Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

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 : Jaswant

NEXT IAS Roll No.: MT23FLTRA027 **Date of Examination :** 17/07/23

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. : .....

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

(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

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

MACRO COMMENTS

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

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.

The Representation of people Act 1951, provides an effective framework for the conduct of free and fair elections in India.

Disqualification Provisions in the Act

1) Conviction in the follow category of offences
   i) outraging modest of women (Section 495 A)
   2) practice of untouchability
   3) Prevention of corruption Act
   4) offence against unity & integrity of India (like sedition, NSA)

After the SC Judgement in Lily thomas case, for offences with term > 2 years, the member faces immediate disqualification

(eg) Recent Rahul Gandhi case.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

Candidates must not write on this margin

Ambiguity in the provisions

1. Various contemporary issues like hate speech are not directly mentioned
2. Issues of fake news, paid news not addressed.
3. Providing false information in affidavits does not attracts small punishment.
4. Consistency issues between RPA, 1951 and (ECI) Anti-Defection Law (Speaker)

Resolving Ambiguity

1) Explicity mention phrases like 'promoting enmity' etc. with their meaning.
2) make lying on affidavit = Disqualification (Recommended by Law Commission)
3. ECI power to de-register political parties

Free and fair elections are the soul of any democracy. Need to strengthen disqualification provisions of the Act

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

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

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

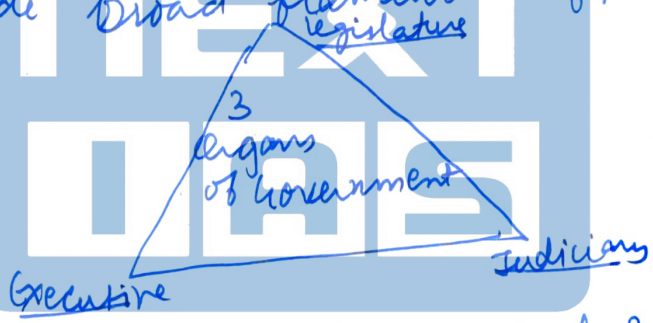
Constitution is a mere skeleton whereas constitutionalism is the soul of democracy. Discuss.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks.

Constitution is the supreme law of the land, while constitutionalism refers to adherence of the processes and practice of values mentioned in the Constitution

Constitution a mere skeleton

1) Provide broad framework of polity



2) Division of powers between central & state government (Schedule-7)

3) Fundamental rights to all citizens (Part-3)

4) Nature of State [Sovereign, Socialist, Secular, Republic]

5) Mechanism to resolve disputes (Inter-State council [Art 263])

6) Creation of important institutions [CAG, ECI, finance commission]

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

Candidates must not write on this margin

Constitutionalism Soul of Democracy

1) Importance of actual practice of functions of the institutions
2) Principle of separation of power followed with effective checks and balance
(eg Judicial review against executive tyranny)
Maneka Gandhi case (1978)
3) Rights enjoyed by people
(eg Expansive definition of Art 21 → to livelihood, safe environment
4) Working of Parliamentary institutions
(eg Frequent disruptions, unruly behaviour against constitutionalism)
5) Check against Judicial outreach/Activism
(eg SC directive on liquor shops on highways)

Therefore for effective realization of vision of our forefathers and mothers, (as in Preamble); practice of constitutionalism is a sine-qua-non.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

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.

The finance Act, 2017 created the tool of electoral bonds to bring transparency in electoral funding in India.

Electoral Bonds further legitimized Opacity

1) Hiding identity of donors, creates immoral ecosystem of quid-pro-quo.
(eg Company donating funds to get project approvals)

2) Removed limits on corporate funding, big companies now dominate electoral finance
(90% of electoral funds > 1 crore amount)

3) Domination of electoral bonds in overall funding (contributes more than 75% of total funds)

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

जनीतिक वित्तपोषण में
अपारदर्शिता को वैध
त्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक
raising concerns
gitimized opacity
words) 10 marks.

the

anspare-

Candidates m
write on this

Candidates must not write on this margin

4) favors Incumbent political party
- Access to information about donors
- 55-1. of total bonds went to current ruling government party.

Electoral Bonds brought transparency

1) Protects donors from political reprisals when government changes.

2) vehicle to stop entry of Black money.
(Aadhaar enabled online payments)

3) formalization of electoral finance

Various pressure groups like Association of Democratic reforms have criticized the functioning of electoral Bonds.

Bringing Political parties under RTI could enhance transparency.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

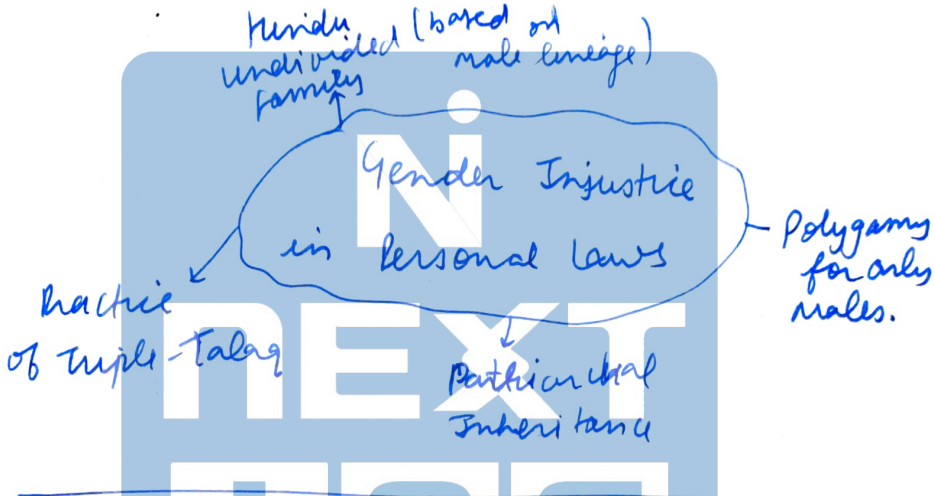
Candidates write on thi

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.

Article 44 of Indian Constitution exhorts the government to secure a uniform civil code for its citizens.



Challenges in Reconciling UCC

1) Diversity of customs in India

a) Tribal institution of marriage

(eg) Practice of 'village brides'

b) Marriage as a contract vs a sacred (in Muslims) Institution (in Hindus)

2) Variety in Inheritance Laws

(eg) Khasi tribe → property transferred to young girl

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

Candidates must not write on this margin

3) Regional diversity

(eg) Goa already has a uniform civil code suitable to its local context

4) minorities fear it is violation of constitutional protections (under Art 25-30)

Way forward

1) Rather than bringing uniformity, make every personal law gender just. (law commission)

2) wide-scale consultations to bring diverse sections on board for reform in laws.

3) follow supreme court directions in assessing and removing gender-unjust practices:

Need for building political consensus to carry forward the idea of uniform civil code.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

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.

Governor in India performs dual role. She is the chief executive of the state as well as the agent of central government acting as a link.

Contribution in Governance

1) Final assent of bills from legislative assembly to make laws necessary.

2) Special role in Schedule 5, 6 areas
   - → Royalty distribution/assessment in Autonomous Districts
   - → Application of central/state laws.

3. Protects the constitution provisions and practice
   (eg Reserving state bill affecting judiciary independence)

4. formation of government when there is a split verdict.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

Candidates must not write on this margin

5. Issues orders for start and prorogue of assembly sessions.
6. Administrator of union territories to manage them steering national interests.

Issues with role of Governor

1) Reservation of Bills / Assent lead to delays
(eg Telangan government petition in Supreme Court)
2) Partisan role in government formation (eg cases of Maharashtra)
3) Recommendation of Art 356 application criticized
(eg SC verdict in Uttarakhand (2016) case

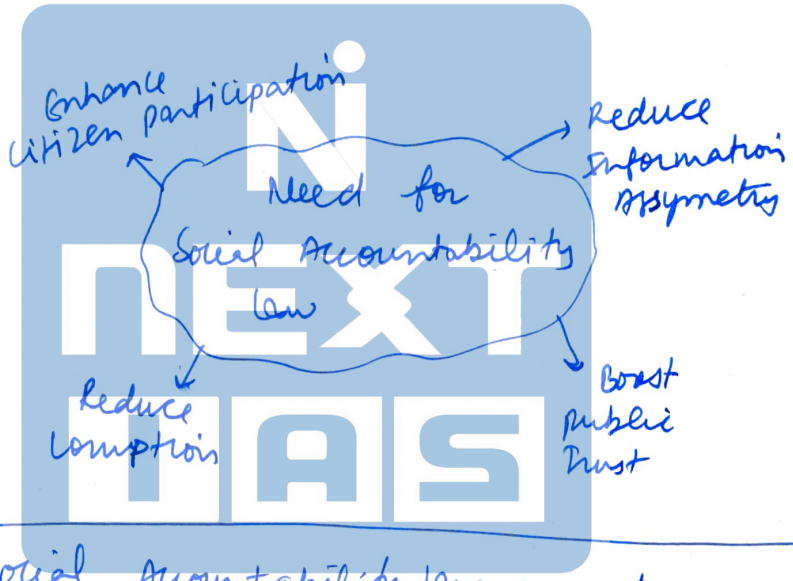
The recommendations of Sarkaria commission (appoint a non-political person with consultation with CM) and Punchhi commission (protection of tenure) could provide a way forward.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

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.

Meghalaya government has passed Public accountability and services Act, 2020 to give social audit legal backing.



Social Accountability law promotes Good governance & citizen participation

1) Establish Robust Grievance Redressal System → lead to positive feedback loops.

2) Makes officials more responsive, address citizen's demand.

(eg) Jansunwahi movement in Rajasthan.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

Candidates must not write on this margin

3) Creates awareness among citizens about their entitlements → Boosts participation.

4) Capacity building of locals → Enhance their confidence → Good Governance

5) Through citizen charters and audits, brings a culture of transparency

[Issues with these laws]

1) Most Accountability units lack autonomy, remains as extension of executive.

2) Lack of Political will to institutionalise social audit (No legal Backing)

3) No dedicated institution to train & upskill locals.

UNDP recommends greater decentralisation of power and public participation for inclusive and equitable growth.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

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.

According to NFHS-5, nearly 1/3rd of children under 5 are stunted and underweight.

Need for convergence of Initiatives

1) Including items in meals programme that enhances absorption of nutrients.
   - eg more fruits and vegetables

2) Designing policies based on local context and food cultures
   - eg Bajra in Rajasthan and Ragi in Karnataka

3) Tackling iron deficiency in pregnant women
   - → need to go beyond IFA tablets for holistic diets

4) Nutrition-sensitive initiatives in WASH sector needs to be converged.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

Candidates must not write on this margin

(eg) Poor quality water → susceptibility to disease → Diarrhoea → poor immunity → Low absorption of nutrients → (back to susceptibility)

Diarrhoea ← Interconnectedness between Nutrition-specific and Nutrition-sensitive

5) Tackling and sensitising families about gender inequality in food access at home, and importance of menstrual hygiene.

Limitations

→ Access to funds → poor infra.
→ Coordination Issues between departments (Health, Education, women & child)
→ Awareness Issues about hygiene and holistic food diets

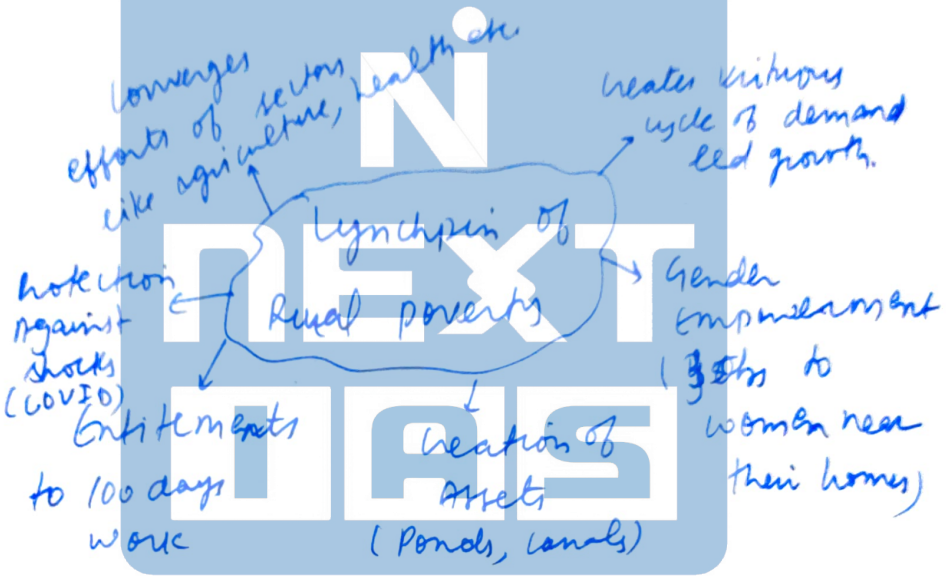
Initiatives like POSHAN Bharat, Nutri-gardens in villages are step in the right direction to achieve SDG-2 (No Hunger) and a healthy demographic dividend.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

Q.8 "मनरेगा, 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

In the 2023 budget, allocation of MGNREGA scheme has been slashed by more than 40% raising concerns of hollowing out of welfare state.



Victim of Fiscal Apathy

1) Reduced allocation of funds in Budget (only ₹ 40 lakh crore from ₹ 70 lakh crore last year)
2) Delay in payments → reduces demand for jobs → lead to further cuts. (A vicious cycle).

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

Candidates must not write on this margin

3) Recent digitalization efforts (Aadhaar linkage) lead to Exclusion error.

4) Coordination issues between Centre and States

5) Misallocation → funds spent on other schemes.

Reduction in Need for MGNREGA – The other side

→ Demand for jobs increase in times of distress.

→ Indian Economy fastest growing in world (7% in 2022-23)

→ Opening up of economy post pandemic, migration to urban areas for better, high paying jobs

MGNREGA has been a saviour for Economy during lockdown. Need to keep adequate funds to meet demand whenever it arise.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

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.

Despite being the ~~Ba~~ 3rd largest economy (in PPP terms) and most populous country, India does not enjoy equivalent status in multilateral bodies and institutions

[Current Geopolitical churn]

1) South-South cooperation among developing nations on issues of
→ climate justice, sustainable migration, access to green-technologies etc

2) Shifting of power centre in Asia, Along with China, India is 2nd most powerful country

3) Rising significance of Indo-Pacific, & Role of India in containing influence of China supported by Western Powers.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

Candidates must not write on this margin

4) Record of being a responsible nuclear state

5) Role in COVID pandemic.

↳ with initiatives of 'vaccine maitri' showed capability to provision global common goods.

Rise in High Table
- → Veto power in UNSC
- → Membership of NSG
- → Increase in voting share in World Bank and IMF

Leverage Global Divide

1) In Ukraine-Russia war → Present as a mediator → Actor for global peace & security

2) In US-China rivalry in the Indo-pacific & tech space → Present itself as a balancing force.

India's time has come to assume the global high table, need to sustain and build on current high economic growth.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027_TC002_18-07-2023 06:42 PM

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.

EU is India third biggest trade Partner and offers opportunities in green energy, agricultural exports, migration of skilled personnels and in other areas

Germany's Significance in relationship with EU

1) Germany is the biggest and stable economic power → major anchor of EU policies and strategies.

2) Opportunities in Auto sector, higher education and service exports common to both Germany and EU.

3) Collaboration of new technologies like AI, Blockchain, for mutual growth and development.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

Candidates must not write on this margin

4) Bilateral trade agreement and Investment treaty with Germany
   - could open up doors for EU-market

Challenges and concerns

1) Proposal of Inter Border Carbon tax
   - Hurts Indian exports
2) Comments made by EU legislators on internal security matters (Kashmir Art 370)
3) Rising wave of protectionism and Nativism in Europe (France, Hungary, Italy)
4) Different perspective of Ukraine-Russia war

In order to resolve global issues of climate change and to expand India's foot print, deep relations with EU is the key.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

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.

Anti-Defection law was brought through 52nd Constitutional amendment in 1985 to cure the political practice of 'Aaya Ram, Gaya Ram' in government formation.

Impact on relationship

1) Reduction of autonomy of the legislator
(eg) have to adhere to party whip at all times

2) Restriction on freedom of speech in assembly, violation of party line may lead to disqualification.

3) Transformed ~~constitutional~~ constituency based representation to Party based representation

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

Candidates must not write on this margin

4) legislators now protect party interests than interests of their ~~constituents~~ constituents.

Unintended Consequences of Anti-Defection law

1) Promoted 'whole-sale' corruption
   - merger (with 2/3rd support) given constitutional protection
   - (eg) Shiv Sena and NCP in Maharashtra.

2) Violates the trust of citizens, when members in large numbers change affiliation.

3) Politicization of the position of Speaker
   - Partisan behaviour shown during Karnataka government (2018).

4) lead to perverse practices of 'Resort Politics'

5) Rising number of bye-elections → wastage of Public funds.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

Positives of the law

1) Strengthened political stability.

2) Reduced the influence of money, muscle power in elections.

3) Recognition to political parties → Enabled their regulation.

To improve the practice of the law, disqualification powers be given to ECI from Speaker, and make ~~party~~ party whip necessary in important matters only like No confidence motion.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

Candidates must not write on this margin

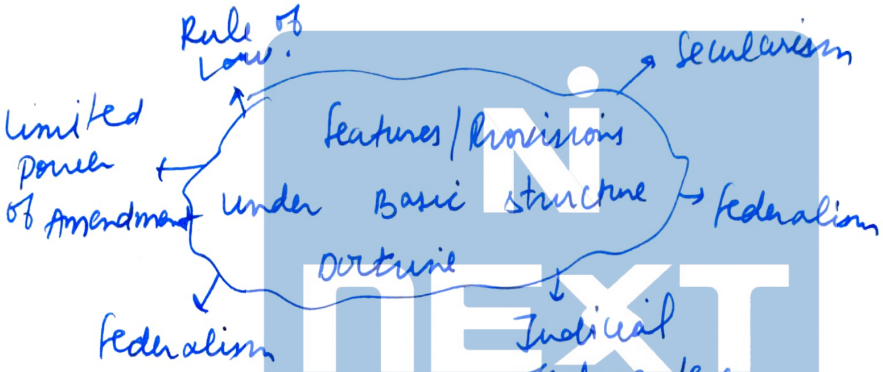
2 आलोचकों का दावा है कि असीमित न्यायिक अधिकार मूल ढाँचा सिद्धांत की संरचनात्मक अस्पष्टता पर निर्भर है। क्या मूल ढाँचा सिद्धांत की लोचदार प्रकृति ने न्यायपालिका को कार्यपालिका से अधिक शक्तिशाली बना दिया है?

(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 basic structure doctrine was propounded by the Supreme Court in the famous Kesavanandan case in 1973.



Structural Ambiguity of the Doctrine

1) Doctrine applied on a case to case basis, no uniform criteria.

2) Principles and values protected under doctrine are very broad.
(eg) federalism,

3) No mention of the doctrine in constitution and constituent assembly debates.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

Doctrine made Judiciary Powerful

1) Constitutional amendments declared Unconstitutional in the name of protecting judicial independence without proper debate

(eg) 99th constitutional Amendment on NJAC

2) Encouraged expansive definition of Fundamental rights under Article 21
   - Right to livelihood (eg Olga Tellis case)
   - Right to healthy environment (MC Mehta case)

3) Added additional burden on executive to fulfil mandate

(eg) Mandatory standing during National Anthem.

4) Violated principle of separation of power, and micro-manage administration

(eg) Ban on crackers

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

Candidates must not write on this margin

5) Use of Contempt Provisions to stem criticism

(eg) Prashant Bhushan case

Positives of Doctrine

1) Bulwark against executive tyranny.

(eg) Maneka Gandhi case.

2) Protection of fundamental rights, and balance them with DPSP

3) Strengthened federalism

(eg) SR Bommai case

4) Balances power of majoritarian government and establish Constitutional Supremacy

The doctrine is criticized as it undermines popularly elected governments. And prioritising some parts over others as worth protecting also causes confusion.

Need for Judicial restraint.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

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.

Fundamental rights in Indian Constitution were inspired from Bill of Rights from USA, where rights were inherent in humans from birth, and constitution only lists them.

Need for reasonable restrictions

1) Protection of national sovereignty and security

(eg) Violent actions against Maoist insurgents

2) To maintain public order

(eg) Regulate right to protest (in Shaheen Bag case)

3) Uphold constitutional morality

(eg) declaring triple-talaq illegal for promoting gender justice.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

Candidates must not write on this margin

4. Secure strategic interests of nation.

(eg) Nupur Sharma case, where comments on Prophet Mohammed threatened to spoil relations with Arab states.

5. Public health promotion

(eg) mandatory vaccines for all

6. Respecting religious sentiments and public morality.

(eg) Cow protection laws.

Reasonal Restrictions applied arbitrarily

1) Imprisonment of students chanting pro-pakistan slogans (criminalised speech)

2) Fulfillment of political goals

(eg) Socialization push under Indira Gandhi, violated right to occupation, property.

3) Journalists post behind bars for sedition, under NSA; for only reporting.

(eg) Siddiqui Kappan case.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

4) Use of libel / defamation cases against political opponents

(eg) Rahul Gandhi disqualification over political speech

Therefore, there is a need to use proportionality test (given in Puttaswamy case) to assess the reasonableness of restrictions on fundamental Rights.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

Candidates must not write on this margin

'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 मज़बूत 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 about suspension of elected government in the state of Karnataka and putting the state under President rule (Art 356)

case signified paradigm shift, as in this case federalism was made as a feature of Basic structure doctrine.

Significance of the Judgement

1) layed down the guidelines for proper application of Art 356

2) Use of floor test mandatory to check confidence of government

3) without approval of resolution by parliament, assembly can't be dissolved:

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TG302, 08-07-2023 06:42 PM

3) Brought decision of governor and president to impose Art 356 under Judicial review.

3) Highlighted the importance of values of non-partisanship, fairness for the constitutional position of Governor.

4) Provided relief/recourse to regional parties from domination of central parties

(eg) Arunachal Pardesh assembly case (2017).

Impact on cementing federal structure

1) Clear roles and directions for governor to form government in case of split verdict

2) Reversal of decisions of President if found biased, based on false information.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

Candidates must not write on this margin

3) State governments were protected to maintain their separate policies and governance models within constitution.

The SR Bommai case was a landmark judgement, whose precedents are being followed today to resolve federal disputes.

NEXT IAS

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

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.

Local governments in India were given constitutional protection through 73rd and 74th amendments. A 3-tier structure in rural areas and 2-tier in urban areas was created for democratic decentralisation

Impediments faced by Local Governance

1) Fiscal autonomy is lacking
   - Restricted power to raise funds through taxes, duties
   - most grants by State governments are conditional

2) Shortage of skilled personnels to implement local agenda.

3) Delegation of power under Schedule 11, 12 not completed in many states.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

Candidates must not write on this margin

4. Social faultlines of caste, religion, gender present true empowerment
(eg) Practice of 'Sarpanch-pati'.

5. Domination of state/national political parties in local body elections impeded true democratic decentralisation.

Effective Decentralization of Local Governance

1) Political Decentralisation

→ State governments should delegate power to make rules, design schemes on subjects in Schedule 11, 12

→ Fiscal powers to levy taxes to raise resources. (Only 10% of funds are raised by Panchayats of total spending)

2) Appointments of functionaries from local areas.
(eg) Panchayat Secretaries dominate the governance process.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

3) Capacity building of local representative

(Eg) Specific courses in i-GOT platform under Mission Karam Yogi

4) Allowing them to monetize land, and other assets (Mani Shankar Aiyar committee) to become financially autonomous.

Gandhiji has imagined panchayats as pivots to village republics in the organic circles of State administration. Need for comprehensive overhaul of processes to grant autonomy to local institutions.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

Candidates must not write on this margin

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 NITI Aayog has recently published the SDG Index, that shows wide disparity in performance among states regions within states and called for greater localization of SDGs for optimal outcomes.

Role of Localization of SDGs

1) Multi Stakeholder Partnerships
→ Drawing on strengths of all sectors (eg civil society for awareness generation)

2) Greater convergence of efforts
(eg Aspirational districts programme

3) Greater Acceptability of policies when designed through Consensus
(eg Success of Swaccha Bharat Abhiyan.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

2) Leveraging local Institutions

→ Panchayat institutions for behaviour change

(eg) Sarpanch persuading families to send girls to schools (SDG-5)

→ SHG institutions as vehicle of financial inclusion and entrepreneurship (SDG 1)

(eg) Kudumbashree in Kerala.

→ Network of local functionaries like ANM, ASHA is success of National Rural Health mission (SDG-3)

(eg) IMR improved from 40 in 2015 to 30 in 2022.

3) Forming Effective Partnerships

→ Use of CSR funds in building schools, health Infra. to bridge deficit

→ Colleges and universities encourage to develop local needs based tech solutions

(eg) Bandicoot for sewer cleaning.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

Candidates must not write on this margin

- Setting up of Nutri-Gardens in Anganwadi centre with MGNREGA (SDG-2) to fight malnutrition.

SDG-17 talks about forming partnerships among variety of institutions to inclusively achieve and sustain progress. need to overcome local issues of caste, gender, lack of coordination to build true solidarity.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

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.

POSH Act was created in 2013, after the famous SC judgement that gave Vishakha guidelines to fight gender harassment at workplace.

Limited success of POSH Act

1) Cases of Non-formation of ICC Rampant in public bodies

(Eg) Recent Wrestlers protest in Delhi

2) Trivialising of issues like stalking, cyber bullying in offices

3) Poor representation of women in labor force (<30%, PLFS 2021)

4) Compliance with Act has made business hire lesser women (Counter productive Effect

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

Candidates must not write on this margin

factors hindered its outreach in unorganised sector

1) low bargaining power of women in unorganised sector
   ↳ No security of Job or social protection

2) Failure to create independent and robust internal complaint committee.

3) Issues of awareness about the Act and its provision

4) Patriarchal attitude of family, friends
   (eg) 'victim blaming' woman for harassment

5) low government capacity to regulate unorganised businesses and ensure compliance

Strategies to bridge Gap

1) Sensitization of both employees and employers about the process to be followed to register and investigate complaint.

2) Robust public grievance redressal
   (eg) SHe-Box

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

→ use portals like E-Shram to bring women under coverage of social protection schemes

Issue of sexual harassment violate basic human right to dignity and negatively effects productivity of women. Need to adopt a multi-stakeholder approach to end it.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

Candidates must not write on this margin

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 ideal of 'welfare state' is mentioned in the part 4 of DPSP of our constitution.

Neo-liberal Reforms & Globalization Transformed welfare State

- Reduction in per capita public employee ratio
- Entry of private players in all sectors
- Creation of Regulatory agencies (eg Electricity commission)
- Raises expectations from middle class
- Role of technology has increased.

Challenges faced by Civil Services

1) Identification of Beneficiaries for welfare schemes

2) lack of effective infrastructure
   (eg) Access to internet

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

3) Awareness of public remains low

4) Political interference
   - Changing guidelines to benefit supporters.

5) Social Issues
   - (eg) Caste based behaviour - refusing to eat mid-day meal cooked by Dalit chef

6) Coordination issues among departments
   - (eg) Nutrition schemes run by 3 different ministries

7) Low capacity building of field-level staff → disconnect between policy and practice

Reforms for effective Delivery

1) Enhance fund allocation, fills vacancies to reduce pressure on limited staff.
2) Institutionalize citizen charter, social audit for greater citizen participation

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

Candidates must not write on this margin

3) Bridge digital divide
   - Reduce access barriers (only 47% people have access)
   - Enhance digital literacy (<40%)

to leverage technology in health, education sector

4) Change incentive structure of jobs to motivate upskilling, going for extra mile.

Civil Services are called as 'steel frame' and agents of social change. Programmes like mission Karmyogi, digital India are steps in right direction to reduce constraints in delivery of welfare schemes.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

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.

The Galwan clash in 2020 has caused enormous damage to Indo-China relationship, reducing trust and confidence in each other.

China views India as 'Asian Rival'

1) Greater convergence with US at global level
   - ↳ formation of QUAD
   - ↳ Joined tech-discrimination policy of US to stop engagement with Chinese company like Huawei.
   - ↳ Global supply chain initiative
2) Indian efforts at containing Chinese influence
   - ↳ Demand for UNSC veto
   - ↳ Promoting campaigns against Chinese diplomatic policies like 'cheque book diplomacy' etc.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

Candidates must not write on this margin

3) Persuading and pressurising neighbour to stay away from China
(Eg) 'Big Brother' attitude with Nepal.

4) Refusal to entertain Chinese Boundary claims.

5) Asia-Africa growth corridor launched with Japan to control & reduce Chinese influence in Africa.

Areas of Convergence

1) 'Asian Century' → centre of power shifted from Atlantic

2) ~~Asean~~ 2nd largest trading partner of India (~$120 Bn) &

3) Climate change negotiations to protect interests of developing nations

4) Regional stability in Afghanistan and in South Asia.

5) Technology cooperation, medical Education, and tourism are other common interests

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

Way forward

→ Reducing trade deficit to bring parity in relationship → stop dumping

→ Use of peaceful means to resolve Boundary question

→ Supporting India's bid for greater role in multilateral Institutions.

→ Stop promoting Pakistan's anti-India agenda

(eg Voting against sanctions on Macom, Hafiz)

The China and India need to reimagine their relationship as the twin engines of growth of the Asian Century..

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

Candidates must not write on this margin

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.

Indo-pacific region holds great geostrategic, geo-economic opportunities for all, with the shifting of power of centre from Atlantic to Pacific ocean.

Indo-Pacific as zone of Diverging Interests

*) China factor

1) Self-Aggrandizing claims in South China sea

2) Threats to Taiwan endangers regional security

3) Policy of Belt and Road initiative seen as neo-colonial.

*) ~~India and~~ US and West stand

1) Indo-pacific as new theatre of war and action

2) Efforts to contain Chinese influence through Quad, AUKUS etc

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

* India and other regional countries

1) Policy of mutual development for all (eg SAGAR, Project Mausam)

2) Protection of sea lines of ~~oppt~~ open communication → Economic stability

3) Respecting national territorial and maritime boundaries

→ Resources in the Indo-Pacific (poly-metallic nodules, oil and gas) could trigger confrontation.

Relevance of QUAD

→ Opted for development over security approach.

→ Sustainable model of investment and infrastructure (Blue dot initiative)

The global security initiative focuses narrowly on the physical dimensions of safety, protecting borders. While QUAD is more holistic and comprehensive

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA027, TC002, 18-07-2023 06:42 PM

Candidates must not write on this margin

grouping with technological, economical and cultural dimensions. It is going to remain active in the long run.

NEXT IAS