

NEXT IAS

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(To be filled by candidate)

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FLT ☐

FLT+ ☒

Time Taken : 3:00 hr.

SLT ☐

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MAIN TEST SERIES 2023 (TEST-10)

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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. मानवाधिकार के मुद्दों पर सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के हालिया निर्णय अंतराष्ट्रीय कानून और संधियों को न केवल प्रेरणा के स्रोत के रूप में बल्कि विधि के स्रोत के रूप में उपयोग करने में एक उल्लेखनीय बदलाव का संकेत देते हैं। प्रासंगिक निर्णय-विधि के संदर्भ में परीक्षण कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

The recent Supreme Court judgments on human rights issues mark a remarkable shift in using International law and treaties not just as a source of inspiration but as a source of law. Examine with reference to relevant case laws. (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

International covenant on Human Rights

Define Human Rights as those foundational rights necessary for all-round development of Individual e.g. Right to life, liberty etc

Recent SC judgments on Human Rights

- ① Right to freedom of speech and expression also includes right to remain silent.
- ① Access to Internet is implicit fundamental right to exercise right to freedom of speech (JOK Internetban case)
- ①① Right to privacy - is fundamental right under Right to life and liberty (Art 21)

These judgements make a remarkable shift in Indian jurisprudence -

- ① International laws - no more just a source of inspiration eg. UN-HDR rights - source of Human Rights in India.
 - ② Major international rules can be invoked to justify certain claims eg. Campese Rules for river water distribution.
- Given the increasing globalisation of local issues, it is obvious for superior courts to look for international references to do complete justice under Art. 142.

2. संवैधानिक प्रावधानों में समानता के बावजूद वाक एवं अभिव्यक्ति की स्वतंत्रता पर संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका और भारत का अपना विशिष्ट न्यायशास्त्र है। विश्लेषण कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

The United States and India have their own distinctive jurisprudence on freedom of speech and expression despite the similarities in constitutional provisions. Analyse. (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Freedom of speech and expression is a basic fundamental right available to citizens of both USA (Bill of Rights) and India (Art. 19 (1)(a) under Part III)

~~Similarities~~

~~Difference~~ in jurisprudence

Similarities in constitutional provisions:-

- (i) Both countries assign right to freedom of speech as fundamental right.
- (ii) Citizens of both countries can invoke court for enforcement of this right.
- (iii) Right to freedom of speech also include freedom of press, of advertisement and right against tapping of phone
- (iv) It also include right to remain silent.

Despite similarities, there are distinctive
jurisprudence in both countries-

USA

- Not curtailed under any circumstance
- Enforcement based on due process of law
- Narrow scope with respect to state government action

TINIDA

- Curtailed under Marital Law or National Emergency (Art. 352)
- Enforcement based on procedure established by law.
- Can also enforce the right against actions of state governments.

Although, they have jurisprudential
difference, right to freedom and expression
forms the base for progressive democracy.

3. मौलिक कर्तव्य एक अनुस्मारक हैं कि नागरिकता मात्र एक निष्क्रिय प्रस्थिति नहीं है, बल्कि एक सक्रिय संलग्नता है। चर्चा कीजिए। इनके विधिक प्रवर्तन में कौन-कौन सी चुनौतियाँ हैं? (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

Fundamental Duties are a reminder that citizenship is not merely a passive status but an active engagement. Discuss. What are the challenges in their legal enforcement? (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Fundamental Duties were added to the constitution by 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976 as part IIA. under Art. 51A.

They contain certain duties that every citizen need to carry out :

Importance of Fundamental Duties

- ① Balance the fundamental rights under part III with certain obligations
- ② Some duties are generic e.g. respecting national ideals, fostering brotherhood
- ③ Some duties are specific respecting national flag, national anthem etc
- ④ Instill a sense of responsibility among every citizen to carry out their duties as part of nation

- ⑤ Ensures unity, integrity and socio-economic progress of India

Challenges in legal enforcement

- ① Some of the rights are vaguely worded e.g. noble ideals of independence
- ② Certain duties are behavioural in nature e.g. fostering scientific temper
- ③ Enforcement can lead to increase in already burdened judiciary workload
- ④ Some duties are anyways followed by majority of nation - enforcement not necessary e.g. respecting national flag.

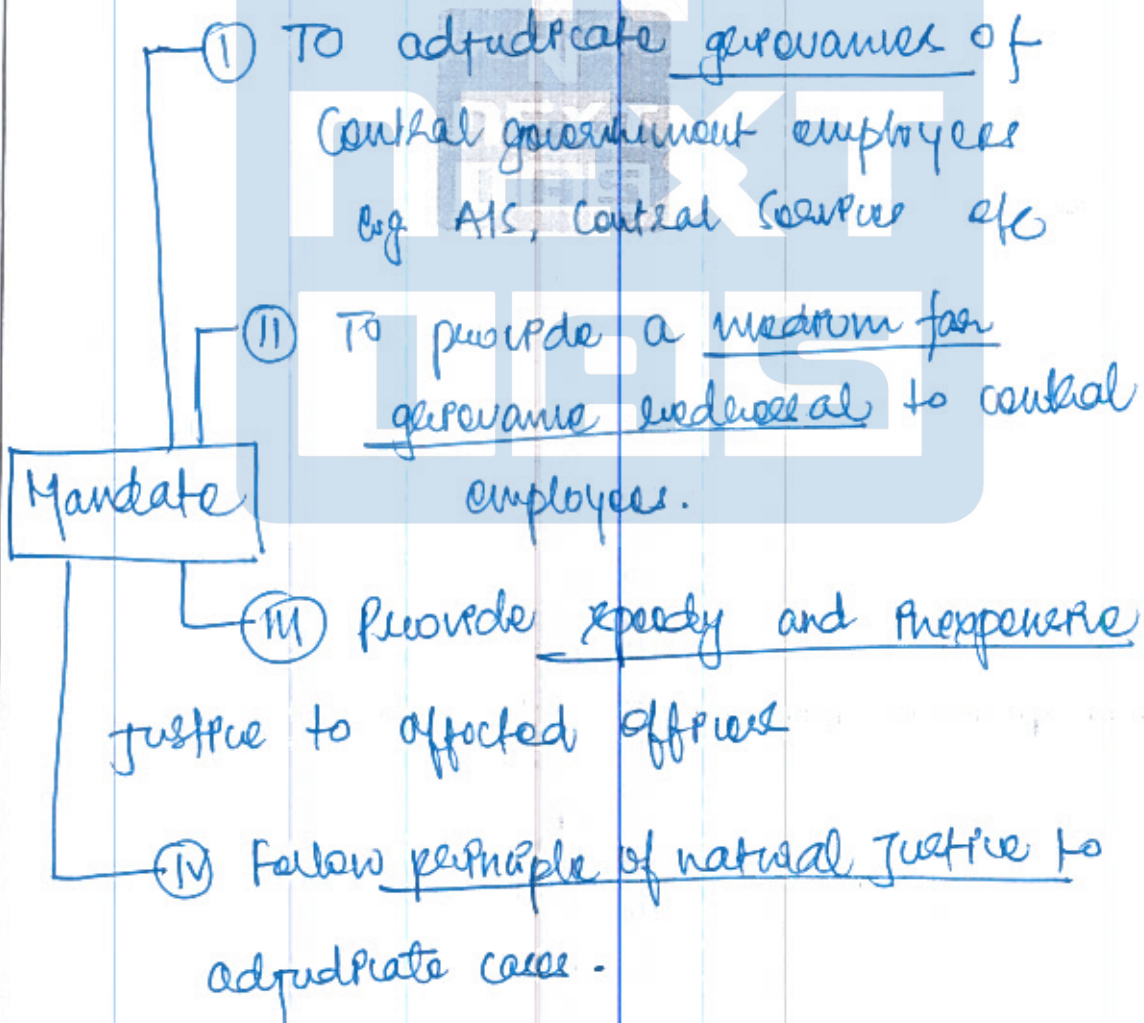
Although non-enforceable, the Fundamental Duties are part of basic structure of constitution.

4. केंद्रीय प्रशासनिक न्यायाधिकरण (CAT) के अधिदेश पर चर्चा कीजिए। सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के पूर्व के निर्णयों ने CAT और उच्च न्यायालयों के बीच क्षेत्राधिकार संबंधी विवाद को किस सीमा तक हल किया है?

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

Discuss the mandate of the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT). To what extent earlier SC verdicts have resolved the jurisdictional tussle between CAT and High courts? (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Act 323 A provides for Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) to try and adjudicate cases and grievances related to central government employees.



Jurisdictional Tussle between CAT and HC-

- ① Earlier, the verdict of CAT could not be challenged in High courts (under Art 226)
- ② A judgement of CAT was challenged by SLP (Art-136) to Supreme court only.

Supreme court verdict

- ① SC in Chandran Kumar case, upheld this provision → CAT verdict can be challenged to respective HCs under Art 226
 - ② It also established that Judicial review under Art 226 is a part of Basic structure doctrine and cannot be curtailed
 - ③ SC reaffirmed it in Hane in Madras Bar Association case that CAT verdicts are open to be challenged at HCs.
- CATs are established to uphold judiciary, however that should not curtail the jurisdiction of constitutional courts

5. 'भारतीय संविधान के तहत समानता केवल औपचारिक समानता नहीं है, बल्कि इसमें वास्तविक (मौलिक) समानता का विचार भी शामिल है।' संवैधानिक प्रावधानों और इस संदर्भ में सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के निर्णयों के आलोक में कथन का विवेचन कीजिए।

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

'Equality under the Indian constitution is not merely about formal equality, it also incorporates the idea of substantive equality'. Discuss this statement in light of constitutional provisions and relevant Supreme Court judgments.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

The concept of equality is enshrined under Art. 14 of part III of our constitution which says that —

- ① There should be equality before law (British origin)
- ② Citizen should get equal protection of law (American origin).

However, such equality is not formal but contains the idea of substantive equality.

- Constitutional provision
- ① Equal protection of law means provides that like should be treated alike.
 - ② Art. 16 provides for reservation of jobs and educational opportunities for weaker sections
 - ③ Art. 15 - says that state cannot discriminate on the name of class, caste, sex, religion etc

- ① Indira Sawhney Case :- SC uphold the idea of substantive justice by upholding constitutional validity of 27% OBC reservation.

Supreme Court
Judgement

- ② M. Nagaraj case - It reaffirmed Mandal judgement that substantive equality should benefit only non-creamy layer.

- ③ SC upheld in 2019 that - competition along with reservation = efficiency along with social justice.

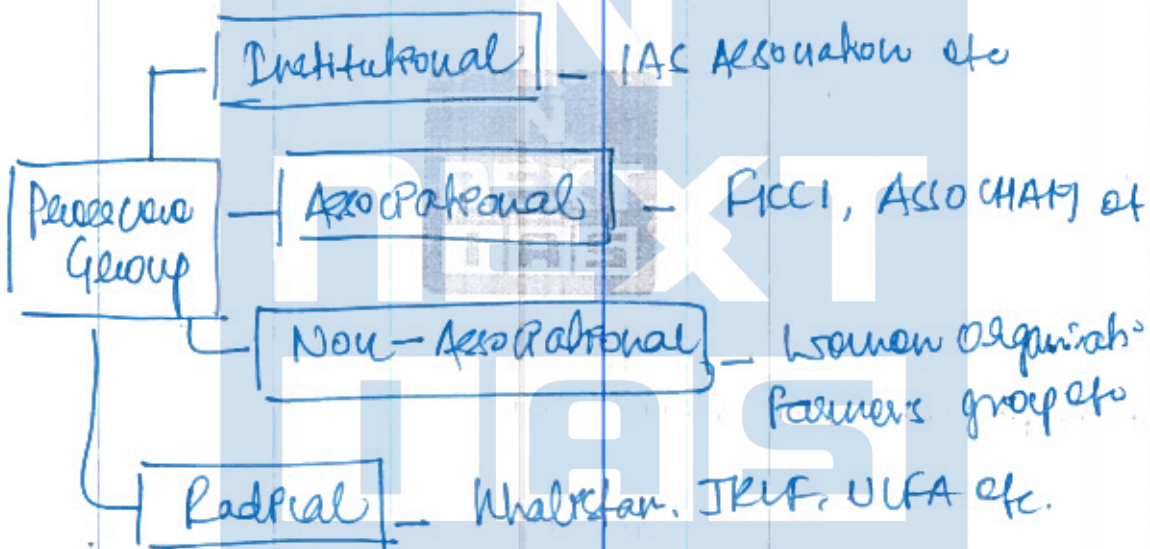
Given the vast socio-economic diversity the idea of substantive equality is vital to ensure progress which is efficient and inclusive.

6. दबाव समूह और राजनीतिक दल राजनीतिक प्रक्रिया को लोकतांत्रिक बनाने के अपने उद्देश्य में स्वाभाविक रूप से समान हैं, यद्यपि वर्तमान समय में अधिकतर दबाव समूह राजनीतिक दलों में रूपांतरित होने की महत्वाकांक्षा रखते हैं। उन कारकों का सविस्तर वर्णन कीजिए जो इस रूपांतरण को प्रोत्साहित कर रहे हैं।

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

Pressure groups and political parties are inherently similar in their objective to democratise the political process, however, more and more pressure groups today aspire to transform into political parties. Elaborate and highlight the factors that are encouraging this transformation. (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Pressure groups are informal group that engage themselves in political struggle to further their cause e.g. Bharhya Kisan Union

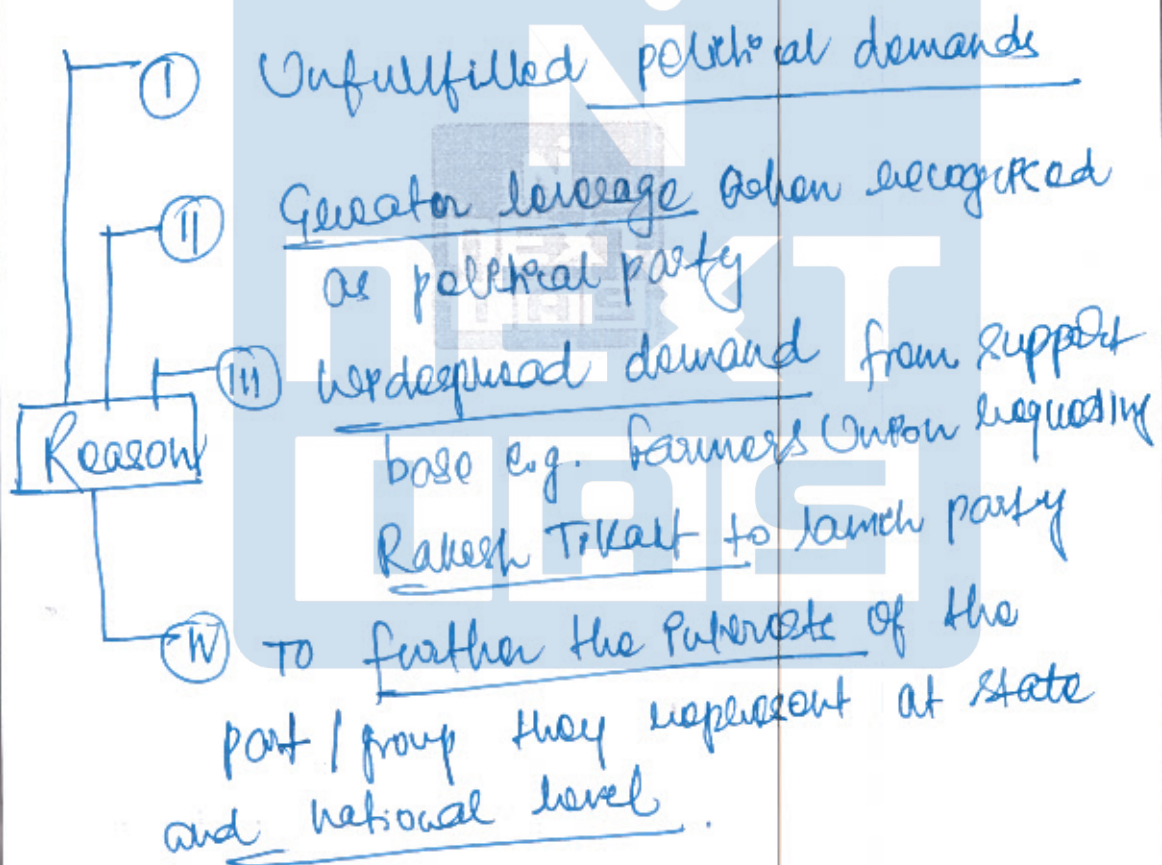


Similarity with political parties:-

- ① Have defined internal structure e.g. head, vpo, president etc
- ② Ideology is defined - either right wing or leftist etc
- ③ Designated political demand - e.g. farmer's MSP by BKU.

Yet, more pressure groups are transforming into political parties. for. eg

- ① Indian Against Corruption - changed into Aam Admi Party..
- ② Jai Samyukta Morcha - and related factors coalesced as Bharat Army.



Vibrant pressure groups are antidote to any authoritarian government and vital to ensure government accountability.

7. "क्या भारत में उच्च शिक्षा की वैश्विक प्रतिस्पर्धात्मकता को बढ़ाने तथा वर्तमान गुणवत्ता चुनौतियों का समाधान करने के लिए विदेशी शैक्षणिक संस्थानों का प्रवेश एक परिवर्तनकारी कदम हो सकता है?" तर्क सहित पुष्टि कीजिए।

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

"Can the infusion of foreign educational institutions be a transformative step in enhancing the global competitiveness of higher education in India and addressing the prevailing quality challenges?" Justify with reason.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

None of the Indian Higher Educational Institutions figure in TIMES Global Top 100 Institutions.

Reason - (i) Inward looking close education policy & system

(ii) GDP & expenditure only 2.9%

(iii) R&D expenditure - 0.6% against top 10 economies average of 2%.

(iv) Faculty vacancies - 100% in 10 of Andhra & Odisha.

Under given circumstances, infusion of foreign educational institutions can bring following transformations -

- ① Increased competitiveness with top institutions
- ② Faculty engagement & resultant reforms
- ③ Student exchange programme can boost competitiveness
- ④ Greater synergy on research & development among top institutions
e.g. IISc, IIT & MIT, Caltech etc.
- ⑤ Incentive to state universities to match global standards.

Hence, the increased synergy and resultant competition may ameliorate the existing quality of Indian higher education.

8. सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य प्रणाली की सीमाओं को संबोधित करने के हेतु निजी क्षेत्र किस प्रकार सभी के लिए समान और सुलभ स्वास्थ्य देखभाल सुनिश्चित करने के अंतर को पाटने में प्रभावी योगदान दे सकता है? चर्चा कीजिए।

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

To address the limitations of the public health system, how can the private sector contribute effectively to bridging the gap to ensure equitable and accessible healthcare for all? Discuss.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Indian public health system is a mix of both public & private institutions with skewed presence of private sector in—

① mostly tier I & II cities

② largely for tertiary care sector.

This has led to following issues—

① High OOP expenditure - 45% of per capita expenditure
Economic Survey, 2023 (highest among BRICS nation)

② 0.7 : 1000 doctor to patient ratio against WHO mandated 2.5 (Sri Lanka = 9)

③ Very expensive tertiary care - half of the poor population are due to expenditure on health services only (National MPI by NITI)

④ 1.4 Bed / 1000 population.

Thus, private sector contribution can-
rectify the situation —

① Opening semi-specialty hospitals
in tier II towns.

② mandatory services of senior doctors
in rural district hospitals — can be
mandated by government law.

③ An independent health regulator
to ensure equity from private sector

Economic survey suggests increasing
expenditure on health services from
present 1.5% of GDP to WHO
mandated 3% to bridge health gap.

9. गरीबी और भुखमरी उन्मूलन के लिए वैश्विक सहयोग की यथाशीघ्र आवश्यकता है। अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सहयोग गरीबी और भुखमरी की चुनौतियों से निपटने के प्रयासों को कैसे प्रभावित कर सकता है? विश्लेषण कीजिए।

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

There is an urgent need for global cooperation to eradicate poverty and hunger. In this context analyse how international cooperation can impact efforts to address the challenges of poverty and hunger.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Global Multidimensional Poverty Index by Oxford & UNDP says that globally 800 mn people are multidimensionally poor with sub-Saharan African region accounting for almost half of them.

In this regard, there is a need for global cooperation to eradicate poverty & hunger as-

- (i) skewed distribution of poverty as per Global MPI Index.
- (ii) Global interdependence on food security
eg. Ukraine war led to scarcity of wheat in Africa
- (iii) Growing interconnectedness of major economies - any incident in OPEC

affects all countries equally.

- (iv) Effect on climate change on food security
as per World Food Summit, 2002.

The required co-operation can be fostered by

- (i) A global body under watch of UNO solely dedicated for food security
- (ii) Synchronisation of global MPE findings with local legislation and policy
- (iii) Reform in WTO - to ensure rule based global economic trade.
- (iv) Synchronisation in regional trade blocks to needs of most vulnerable nations

Only by a co-operative effort at global level can the SDG-1 & 2 ~~can~~ be achieved by 2030.

10. बदलती वैश्विक गतिशीलता को ध्यान में रखते हुए विश्व व्यापार संगठन (WTO) में प्रभावी और सार्थक सुधार किए जाने की तत्काल आवश्यकता है, ताकि आधुनिक व्यापार की जटिलताओं को दूर करने में WTO की प्रासंगिकता और क्षमताओं का उपयोग किया जा सके। चर्चा कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

The changing global dynamics require prompt effective and meaningful reforms within the World Trade Organization (WTO), to ensure its relevance and capacity to address modern trade complexities. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

WTO was established as General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs after the aftermath of World War-II to ensure a rule based global trade system.

However, given the modern trade complexities the effectiveness of WTO has diminished—

- ① Inability to tame global protectionist tendencies eg. USA policy
- ② Increasing trade wars - and irrelevance of WTO eg. US-China trade war
- ③ Unilateral trade sanctions - without adhering to WTO regime
- ④ Misuse of rules such as Most Favoured Nation by some countries of Europe

- ⑤ Criteria to self designate - developed or developing - another issue
- ⑥ Non-functioning WTO Appellate Tribunal.

In this regard some radical reforms are
required —

- ① Clearly mentioned criteria for designation of developed/developing country
- ② Revision of timeline - for some developed nations viz. China to accord to global rules.
- ③ Diversification of membership of WTO from all major geographical regions
- ④ Re-establishment of Appellate Body to adjudicate trade disputes.
- ⑤ Bringing bilateral trade deals within WTO fold.

Given the increasing complexity of 21st century trade, these reforms are a must to ensure rule based economic order.

11. 69वें संविधान संशोधन ने किस प्रकार दिल्ली में दोहरे शासन की दुविधा को उत्पन्न किया है? संविधान में परिकल्पित सहकारी संघवाद पर इसके प्रभाव की चर्चा कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक
- How has the 69th Constitutional amendment led to Delhi's dual governance dilemma? Discuss its impact on cooperative federalism as envisaged in the Constitution. (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

69th Constitutional Amendment, 1991 created

Art 239A which provides for legislative

government for National Capital Territory

of Delhi. It ensures that all state

subjects except land, police and law and

order are to be exercised by popular state
government chosen by adult suffrage.

However, the amendment has created dual
governance dilemma in following ways-

① It provides for an assembly - partly
elected and partly nominated - without
fixing the quantum -

② It exempts state governments jurisdiction
on land, law and order and police.

- ③ In matter of discrepancies on any subject matter - decision of LG would be final.
- ④ LG can reserve bills for consideration of president even of subjects allowed.
- ⑤ Recent amendments has designated word government to mean LG for all legal purpose.
- ⑥ Any subject from state list can be excluded from state's jurisdiction by central parliament action.

Such dual governance has negative impact on co-operative federalism:-

- ① Frequent tussle between Council of minister and LG on trivial matters.
- ② Policy Paralysis - due to undefined control of central on certain subjects.
- ③ Violates triple char. of accountability as established by Supreme Court.

- (IV) Law and order suffers big time with frequent cases of murder, snatchings etc
- (V) leads to bureaucratic absolutism - due to absence of any effective executive or legislative check.

Suggestion:

- (i) Boosting core areas of NCT, police should be given full statehood.
- (ii) Law & order and police must be in control of Delhi government for effective legislative accountability.
- (iii) L.G. should maintain the decorum of high constitutional office and should not meddle with democratically elected government.

The unique status of NCT of Delhi needs a relook for benefit of its 2 crore strong population.

12.

"संविधान एक स्वतंत्र न्यायपालिका की परिकल्पना करता है, न कि पृथक् न्यायपालिका की"; दिए गए कथन के आलोक में उच्च न्यायपालिका में न्यायाधीशों की नियुक्ति से जुड़े मुद्दों पर चर्चा कीजिए तथा वर्तमान प्रणाली के विकल्प तलाशिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

"Constitution envisages an independent judiciary, not insulated judiciary"; In the light of the given statement, discuss the issues associated with the appointment of judges in the higher judiciary and explore alternatives to the current system. (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Art. 124 to 147 provides for Union Judiciary
as an independent and integrated institution
to uphold constitutional supremacy and as
guarantee of fundamental rights.

However, the appointments to higher
Judiciary has run into controversy viz

- ① Opaque collegium system - Its
working is not open to public scrutiny
- ② Uncle Judge syndrome - most of the
judges appointed are related with existing
ones
- ③ Competency of judges as oppositer of
appointment of Justice Dhanakaran with
doubtful integrity

- ④ Vagueness of Article 124 itself - does not mention if consultation with SC judges is mandatory or otherwise
 - ⑤ Collegium system - out of judicial review as well as RTI ambit.
 - ⑥ Issue of judicial independence v/s judicial accountability towards democracy
-

Given the anomaly, following suggestions can be followed : —

- ① well established Memorandum of Procedure (II ARC recommendation)
- ② A new collegium with Vice president as chairman, 10 opposition (LS), CJI and 2 senior most judges.
- ③ Written criteria for selecting or rejecting any appointment.

④ All Indian Judicial Services — recommended
by Punchhi Commission and several law
commission.

⑤ Collegium decision can be brought under
RTI — just as office of CJI was included
for greater transparency

By reforming appointment system
judiciary can ensure that colleagues of
justice are not themselves stay in dark.

13. राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जनजाति आयोग (NCST) प्रायः निगरानी और सलाहकार की भूमिका तक ही सीमित है। संवैधानिक दर्जा प्राप्त होने के बावजूद NCST के कामकाज में क्या बाधाएँ हैं? इसमें सुधार हेतु सुझाव भी दीजिए।
(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

The National Commission for Scheduled Tribe (NCST) has largely been confined to a monitoring and advisory role. What are the impediments in the functioning of NCST despite the constitutional status, also suggests reforms.
(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Art 338A provides for a National Commission of ST (NCST) to look after the constitutional and legal safeguards provided to STs of India (11% of population - Census 2011)

However, even after separation from NCSC and attaining constitutional status, its working has been weakened.

- Reasons** —
- ① No power to take suo-motu cognisance of incidents eg pee scandal in Vedha, MP
 - ② Its recommendations are only advisory & not binding
 - ③ A recommendatory body in nature

Reasons

(iv) Its reports are not compiled timely and are less frequently discussed in parliament

(v) Does not take cognizance of non-Creamy layer because they do not usually file complaints.

Suggestive reforms

- (i) Make it an active organization on lines of CVC, CBI, Lokpal etc
- (ii) Make the recommendations binding on executive — both State & Union.
- (iii) Diversify membership — at least half of the members should be women & STs
- (iv) Power to take substantive cognizance of cases.
- (v) A directive to take cognizance of offences even from media report — electronic or print

- ⑥ A permanent parliamentary Committee
to keep an oversight on the annual report

Effective functioning of NCST can
only ensure fruitful realisation
of socio-economic justice as
enshrined in Art. 38 (Part IV).

NEXT
IAS

14.

राज्यपाल किन-किन परिस्थितियों में किसी राज्य के विधेयक को राष्ट्रपति के विचारार्थ आरक्षित कर सकता है और यह प्रावधान विवादास्पद क्यों है? साथ ही इस संबंध में पुंछी आयोग द्वारा सुझाए गए सुधारों पर भी चर्चा कीजिए।

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

Under what circumstances can the Governor reserve a state bill for the consideration of the President and why is the provision controversial? Also, discuss the reforms suggested by Punchhi Commission in this regard.

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Art. 153 provides for the office of Governor as the constitutional head of state government and agent of Centre at states to ensure compliance of state government to constitution.

Under provisions of Art. 200, Governor can reserve any state bill for the consideration of president if —

- ① It has impairment of national unity and integrity.
- ② It affects the federal relation between centre and state
- ③ It jeopardises the jurisdiction of High Courts
- ④ During financial emergency

However, this power provision has summit controversy due to following reasons-

- (i) Emergence of active governors e.g. R.N. Rao (Tamil Nadu), Jagdeep Dhankhar etc.
- (ii) Undefined nature of legislative division between centre and states.
- (iii) Assertive role of governors e.g. TN Governor reserved NEET Bill although it is a ~~state~~ state subject.
- (iv) Made of appointment of governor - they need to comply with union directives.

In this regard, Punchhi Comm. has suggested radical reforms for the office of Governor. Some of them are -

- (i) Governor should reserve only those bills that has signification on federal relationship.

② To insulate upon effect, it suggests the mutate mutate procedure for Governor also.

③ Reiterate the recommendations made by Sarkaria Commission that governors should not be person engaged in active politics in recent past.

④ The term of 5 years for governor should be fixed to ensure the independence of the position.

Given the dual role played by Governor as Jekyll (with outline) and Hyde (with state), the office needs radical reforms as suggested by Sarkaria and Punchhi Commissions.

15. नौवीं अनुसूची ने संपत्ति के मौलिक अधिकार के तहत सामाजिक-आर्थिक न्याय से संबंधित कानूनों को चुनौती से बचाने के लिए एक संवैधानिक विरोधाभास उत्पन्न किया। क्या वर्तमान समय में नौवीं अनुसूची की कोई प्रासंगिकता है? आई. आर. कोएल्हो निर्णय ने इस विरोधाभास का कैसे समाधान किया? (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

The Ninth Schedule fabricated a constitutional paradox to safeguard laws related to socio-economic justice from being challenged under the fundamental right to property. Does the ninth schedule have any relevance in present times? How did the IR Coelho judgment resolve this paradox?

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

1st constitutional amendment, 1951 introduced the 9th schedule and Art. 31A & C into Constitution to give effect to land-reforms and save such laws pertaining to Art. 39(b) and 39(c) of DPSP from judicial review.

The schedule was essentially a step to ensure socio-economic justice as enshrined in our preamble and part IV.

Feature - ① Any law forming part of 9th schedule has pro-dominance over fundamental rights

② A law-part of IX schedule cannot be challenged in constitutional courts.

③ Art 31(c) comes in and Art 14 goes out

However, these provisions have led to bulging of 9th schedule with too many laws both from union and state governments.

Relevance of 9th schedule in present times

- ① The promise of land reforms made in 1951 is still not complete
- ② Close to 200mn people are still multidimensionally poor - need special assistance
- ③ Land related suits - already form 60% of cases pending in judiciary
- ④ State is litigant in half of those 60% cases pertaining to land titling.
- ⑤ Poverty is still skewed at national level with eastern and central India still lagging behind on National MPI indicator by NITI

D. R. Coelho case [also called 9th schedule
Case]
involved the issue as :-

- (i) It removed the blanket ban provided to laws from judicial review of 9th schedule.
- (ii) As per verdict, all laws that were added after 24. April 1973 would be open to challenge on the basis of violation of Basic structure doctrine (BSD).
- (iii) It also established that BSD is part of BSD judicial review (JR) and cannot be curtailed by any legislation.

The protection of laws pertaining to land reform is necessary to ensure equitable socio-economic growth and fulfillment of SDG-1 by 2030.

16. "केंद्रीय सूचना आयोग सुशासन के लिए अटूट प्रासंगिकता के साथ लोकतंत्र के संरक्षक के रूप में खड़ा है।" CIC के अधिदेश के संदर्भ में कथन को न्यायोचित ठहराइए। क्या CIC की वैधानिक स्थिति ने हाल के दिनों में इसकी प्रभावशीलता को सीमित कर दिया है? (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

"Central Information Commission stands as the guardian of democracy, with an unwavering relevance to good governance." Justify the context in terms of the mandate of the CIC. Has the statutory status limited the effectiveness of the commission in recent times? (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Right to Information Act provides for institutional mechanism in the form of Central Information Commission (CIC) for enforcement of the fundamental right to information.

Terms and mandates of CIC

- ① To provide the information as requested by applicant in time bound manner
- ② Sec. 2 of Act allows CIC to make sub-judice declaration of certain information.
- ③ It also establishes a network of Information Officers in every government department.

- ④ It has power to impose penalty in case of non-disclosure of data on false ground.
- ⑤ It is also mandated to popularise the law among the masses for its effective utilisation.
- ⑥ It seeks to promote transparency, accountability and responsiveness of executive thereby ensuring good governance.

However the effectiveness of CIC is limited by following issues -

- ① Statutory nature - executive can alter the condition of statute any time
eg. RTI (Amend.) Act, 2019 curtailed the tenure to 3 years.
- ② Executive Bureaucratization - in place of mandated reports from varied field.

- (iii) Case pendency - due to 6-7 member strength in place of usual 10 (32k cases)
- (iv) Degraded condition of SCs - added were to CIC.

Some suggestions :-

- (i) CIC can be made constitutional body
- (ii) Its membership can be decreased to increase its effective functioning
- (iii) Its membership Full full existing vacancies to exist in case pendency.
- (iv) Strengthen State Info. Commissions to decrease CIC pressure.

- Effective functioning of CIC can ensure
era of good governance & rule of law

17. यौन अपराधों के खिलाफ बच्चों की सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करने में POCSO अधिनियम के महत्व पर चर्चा कीजिए। वर्तमान अधिनियम के प्रभावी कार्यान्वयन को सुनिश्चित करने के लिए आप इसमें क्या परिवर्तन सुझाएंगे?

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

Discuss the significance of the POCSO Act in ensuring the safety and protection of children against sexual offences. What changes would you suggest to the present Act to enhance its effective implementation?

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Prevention of Children from Sexual Offence
(POCSO) Act is a seminal legislation to
safeguard children (below 18 year) from
any form of sexual offence - either
physically or otherwise.

Significance of POCSO Act :-

- ① It protects the constitutional obligation
stated under Art 24 (protection of
children from sexual abuse)
- ② It punishes depiction of children in
indecent form with imprisonment and
fine
- ③ It established special fast track
courts for speedy justice.

- ④ It accepts sexual offense of any form and happened any time in past or come against children.
- ⑤ It has led to conviction of child traffickers molesters and abuser.
- ⑥ It also provides for a database of sexual offenders with biometric inputs for quick future verification.

However, its effectiveness can be enhanced by incorporating following reforms —

- ① Amalgamation of POCSO Act with juvenile justice Act to form a coherent law dealing with children offences.
- ② National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) can be

given constitutional status for more effective monitoring of POCSO Act

- (iii) Use of AI to detect habitual offenders ~~to~~ quickly and ensure stringent punishment.
- (iv) Strict punishment for circulating or passing child pornography with imprisonment of minimum 10 years.

POCSO Act is a strong legislation to ensure protection of children. It can be made even stronger by adding above recommendations.

18.

प्रौद्योगिकी नौकरशाही की पारंपरिक रूपरेखा को पुनः आकार देने, इसे अधिक कुशल, पारदर्शी और नागरिक-केंद्रित बनाने हेतु प्रेरित करने के लिए उत्प्रेरक के रूप में कार्य करती है।' इस कथन का आशय स्पष्ट कीजिए तथा यह भी पता लगाइए कि प्रौद्योगिकी का एकीकरण लोक सेवा के आधुनिकीकरण के सरकारी प्रयासों को कैसे तेज कर सकता है।
(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

'Technology serves as the catalyst for reshaping the traditional contours of bureaucracy, propelling it to become more efficient, transparent, and citizen-centric.' Explain and also explore how the integration of technology can expedite governmental efforts aimed at modernizing the civil service.

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Bureaucracy refers to the permanent
executive engaged in policy implementation

Indian Bureaucracy is a colonial legacy
which is based on legal rational
authority type by Max Weber.

Features of traditional bureaucracy :-

- (i) Inward looking and very secretive
- (ii) Ivory tower syndrome
- (iii) Part of ruling elite - away from
common masses.
- (iv) Based on strict hierarchy and
chain of command.
- (v) Strict division of power and authority
to meet any outside change.

However, technology has broken down
the inward looking very tower image
of traditional bureaucracy in following way

- ① Advent of e-governance - leading to
extensive networking -



- ② Increased stress on good governance
leading to participation from hitherto
untouched section e.g. CSO/NGO/professional groups

- ③ e-governance e.g. e-Mitra, TAN, e-NAM, etc. has made processes more transparent and accountable

- ④ Computerised GRM - more people can access government offices for grievance redressal e.g. CPRAMS etc.

Government efforts to modernise civil service ~~under~~ helped by technology

- ① PRAKATHI 2.0 - for pro active governance and constant touch of people with power holders
- ② computerisation of all government ~~web~~ offices & translation of all websites in scheduled VIII languages to part the digital - ruled gap.
- ③ Digitalisation of socio-economic services to decrease malfeasance & overfeasance
e.g. DBT, JAM, e-NAM etc.

With subsequent integration of technology,
bureaucracy is expected to become more
transparent, accountable and responsive.

19. भारत और अमेरिका के बीच अतीत में उतार-चढ़ाव वाले संबंध रहे हैं, हाल के दिनों में संबंधों में कितनी प्रगाढ़ता आई है? रूस-यूक्रेन युद्ध के मुद्दे पर वाशिंगटन के साथ तीखे मतभेद के बाद नई दिल्ली को अमेरिका के साथ अपने संबंधों को कैसे आगे बढ़ाना चाहिए? (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

India and US have had an oscillating relationship in the past, to what extent has the relationship acquired depth in recent times? How should New Delhi navigate its relationship with the US after its sharp divergence with Washington on the issue of the Russia-Ukraine war?

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

India and US enjoy strategic partnership

and US designates India at par with
P18 NATO members.

However, the relation have
been a see-saw in recent past —

- ① India did not join US-camp during
Cold war — established NAM
- ② India was not included in NSG group
- ③ Sanctions on India by US due to operation
Pokharan.
- ④ USA helped Pakistan during 1999
Kargil war and 1971 Bangladesh war.

However, the scenario has changed in
recent past —

- ① Civil nuclear deal in 2008 for nuclear power plant.
- ② Signing of 4 Basic Agreements e.g. LEMOA, COMCASA, BECA & CSOMIA to become strategic partners.
- ③ Establishment of '2+2 dialogues between defence & foreign minister
- ④ formation of QUAD with Australia & Japan for peaceful Indo-Pacific
- ⑤ Establishment of 2-CEP for strategic engagement in fields viz. AI, Robotics, space, climate change etc.
- ⑥ India recently signed US led Atomic Accord for open & peaceful space exploration.

These steps has provided depth to Indo-US relationship in recent past.

Given the dilemma on issue of Ukraine - Russia war, India should -

- (i) Maintain Independent stand on issue and should pursue its bilateral engagements independently
- (ii) It should strengthen bilateral relation with other blocks to maintain its global leverage of Indo-US CEPA.
- (iii) Use G-20 as a forum to diffuse the global challenges given its historical identity of non-aggressive nuclear power.

The engagement at bilateral level should not be dictated unilaterally and hence India should carry on with its independent stand on conflicting issues.

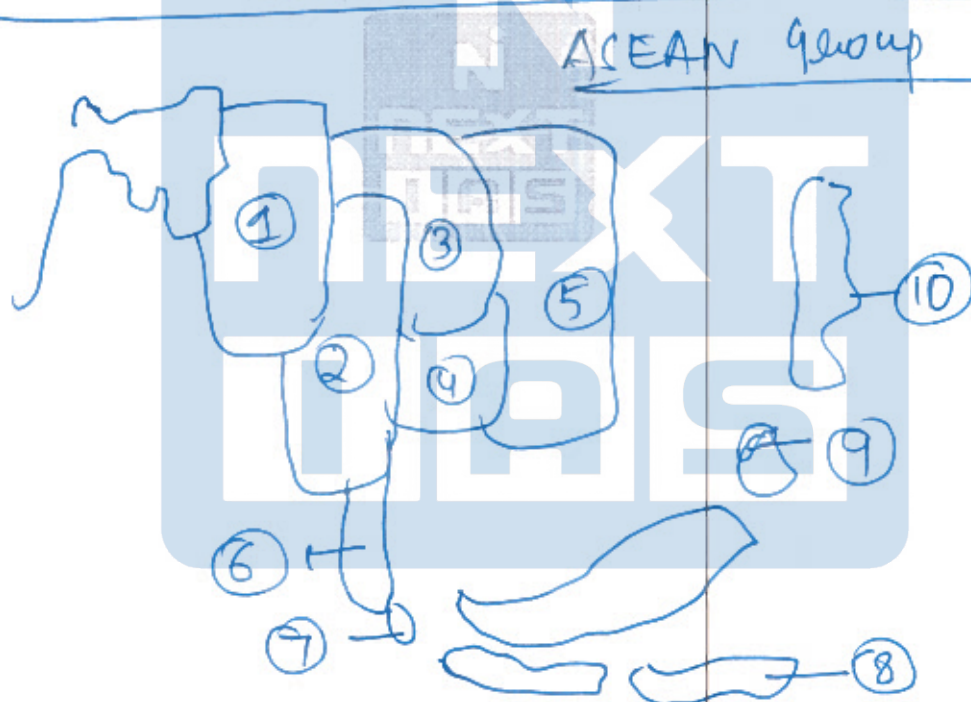
20. 'पूर्व की ओर देखो नीति' के कार्यान्वयन के पश्चात् भारत-आसियान साझेदारी किस प्रकार विकसित हुई है? भारत भू-राजनीतिक वास्तविकताओं को ध्यान में रखते हुए अपनी अर्थव्यवस्था की बढ़ती ताकत का लाभ किस प्रकार से भारत-आसियान संबंधों को घनिष्ठ बनाने के अवसर के रूप में उठा सकता है?

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

How has the India-ASEAN partnership evolved since the implementation of the 'Look East Policy'? In what ways can India leverage the increasing strength of its economy alongside geopolitical realities as opportunities to foster closer India and ASEAN relations?

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

ASEAN refers to the group of 10
South East Asian nations established
after Jakarta Declaration (1969)



① Myanmar

② Thailand

③ Laos PDR

④ Cambodia

⑤ Vietnam

⑥ Malaysia

⑦ Singapore

⑧ Indonesia

⑨ Brunei

⑩ Philippines

Evolution of India-ASEAN relations post look East Policy —

- (i) People to people engagement has increased due to Buddhist connect.
- (ii) Direct flight from major ASEAN nations to Bodhgaya, Kuchinapur etc
- (iii) India-ASEAN trade has reached 90B \$ — with greatest jump in share of electronics.
- (iv) Defence deals — with Philippines and Vietnam regarding Brahmos export
- (v) Construction of multilateral projects such as India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway, Kabaddan Project & Sethe port.

ways to leverage India's increasing strength
to foster closer ties with ASEAN

- ① India can diversify its export to ASEAN
nations to decrease overall trade deficit
- ② Increased strategic meetings by strengthening
~~the~~ BIMSTEC — clearly laid charter
- ③ India — can be net security provider
to ASEAN nations by boosting indigenous
defence abilities
- ④ India can provide cheap credit for
economic development to take them
away from Chinese Debt trap
- ⑤ leverage its Doppler Radar system to
provide timely weather related data
to ASEAN members.

India-ASEAN relations are pillar to
strengthen India's role in free & open
Indo-Pacific.

Space for Rough Work

Candidates must not
write on this margin

