



NEXT IAS

NEXT IAS (Head Office) : 27-B, Pusa Road, Metro Pillar no. 118, Near Karol Bagh Metro, New Delhi-110060

Bhopal Centre: Plot No. 46, ZONE-2, M.P. Nagar, Bhopal-462011

Ph: 8081300200, 8827664612 | E-mail: mts@nextias.com | Web: www.nextias.com

(To be filled by candidate)

Name of Candidate : NAZISH UMAR ANSARI

Roll No. : 011

Registration Number : Date of Examination : 30/8/23

Exam Centre : Old Rajinder Nagar ☐

Bhopal ☐

Online ☒

Test - 6

Code : TC708

RCA Batch 2023

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

This Question-cum Answer (QCA) Booklet contains 56 pages. Immediately on receipt of the booklet, please check that this QCA booklet does not have any misprint or torn or missing pages or items, etc. If so, get it replaced by a fresh QCA booklet.

Candidates must read the instructions on this page and the following pages carefully before attempting the paper.

Candidates should attempt the questions strictly in accordance with the instructions specified in the question paper and in the space prescribed under each question in the booklet. Any answer written outside the space allotted may not be given credit.

Question paper will be provided separately and can be taken by the candidates after conclusion of the exam.

SUBJECT/PAPER
GENERAL STUDIES

Invigilator's Sign. :

[To be filled by the STUDENT]

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

[illegible]

[To be filled by the EXAMINER]

Evaluator's response	Response
--------------------------------------	--------------------------

Evaluator's response	
1	2
3	4
5	6
7	8
9	10
11	12
13	14
15	16
17	18
19	20
21	22
23	24
25	26
27	28
29	30
31	32
33	34
35	36
37	38
39	40
41	42
43	44
45	46
47	48
49	50
51	52
53	54
55	56
57	58
59	60
61	62
63	64
65	66
67	68
69	70
71	72
73	74
75	76
77	78
79	80
81	82
83	84
85	86
87	88
89	90
91	92
93	94
95	96
97	98
99	100

(For filling by Examiners only)

Evaluator Code :

Q.No	PgNo.	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



IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS

CANDIDATES SHOULD READ THE UNDERMENTIONED INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY. VIOLATION OF ANY OF THE INSTRUCTIONS MAY LEAD TO PENALTY.

DONT'S

1. Do not write your name or registration no. anywhere inside this Question-cum-Answer Booklet.
2. Do not write anything other than the actual answers to the questions anywhere inside your QCA Booklet.
3. Do not tear off any leaves from your QCA Booklet, if you find any page missing do not fail to notify the supervisor/invigilator.
4. Do not leave behind your QCA Booklet on your table unattended, it should be handed over to the invigilator after conclusion of the exam.

DO'S

1. Read the Instructions on the cover page and strictly follow them.
2. Write your registration number and other particulars, in the space provided on the cover of QCA Booklet.
3. Write legibly and neatly. Do not write in bad/illegible handwritings.
4. For rough notes or calculation, the last two blank pages of this booklet should be used. The rough notes should be crossed through afterwards.
5. If you wish to cancel any work, draw your pen through it or write "Cancelled" across it, otherwise it may be evaluated.
6. Handover your QCA Booklet personally to the invigilator before leaving the examination hall.

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

Asymmetrical nature of Indian federalism often lead to interstate disputes while the artificial demarcation of land map/geographies led to border disputes

If not promptly settled

↳ Transform into persist issues like Migration, protests, inter-state rivalry etc

Impede Development → Resources for security rather than development

Generate friction → Spiral into resource competition
↳ Migration leading to humanitarian crisis.
eg. ~~Kor~~ Reang issue.

Constitutional framework

Article 2, 3: Parliament has power to demarcate boundaries of states. It can assign land boundaries as per demand of people

Legal framework & others

↳ Inter State Council → to discuss the issues

↳ Niti Aayog → Team India Governing body

Independent India failed to resolve

↳ Myriad of issues → Land demarcation linked
with ethnicity and cultural identity
eg. Manipur, Mizoram

↳ Diversity → It may lead to spiral effect
and fragmentation. eg. Karnataka, Maharashtra

↳ Lack of political will → Region based politics
based on populism.

↳ International issues → Require cooperation
with other countries. eg. Bangladesh.

Hence, Inter State Border
Dispute Commission need to be constituted
to address all the current land boundary
issue and come a perennial solution

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

Indian federalism demands platform for the dialogue and discussion between different state representative

Inter State Council have constituted under Article 263 for the better cooperation and coordination across government.

Role

Vertical Cooperation → Centre-State

↳ Grievance Addressal → With regard to financial devolution to state
↓
Fiscal tighten

↳ Coordinate centre sponsored schemes
and its implementation.

↳ Implementation of Centre's vision in states → Effective management
↳ Power jurisdiction of states

Horizontal (Inter-state)

- ↳ Trade disputes → Regarding free commerce
 - ↳ Duties imposed by certain states leading to distortionary effect eg. GST.
- ↳ Understanding the Combined Vision of the country's development eg. Cohesion on subjects of national importance.
- ↳ Synergy in policy: Best practices learnt
 - ↳ Sharing experience of governance
- ↳ Informal platform to bargain with centre

Way forward

- ↳ Make Inter State Council permanent with a Secretariat
- ↳ Inter State Council + some teeth to effect decision making → binding nature of recommendation.

Inter State Council can strengthen our federalism bridging gaps and generating synergies between conflicting interests.

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 Accounts Committee
was first constituted after Comptrol Act 1919
for financial oversight.

Key function

↳ Financial prudence → Check the
efficiency of financial resource
utilization

↳ Analyze CAG report on major spending
and project. → Check Irregularities
and Scams. eg. Coalgate.

↳ Suggest allocation as per needs and
other recommendations for financial
performances.

Steps needed to enhance its effectiveness

→ Independent Auditor → with Public
Account for expertise

- Capacity building → PAC member
need assistance in manved concepts.
 - ↳ Digital training
- ↳ Use of technology like Data Analytics →
to check efficiency of data and
absence of plagiarism.
- ↳ Make report public → to let people
know about the analysis of major
capital ~~in debt~~ usage.

PAC currently have 22 members
with a tradition of LOP being its
chairman. It should be institutionalised
and the committee need to empower to
question the minister concerned any time
flagged by it.

4. राष्ट्रीय आर्थिक विकास के चालक के रूप में नगरीकरण की अहम 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

Fifteenth finance commission acknowledged the rising urbanisation and put forward the governance changes for the same

Reorganizing role of urbanization

↳ Driver for growth → capital generation
 ↳ Employment creation
 ↳ Enhanced lifestyle.

Major reform for Urban local bodies

↳ Devolution of Capital : 15th FC suggested states to devolve the shared & components to local level.

↳ Grants in aid → to states to aid the development of infrastructure.

Evaluation

→ Devolution of more ~~food~~ funds untied

with any strings will allow ULBs to invest in the infrastructure, housing, sanitation etc.

It will increase the fiscal space and boost the governance architecture.

→ Grant in aids will fill the gaps from states as it is directly funded. It will allow the ULBs to complete pending essential projects and crowd in private investment.

Way forward

↳ Tax power to ULBs → Institutionalised

↳ Give GST share to city administration

↳ City raising fund through bonds.

ULBs can be crucial in effective governance under principle of Subsidiarity.

5. मौलिक अधिकारों की तुलना में संसदीय विशेषाधिकारों के तहत 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





6. नागरिक समाज संगठन, 'सार्वजनिक कल्याण के लिए सामुहिक निजी कार्यवाई' को बढ़ावा देने में महत्वपूर्ण 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 Organisation
are key pillar of integrity governance.

Role in fostering collective private
action for public good

↳ Awareness generation eg Teach for
India NGO in literacy programme

↳ Skill Augmentation → through
training. eg. SMTF.

↳ Cause based initiatives

↳ Blood donation eg. YONS, Rotary

↳ Environment protection eg. Greenpeace

↳ Gender Justice → eg. HeForShe

Challenges

Local Resource Mobilization

↳ Lack of penetration & reach →

Ground level connect

→ People literacy and capacity →
Less of Aneher

Corporate Funding through CSR

↳ Transparency in operation → Opacity
leading to trust deficit

↳ Convergence Issues
↳ Virtue of corporate entity

Measures

↳ Synergy between local population
Civil society and corporates
↳ Better planning and cause based
initiative
↳ Resource Mobilisation → Targeted

↳ Innovation → through technology
usage
↳ eg. Social Media — Awareness
Digital capacity building.

Civil society is an important
player in making sure development
reach the man standing last
"Antyodaya"

7. गरीबी उन्मूलन की दिशा में पहला कदम कार्यक्रम के डिज़ाइन, कार्यान्वयन और निगरानी के लिए आवश्यक विश्वसनीय गरीबी मूल्यांकन करना है। इस संदर्भ में नीति आयोग के राष्ट्रीय बहुआयामी गरीबी सूचकांक की पद्धति और महत्व 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

Niti Aayog National Multidimensional Poverty Index tries to map the India population in terms of the accessibility of certain key essentials

Methodology

↳ Program Design → NMPI explores the design of the poverty eradication scheme in terms of its reach and applicability.

↳ How it address the basic need like sanitation etc

↳ Implementation

↳ NMPI use the result data of surveys to analyze the

impact of a certain scheme on
the lifestyle of a household
eg. Saathhya scheme improving
education of children.

Maintaining — NMPT monitor the
development of challenges in the
implementation, the extent of
exclusion and inclusion errors in the
scheme.

Significance

- present picture of the effective
implementation
- Indicate changes and amendments
in dynamic analysis
- Result oriented approach to
Citizen welfare

Though, the sanctity
of data is still under question that
hard to address

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 is
Considered as an intrinsic interpretation
of Right to Life under Article 21 of
Indian Constitution by Supreme Court

Constitutional provision

↳ Article 21 — Right to Life

↳ Article 46 → Health as DPSP

Legal precedent

↳ Mandali Health Act

↳ Rajamann's Right to Health Bill

International Commitment

↳ UNICEF → Children and Mother
Health

↳ SDG Goal → Excess to Health &
Medical faculty

Lack of explicit recognition

→ Poor Infrastructure → Can't address the
head of all & hence can't be
enforced.

→ Government Allocation → Only 3% of
GDP spend on Health.

→ Literacy → People don't have idea
about Right of Health.

↳ High out of pocket expenditure

→ Infra deficit → Poor performance
Government hospitals

⇒ Personnel Shortage → Shortage
prescribed number of doctor (1:5000)

Measures → Implementation of Digital
Health Mission
↓
TAY Infrastructure Mission
Tele Medicine
→ Traditional Medicine Integration

It will allow to cater the
diversified of Health and Public
augmentation is key.

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

Recently, BRICS inducted 6 new countries in freshly concluded Summit at Johannenburg:-

Collective Strength of BRICS in terms of emerging economies with large economic growth, market, allows it to engage with like minded powers

Meaning cooperation

- ↳ New Development Bank was conceptualised to find alternative funding mechanism
- ↳ Contingent Reserve Arrangement for security (financial)
- ↳ Equal status of all members → Mutual dependence and respect.
- ↳ India - South Africa push for Vaccine waiver during COVID. BRICS in support of distribution of Vaccines.

Robust relationship based on idea of multilateralism and issue based relationship have shadows on capability to influence bilateral relationship.

Limited Influence

- Recent Galwan Clashes between India and China didn't find much assistance from BRICS. eg. Chinese map of Arunachal
- Dephyphenation of Multilateral and Bilateral issues: In name of strategic autonomy.
- Russia Ukraine war → BRICS didn't pushed harder to bring peace on the table. despite Russia being member.

Though, it might be case, but BRICS has managed to strengthen bilateral ties through trade and arrangements in technology between countries like South Africa, Brazil, India.

BRICS need to come at the forefront as major bloc for economic global dependence and new order

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

Indus Water Treaty was brokered by World Bank between India and Pakistan to allow both the countries to develop the rain basin.

As per treaty, three rivers, Beas, Ravi and Sutlej is given to India. While Indus, Thelum and Chenab was given to Pakistan.

Recent demand to amend

→ Indo pac tension due to cross border terrorism.

→ Changing demands and hydroelectric projects in J&K → Rattle

↳ Renegotiation of water usage in upstream and downstream to enable sustainable ~~flow~~ flow.

Possible Implication

↳ Disagreement → Deadlock ⇒ It will make the treaty void and remove

the obligations placed to each other.

↳ Escalation of border tensions

↳ Scarcity of water in irrigation dependent region.

↳ International Agreements will come under scrutiny and spiralling of demand for renegotiation.

Indus water treaty being more than 70 year old treaty need to be re-discussed considering the Climate Change challenges and change in demography. It should employ the Indus water Commission with ~~the~~ consultation and deliberate attempt to resolve bilaterally.

11. संसदीय संग्रमुता और न्यायिक सर्वोच्चता के सिद्धांत ने भारत और संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका के संवैधानिक ढाँचे को आकार देने में अत्यधिक महत्वपूर्ण 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

Indian Constitutional system banks on the principle of checks and Balances while USA constitution implies a system of separation of power.

Parliamentary sovereignty

↳ Notion of sovereignty derived from UK parliament which can amend any law in the country.

→ India too explored "procedure established by law" but Maneka Gandhi case saw a wide interpretation from Supreme Court and "Due process of law" introduced that limit the parliament through judicial review power of the courts under Article 13, 32 and 226.

→ USA didn't have sovereignty principle for legislature

Judiciary Supremacy

USA's constitution provide its Supreme Court to review each and every legislation and grant power to null void it.

Though it should follow 'Doctrine of reasonableness'.

In Indian case, the Shankari Prasad Case (1950) allowed parliament to amend any part of the constitution but later turned down through Golaknath Judgement (Not part amendable).

In Keshavananda Bharti Case (1973), Supreme court devised 'Basic doctrine structure' to look upon the legislative action. It provides overarching power to the SCI to scrutinise the legislative bodies, at par with the USA's model of Separation of power.

Scope of Judicial review → Wider in India

Yes

- Basic Structure not clearly defined
↳ Discretion to judges to interpret it
- Every kind of legislations, executive action, quasi-judicial action under review. (Raj Narain case, L.C. Case)

No

- Indian System is ~~balanced~~ ^{based} on Checks and Balance → Parliament can override the decision under its rights.
- USA's Supreme Court being completely independent body can take wider exercise of power.
↳ In India, parliament can impeach Judges.

Judicial Oversight is a key component of functioning democracy but it shouldn't impede the legislative duties and avoid overreach.

12. 'निष्पक्ष प्रतिनिधित्व सुनिश्चित करने और एक मत, एक मूल्य के सिद्धांत को बचाए 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

Indian Constitution gave provision of delimitation of seat under Article 80 in dynamic manner.

Fair representation: Each individual under Universal Adult franchise (Article 324) has right to be represented under, One Vote One Value → Irrespective of state, place etc. All public representative should offer the true picture of the electoral democracy.

Periodic delimitation based on latest census allows to achieve that purpose.

At the same time, delimitation exercise is suspended till 2026 due to demographic concerns.

Challenges posed by misrepresentation in constituencies

- ↳ Not substantial democracy → Elected government not representing will of the popular appeal.
- ↳ Erosion of trust : from political/electoral process.
- ↳ Favouring certain states → Regionalism tendencies and social-political rifts.
Population delimitation can address this but it offers unique ramifications.
- ↳ Penalizing for performing well in Family planning : States like UP/Bihar has grown their population substantially. Southern states, good performer in family planning felt of erosion of political capital and penalized for adhering to government policies.

- ↳ Internal boundaries in states → with regard to Rural-urban areas.
 - ↳ May lead to changes in constituency of people on large scale
 - ↳ Need for fresh issue of Voter IDs → logistics burden on ECI.

- ↳ Apprehension among certain section
 - ↳ Demarcation of reserved seats.
 - ↳ Kashmiri delimitation → Discontent on regional lines.

Delimitation is a necessary exercise for robust electoral democracy but it should be done with the proper stakeholder consultation and wider parameters than just population.

Technology like AI can be used to reduce discretion and improve confidence among people.

13. देश में स्वतंत्र और निष्पक्ष चुनाव कराने की निर्वाचन आयोग की संवैधानिक जिम्मेदारी 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

Election Commission under the constitutional provision of Article 324 get the responsibility for conduct of free and fair elections in the country.

Constitutional responsibility

- ↳ Election of Loke Sabha, Rajya Sabha, President, Vice President.
- ↳ As prescribed in RPA 1950, 1951.

Recently, Supreme Court of India in its judgement gave the system of appointment of Chief election Commissioner through a Collegium of Prime minister, Leader of opposition and Chief Justice of India. It was argued that such Integrity Institution can't be left for executive prerogative.

Why such step

- ↳ Recent allegations of opposition parties regarding biases of Election Commission
- ↳ Accusation on EVM tampering after each election.

Strengthening Hand

- ↳ Appointment through the Collegium will be based on involvement of all three organs of the state.
 - ↳ Checks and Balances
 - ↳ Prevent any question on the integrity of institution
 - ↳ Restore the sanctity of the Election Commission and electoral processes.
- ↳ It will also enforce meritocracy — performance based appraisal instead of discretion.

- ↳ Supreme Court through Lilythomas case ban convicted MPs/MLAs from contesting election
 - ↳ It led to cleaning of criminalising politics
 - ↳ Reduce influence of Money and Muscle Power in election
- ↳ In Subramanyam Swamy Case, SC upheld EVM but ask for matching with VRPAT → acknowledge ECI measures for fair elections.

Government, recently introduced a bill on appointment of Election Commissioner through Collegium of PM, LoP and cabinet minister. Though it diluted the role of SC, Collegium will ensure a consensus based appointment and strengthen our electoral democracy.

14. 'संसद की घटती भूमिका शक्तियों के पृथक्करण के मूल सिद्धांत को कमजोर 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

15th and 16th Lok Sabha saw diminishing stats with regards to the parliamentary sittings.

Declining role of parliament

↳ Adjournments → Frequent due to disruption
↳ Loss of more than 50% of time.

↳ Bulldozing of bills : Quick passage without any discussions
↳ Only 20% bills to Standing Committee.

↳ Decrease in debates → Protests and lack of decorum.

Undermines Separation of power

↳ Article 75 necessitates Council of Minister responsible to Parliament (Lok Sabha), it was not just in term of numerical strength.

↳ Increasing promulgation of Ordinance under Article 123 → Rajya parliament Scrutiny

↳ Suspension of Question Hour → Shows the breakdown of accountability mechanism.

Diminishes legislative ability

↳ No usage of Censure motion, No-confidence, Adjournment motion

↳ Poor quality of legislation

↳ Haphazard passage

↳ Increasing Delegated legislation

↳ Quality of legislators

↳ Just mouthpiece of whip

↳ Due to Anti-defection law

No check on executive

↳ Decreasing discussion on Inflation and Issues of national interest

↳ Instances of suspension of opposition members

Balance of power → Disbalanced.

↳ Street wordplay and protest
increasing.

↳ Parliament being voice of people
stays unheard.

↳ Supreme Court → Increase in
Challenge to legislations

↳ Burden on Judiciary.

↳ Judicial Pendency
(50% State litigations).

Parliament being the temple
of democracy should be a place of fierce
debates and discussion. Role of Speaker
is crucial to keep it functioning through
consensus.

Only through constructive
engagement, one can ensure the
people oversight and that is the
need of hour.

15. भारत में लिंग-संवेदनशील कानूनों पर विमर्श को आकार देने में राष्ट्रीय महिला आयोग द्वारा निभाई गई महत्वपूर्ण 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 of Women
is a statutory organisation that addresses the problems concerning
women in society with regard to gender
and overall development.

Crucial role

Shape discourse on gender sensitive laws

↳ Analysis of Androcentrism in legislative procedure

↳ Lack of female policy makers

↳ Missing perspective

↳ Typical male bias in viewing
the problems → solutions biased
in orientation.
eg. Motor Vehicle Act

↳ Neglect of women's challenges in
public sphere. eg. Sexual Harassment
at workplace

↳ Stakeholder in law framing

↳ Consultation through Suggestion in law design.

↳ Reports submitted to President for application in legal discourse

↳ Suo motu action on Gender Violence

↳ Address the apprehension and make impetus for amendment in present dispensation

eg. Criminal Law Amendment regarding Rape, Stalking.

↳ Legal Aid

Despite these role, it is somehow limited as a advisory body with restrictive ambitions

[Elevation to constitutional body]

↳ Independent staff → to ~~act~~ ^{analyse} and scrutinize each law under prism of gender sensitivity.

- ↳ More focus on its recommendation
 - ↳ It can suggest measures like NCSC, NCST for step needed to promote gender justice.
- ↳ Engage more stakeholders like SHGs, NGOs and Business class to run campaign for Gender equality.
- ↳ More teeth in addressing the Gender based crimes.
- ↳ Its recommendation can be made binding through consultation
 - ↳ Action based intervention.

National Commission of Women
need to expand its reach till gram panchayats
and interpret the interoperability
of gender and social disadvantages
for ensuring holistic justice

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

"Minimum Government, Maximum Governance" is the governance system based on reducing the involvement of governmental structure in basic functioning of government.

Satisfactory & timely redressal of grievance

- Allows single window clearance → saves time and put faith in system
- Institutionalise the government apparatus
 - ↳ Reduce the discretion and set accountability.
- Quick disposal → Improves investment and engagement of private players.
- Obey Citizen charter though the current grievance redressal has lacunae

Challenges associated

- ↳ Fixed responsibility mining → Multi-layered structure leading to Complexity of procedure
- ↳ Accessibility → Difficult → Lack of records
- ↳ RTI pendency → No legal action against PIDs
 - ↳ Institutional weakness ⇒ Few cases of Penalty.
- ↳ Compliance → Due to poor personnel deployment
 - ↳ Lack of capacity building in addressing grievances.
- ↳ Culture → Government official not acknowledging the essentiality of feedback → One way communication
 - ↳ Lack of compassionate bureaucracy

Measures needed

- Time bound legal action :
Mechanism like Jan soochna portal for real time tracking of feedback redressal
- Penalty → for regular offenders, suspension
- Code of Conduct and Code of ethics enforced in letter and spirit
- Technology deployment
 - ↳ Use of AI & Generative technology to address simple issues
 - ↳ Reduce burden
- Cadre for grievance redressal
- Documentation of issues and structural changes to address it

A Robust grievance redressal system has induce the sense of propriety and pave way for ethical governance as envisioned in 2nd ARC Report.

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, Whistleblower Protection Act (WBPA), 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 has been the
parasite that engulfs the institutional
structure and rot it from within.

Erode the fabric of governance

- Put red tapism and Favouritism
at the forefront.
- Poor quality of service delivery.
- Loss for the public exchequer
for personal gain.

Erode public faith

- Disrespect and Disgust towards
the government official
- Tax Evasion → No value for tax
- Disturb the political order

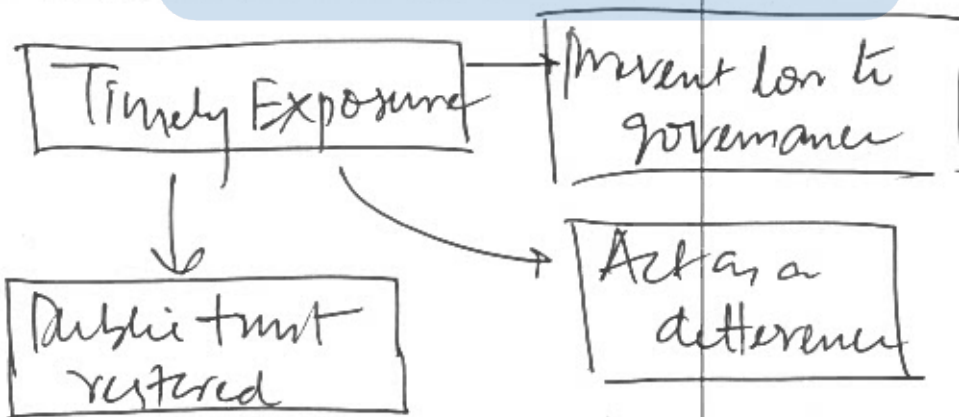
Potential

→ Harmonising RTI, WBPA and Lokpal Act

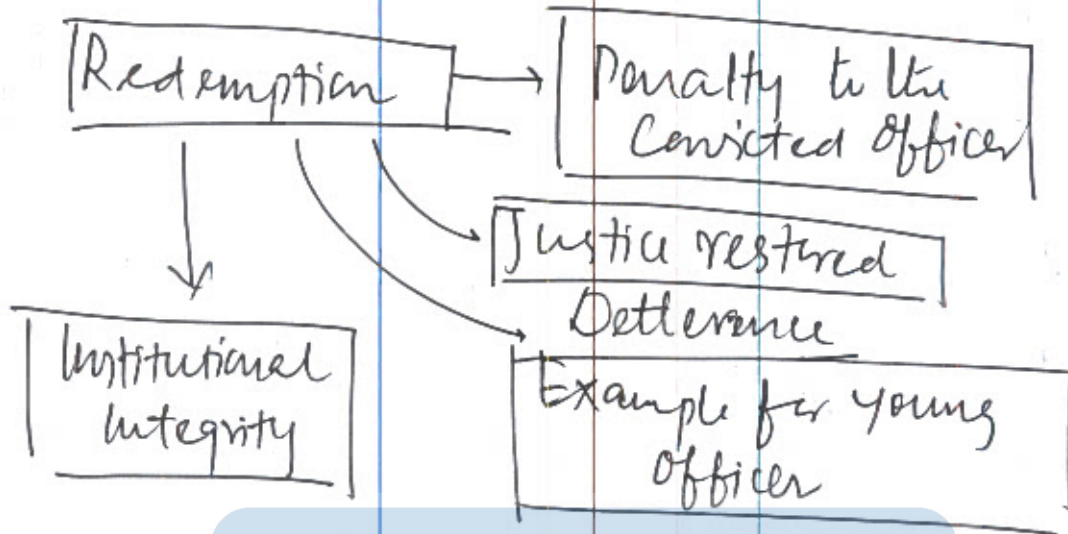
RTI Act implies the Right to Information
it can bring

→ Transparency → Access to the
public documents
 ↳ Scrutiny over the decision
 ↳ Accountability of public officers

WBPA (Whistleblowers Protection Act)
focuses on the insider information about
the scope of corruption in complexity
of governance



Lokpal and Lokayukta focuses on
the scrutiny and penalizing the
corrupt practices



The combined synergy of
then law can help to address the
Collusive nature of Corruption and
Weed out the unethical practices

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

SHG (Self Help group) is
a group of 10 or more women
coming together to provide micro credit
to its member or start a venture

Potential Challenges

- Platform for skill development
 - ↳ Lack of skill infrastructure
 - ↳ Lack of defined module

→ Entrepreneurship

- ↳ Limited reach
- ↳ Lack of formal training
- ↳ Low Capital

→ Income generation

- ↳ Need economy of scale →
employ people and
revenue generation

Benefits

Platform for Skill development

- ↳ Decentralised system
- ↳ Easily Accessible → eg. Mushroom cultivation

Entrepreneurship

- ↳ Partnership based entity
- ↳ Recognise local problem → empowerment through commerce

Income generation

- ↳ Profitability as model of SHG currently.
- Job Creation → women engagement



SHGs can be used to alleviate poverty in rural areas through integration with schemes like One District One products One Block One product ~~stand~~ to

popularise and scale local products
especially from the tribal areas
like Bastar.

Stand up India too provide loan and
Bank based microfinance can be
accessed through SHGs for the
scaling of the business and enterprise.

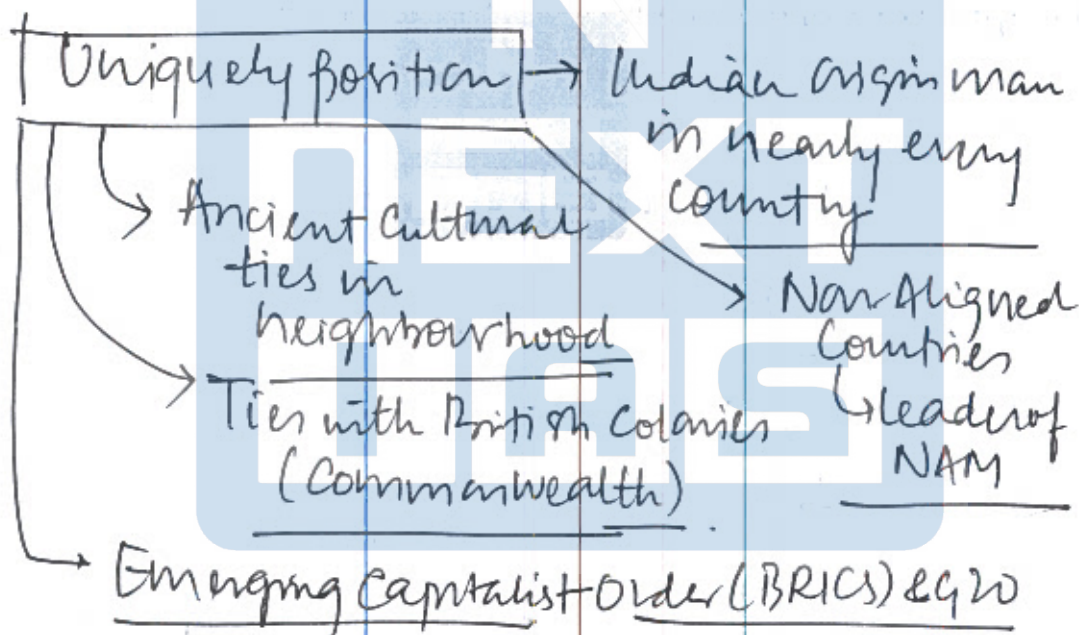
Way forward

- ↳ Cadre of SHG workers / integration
with NGOs and CSR of Corporate
- ↳ Innovation local product
 - ↳ to do marketing
 - ↳ social media usage

SHGs can augment the
income of women and assist in
livelihood generation

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 स्मार्ट पावर 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 being the land of diversity enjoys a unique position in the world. It has varieties of culture that add multiple range to its flavour.



Role of Culture, diaspora and democracy

Culture

→ India, land of origin for 3 major ~~reg~~ religion and people from all faith.

- Civilizational history of more than 4000 years since Indus Valley.
- Idea of tolerance, Vasudeva Kutumbakam and Culture of acceptability.
- History of Struggle through non-violence and truth propounded by Mahatma Gandhi.

Diaspora

- ↳ Indian origin people being important community in countries like USA, UK, France, Maldives, Africa etc
 - ↳ Indian people as migrants & NRIs spreading culture like food, music.
- eg. UAE has large Indian population sending remittances

India is largest recipient of international remittances

Democracy

- ↳ India being mother of democracy - Uttarameru inscription indicating whole democratic village setup

↳ World's largest democracy with
Continuity and strong Institutional
Structure.

India as Smart Power

India being a young country
with burgeoning youth population
offer a market as well as skill supply.
It is aspiring to be the 'Factory of the
world'. Its issue based alliances and
ties based on respect for sovereignty
and sustainability makes it a viable
alternative in era of conflict.

Though India need to maneuver
swiftly in the economically fragmented
and geopolitically disarranged world.
Through, investment in its population
and key strategic critical areas like
technology, India can offer a
sympathetic and responsible leadership

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।

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.

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

(Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

India and Australia
Shared the common bond of Democracy
and are called like minded countries.

Synergy of Shared Values and People
to People Connection

↳ Shared values of Democratic principles, Territorial Sovereignty and Strategic Autonomy allow both countries to engage together in geopolitical agenda.

↳ Indian diaspora especially students are key to Australian University system. Recent increase in quota can enhance this partnership.

↳ Common love for Crick and Hockey, Buddy Gavascantrophy is major prize for both the country.

Fertile ground

Long lasting trade relation

- Recently both signed ECTA → Free Trade Agreement to enhance the trade volume and realise the potential.
- Tariff on more than 50 items are removed and extra-tariff barrier also relaxed.
- MOUs signed for the logistics link and Robust Supply chain
 - ↳ Both part of Indo Pacific Economic Framework
 - ↳ push for responsible economy.

Strategic Collaborations

- India and Australia are part of QUAD - a geostrategic alliance in Indo-Pacific
- India being net security provider in

Indian Ocean has major role to play
in Indo Pacific

→ Rising influence of China in Indopacific
threaten the Australia interest (evident
from AUKUS formation).

↳ 'Global Security Initiative' of China
tries to reinvent China geostrategic
positioning and need cooperation
between India and Austral

↳ Critical Rare earth Mineral are
crucial for futuristic technology. India
Australia Strategic partnership and
joint exploration can reduce the
dependence on China

↳ Cooperation on free sea lane →

Maintain International Order as per
UNCLOS

↳ protect Pacific Island Nation
in wake of China's Change

The Indo-Australia Cooperation
will decide the future of Indo Pacific
and the near future of Asia.

Space for Rough Work

Candidates must not
write on this margin

