटती भूमिका शक्तियों के पृथक्करण के मूल सिद्धांत को कमज़ोर करती है, क्योंकि यह कार्यकारी शाखा पर नियंत्रण रखने और सत्ता का संतुलित प्रयोग सुनिश्चित करने की विधायिका की क्षमता को कम कर देता है।' विवेचना कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

'The declining role of Parliament undermines the fundamental principle of separation of powers, as it diminishes the legislature's ability to serve as a check on the executive branch and ensure a balanced exercise of power.' Discuss. (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Article 75 of the Constitution States that the Council of Ministers is Collectively responsible to the Lok Sabha, thus creating a "Responsible Government"

However in recent times, it has been observed that the role of parliament is declining.

Declining role of Parliament

1. Sitting – average 70 days in a year
2. Bills passed: with average discussion of 5 minutes
3. Parliamentary Committee – decline in number of bills referred to 24%. (from 74% in last Lok Sabha)
4. Frequent disruptions.
5. Guillotine use
6. Legislation through ordinance route.

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Ramifications of Declining role of Parliament

A. Diminish legislatures ability to serve as check on executive branch

1. Executive given a free pass
2. Reduced accountability of executive for its actions
3. Affecting people's trust in parliament
4. Threatening democratic culture of the country
5. Rise of protests — parliament unable to represent people's concerns eg Farm laws protest

B. Affecting balanced exercise of power:

1. Legislature's failure in its duty.
2. Presidentialization of Parliamentary System.
3. Disrupt doctrine of separation of powers.

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and Doctrine of Checks and Balances

4. Executive actions devoid of parliamentary acumen – thus creating weak laws

5. Increasing burden on judiciary

Way Forward

1. Restoring the sanctity and effectiveness of parliament
2. Making executive accountable to parliament
3. Capacity building of Parliamentarians eg LARDISS
4. More referring of bills to parliamentary Committee.

Thus an effective parliament will result in a responsible government keeping citizen at the heart of governance

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15. भारत में लिंग–संवेदनशील कानूनों पर विमर्श को आकार देने में राष्ट्रीय महिला आयोग द्वारा निभाई गई महत्त्वपूर्ण भूमिका पर चर्चा करें। राष्ट्रीय महिला आयोग को संवैधानिक संस्था बनाने से उसका प्राधिकार किस हद तक सुदृढ़ होगा? (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

Discuss the crucial role played by the National Commission of Women in shaping the discourse on gender-sensitive laws in India. To what extent the elevation of the National Commission for Women to a constitutional body would reinforce its authority? (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

National Commission for Women (NCW) is a statutory body constituted under National Commission for Womens Act, 1990 to deal with issues Concerning women.

Over time, NCW has played a crucial role in shaping the discourse on gender-sensitive laws in Law.

Crucial Role played by NCW in shaping discourse on gender-sensitive laws in India

1. PCPNDT Act, 1994 : Pre Conception Prenatal Diagnostic techniques ~~Act~~ Act, 1994 Curbed the sex-selective abortion and checked the

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dwindling & child sex ratio.

2. Dowry Prohibition Act: Making dowry a cognizable crime.

3. Prevention of Domestic violence Act, 2005

Action against in-laws in case of domestic violence

4. Prohibition of child marriage Act: increasing age of girl marriage to 18 years

5. Prevention of Sexual Harassment at workplace Act, 2013: for working women

Thus NCW has created a discourse in which laws are gender-sensitive, keeping in mind the disadvantages faced by women

However the statutory status sometimes is not sufficient for the function discharged by the body

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How elevation of NCW to Constitutional body would reinforce its authority

1. Power of Civil Court:
2. Right to summon, produce evidences.
3. Taking Suo moto cognizance of crime against women
4. Power to punish after the trial.
5. Psychological impact - ~~the~~ based on stature of the Commission
6. More resources in discharging its function.

Thus Constitutionalization of National Commission for women has the potential to ~~to~~ walk a extra mile towards achieving Gender justice under SDG 5

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16. 'शिकायतों का संतोषजनक और समयबद्ध निवारण 'न्यूनतम सरकार, अधिकतम शासन' की आधारशिला है।' इस संदर्भ में मौजूदा शिकायत निवारण तंत्र से जुड़ी चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए और इस प्रक्रिया को सुदृढ़ करने के लिए उपाय सुझाएँ। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

'Satisfactory and timely redressal of grievances is the cornerstone of 'minimum government, maximum governance.' In this context discuss the challenges associated with current grievance redress mechanisms and suggest measures to strengthen the process. (Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

Grievance redressal mechanism forms the basis of any organization providing services and the governments are no exception.

However the grievance redressal mechanism in India is far from being sufficient.

Challenges with Current grievance redressal mechanisms

A. **National and State level**

1. Ineffective and Inefficient legislative functioning
2. Rising executive powers, diminishing accountability through legislators.
3. Apathy of legislators. — ~~Size~~ large size of Constituency, inaccessibility.

Candidates must not write on this margin

Against Executive Actions

1. ~~A Red tapi~~ No clear mechanism
2. Red tapism and formalities
3. Bureaucratic Apathy
4. No adherence to time limit
5. Charity-based approach rather than rights-based.
6. Frivolous ground of rejection of RTI
7. ~~Insensitivity of~~ Crime related - insensitivity of police
8. Judiciary: long time taking, high pendency. Costly affairs.

Measures to Strengthen Grievance Redressal Mechanism

1. ~~Stro~~ Strong Adherence to Citizen Charter

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2. Seamlessness of Grievance Redressal Mechanism - through e-mode

3. Ensuring anonymity in whistle blowing

4. Capacity building of workforce - switch to SMART Governance.

5. Filling vacancies to ensure smooth functioning of departmental works.

6. Replacing Rep tape with Red Carpet

Thus a strong and resilient Grievance redressal mechanism is a key in ensuring people-centric governance as suggested by 2nd Administrative Reforms Commission.

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17. 'भ्रष्टाचार शासन के ताने–बाने को जर्जर कर देता है, जिससे लोकतांत्रिक संस्थाओं में जनता का विश्वास कम हो जाता है।' भ्रष्टाचार विरोधी शासन या व्यवस्था की प्रभावशीलता को बढ़ाने के लिए सूचना का अधिकार (आरटीआई) अधिनियम, व्हिसलब्लोअर संरक्षण अधिनियम (डब्ल्यूबीपीए), और लोकपाल और लोकायुक्त अधिनियम, 2013 के बीच समन्वय स्थापित करने के सामर्थ्य का परीक्षण कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

'Corruption corrodes the fabric of governance, eroding the public's faith in democratic institutions.' Examine the potential for harmonizing the Right to Information (RTI) Act, the Whistleblower Protection Act (WBPA), and the Lokpal & Lokayukta Act, 2013, to enhance the effectiveness of the anticorruption regime. (Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

Corruption is in Indian system was explained by Former PM Rajiv Gandhi that out of ₹1 sanctioned for the poor, only 15 paise reach the real beneficiary

Corruption (C) has an intricate relation with Monopoly (M), Discretion (D) and Accountability (A)

$$C = M + D - A$$

In order to deal with Corruption, there is the potential to harmonize RTI Act, with Whistle blower Protection Act (WBPA) and Lokpal & Lokayukta Act, (~~2013~~ 2013)

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How Harmonization of the Acts will lead to enhanced effectiveness of anti-Corruption regime

A. RTI Act 1. Enhancing the ambit of the Act. to eg Increasing ambit of Public authority, including political parties

2. Easing the procedure for getting information — removing frivolous grounds and ~~exc~~ unnecessary exceptions.

3. Creating a Culture of RTI activists and not discouraging them

B. Whistle blower Protection Act

1. Ensuring Anonymity of the whistleblower

2. Full proof Safety of Whistle blower.

3. Taking action against accused

4. Rehabilitation mechanism for whistle blower.

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C. Lokpal and Lokayukta Act, 2013

1. Strengthening the mechanism under the Act
2. Uniformity across states
3. More powers to Lokpal and Lokayukta
4. ▷ Enhanced resources to discharge their duties.

Thus the harmonization of the three laws will decrease monopoly and discretion of officials and increase accountability and enhancing the effectiveness of anti-corruption regime

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18. गरीबी का प्रभावी ढंग से मुकाबला करने के लिए हाशिए पर रहने वाले समुदायों के बीच कौशल विकास, उद्यमिता और आय सृजन के लिए एसएचजी का लाभ एक मंच के रूप में उठाने में शामिल संभावित चुनौतियों और लाभों का विश्लेषण कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

Analyze the potential challenges and benefits involved in leveraging SHGs as platforms for skill development, entrepreneurship, and income generation among marginalized communities to effectively counter poverty. Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

SHGs are a group of people from similar socio-economic background who are organised to achieve a common goal

SHGs can be roped in to as a platform for skill development, Entrepreneurship and income generation among marginalized community.

Benefits of ~~using~~ leveraging SHGs in the above purpose

1. Reaching the target audience - through SHG members
2. Increasing it income generating capacity - through employability

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3. Expanding the Scope of SHG — new entrepreneurship projects.

4. A Cost saved of creating of new infrastructure

5. Creating a virtuous cycle of skill, entrepreneurship and income.

However, there are a number of Challenges too

Challenges
- Social – 1. Patriarchal mindset
  2. Reduced mobility of women
  3. Low literacy rate
- Economic – 1. Funds Shortage
  2. Economically unviable projects
  3. Low financial literacy
- Others – 1. Digital divide
  2. Low digital literacy

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Way Forward 1. Capacity building of SHGs

2. Role models and Testimonials

3. Training of SHG members – on a pilot basis

4. Focus on digital penetration, financial literacy.

SHGs with their reach can play a significant role in creating a virtuous cycle of skill, Entrepreneurship and income generation to counter poverty and achieve targets of SDG 1

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19. 'भारत अपनी समृद्ध संस्कृति के लिए विश्व मानचित्र पर अद्वितीय स्थान रखता है।' इस संदर्भ में भारत की सॉफ्ट पावर कूटनीति के साधन के रूप में संस्कृति, प्रवासी और लोकतंत्र की भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। भारत किस हद तक खुद को श्स्मार्ट पावरश के रूप में स्थापित करने में सक्षम हो पाया है? (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

'India is uniquely positioned on the world map for its rich culture.' In this context discuss the role of culture, diaspora, and democracy as instruments of India's soft power diplomacy. To what extent India has been able to position itself as a 'smart power'? (Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

India is a civilizational nation with its Culture and traditions an integral of its her ethos since time immemorial.

India has a unique position in the world for its rich culture which is being a part of its Soft power diplomacy

Role of Culture, Diaspora and Democracy as instruments of India's Soft power diplomacy

A. Culture 1. Export of Culture: to neighbouring Countries. eg Roti Beti Relation with Nepal

2. People to people contact: to an integral part in bilateral relations. eg India-

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Israel relations.

3. Schemes to Showcase India's Culture: Study in India, Know Your Country, Swadesh Darshan scheme

B. Diaspora 1. Representative of India in their home Country — Cultural Spread

2. Lobbying for India's National interest — eg Indo-American during Civil Nuclear deal with USA.

3. Strengthening people to people contact.

C. Democracy 1. Export of Democracy: eg Afghanistan, African Nations.

2. Ardent Supporter of Democratic process. eg stand against Taliban.

Through these steps, India is trying to be position itself as a Smart power ie., blend of hard and and Soft power in

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foreign policy.

To what extent India positioned itself as a Smart power

A. Neighbourhood – Following Neighbourhood First policy and Smart power at the same time eg Myanmar – Project Sunrise, Surgical Strike at in PoK.

B. West Asia and South east Asia : Soft diplomacy making inroads along with traditional economic relations.

C. Global level : Increasing Cultural clout of India

↳ 21st June celebrated as International Yoga Day

However there are regions where there is need of more gains in foreign policy.

However the Smart power of India has made India walk on path towards becoming true Vishwaguru

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20. भारत और ऑस्ट्रेलिया के बीच साझा मूल्यों और जीवंत लोगों से लोगों के बीच संबंधों का साहचर्य दोनों देशों के बीच दीर्घकालिक व्यापार संबंधों और रणनीतिक सहयोग को बढ़ावा देने के लिए उपजाऊ जमीन तैयार करता है। विश्लेषण कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

The synergy of shared values and vibrant people-to-people connections between India and Australia creates a fertile ground for fostering long-lasting trade relations and strategic collaboration between the two nations. Analyse. (Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

India and Australia enjoys good bilateral relations as both the nations were part of Commonwealth of Nations

The two countries have shared values and vibrant people to people connections, making the ~~for~~ future of bilateral relations bright.

Shared values
1. Colonial past
2. Democracy
3. Rule based world order

People to people Connections
1. Cultural Connections
2. Cricket diplomacy
3. Business and and Tourism

Fertile ground for long-stand trade relations and Strategic Collaboration

A. **Trade relations** 1. Expanding the scope

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of trade.

2. Signing of CEPA (Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement)

3. Increase in the items in negative list of tariff and non-tariff barriers

4. Trade in renewable energy products

B. **Strategic Collaboration** 1. Joint Maritime Exercise. eg Malabar Exercise.

2. Strategic Grouping. eg QUAD.

3. Achieving Strategic resilience in Supply chain - Supply chain Resilience Initiative (SCRI)

4. Trans Mutual Sharing of Information and Intelligence.

However there are some issues in the

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relations between two nations

Issues

1. Divergence of Nation over Indo-pacific
2. Different approach towards Containing china
3. Rise of khalistani activities in Australia.
4. Trade divergence with respect to dairy products.
5. India kept out of AUKUS initiative
6. Difference of opinion inside QUAD among key issues

However the two nations have the potential to ~~factor~~ manage their differences and write a chapter of friendship in the book of History

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Space for Rough Work

NEXT IAS