



# VISION IAS

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## GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1984)

|                   |                 |                     |                          |
|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Name of Candidate | Aishwarya Verma |                     |                          |
| Medium Eng./Hindi | English         | Registration Number | 5A7067                   |
| Center            | online          | Date                | 12 <sup>th</sup> Nov '21 |

### INDEX TABLE

| Q. No. | Maximum Marks | Marks Obtained |
|--------|---------------|----------------|
| 1      | 10            |                |
| 2      | 10            |                |
| 3      | 10            |                |
| 4      | 10            |                |
| 5      | 10            |                |
| 6      | 10            |                |
| 7      | 10            |                |
| 8      | 10            |                |
| 9      | 10            |                |
| 10     | 10            |                |
| 11     | 15            |                |
| 12     | 15            |                |
| 13     | 15            |                |
| 14     | 15            |                |
| 15     | 15            |                |
| 16     | 15            |                |
| 17     | 15            |                |
| 18     | 15            |                |
| 19     | 15            |                |
| 20     | 15            |                |

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

### INSTRUCTIONS

- 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)।
- There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH & HINDI**.  
इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
- All questions are compulsory.**  
सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
- The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.  
प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
- 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।
- Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.  
प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
- 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.

1. To safeguard and uphold the freedom of speech and expression in India, it is imperative to adequately reform colonial laws that curtail free speech. Discuss. (150 words) 10

भारत में वाक् एवं अभिव्यक्ति की स्वतंत्रता को सुरक्षित रखने और उसे बनाए रखने के लिए, मुक्त वाक् को कम करने वाले औपनिवेशिक कानूनों में पर्याप्त रूप से सुधार करना अनिवार्य है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Article 19 of the Indian constitution provides for free speech as the fundamental right for the citizens in India.

However there are many archaic provisions of the colonial times that curtail free speech such as:

- Frequent use of sedition (Section 124A) of IPC) to curb the free speech.
- use of telegraph act 1885 to shut down internet.
- use of sec 144 CrPc to impose curfew.
- official secrets act 1904 to deny



information.

### Need for reforms!

- ① It impacts right to information that in turn impacts right to free choice.
- ② It goes against the spirit of the democracy.
- ③ It paves the way for an authoritarian state and reduces the government's accountability.
- ④ Rise in the IT culture, social media needs updation in these laws to reforms as per contemporary needs.

Reforms in such laws will ensure participatory governance and will empower the citizenry.



2. What do you understand by the 'doctrine of neutrality'? Explain its significance for constitutional offices in the Indian context. (150 words) 10

'तटस्थता के सिद्धांत' से आप क्या समझते हैं? भारतीय संदर्भ में संवैधानिक पदों के लिए इसका महत्व स्पष्ट कीजिए।

Doctrine of neutrality refers to principle of being neutral and free from bias while holding an important constitutional office such as speaker, governor etc.

Significance:

① It maintains the sanctity of the office and builds trust in constitutional democracy.

② It reduces the tension between centre and state and pave the way for cooperative federalism.

[eg] Central control over governor's office leads to federal issues.

③ It gives the voice to the opposition and make sure that freedom of speech is upheld

[eg] Neutrality of speaker on the floor of parliament.

- In England speaker resigns from the political party after being elected.

④ It ensures the efficiency of public offices as they are free from political interference

[eg] offices like CVC, CBI are often blamed for biasness towards ruling party.

Doctrine of neutrality ensures that the spirit of constitutionalism is upheld in the democracy.



3. Highlight the <sup>(2)</sup>role of <sup>(1)</sup>pressure groups in a democratic country. Also, differentiate <sup>(3)</sup>between pressure groups in India and developed countries. (150 words) 10

एक लोकतांत्रिक देश में दबाव समूहों की भूमिका पर प्रकाश डालिए। साथ ही, भारत और विकसित देशों में दबाव समूहों के मध्य अंतर स्पष्ट कीजिए।

Pressure groups are interest groups that affects the policy making without taking actual part in the elected government.

### ways

- electioneering
- lobbying
- propaganda.

### Examples

- Labour - MKS
- Agriculture - AKS
- Religious - RSS
- Student - AIBP

### Role:

- ① They represent a diverse section of the population that political parties fail to do so.
- ② They ensure that voice of minority groups get heard  
eg. Naz foundation for LGBTQ community.



- ③ ensures grassroots activism and political participation.
- ④ Make sure that government remains in touch with people.

### Differences in pressure groups:-

| India                                                                                                                                                                                  | Developed.                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ dominated by religious, agricultural, caste groups</li> <li>→ various diverse interests.</li> <li>→ No specific law to govern them</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ dominated by the corporates, civil society organisations</li> <li>→ economic interest</li> <li>→ lobbying is legal in nations like USA</li> </ul> |

pressure groups are useful in ensuring accountability of government and hence should be organised through a central law.

4. Highlighting the factors that have led to increased instances of delegated legislation and administrative adjudication, discuss the issues associated with these. (150 words) 10

प्रत्यायोजित विधान और प्रशासनिक न्यायनिर्णयन के बढ़ते दृष्टान्तों के लिए उत्तरदायी कारकों को रेखांकित करते हुए, इनसे संबद्ध मुद्दों की विवेचना कीजिए।

Delegated legislations are the powers given by legislative authority to a body below it to frame the rules, law etc.

Administrative adjudication on the other hand are the judicial powers exercised by administrative authorities. eg. Tribunals.

factors leading to increase of such cases:

① Delegated legislation: (CPL)

- Technical expertise
- expediency and flexibility
- overburdened nature of legislature.



## ② Administrative adjudication: (AA)

- Huge pendency of cases in courts.
- delay in proceedings.
- swift and smooth functioning

### Issues:

- ① It goes against the separation of power. (adm<sup>n</sup> adjudication).
- ② spirit of democracy is violated as non-elected representatives makes laws. (DL)
- ③ Lack of deliberation impacts policy making. (DL)
- ④ administrative adjudication might impact quality of judicial proceedings.

The use of following tools must be regulated to ensure that the norms of democracy are not violated.

5. Highlight the significance of Gram Nyayalayas in providing inexpensive and speedy justice to people in rural areas. Also mention the issues being faced by them. (150 words) 10

ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में लोगों को सस्ता और त्वरित न्याय प्रदान करने में ग्राम न्यायालयों के महत्व पर प्रकाश डालिए। साथ ही, उनके द्वारा सामना की जा रही समस्याओं का भी उल्लेख कीजिए।

Gram Nyayalayas were established  
through Gram Nyayalaya act 2008

significance:-

- ① To reduce pendency of cases in courts. (3.5 crore).
- ② To provide effective doorstep justice delivery in rural areas.
- ③ To give expedite justice avoiding delays in courts.
- ④ More flexible:- Not guided by Indian evidence act, rather, Principles of natural justice.
- ⑤ To realise the spirit of Article 39A - provide free legal aid to poor.



Issues:

- ① overlapping jurisdiction with taluk courts.
- ② frequent appeals due to quality defeats the purpose as people end up in court.
- ③ Lack of manpower (eg. notaries) in rural areas.
- ④ They are not able to reduce pendency of cases.  
[eg] only 208/2500 sanctioned nyayalayas are established.

SC has recently notified states to notify the gram nyayalayas so that their full potential can be tapped.

6. Enumerating the key objectives of the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act, discuss why the recent amendments in the act are seen as a matter of great concern for the development sector in India. (150 words) 10

विदेशी अभिदाय (विनियमन) अधिनियम के प्रमुख उद्देश्यों को सूचीबद्ध करने हेतु, चर्चा कीजिए कि इस अधिनियम में हाल के संशोधनों को भारत में विकास क्षेत्रों के लिए बड़ी चिंता का विषय क्यों माना जा रहा है।

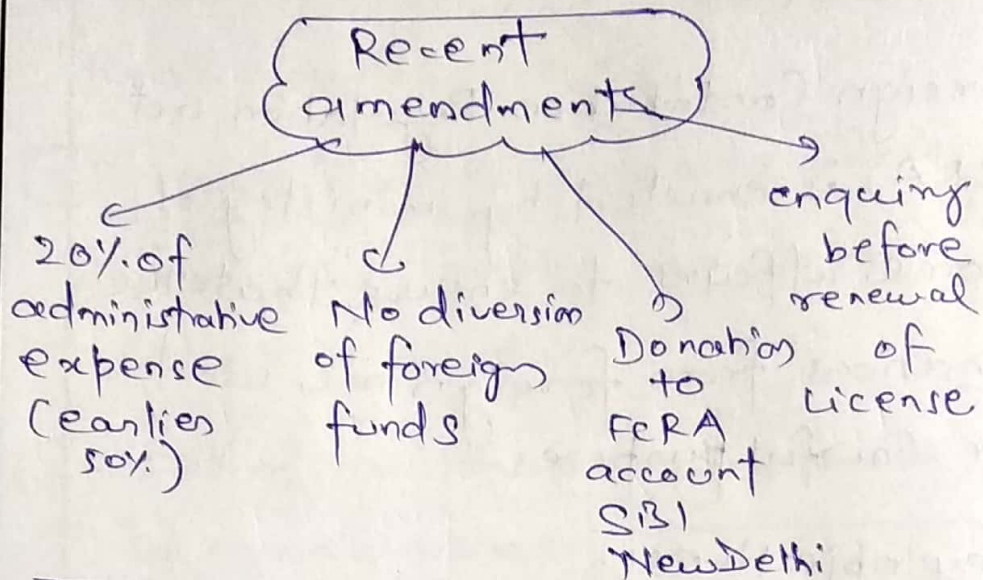
Foreign Contribution Regulation act (FCRA) is enacted by ministry of Home affairs to ensure that the donations from foreign are used for lawful purposes.

### Key objectives:

- ① Control the money laundering.
- ② regulate the donations which are often used to destabilise the nation.  
eg Greenpeace (England) involvement in Kudankulam protest.
- ③ ensure that money from foreign sources are not diverted for organised crimes.



- ④ ensure the political sovereignty.  
eg Cambridge Analytica case.



### Impact on development sector:-

- ① Delay in disbursement of funds therefore stalling of projects.
- ② Less administrative expense means overburdened staff.
- ③ More paperwork compliance.
- ④ More political interference discredited foreign funding.

An optimum balance and trust building is essential to make FCRA purposeful.

7. Dispute resolution should be seen not as a court where justice is administered, but as a service which is availed of. Discuss the statement in the light of Online Dispute Resolution (ODR) in India. (150 words) 10
- विवाद समाधान को न्यायालय के रूप में नहीं देखा जाना चाहिए जहाँ न्याय का प्रबंध किया जाता है, बल्कि एक सेवा के रूप में देखा जाना चाहिए जिसका लाभ उठाया जाता है। भारत में ऑनलाइन विवाद समाधान (ODR) के आलोक में इस कथन की विवेचना कीजिए।

Due to increase in internet penetration the scope of dispute resolution has increased with the upcoming of Online dispute resolution (ODR)

Recently Chhattisgarh has constituted 1<sup>st</sup> e-lok adalat.

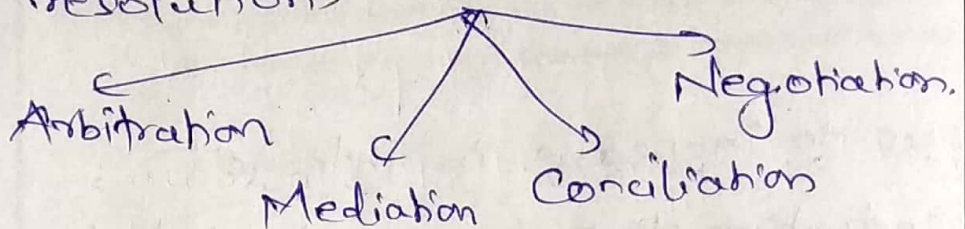
ODR as a service:-

① Expedite resolution:- As it provides flexibility from public hearing, court appearance, that saves time.

② Inclusive nature:- As even remotest of persons can avail the service.

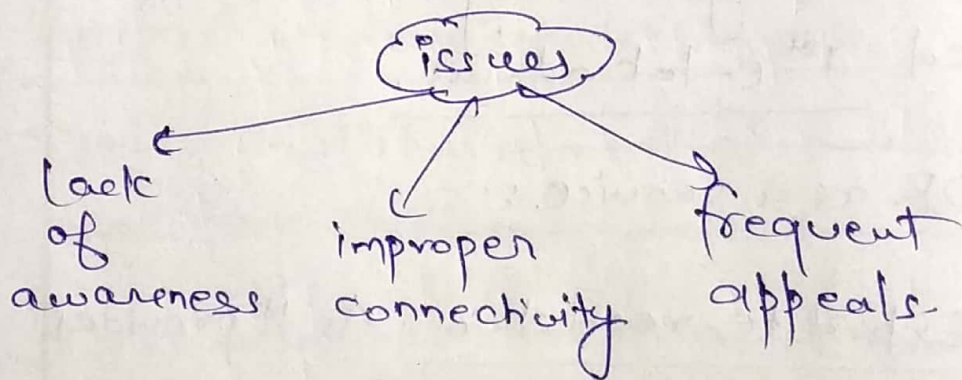


③ A form of alternate dispute resolution.



- Any service as per needs can be availed.

④ Reduce the burden of courts  
(3.5 cr pending cases).



① ADR as a tool should be promoted for bringing the efficiency to the process of ADR.

8. Section 33(7) of The Representation of People Act (RPA), 1951 should be amended to restrict contestation on only one seat for every candidate. Discuss. (150 words) 10

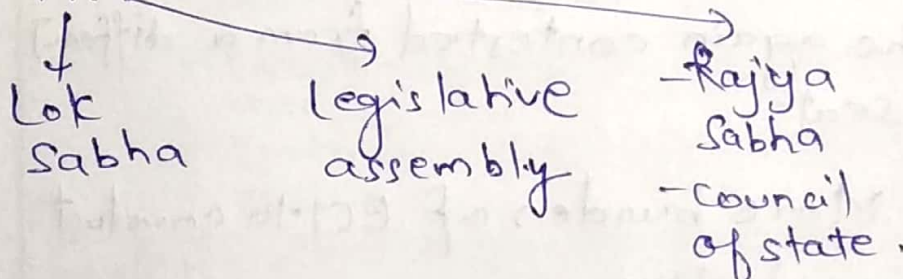
प्रत्येक उम्मीदवार को केवल एक सीट से चुनाव लड़ने हेतु बाध्य करने के लिए लोक प्रतिनिधित्व अधिनियम (RPA), 1951 की धारा 33(7) को संशोधित किया जाना चाहिए। चर्चा कीजिए।

Representation of people's act 1951 (RPA) governs the conduct of election and political parties under ECI.

section 33(7) of RPA 1951 provides that:-

- No person can participate in election from more than 2 seats

in:-



→ This limit was imposed after the recommendation of Dinesh Goswami committee in 1991.

→ Now there are demands to reduce it to one seat:-



Benefits

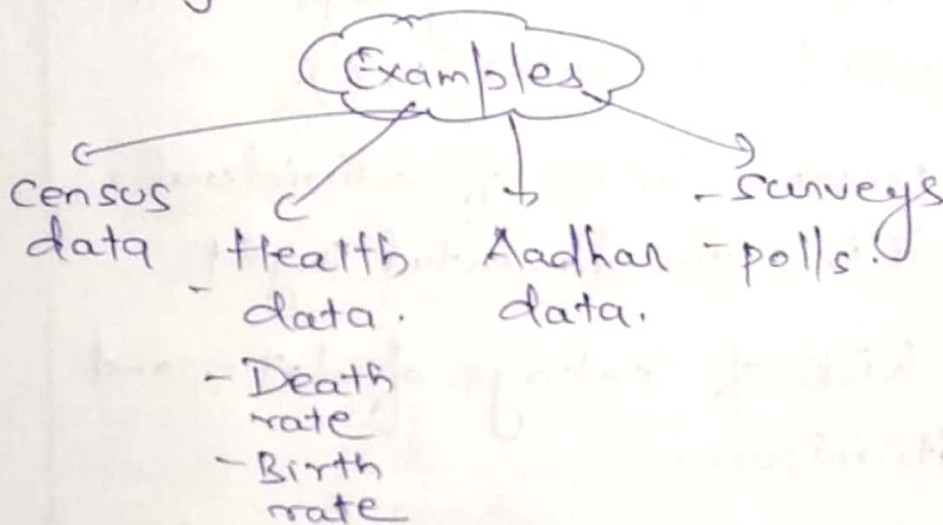
- ① Election expenditure is reduced due to less by-election.
- ② Insurance to the bigger political leaders in case they lose their seat.
- ③ unfair for younger leaders who have to vacate their seats.  
 [eg] Recently Mamta Banerjee lost her seat in Bengal elections but she again contested from a different seat.
- ④ More burden of ECI to conduct by-election.
- ⑤ Policy paralysis as MCE is in force for longer period.

Even if the provision continues, the cost of by-election should be borne by political parties.

9. The idea that Public Intent Data can play a transformative role in the public sector is not bereft of challenges. Discuss. (150 words) 10

यह विचार कि लोक प्रयोजन डेटा (पब्लिक इंटेंट डेटा) सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र में एक परिवर्तनकारी भूमिका निभा सकता है, चुनौतियों से रहित नहीं है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Public intent data is that data that is used for the benefit of public by ensuring effective delivery of service.



Benefits:-

- ① Better targetting of services and beneficiaries. eg Aadhar for PDS.
- ② Better and targetted policy making.



③ Can help in rationalisation of subsidies.

→ Hence reduce unnecessary expenditure

④ Can predict the future trends, demands etc

Eg Rise in elderly population  
Issues! by 2050 (19%).

① privacy issues of individual as it is a fundamental Right.

② Risk of leakage of data and its misuse.

③ Lack of infrastructure and professionals to analyse data.

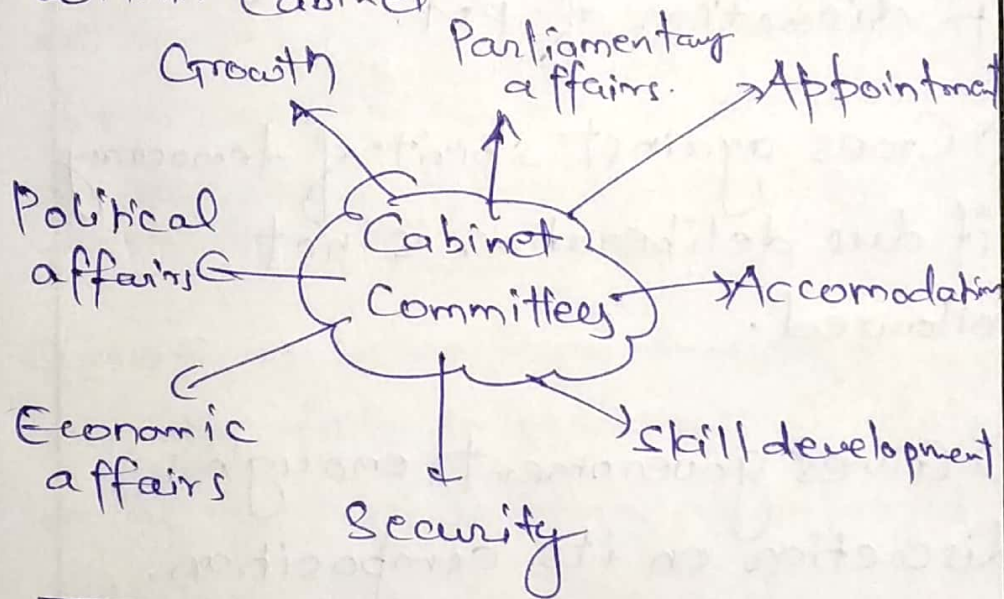
④ Poor quality of data.

Infrastructure must be improved and manpower be skilled to get the best out of Public intent data.

10. Cabinet committees can play a crucial role in accelerating the government's decision-making and reforms. Critically evaluate. (150 words) 10

मंत्रिमंडल समितियां सरकार के निर्णय-निर्माण और सुधारों को त्वरित करने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभा सकती हैं। समालोचनात्मक मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

Cabinet Committees are small extra constitutional bodies comprising of ministers and non-ministers to take effective and swift decision within Cabinet.



### Benefits:

- ① Swift decision making as strength is less.
- ② Technical expertise as outside council is consulted.



⑧ ensures swift implementation as they are directly connected with bureaucratic structure.

### Issues:-

① Less representation as they are at discretion of PM.

② Goes against spirit of democracy if due deliberation is not followed.

③ Gives government enough discretion on its composition. Therefore prone to biases.

There should be a proper code of conduct for appointment and functioning of Committee to ensure transparency.

11. While the judiciary should not be a silent spectator when constitutional rights of citizens are infringed by executive policies, it must also not assume the role of the executive or pass policy prescriptions. Do you agree? Justify your stand with logical arguments. (250 words) 15

जब कार्यकारी नीतियों द्वारा नागरिकों के संवैधानिक अधिकारों का उल्लंघन हो तब न्यायपालिका को मूक दर्शक नहीं बने रहना चाहिए, साथ ही इसे कार्यपालिका की भूमिका भी ग्रहण नहीं करनी चाहिए अथवा नीतिगत निर्धारण जारी नहीं करना चाहिए। क्या आप सहमत हैं? उचित तर्कों के साथ अपने रुख का औचित्य सिद्ध कीजिए।

Separation of powers is one of the basic structure of our constitution. However in case of India it is not water tight. It is characterised by a system of checks and balances.

Judicial activism :

Sometimes when legislature and executive fails to perform their duty or the rights of citizens are infringed, judiciary steps in others domain to protect the same.

The law making by judiciary to protect the rights of the citizens is called as judicial activism.



Various instances:

① It helps in expedite the law making  
eg Vishakha guidelines (1997) led  
 to sexual harassment act

② Evolution of PIL to protect the  
 rights of citizens.

③ Bringing reforms in institutions

eg Prakash Singh guidelines  
 in 2006.

④ Evolution of basic structure in  
 Keswananda Bharti case (1973)

All these leads to better  
 policy making.

Judicial overreach:

However when judiciary oversteps  
 in others domain leading to faceoff  
 it is judicial overreach.

Examples:

- ① playing of National anthem in theaters → Domain of legislature in Prevention of insults to national honours (1971)
- ② Liquor ban case (2018) -
- ③ Economic domain of 2G case - cancellation of licenses.
- ④ Jolly LBB cuts → domain of cinematograph act 1954.

This ~~is~~ not only affects the credibility of judiciary but also leads to disputes with executive and legislature.

Judiciary must exercise Judicial restraint wherever possible and should get involve only when it is absolute necessity.



12. Local bodies have the constitutional status of being a third tier of the government, but are simultaneously subordinate to the State Government in several key functions and aspects. Analyse. (250 words) 15

स्थानीय निकायों को सरकार के तृतीय स्तर का संवैधानिक दर्जा प्राप्त है, लेकिन साथ ही कई प्रमुख कार्यों और पहलुओं के संदर्भ में ये राज्य सरकार के अधीनस्थ भी हैं। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

73<sup>rd</sup> and 74<sup>th</sup> Constitutional amendment provided the constitutional status to panchayats and urban local bodies (ULB).

This was done to strengthen the grassroot democracy and bottom up policy making.

However they are still subordinate to the state government in various aspects:-

① Funding:- 90% of panchayat funding and 80% of ULB needs are fulfilled by the funding from central and state governments.

- they have very less powers to levy taxes.
- Municipal bonds have not been a very prospective investment.

## ② Elections and nominations:

- Excessive control by the state bureaucracy.
  - chairperson of panchayat shall be elected in such a manner as the state legislature determines.
  - Control of state legislature over the - district planning committees
    - Metropolitan planning committees.
- with respect to composition,  
manner of election and representation.



- This gives them an indirect control over the Gram panchayat development plans.

(way forward)

- More financial powers to 3<sup>rd</sup> tier.
- approval of plans and implementation at panchayat level for small projects.
- More autonomy in policy making and regulating its own procedure.

To realise the true spirit of grassroot democracy, strengthening the 3<sup>rd</sup> tier with financial and administrative decentralisation is necessary.

13. It is not only institutional challenges faced by Election Commission but also the twin threats of money and muscle in Indian electoral politics that need to be addressed for free and fair elections in India to continue. Discuss.

(250 words) 15

न केवल निर्वाचन आयोग द्वारा सामना की जा रही संस्थागत चुनौतियों, बल्कि भारतीय चुनावी राजनीति में धन और बाहुबल के दोहरे खतरे के मुद्दे को भी भारत में स्वतंत्र और निष्पक्ष चुनाव जारी रखने के लिए संबोधित किए जाने की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Article 324 of Indian constitution  
provides for free and fair elections  
under Election commission of India  
(ECI).

However due to complex nature  
of Indian elections there are various  
challenges!:

① Institutional challenges by ECI!:

- (i) It lacks its own staff. It is dependent  
on the staff of central and state  
government for conducting elections.
- (ii) Lack of skilled manpower to deal  
with upcoming dynamic issues such  
as rumours, fake news etc on  
social media.



③ It does not have the power to deregister a political party.

④ political interference affects its functioning.

② Money and muscle power in election

(i) Dinesh Goswami committee 1991

highlighted the issue of black money in election. Eg 69% money unaccounted

(ii) Culture of freebies prevailing in the society.

(iii) Vohra committee (1993) highlighted 'nexus of criminals and politicians

(iv) Issue of violence, radicalisation before the elections.

(v) Induction of participants by political parties on the basis of money and "winability" rather than character.

ways to address:① Electoral funding:-

- partial state funding of election (Andrajit Gupta committee, 1998).
- Digitisation (no cash circulation) or donation.
- Electoral bonds to be encouraged.

② political parties:-

- do not give tickets to criminals
- allow information under RTI for increased transparency.

③ institutional reforms in ECI:-

- MCC to have legal backing
- independent staff for smooth & better autonomy.
- powers to punish (More teeth to ECI)

Free and fair elections forms the backbone of democracy. Reforms should be implemented to ensure better representation.



14. Fiscal federalism in India has evolved with time. Discuss in light of the developments in recent years. (250 words) 15

भारत में राजकोपीय संघवाद समय के साथ विकसित हुआ है। हाल के वर्षों के घटनाक्रम के आलोक में चर्चा कीजिए।

Fiscal federalism refers to the division of fiscal powers and funds between the centre and state.

### Evolution:

#### ① During independence:-

- Both finance commission and planning commission were constituted in 1950s where:-
- Finance commission - devolution of funds between centre and state
- Planning commission:- Funds for development purposes.

#### ② Till 1991:- with time the share of state in divisible pool increased

as well as powers to levy tax

VAT, sales tax, etc.

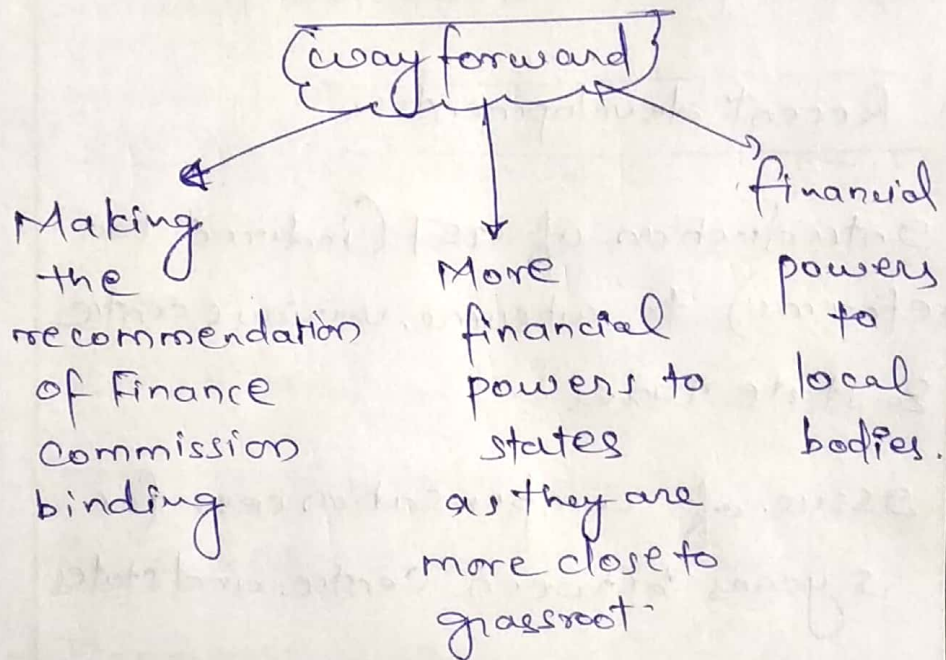
- ③ post 1991: The share of indirect tax increased for the 1<sup>st</sup> time
- inclusion of cess, surcharge which do not form the divisible pool.

④ Recent developments:-

- Introduction of GST (indirect tax reforms) to subsume various centre & state taxes.
- Issue of compensation cess for 5 years between Centre and states
- changes in criteria of fund devolution by Finance commission
  - recent divisible - 41% (highest pool since independent)
- Abolition of planning commission.



- centre has recently increased the state limit to borrow ~~to~~ 5% of SGDP from earlier 3%.
- short fall of compensation cess has led to state borrowing from outside (under centre).



Finance commission is regarded as balancing wheel of fiscal federalism.  
 Hence ~~to~~ more powers to it can balance fiscal federalism better.

15. What do you understand by Constitutionalism? Do you think a written constitution is a necessary condition to ensure Constitutionalism? Also, analyse various provision of the Indian constitution that ensures Constitutionalism. (250 words) 15

संविधानवाद से आप क्या समझते हैं? क्या आप मानते हैं कि संविधानवाद को सुनिश्चित करने के लिए लिखित संविधान एक आवश्यक शर्त है? साथ ही, संविधानवाद को सुनिश्चित करने वाले भारतीय संविधान के विभिन्न उपबंधों का भी विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Constitutionalism means a government that is limited by the provisions of a written law or constitution.

Benefits of written constitution:

- ① Reduces arbitrariness: By defining the functions and limits of various bodies.
- ② Prevents government from become authoritarian and ensures accountability.
- ③ Balance between centre and state is better. less federal tensions.
- ④ Protection of minority groups and rights of each individual.



However, it is not necessary to have a written constitution to enforce Constitutionalism.

Nations like UK with parliament-ary supremacy ensures constitutionalism without written constitution.

Issues:

- Room for arbitrary laws.
- depends on wisdom of law makers

Hence in my opinion though, an unwritten constitution can ensure constitutionalism but the provisions are better protected with written constitution.

Provisions in India: Ensuring constitutionalism.

① Independent judiciary as the guardian of the constitution.

② provision of Judicial review  
for laws that ultravires the  
constitution.

③ evolution of basic structure.

④ A blend of rigidity and flexibility  
in amending constitution.

Ensuring Constitutionalism <sup>means</sup> ~~can~~  
ensuring better protection of rights  
and liberty but it also can be  
amended to incorporate the  
contemporary needs.



16. It has been argued that digital monopolies pose a threat to the fundamental fabric of market-competition. In this context, examine the effectiveness of the regulatory framework in India to deal with digital monopolies. (250 words) 15

यह तर्क दिया जाता है कि डिजिटल एकाधिकार बाजार-प्रतिस्पर्धा के मौलिक ताने-बाने के समक्ष खतरा उत्पन्न करता है। इस संदर्भ में, डिजिटल एकाधिकार से निपटने के लिए भारत में नियामकीय ढांचे की प्रभावशीलता का परीक्षण कीजिए।

The rise of internet and its penetration has increased the involvement of people in digital space. hence increasing the presence of digital services like e-commerce.

Issues related to digital monopolies:

- ① Tech giants like Amazon, Flipkart, discourages the smaller market players by giving hefty discounts.
- ② They affect the right to choice of people.
- ③ They hamper the local market and hence the workforce

eg 11.1 crore people employed in MSMEs.

- ④ Tax evasion by these tech giants.  
due to presence in safe havens.

### Indian regulatory framework:

- ① 100% FDI in market based e-commerce  
but not in inventory-based.
- ② 6% equalisation levy on digital  
advertisement.

### Issues:

- ① old provisions of Competition  
commission of India 2002 that  
does not incorporate the digital  
market.
- ② Lack of skilled work force in  
digital domain.



② Lack of infrastructure and equipment to monitor.

Government has recently framed the new IT rules and intermediary guidelines to create a code of conduct for digital players for fair practices in digital space.

17. The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) is often cited as an example of the rising politicisation of public institutions. In this context, identify the issues associated with the CBI's functioning. What steps can be taken to address these issues? (250 words) 15

केंद्रीय अन्वेषण ब्यूरो (CBI) को प्रायः सार्वजनिक संस्थानों के बढ़ते राजनीतिकरण के उदाहरण के रूप में उद्धृत किया जाता है। इस संदर्भ में, CBI की कार्यप्रणाली से संबद्ध मुद्दों की पहचान कीजिए। इन मुद्दों का समाधान करने के लिए क्या कदम उठाए जा सकते हैं?

Supreme Court has termed CBI as "caged parrot" highlighting the influence of politicians over the public institutions.

Delay in appointment of various heads to bodies like CBI

govt. appointed officials in many boards such as RBI

Instances of political interference

functioning of Governor

amending RTI act for more control over CBI.

Issues with CBI:

- ① It is not a statutory body. It derives its power from DSPE act 1946.



② Control of government in appointment  
 → appointed by govt

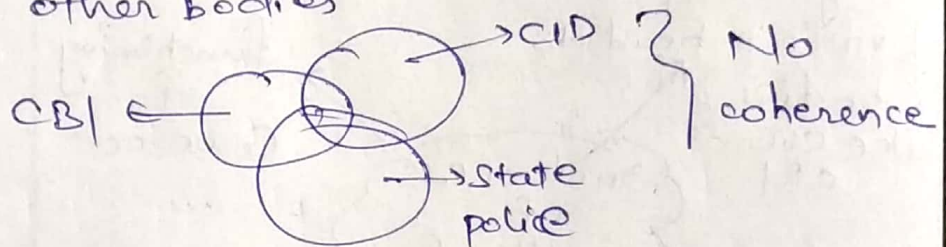
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  graph LR
    A[appointed by govt] --> B[PM]
    A --> C[LOP]
    A --> D[CJI]
    B --- E[CBI director]
    C --- E
    D --- E
  
```

PM } CBI director  
 LOP }  
 CJI }

③ Overburdened:- The ambit of CBI is very wide and the workforce is not upto the level.

④ Overlapping jurisdiction:- with other bodies



⑤ prevailing archaic laws and the new challenges such as cyber crimes with inadequately skilled workforce.

⑥ Issue of 'General consent' with states. [eg] West Bengal withdrew it.

Steps to resolve:-

- ① provide security of tenure to other officers as well.
- ② provide statutory status with independence to perform its functions autonomously.
- ③ Separate cadre for CBI with special training can be allowed.
- ④ clearly demarcating the jurisdiction to reduce delay
  - eg enforcement directorate
    - limited to economic frauds.

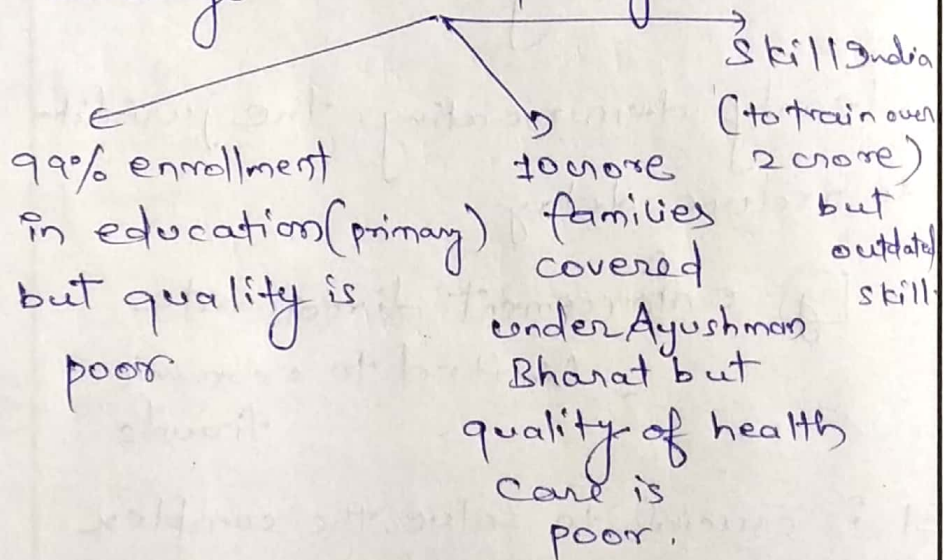
CBI is crucial to solve the complex cases, hence its independence should not be hampered at any cost.



18. The focus of policy and governance has hitherto primarily been on output rather than the outcome. Not only does the Aspirational District Programme mark a change in the policy focus but also chooses a collaborative form of governance over a top-down approach. Analyse. (250 words) 15

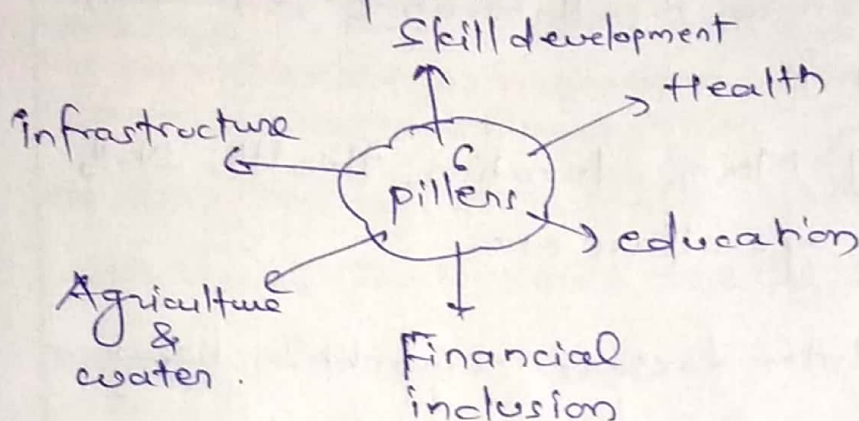
नीति और शासन का ध्यान अभी तक मुख्य रूप से आउटकम (परिणाम) के बजाय आउटपुट (मात्रा) पर केंद्रित रहा है। आकांक्षी जिला कार्यक्रम न केवल नीतिगत केंद्रबिंदु में परिवर्तन को चिह्नित करता है, अपितु टॉप-डाउन एप्रोच (शीर्ष-पाद उपागम) के बजाय शासन के सहयोगात्मक शैली को अंगीकार करता है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

The policy making in India is more focussed towards output which can be seen in the quantum of coverage but not quality.

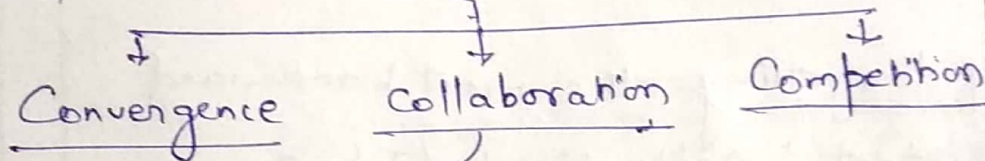


Aspirational district programme by Niti aayog is a bit different in this aspect. It target 112 most backward districts for development

on 6 main pillars.



The policy focus is based on 3 principles.



Collaborative form of governance!

① It ensures collaboration between centre and state for different subjects that are in Centre and state list.

eg Health - state & subject  
Agriculture.



② It ensures collaboration in various sector.

(eg) Min of education, health, skill, agriculture etc

③ It also fosters competition between the states to ameliorate the condition of these districts as soon as possible.

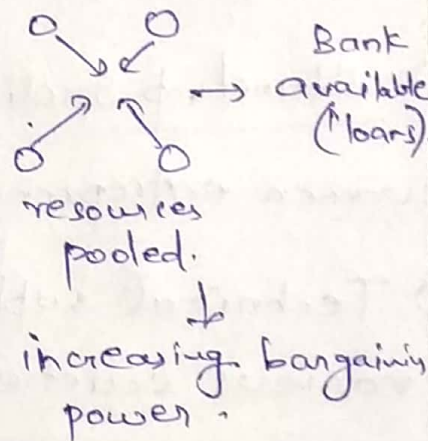
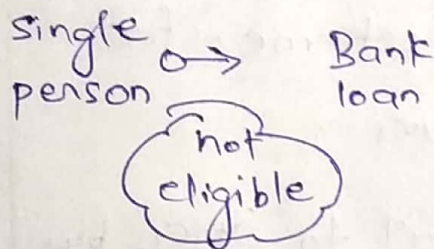
By targeting the most backward districts, Aspirational district programme is truly upholding the spirit of inclusive growth.

19. While various government initiatives <sup>(1)</sup> and policies <sup>(2)</sup> have created opportunities for Self Help Groups (SHGs), there are challenges <sup>(3)</sup> that still persist. Discuss. (250 words) 15

जहाँ विभिन्न सरकारी पहलों और नीतियों ने स्वयं सहायता समूहों (SHGs) के लिए अवसरों का सृजन किया है, वहीं कुछ चुनौतियाँ अभी भी विद्यमान हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।

Self Help Groups (SHGs) are group of individual that comes together to improve their standard of living by economically collaborating with each other.

eg.



→ further they are also a tool for gender empowerment as per NABARD - 50% of SHGs are operated by women.

eg. SEWA, ~~Kanyashree~~ Kudumbshree  
Himabund dairy.



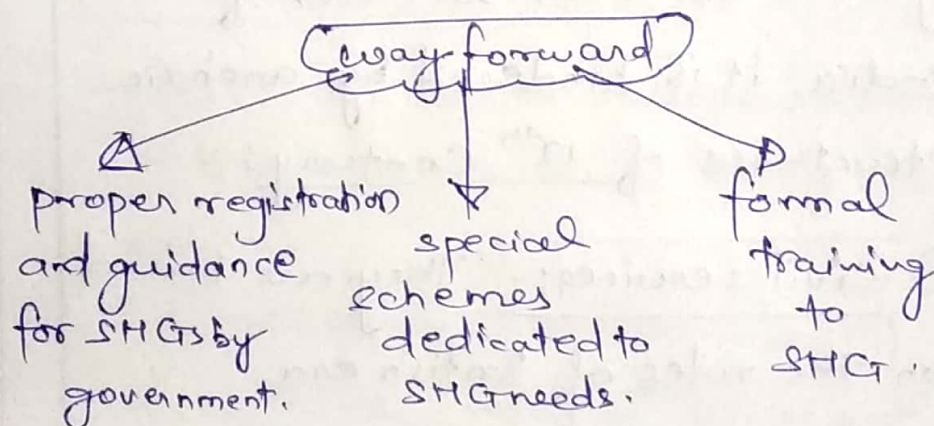
Govt initiatives and policies to support them:

- ① SHG - Bank linkage programme by NABARD.
- ② priority sector lending by banks.
- ③ MUDRA loans for small enterprises (most SHGs)
- ④ Stand up India scheme - for women entrepreneurs.
- ⑤ Technical support to SHGs by various societies and NGOs.

Challenges still persists:

- ① Rising NPAs of ~~Bank~~ Banks makes them averse towards risky lending.

- ② Lack of technical and management expertise leads to shut down of many SHG within first 3 years
- ③ issue of informal lending at high interest rates leads to debt.
- ④ Lack of financial inclusion of members.
- ⑤ lack of formal agreement within SHGs.



SHG are tools of economic and social empowerment. Hence they must be encouraged for better inclusive growth.



20. The principal constraint for India is trying to find solutions to 21st century problems using 19th century government structures. Discuss. (250 words) 15

भारत के लिए प्रमुख बाधा 19वीं सदी के सरकारी ढांचे का उपयोग कर 21वीं सदी की समस्याओं का समाधान खोजने का प्रयास करना है। चर्चा कीजिए।

with rapid IT growth and globalisation  
the paradigms of governance  
are also changing. Domains like  
e-governance are transforming  
the governance landscape.

This also bring various  
problems with it which require  
dynamic solutions. In case of  
India it is hindered by archaic  
structures of 19<sup>th</sup> Century:-

① Civil services:- They are based  
on the rules of British era.

- Recruitment of generalists where  
now a days specialists are required  
for various special domains.

[eg] District collector as head of law and order and also administrative functions

- Still use of the term "collector".
- Dominance of IAS in every top government post.

② Police reforms! The present police code is based on Indian Penal code (1860).

- Post then due to various amendments it has become quite bulky and complex.
- The method of recruitment is still old with new types of crimes such as cyber crime surfacing

③ Economic structures! - The method of taxation - IT act 1961,



revenue collection, is still old and bulky → Needs reforms

eg- GST 2017

→ Direct tax code under Atal Bihari  
Rajawat committee.

④ Education:

- Still based on rote learning and old methods whereas, the new domains are surfacing everyday.

To become a global leader, India should reform these structure slowly and keep upto date for becoming a developed nation.