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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 2212)

Name of Candidate	RUPAL SRIVASTAVA		
Medium Eng./Hindi	ENGLISH	Registration Number	255109
Center	ONLINE	Date	21/7/2022

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
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18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH & HINDI**
इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other than the authorized one.
प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

1. What do you understand by 'constitutionalism'? Highlight various ways in which the Indian Constitution underscores this principle. (150 words) 10

'संविधानवाद' से आप क्या समझते हैं? भारतीय संविधान में इस सिद्धांत को रेखांकित करने वाले विभिन्न उपबंधों पर प्रकाश डालिए।

Constitutionalism refers to the collective belief in the values enshrined in the constitutions. It thus aims to establish a 'limited government' guided by the principles of 'constitutional morality'.

Indian constitution upholds this principle by the system of 'Checks and Balances'.

Ways -

- ① The role of Parliamentary oversight - by
• Question hour, Zero hour, Parliamentary Committees.

[Ex.] Committee on Personal Data Bill
in spirit of 'Privacy', 'Dignity'

- ② Executive oversight by no confidence motion in the Lok Sabha, and various bodies like, CBI, CVC etc.

[Ex] Whistle Blower Act :

③ Role of an active judiciary via the principle of Judicial Review.

Es. Judicial Review of Aadhar Act,
RTI Act for NGOs etc

④ Writ jurisdiction to supreme court
and high court under Art 32, Art 226
to safeguard citizens.

⑤ Role of citizens in upholding
constitutionalism
↳ Fundamental Duties - eg. respect for
Flag
↳ Citizen Charter, sevottam, RTI,
Social Audits

Constitutionalism carries the essence
of our constitution. It aims to establish
a welfare state as enshrined under
Art 37 of DPSP

2. The Competition Commission of India (CCI) effectively reflects a shift from the era of Licence Raj to a conducive regulatory ambience for enhancing consumer welfare by encouraging competition in the market. Discuss.

(150 words) 10

भारतीय प्रतिस्पर्धा आयोग (CCI) बाजार में प्रतिस्पर्धा को प्रोत्साहित करके उपभोक्ता कल्याण को बढ़ाने के लिए लाइसेंस राज के युग से एक अनुकूल नियामकीय परिवेश में स्थानांतरण को प्रभावी ढंग से प्रदर्शित करता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

The era of Licence Raj during the 1960s - 1970s led to negative perception amongst the investors about the Indian markets.

It was characterised by -

- ① Gross Capitalism
- ② Dominance of industrial houses in policy making
- ③ Unbalanced regional growth
- ④ Monopolistic market attitude.

The establishment of Competition Commission did away with the Licence raj.

- ① Conducive regulatory environment by removal of strict regulations

against entry of new players

- ⑤ Easy flow of foreign investment
Ex: India's FDI increased considerably
between 1990 - 2010.

- ⑥ Consumer welfare by reducing market for monopoly and thus lowering prices
Ex: Rise of private sector in
PC and steel

- ⑦ Fair competition by open bidding.

Thus CEI market a shift
from closed economy with strict
regulation to a more liberal
approach.

3. Mention various initiatives taken for online delivery of judicial services in India. Also, discuss the challenges faced in their implementation.

(150 words) 10

भारत में न्यायिक सेवाओं की ऑनलाइन प्रदायगी के लिए प्रारंभ विभिन्न पहलों का उल्लेख कीजिए। साथ ही, उनके कार्यान्वयन में आने वाली चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Technology in Judiciary has led to the rise of various online initiatives in India.

Some initiatives -

- ① e-filing of the petitions to reduce the harassment by lawyers.
- ② National e-courts project in mission mode - seamless integration of courts at all levels.
- ③ Online dispute redressal via e-Lok Adalats Eg: 1st e-Lok Adalat = Chandigarh.
- ④ Facilen assessment tribunals to reduce chances of human bias - Eg: Facilen IT Tribunal
- ⑤ Virtual hearing during covid-19 to overcome 'distance as deterrent'.
- ⑥ Use of Technology like - 'eVas' to translate online judgement, 'FASTER' for online

sharing of orders. and 'indicative notes
on website' for easy access to justice.

Challenges

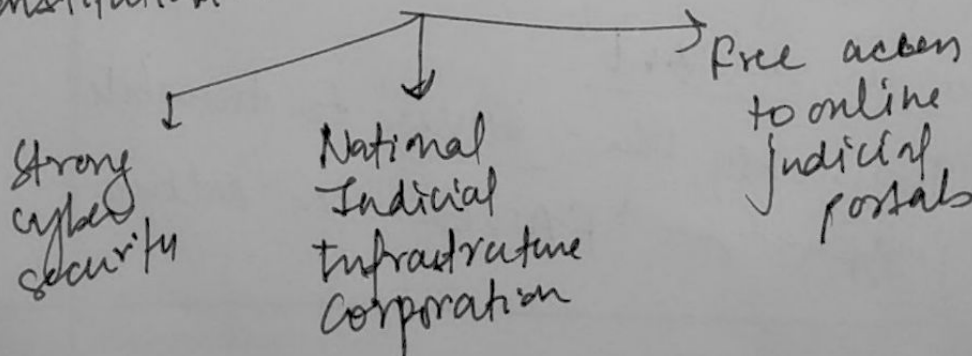
- ① Infrastructural issues as only 0.03%
of GDP on judicial infrastructure.
- ② Digital divide in India

64% = Urban
 42% = Rural

Accessibility to
internet
- ③ Sabotaging of court
hearing. Eg: Juhichawla St Case.
- ④ Threat of cyber attacks / ransomware
in court proceedings
- ⑤ Interoperability across platforms

w/f

technology in judiciary should
be used within the framework of
constitution. This needs



4. Bring out the similarities and differences in the Bill of Rights in the Constitution of the United States and Fundamental Rights in the Constitution of India.

(150 words) 10

संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका के संविधान में उपबंधित बिल ऑफ राइट्स और भारत के संविधान में मूल अधिकारों के मध्य समानताओं और भिन्नताओं को रेखांकित कीजिए।

The fundamental rights of India are inspired by the Bill of Rights of US.

Yet there are many similarities and differences.

① Similarities

- ① Ideals of Art 14 - Equality → Equal protection of law.
- ② Right to life (Art 21) : amplified interpretation
- ③ Freedom of speech and expression as part of life. (Art 19)
- ④ Protection from conviction of offences in certain cases (Art 20)
- ⑤ rights for religious freedom

Differences

India	USA
① Freedom of religion can be restricted + State neutrality for all	① complete separation of state and religion
② Procedure established by law	<u>Due Process of law</u>
③ Has constitutional right to education	Not constitutionally guaranteed

Thus India and USA have both
proved to be great democracies
by their ideals.

5. It is often argued that the implementation of The Forest Rights Act (FRA), 2006 has so far been tardy and ineffectual. Discuss. (150 words) 10

प्रायः यह तर्क दिया जाता है कि अभी तक वन अधिकार अधिनियम (FRA), 2006 का कार्यान्वयन धीमा और निष्प्रभावी रहा है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Forest Rights Act (FRA) 2006 was brought to strengthen the rights of Scheduled tribes and other Forest Dwellers.

However, its implementation has some challenges. -

- ① Contrary to the coverage of 25% of villages, the present average reach is only 13%.

Eg. Andhra Pradesh = 23%
but Jharkhand = 5%

- ② Conflict between the tribals, forest bureaucracy and the private sector
Es: Issue of illegal mining.

- ③ With regard to MFL, low remuneration and corruption by local level staff

- ④ Issue to connectivity of forest areas to mainland. Eg: only 9% road length in Jharkhand to tribal Areas

- ⑤ Antithetical approach to tribal welfare

vs. animal rights. (myths of environmentalists)

⑥ No clear definition of community forest resources.

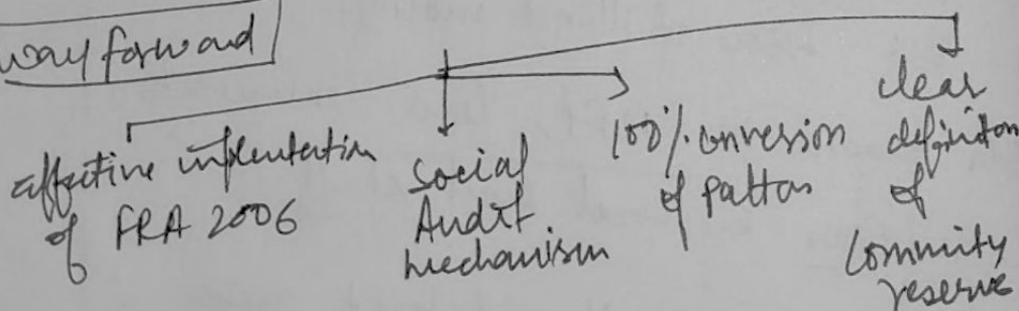
However, there have been some positives also

① Voting the concerns of tribals over land acquisition. Eg: SC in Vedanta Case

② Improved social mobility by access to education. Eg: Scholarships for Tribals under Vaidit Ikai Samosh.

③ Mainstreaming economic participation by initiatives like Tribes - e-Marketplace

Way forward



According to Virgenous Xaka, implementation of laws in letter and spirit is needed

6. Explain the rationale behind the creation of a Social Stock Exchange in India. Do you think this move would boost social impact investing in the country? (150 words) 10

भारत में सोशल स्टॉक एक्सचेंज के सृजन के पीछे निहित तर्क की व्याख्या कीजिए। क्या आपको लगता है कि इस कदम से देश में सामाजिक प्रभाव वाले निवेश को प्रोत्साहन प्राप्त होगा?

Social stock exchange^(CSSE) refers to a stock exchange with listing of companies primarily working for social welfare.

Rationale for creation

- ① Institutionalize the social sector spending via the stock exchange
- ② Overcome the irregularities in social sector financing. Eg: CSR funds are variable
- ③ Attract private sector investments in social initiatives
- ④ Complement the current 4% of government with a stronger social bond market.

Impact on social investment by SSE

- ① Diversify the sources of finance for various sectors.
- ② Prevent the siphoning of funds

in the absence of a legal framework.
② The social bond market would help
to get International investors and
NGOs into social sectors.

However there are some limitations.

- ① mere creation of exchange is not going
to bring attitudinal change.
- ② the social stock exchange needs a
balance between social objective and
economic viability.
- ③ Can still lead to fudging of the expenditure
in the absence of regulation.

Stock stock exchanges must be
complemented by incentives for the
investors to participate.

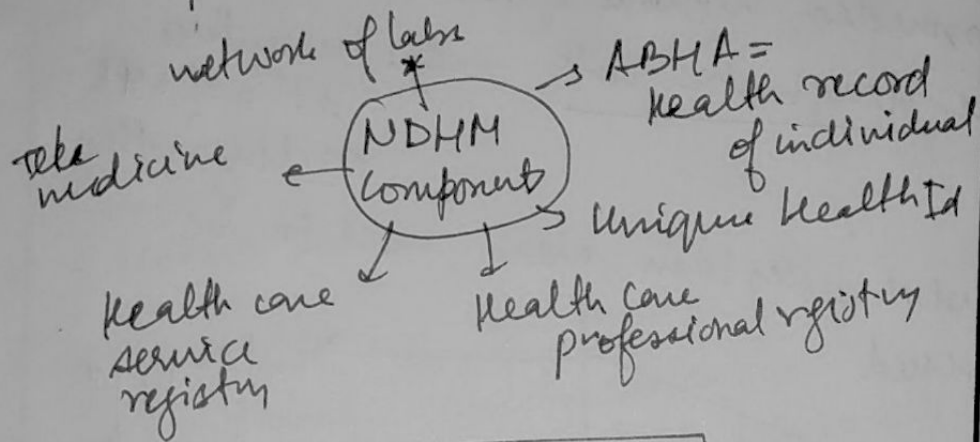
this can help to improve the
social sector spending from 4% to 7%
levels as envisaged in Economic Survey 2019.

7. The National Digital Health Mission (NDHM) has the potential to bring a new revolution in India's health sector in multiple ways. Explain.

(150 words) 10

राष्ट्रीय डिजिटल स्वास्थ्य मिशन (NDHM) में भारत के स्वास्थ्य क्षेत्र में कई तरह से एक नई क्रांति लाने की क्षमता है। व्याख्या कीजिए।

National Digital Health Mission under Ayushman Bharat aims to an ecosystem for providing health care services and is a small step to universal health coverage.

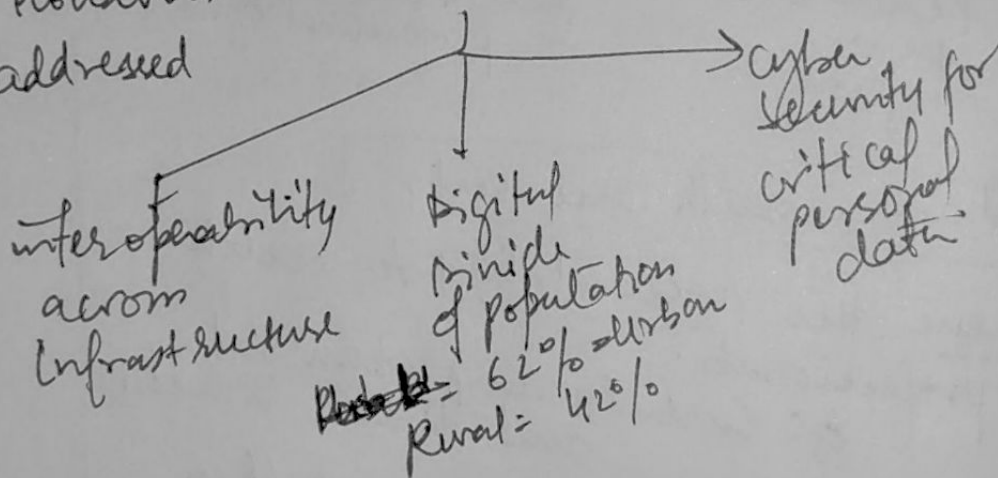


Impact on health care sector

- ① Improve the accessibility to health care professionals.
eg: Currently sharp urban and rural divide in access.
- ② Individual health record can help in seamless healthcare services across cities.
eg: Cases of patient referral.
- ③ Assessment of the spread of health care facilities regionally through the registry.

- ④ Tele medicine can overcome the cost barriers in access to health care
- ⑤ Integration of public and private sector hospitals on one platform.
- ⑥ Connected network of labs will reduce the diagnostic costs - eg: Currently 31% of GDP is on diagnostics.

however, certain areas need to be addressed



NBHM can be a future for universal health coverage if complemented with digital connectivity and security.

8. While participation of private sector in the higher education system of India is a necessity, it creates issues that need careful redressal. Discuss.

(150 words) 10

हालांकि भारत की उच्चतर शिक्षा प्रणाली में निजी क्षेत्र की भागीदारी एक अनिवार्यता है, लेकिन यह ऐसे मुद्दे उत्पन्न करता है जिनका सावधानीपूर्वक निवारण किए जाने की आवश्यकता है। विवेचना कीजिए।

The current higher education system has low GER of 25%. Also there are limited number of seats in government colleges.

This necessitates the participation of private sector.

Need of Private Sector

- ① Rapidly increasing youth population to be provided quality education
(Demographic Dividend: 15-65yr = 60% population)
- ② Complement the public sector system by research infrastructure
- ③ Better access to technology based programmes. Eg. Digital classrooms
- ④ Higher propensity to invest in the infrastructure
- ⑤ Collaboration of industry-academia in curriculum design (- Presently only 41% youth employable)

However: Issues-

- ① Private sector $\rightarrow$ driven by profit motive. Hence high fees
- ② Issue of regulation on private sector management
- ③ Can compromise quality of education
Eg: Very few private colleges in top 50 NIRF
- ④ Issue of accessibility as generally in Tier II & I towns

Solution

- $\rightarrow$ Incentivise private sector by fiscal measures (tax rebate etc.)
- $\rightarrow$ framework for regulation of some % of seats (Eg: As in NMC Bill)
- $\rightarrow$ Standard guideline for curriculum by UGC, AICTE etc
- $\rightarrow$ fair recruitment process

Education needs a boost from current % of ~~GDP~~ share. This needs a responsible private sector.

9. Highlighting the significance of Central Asia for India, discuss the challenges in strengthening the Indo-Central Asian relationship. (150 words) 10
- भारत के लिए मध्य एशिया के महत्व पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, भारत-मध्य एशियाई संबंधों को मजबूत करने के समक्ष विद्यमान चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

The 'new great game' of Central Asia' has an active role for India. This is reflected in India's 'connect North policy'

Significance

- ① Security concerns
 - (a) Threat of spillover of extremism from Afghanistan to Central Asia
 - (b) subotage by Pakistan as a buffer state
- ② Economic interest
 - (a) Connectivity to Europe and India's International North South corridor.
 - (b) energy needs - rich in uranium and hydel power (Kazakhstan)
- ③ Diplomatic engagement at SCO and balance China's BRI
- ④ Cultural connect with the central Asia countries for its soft diplomacy.

Challenges in Strengthening ties

- ① Role of China via its Silk Route Policy of 'expanding encirclement'
- ② Balancing the issue of minority and religion of the ~~tribes~~ Central Asian cultures
- ③ Role of Pakistan as the regional destabilizer.
- ④ Completely landlocked.

Way Forward

- ① one-to one connect with each of the 5 nations.
 - ② Infrastructure support by CCA (Confidence building of Central Asia)
 - ③ Agricultural support via supply of vegetables fruits (Agro Diplomacy)
- Central Asia is a gateway for India's strategic interests.

10. Discuss the role that the Indian diaspora can play in the making of "Aatmanirbhar Bharat" (self-reliant India). Also, mention the challenges in this regard.

(150 words) 10

"आत्मनिर्भर भारत" के निर्माण में भारतीय डायस्पोरा द्वारा निभाई जा सकने वाली भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, इस संबंध में विद्यमान चुनौतियों का भी उल्लेख कीजिए।

Indian diaspora accounts for the largest diaspora in the world as per UN Report.

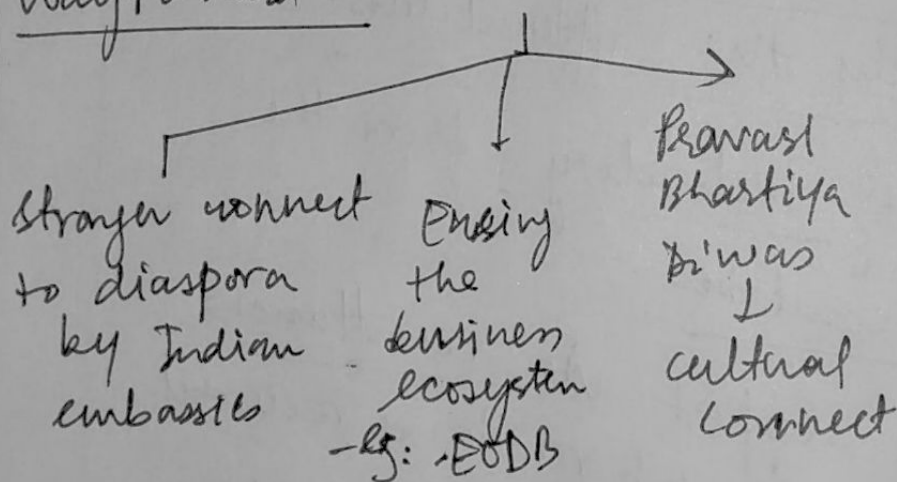
They can thus play a role in making of Atma Nirbhar Bharat in following ways-

- ① Attract investments in infrastructure as generally the affluent class.
- ② Sharing of technology from the developed countries
- ③ Economic support via remittances
(Eg: India = top remittance receiver)
- ④ Act as informal pressure groups in the host nation for diplomatic issue
- ⑤ Boost the tourism potential of India (Eg: tourist circuits like Varanasi, Kashmir)

However Challenges

- ① Easing the doing business norms for attracting investment is a challenge
- ② tendency to invest as FPI than FDI - hence volatility
- ③ often face threats of racism for supporting India

Way forward



Diaspora is an asset in economic rebuilding of India.

11. A critical appraisal of the outcomes of the 74th Constitutional Amendment Act underlines the need for second-generation reforms to strengthen decentralisation of urban local governance in India. Discuss. (250 words) 15

74वें संविधान संशोधन अधिनियम के परिणामों का आलोचनात्मक मूल्यांकन भारत में शहरी स्थानीय शासन के विकेंद्रीकरण को सुदृढ़ करने हेतु दूसरी-पीढ़ी के सुधारों की आवश्यकता को रेखांकित करता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

74th Amendment of 1992 led to the establishment of urban local bodies in India. After nearly 20 years of reform, there is a need to look at the outcomes and plan for 2nd generation governance.

Critical Appraisal

Ⓐ Positive Outcomes

- ① Establishment of Municipal Council/ Corporation / Nagar Panchayat in almost all urban areas
- ② Improved public participation in urban governance.
eg: Increased turnout in municipal election.
- ③ Reforms in civic amenities like urban housing, water, electrification
- ④ Development of cities as growth engines due better urban governance, land allocation etc..

⑤ Limitations

① Lack of finances

weaker urban bond market.

erratic and untimely grants

low self revenue (property tax = 0.17% of GR)

financing of funds by SPV

② Functional delegation is weaker.
only 20 of 31 states/UT have devolved functions to urban local bodies.

③ Issue of representation of women and SC/ST as it is not mandatory for chairperson post

④ lack of required amount of municipal staff

⑤ Disparities in municipalities across Tier I, II, III, IV towns

thus, there is a need for 2nd generational reform.

2nd generational Reforms

① Fiscal Strengthening

↳ ① increase own revenue sources by improved collection of water tax, road tax etc.

- ① Urban bond market - eg: MUNI bonds.
 - ② Incentive based fiscal transfer to states based on urban reforms. (15th Finance Commission)
 - ③ Mandatory functional devolution by the states
 - ④ Also, a constitutional backing to women representation just as in panchayats (NCRWC recommendation)
 - ⑤ Synchronization of elections and the structure of urban bodies.
 - ⑥ Setting up a new 'Integrated Command Control Centre' in municipalities in the wake of disasters and pandemics
- Urban governance needs to be revamped. LM Singhvi committee had rightly mentioned cities as drivers of growth for the 21st century.

12. It is argued that unchecked and rampant exercise of the power to insert laws in the Ninth Schedule results in undermining of Constitutional supremacy and creation of Parliamentary hegemony. Do you agree? Justify your stand with logical arguments. (250 words) 15

यह तर्क दिया जाता है कि नौवीं अनुसूची में विधियों को सम्मिलित करने की शक्ति के अनियंत्रित और व्यापक स्तर पर प्रयोग से संवैधानिक सर्वोच्चता में कमी और संसदीय आधिपत्य का मृजन होता है। क्या आप सहमत हैं? उचित तर्कों के साथ अपने मत की पुष्टि कीजिए।

The creation of 9th schedule by the 1st Constitutional Amendment Act has been debated on various grounds of Constitutional supremacy and Parliamentary hegemony.

Purpose of 9th Schedule → to provide for saving of certain laws regarding agriculture reforms from the scrutiny

However, there has been both - use and misuse of this.

9th schedule → Undermines Constitutional supremacy

- ① Art 31B provides that the laws under 9th schedule are not subject to court intervention.
- ② This goes against the system of

checks and balances enshrined as one of the features of our constitution.

③ Repeated placement of critical laws regarding land reforms, land acquisition can often violate the economic justice ideal of DPSP.

9th schedule → Parliamentary hegemony

① Since only the Parliament is empowered to amend the constitution (A368) thus states are at the mercy of Parliament to place a law in 9th schedule.

② Also the limited role of oversight on parliamentary action leads to hegemony.

However 9th schedule → Merits

① Saving of laws from frivolous scrutiny by the opposition and from Judicial overreach.

② Help in faster implementation of land reforms like Abolition of zamindari etc

③ led to redistribution of land among the poor and marginal farmers.

④ Improved agricultural reforms? efficiency during green Revolution due to intensive mechanization on land
Eg: Punjab, Haryana

As in IR Coelho Case upheld that merely placing a law in 9th schedule does not guarantee blanket protection from Judicial Review. ~~The~~

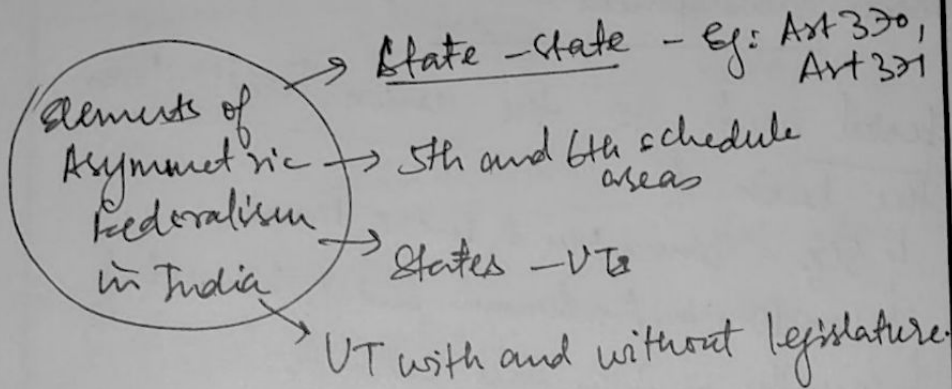
Thus it upheld the doctrine of Path and Substance and Colorable Legislation in deciding validity of 9th schedule.

13. Asymmetry is an important characteristic of federalism in India, which has helped in the accommodation of diverse demands inherent in our democracy. Discuss.

(250 words) 15

असममिति भारत में संघवाद की एक महत्वपूर्ण विशेषता है, जिसने हमारे लोकतंत्र में निहित विविध मांगों के समायोजन में सहायता प्रदान की है। चर्चा कीजिए।

According to Charles Taylor,
Asymmetric federalism refers to differential benefits to the federal units based on the diverse interests of those units.



This has helped in accommodating diverse demands in following ways

- ① Special category status to states with higher level of economic backwardness
Eg: SCs in centrally sponsored schemes distributed in 75:25 ratio
- ② Concern to the tribal diversity of certain states. Eg: Art 371 - Nagaland → based on ethnicity.

- ③ special attention to the autonomy of tribal dominated areas.
eg: PESA Act 1996 for 5th scheduled area, tribes Advisory Council
- ④ Classification of states into empowered action group (EAG) and non EAG to overcome development disparity
- ⑤ special needs to the union Territories on the basis of
 - ↳ size - Daman & Diu & Dadar Nagar
 - ↳ Location - Andaman and Lakshadweep
 - ↳ security - J&K and Ladakh.
- ⑥ however, this can often lead to conflicts in the federal setup. They are

⑦

Autonomy and Regionalisation

eg: Nagalim, Tripaland

Inter State disputes

eg: Cauvery river disputes

Issue of migration

eg: Son of soil

fiscal sharing

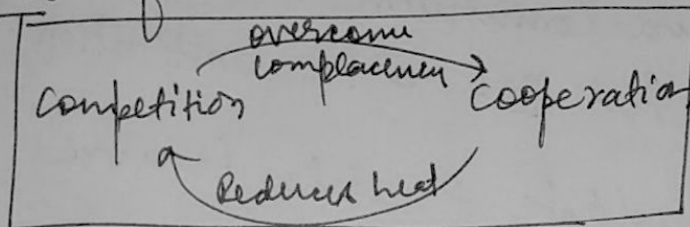
eg: change from 42% to 41%.

indivisible pool due to new 3rd Act.

To overcome the disparities and uphold the diversity in asymmetrical federalism-

way forward

- ① Revolution of frames of federal units based on performance. eg: 15th FC grants.
- ② NITI Aayog spirit of competitive and cooperative federalism



- ③ Strengthen platforms like Inter-state Council, Zonal Council (Barbaria Commission)

Indian federal structure, though asymmetric, is united by principles of justice, liberty and equality.

14. In India, the Finance Commissions are established pursuant to the constitutional mandate. In this context, do you think the State Finance Commissions have been effective in promoting fiscal federalism? Substantiate with arguments. (250 words) 15

भारत में वित्त आयोगों की स्थापना संवैधानिक अधिदेश के अनुसार की जाती है। इस संदर्भ में, क्या आपको लगता है कि राज्य वित्त आयोग राजकोपीय संघवाद को बढ़ावा देने में प्रभावी रहे हैं? तर्कों के साथ पुष्टि कीजिए।

Art 280 mandates the establishment of Union Finance Commissions whereas, the State Finance Commissions are constituted under the Part IX-A of the constitution.

The mandate of state finance Commission is -

- ① Fiscal devolution from states to the Panchayats and local bodies.
- ② Suggesting measures for improving the self finance generation for the Panchayati Raj Institutions.
- ③ Fiscal transparency in the states

To some extent, the state finance commissions have been effective. This can be seen as follows -

- ① Improved basic amenities in the local governance institutions like water, electricity etc.
- ② Regular submitting of reports of state finance commission to governor to improve fiscal accountability
- ③ Some innovative ways of financing suggested by SFC Eg: Muni Bonds etc.
- ④ Prevent the accumulation of grants-in-aid with the state.

however, it has faced several limitations.

- ① Lack of political will by states to implement the suggestions of SFC
- ② More suggestive in nature and no power of enforcement
- ③ Their constitution depends upon the state government
- ④ creation of parastatal and SPVs by states to sy-fence the funds

To improve fiscal federalism through
state finance commission -

- ① Constitutional validity to the structure
of State Finance Commission
- ② Requirement of a report submitted
by states for non-compliance
- ③ fixing the 2% devolution of funds
to local bodies from the 1% GST
collection.
- ④ Improved local revenue generation
E.g. Water tax, electricity tax

State Finance Commissions can play
important role in reducing fiscal
asymmetries.

15. Reduction in the overall size of the bureaucracy has been seen as the underlying idea behind civil services reforms. Is it a good idea to reduce the size of the Indian bureaucracy? Examine in light of the experience of India.

(250 words) 15

नौकरशाही के समग्र आकार में कमी को सिविल सेवाओं में सुधार के पीछे अंतर्निहित विचार के रूप में देखा गया है। क्या भारतीय नौकरशाही के आकार को कम करना एक उपयुक्त विचार है? भारत के अनुभव के आलोक में परीक्षण कीजिए।

Since the decade of 1980s, the Indian civil services reforms have focussed on reducing the size of overall bureaucracy.

This had a mixed impact on quality of governance in India.

Improvements

① Reduced the redundancies in the organizational structures.

Eg: Multiple officers over one department

② Limits the levels of hierarchy in governance and thus red taping.

③ Optimization of the expenditure by state in terms of salaries, pensions (high component in revenue expenditure).

④ Creates space for appointment of
diverse talent pool from outside the
regular setup.
Eg: lateral entry in civil services.

⑤ More number of officers. led to over
crowding in the state / central
secretariat as limited field posts

However challenges are also there

① Lead to increased shortage of
bureaucrats ~~of~~ over the time.

Eg: DoPT report - UP = maximum
vacancies of IAS.

② Just as ~~big~~ smaller ~~just~~ does not
mean better, bigger does not mean
bad.

If the bureaucrats be assigned
roles wisely, they can improve governance

③ Affects the quality of public service
delivery as lesser officers for field
interaction.

④ Issue of revenue expenditure still remains as rise of lateral entry recruits.

⑤ Reduced vacancies in bureaucracy have also led to spoils system for posting / promotions.

Therefore it is necessary to find the optimum size of bureau bureaucracy so as to minimize the quality of service delivery to the citizens.

16. There is a need to ensure better ethical standards, accountability and management of temples in India. Discuss in the context of issues associated with state intervention in management of temples. (250 words) 15

भारत में मंदिरों के बेहतर नैतिक मानकों, जवाबदेही और प्रबंधन को सुनिश्चित करने की आवश्यकता है। मंदिरों के प्रबंधन में राज्य के हस्तक्षेप से संबंधित मुद्दों के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।

Temples in India not only have a religious purpose but also a social, economic and political significance. Thus there is a need to ensure better ethical standards and management.

Issue of ethical standards in temple

- ① Gender based discrimination related to women entry Eg: Sabarimala issue
- ② Balance between trusteeship role Use use funds for temple development
Eg: Temples in India = have nearly 8-9% of total gold.

Issue of accountability and management

- ① Financial accountability of temples as centre of tourism
Eg: Tourist circuits around Temples.

② social accountability as heavy donations for temple maintenance.

Eg: Donations at Balaji Temple.

③ management accountability by impartial administration

Eg: Neutrality of Temple 'Mathadheesh'

Therefore temples need a regulation by the state. As held by the SC in Ratilal case - state regulation of temples for better management is not an infringement over rights. However,

Issues in state regulation

① Violation of fundamental rights under Art 26 to acquire, establish and manage temples.

② Balance of secular nature of state - state neutrality.

③ Religion is a private affair and so is temple entry rules.

④ Secularism often seen as homogenization
of religious and cultural norms.

To overcome these—

- ① State should maintain a balance
between the secular function and ~~not~~
religious function
- ② don't its role to improving transparency
in temple management
- ③ Temple entry/ascen reforms after
consultations.

The Fundamental Rights under Art
25 and 26 are reasonably restricted on
various grounds of morality, health and
public order. Thus state intervention on
these grounds is justified.

17. What do you understand by feminisation of old age? Highlight the issues associated with it in the Indian context. Also, mention the measures taken by the government in this regard.

(250 words) 15

वृद्धावस्था के नारीकरण से आप क्या समझते हैं? भारतीय संदर्भ में इससे जुड़े मुद्दों पर प्रकाश डालिए। साथ ही, इस संबंध में सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए कदमों का भी उल्लेख कीजिए।

feminisation of old age refers to an increase in women ratio in the old age women (>60 years).

this feminisation of old age can be seen in sex ratio = 1020/1000 but since child sex ratio = 940/1000, it shows increase in older age women.

Also, ratio of women to men in old age is around 9:7 (NFHS-2020).

This has led to certain issues

① Economic challenges

(i) low labour force ratio of women,
(only 17%) → PLFS Data)

(ii) lack of social security benefits
of pension, etc for household
and domestic workers.

② Social challenges

- (i) Increased neglect by families of older women than older men (as no benefit of pension support etc.)
- (ii) Increased crimes against elderly women
[Eg: NCRB data - high rate of murder in older women]
- (iii) Low levels of literacy in women affect their survival.

③ Special healthcare needs for women

- (i) Increased risk of diseases like breast cancer, anaemia, arthritis.
- (ii) Special healthcare assistance for the menopausal women.

Measures Taken

① ~~Basic~~ Economic Security

- (i) Increased coverage of women beneficiaries under PM-Vaya Vandana Yojana

- (ii) Participation of SHG in rural areas under older women supervision.

① Social security

- ↳ ① Widow and old age pension assistance under NSAP (National Social Assistance Plan)
- (ii) Specialized old age homes for women

② Healthcare needs

- (i) Increased coverage under Ayushman Bharat for older age women
- (ii) Diversification of women healthcare professionals in rural areas also.

Feminization of old age needs a shift of policymaking towards a socially inclusive approach. They can act as stewards in various schemes like Postan2.0 etc.

18. Given its impact on both individual resilience and the resilience of the economy, is there a case for strong universal social protection in India? Discuss. (250 words) 15

व्यक्तिगत लचीलेपन और अर्थव्यवस्था की प्रत्यास्थता दोनों पर इसके प्रभाव को देखने हुए, क्या भारत में सुदृढ़ सार्वभौमिक सामाजिक सुरक्षा की स्थिति विद्यमान है? विवेचना कीजिए।

Universal social protection refers to coverage of social benefits of healthcare, education, poverty alleviation and migration across all sections of society.

India currently has 140 mn people suffering from hunger, and 25% of people under multi dimensional poverty. This shows the need for universal social protection.

Impact on individual resilience

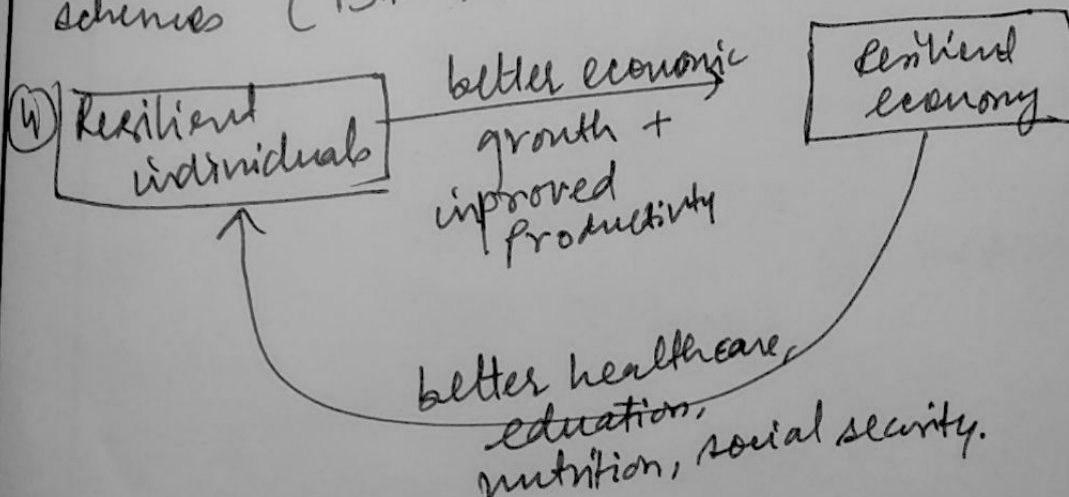
- ① Reduce the high out-of-pocket expenditure on healthcare from currently 60% to 30%. (As per National Health Policy - if 2.5% of GDP on health)
- ② Social security benefits to migrant population (30% of population)
(Eg: One Nation one ration.)

- ③ Improved education rate in higher education to all as high dropout (only 26% GER)
- ④ Resilience against increased vulnerabilities of disaster especially on poor people (e.g. 50% population affected during cyclones is poor)

Impact on resilience of economy

- ① Reduce the fractionalised approach of social security. Eg: Currently Public Distribution System

Ministry of Women & child	Min of consumer Affairs	Min of Agriculture
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- ② Overcome the issue of duplication of beneficiaries and thus duplication of fiscal transfers.
- ③ Rationalise the number of centrally sponsored schemes (15th FC recommendation)



To achieve this -

Way forward

- ① On lines of Thailand's 30 Baht Project, working on universal healthcare in India.
- ② 'Education for all' under NEP 2020
- ③ Food security coverage under 'one Nation - one Ration'.
- ④ Migrant and labour security by labour codes.

Therefore universal social protection can help achieve the goal of \$1tn economy

19. There have been arguments that with the old global multilateral order failing to manage rising challenges, issue-based coalitions are gaining traction and have become the arenas of functional cooperation. Discuss.

(250 words) 15

ऐसे तर्क दिए गए हैं कि पुरानी वैश्विक बहुपक्षीय व्यवस्था बढ़ती चुनौतियों का प्रबंधन करने में विफल रही है, जबकि मुद्दे-आधारित गठबंधन लोकप्रियता प्राप्त कर रहे हैं और कार्यात्मक सहयोग के क्षेत्र बन गए हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।

Changes in the geopolitical environment
and decline in the importance of old
multilateral order has led to issue based
coalitions and regional blocs.

Failure of old global multilateral orders

(i) Passive role of organization like
UN, UNSC in maintaining global peace.
Eg: West Asian conflicts, Syria-Yemen,
Russia-Ukraine, Afghan crisis

(ii) Multilateral organization like G20
being divided over issues of democracy

(iii) Failure of Paris Climate Deal, UNFCCC
to limit the global warming challenges
like 2.5°C temperature rise

(iv) Decline in role of WTO. Eg: increased
protectionism, trade war

(v) Multilateral healthcare support by WHO

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challenged during COVID-19 - Ex: Vaccine nationalism.

(vi) Feature of nuclear disarmament -
Ex: Iran-US JCPOA issue.

To overcome these, issue based coalitions are on a rise. This can be seen -

① Global Peace issue

(i) Coalitions like 12U2 (India, UAE, US, Israel) for middle east peace

(ii) Lia of QUAD and the Indo Pacific for Freedom of Navigation of seas

③ (iii) Issue of Terrorism led by India at BRICS, BIMSTEC.

② Economic and Trade

(i) Regional blocs like ASEAN, RCEP, BRN (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India Nepal). etc on a rise

(ii) Trade in local currency (Rupee-Rouble swap)

(iii) Supply chain initiatives like Supply chain resilience (CPI - by US, Japan, Australia)

③ Environmental coalitions

- ↳ ④ Renewable energy coalition like International Solar Alliance
- ⑤ Disaster resilience in Asia Pacific
ex: CDR by India

These have led to increase in functional cooperation, keeping aside the historical conflicts of ideologies and power ~~base~~ diplomacy.

The new concept of 'Strategic Autonomy' as seen in India's Foreign Policy also shows increase in issue based cooperation to safeguard national interest.

20. India intends to achieve a balanced and optimal development of energy infrastructure in the South-Asian region through mutual understanding and cooperation. In light of this statement, discuss the need as well as existing gaps in South Asia's energy cooperation. (250 words) 15

भारत पारस्परिक समझ और सहयोग के माध्यम से दक्षिण-एशियाई क्षेत्र में ऊर्जा के बुनियादी ढांचे में एक संतुलन और उसका इष्टतम विकास सुनिश्चित करना चाहता है। इस कथन के आलोक में, दक्षिण एशिया में ऊर्जा सहयोग की आवश्यकता और इस संदर्भ में विद्यमान कमियों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

The South Asian region is one of the world's fastest growing region. Therefore there is a need for balanced and optimal development of energy infrastructure.

Need for South Asia's energy cooperation

- ① Since mostly the developing economies, therefore, higher dependence on coal
(Almost 55-60% coal based)
- ② Increasing threat of climate change on developing nations. Hence need to innovate energy collaboration.
(IPCC 6th AR - 40% of all disasters in tropical nations)
- ③ Reduce dependence of supplies of coal, oil and gas on USA, Europe and West Asia

(i) lack of infrastructure support for energy development. Ex: Issue of regional connectivity.

(ii) Expected to grow at a rapid pace of average 4-5% of global GDP (IMF) thus need to develop energy infrastructure.

However, certain gaps exist-

(i) Issue of financing as mostly middle and lower income countries.

(ii) Traditional industries need coal for at least next 20-40 years.
Ex: thermal based power plants

(iii) low reserves of oil in the region, hence need to import.

(iv) Not harnessed the potential of renewable resources like Solar, tidal etc.

To overcome the gaps-

(i) Regional collaboration for financing
Ex: New Development Bank,
Asian Infra-Investment Bank.

- ② Intra-regional trade development to improve economic resilience and thus easier shift (eg: SAFTA revival)
- ③ focus on renewable energy -
eg: International Solar Alliance by India
- ④ Improved regional infrastructure by mutual work on hydro projects.
eg: India & Nepal: Pancheshwar
↳ Myanmar = Tipaimukh.
↳ Bhutan = Magadecum

South Asia has the potential to emerge as new growth centre in the world. It is essential to promote energy cooperation.