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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1400)

Name of Candidate	GUNJAN SINGH		
Medium Eng./Hindi	ENGLISH	Registration Number	125597
Center	KANPUR	Date	8/5/2020

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:

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।

16-B, 2nd Floor, Above National Trust Building, Bada Bazar Marg, Old Rajinder Nagar, Delhi-110060

Plot No. 857, 1st Floor, Banda Bahadur Marg (Opp Punjab & Sindh Bank), Dr. Mukherjee Nagar
Delhi- 110009

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 B

1. Discuss the changes that have taken place in the role of the state and in particular the bureaucracy, in the post-liberalization era in India.
(150 words) 10

भारत में उदारीकरण पश्चात् युग में राज्य और विशेषकर नौकरशाही की भूमिका में आए परिवर्तनों की विवेचना कीजिए।

In the post-liberalisation era of India, several changes have occurred.

changing notions of development
Globalisation
privatisation [Changes] climate change
new economic policy

With these changes, there has been a continuous change in the role of state & bureaucracy of India.
change in the role of state :

Post independence, the state had adopted inward looking policy, thus played role in both sectors:

core sectors ↓ health, education, water, sanitation etc	non core sectors ↓ manufacturing watches, soaps etc.
--	---

Now Post liberalisation, state is actively involved in development activities, acting as a facilitator & regulator for private sector.

Change in the role of bureaucracy:

⇒ with shifting priorities in governance, i.e.;

charity based approach

↓
needs based approach

↓
rights based approach

bureaucracy changed from

REGULATOR and

COLLECTOR of Revenue

↓
FULFILLING the RIGHTS & DEMANDS of people.

⇒ with advent of RTI Act, 2005, Lokpal Act, 2013 etc, bureaucracy is shifting its role from working in secrecy, to being more transparent & accountable.

⇒ Today citizens are active participants and not mere beneficiaries, thus bureaucracy is actively involved in development process.

⇒ Technology, e-governance and civil society organisations have further made bureaucracy more flexible & accountable.

Thus, the 'steel frame' of India is continuously evolving with changing needs.

2. There have been concerns related to foreign funding to NGOs in India. In this context, examine the current framework regulating the same.

(150 words) 10

भारत में NGOs की विदेशी फंडिंग को लेकर चिंताएँ रही हैं। इस संदर्भ में, इसे विनियमित करने वाले वर्तमान ढांचे का परीक्षण कीजिए।

NGOs are often termed as 4th pillar of our democracy and have widespread positive impacts in our development process.

With globalisation and post-1991 era, foreign funding to NGOs has increased. A report in 2014-15 revealed that about 3068 NGOs received more than 22000 crore foreign funding.

There have certain concerns related with this:

⇒ IB report mentioned a loss of 2-3% GDP due to disruptive mechanism adopted by these NGOs. Mostly these NGOs function according to foreign bodies' ideologies.

eg Kudankulam project protest by NGOs was foreign funded.

⇒ Propaganda leading to communal tensions. eg NGOs involved in spreading terms like 'intolerance'.

- ⇒ These NGOs spend the funding in administrative setup of their organisation.
- ⇒ Their research is poorly done, and mostly use foreign reports, thus minimal utilisation of foreign funding.
- ⇒ Not filing annual returns, thus huge opacity, Current framework in regulating them:

ruled by 2 main laws:

- Foreign Contribution Regulation Act
 - NGOs need to renew their license every 5 yrs
 - not more than 50% fund to be used in administrative setup.
- Foreign Exchange Management Act
- NGOs with funding more than 10 lakh are under purview of LOKPAL.
- Currently, Home Affairs ministry cancelled ~~salient~~ registration of NGOs who failed to file returns for more than 5 yrs.

But this needs to be done in a streamlined manner. Need of independent regulator, Vijay Kumar committee recommendations be followed.

3. Setting up of Open Government Data (OGD) Platform can potentially be a game-changer for transparency and accountability. Analyse. Also, identify the challenges that remain in translating this potential into reality.

(150 words) 10

ओपन गवर्नमेंट डेटा (OGD) प्लेटफॉर्म की स्थापना संभवतः पारदर्शिता और जवाबदेही के लिए गेम-चेंजर हो सकती है। विश्लेषण कीजिए। साथ ही, इस संभाव्यता को वास्तविकता में परिणत करने के समक्ष विद्यमान चुनौतियों की पहचान कीजिए।

Open Government Data Platform is a platform where government releases all its data and statistics related to economy, health, infrastructure etc.

How can this bring transparency and accountability?

- ⇒ With all data in public domain, section 4 of RTI that deals with proactive disclosure of information will be fulfilled.
- ⇒ government will become more answerable for its policies based on the outcomes in form of statistics.
- ⇒ This exercise will build trust in citizens and government will focus more towards welfare.
- ⇒ With technology adoption, government will improve its record-keeping, and enhance participative democracy.

With this silent revolution, there are many challenges to bear full fruits.

Challenges:

- ⇒ Data protection on the lines of European ~~glo~~ General Data Protection Rights needs to be implemented.
- ⇒ Infrastructure in terms of ~~to~~ electricity needs to be reached to the remotest locations.

Saubhagya is a welcome step in this.

- ⇒ Internet provision and digital literacy is also required.

Bharatnet, optical fibre cable network projects, Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Mission are also a fruitful step.

- ⇒ The data should be comprehensive, with inter-related statistics be inter linked & clustered.

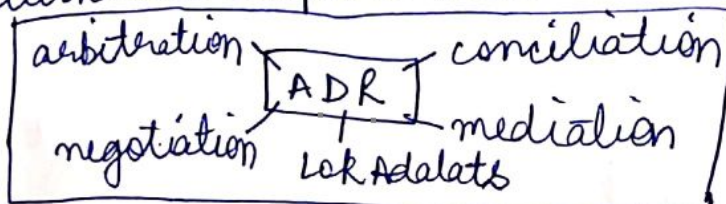
Artificial intelligence initiatives, Big Data Management Policy and multiple languages portal have the potential to make the project a reality.

4. Highlight the issues facing arbitration as an effective alternative dispute resolution mechanism in India. How does Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Act, 2019 strengthen the arbitration set up in India?

(150 words) 10

भररत में एक प्रभावी वैकल्पिक विवाद समाधान तंत्र के रूप में माध्यस्थत (आरिबिट्रेशन) के समक्ष आने वाली समस्याओं को रेखांकित कीजिए। माध्यस्थत और सुलह (संशोधन) अधिनियम, 2019 भररत में माध्यस्थत व्यवस्था को कैसे सुदृढ़ बनाता है?

Arbitration is one of the forms of alternative dispute redressal mechanism.



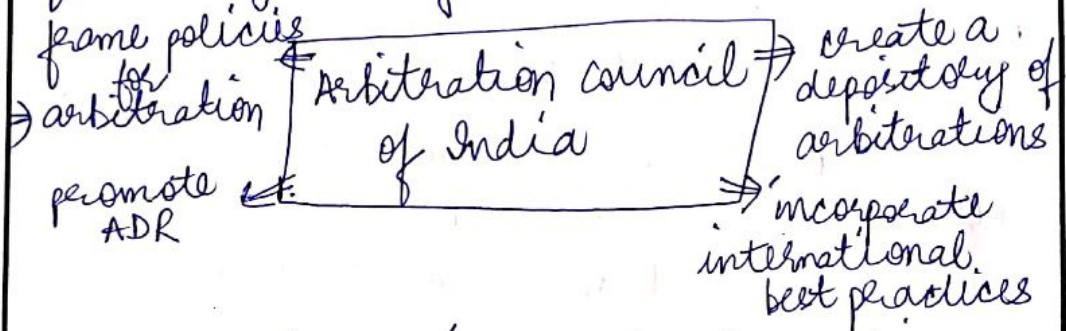
Arbitration is a method of settling disputes between 2 parties by a third party, which is neutral and not a court.

Arbitration in India has faced some issues :

- ⇒ lack of experts and panels of arbitration.
- ⇒ Alloof from international best practices.
- ⇒ Parties themselves chose arbitrator, thus sometimes neutrality is compromised.
- ⇒ lack of a dedicated body to frame policies regarding arbitration.
- ⇒ International arbitration cases did not come much to India.

Role of New Act :

Arbitration & Conciliation (amendment) Act, 2019 replaced the older act of 1996. It aims to strengthen through following ways :



- ⇒ Focus on improving both domestic and international arbitrations.
- ⇒ Supreme court will appoint arbitrators to incorporate neutrality.
- ⇒ Time limit of 6 months for written submission of case.

New Delhi International Arbitration Centre Act, 2019 will further supplement the Arbitration Act & make a favourable destination for international arbitrations with strong robust domestic arbitrations also.

5. It is argued that the introduction of compulsory voting in India would strengthen its democratic credentials. Critically analyze. (150 words) 10

यह तर्क दिया जाता है कि भारत में अनिवार्य मतदान की शुरुआत से इसकी लोकतांत्रिक साख सुदृढ़ होगी। समालोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Swaran Singh committee had recommended the right to vote be added in fundamental duties. Since then, compulsory voting is a debatable topic in our democracy.

Reasons why compulsory voting would strengthen democracy?

→ This would further enhance our participative democracy.

People would be more aware of their rights.

→ The current vote → seat translation, would improve,
eg 20% votes lead to zero seats in legislature, 28% votes led to victory of a party.

→ Improve the legitimacy of government, and government would function in a more accountable manner.

Argument against compulsory voting

→ Art 326 accords right to vote, thus making it a compulsary duty goes against the ethos of Article 326.

→ Poor voting is also because of lack of faith in government and political parties.

Thus compulsory voting are not a fool proof solution for bringing credentials in our democracy.

Real solution lies in transparent and accountable functioning of government and bridging the trust gaps. Compulsary voting has often led to mindless selection of first candidate in EVMs, thus it might not be a sustainable solution.

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anything this
margin
(इस भाग में
कुछ ना लिखें)

6. How far do you agree with the view that administration in India requires specialists instead of generalists?

(150 words) 10

आप इस दृष्टिकोण से कितने सहमत हैं कि भारत में प्रशासन के लिए सामान्यजों के बजाय विशेषज्ञों की आवश्यकता है?

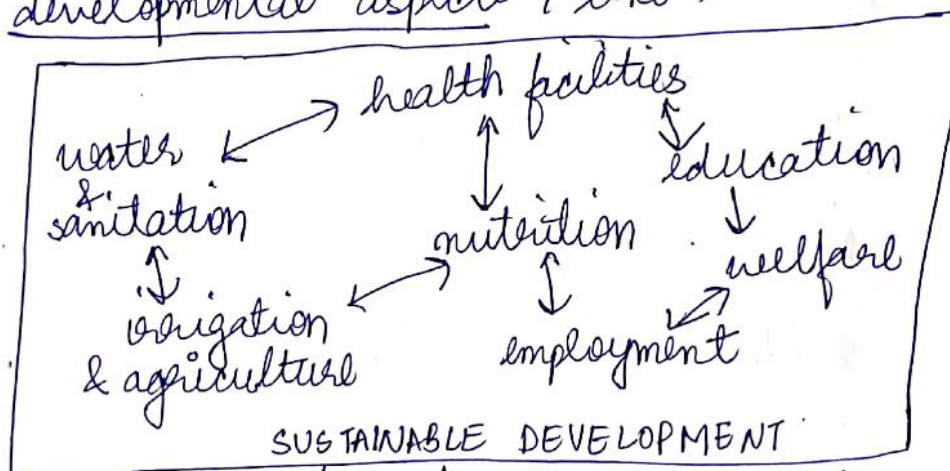
Administration in India is continuously evolving according to the changing demands of our society, economy and polity. Presently, administration is carried out by generalists — All India Services (Art 312), state civil services etc.

Does administration requires specialists?

- ⇒ Governance is becoming complex, inter-related and need of various domain specific roles.
- ⇒ Globalisation, economic reforms have brought in new challenges in governance, thus needed to be solved by specialists.
- ⇒ Specialists like RBI Governor, prove that how efficient the functioning happens.

Generalists are also equally important:

- ⇒ Specialists may act in silos due to expertise in a single field.
- ⇒ today administration focuses on developmental aspects, like:



Interlinking of all fields requires the administration to have experience and knowledge in all of these.

Thus, administration at present requires amalgamation of both generalists and specialists. The current initiative of lateral entry to the post of joint secretary is a welcome step.

Concerns regarding transparent recruitment and co-operative functioning be given utmost importance.

7. The idea of Civil Services Board has been widely hailed as a key civil services reform, however it is not without its own limitation. Comment.
(150 words) 10

एक महत्वपूर्ण सिविल सेवा सुधार के रूप में सिविल सेवा बोर्ड के विचार का व्यापक रूप से समर्थन किया गया है, हालांकि इसकी भी अपनी सीमाएँ हैं। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

civil services, termed as 'steel frame' of India have been suffering through challenges like:

- political interference
- arbitrary transfers & promotion
- nepotism & favouritism
- suspensions because of clash between union and states.

Thus in this regard, civil services board idea was mooted, which would handle transfers, promotions of the civil servants, based on objective and unbiased criteria.

but, there are some inherent limitations with it.

- The board lacks power in taking any punitive action against civil servants due to Art 311.
- Constitution and composition of Board is done by government, thus bringing in political interference.
- There may be chances of some deficiency in functioning of board, thus defeating the purpose of the its formation.

Nevertheless, Civil Services Board will bring in uniformity, transparency in the much required field of civil services in India.

8. The office of the Lokayukta has been in place in many states for a long time. Discuss the issues faced by this office in exercising its functions effectively.

(150 words) 10

लंबे समय से कई राज्यों में लोकायुक्त का पद विद्यमान रहा है। अपने कार्यों के प्रभावी मंचानन में इस पद के द्वारा सामना किए जाने वाले प्रमुख मुद्दों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

The Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013

institutionalised the office of Lokpal & Lokayukt in India. But Lokayukta office has been present much before that. Maharashtra instituted the office in 1971 and by 2013, 21 states & Delhi had the post of Lokayukta.

Lokayukta is an anti-corruption and vigilance office, but its functioning has several issues in various states.

Issues :

- Not all states have chief ministers under the jurisdiction of Lokayukta. (like Maharashtra, Bihar etc).
- Qualifications not mentioned by all states.
- The investigation powers also varies as Lokayuktas are not assisted

with suitable investigative machinery,

- Many states have just created the office without appointing a person to the office.
- Appointment and selection criteria is not well codified in all states.
- The power to investigate allegations and redressing grievances not given uniformly in all states.

With position of Lokpal facing severe challenges, it becomes highly imperative that both the centre and states take timely action to strengthen the offices of Lokpal & Lokayuktas.

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anything this
margin
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कुछ ना लिखें)

9. What are the issues ailing Citizen's Charters as an effective tool for holding public servants accountable? How can these issues be addressed?

(150 words) 10

लोक सेवकों को जवाबदेह बनाने के एक प्रभावी साधन के रूप में नागरिक चार्टर को पंगु बनाने वाले मुद्दे कौन-से हैं? इन मुद्दों का समाधान कैसे किया जा सकता है?

citizen's charter is a standard of service which was introduced in India in 1997. The charter is a paradigm shift towards making governance —

- Transparent
- Accountable
- Responsive
- dynamic.

But the charter could not emerge as an effective tool for holding public servants accountable because of following reasons:

- ① The charters of various departments are like brochures, & vaguely worded.
eg Income tax department charter.
- ② Lack of internal restructuring, thus no clear defined role for a specific office.
- ③ Lack of measurable targets, indices in the charter, made it confusing for the citizens to follow.

- ④ Charter formulation is not binding, and neither is the grievance redressal mechanism in it.
- ⑤ Various departments have not notified the names and positions of the responsible offices, thus leading to opacity in charters.

How to address the Issue?

- ① 2nd ARC ~~to~~ recommended to appoint Public Grievance officers like PIOs in every department
- ② Charters should be widely publicised and features of Sevottam Model be adopted,
- ③ Add measurable standards, with clear monitoring and feedback evaluation methods.
- ④ Technology adoption and internal restructuring should happen simultaneously.

Citizen Charter has the potential of transforming our governance, thus it should be made robust & practical.

10. Identify the key focus areas on which Digital India Mission is centered upon. Also, throw light on the approach and methodology of the program, (150 words) 10

उन प्रमुख फोकस क्षेत्रों की पहचान कीजिए जिन पर डिजिटल इंडिया मिशन केंद्रित है। साथ ही, इस कार्यक्रम के दृष्टिकोण और कार्यपद्धति पर भी प्रकाश डालिए।

Digital India Mission is a flagship program of a 'New India'.
It is a silent revolution which will transform the development process of our country.

improve digital infrastructure

Key Focus Areas
of Mission

improve e-governance
mechanism for delivery
of goods and services

digital literacy
and empowers
the citizens for
participative
democracy.

The program is an umbrella mission, which has features of 'introducing digital medium in all fields, like :
① Government - Government
② Government - Business
③ Government - Citizen

Approach of the program:

- ⇒ To bring in transparency and accountability in functioning.
- ⇒ To involve citizens in feedback mechanism through mygov.in, PRAGATI app, e-Shamika etc.
- ⇒ To reach all the citizens, following minimum government, maximum governance.

Methodology of the Mission:

- ⇒ Bharat Net, Optical fibre Network to connect with Gram Panchayats (15 lakh)
- ⇒ Including satellite technology, geo-tagging in programs & policies, eg: PM Fasal Bima Yojana, MGNREGA etc.
- ⇒ Educating people through PM Gramin Digital Saksharta Mission.
- ⇒ Digi Locker, Bhim App, Meghaloot & Artificial Intelligence to venture into new fields.

Thus, with data protection policy digital India mission will become a holistic program of India

11. Explain how the linkage between banks, NGOs and SHGs helps in facilitating access to microfinance and contributes to the development of rural areas. (250 words) 15

स्पष्ट कीजिए कि बैंकों, NGOs और SHGs के मध्य संपर्क किस प्रकार सूक्ष्म वित्त तक पहुँच को सुविधाजनक बनाने में सहायता करता है तथा ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों के विकास में योगदान देता है।

Microfinance means providing credit and financing facilities to the weaker, marginalised and rural areas of India. To facilitate this, banks, NGOs and SHGs together play an important role in facilitating the development of rural areas.

How SHGs and banks are working in tandem:

- ⇒ SHGs are a voluntary group in a village, which take up entrepreneurial activities for their development.
- ⇒ SHG-bank linkage program in 1992 is a landmark feature in micro-financing. Stand-up India & MUDRA has further helped them.
- ⇒ Rural co-operative banks, rural development banks take aid from

NABARD to further supplement the savings of SHGs.

eg Anand dairy SHG, Lijjat Papad, Kudumbashree (Kerala), Sahavikasa (Andhra Pradesh) all have facilitated microfinance and developed rural areas.

How SHGs and NGOs facilitate microfinance and develop rural areas?

⇒ Various NGOs like GOONS, Upay etc help SHGs develop as microfinance institutions which further boosts the entrepreneurial activities.

eg NGOs in Uttarakhand are helping women earn through packaging pulses and then provide credit to others, thus acting as microfinance institutions.

Forbes has mentioned 7 Indian
Microfinance Institutions in its top
50 MFIs. eg Bandhan Bank. Also,
World Bank report came up with data
that MFIs have reached to more than
500 million people.

all this has developed rural
areas in fields of

- livelihood opportunities
- micro enterprises
- women empowerment
- social capital.

eg AGEY scheme of running e-uksha
works through SHGs which provides
employment to many.

with financial inclusion,
financial literacy, penetration of
banking services and proper
implementation of Priority Sector Lending,
rural areas development will be
along the sustainable development
goals.

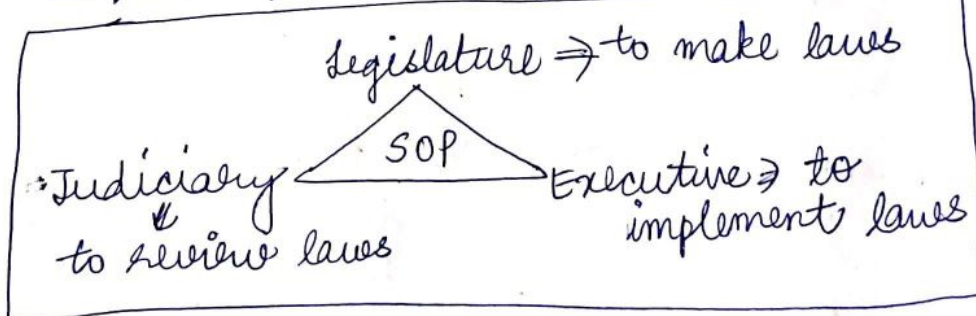
12. There is no strict separation of powers under the Indian Constitution, with the executive, legislature and judiciary empowered to carry out functions which may be considered within the purview of the other. Discuss.

(250 words) 15

भारतीय संविधान के अंतर्गत शक्तियों का कोई कठोर पृथक्करण मौजूद नहीं है, जिसमें कार्यपालिका, विधायिका और न्यायपालिका को उन कार्यों को संपादित करने हेतु सशक्त किया गया है जिन्हें दूसरे के क्षेत्राधिकार में शामिल माना जा सकता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

The doctrine of separation of Powers (SOP) was introduced by French thinker Montesquieu. This feature has become a part of basic structure of our constitution.

SOP between the 3 organs of our polity is not strictly watertight, thus making it a unique feature of our democracy.



How one organ carries out functions of other organs?

→ ① Executive and Legislature

⇒ Act 79 talks about Parliament, and Act 74 talks of Executive, but both carry out mixed functions :

eg Legislature

↓
• leaves out rules & regulations for Executive to frame by delegated legislation

Executive

↓
• President, promulgating ordinances
(Act 123)

② Legislature vs Judiciary

Though both have separate ways of functioning, and check each others power by effective checks & balances, sometimes they do mixed functions.

eg Legislature

- Impeachment of President & higher judiciary
- Punishing anyone for contempt of legislature

Judiciary

- Using power of Act 142, making schemes like → whistleblower Protection Scheme.
- coming up with guidelines → like Vishakha, Police Reforms as rules & regulations for all to follow.

③ Judiciary and Executive

Judiciary functions through evidences and executive through "guided discretion" given by legislature, yet overlapping features like:

Judiciary

- deciding the administrative setup, salaries etc of Supreme Court & High Court,
- Appointing through the dominance of collegium.

Executive

- President giving mercy petitions (Art 72)

- Executive in Tribunals (Art 323A, 323B).

• District Magistrate working as Returning Officer during elections is a quasi-judicial function.

Thus, constitution has relaxed the separation of powers so that co-operation & inter-linking between organs remain, without encroaching on each others rights.

13. Critically examine whether the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) should be made legally enforceable. ,
(250 words) 15

समालोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए कि क्या आदर्श आचार संहिता (MCC) को विधिक रूप से प्रवर्तनीय बनाया जाना चाहिए।

Model Code of Conduct is a novel feature of our election system which leads to level playing field and free-and-fair elections. This is still voluntary and unenforceable.

Should MCC be made legally enforceable?

⇒ MCC came up in 1962, but became effective only after the brave efforts of T. N. Sheshan after 1991 who rebuked influential politicians & delayed elections.

This manifests that legal provisions had made MCC effective since 1962 itself.

⇒ With increasing criminalisation of politics, it has become difficult to control money & muscle powers.

thus legal enforcement will help in curbing irregularities.

eg 34% of MPs in 16th Lok Sabha had criminal records, which is higher than last election.

⇒ encroachment of digital & social media has made various sections like sec 126 of RPA, 1951 ineffective.

Thus, the need is to control all this by legal provisions of MCC.

⇒ corrupt practices (sec 123(3)) and misusing government powers - like doling out populist schemes will get checked by making MCC enforceable.

MCC be not made enforceable;

⇒ Though MCC itself is not directly enforceable, its provisions are enforceable through IPC, 1860,

CrP, 1973 and RPA, 1951.

⇒ Election Commission is against enforcing it, as it will lead to judicial cases which will increase and disrupt the election processes.

⇒ Act 324 gives wide powers of superintendence, direction & control of elections to Election Commission, eg it cancelled R.K. Nagar elections in Tamil Nadu because of money power,

Thus, there is need to empower the Election Commission further and bring other electoral reforms like state funding of elections; not choosing criminal candidates etc before making MCC enforceable. Initiatives like CVIGIL are welcome step in including the citizens in this process.

14. What are the challenges in conducting free and fair elections in the era of proliferation of social media? In this context, identifying the steps taken by the ECI, suggest further measures. (250 words) 15

सोशल मीडिया के प्रसार के युग में स्वतंत्र और निष्पक्ष चुनाव के संचालन में आने वाली चुनौतियाँ क्या हैं? इस संदर्भ में, ECI द्वारा उठाए गए कदमों की पहचान करते हुए आगे के उपायों को सुझाइए।

Free and fair elections are *sin qua non* of our democracy. With increasing role of social media, election process has become more complex and tedious.

Challenges posed by social media

⇒ The ban of use of media for exit and opinion polls do not apply to social media under Sec 126 of Representation of People's Act, 1951.

⇒ Social media is used as a platform to flout the model code of conduct, which is not legally enforceable.

⇒ Social media has far reaching impacts and often lead to communal

violence during elections, due to widespread use of fake news.

⇒ social media has created a kind of digital divide, where on one hand there are over zealous citizens, and on other hand citizens having no knowledge of its existence, thus not a reliable medium for uniform spread of authentic news by state machinery,

Measures taken up by ECI

⇒ ECI has ~~set~~ set up Media certification and monitoring committee (MCMC) at district and state level to check paid news including on social media.

⇒ ECI has directed the social media bodies like facebook, whatsapp etc to come up with self-regulation practices. In this context IMAI has come up with such guidelines,

⇒ ECI used CVIGIL app, and started various awareness programs to educate people regarding misuse of social media.

⇒ Umesh Sinha committee has recommended to include print media & social media in sec 126 of Representation of People's Act, 1951.

Additional steps to be taken:

⇒ Press Council of India be made more powerful and social media be added under its ambit.

⇒ Big Data and Artificial Intelligence should be utilised to check the malpractices through social media.

⇒ Election Commission be made more strong, by giving equal protection to other ECs.

Elections, if free & fair, will make our democracy strong, thus they need to be made robust & all challenges be eliminated.

15. Social audit can ensure a citizen-centric mode of accountability but there exist many issues in its implementation. Analyse, (250 words) 15

सामाजिक अंकेक्षण जवाबदेही की नागरिक-केंद्रित पद्धति को सुनिश्चित कर सकता है, लेकिन इसके कार्यान्वयन में कई समस्याएँ विद्यमान हैं। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Social audit is one of the mechanisms of checking accountability of various authorities, their social and economic impact on society.

Significance of social audit as a citizen centric medium for accountability;

- ⇒ By involving people from grassroot level, it ensures that government policies have reached them.
- ⇒ It is one of the most significant weapon to check actual performance of policies.
- ⇒ 73rd amendment act, 1992 made Gram Sabha as a unit of social audit, since then transparency has crept in governance.

Although, social audit is a great tool for accountability, its implementation is still bleak.

Reasons for issues in implementation:

- ⇒ Social audit is not legally enforceable, thus it depends on the awareness level of people, which is quite low.
- ⇒ Social audit records are not well kept, and there are lack of experts at grassroot level.
- ⇒ Though it is an exercise from the start of a program, it is mostly used as a post-mortem exercise.
- ⇒ Gram Sabha unaware of its constitutional powers.
- ⇒ Social audits are highly localised & not publicised, thus accountability suffers.

social audit has the potential to make participative democracy successful and help the governance in being effective. For this it is necessary, that both citizen centric approach and accountability be ensured, experts at local level

make people aware of their rights

way forward

proper documentation and publication of audit details

CAG has recommended auditor general of states to institutionalise social audit

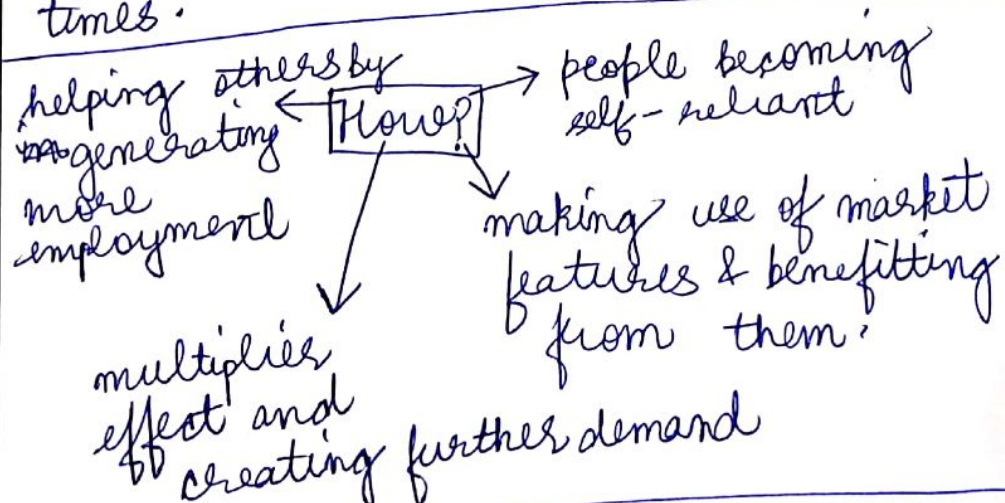
thus, then only citizen-centric mode of accountability will succeed 'in India'

16. With adequate policy incentives and civil society participation, entrepreneurship has the potential to become a vehicle for socio-economic mobility in India. Explain. (250 words) 15

पर्याप्त नीतिगत प्रोत्साहन और नागरिक समाज की भागीदारी के साथ, उद्यमिता में भारत में सामाजिक-आर्थिक गतिशीलता का वाहन बनने की क्षमता है। स्पष्ट कीजिए।

Socio-economic mobility in India has been a prerogative of the state since a long time. With schemes like 'Gareebi Hatao', 'Food for Work' programmes, state tried to ~~push~~ pull people out of poverty.

Entrepreneurship has become a potent tool in helping people in current times.



Entrepreneurship has to be supported by both :

↓
policy incentives
↓

- ① Ease of Doing Business
- ② Start-up India
- ③ Stand-up India
- ④ MUDRA scheme
- ⑤ SHGs linkage program
- ⑥ Priority sector lending
- ⑦ Skill India Mission

↓
civil society participation;

- ① helping the SHGs grow by providing resources
- ② inculcate the risk-taking behavior among people
- ③ help in providing health, nutrition & education & other activities to all

Entrepreneurship is a panacea for not single employment, but creating capabilities & building capacities for generating more job opportunities.
eg Sijjat Papad today is

providing employment opportunities to many.

Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Krishi Prayojana, Prayadarshi schemes have empowered women SHGs which have ventured in various roles.

Thus from multi-million dollar start-ups to small micro enterprises, socio-economic development is possible when conducive environment is present

17. Identify the different issues associated with the design and implementation of MGNREGA. What reforms have been taken in recent times to address the above identified issues? (250 words) 15

मनरेगा (MGNREGA) की अभिकल्पना और कार्यान्वयन से जुड़े विभिन्न मुद्दों की पहचान कीजिए। उपर्युक्त चिन्हित समस्याओं का समाधान करने के लिए हाल के दिनों में क्या सुधार किए गए हैं?

MGNREGA is an employment guarantee act of 2005, that promised 100 days of manual labour to each willing household in a financial year,

The scheme is one of the most promising device to pull people out of poverty, eg it provided employment ^{guarantee} upto 235 crore person days of work in 2014-15.

Yet, its design & implementation have some issues which are stopping it from becoming truly fruitful.

Issues in design of MGNREGA:

→ It just talks of manual labour, no focus on

skilling.

→ The ratio 60:40 expenditure division is also debatable.
60% expenditure → labour
40% expenditure → material,

→ No accountability mechanism, social audit concept vaguely explained,

Issues in Implementation:

→ Record keeping is poor and irregular,

→ Wide scale corruption, as it led to just digging holes in name of ponds.

→ Minimum wages debate pertains as sometimes paid less than that.

→ Delay in disbursement of payments.

→ Compensatory payment after 15 days notification is often flouted,

Reforms taken:

Government has time and again come up with various like:

- GIS tagging of assets created
- institutionalising social audit
- adding skills in the agenda, once 100 days manual labour is done
- setting up uniform minimum wages criteria across country.
- Rural Development ministry will earmark some budget for training.
- Focus on creating irrigation structures.

Thus, with these measures, MGNREGA can transform the rural development process, but alarming features like more youth in MGNREGA should be checked, by helping provide gainful employment.

18. What is the rationale behind having a None of the Above (NOTA) option in elections? Do you think rather than NOTA the idea of right to recall would better serve the purpose of deepening democratisation in India?

(250 words) 15

चुनावों में 'उपर्युक्त में से कोई नहीं' (NOTA) विकल्प रखने के पीछे क्या औचित्य है? क्या आप मानते हैं कि NOTA के बजाय राइट टू रिकॉल (वापस बुलाने का अधिकार) का विचार भारत में लोकतंत्रीकरण को मजबूत बनाने के उद्देश्य को बेहतर तरीके से साकार करेगा?

None of the Above (NOTA) option is an electoral reform introduced by PUCJ vs Union of India case by Supreme Court in 2013.

Rationale behind NOTA:

→ with increasing malpractices and criminalisation of politics, it is necessary to give voice to disenchanted citizens.

→ It is a fundamental right under Art 19(1a) as freedom of speech and expression.

→ It is an option of active participatory democracy where dissent is expressed over other candidates.

NOTA is not right to reject, that is, even after maximum no. of NOTA votes, elections are not cancelled.

NOTA vs Right to Recall:

↳ NOTA just expresses rejection of other candidates with no outcome.

Right to recall is a method of dismissing a chosen & elected candidate from his office.

↳ Right to recall is a method of direct democracy, while NOTA ensures participative indirect democracy.

Right to Recall benefits in further democratisation:

↓
make freedom of speech more effective

↓
will bring inner party democracy

↓
will empower & aware citizens.

But this has certain challenges like
 ⇒ financial problems
 ⇒ over application of MCC
 ⇒ administrative challenges etc.

Thus, replacing NOTA with right to recall would not be a prudent step. Some measures like:

- ↳ right to recall for grave offences can be introduced,
- ↳ Maharashtra, Haryana state ECs have disqualified elections if NOTA is winner, and disqualified candidates getting lesser votes than NOTA, respectively.

Thus these progressive steps can be adopted.

For deepening democracy, we need more aware citizens and amalgamation of both NOTA and right to recall.

19. A sound legal framework, robust institutional mechanism for establishing rule of law, competent and dedicated workforce and decentralization and delegation are some of the necessary preconditions for good governance. Elaborate. (250 words) 15

एक सुदृढ़ विधिक ढांचा, विधि के शासन को स्थापित करने के लिए मजबूत संस्थागत तंत्र, सक्षम और समर्पित कार्यबल तथा विकेंद्रीकरण एवं प्रत्यायोजन सुशासन हेतु कुछ आवश्यक पूर्वपेक्षाएं हैं। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए।

Good governance is a form of governance where all the state and non state actors (NGOs, market) work in tandem to improve service & goods delivery and make the citizens empowered.

Pre-conditions for good governance

- ① Sound legal framework and robust institutional mechanism for establishing rule of law:

↳ Bringing transparency through Right to Information Act, 2005.

↳ starting accountability through e-governance like PRA GATI apps, social audit mechanism.

↳ Implementing DPSP through acts like → free & legal aid by NALSA Act, 1987, livelihood to all by MGNREGA act, 2005 etc.

↳ setting up citizen charter.

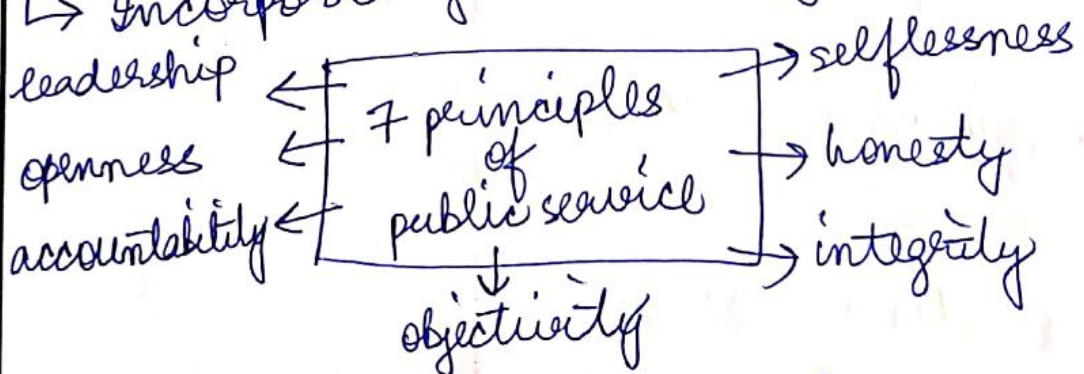
↳ forming vigilance bodies like Lokpal, CVC, CBI to check corruption.

② Competent & Dedicated workforce

↳ Role of bureaucracy has shifted towards developmental activities.

↳ Implementing welfare policies.

↳ Incorporating technology.



↳ 360° evaluation mechanism be present in all levels.

③ Decentralisation & delegation

- ↳ bottom-up approach ensures that public needs are well accounted for in policy making
- ↳ multi-level planning ensures participation of all stakeholders, thus providing legitimacy in governance process.
- ↳ delegation helps in demarcating specific roles & setting up accountability for all.

Thus 73rd amendment act, 1992; delegated legislation, environment impact assessment (EIA), rationalisation of CSS are some steps towards good governance.

Hence, all these features ensures sustainable development & good governance of a polity.

20. Highlight the need of citizen engagement in e-governance projects in India. In this context, mention the framework adopted by NeGP for citizen engagement. (250 words) 15

भारत में ई-गवर्नेंस परियोजनाओं में नागरिक सहभागिता की आवश्यकता पर प्रकाश डालिए। इस संदर्भ में, नागरिक सहभागिता के लिए NeGP द्वारा अपनाए गए ढांचे का उल्लेख कीजिए।

E-governance projects are those initiatives of government where information & communication technology (ICT) are used to deliver goods & services to citizens.

Need for citizen engagement in e-governance projects in India:

- ↳ with citizen engagement, there comes effective feedback of the government policies,
- ↳ citizen engagement make the outcome of policies more clear, moving towards participative democracy.
- ↳ It gives an option to the government to assess the status of its policies, & improve from evaluations.

→ static e-governance projects with no citizen partnership involves becomes similar to traditional methods where:

↓ ↓ ↓
corruption red-tapism top-bottom
breeds approach rules'

For, citizen involvement, the e-governance projects now are oriented with certain features. In this context, Ne GP (National e-Governance Policy) has brought dynamic shifts.

NeGP and its latest version E-Kranti 2.0 have involved features like:

- checking accountability through PRAGATI, E-Samiksha,
- making all functions, records in digital mode and to be accessed by public, eg digitisation of PDS,
- Shillong declaration focused on making e-governance more robust with more Government - Citizen features,

eg mygov.in helps the citizen to give feedback of various government initiatives.

↳ Urban and rural development also incorporating citizen involvement,

eg Smart Cities portal,
PARIVARAMBH app for rural road construction

↳ focusing on tele-edu, tele-health etc. eg SWAYAM, DISHA for teachers.

Thus, citizen involvement being sine qua non of e-governance must be ensured further with digital literacy and infrastructure development.