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Name of Candidate : C. Sivasakthivel

NEXT IAS Roll No.: NIAS23000195O1 **Date of Examination :** 27.08.2023

Exam Centre : Old Rajinder Nagar ☐ Bhopal ☐ Online ☑

Test Code : _____ **Program :** FLT ☐ FLT+ ☐

MAIN TEST SERIES 2023
(FULL LENGTH TEST-2)

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. : .....

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(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

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MACRO COMMENTS

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Q.1 जन प्रतिनिधित्व अधिनियम, 1951 की धारा 8 में उल्लिखित निर्योग्यता प्रावधानों में उपस्थित अस्पष्टता का समाधान करने की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

There is a need to resolve the ambiguity in the disqualification provisions under section 8 of the Representation of People Act 1951. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks.

Section 8 of the RPA 1951 deals with the disqualification of legislators upon conviction in certain offences.

1

① Corruption

② In offences like dowry (>6m)

③ In offences where sentence is > 2 years.

The Ambiguity

① Vague words like corruption.

- Needs leads to narrow interpretation of monetary alone
- Other Corrupt practices like violating Constitutional ideals exempted

② : Communalisation is often left.

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① quantum based, rather than serious offence based:

Thus, political disqualification: (Eg): Rahul Gandhi in defamation case, where highest quantum awarded for disqualification [as observed]

② Serious offences missed:- (Eg) Sikkim CM contested again, after 1yr sentence in corruption case.

③ ECI discretion: where they can reduce the quantum of disqualification. [Eg: Sikkim CM case]

∴ for swifter and less political disqualification, its important to amend RPA, 1951

- clearly define offences.
- Not based on punishment
- Limit ECI discretion

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Q.2 संविधान मात्र एक कंकाल है जबकि संविधानवाद लोकतंत्र की आत्मा है। विवेचना कीजिए।

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

Constitution is a mere skeleton whereas constitutionalism is the soul of democracy. Discuss.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks.

Constitutionalism can be defined as the proliferation of constitutional values and the rule of law as envisioned by Constitution.

(A) Constitution, As skeleton:

→ provides individual liberties. (FR - part III)

→ provides institutional autonomy [Election Commission]

→ rule by democracy. [Art 75]

But per se, constitution can be ~~there~~ enabled → leading to death of democracy.

But constitutionalism can ensure that Constitutional provisions are enabled

① Safeguarding liberties; Eg: Puttaswamy case and privacy (A21)

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(2) Curtailing excess power of executive { Naga people movement for AFR vs UOI → UAPA case.

(3) ensuring independent institutions: thus promoting Constitutionalism (↓ vacuum)

(Ex): troop withdrawal vs UOI – (EC) neutrality by collegium appointment

(4) Questioning Arbitrary governance: (Ex): Bulldozer justice {PJ / HC – high court}

(5) ~~ensure~~ ensuring fair laws: (Ex): Shreya Singhal (J) – Free speech in digital [Art 19(1)]

Thus, the judiciary, together with civil society, ensures constitutionalism → thereby promoting democracy.

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Q.3 'चुनावी बॉण्ड एक दोधारी तलवार है, जो दानकर्ताओं को अनामिता प्रदान करता है जबकि राजनीतिक वित्तपोषण में पारदर्शिता के बारे में चिंताएँ बढ़ाता है।' चुनावी बॉण्ड ने किस सीमा तक चुनावी वित्तपोषण में अपारदर्शिता को वैध बना दिया है?

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

"Electoral bonds are a double-edged sword, providing anonymity to donors while raising concerns about transparency in political funding." To what extent have electoral bonds further legitimized opacity in electoral funding?

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks.

Electoral bonds are buyer's instruments that were envisioned for fearless political donation.

Double edged sword

Pros

- ↓ hoarding of the donors.
- Curbs black money
- entire donation is with the financial system (RBI)
- promotes free/fair politics.

Cons

- reduces transparency in funding.
- Even FI opposed - As it will be deprived of information.
- uneven/unfair for small parties.
- one national party cornered (75%) ~~(74%)~~ of all donations [Cok niti]

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Further opacity:

1) As, the 7.5% cap has been removed
   ↳ legalized lobbying without any transparency.

2) As even for loss making comp donate
   thus, shell companies can do → opaque

3) The data is available only to govt.
   [via RBI, SBI]
   ↳ deprives transparency for analysis (ADR/PUCL, etc)
   ↳ can be misused by govt

Thus, the laws need reforms urgently for free fair elections.

- Transparency in donations
- Open to RTI [political parties]
- audit by ECI.

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Q.4 समान नागरिक संहिता पर बहस के केंद्र में लैंगिक समानता का प्रश्न है। इस आलोक में यूसीसी को संविधान में निहित लैंगिक समानता के साथ सामंजस्य स्थापित करने में क्या चुनौतियाँ हैं? (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

The question of gender equality is central to the debate on Uniform Civil Code. In this light what are the challenges in reconciling UCC with gender equality as enshrined in the constitution?

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks.

Uniform civil code is a common code in the domains of personal laws – marriage/ adoption - for communities.

- given by A-44 of part IV (DPSP)

Though this is a directive principle and India being secular country

- urgently needed for gender equality

→ Art 14 – equality
Art 15 – No discrimination

→ prejudice in many
- Sabarimala issue
- polygamy among muslims
- Female genital mutilation
- Parsis and interfaith women marriage
- Christianity and adoption

Challenges:

1) Drafting an acceptable UCC: for 7 religions, with many tribes/ subsects.

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② The orthodoxy reactionary:

(i): All India muslim personal law board in triple talaq

③ Communalisation of politics:

majoritarianism & appeasement in electoral politics.

④ Diversity: The degree and type of deprivation is very diverse.

⑤ Affecting/ violating: (FR):

A 25 — religious rights.

29 / 30 cultural and minority rights -

Thus, any [attempt at UCC] must reconcile with the positive secularism/ pluralism and diversity.

remove only those that are discriminatory

discussion and consensus

Bottom up.

(TN - persuading madarasas to change time)

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Q.5 'राज्यपाल का कार्यालय न तो आलंकारिक है और न ही अप्रासंगिक है, यह गहन सारयुक्त संवैधानिक भूमिका निभाता है' राज्यपाल, किसी राज्य के शासन में किस सीमा तक सक्रिय रूप से योगदान देता है और देश में संघवाद के सिद्धांतों को सुदृढ़ करता है? (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

'The Governor's office is neither decorative nor inconsequential, it assumes a constitutional role of profound essence' To what extent does the Governor, actively contribute to the governance of a state and reinforce the principles of federalism in the country? (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks.

Article 153 provides for the office of Governor that was taken from 1935 Government of India Act

profound role
- → The Constitutional head of the state unit.
- → An agent of center (during crisis)
- → bridge between union / state for federalism.

The role of governor in governance :

1) By acting as head of executive [A-163] upon aid/ advice
2) obtaining information from the CM (A-167)
3) ~~the~~ chancellor of universities.
4) Acting as guide/ philosopher for the state.

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⑤ discretion: → in 5th/6th schedule areas.
↳ if governing adjoining UTs.

∴ tribal inclusion

Federal principles →
- federal sanctity of bills.
- referring some to president - (163(2)) for federal concurrence
- checking secessionism
- acting upon breakdown of constitutional order [A: 356]

But recently:

① discretion → in signing bills (TN - NEET)
↳ summoning assembly (KL - CAA resolution)

② Anti-federal: in undermining elected governments.

The governors must adhere to the principles of constitutional trust while functioning.

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Q.6 हाल ही में एक राज्य में सामाजिक जवाबदेही कानून बनाने को लेकर माँग उठ रही है. इस तरह का कानून किस प्रकार सुशासन की ओर ले जा सकता है और निर्णय लेने में नागरिकों की भागीदारी को कैसे बढ़ावा दे सकता है। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

Recently demand has been rising in a state regarding the enactment of Social Accountability Law. How such a law can lead to good governance and boost citizens' participation in decision-making. Comment.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks.

Social accountability can be defined as a answerability to the society in matters of governance

Eg: Meghalaya – mandating social audit

Social accountability and good governance

① by checking financial irregularity → Jan sunwai of (manglaor kisan)

② reorienting governance as per ground need → clear experience in Andhra pradesh

③ Acting as grievance redressal platform

④ understanding impacts of schemes. → MGNREGA

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(b) ~~boost participation~~

- by providing platform for interaction
- their feedback → into policy making
  ↳ reforming / reviewing admin decisions
- empowered with official information
- motivates electoral participation.

The critical need:

→ a fair mandating social audit.
→ institutional support and trainings
→ Access to accounts

the ~~partnership~~ partnership b/w citizens and government can lead to good governance [UNDP].

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Q.7 भारत में बाल कुपोषण से प्रभावी ढंग से निपटने के लिए 'पोषण–विशिष्ट' और 'पोषण–संवेदनशील' कार्यक्रमों को अभिसरित करने की आवश्यकता है। परीक्षण कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

There is a need for convergence of 'nutrition-specific' and 'nutrition-sensitive' interventions to effectively tackle child undernutrition in India. Examine. (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks.

The repeated underperformance of India in global hunger index (107 - severe) is concerning

Also NFHS - 5 → Anemia rose by 6%

- marginal reduction in

stunting (36.1%) | wasting (19.3%) | underweight (32.1%)

A drastic shift needed in our approach.

Nutrition specific

- involves supplementing nutrition

Nutrition sensitive

- involves addressing allied ones like sanitation / hygiene / literacy

(A) (N) specific:

Methods

- expanding nutrition allocation
- supplementing micro nutrients.

Impacts

- address the hidden hunger, i.e. protein / calorie deficiency

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- Exclusive breastfeeding - proper weaning at 6m	- They are the acute interventions.

(b) (V) : sensitive.

- proper sanitation [Swachh Bharat]. - good/ clean drinking water - treating worm infestations. - women literacy	- will address background determinants. - They r have long impacts. - They take more time for visibility/ results.

Thus. Govt mostly concentrates on (A), than (B)., which leads to paradox of

food surplus + malnourishment.

Dual approach can realise sdg 2.

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Q.8 ग्रामीण गरीबी उन्मूलन की धुरी मनरेगा, राजकोषीय उदासीनता का शिकार हो गया है।" हालिया घटनाक्रम के आलोक में कथन का आलोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

"MGNREGA, the lynchpin of rural poverty alleviation, has become the victim of fiscal apathy." Critically analyze the statement in light of recent developments. (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks.

The world bank proclaimed MGNREGA as the best model for alleviating rural poverty.

It is a rights based access to unskilled labour
- DPSP - Art 39(a)
- supplementing income in lean season
- Alleviated covid misery
- & consumption - growth revival

Victim of fiscal Apathy:

1) cost cutting: The union budget 2023, reduced allocation — citing post covid economy revival

2) deleting ghost beneficiaries: [for ① leakage]

↳ Apx (5cr) yet deleted,

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③ reduced assistance to states: (eg: west-Bengal alleging of partial center

④ over emphasis on fiscal prudence.

leading to tech solutions

- DBT → delay in income
- mobile attendance, geotagging → poor net connection → hampering approval and disbursement
- Aadhaar enabled

⑤ low wage: less than minimum wage

as per code of min wages

& pcc on Rural dev't - asked for indexing of wages to Rural labour. for hike in wages. (CPI-RL)

Also, for cooperation between union/state headed with harmonising digital interface.

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Q.9 "भारत को इसका लाभ उठाना चाहिए, यदि प्रबंधन नहीं किया गया तो वैश्विक विभाजन हो जाएगा।" वर्तमान भू–राजनीतिक मंथन वैश्विक स्तर पर भारत के उत्थान का मार्ग कैसे प्रशस्त कर सकता है?

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

"India must leverage, if not manage, the global divides". How can the current geopolitical churn pave the way for India's rise to the global high table? (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks.

The global geopolitical churn is the rapid changes in strategic ~~pat~~ partners/ alliances, power matrix with rise of china.

India's rise:-

1) The focus on Africa: by forging partnerships with [Japan/ USA] - by warning of china's preeminence.
   ↳ This way - deepen african engagement.

2) West Asia: owing to cooling of Arab cold war b/w Iran and Saudi at the behest of china.
   ↳ leverage this, to boost ties with Iran
   ↳ In this process, of guide to Arab World quagmires

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③ Indopacific: owing to the com bipolarity between china / USA.

Ex: FIPIC.

④ In Europe: where there is diversification of overly dependent USA's Alliance.

↳: Ex: Nordic – India ; India – Germany

⑤ Focus on latin America:

- where china is strong
- here need to manage for resource diversification

(Chile – India / Bolivia – Lithium)

India's arrival at global high table is already there. But the deft diplomacy alone above can deliver.

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Q.10 "बर्लिन यूरोपीय संघ में भारत के लिए प्रवेश द्वार हो सकता है।" यूरोपीय संघ के साथ भारत के संबंधों में जर्मनी के महत्त्व के बारे में विस्तारपूर्वक वर्णन कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

"Berlin can be India's gateway to the European Union." Elaborate with respect to Germany's significance in India's relationship with the EU. (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks.

With the Brexit of 2020, there has open a new pathway for greater cooperation with the EU.

Earlier → UK was the entrepot to EU.
→ France was in the 2nd position.

But, now, Germany can be a potential gateway

→ Germany's quest for diversifying its fracle [gas from mainly Russia - affected].
→ The growing middle class, rise in car demand
→ The people to people ties:
↳ science graduates.
↳ Indian skilled workers.

Thus, Germany is looking for greater

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Iranian engagement.

India can leverage this.

① supply of more refined oil - for Germany

② leverage the German investments for India

③ using Germany:

↳ EU entrepot for Indian investments.

↳ for Iranian trade with the schengen zone -

④ Climate partnership.

Yet, there is a carbon border adjustment mechanism will remain. Effective diplomacy needed for win-win cooperation.

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Q.11 दल–बदल विरोधी कानून ने भारत में राजनीतिक दलों और वैयक्तिक विधायकों/सांसदों के बीच संबंधों को कैसे प्रभावित किया है? हाल की घटनाओं के आलोक में भारत में लोकतंत्र की प्रकार्यात्मकता पर इस कानून के अनपेक्षित परिणामों की भी चर्चा कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

How has the Anti-Defection Law impacted the relationship between political parties and individual legislators in India? (In light of the recent incidents also discuss the unintended consequences it has on the functioning of democracy in India.) (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks.

The 52nd Constitution amendment Act brought in a defection as one criteria for disqualification of legislators, along with addition of [10th schedule].

It was envisioned to curb.

- politics without principle
- greater instability in the governments.
- unprincipled defection.
- reduce the role of money

[Relation between party and legislators.]

(A) positively:

- disciplined the legislators' conduct.
- brought in the pre-eminence of parties in the multi party democracy
- every single members are considered to be one party

∴ strengthened their [party allegiance.]

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(B) The negative ~~consequ~~ impact:-

(1) ~~and~~ reduction in intra-party democracy

(2) reduced dissent within parties - this was hallmark of ~~Indian~~ politics - even Gandhiji was faced with opposition in INC.

(3) reduced legislator - constituency ties, thus undermining representative democracy.

unintended Consequences on democracy:

(a) There are more negative consequences, than the intended benefits.

(1) Undermined representative democracy:

(Ex): MPs voted despite massive opposition to form Govt in UP/HR/PJ.

(2) Increased the role of money:

by buying the votes of MPs.

(Ex): 2008. No confidence motion

Resort politics in Karnataka/MH

(3) undermining of principled politics: MPs unable to speak their mind

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(4) The issue of betrayal of voter mandate

→ break up of pre-poll alliance in Mah, Bihar

(5) undermining the soul of multiparty democracy

Way forward

→ restricting defections to critical motions like no confidence - Dinesh Goswami.

→ NCRWC → president should decide

→ parity between elected [Independent nominated]

→ barring for full term - [as the defected (49%) re-elected]

For reinstating the soul of representative democracy, and Mahatma's politics with principle, these reforms are vital.

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Q.12 आलोचकों का दावा है कि असीमित न्यायिक अधिकार मूल ढाँचा सिद्धांत की संरचनात्मक अस्पष्टता पर निर्भर है। क्या मूल ढाँचा सिद्धांत की लोचदार प्रकृति ने न्यायपालिका को कार्यपालिका से अधिक शक्तिशाली बना दिया है?

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

Critics assert that limitless judicial authority rests on the structural ambiguity of the basic structure doctrine. Has the elastic nature of the basic structure doctrine made the judiciary more powerful than the executive?

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks.

The Kesharanonda Bharti vs UOI verdict delivered the concept called Basic structure doctrine, that espoused some unalterable provisions of the constitution.

Pillars.

A-368

- Limited amending power of parliament.
- Not rewriting the original constitution

rewriting the constitution is the prerogative of new constituent assembly

The issues with BSD:

1. not of Constitutional origin
2. This is unexplained and not codified
3. ☹ depends on the subjectivity of the judges.

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4. Such judges are not accountable to the people

Eg: The striking down of 99th CA NJAC — by the judiciary itself by citing BSD..

BSD - empowering the judiciary:

1) undoing the works of parliament:

Eg: NJAC verdict.

2) undermining the role of parliament. — Thus

3) curtailing the domination of Executive as its parliamentary powers are clipped

3) Reducing flexibility in federalism.

By Bommai verdict → federalism ∴ BSD

↓

Art 356 cannot be used without good evidence

∴ clipped the powers of E in dismissing State govt at whims and fancies.

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④ reducing Executive encroachment in parliament work.

↳ by striking down ordinance power.

⑤ reducing ⓒ role in curtailing civil liberties.

⑥ reducing ⓖ role in preventing autocracy

Ex: Indira Gandhi Vs Raj Narain case.

Still, Executive works are not immediately scrutinized

Ex: Art 370, dilution,
ECI appointments bill issue

Though BSR has been beneficial in chipping away Executive, there needs some accountability in respecting separation of power (4-50).

∴ Need to codify BSR

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Q.13 मौलिक अधिकार राज्य द्वारा प्रदत्त उपहार नहीं हैं बल्कि एक व्यक्ति उन पर राज्य से स्वतंत्र रूप से अधिकार रखता है। इस संदर्भ में विभिन्न मौलिक अधिकारों पर युक्तियुक्त निर्बंधन की वांछनीयता पर चर्चा कीजिए।

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

Fundamental rights are not gifts bestowed upon by the state rather an individual possesses them independently of the state. In this context discuss the desirability of reasonable restrictions on various fundamental rights.

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks.

The Indian constitution, unlike the west, didn't accept the concept of naturally existing rights. Rather, it attempted to enumerate every right under part III from Article 14-35.

Source of FR:
1. Part III of constitution
2. The liberal interpretation of A-21 by judiciary

Ex: Right to health - Bandhua Mukti Morcha case

Along with FR:

The constitution provides for reasonable restrictions for various rights

The reasons:

1. Non-absolutism: by subscribing to the concept of non-absolute right.

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(Ex) : Art 19 (2): Caps on various rights.

(2) for the sake of [National sovereignty:]

(4) (a) curtailing right to speech and expression
limited by sovereignty of state

(5) [maintaining public order.] so that rights aren't misused

(Ex) : [Sec 144 CrPC] - Right to assembly curtailed

(c) maintaining [secularism] and upholding individual liberty before religion

(Ex) (Art 25) subject to other rights. - [Sabarimala verdict]

(1) Not infringing rights of other citizens (Indigenous people).

(Ex) : limitation on right to reside/move - [Inner permit]

(6) ~~Not infringing rights of~~

(b) protecting foreign relations.

(Ex) : limitation on art 19(1)

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Thus, the reasonable restrictions are for the

1) constitutionalism in country
2) longer communal harmony
3) survival of the very republic. (SC) upheld sedition based on this in Keelorunnathu case

still
- very subjective - (1) stress freedom
- Arbitrarily implemented -
- state access - sedition
-

Thus, it is vital to balance both the quest for rights and the constitutionalism, for the sustenance of the longer republic.

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Q.14 'एस.आर. बोम्मई बनाम भारत संघ मामले ने संघ द्वारा किसी राज्य के प्रशासन पर नियंत्रण ग्रहण करने के संघ के अधिकार की न्यायिक व्याख्या में एक आदर्श बदलाव का संकेत दिया।' इस संदर्भ में संघीय ढाँचे को मजबूत करने पर निर्णय के महत्त्व और प्रभाव पर चर्चा कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

'S.R. Bommai v. Union of India signified a paradigm shift in the judicial interpretation of the union's authority to assume control of a state's administration.' In this context discuss the significance and impact of the judgement on cementing the federal structure. (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks.

S.R. Bommai case was a watershed as it reduced the ~~a~~ arbitrary dismissal of state governments by misusing [Art 356]

Before Bommai:
- Ex-gov dismissed as governor felt the govt lost confidence.
- Jamata govt dismissed >10 state governments - political reasons.
- 75/120 times - political dissolution

After Bommai:
- states are independent constituent units.
- federalism is BSD
- gave protocol for governor in case hung assemblies.
- procedure to dismiss state governments on losing confidence.

The significance

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- reinstated the federal spirit of the nation
- reduced the machinery of the constitution

Impacts on federal structure:

1) reduced misuse of 356: - thus, realising Ambedkar's vision - of less used document.
2) more federal litigation: the affected States approached the Courts.
3) refederalisation of Indian polity: after hitting a low in emergency.
4) Judicial precedent: for future judgements.
5) improved Central - State relations.
6) source of many C-S commissions like Sarkaria/Punchhi/Venkatachaliah

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- There are continuing misuses - Uttarakhand
- every misuse needs court intervention.
- Yet, other ways of bringing down - using split/ merger - thus regional parties are affected - (R): 94 | 61

For powerful deterrence and quick resolution, the Sarkaria judgement must be enshrined in the constitution as recommended by Madan Mohan Punchi.

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Q.15 प्रभावी विकेंद्रीकरण की कुँजी यह है कि राजनीतिक विकेंद्रीकरण को वित्त और प्रकार्यात्मक विकेंद्रीकरण का अनुगमन करना चाहिए। भारत में स्थानीय शासन के समक्ष आने वाली बाधाओं के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

The key to effective decentralization is, 'political decentralization should follow finance and functional decentralization'. Discuss in the context of impediments faced by local governance in India.

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks.

The context of local governance celebrating their 30 years of inception warrants this discussion as still they are not designed as institutions of self governance (parli PSC report).

Present scenario:-

(a) a political decentralization → Art 243 – 243 ZG (73, 74 CA)
- Creation of Gramsabhas, 3 tier system
- planning committees – district, metropolitan

(b) – Finance
- The devolution by union/states.
- State finance commissions.
- local taxes.

(c) – Functions – A243G and 243N
- 29 functions for RLB (rural)
- 18 functions for ULB (urban)

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The status - present:

(a) Finance:

1) only 9 states have constituted 6th. State fin. Commission
2) The local taxation powers are abysmal
3) majority taxes are devolved
4) >60% our revenue is from property tax only

Thus, in financial domain, RLB/ULB - dependent on the States and union.

(b) Functional

1) less devolution of functions.
2) parallel bureaucratic administration, [chiefly urban areas]
3) less capacity building and support.
4) jurisdictional overlap

Thus, PRIs have less functional domain to work

Thus, critically impairing their ability to work

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Urgent reforms needed:

- parliament model laws in function devolution.
- making devolution as one criteria for FC [finance commission] devolution.
- ~~s~~ improving their taxation powers.
- regularly constituting SFC - 2nd ARC
- ~~schemes~~ promoting common cache - fixing the HR efficiency → FA succeeded here

Already schemes like SAMARTH are being undertaken. More needed for building last mile delivery as part of saptarishi vision.

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Q.16 सामूहिक विशेषज्ञता और नेटवर्क (संजाल) का लाभ उठाने के लिए बहु–हितधारक साझेदारी महत्त्वपूर्ण है। भारत में सतत विकास लक्ष्यों (एसडीजी) की प्राप्ति में तेजी लाने के लिए प्रभावी साझेदारी और स्थानीयकृत कार्यान्वयन प्रयासों को कैसे बढ़ावा दिया जा सकता है? (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

Multi-stakeholder partnerships are the key to leveraging collective expertise and networks. How can effective partnership and localized implementation efforts be fostered to accelerate the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in India? (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks.

The SDGs are internationally accepted goals to be reached ~~of~~ by 2030 for inclusive growth in sustainable manner.

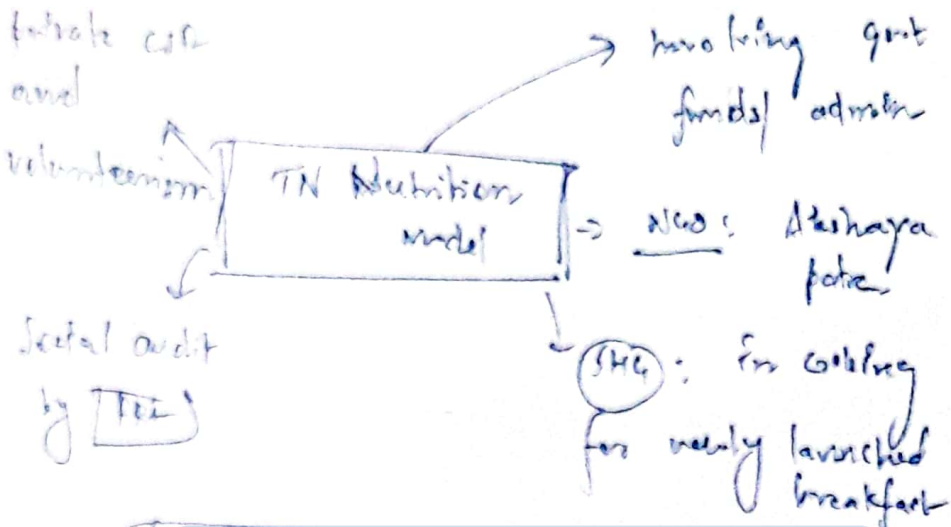
→ Barring few like education and sanitation, India is lagging behind

status and reasons.

causes.
- Top down approach
- lack of stakeholders participation
- lack of funds need 4.7 T$ for T7 gab
- lack of HR on ground
- lack of vision.

This issue can be overcome by multistakeholder partnership.

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[3]: success model

① fostering effective partnership.

- by involving every stakeholder for policy making
- making them feel valued
- political direction
- Admin guidance - giving specific roles
- by using the specialised skills for each role

(PP): efficiency of private, funds of private.

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localised implementation
- devolving adequate funds/ HR.
- giving sufficient space for designing as per local needs.
- improving efficiency - as per local skill gap.
- technical support.

localising SDGs is the best way to achieve them. SDG-16 calls for building of autonomous/ capable institutions. which is the way forward.

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Q.17 पी.ओ.एस.एच. अधिनियम के कार्यान्वयन से यौन उत्पीड़न के बारे में जागरूकता बढ़ाने में सीमित सफलता ही क्यों मिली है, और किन कारकों ने असंगठित क्षेत्र में कार्यरत महिलाओं तक इसकी प्रभावी पहुँच में बाधा उत्पन्न की है? इस अंतर को पाटने और असंगठित क्षेत्र में महिलाओं के लिए कार्यस्थल पर उत्पीड़न के विरुद्ध व्यापक सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करने के लिए रणनीतियाँ प्रस्तावित कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

How has the implementation of the POSH Act resulted in limited success in raising awareness about sexual harassment, and what factors have hindered its effective outreach to women employed in the unorganized sector? Propose strategies to bridge this gap and ensure comprehensive protection for women in the unorganized sector against workplace harassment. (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks.

Re posh - prevention of sexual harassment at workplace Act - A revolutionary Act-in reinstating Women's dignity, employment participation and gender equity :-

10 years of posh : [but little impact.] - [causes.]

[Eg: wrestler protest.]

→ The Act's less focus on awareness generation

→ not many knows the existence of ICC

→ Thus, many bodies don't have ICC

Eg: 10/30 - of sports fed only have ICC

→ No material/ technical support to institutions for ICC.

→ No legal mandate.

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The resultant:

- poor outcome
- largely toxic workplaces.
- only 19-21% LFPR

For unorganised sector:- Factors hindering:

- only ≥10 : (ICE) legally mandated
  ∴ exempts unorganised in toto.
- No mechanism in place for active ICE in such cases.
- Eg:- where ~~sol.~~ (50%) women are employed - most gender injustice.
- legal and its institutional apathy.
- weak National ~~women~~ commission for women

Measures needed:

(A) Generally:

1. legally mandate a portion of profit for this activity
2. Institutional support by women ministry

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in content creation.

3. Workshops among others

(B) for unorganized:

1. need complaints committee with every gram panchayat - women/ feminist men incharge -

2. Replication of online complaint and interaction with SP/district in c/o aggravated ones.

3. more awareness - during MGNREGA/ self help group meetings.

The double engine growth is possible only when women participates. (1.4% GDP growth) and post is vital for this.

SDG (5) can be achieved.

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Q.18 'नव–उदारवादी सुधारों और वैश्वीकरण ने कल्याणकारी राज्य की संस्थाओं को गहराई से बदल दिया है और एक नई प्रकार की सिविल सेवाओं के लिए आधार तैयार किया है।' इस संदर्भ में सेवा वितरण के समक्ष आने वाली चुनौतियों का परीक्षण कीजिए और पर्याप्त सुधारों हेतु सुझाव दीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

'Neo-liberal reforms and globalization have deeply transformed the institutions of the welfare state and set the ground for a new type of civil services.' In this context examine the challenges faced in service delivery and suggest adequate reforms. (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks.

The process of globalisation not only changed the socio/cultural and economic domains, but also the admin domain of a country.

- changed priorities of the government.
- inclusion of new domains. [IT sector, etc]
- Competition from international players.
- new intl conventions/agencies
- ↓ welfare, ↑ freemarket

(opt)

earlier: there was

- Babugiri
- license raj
- Red Tapeism.
- state dominance
- Traditional/ society.

This change is demanding more delivery from the civil services.

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Challenges in service delivery.

① Not meeting the demand → varied roles - balancing welfare and free market.
→ global governance. [WTO, Trade]

② not meeting the quality expected → ease of doing business. is still weak [70/~~rank~~]

③ resource crunch → due to widened priorities.
- high capital exp
- higher treaty commitments
- equal welfare

④ Demand for skills. → specialisations needed
→ basic new! AI/ digital

Thus, its vital to change the civil services with reforms.

① Reduce the prominence of governance - to pre-eminence

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③ Specialisation [Swinderneath] } for good efficiency
Skill acquisition [Hota]

② guide with ethical code for overcoming ethical dilemma

④ from rules based to roles based: by training (ICOT- Kamayogi)

Thus, the resurgence of India should be supported with the reforms in the bureaucracy, that could propel a $5T dollar economy without compromising welfare roles.

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Q.19 चीन भारत को अपने "एशियाई प्रतिद्वंद्वी" के रूप में देखता है जिसमें एशिया में उसके वर्चस्ववादी लक्ष्यों का मुकाबला करने की जन्मजात क्षमता है। भारत–चीन संबंधों में इन कठिनाइयों के बावजूद, अभिसरण के भी कई क्षेत्र हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

China views India as its ~~'Asian Rival'~~ with an innate ability to counter its hegemonistic goals in Asia. Despite these difficulties in India-China relations, there are also many areas of convergence. Discuss.

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks.

There is a great geopolitical ~~shift~~ churn that's happening with the rise of china. Its impact is maximum in Asia. due to the original location

- China is wanting to be the counter to USA for a unipolar Asia and bipolar world
- Whereas India wants a multipolar world and democratic Asia

Thus India ~~posses~~ possess capacity to counter China in its goals.

Chinese goal	Indian counter
- The string of pearls	→ by diamond necklace.
- The rule setter for ocean	→ freedom of navigation - (Quad/ indo pacific)

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(3) dominating South Asia → Neighbourhood policy

(4) Ocean as backyard → Ocean centrality of its policy

(5) chequebook diplomacy → inviting USA/ other powers, in democratic win-win against it

(6) BRI → CPEC and sovereignty

Despite these mistrusts and the Hot land border of Indo-china

There is a possibility of Antagonistic Cooperation

(1) where we confront/ conflict — in some

(2) we cooperate in some

The scope for cooperation :

(1) Reforming international/ institutions:

↳ to reduce the dominance of west

↳ democratise the institutions. like WB/ IMF

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② De-dollarisation: reducing Dominance of US dollar → for strategic autonomy [India].
→ China promoting its Yuan

③ South-south: by acting as voice of global South
↳ BRICS, WTO and other platforms.

④ peaceful west Asia: As remittance and OIC are important for India; WA is strategically essential for China

⑤ [Central Asia] Afghanistan: Countering terror and radicalisation.

Though, the perception/ policy varies in these areas, efforts must be put for maximum convergence, thus coexisting with each other amicably. [Panchsheel].

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Q.20 हालिया दिनों में हिंद–प्रशांत क्षेत्र अलग–अलग हितों और प्राथमिकताओं वाले क्षेत्र के रूप में उभरा है। चर्चा कीजिए। क्या आपको लगता है कि वैश्विक सुरक्षा पहल (GSI) इस क्षेत्र में क्वाड (QUAD) का स्थान ले लेगी

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

Indo-Pacific region in recent times has emerged as a zone of diverging interests and priorities. Discuss. Do you think the Global Security Initiative will supersede QUAD in the region?

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks.

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Ever Since the rise of asia, particularly china, and the withdrawal of Europeans prominence, the Indo pacific region has captured the centrality in strategic diplomacy

Indopacific (IP) → freedom of navigation
→ Rules based international order
(Taiwan, South china sea).

IP – zone of diverging priorities/~~interests~~

1) If the emerging rivalry between china and USA is a cold war, Indopacific is the theatre

2) Both Countries are bringing their alliance/ partners – As a show of strength.

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→ The area concept of Indo pacific varies, for

divergences within Quad
- USA: from India
- India: from (W) of Africa

China is bringing and militarising the pacific islands — (T): Solomon islands.

Thus there are diverging interests too:

1) some see it militarily: Aukus and Australia
2) Japan: only strategic point — through chinese bans
3) India: the strategic point: balancing freedom of navigation and sci/tech [could]
4) US: economic dominance: (To): IPEF

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Global Security initiative: is a chinese versia of QUAD, for protecting its own view of the Indo pacific

⇒ There is support from pro china countries.

→ The role of Renminbi. and diplomacy (debt trap)

As, this is an evolving concept and initiative, only time will tell its about its success.

But china has reinvented itself in challenging USA in this strategic theatre.