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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 2212)

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Medium Eng./Hindi	ENGLISH	Registration Number	1361130
Center	ONLINE	Date	20/07/22

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
2	10	
3	10	
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11	15	
12	15	
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15	15	
16	15	
17	15	
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 (Q/CA) 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 is the underlying philosophy which grants legitimacy to the government.

Principle of Constitutionalism

- ① It seeks to limit the power of the government

Eg. Written constitution has fundamental rights which control executive and legislative actions.

- ② Supreme Court has in its judgement said that Constitutionalism abhors absolutism

③ It is not limited to restricting powers of government. It seeks to realise the rights and opportunities of citizens in a government.

- ↳ Providing socio-economic rights to people.
- ↳ Public participation

Constitutionalism in Indian Constitution

① Fundamental Rights (Article 13-35)

limit powers of government.

Article 14 : Rule of Law

Article 20 : Protection against conviction

Article 22 : Protection against arrests

② Directive Principles of State Policy (Article 36-51) — nudge state towards socio-economic rights

③ Election Commission (Article 324),
Finance Commission (Article 280),
Comptroller Auditor-General for checks and balances.

Constitutionalism is essential to realise essence of democracy.

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।

Competition Act (2002)
provided for the establishment
of the Competition Commission
of India. Its aim is to
ensure a free and fair market.

Shift from Licence Raj

① Monopolistic and Regulatory
Trade Practices was ended
after 1991 reforms.
Under MRTP Act, setting
up industries or expansion
required licenses.

② The Competition Commission
of India ensured private
sector participation in various
sectors.
Licenses are required only for

industries like tobacco industry
pharmaceuticals, explosives etc.

Role of Competition Commission of India

- ① It keeps a check on mergers
and acquisitions - fair pricing
- ② Merger of deal between Reliance
and Future foods was reviewed
by CCI.
- ③ It takes up anti trust cases
- ④ Anti trust case against
Google for promoting certain
companies on its platform.
- ⑤ It ensures fair competition.
- ⑥ Amazon has to provide its
platform to third party sellers
- ⑦ It reviews pricing of auctions
- ⑧ National Company Tribunal
and National Company Appellate
Tribunal - provide fair hearing
- ⑨ Shapoorji Palonji - Tata Case.
- CCI ensures consumer welfare by ensuring
the market remains impartial & reasonable.

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।

The Covid-19 pandemic shifted the hearing of court cases virtually. This has led to discussion on hybrid model of court cases and online delivery of judicial cases.

Initiatives taken.

- (i) E-filing of cases.
- (ii) Use of Artificial Intelligence on pilot basis for streamlining the order of cases and allocation of cases to judicial benches.
- (iii) Use of video conferencing to hear witnesses and accused.
- (iv) Virtual broadcasting of judgments.
- (v) Maintenance of cases and records in online database.

Under National e-governance Plan, the e-courts Project has been launched. It seeks to ~~connect~~ ^{make} all High Court operations of High Court available online.

Challenges

- ① Infrastructure - ~~most~~ ^{Many} High Court lack basic infrastructure.
- ② High Costs - strain on government
- ③ Lack of technical expertise
- ④ Judges, advocates may require additional training for online operations.
- ⑤ Availability in rural areas may be limited as they lack internet connectivity -
- ⑥ Data privacy issues

As India is gearing towards digital economy, online judicial services will be required for equitable services. Hence, addressing technical challenges needs to be explored.

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 Indian Constitution has borrowed elements from different constitutions of the world including United States of America.

Similarities between Bill of Rights and Fundamental Rights.

- ① Both are based on the essence of limiting the power of government.
- ② They guarantee the citizens set of political rights.
- ③ Essential for realization of the liberty of an individual.

Differences

- ① Bill of Rights guarantees

freedom as per due process of law.
Article 21 provides right to
life and personal liberty as
per procedure established by law.

Thus, Bill of Rights is
available both against legislative
and executive actions explicitly
but Fundamental Rights explicitly
mentions protection against executive
actions.

② Right to property is mentioned
in Bill of Rights; it is repealed
from Fundamental Rights.

③ Right to carry arms is available
under Bill of Rights.

④ Fundamental rights can be
restricted under emergency;
no such provision in Bill of Rights.

⑤ Cultural and Education Rights
for minorities (Article 29, 30) is not
part of Bill of Rights.

Despite difference, both seek to achieve
the proper functioning of democratic State.

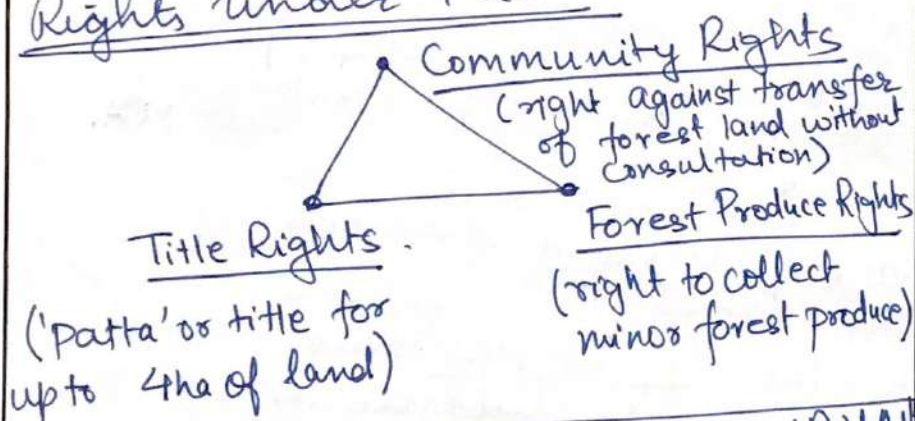
5. It is often argued that the implementation of The Forest Rights Act (FRA), 2006 has so far been tardy and ineffectual. Discuss. (150 words) 10

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

The Forest Rights Act, 2006

was implemented to undo the historical injustice faced by Scheduled Tribe and other Forest dwellers due to forest laws.

Rights under FRA -



Poor Implementation of Forest Rights Act

- ① Title Rights has been denied as Gram Sabha has not been able to identify beneficiaries.
- (Eg). The Supreme Court ordered eviction of about 10 lakh

forest dwellers in 2019 as they did not hold title rights.

② Declaration of national parks, forest reserves limit rights of forest dwellers to collect forest produce.

③ Consultation of Gram Sabha before transfer of forest land for non forest use does not take place.

④ Cases on violation of FRA are pending in courts - NGOs protest against FRA citing exploitation of forests under FRA.

Success achieved.

① It has limited diversion of forest land.
Eg. The Niyamgiri^{forest} area was not given to Vedanta Group citing FRA

② Joint conservation of forest by tribals and government has yielded results under FRA.

Proper functioning of Gram Sabha, identification of beneficiaries and consultation with all stakeholders of forest will help to realise the potential of FRA.

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?

The Social Stock Exchange
aims to trade in social
bonds that will spur
contribution to the society.

Objective of Social Stock Exchange
Selling and Purchasing of
Social Bonds

Social Bonds have 3 units involved

- └ ~~donor~~ lender
- └ investor
- └ social activity performer.

The investor will receive yield
only when a social project has
achieved its outcome. Any lender
can purchase such bonds.

② Allows company to fulfil its
Corporate Social Responsibility

- ③ Attract foreign investment to social projects.
- ④ Competition in trade will attract greater funds for social project.

Advantage of Social Stock Exchange

- ① Create awareness regarding social responsibilities
 - ② Larger funds and easy availability will help to sponsor mega projects
 - ③ Social bonds are outcome based
↳ ensures completion of project
 - ④ Joint partnership between government and private sector.
Private sector can invest and government can provide for social projects
 - ⑤ Listing in exchange will ensure transparency and accountability
- Eg. Pimpri Municipal Corporation has issued social bond.
- Social Stock Exchange will promote ease of investing in social projects that in turn will benefit all citizens.

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 has been launched to make health services accessible with the use of Information and Communication Technology.



Fig: Connectivity under NDHM.

① NDHM seeks to integrate various facets of health services through seamless flow of data.

such as health records, diagnosis reports and prescriptions

② Creation of a unique health ID

↳ Allow patients to maintain an online health register

③ Store record of hospitals and doctors online -

↳ allow patients to choose services

④ Telemedicine facilities - provide health service online in remote areas

⑤ Promote research and development of new drugs and treatments through availability of data -

Concerns

① High costs and infrastructural issues

② Privacy issues - Right to Privacy Bill has not been passed.

NHDM has laid down foundation for online health services. Discussion on raising health expenditure to 2.5% of GDP can help accelerating objectives of NHDM.

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 higher education system of India has a fair share of participation by private sector.

Advantages of private sector participation

- ① Establishment of more number of universities
- ② greater investment in higher education
- ③ Private sector may open up courses as per market demands to earn higher profit
↓
ensures courses are as per employment opportunities.
- ④ Better efficiency - Private universities are guarded from

State interference.

Issues with private sector participation.

- ① High expenditure — High fees is burden for students.
- ② Private universities remain concentrated in urban areas
↳ creates urban-rural divide.
- ③ Private sector does not promote research in higher education — as profit is limited.
- ④ Private universities may not cater to government university standards.

Bodies like AICTE and UGC need to ensure that standard of private institutions are maintained. To promote research in higher education even in private universities research expenditure needs to be greater than 1% GDP.

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।

Central Asia consists of a group of 5 countries —
Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan,
Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan.

Significance of Central Asia.

- ① Source of oil reserves and natural gas.
- ② Source of critical elements like lithium, uranium etc.
- ③ large market for investment.
- ④ Trade perspective — India exports electrical equipments, pharmaceutical, defence equipments.
- ⑤ Connectivity Projects — India needs Central Asian Countries support for TAPI line, North South

Transport Corridor

⑥ Diplomacy — India and Central Asian countries are part of Shanghai Cooperation Organization.

Challenges.

- ① Connectivity — Central Asian countries are landlocked and India has no direct access.
- ② Tilt towards China — China is investing heavily through projects like BR I.
- ③ Trade between the countries remains limited.
- ④ Projects like TAPI has been delayed due to issues with Pakistan and Afghanistan.

The Government has launched Connect to Central Asia project to establish deeper relations. Diplomatic visits and trade relations can help in further strengthening the relations.

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।

The 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat'

Government seeks to work towards making India a \$5 trillion economy by 2024.

Role of Indian diaspora

- ① Contribution in foreign investment - Indian diaspora can invest in government bonds and securities.
- ② Establishing better foreign relations - Indian diaspora can help in diplomatic relations of India with other countries.
↓
promote trade agreements and financial investments
- ③ Indian diaspora can contribute

to tourism sector and
education sector.

- ④ Net private transfers can help Indian accounts manage deficits.

Challenges

- ① Indian diaspora of countries like US, UK, and UAE have only been targeted so far.

Potential of diaspora in African countries has not been realised.

- ② Visa regulation curb the easy movement of Indian diaspora.

- ③ Schemes to attract Indian diaspora have not been promoted enough.

- ④ Issues in capital account convertibility reduce investments.

Atmanirbhar Bharat would require greater participation of people and Indian diaspora can help make it a success at global level.

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।

The 74th Constitutional Amendment Act led to the constitutionalization of urban local bodies in the country.

Outcomes of 74th CAA

- ① Establishment of Nagar Panchayats, Zila Panchayats and Municipal Corporation for urban governance.
- ② The urban local bodies were tasked with providing urban amenities like - sanitation, waste management, drinking water etc.
- ③ Collection of taxes such as property tax, stamp tax for financing of local bodies.

Problems with the urban local bodies.

① Finance — Urban local bodies are cash-strapped.

↳ depend on grants from Centre

↳ limited fund is collected through property tax, stamp tax

↳ limited financial autonomy.

(Eg) Funds are pre allocated for various centrally sponsored schemes.

② Functionaries (a) The panchayat heads and council heads lack training to perform their functions effectively.

(b) Functionaries are aligned to state party or national party → limited autonomy in taking decisions

(c) Elections are not conducted in

time by the state.

- ③ Functioning - Local bodies do not have proper office and infrastructure.

Need for Reforms.

- ① The 15th Finance Commission has suggested for greater finance to urban bodies.
 - ↳ to ensure healthcare services
 - ↳ to carry relief and rehabilitation work during disasters.
 - ② Functionaries need training to use latest technology like e-governance.
 - ③ Many states have not devolved items under 12th Schedule.
- Further, devolution is necessary for autonomy to local bodies.

The Devolution Index rates various states as per the powers devolved to Urban local bodies. This shows the real picture and provides guidance for further decentralization.

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 सृजन होता है। क्या आप सहमत हैं? उचित तर्कों के साथ अपने मत की पुष्टि कीजिए।

The Ninth Schedule was inserted through the First Constitutional Amendment Act (1951). The aim was to ensure that certain legislative actions would remain protected despite violation of Fundamental Rights.

Ninth Schedule

Currently, it has more than 200 laws that are given protection.

Important provisions under IX Schedule

As per Article 31(B) any law under IX Schedule cannot be challenged

under the grounds that it violates fundamental rights. Right to acquisition of property, laws providing for reservation are under IX schedule.

Rampant use of IX Schedule.

Problems with IX Schedule

- ① Indiscriminate use - Laws
are added to avoid discussions and judicial review
- ② Poor legislation - Laws are not widely discussed.
- ③ Imbalance between the three organs of government
- The power of judiciary to check reasonableness of legislative actions is limited
- ④ Trade to power of Supreme Court as the guarantor of

Fundamental Rights .

⑤ (Eg) The Tamil Nadu government has added reservation law under IX Schedule. The reservation limit crosses 50%. (as per Indira Sawhney Judgement) but have been placed under IX Schedule to avoid judicial review.

However, the Supreme Court has said that judicial review is part of basic structure. Hence, any law placed under IX Schedule is open to judicial review.

Thus, IX Schedule has not been able to completely overshadow the supremacy of Constitution or establish the Parliamentary hegemony. However, the government needs to exercise restraint in the insertion of laws in IX 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।

The Indian federalism has been asymmetric that is federalism with a union bias. This unique characteristic of federalism maintains a healthy balance between the union and states.

Asymmetry in federalism

- ① Legislation - (a) The Union list has more and important items than state list.
(b) Union can legislate for state list items under special provisions (Article 249, 250, 253).
- ② Executive - (a) The Parliament can ask the state to perform executive actions for Central laws.

③ Financial - State depends upon grants from Centre.

④ Governor, IAS, IPS officers serve state but appointed by Centre.

Advantages of Asymmetric federalism

① Unified taxation policy

(Eg.) GST has regularised the taxation in India.

② Dispute Resolution

Disputes between two states is resolved by the Centre's decisions.

(Eg.)

③ Finance as per State's needs

The Finance Commission ensures that grants are given as per the needs of

State to maintain equitable distribution.

④ Better law and order

To ~~check~~ inter-state crime or law and order authoritative state is required.

⑤ The Governor is agent of Centre but reserves bill of states for Centre's approval.

↳ ensures states demands are met.

Issues with asymmetric federalism

① Centre - state conflicts

↳ Improper use of Article 356 to declare state emergency

↳ Issue over appointment of governor.

② Some states may be at disadvantage
Eg. GST contribution by Maharashtra is highest but it receives lesser amount from Finance Commission.

Asymmetric federalism is essential feature of Indian Constitution to ensure needs of all states are heard.

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।

Article 280 provides for the constitution of Finance Commission for distribution of net proceeds of taxes and grants. Similarly, the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendment Act provided for the constitution of State Finance Commissions.

State Finance Commissions have been effective.

① State finance commissions submit report to the Finance Commission of India
↳ report on the state of finances

of rural and urban local bodies

② The ~~for~~ condition of different local bodies of different states reaches Centre.

↳ allocation of resources is as per the need of the local bodies

③ The allocation of grants to the States is based on the information by State Finance Commission.

④ State Finance Commission will also oversee horizontal distribution of net proceeds between different local bodies within the state.

⑤ It will oversee the funds sanctioned by Centre ~~as per~~ for State Disaster Relief Fund.

Limitations in effectiveness of
State Finance Commission

- ① Vacant positions- Many State Finance commissions have vacancies and members have not been appointed -
- ② Delay in submission of reports to centre -
- ③ Timely review of funds sanctioned is not conducted.
- ④ Members appointed lack the financial expertise.
- ⑤ Coordination between Finance Commission and state finance commission is lacking.
↳ no regular meetings.
- ⑥ Recommendation are advisory
↳ recommendations are ignored.

The role of State Finance Commission is necessary for strengthening the rural and urban local governance. Deliberation on its recommendations will ensure that financial concerns of states are addressed.

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।

The Indian bureaucracy often regarded as the 'steel frame of India' deals with the implementation of laws and order of the government. This ensures the provisioning of public services.

Since 1991, there has been gradual reduction in the overall size of bureaucracy.

Reason for reduction of size of Indian bureaucracy

- ① Rationalization of appointments
↳ Many services had larger workforce than required.

- ② Reduction in administrative expenses.
- ③ Privatisation of sectors.
↳ PSUs are being privatised.
This reduces the number of bureaucrats required.
- ④ Automation of services.
Eg. Faceless Tax payments and online GST services reduce use of human officers.

Pros of reduced size of Indian bureaucracy.

- ① Savings in government expenditure.
↳ Salary and expenditure on perks for maintaining bureaucracy is greatly reduced.
- ② Replacement of bureaucracy with ~~so~~ technical intervention

Reduces scope of discretion and corruption.

③ Reduction in Red Tape -
Lesser approvals at each
step makes official work faster
↳ promotes ease of doing business

④ Maximum governance,
minimum government approach.

Cons of reduction of Indian Bureaucracy

① Shortage of manpower in
certain sectors
↳ heavy workload for existing
bureaucrats.

② Accessibility to civil servants
especially in rural areas is
denied.

③ Centre - State friction - Less civil
servants available for deputation.

④ Inequitable representation - Few
states have very less number
of officers in central services.
Reduction in bureaucracy must
be accompanied with e-governance, so that
services to public are not denied.

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।

Recently there have been demands by religious boards that state should give away the management of temples. This will make religious bodies the manager of temples in India.

State's role in management of temples.

① To ensure equality

↳ State ensures that temple remains open to all and untouchability is not practiced under the rules of temple.

② To maintain a review of funding and donations received

- ③ To observe rules of administration of temple complex.
↳ rules on entry fees,
management during festivals.
- ④ To ensure democratic selection of heads to religious bodies.
↳ observe whether ~~elections~~
~~to select~~ priests are selected
fairly.

Problems with state intervention

- ① No clear rules on state's intervention.
- ② ¹ Distraction to religious communities from freely deciding their religious affairs.
↳ Hampers the spirit of Article 26
- ③ Management boards ^{members} appointed by state are not appointed by state in transparent manner.

④ Allegations of lobbying between certain members and government

⑤ Management of funds by state government is not clearly stated.

↳ auditing and review of expenses is not conducted in timely manner.

⑥ Many management bodies of temples have vacant positions as consensus between state and religious heads has not reached.

A standardised approach is required by state in the management of temples so that temple bodies are satisfied. The normal citizens will also remain assured that their donations are being effectively utilized.

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 is a concept used to understand the nature of population..

Scientifically, it is established that women have a higher life expectancy than men. Thus, at old age chances of greater number of females surviving than number of males is greatly increased. Thus, is termed as feminization of old age which means there will be more elderly aged females than males.

Issues with feminization of old age.

① Higher dependency ratio —
Females labour force participation rate remains low:

↳ lesser females with earnings to sustain them at old age.
↳ widows, rural women may have no source of income.

② Greater vulnerability

Females have risk of being victimised.

Reports of sexual abuse, rape of elderly women ~~have~~ living alone are reported as per National Crime Records Bureau.

③ Health issues — Women from young age in India are prone to anaemia.

(About 63% of Indian women are anaemic)

↳ Cases of poor health at old age are bound to increase

④ Measures by government

① Equipping Primary Health Centre with geriatric services

② Diagnostic centres to have facilities to detect cervical cancer, breast cancer common among elderly women.

③ Stand Up India scheme to promote women entrepreneurs
↳ promote financial independence among women to support them at old age.

④ Ayushman Mission to provide universal healthcare.

⑤ Old age, destitute homes to be set up.

Taking care of elderly is also part of Directive Principles of State Policy.
Elderly women require further care to address their vulnerability.

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 देखते हुए, क्या भारत में सुदृढ़ सार्वभौमिक सामाजिक सुरक्षा की स्थिति विद्यमान है? विवेचना कीजिए।

The Covid-19 pandemic and its effect on deepening inequalities has once again renewed the debate on universal social protection.

~~Strong~~ Universal social protection assures that all individuals are guaranteed the basic minimum i.e. they receive the necessary amenities such as healthcare, education and expenses for such needs are met.

Impact of universal social protection.

Individual resilience

↳ It assures that minimum costs for survival are maintained

↳ Life savings are saved to invest when needed.

↳ Important services like children's education or healthcare is not hampered.

Resilience of economy

↳ Consumption expenditure is maintained

↓
GDP remains maintained

↳ Savings are not withdrawn

↓
Investments are maintained

Need for universal social protection

- ① To reduce inequality
- ② As per international report Covid 19 may have pushed

26 crore people below poverty line.

- ② To meet development goals -
literacy rate, reduction in
mortality rate remains maintained
- ③ Overall development of
country - GDP does not fall
due to lack of demand.
- ④ Some law and order remains
maintained.

Cons of universal social protection

- ① High fiscal deficit -
- ② Corruption in provision of
public services -
- ③ Social protection may not
reach intended beneficiaries

Social protection for the
vulnerable is necessary but
universal social protection may
need further deliberation given
the state of finance of the country -

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।

Multilateral institutions are institutions which have the participation of countries worldwide. They seek to address various issues on security, finance and globalization.
Eg. United Nations, World Trade Organization

Issues with Multilateral Institutions

① Dominance of few Western Countries — The Multilateral Institutions have been alleged to promote interests of few countries.
Eg. UN decisions are dominated

by Security Council -

Eg. Treaty on Ban of Nuclear Weapons has not been signed by P-5 countries.

② Benefits have not reached all countries.

(Eg) WTO has not been able to reduce non-tariff barriers posed by European countries.

③ Improper functioning

(Eg) WHO was not able to conduct a free investigation on origin of Coronavirus.
WHO could not give a timely warning of the Covid-19 pandemic

(Eg) WTO dispute settlement-body lies non-functional as members have not been appointed.

④ Rising challenges of ~~new~~ technology
Existing institutions do not

have mandate on cyber warfare,
data leakage and space warfare.

Rise of issue-based coalitions

① Smaller coalitions ensure fair hearing

Eg. QUAD - coalition of four countries on preserving free Indo-Pacific policy.

② Distraction due to personal rivalry between two countries can be avoided.

Eg. BIMSTEC does not have Pakistan as member and ensures India can have discussion with other Asian countries.

③ Faster actions can be taken
Eg. AUKUS coalition - deal to transfer nuclear submarine technology was taken.

While issue-based coalitions are successful to address a single issue, multilateral institutions are also needed to preserve world order.

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।

India views itself as the net security provider in the South Asian region. This includes the fact that energy security of the region is maintained.

Need of South Asia's energy cooperation.

① To ensure development of South Asian region -

↳ Mandate under SAARC, BIMSTEC deal with development of South Asia which includes addressing energy needs -

② To curb pollution levels -

Adoption of unsustainable practices in energy development will negatively affect India.

(Eg) Air pollutants from Nepal and Bhutan also cause pollution in Indian states

③ To keep check on disasters
Inefficient energy infrastructure can ~~also~~ cause disaster in India.

(Eg) Dams in Nepal on rivers like Kosi, Gandak can cause floods in Bihar, if not maintained properly.

④ International diplomacy
Energy infrastructure can help strengthen diplomatic relations.

(Eg) India - Bhutan relation is strongly based on dams and hydroelectric power projects.

⑤ Better investment options -
India can invest in green
energy.

⑥ To keep check on inroads
made by China - To give
competition to Chinese energy projects

Existing gaps-

① High project costs - Eg. Panchesh-

② Delay in projects - war dam project remains delayed

③ Competition from China - China has
been bidding for energy projects
in Maldives, Sri Lanka.

④ Protests from locals - Trust Issues
between Indians and South Asian
citizens - Eg. Protests in Maldives
over Indian energy project.

⑤ Institutions like BIMSTEC have
not held regular discussions
on energy cooperation.

For sustainable development
and meeting of Paris climate goals,
South Asian countries need to come together to
cooperate on energy needs.