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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1071)

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Medium Hindi/Eng.	ENGLISH	Registration Number	29253
Center	ORN	Date	3 rd Sept. 2018

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	
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16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

Signature of Examiner

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
2. There are TWENTY questions printed in **ENGLISH**.
3. All questions are compulsory.
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
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.
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

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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. It has been argued that over the years there has been a steady decline in the efficacy of Parliament as an institution of accountability. Analyse and also suggest appropriate measures to address the relevant concerns.

(150 WORDS) 10

The essence of Parliamentary Democracy is to execute collective responsibility of the Executive to the Legislature and hence, to the people of India.

But, in recent times the efficacy of Parliament has drastically reduced:-

1. Average of only 65 sittings per year - due to disruption in past 5 years
2. High number of Adjournments & pre-mature prerogation.
3. Parliament becoming a ground for protest, disruptions & Sloganeering
4. Ever reducing discussion on Budget and use of Quillotine - has dimmed financial Accountability.

Thus, in the above context, to truly realise Parliamentary Democracy in India, following

reforms need to be adopted :-

1. Mandatory 100 days sitting - UK principle
2. Shadow Cabinet - for better opposition accountability along with participation in Governance.
3. Parliamentary Budget Office - for better financial accountability.
4. Strengthening the Committee System - e.g. DRSC, PAC, COPU, Estimates Committee, etc.
5. Performance related pay for MPs in Parliament.
6. All Party Conferences - to form common minimum consensus among all political parties.

Thus, the above measures along with active participation of Citizens (by making them aware of their Parliamentary rights) is the way forward.

2. Panchayati raj institutions (PRIs) are simultaneously a remarkable success and a staggering failure, depending on the goalposts against which they are evaluated. Discuss. (150 WORDS) 10

PRIs in India accompany Mahatma Gandhi's Dream of "Gram Swarajya" - i.e. Self Sufficient Village republic.

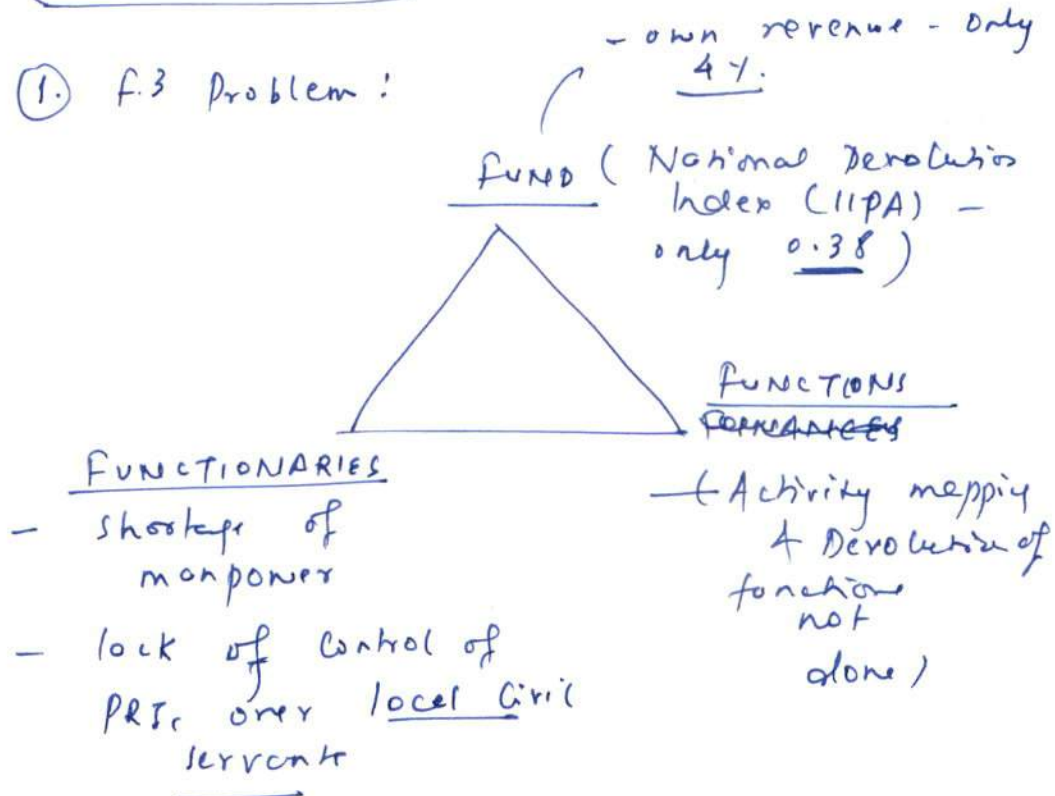
But, even after 25 years of 73rd Amendment Act, 1992, PRIs in India present a strange paradox:

of Success:

1. Creating 3-2 million leaders at the local level.
2. Taking Democracy to the Grass root
3. Transforming representative democracy to participatory Democracy - through pivotal role of Gram Sabha
4. Empowerment of women - which occupy, presently, close to 50% of Elected posts in PRIs.

DP failures:

(1) F.3 Problem:



Way forward: 2nd ARC on Local Government: -

1. Make presentation of SFC report mandatory in State Legislature with reasons recorded
2. Pooling NGo - for Decentralised Planning - involving Gram Sabha - later consolidation of plans at DPC level.
3. funding from State Govt to be tied to performance of PRC on own revenue generation
4. Rationality exercise of User charges.

3. The Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) is more than just the keeper of our national accounts; it is also a conscience-keeper and a watchdog. Examine the statement in light of making the auditing process more effective. (150 WORDS) 10

Article 148 of the Indian Constitution envisages CAG - to audit the accounts of the Union Government and all Public Agencies of Government of India and the State Governments

But, apart from maintaining financial propriety, CAG ^{also} has 2 important roles :-

1) Conscience-keeper : to influence Public Morality in financial transactions. It upholds the Public Ownership of the funds on the custody of the Govt. Hence, account the Government, by arousing its collective conscience while utilising those funds

eg: Through exposing 2G and Coal scam - CAG has ~~raised the~~ ignited the collective conscience of both people and policy makers.

2) WATCHDOG : CAG is envisaged as a Bulwark against financial mal-administration

in India. It keeps a continuous check of Govt's Finance and Appropriation accounts, ready to BARK, the moment it finds a mismatch.

But, still CAG has weaknesses like:-

- only 7-8 ministries audited in a financial year.
- Friction with Govt ministries - on delaying submission of accounts
- CAG - as a fault-finding machinery - has been accused of being a Bloodhound.
- Many Govt bodies are exempt from CAG audit.

CAG reforms:

1. CAG to be a promotee from IAS service - for better understanding of Audit & Accounts.
2. Collegium system to appoint CAG
3. Enhance manpower - to conduct audit of all ministries
4. ~~to~~ Give Comptroller Powers - for Concurrent - Audit - to the CAG.

4. The concern for transparency in political funding is at odds with the Electoral Bond Scheme notified by the government. Critically discuss.

(EBS)

(150 WORDS) 10

Electoral Bond scheme was notified by the Govt in Budget 2017-18 and has been under the order of Critics for promoting Secrecy and anonymity and Opacity under the guise of clean political funding.

Problems with EBS:

1. Donor ~~and~~ is not liable to disclose his identity Right
2. Will unduly benefit the political party at Centre.
3. Electoral bonds - will not form part of political party accounts to IT Dept.
4. With the Cap of 7.5% on Profit removed, the Corporates can donate any amount via Electoral Bonds. Thus, promoting Crony Capitalism.
5. EBS is implemented by the SBI - hence, being a Govt bank anonymity.

of donors may be exposed to the Ruling Party.

But, nevertheless, the EBS scheme, will definitely serve the following benefits :-

1. Legal/White money - to be deposited in banks via digital medium - hence eradicating inflation of Black money.
2. Prevent harassment of Donors by - protecting the anonymity of Donations
3. Bonds to be encashed within 75 days and Bonds to be notified only 4 times a year.

Thus, though EBS is a welcome reform to target Black money in Electoral funding, we should ultimately march towards partial state funding of Elections - so that Elections in India are conducted in a free, fair & transparent manner.

5. Lobbying in India exists in a perennially grey legal and policy arena. In this context, discuss the need to formally recognize and regulate lobbying in India. (150 WORDS) 10

While in other countries like USA, lobbying is an open and transparent exercise, in India, Lobby is a Backdoor quid-pro-quo between the Government and the Pressure Groups.

ex: Alleged involvement of FICCI & CII - for removing the 7.5% cap on political funding by Corporates

ex: IAS and other AIS lobby - behind recent amendment to POCA, 1988 - has also been alleged

In the above two examples, they may be mere allegations, but, ~~here~~ if it is true, it is a violation of Transparency - which is an essential part of Good Governance in a Democracy.

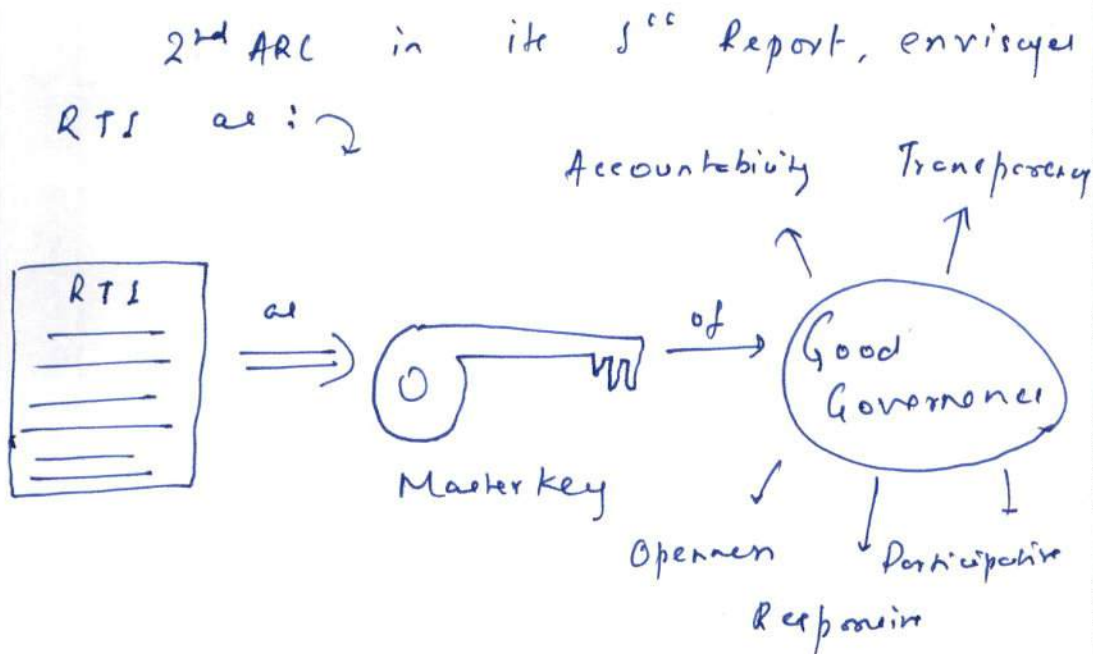
Hence, in this context, Lobbying must be recognised as a way to legitimate Participative Democracy

in India. This is because, secret
lobbying - only benefits the
rich and powerful interest groups
mentioned above, and leaves out
the interest of the masses.

Way forward: Hence, to regulate
lobbying in India, an effective
Regulatory setup - needs to be
put up to remove instances of
collusive bribery and crony
capitalism.

The best way out for
lobbying in India is to
use the open online
platform of Mygov.in for
one and all.

6. More than a decade after it was passed, the implementation of the RTI Act leaves much to be desired. Comment. Also discuss the issues associated with the recent proposals to amend the RTI Act. (150 WORDS) 10



BUT, recent CIC report of
Almost 23,500 cases pending at
the CIC level itself, tells the
story that RTI Act, even after
10 years of implementation is
far from achieving its objectives.

Issue Associated :

1. JSO have not been constituted in all Departments
2. Subjective use of Sec 8(4) of RTI to deny information in the name of "National Security", etc. which is undefined in 2005 Act.

3. Simultaneous existence of OSA, 1923 to deny info.
4. Absence of Appeal mechanism at many levels
5. Still Political Parties & Judiciary remain outside the ambit of RTI

Recent Proposals to amend RTI

Act :-

1. Collating RTI with OSA, 1923 - to deny information.
2. Government to independently fix Remuneration and Service Condition of CIC, SIC and IG - thus, hampering their independence.

RTI is a soberly drafted legislation - with more important goal of "Honors Paice Honors hisaab" - Hence, any amendment exercise must involve citizen participation through NGOs & Civil Society.

7. Critically discuss the evolving policy on reservation in promotions in India with special focus on its ability to meet the objectives of social justice.

(150 WORDS) 10

Given the Data of only 4 Secretary level positions occupied by SCs and STs in Government of India, and a similar situation at the state level, the Reservation in Promotions debate and newly arisen.

The Govt through a Constitutional amendment Act provided for Reservation in Promotions - by inserting Article 16 (4A) in the Indian Constitution, given the Reserved candidates at the lower level were not approaching the highest levels, due to → (may be)

- * Caste bias
- * Lack of Efficiency, etc.

The Amendment was challenged in the Supreme Court and hence the Judgment in M. Nagaraj v/s Union of India Case,

3 Condition for Reservation in Promotions:

1. Data on Backwardness
2. Data on lack of Representation at higher level
3. Must not impact the Efficiency of the Administration.

Concerns raised :

- Ethos of Efficiency

 - against Right to Equality (Article 14)
 - against merit
 - may promote inefficiency

Ethos of Social Justice

 - Backward Classes can ensure their welfare only when they have real decision making power at the top
 - historical backwardness and discrimination in organisation.

Thus, our goal must be to balance the ethos of Social Justice & efficiency - which can be done by

RIGOROUS TRAINING at the pre-

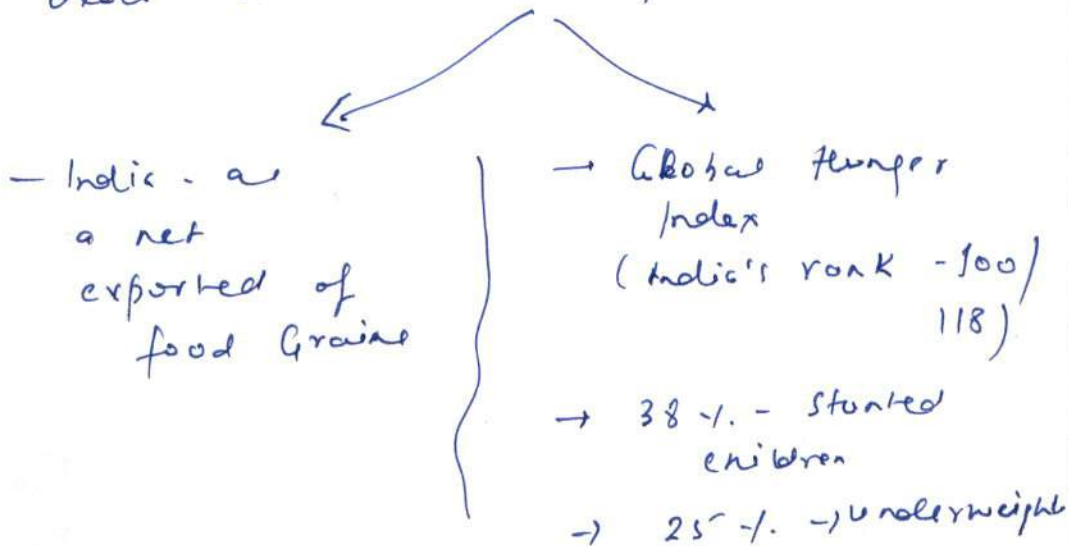
service level - with special focus on bridging the competency gap between Reserved and General category.

→ Training Reform 2nd ARC - National Institute of Good Governance.

8. India produces enough food for its people, but not all people get enough food to eat. Discussing this paradox, highlight some of the major interventions taken in the past few years in this regard. (150 WORDS) 10

India has adopted the Sustainable Development Goals, among which the SDG 2 - provides for achieve total food security & remove hunger.

Despite producing the highest ever foodgrain production of 277 million tonnes in 2017-18, India deals with a Strange Paradox



To fix this paradox, Govt has taken major interventions in the recent past:

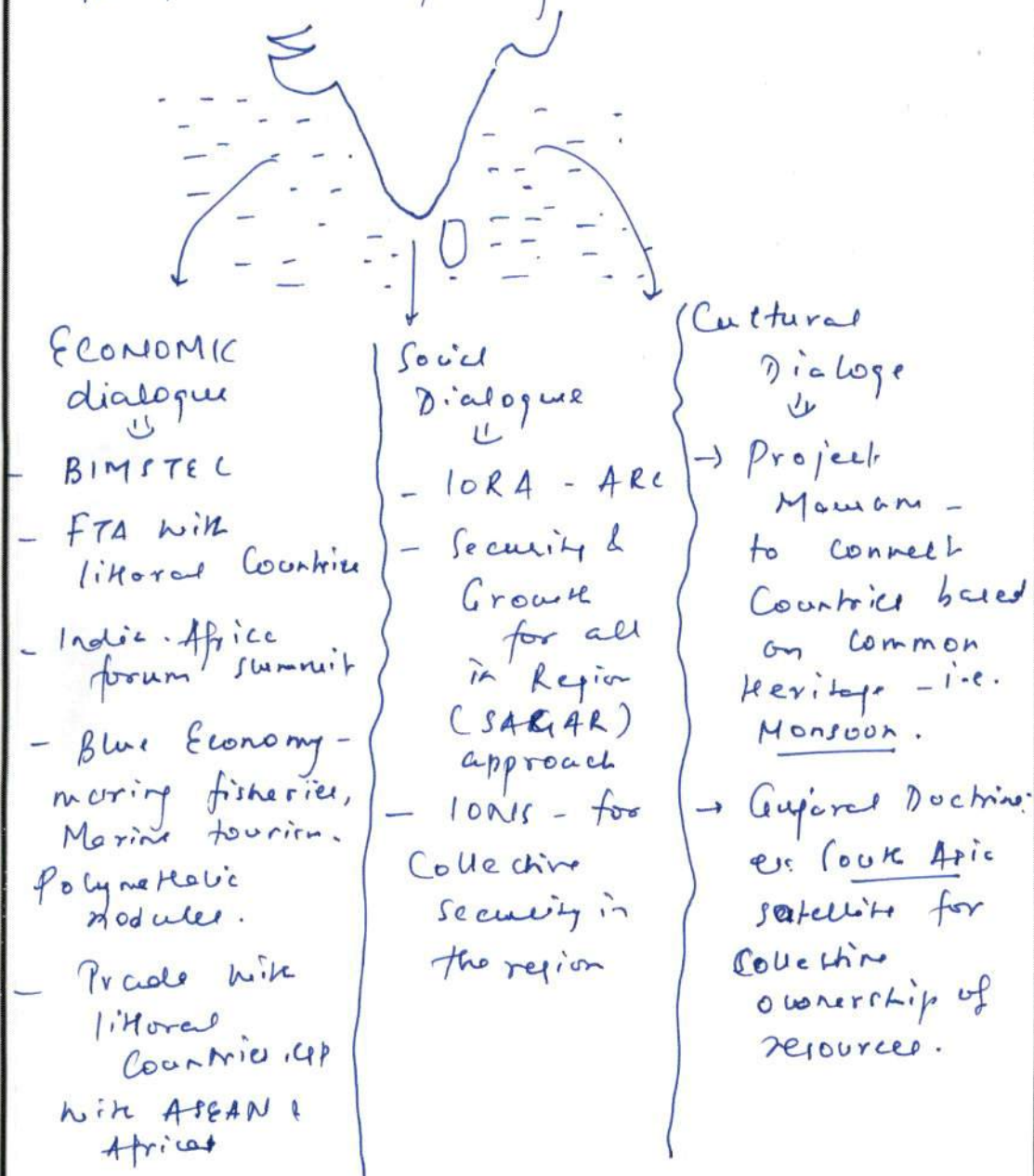
1. National Food Security Act, 2013 - subsidised food Grains for almost 67% of Indians.

2. Socio - Economic Caste Census for better targeting.
3. DBT in Public Distribution system.
4. Financial inclusion under JAM - trinity
5. Mid day - meal Scheme (2002) - for children
6. ICDS - for free food in Anganwadis Kendrae.
7. Antyodaya Anna Yojana
 . There, despite the above initiatives by the Government - every night - 20 Crore Indians sleep hungry " (Shook NGO). May forward :-
 1. Shutting down of Food Corporation of India (Shankar Kumar Committee)
 2. Decentralised procurement & distribution by use of Local Bodies & Gram Sabhas - for monitoring.
 3. Fortified food - to be readily available at Primary Health Care centres to avoid starvation.

9. India sees Indian Ocean as not just a water body, but a global stage for continued economic, social, and cultural dialogue. Elaborate.

(150 WORDS) 10

With 2 Super powers aspiring to provide leadership in the new Global order, viz. India and China, Indian Ocean for India has become of Exemplary relevance in the contemporary times



But recently, with rise of
China in the Indian Ocean
region, India has taken a more
military stance -

- eg: Friction with Maldives - during
Emergency, etc.

Hence, the way forward for
India to be to a lay a
collective vision of Indian
Ocean - with our PM's vision
of "Sarovar Titayc, Sarajan
Sukhaya"

10. In the context of India taking greater responsibility in management of the global commons, there has been a shift in India's climate change negotiation stance. In this context, analyze the evolution of India's climate policy. (150 WORDS) 10

Global Commons are those resources of Mother Earth, which are independent of national boundaries. e.g. Oceans, seas, Air, Biodiversity, etc.

Evolution of India's Climate Policy:

1. During the 1990s and Early 2000s -
 - India's stance reflected a dependence on Grants from developed countries to finance its climate mitigation projects.
 - Also, India was averse to climate mitigation, given the huge responsibility of social imperatives at home.
2. 2008 Onwards - With the launch of National Action Plan for Climate Change (NAPCC) - India has taken a leadership role, as it has realized that climate change will affect India the most.

Hence, India has continuously embarked on a leadership role →

Eg: Paris Summit: India's INDCs:-

- to build a 2.5 billion tonne Carbon Sink
- to reduce emissions by 33-35% by 2030
- to add 175 GW to Renewable energy by 2022.

- Leadership in International Solar Alliance - along with France - with headquarter in Gurugram.

- Further, recently at Bonn Summit, India has reiterated its commitment to its INDCs - despite US leaving the Paris deal.

Hence, India has emerged as a leader in the climate mitigation project and greater endorsement of Global Commons - as Climate change is a real threat to both India and the world.

11. Highlighting the constitutional role of the Finance Commission (FC), discuss the issues which are being debated w.r.t. terms of reference (ToR) of the 15th Finance Commission. (250 WORDS) 15

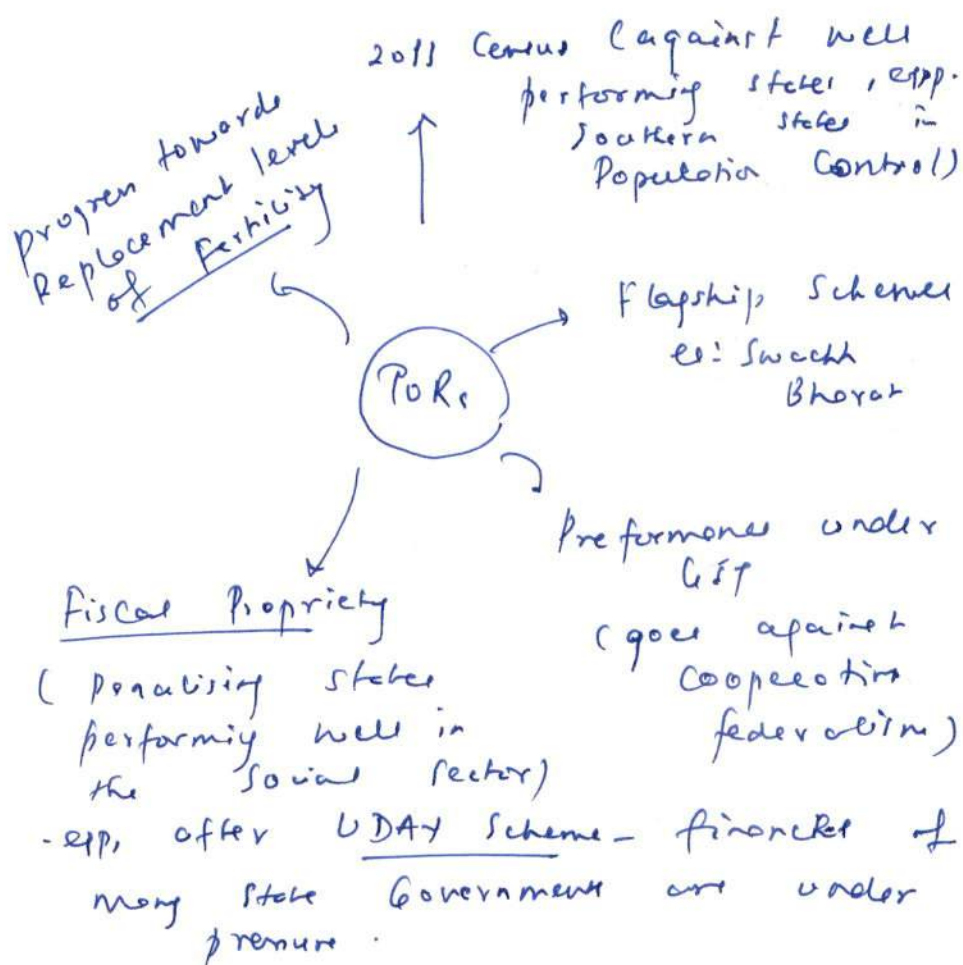
Article 280 of the Indian Constitution mandates the President of the Union of India to setup a Finance Commission after every five years.

Constitutional Role :

1. To prescribe a formula for division of the Resource pool - between Centre and States and among states
(ex: 14th FC → 42:1 Devolution from central pool to states)
2. To lay out principles for Grant-in-Aid (Article 275) to the States
3. To provide for augmenting of State Funds - for empowerment of Local bodies - through fund devolution.
4. To provide for mechanisms for sound financial management

Recently, President has setup the 15th Finance Commission - for providing financial mechanism for Centre - State relations for the period of 2020-25 - under the Chairmanship of N.K. Singh.

Since, Union Government is free to restrict the mandate of Finance Commission by prescribing ToR, the new ToR has raised the following concerns & issues.



In a Federal Policy, sharing of finances is an important issue, hence, states must receive due attention while setting up contours of Centre-State financial relations.

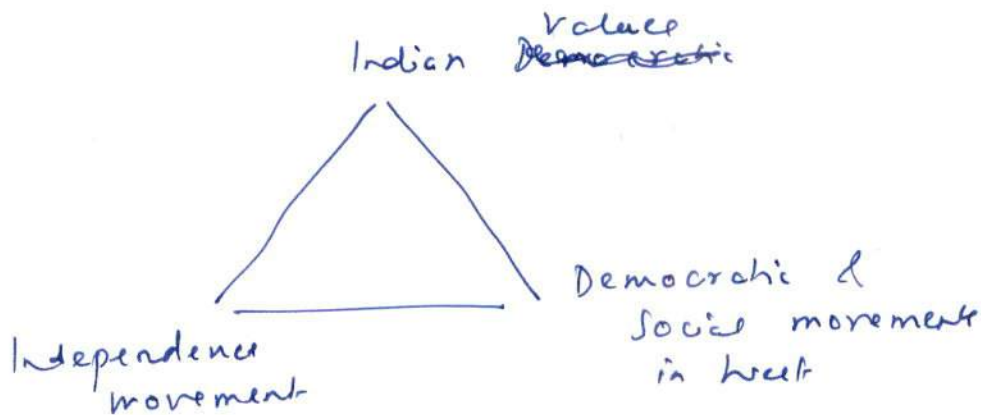
Way forward: Sarkaria Commission

Recommendations:-

1. Consult states while formulating TORs
2. Use the platform of Inter-State Council (Art 263) for resolving disputes
3. End the system of Census and Surcharge - which are not part of Divisible Pool.
4. All Royalty - from Mining & Natural resources must accrue to the local bodies & State Governments
5. Share non-tax revenue - i.e. Spectrum auction, Coal Auction, etc.
6. Revise Borrowing rules for State Governments.

12. The spirit of the constitution of India represents a synthesis of Indian values, democratic and socialist movements in west and our independence movement. Elucidate. (250 WORDS) 15

Indian Constitution is a synthesis of extensive research and hardwork of our Constitution makers for 2 years 11 months & 18 days. Hence our Constitution has good synthesis of →



①. INDIAN VALUES :-

1. "Unity in Diversity" - as a basic tenet of our Constitution - which includes all interests
2. "Sarva Dharma Samahar" - Indian notion of Secularism - "Equal respect to all religions"

3. "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" - in our
vedas - "the whole world is a
single family" - reflected in
Article 51A: (to maintain just and
honourable relations with all
Countries.)

(2) Democratic and Social movements
in the West: -

1.) "No taxation without Representation" -
No Indian can be taxed saved by
Authority by law - i.e. indirectly by
the elected representation. eg: Budget -
Finance bill (from American
Revolution)

2.) Value of Liberty, Equality
Fraternity: in Preamble - from
French Revolution.

3.) Concept of "Justice & Fundamental
Duties" - from American
revolution.

(3) Independence movement →

- Art 51A - fundamental duty of
every citizen to cherish our

freedom, struggle and respect ~~the~~ and
honour our Constitution, National
flag and National Anthem.

- "Constitutional Directives" - e.g. Article 40 :-
to organise Village Panchayats
- "Universal Adult Franchise" as a
promise of our Freedom
fighters.
- Article 38: State to strive for
a social order and
remove inequalities.

Hence, though we have the
best Constitution for our Country - which
has stood the test of time, yet
we have a long way to achieve
our Constitutional Goals. Hence,
realisation of our Constitution
values lies in its true & fair
implementation on the Ground.

13. What is the importance of an independent judiciary in a democracy? Highlight the safeguards in our political-constitutional setup to ensure the independence of judiciary. (250 WORDS) 15

The Apex Court has itself highlighted the importance of an Independent Judiciary - by demarcating it as a Basic Structure of the Constitution.

An Independent Judiciary - is a sine qua non for a Democracy in the following ways →

1. To put check on Authority of the State - eg: Article 13 of Indian Constitution
2. To uphold the sovereignty of people all the times
3. To settle disputes between Federating units - via Original Jurisdiction - eg: Supreme Court decision in Delhi Government vs Union of India Case - giving due powers to the Elected Delhi Government.
4. To provide social Justice to the people. eg: Hodiyar Love Jihad case.

5. To protect the rights of minorities.
e.g. Dalits, tribals, transgender, etc.
e.g. SC Judgement in NALSA Case (2014)
for Transgender.

Thus, our Constitution's forefathers
had the foresight to have
safeguards in the Constitution to
protect the Independence of
Judiciary - viz. →

1. "full faith and Credit Clause" -
for Judgement of Courts all
over India
2. Salaries and Pension of Judges
"Charged" on the ~~Indian~~ Consolidated
Fund of India (Schedule 2)
3. Contempt of Court Act, 1971
4. "Independent Judiciary" - part of
Basic Structure of Constitution
under Keshavnanda Bhorkar Case
5. Collegium system of Appointment
of Judges.

6. Security of Tenure - for judges in India to prevent Politicisation of Judiciary.

Still, there has been concern related to Independence of Judiciary - as raised by 4 Collegium Judges in February, 2018. Thus, this call for further reforms to safeguard Judicial independence: —

Law Commission Suggestions:

1. Make Collegium minutes, in Public domain
2. Live streaming of Court proceedings
3. Law Commission's 272nd report - on Tribunals - i.e. Providing them the status of a High Court.
4. Open Roster System - of Bombay High Court - must be followed to avoid discretion of Chief Justice.

14. Even though Indian federalism has matured quite a bit, with states having far greater control of their economic and political management, serious structural problems still remain. Discuss. (250 WORDS) 15

Over the past 70 years after Indian Independence, the Indian Federal system has continuously gained strength and maturity, with states having:—

Greater Control of Economy:

ex: 14th Finance Commission - 42% devolution to states from divisible Tax pool

eg: Greater Taxation power to States - under the GST regime.

Greater control over polity?

- Use of Article 356 has considerably reduced in the era of Coalition Government

- Regional parties - have taken complete control of their states - eg: TDP in Bihar, AIDMK in Tamil Nadu, BJD in Odisha, etc.

But, despite the above Successes
serious structural problems still
hamper Center State relations →

1. Administratively :-

- Still high no. of Centrally
sponsored schemes & Flagship
schemes - promote union bias
- All India services have often been
accused of Union bias.

2. Politically -

- use of Article 356 - in Uttarakhand,
Andhra Pradesh & Tamil Nadu -
recently,
- Political friction - e.g. Recently
tussle between Kerala Govt and
Union Govt - over denial of food
& Disaster relief provided by UAE.

3. Economically :-

- With Ruling party Governments in
states - Union Government could
easily get favorable decisions in
GST Council.

- Ceases and surcharges Continue outside GST ambit.
 - States cannot borrow without Centre's approval (Article 292).
4. Other issues:
- Unequal representation of states in Rajya Sabha
 - Special Category states - to some states.
 - Use of Article 371 - to Govern states - under the garb of "protection"
 - Tribal Areas & Autonomous dists, Union Territories, etc.
- Thus, in the above context, the need is to start a new round of Dialogue by placing & discussion the Sarkaria & Punchhi Commission reports in the Parliament - for better center resolution of Cooperative federalism in India.

15. The recent amendments to the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 strike a balance between enforcement overzealousness and the need for stringent action against corrupt public servants. Discuss. (250 WORDS) 15

Post - Independence Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 (PoCA) has been a major instrument for preventing Bureaucratic Corruption in India.

But, over a period of time, misuse of PoCA became evident -

eg: Threats to Honest Civil Servants under Section 13 (1)(d)

eg: Exclusion of "Bribe Giver" - hence, Collusive bribery, etc.

Hence, to remedy the defects of PoCA, 1988, recent Amendments were made to PoCA: -

1. "Prior-Sanction" - extended to all Civil Servants, ~~Bank~~ PSU Bankers and Retired officials
2. Striking down Article 13(1)(d) - to protect Honest Civil Servants - by removing subjectivity ground "pecuniary advantage"

3. Inclusion of Bribe Giver - under the ambit of the act.
4. protection to witnesses from Prosecution - if they turn approvers.
5. Protecting "honest intention" of Civil Servants and Bankers - loss to the exchequer - but "intention are good" - shall not be a corrupt practice.

Thus, in this way amendments to the POCA - strikes a balance between Probity in Public Service & Diligence - role of Investigation agencies.

But, also, there are some concerns like :-

1. "Prior Sanction" - can slow down the prosecution of corrupt public servants.
2. Subjectivity around "honest intention" may be misused.

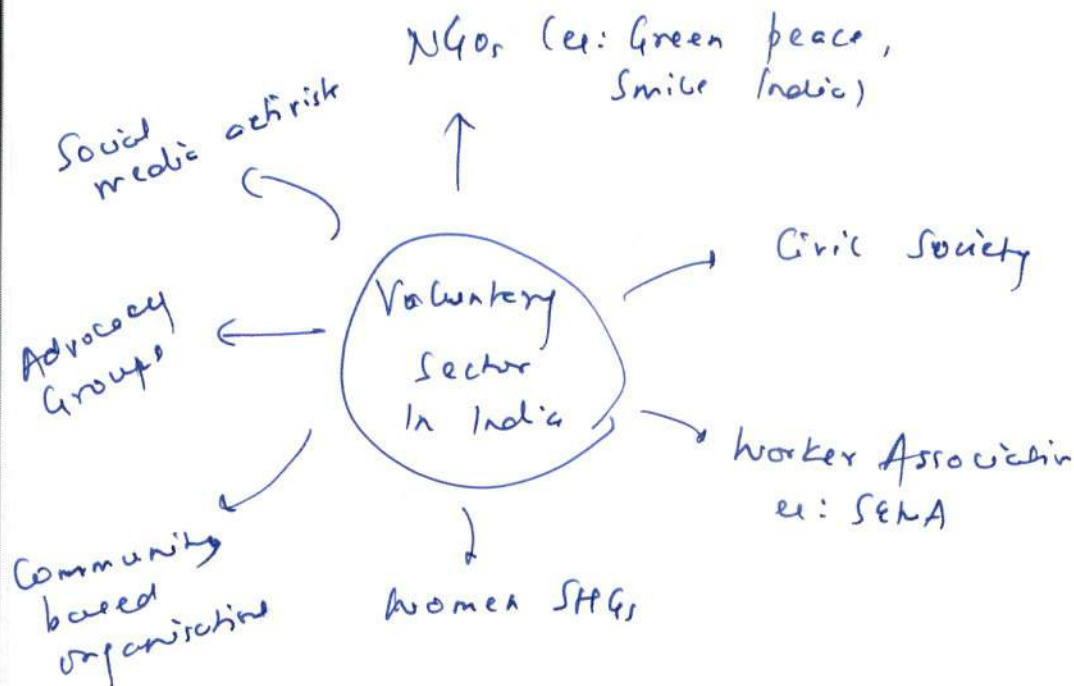
3. Time limit to obtain sanction - 4:
3 months for Retired Officials - it
 an issue - on incentive Corruption
 at higher levels.

Thus, the correct way forward
 is to operationalise the
 Institution of Lokpal - to eradicate
 Corruption from public life.
Peace-meal efforts - have shown
 little success in the past as
 well as present.

16. Identifying the various issues plaguing the voluntary sector in India, discuss the need for a national accreditation agency to overcome them. Discuss.

(250 WORDS) 15

As the India's democracy has matured in the past 70 years, the Voluntary Sector in India has come of Age :-

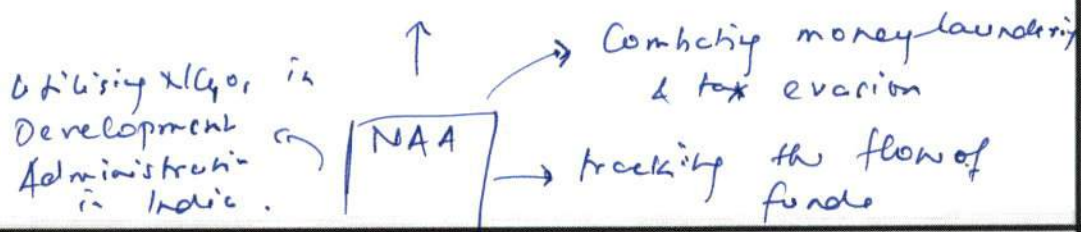


But, given the following issues, there is urgent need of a National Accreditation Agency :-

⇒ As per Income tax report - only around 10% of NGOs file annual returns in India.

2. Foreign funding - Around 3000 NGOs, -
have received a mammoth ₹ 22,000 crore
funding - bypassing Taxation.
3. IB report has highlighted: -
 - NGOs like Greenpeace working
against India's Development Interest
 - Money laundering & Hawala, through
NGOs
 - Some NGOs funding terror activities
in Kashmir.
4. Huge proliferation of NGOs in
India - ex: more than 33 lakh
NGOs.
5. Many NGOs - have also been
receiving State funding.

In the above context, a
National Accreditation Agency (NAA) -
will provide the following
benefits → weeding out fake / shell NGOs



Some Caveats :

1. Complete Autonomy to NAA
under law - is need to avoid
State Domination over Voluntary
Sector
2. S. Vijay Kumar Committee - recommendation
for light regulation of NGOs -
must for the basis for NAA.

Plus, Voluntary Sector in
our country is a Double edged
Sword, hence NAA is the
way forward to minimise the
losses and maximising the Gain -
by using the arms of the
Voluntary Sector - to provide Good
Governance in India.

17. Given the importance of a teacher in affecting the learning outcomes of children, discuss the problems in the present system of teacher training in India. How can these be addressed? (250 WORDS) 15

As per an estimate, presently we have over 1.2 million untrained teachers in public and private schools in India.

RTI Act, 2009 - had envisaged teacher training of all teachers by 2015, which has now been extended to 2020. Hence, this pattern reveals a continuous failure to train our teachers, which results in poor learning outcomes among the children. etc.

Pratham NGOr's ASER Report (2016)

Only 50% of class V students are able to read class II textbooks

Class VIII students in public schools are unable to solve class V maths problems

Faults in the present system:

1. Failure of State and District Teacher training Institutes (TTIs)
 - * ex: - lack of funding & manpower
 - lack of regulation in TTIs
2. State led - top - down approach.
3. Continuous extension of deadline - has further & reduced the incentives for teacher training.
4. Absence of sound monitoring & evaluation mechanisms

Thus, given the above issues, a holistic overview of Teacher training is the need of the hour? -

1. Teacher training must be monitored on a Day-to-Day basis
2. Performance on training - can be linked to pay - for untrained teachers

3. Basing teacher's Salaries - on
learning outcomes of students - (Finland
Education model)
4. Removing No Detention Policy - under
RTE - to impose proper accountability
on untrained teachers (T.S.R.
Committee on Education)
5. Use of Mool (Moving open Online
Courses) & Shreyam - to train
teachers via Digital medium
6. Use of Aadhar - to track the
progress of teacher training on Day
to day basis.

Hence, the need of the hour is
to make teacher training a
Continuous process & further strengthening
Parent-teacher association - to generate
proper accountability.

18. The implementation of a scheme with such scale and benefit as Ayushman Bharat is likely to face many obstacles. Critically discuss. (250 WORDS) 15

AYUSHMAN BHARAT Scheme envisages a Healthy India by 2 mechanisms:-

- 2.5 lakh Primary Health Centres
- National Health Protection Scheme - for 5 lakh annual insurance cover to 10 crore families in India - based on SECC (2011) Data.

But, given the huge scale of Ayushman Bharat Pariyojana, it is very likely to face the following problems:-

1. Funding Crunch - As the promised amount is very high
2. Misuse of scheme by the private sector by prescribing unnecessary procedures & operation on patients.

3. Primary Healthcare & OPD expenditure is not covered - major chunk of Out of pocket expenditure.
4. Insurance Companies - have showed low willingness due to high risk & poor forecasted returns under NHPS.
5. A huge implementation Bureaucracy is required for proper implementation of schemes.
6. NHPS can create new avenue of massive corruption given its huge scale.

Nevertheless, despite its credit, NHPS shows huge promise for a healthy India - especially if seen in the context of National Health Policy - 2017. Hence for maximum benefit from NHPS - following steps must be followed:-

1. Creation of a Robust Health MIS - to form a repository of

- all patients in India. ex: Tamil Nadu HMIS.
2. Decentralised implementation by involving logi Kalyan Samitis
 3. Provision of Social Audit at all levels.
 4. Installing Fast track Court - for ~~to~~ fast resolution of insurance claims.
 5. Government to finance NHPS using innovative ways of funding - ex: Outcome Based bonds, CSR, etc.

Prime, NHPS - Atal Bihari Vajpayee is a great opportunity for health revolution in India. Hence, it requires equal participation of all stakeholders for the success of the Scheme.

19. Given the fact that India cannot match China's financial clout, it is seen to be diversifying the ways in which it can enhance cooperation and promote its diplomatic profile in Africa. Discuss. (250 WORDS) 15

India aspires for a dominant role in Africa's development, given the shared colonial history and India's continuous support for African decolonisation post-1947.

But, in the present paradigm India cannot match China's financial clout :-

<u>CHINA</u>	<u>INDIA</u>
- \$15 Trillion Economy	- \$3 Trillion Economy
- Export led Growth	- Import dependence
- Trade with Africa - \$170 billion	- Trade with Africa - \$80 billion

Thus, ~~despite~~ rather than working, crucial resources, India has adopted a more diversified strategy for enhancing cooperation with Africa :-

1. Diplomatic Outreach:

- Arabic-Africa forum Summit
- ~~for~~ Contribution to fora like 1ARDU, AfDB, etc.
- Recent Bilateral Agreement with East African Countries - esp. Mozambique - for Police.

2. Private Sector Outreach:

- Software parks in Africa by Indian IT sector
- for Africa e-Network - (2006) project

3. Renewable energy - through training of "Solar Mamas" - African women.4. Poverty alleviation - African Countries learning from Kerala's Kudumbacherry model5. More initiative and voice to African countries - under proposed

Asia Africa Growth Corridor to
Counter China's BRI.

6. Increase frequency of Bilateral
visits - to African Nation by India's
top leadership.

7. In the field of Security -
ex: Djibouti Code - against Piracy
ex: "SAGAR" for Peaceful & Secure
Indian Ocean region.

Thus, in this way India has
been successful in bypassing
China's ~~Backdoor~~ ~~Diplomacy~~ Checkbook
Diplomacy and making further
inroads into Africa.

20. Discuss how American sanctions on its adversaries affect India. Taking the example of CAATSA, analyse how India can shield its strategic interests in face of such sanctions. (250 WORDS) 15

CAATSA is an instrument of USA's "Big Stick Policy" to counter its adversaries through application of Bilateral Sanctions. Thus, application of CAATSA - affects India in the following major ways: —

1. On Iran: India procures more than 50% of oil from Iran
2. On Russia: It will affect India's procurement of S-400 Prism Advanced Air Defence and Ko-226 Helicopters
3. On China: for example - since China has a major share in USA's trade deficit - it will lead to more dumping of Chinese imports into India.
4. Also, If India continues its trade with the above mentioned countries, USA - can impose

Sanctions on India as well.

ex: India had to stop procurement of oil from Iran after Sanctions were imposed earlier.

In the above situation, India faces a Dilemma

India's
Growing closeness to
USA in recent
past - ex: signing of
LEMOA, Quad, etc.

India's sovereignty &
trading rights with
America's adversaries.

Thus, in the present context, when USA is proactively imposing CAATSA on its adversaries, India needs to balance its diplomacy with USA along with safeguarding its personal interest in the region.

For example, the recent 2+2 Dialogue - Can be used as a pivot to convey the US India's own National interests in

the region ~~has~~ a ~~very~~ its
friendship with USA. But, it not
 cost must India compromise
 its strategic Autonomy - as
 we are living in a Multi-polar
 world, where India itself aspires to
 be a ~~Global~~ Super power in the
Asia-Pacific region.

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