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Name of Candidate : Jigyasu Agrawal

NEXT IAS Roll No.: MT23FLTRA004 Date of Examination : 20/08/2023

Exam Centre : Old Rajinder Nagar ☐ Bhopal ☐ Online ☑

Test Code : TC006 Program : FLT ☑ FLT+ ☐

MAIN TEST SERIES 2023
(FULL LENGTH TEST-6)

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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			
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14	30			
15	33			
16	36			
17	39			
18	42			
19	45			
20	48			
Grand Total				

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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

In recent times, there have been conflicts observed b/w. Maharashtra and Karnataka over Belgavi District; Mizoram & Assam Police clash which have highlighted the issue of interstate border disputes.

Constitutional framework to resolve disputes

① Article 263 : Inter state council to discuss, inquire and suggest solutions.

② Article 262 : Parliament's power to pass interstate river water resolution frame-work.

③ Article 3 : Parliament to modify boundary of any state unilaterally.

④ Supreme Court's original jurisdiction in resolving disputes.

⑤ GST council.

Legal framework

① Inter state river water dispute act

② River ~~for~~ board acts (ex) Narmada board

③ Zonal councils : of different states

Reasons for failure to resolve disputes

① Regionalism tendencies (ex) Belgaum dispute

② Communalism (ex) Punjab-Haryana dispute

③ Legacy disputes from pre-independance times (ex) Assam-Mizoram dispute.

④ Huge delay and pendency of cases with judiciary

⑤ Failure to utilize constitutional platform of Inter state council

⑥ Resource crunch, land pressure and rising population → populist pressure.

To resolve these disputes, constitutional and legal means along with unity in diversity needs to be explored.

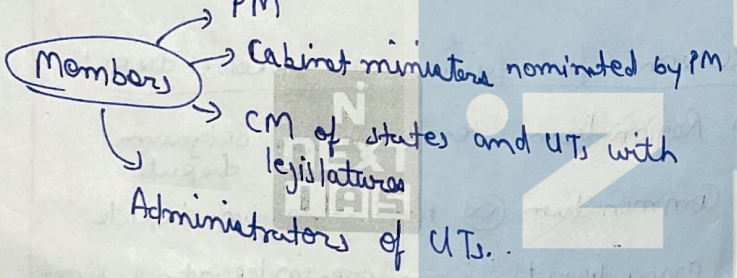
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2. ऊर्ध्वाधर (केंद्र–राज्य) और क्षैतिज (अंतर–राज्य) अंतर–सरकारी सहयोग और समन्वय को बढ़ावा देने में अंतर–राज्य परिषद् की भूमिका का परीक्षण कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

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 provides for Interstate council as an advisory body to be constituted by President of India.



Role in promoting vertical and horizontal cooperation

1. Platform to discuss issues of common importance to states.
2. Discussion, inquiry into issues between centre and states.
3. Discussions, inquiry into issues between two or more states.

4. Highest level of administration from each level of governance.

Issues with its functioning

1. Sporadic meetings
2. Not given powers of investigation as provided in constitution
3. Permanent secretariat is absent.
4. Often becomes space for debates and disruptions rather than discussions.

To utilize its potential, Sarkaria commission has suggested:

1. Atleast 3 meeting in a year
2. Provision of permanent secretariat
3. Should be given powers of investigation

Alongside other means of cooperative federalism like GST council, NITI aayog, zonal councils must be utilized.

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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 is a financial committee of the Parliament with a mandate to enhance financial accountability of executive to legislature

Key functions

① Examines CAG's reports on audits of appropriation, finance accounts.

② Examines specific reports on CAG's audit of certain government agencies like RBI.

③ Checks for legality, rationality, prudence and wisdom in utilization of funds.

④ Proportional representation: space to all party members.

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⑤ Can call in experts, administrators for explaination.

Issues

- Delay in constitution
- Irregular meetings
- Politicization of meetings
- ~~lack of~~ Advisory and post-mortem role
- Can check only few reports.
- Delay in tabling report in Parliament

Steps to revamp to enhance effectiveness

① Timely constitution → can be converted into non lapsable body with rotation of members

② Transparency: be brought under RTI.

③ Expert and intellectual support: Better infra-structure, permanent secretariat.

④ Mandatory action taken report ~~to~~ in Parliament with explaination of deviations by Government [2nd ARC].

PAC is important to enhance financial accountability along with CAG.

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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

The Fifteenth finance commission (Article 280), headed by Dr. N.K Singh has suggested following reforms for ULBs.

Reforms

1. Syncing state finance commissions with union finance commission.
2. Utilize municipal bonds to raise finance
3. More freedom with respect to hiring of best talent, recruitment conditions and service rules.
4. Use of technology like GPS, GIS to enhance revenue collection.
5. Tied grants with performance on reforms.

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Positives: 1. Can resolve problem of funds, ~~functions~~ and functionaries
2. Lateral entry can attract best talent
3. Can reduce dependants on grants for funds.

Issues

1. Strict control of state on ULBs
2. Auditing and accounting standards set by states.
3. Too much bureaucratic interference with less powers with Mayors
4. Non constitution of ward committees, District development plans
5. Non devolution of powers, functions, power of taxation by states.

Along with FC recommendation, those of 2nd ARC like a National commission of ULBs, amendment in Article 243(W) need

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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 under Article 19(a) is key component of liberty. Its also provided to Parliamentarians in form of priveleges under Article 105.

Difference b/w Article 105 & Article 19(1)

Privilege	Fundamental right
(1) Not explicitly provided	(1) explicitly provided by constitution
(2) Not codified	(2) Codified
(3) Absolute freedom of speech	(3) Reasonable restriction like defamation etc.
(4) Only to legislators	(4) To all citizens
(5) Individual as well as collective right of legislature	(5) Individual right

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Need of maintaining balance

(1) Privilege is important for free functioning of legislators (democracy), while fundamental right is significant for complete development of individual

(2) There have been cases of violation of fundamental rights due to breach of priveleges (ex) Karnataka speaker imprisoned journalists.

(3) Supreme court has provided guideline under Keshav Singh case & search light case

(4) Parliamentary priveleges are preferred over fundamental right under Article 19.

(4) Priveleges can never be preferred over Article 20 & Article 21 (Life with dignity)

Both need to be balanced for procedural & substantive democracy.

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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

CSOs are key mediums via which private funding, philanthropic and CSR funds are channelized into public good.

(ex) People's forum for animal care.

Challenges faced in this resource mobilization

(1) FCRA amendments limited capacity to mobilize funds from foreign branches of corporates.

(2) lack of skilled human resource.
↳ barrier to effective fund mobilization.

(3) PM CARES : many corporates taking

Candidates must not write on this margin

government route for CSR funding

(4) In house expertise developed by corporates : not using CSO route

(5) Allegation of misuse of funds for ulterior motives

(ex) IB report on manufactured protest at Kudam Kulam plant.

Measures

(1) Developing specialized CSOs with expertise in utilizing CSRs

(2) Develop common platform of corporates, CSOs and governments : better synergy in fund utilization.

(3) CSOs under RTI and must file their accounts.

(4) Performance based relaxation in FCRA for CSOs.
This way, they can become effective partner in development.

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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 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

NITI aayog recently released its MPI index which put 16% people below poverty in comparison to earlier estimates of 28% by UN.

Methodology

3 dimensions

- **Health**
  - → Nutritional health
  - → Maternal & Child health
- **Education**
  - → Mean years of schooling
- **Standard of living**
  - → per capita income
  - → assets
  - → house
  - → electricity
  - → gas
  - → others

Significance

① Considers poverty beyond just monetary indexation

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② Considers various dimension which affects well being and capabilities of a person

③ Helps counter negative image generated by foreign unverified indexes

④ Helps in targetting benificiaries, evaluating performance of government schemes.

Limitations

① Data reliability of SECC.

② Ignore social dimension of poverty (caste, gender divide)

③ Ignores environmental dimension
   (ex) disaster vulnerability

Need to enhance accuracy for reliable estimation for better designing, implementation of programmes.

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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

Recently Rajasthan government brought out Act to provide for Right to health which saw heavy opposition.

Robust foundation of Right to health

- Constitution : DPSPs, article 39, 41.
- Right to health part of Article 21 {Supreme Court}
- Right to education, food as legal precedents
- National health policy envisages right to health
- International commitment under various UN, WHO conventions.

Reasons for lack of explicit recognition

① Financial burden on the government

② Limited fiscal capacity of state {High fiscal deficit – 6.4%}.

③ Lack of political will.

④ Immature democracy → public vote mobilization on basis of caste and religion.

⑤ Resistance in private sector

ex Recent protest in Rajasthan

⑥ Lack of sufficient infrastructure & human resource.

To realize right to health; following steps can be taken

① PPP in health sector {NITI aayog}

② Insurance model {Ayushman Bharat}

③ Increasing expenditure (2.5% of GDP as per National health policy)

Only healthy india can bring Amrit Kaal.

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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 (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa) is a multilateral organization of emerging and developing economies with 40% of world population and 25% of global GDP.

Collective strength

1. Major growth centres of the world.
2. Promoting multi-polar global order
3. Alternative to western dominance.
4. New Development Bank

Cooperation on multiple issues

1. New global order → multipolarity
2. Against unilateral weaponisation of economic sanctions.

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3. Cooperating on cybersecurity
4. Alternative global financial system (Alternate to SWIFT) is being discussed
5. A BRICS joint media: to counter biased western media propaganda.

Limited ability to influence bilateral relations

1. Unresolved India-China border issue.
2. Negative trade balance of all with China → cheque book diplomacy.
3. Growing Russia-China axis: hinderance in neutral role of Russia
4. Distortionary trade policies: Poor trade between India, Brazil. Dumping by China.

BRICS has utility as a global platform as interest being shown by many countries, but has limited role in resolving bilateral issues

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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

Recently WB appointed a neutral expert and adjudicatory tribunal simultaneously in the Indus-Water treaty dispute.

Demands to amend

① Pakistan wants India to stop projects on western rivers.

② India wants to rightfully use its share of water.

③ Demand of amendment in light of climate change.

Implications

① Can reduce cooperation b/w the two wrt water sharing.

② May result in inequitable solutions not accepted to both countries.

③ May create ambiguity in a successful treaty → lead to breakdown

④ May even stall India's projects.

⑤ May cause China to use retaliatory water sharing tactics on India.

IWT has stood test of times. Hence Helsinki principles must used to resolve dispute in amicable and equitable manner.

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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

India and US are two largest democracies with written constitution. While India works on balance of Parliamentary sovereignty and judicial supremacy, US only has judicial supremacy as key principle.

Role of judiciary in influencing constitution of India

① Due process of law from procedure established by law (Menaka case)

② Doctrine of basic structure (can't be amended by Parliament under Article 368)
– Kesavananda Bharti judgment

③ Harmonious relation between fundamental

rights and DPSP (amendability of FRs)
– Minerva Mills judgment.

④ Right to privacy a fundamental right
– Puttaswamy case judgment.

⑤ ~~Appointment~~ Appointment of judiciary: independence of judiciary important (3 judges cases, NJAC judgment)

⑥ SR Bommai judgment: Federalism & secularism part of basic structure.

Role of judiciary in US constitution

① Recent case of quality in admissions: ~~equality~~ Right to equality as absolute equality.

② Annulment of right to abortion as fundamental right.

③ Freedom of press: part of free speech case during Nixon administration.

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Comparing scope of judicial review

① Although both have judicial supremacy, both judiciaries work under framework of constitution.

② India's judiciary : broader scope of judicial review after Kesavananda Bharti judgment.

③ Written constitution with detailed procedu-res provide more scope of interpretation

④ Integrated judiciary: broader judicial review.

⑤ PILs, Article 32, 13, 226 provide broader judicial review.

Both are constitutional democra-cies with significant role of judiciaries in influencing constitutions.

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

Delimitation implies recarving of constituencies, their area and number so as to provide equal representation to each person. It is done under the aegis of delimitation Act passed by Parliament under Article ___.

Challenges posed by misrepresentation in constituencies

① Failure of representative democracy

② Violation of fundamental right to equality

③ Social unrest due to gap between government and people.

④ Violation of popular sovereignty → basic feature of democracy.

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⑤ May result into national security problems like Naxalism, separatism.

⑥ Fear of majoritarianism, caste oppression etc may become true.

Population based delimitation

It implies each constituency will have equal population so that each person's vote's value is same.

~~Negative~~ Positive ramification

① Procedural equality : Equality before the law.

② Equal representation to all persons.

③ Feeling of ownership ~~and~~ amongst citizens

④ Accountability of representatives to each voter.

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Negative ramification : Federal tensions

① Favours northern states as they have higher populations.

② Penalizes southern states for better performance on demographic indicators

③ Creates fear of majoritarianism.

④ Substantive equality : equal protection of laws is violated.

⑤ May result into regionalism.

Delimitation is a complex issue which requires broad consensus. Thus platforms like Inter state council should be used to build stakeholder led consensus.

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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 provides for election commission as the body to conduct free and fair elections for states as well as Parliament. Supreme Court, using its powers has strengthened the commission on many fronts:

① Preventing criminalization of politics

ex LiLy thomas case: section 8(4) of RPA, 1951 is unconstitutional.

→ Sitting MP/MLA, convicted can't contest elections (disqualified).

② NOTA case → enhanced comission's power to chalk out unpopular candidates (Subramaniam Swamy case).

③ Appointment of election commission

→ In recent ruling, Supreme court provided for a collegium to preserve independence of commission from executive interference.

④ Abhiram singh judgment: SC helped commission prevent use of caste and relijion to mobilize votes.

⑤ Subramania Balaji case: Supreme court asked EC to frame guideline for freebies in manifesto of political parties.

⑥ Public interest foundation case:

Supreme court asked political parties to publish all criminal records of their candidates →

① Jansunwai case: Supreme court declared

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filing of forged electoral expense a corrupt practice under section 123 of RPA, 1951.

Yet there are certain areas in which cases are pending:

① Contempt power to the EC to prevent its dignity.

② Making filing of false affidavit a corrupt practise under section 123 of RPA.

③ Apart from this issues of electrodl bonds which have promoted anonymity, separate cadre for election commission, removal of election commissioner as same as chief election commissioner need to be resolved soon.

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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

Parliament is the supreme law making body and Article 75 provides that council of ministers is responsible to the lok Sabha, which designates Parliament as executive legislature body which holds accountable.

Declining role of Parliament

① Frequent disruptions and walkouts

② Use of guillotine to pass laws.

③ Passing of bills without debates and discussions (ex) only 25% budget discussed

④ Use of money bill to pass by Rajya Sabha (ex) Finance Act, 2017.

⑤ Only 13% bills referred to parliament -ary committees (reduced scrutiny).

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Undermines separation of powers

① Majoritarianism: legislature as extended arm of executive

② Misuse of 10th schedule (Anti Defection) → legislators become deadwood.

③ Use of ordinance (Article 123) and by laws to fill void of laws.

④ Interference of judiciary to fill void.

Diminishes legislature's ability to check executive

① Less scrutiny of bills, reports by different agencies → breach of accountability.

② No time for question hours, zero hour → reduced answerability.

③ Partisan role of speaker → reduces

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legislators ability to question government.

④ Financial scrutiny breached → not recommending bills, reports to PAC, estimates committee etc.

To resolve this, comprehensive reforms are needed:

① Mandatory recommending bills to committees.

② Reform 10th schedule → sparing use.

③ Once a speaker, always a speaker

④ Permanent budget office, constitution committee

⑤ Making for last time in same session.

Parliament's role as temple of democracy requires these reforms.

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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

NCW is a statutory body tasked with responsibility of ensuring gender justice in India.

Crucial role played in gender-sensitive laws in India

① Reviews incidents of violation of dignity of women, violation of laws with respect to women. (ex) Nirbhaya Case

② Provides crucial inputs, stakeholder consultation while formulating laws

(ex) Maternity Benifit Act.

③ Reviews laws, policies and provides suggestions for improvement.

(ex) Termination of pregnancy act.

(ex) Pre conception diagnostic technologies Act.

④ Its report are tabled in Parliament.

But limitations

① Appointment: solely by government, thus conflict of interest.

② Silent on many politically sensitive issues (ex) Recent Manipur Disrobing case

③ Reviews only few laws, Policies due to shortage of resources, manpo-wer etc.

Elevation to a constitutional body

Paitives

① Enhance its reputation, credibility powers and duties.

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② Government → constitutionally bound to ensure timely appointment, timely tabling of reports and provision of resources.

③ Will have enhanced powers of summoning officials, power of civil court etc

But other steps needed as well

① separate cadre of officers
② Independent appointment and functioning
③ Timely availability of data, cases.
④ Regional benches,
⑤ empowering state commissions.
⑥ Ample resources.

NCW can play a crucial role in realising SDG 5 of gender equality.

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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 is important part of governance which ensures responsiveness and responsibility in administration

(ex) CPGrams portal.

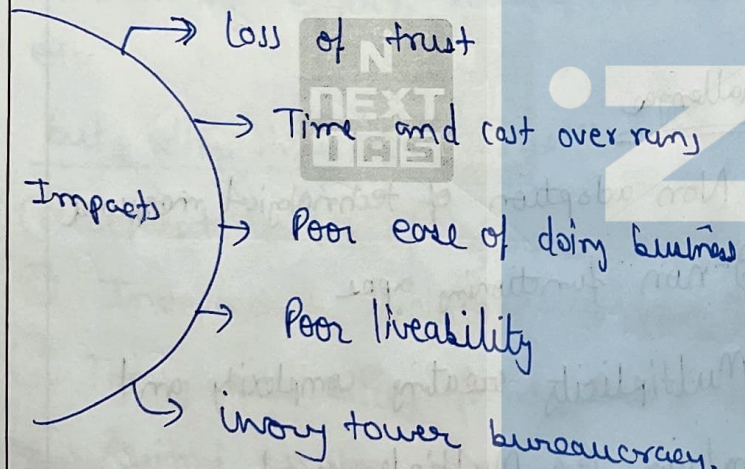
Challenges

① Non adoption of technological measures
(ex) non functioning apps
② Multiplicity creating complexity and confusion (ex) Multiple portals
③ Non adoption of citizen charter.
④ Lack of accountability wrt time and quality of redressal.
⑤ Non appointment of nodal officers.

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⑥ Pendency, delays in tribunals, appelate tribunals and judiciary.
(ex) 3 lakh cases are pending
⑦ Costly process (ex) Delays cost 2-3% of GDP
⑧ Accessibility issues: benches in major urban areas only.



Following measures can be taken

① E governance: With functional portals (ex) NPCI's UPI portal
(ex) Cowin Portal

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② Adoption of citizen charter
(ex) SEBI's investor charter
③ Penalty measures backed by legal framework (ex) Right to services Act.
④ Transparency of rules Act: suggested by economic survey
⑤ Using alternate dispute resolution, Gram Nyayalaya, mobile courts etc.

Using these measures, unified portals can deliver minimum government based grievance redressal solutions.

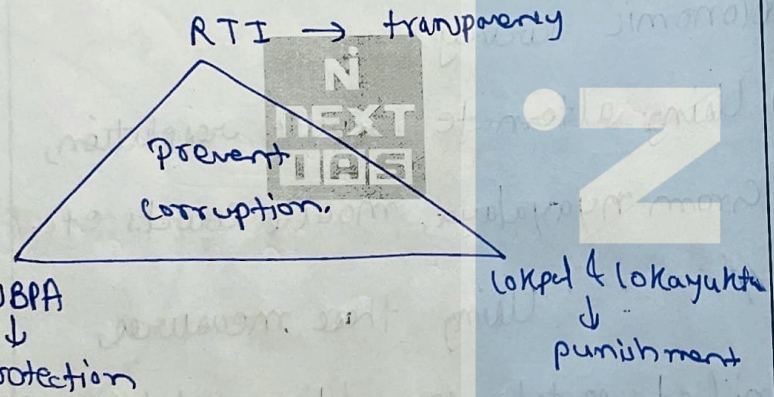
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17. 'भ्रष्टाचार शासन के ताने–बाने को जर्जर कर देता है, जिससे लोकतांत्रिक संस्थाओं में जनता का विश्वास कम हो जाता है।' भ्रष्टाचार विरोधी शासन या व्यवस्था की प्रभावशीलता को बढ़ाने के लिए सूचना का अधिकार (आरटीआई) अधिनियम, व्हिसलब्लोअर संरक्षण अधिनियम (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 corrodes foundations of a nation'.



Potential for harmonizing the three Acts

① Whistle blowers can be empowered by RTI act under regime of Information commissioners

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② Whistle blowers should be provided anonymous ways to report corruption to lokpals and lokayuktas.

③ RTI reports should be suo-motto accessible and actionable under lokpal and Lokayukta Act

④ Whistle blower's protection can be administered by independent lokpal.

⑤ Mandatory consultation and meetings b/w lokpals, lokayuktas and information commissioners for information sharing.

But certain challenges,

① RTI act diluted by amendments with CIC under more control of central government (Amendment 2019)

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② No suo-motto powers with Lokpal.

③ Penalty for false cases with Lokpal

④ Restriction on investigating Prime Minister.

Following reforms are needed

① Independent cadre of officers for Lokpal.

② CICs be made constitutional along with Lokpals.

③ Whistle blowers be provided enhanced protection, along with anonymity.

To resolve corruption, strong institutions are needed. —

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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

Self help groups work on the principle of democratic power, responsibility and fund sharing to solve common problems of group members.

Benifits involved in leveraging SHGs

① Link between government and people

(Ex) SEVA movement.

② Collective resilliance towards economic and social shocks

(Ex) SHGs used during covid shock under Aatma Nirbhar Bharat

③ Promote savings, thrift and productive investment of common capital.

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(ex) SHGs made ~~covid~~ masks during Covid.

(4) Help fight poverty by providing gainfull employment for women.

(ex) Lijjat papad.

(5) Develope skills and entrepreneurial spirit to take up small businesses.

(ex) small check dam construction under watershed development.

(6) Skill development of marginalized community

(ex) Kudumbashree movement Kerala.

But there are challenges

(1) Accessibility of ~~formal~~ credit

→ reliance on money lenders

(2) social barriers: (ex) Patriarchal attitude

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caste based barriers on datia.

(3) Skill deficit: which causes issues of value generation.

(4) Rise in non-repayment of loans culture → due to loan waivers
→ involved in debt trap cycle

(5) Regional bias → More successful in south & west
→ Less prevalent in urban areas.

Government has taken following steps:

(1) NABARD SHG Bank linkage programme

(2) Aatmanirbhar Bharat: 10,000 cr funding to SHGs

Further 2nd ARC has suggested micro loans, credit guarantee funds, a national commission for SHGs along with practise sharing across states.

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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 स्मार्ट 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 has unique mix of diverse culture in terms of religions, history, languages, art, architecture, food and values. This provide it impetus to utilize its culture as soft power.

Role of culture in soft power

① Helps in harnessing power of shared values

(ex) Buddhist philosophy with Japan, Korea, south east asia

② Bollywood used to create positive image of India

(ex) Dangal earned huge praise in China.

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③ Helps cooperation in geopolitics

(ex) our free, inclusive vision of Indo-Pacific aligns with ASEAN, USA, Australia.

④ economic benifits of tourism.

Role of diaspora

① Creates positive image: Indian diaspora is non problematic, law abiding & hard working.

② Helps resolve issues, as lobbies for favourable policies

(ex) Indo-US civil nuclear deal

Role of democracy

① Gives equal voice to its partners without any exploitation

(ex) African countries preferring India

② Helps partner with like minded countries for rights, equality etc. (ex) QUAD group.

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India as a smart power :

① India uses its comprehensive national power to safe guard its interests

(ex) SAARC satellite, vaccine diplomacy
→ soft power

(ex) Surgical strike: hard power.

② India has been able to create positive relations in neighborhood

(ex) Aid to Srilanka

(ex) Land border agreement with Bangladesh

Challenges

① Relations with China have been deteriorating → negative trade balance
→ tension at border.

② Non deliverance on key projects
→ not smart power (ex) Kuladam project

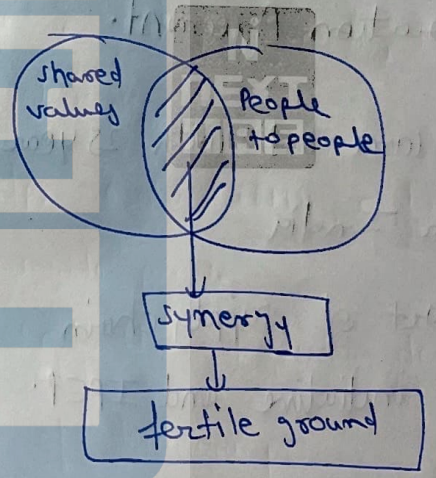
India needs to use its hard, soft and value power in smart ways

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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 have had multidimensional relations with enhanced dynamism



① Value of democracy, inclusiveness, openness, and transparency.

② Non interference and peaceful coexistence

③ freedom of navigation in open seas.

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④ Historical people to people contact.

⑤ Huge Indian diaspora in Australia (students, workers, businessman).

Long lasting trade relations

① Ind-Aus completed Economic and Trade Cooperation Agreement.

② Australia came out with 25 year strategy for India

③ Both part of supply chain resilience initiative and IPEF.

Strategic collaboration

① Both worry about hegemonic rise of China in Indo Pacific

② Partnering in QUAD for strategic

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depth in Indo pacific

③ Partnering for critical mineral supply, UNSC reforms, Malabar exercise.

Challenges

① Trade dependency on China (Huge trade deficits)

② Low trade than potential

③ Attack on Indian diaspora with racist overtones.

④ Khalistan movement in Australia

The recent visit of highest level has resulted in significant gains, and this momentum must be carried forward for better relations.

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