



ZETA IAS

 **CONTACT US**

9004928370

8850452151



www.zetaias.in



Telegram - zetaias

TOPPERS COPY

MADHAV AGARWAL

AIR 16, 2024 (GS-2)

Under the guidance and mentorship of Monish Bhawale sir, founder
of ZETA IAS and faculty for GS II, Ethics and Public Administration



**Address: 313 (third floor), 4-B Grover Chambers, PUSA Road.
Near Karol Bagh Metro station. Old Rajendra Nagar. NEW DELHI.**



ZETA IAS



CONTACT US

9004928370

8850452151



www.zetaias.in



Telegram - zetaias

Under the guidance of Mr. Monish Bhawale and Team.

ZETA IAS Mains 2025 Test Series

Individual attention+ personalised
mentorship

ZETA DAILY QUEST

ZETA MAINS MATRIX

ZETA ESSAY PRISM

ZETA "Z" MOCKS

- General Studies
- Public Administration



Madhav Agarwal
AIR 16



Sahil



Suranya Sharma



Gaurav Singh



Anurag Kumar

Your teacher will also be your mentor. We believe there is no divide between teaching and mentorship. Every test will be followed by an in depth discussion, designed to help candidates unlock their full potential

**Address: 313 (third floor), 4-B Grover Chambers, PUSA Road.
Near Karol Bagh Metro station. Old Rajendra Nagar. NEW DELHI.**

Day 1

Madhwa
Agarwal

Q1: The basic structure of the constitution is like north pole star but it just outlines the broader dimension such as rule of law, secularism, separation of powers, etc. due to which it is easy to bypass the basic structure. Analyse the above statement.

Recently CJI by Chandrachud regarded Basic Structure Doctrine as a 'North Star' guiding the interpretation of constitution. It is a doctrine that was developed under Keshwananda Bharti case 1973. It implies that there are certain aspects of the constitution that are cannot be amended and it forms the basic philosophy of constitution.

(eg: judicial review, etc)

There are certain sections of society that feel it is too broad and can be bypassed by using different legislative tools & wording. In this case, the acts are drafted in such a way so as to overstep basic structure.

This bypassing can shake the beliefs on which our forefathers & mothers designed our constitution more than 70 years ago.

उम्मीद है
एक सफल वे
बंद होगा
योग
Candidates
must not
write on
this margin

Moreover it would negate the idea of 'constitutionalism' (limited government). It would challenge the core beliefs on which our constitution is laid.

अर्थात् यह
एक मूल्य है
जो हमें
रखना
है।
Candidate
must not
write in
this margin

Despite above broadness of terms under basic structure doctrine, the part has shown it is not easy to bypass it.

(eg:) Minnu Mills case further expanded its ambit by including judicial review.

There are several sections of the society that argue both for and against this doctrine. In the larger picture, it must be understood the basic structure doctrine does not ~~not~~ undermine parliamentary power but rather tries to uphold constitutional supremacy.

Q2: Highlight the important parliamentary developments through various charter under British India.

After the Battles of Plassey (1757) and Buxar (1764) British government started passing various charter Acts to regulate the conduct of East India Company.

- (i) Charter Act 1773: Began as a first instance of centralisation of power by appointment of Governor General of Bengal.
- (ii) Pitt's India Act: brought a concept of dual government under Court of Directors and Board of Company. This divided powers among both with correspondences shared to British Parliament.
- (iii) Gradually the Charter Act of 1833 acted as a first step in power centralisation by appointment of Governor of Bengal as Governor General of India.
- (iv) Charter Act 1853: was the one where there was an initial development of a parliamentary form of governance.

उम्मीद है कि
यह सहायक
होगा।
Candidates
must not
write on
this margin

later the developments followed under the 'Crown Rule' post the Revel of 1857:

(i) Good Government Act of 1858: aimed to bring an answerable government, developed an Office of Secretary of State, abolished company, etc.

(ii) Council Act of 1861: brought about the concept of 'representation', decentralisation of power to other areas as well as portfolio system.

(iii) Council Act of 1892: brought recommendation for Legislative Council at Centre.

(iv) Government of India Act of 1909 brought Indirect election, while first direct election and dyarchy was brought under 1919 Act.

(v) The Act of 1935: provided provincial autonomy & envisaged an All India Federation.

Overall the transfer of power was reactionary and often used as a 'safety valve' to reduce effect of Indian National Movement.

अमेरिकी के
एक इतिहास
नहीं सिर्फ
कालि
Credibility
must not
write on
this margin

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
Q1:	Has constitution failed us or we have failed the constitution in protecting individual liberties in the country? 'We the people of India' are the starting words of Preamble which denote individuals to be the power source of constitution. Their liberty is protected via fundamental rights such as <u>Article 19</u> freedom of speech & expression, <u>Article 21</u> Right to life & liberty as well as <u>rights under Article 32</u>. Some would argue that constitution failed us because :- ↳ <u>legality and complex language</u> ↳ <u>lot of litigation due to differences in assumption (lawyer's paradise)</u> ↳ <u>Constituent Assembly being unelected.</u> However, Indian constitution has passed over <u>70 years</u> while the average age of constitution in world is only <u>17 years</u> which shows specifically matters.	

Date:

Question No.

UPSC

Topic

Remarks

Moreover, Constitution's "implementation" is key in right letter & spirit for protection of individual liberty which sometimes is the lacking aspect:-

- ↳ Legislations such as Schedule IX that seek supremacy of legislature over judiciary
- ↳ Judiciary which has lack of transference
- ↳ High pendancy (breaking liberty of individuals)
- ↳ Abuse of reasonable restrictions in Article 19 for political gains (eg) national security often evoked for Unlaw Act
- ↳ Executive denial of information under Section 8 of RTI.

We must note that constitution only gives a 'DIRECTION' but it is the people & social structure that will determine "how far" we will take it forward.

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
Q2:	Striking down of NJAC, by the SC is a "severe compromise" of parliamentary sovereignty and disregard of the "mandate of people". Critically discuss the above statement. (15m). The 99th Amendment Act which brought a National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC) was struck down by SC. The issue in conflict is of <u>Judicial Independence</u> vis-a-vis <u>Judicial accountability</u>. <u>Arguments that show above is compromise to parliamentary sovereignty:</u> (i) A full fledged passed by <u>both houses</u> with <u>due process</u> and given assent to by President (Article III) was struck down by judiciary. (ii) It shows how an <u>external organ</u> is taking review of <u>legislative</u> powers which undermines <u>Separation of Power</u>.	

Date:

Question No.

UPSC

Topic

Remarks

(iii) Parliament has right intentions to reform the ailing judicial system that lack transparency, high vacancies and is criticized of Uncle Judge Syndrome.

Arguments that it undermines 'mandate of people'

(i) The parliament is elected as representative by people unlike the judges which are unelected.

(ii) The undermining of ~~the~~ parliament is a direct violation of rights of people to have their say indirectly.

However, this is only one side of the story. The arguments put forward by judiciary

are:-

(i) It undermines judicial independence by role of Union Minister and two executives who can veto any decision of collegium.

Date:

Question No.

UPSC

Topic

Remarks

(ii) Such scenario may erode people's trust in justice which is seen as unbiased & free from interference.

(iii) It would lead to violation of Basic Structure Doctrine. (Under Kesavananda Bharati Case)

Between this tussle, the idea must be to focus on solution of problems.

↳ The same bench who turned down the Art acknowledged that problems do exist

↳ Memorandum of Procedure can be a starting point.

↳ A "broad based" NTAC rather than existing model ~~model~~ can be way forward.

↳ 2nd ARC suggested a National Judicial Council consisting of retired judges

The issue is sensitive and must be dealt with cooperation and consensus to ensure balance between Parliament's sovereignty and independence of judiciary

Qs 2

Day 10

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
Q1:	To strengthen the Election Commission is the need of the hour. Suggest measures to make it more impartial and independent. (10m). Election Commission ^{of India (ECI)} is a constitutional body (Article 324-329) which is entrusted with superintendence, direction and control of elections. <u>Strengthening ECI = need of the hour</u> (i) <u>Rising violation of Representation of Peoples Act</u> : in form of voting based on caste, fake news, using money muscle power. (eg) 88% Lok Sabha MPs are corrupts show role of money. (ii) <u>Criminalisation of politics</u>: started with over 43% MPs face criminal charges as per AAP. (iii) <u>Reducing faith of people in EVM</u>: Allegations of EVM have been made to undermine ECI. (iv) <u>Allegations on ECI for unfair decisions or biased approach</u> (eg) allowance of rallies during COVID.	

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
	This calls for urgent set of <u>reform measures</u>:- (i) <u>Legalisation of Model Code of Conduct (MCC)</u> for more teeth to ECI. (ii) <u>Security of tenure</u> to other Election Commissioners. (iii) <u>Independent administration</u> rather than reliance on States bureaucracy. (iv) <u>Charging expenses of ECI directly to</u> <u>directly to Constitution</u> for independence. (v) <u>Power to deregister political parties and</u> <u>disincentivise symbols.</u> ECI has <u>shown with removing photos of</u> <u>Hon. PM from public stations (petrol pumps)</u> as well as <u>highest voter turnout in 17th</u> <u>consideration that it is built of still.</u> Its impartiality & independence remains crucial <u>because elections are</u> <u>considered "bedrock of democracy"</u>	

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks

Q2: "CAG is the guardian of public purse and conscience keeper of the government for financial accountability". What are the challenges faced by the CAG in this regard? (15m).

Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) is the Supreme Audit Institution of India dealt under Articles 148-151 of constitution.

Role as a guardian of public purse and conscience keeper with respect to financial accountability:

- (i) CAG has the power to audit and comment on usage of funds by central & state governments.
- (ii) The funds of public are tested for legality as well as propriety (not more than what occasion demands).
- (iii) The audit of all 3 funds as well as the certification of tax amounts is done by CAG.

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
	(iv) through its reports it has <u>uncovered</u> <u>several scams</u> <u>ensuing</u> <u>accountability</u> (eg) 2g scam, Coalgate Scam, etc. (v) It support the <u>Public Accounts Committee (PAC)</u> <u>lead by Opposition</u> <u>parliamentary leaders</u> <u>to keep a check</u> <u>on executives' financial</u> <u>spendings</u> <u>Challenges faced by CAG</u> (i) <u>Post facto</u> <u>role</u> <u>played</u> <u>in audit</u> <u>unlike</u> <u>that of Comptroller in United Kingdom</u> (ii) <u>The reports tabled</u> <u>are having a</u> <u>delay of often</u> <u>more than 90 days</u> (iii) <u>The International Organisation of Supreme Audit Institutions (INSO-TAI)</u> <u>in 2012 report</u> <u>said overall quality</u> <u>of arguments in CAG's report to be</u> <u>lacking of evidence</u>	

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks

(iv) The CAG is appointed on recommendation of ex-officio & instead of a collegium or selection committee.

(v) The CAG does not have enough soft and hard infrastructure to audit all entities in a year.

(vi) CAG is often criticized of entering the policy domain instead of financial side.

Reforms that can be taken:

(i) A broad-based collegium to appoint CAG

(ii) Leverage technology to pick up audits. (e.g.) use of artificial intelligence

(iii) Strengthening the PAC so that role of CAG gets enhanced.

(iv) Time limits and action taken report for by the government.

CAG is an "accountability institution" and as Ex CAG Vinod Rai said accountability institutions can script the destiny of a NATION.

Q: There has been steady erosion of federalism and consensus and recently a new phenomena has emerged called as selective federalism. Discuss (10M).

उम्मीद है
आप इसे
सही ढंग
से
लिखेंगे
क्या
आप
क्या
लिखेंगे
क्या
लिखेंगे

India is a federal nation where power & resources are shared between the federal and the provincial units based on constitutional provisions. Federalism has seen different forms from cooperation, competitive to confrontation.

Evidence of steady erosion of federalism & consensus can be seen from:

- (A) Legislative Issues: Overall power of central list greater than state list (Schedule VII).
: 93rd Constitutional Amendment Act being struck down by Supreme Court partially (Cooperative = state subject).
- (B) Administrative Issues: Abuse of emergency powers by the centre (more than 100 times);
↳ Tussle between CBF and local forces or police versus Central investigation bodies.
↳ Misuse of position of Governor
- (C) Financial Issues:
↳ Excessive use of cess & surcharge
↳ Virtual veto present in GST Council.
↳ Borrowing limits under Article 293 being surpassed by states. (4) Kerala using separate body to borrow
- (D) Miscellaneous:
↳ Inter state disputes: Bellary dispute between Karnataka and Maharashtra.
↳ Centralised planning: allegations on NITI Aayog.

Moreover, a new phenomenon of 'selective federalism' has emerged.

↳ It means practice of sharing power and resources in a selective / subjective manner instead of being unbiased.

eg: Centre favouring states having their own ruling party and neglecting the opposition one.

↳ It can also mean focusing more on states that elections near by to gain political mileage.

The above confrontation & phenomena go against the idea of 'true federalism' and must be corrected by implementing suggestions of the Sarkaria & Punchhi Commissions.

↳ Many Inter State Council to solve disputes (Article 263)

↳ Reformation of role of Governor.

Overcentralisation can lead to blood pressure at centre and anaemia at periphery, hence both parties must follow "Team India" approach guided by mutual recognition & consultation.

उम्मीदवारों को
इस सीमा में
नहीं लिखना
पड़ता है।
Candidates
must not
write in
this margin

Thus it can be seen how states are of destructible nature unlike the Union. The case of Union being 'Indestructible' can be seen from:

(1) No state can secede from the India Union
(unlike the case of USA).

ii) For India to ~~secede~~ any of its territory
from a Constitutional amendment would become
necessary.

Overall, the test of our time would be to strike an overall balance between autonomy of provinces & national integration so that ~~not~~ India can prosper to become a developed nation by 2047.

Q: How 73rd & 74th Amendment sought to ensure financial independence of local bodies? (10M).

(Day 4 Polity)
(Madhvan to)

73rd & 74th Amendment Act are based on the Gandhian idea of decentralisation (Article 40, DPSP) and aim to transform India's representative democracy into a participative one. This has been done by devolving financial, legislative and administrative independence.

उम्मीदों से
एक क्षण के
एक क्षण के
एक क्षण के
Candidates
must not
write on
this margin

Provisions for financial independence:

- (i) Schedule XI (Panchayati Raj) and Schedule XII (Urban) both provide for devolution of taxation powers to local bodies.
- (ii) Different local bodies have been provided right to levy taxes eg: Rural body : Land revenue / fair taxes
Urban body : Property taxes.
- (iii) Local bodies are 'separate legal entity' and hence can borrow funds in their own name.
- (iv) The provisions of financial devolution are dealt by State Finance Commission under 74th Amendment Act.
↳ The above body provides, loans & grants to local bodies.

Q2: How

However, the financial independence envisaged is marred by multiple issues:

उम्मीदवारों को
इस कॉलम में
जवाब लिखना
है।
Candidates
must not
write on
this margin

- (i) Tied nature of funds make local bodies as mere implementing bodies.
- (ii) Share of local body revenue to GDP stand at 3% in India compared to 25% in China.
- (iii) Budgets of local bodies are often under approval authority of bureaucracy.
- (iv) State finance commissions (SFC) are often not constituted or their reports are not discussed properly.
- (v) Other alternate structures such as Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) -- have reduced powers of Urban Body.
- (vi) GST has subverted local taxes reducing their ownell pool.

In this regard, suggestions of devolving funds by activity mapping, regular Action Taken Report for SFC, adding newer powers, updating property circle rates etc must be undertaken at war footing to make our local bodies truly Atmanirbhar.

Q2: How effective has been the State Finance Commission in its constitutional mandate? (15m).

State Finance Commission are envisaged under the 74th Amendment Act. Their primary role is to ensure devolution of funds to lower levels.

कैंडिडेट्स को
इस कठिनाई में
कोई सहायता
नहीं मिलेगी
Candidates
must not
write on
this margin



Shortfalls in the role of SFC :-

- (i) Non-constitution: ~~often~~ Only 13 States constituted the 5th SFC, others operated without it.
- (ii) Bureaucracy: the composition is often bureaucratic which affects their independence & objectivity.
- (iii) Reports: Reports are either not tabled in State legislature OR not discussed adequately.
- (iv) State government: often have an upper hand in actual fund devolution, leading to a weak local base of Indian democracy.

↳ Lax attitude of government which does not submit Action Taken Report to assembly.

उम्मीदवारों को
इस सीट पर
नहीं लिखना
कलम
Candidates
must not
write on
this margin

(V) Procedural issues:

↳ often the report of SFCs are not in common format leading to reduced comparison.

↳ Lack of consultation with local bodies in setting their Terms of Reference.

(vi) Capacity lacking: Often the SFC lack necessary infrastructure and training to deliver their goals.

But one cannot conclude that all things remain bad:-

- (i) The success of local bodies in Tamil Nadu, Kerala, MP can be attributed to regular and consistent by SFCs.
- (ii) They act as an objective platform for discussion of local body issues (reduce state's role to certain extent).
- (iii) SFCs use their discretion to fund special projects based on needs of states (eg.) Irrigation, power or waste management.

In this regard there is need to further strengthen
State Finance Commissions :-

उम्मीदारी के
बिना कभी न
सही सिखा
सकिए।
Candidates
must not
write on
this margin

→ As per 2nd ARC 6th Report (Local Self Governance)

↳ SFCs must follow a common format.

↳ State government must submit Action Taken

Report within 6 months

→ Moreover, SFCs needs to be augmented with necessary
technology } infrastructure along with training:

→ Regular constitution of SFC must be ensured by

states

→ SFCs must be made independent from their
reliance on bureaucracy.

For local bodies to achieve the idea of Gandhian
democracy they would need regular flow of funds

and for that to happen we need reformed and

ignited State Finance Commissions, all across India.

Q: Judicial review is a vital principle of our Constitution and it cannot be abrogated without affecting the basic structure of Constitution. If by a const. amendment, the power JR is taken away, it would be nothing short of subversion of the constⁿ, for it would make a mockery of the distⁿ of leg power b/w Union & States and render the fundamental rights meaningless & futile. In the view of above statement, outline how JR ensured supremacy of the constitution and when it failed to do so? (15m).

Day 5
Madhavi
Agarwal

अभ्यर्थी को
यह ध्यान में
रखना होगा
कि
उम्मीदवार
क्या नहीं
लिखेंगे
उस पर
नोट लिखेंगे

Judicial review is a process by which courts pronounce constitutionality of actions of legislative, executives or their own actions. It remains a key principle having source from Article 13, 32/226 as well as 136 (special leave petition).

Judicial review as a vital principle of Constitution

- Part of Basic Structure doctrine via the Mandli Mills Case
- Ensures supremacy of constitution is maintained
- Ensures that all organs functions are linked by the constitution
- Safeguard rights of vulnerable sections by acting as guardian of fundamental rights.

Judicial Review = ensuring supremacy of constitution

- (i) Progressive and 21st century thinking: by striking down Section 377 which criminalised homosexuality.
- (ii) Expanded the scope of constitution: by advocating due process of law (Mandla Gandhi case) instead of freedom established by law under Article 21 of constitution.
- (iii) Protector of federalism: by bringing Article 356 (President's Rule) under judicial review via the SR Bommai case.
- (iv) Turned down legislative overreach: by sending 93rd Constitutional Amendment Act which breached legislative powers of state as cooperative = state subject.

The above avers that how it has been successful tool to protect constitution. But all is not well with judicial review.

उम्मीद है
एन सी ई आर
एन सी
Candidates
must not
write on
this margin

Failures of Judicial Review: -

- (i) Judicial Evasion: Inability to set up benches for sensitive cases such as Article 320, Citizenship Amendment Bill.
- (ii) Restriction to change: by tuning down the 99th Amendment Act based for NJAC - seems as closed mindset for ^{not} changing Collegium.
- (iii) Excessive intervention by acting like 'Super Legislative' which violates 'Separation of Power'.
- (iv) Review of oneself missing due to lack of Judicial accountability (4 core cases pending)

Judicial Review is a tool that must be protected and used in the right spirit

The ideals of constitution must be kept at highest pedestal while sitting upon it.

Q: Outline the similarities and differences of the Constitution of the world's democracy and world's largest democracy. (10m).

USA with its roots in American Revolution and India being largest population country are regarded as world's oldest and largest democracy respectively. Both of their constitution have certain overlaps as well as differences:

Similarities:

- (i) Federal setup of the polity with division of power.
- (ii) Fundamental rights in constitution of both sides. Bills of Rights in USA vs Part III in India.
- (iii) Written nature of constitution, as well as rigid in amendment.
- (iv) Two houses of parliament in India Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha & Lower House & Senate in USA.
- (v) Impeachment of President, Due process of law have been inspired from USA.

उम्मीद है
एन सी ई
की तरफ
से
Candidates
must not
write on
this margin

Differences:

उम्मीद है
एक ही पेज
में
कैंडिडेट्स
क्या कर
सकेंगे

(i) Strict separation of power followed in USA whereas Checks & Balance followed in India.

(ii) In USA Presidential system is followed with direct elections of President & Vice President. India followed more responsible ~~parliamentary~~ system with President as Nominal Head.

(iii) Judiciary is not integrated in USA as compared to India.

(iv) USA is regarded as Indestructible Union of Indestructible states while India is a Union of states.

(v) Federalism in USA is truly federal while India is quasi-federal.

(vi) Dual citizenship is allowed in USA while India.

This highlights how constitution even though based on common ideals have to well modified for their overall local reception & suitability.

Q: "The smooth functioning of state legislatures is dependent on its relationship with the dyine head of the concerned state and equation with the union government." Discuss the above statement in line of recent developments. (15m)

Day 06
Macklow
Agamwal

India is federal country with legislatures at two levels. At the state level it is headed by Chief Minister (who is defacto leader) but aided by Governor who is the dyine leader.

Linkage of state legislative functioning & relationship with dyine head (Governor)

(i) Governor of state has power to give assent to bills without which the bill does not become act. (eg: NEET Bill delay in Tamil Nadu).

(ii) Moreover, Governor can transfer the bill to President for his/her advice which can create frictions. (eg: Likhanant Governor of Delhi transferring Bills).

(iii) Governor can call for tests at its discretion which can unsettle any ruling government.

(eg: Government formation issue in Maharashtra).

(iv) Governor through its resources can call information from Council of Ministers at state and take necessary action thereof. (eg: Punjab Government refused to share information about schools to Governor).

उम्मीदवारों को
इस इलाक़े में
नहीं लिखना
चाहिए
Candidates
must not
write on
this margin

Linkage of legislative functioning & relationship with Union

उम्मीदों के
साथ रहिए
नई सफलता
आएगी
Candidates
must not
write in
this margin

(i) Under Article 356 and Article 365, the President can impose 'President's Rule' which can lead to dissolution of state assembly when approved by Parliament.

(ii) The states which are ruled by opposition party leaders often allege that they face issues in accessing resources (funding, food) etc.

eg: Distribution of oxygen cylinders during COVID.

(iii) Union government under Article 293 can impose restrictions of borrowing by state government affecting its functioning.
eg: Kerala Infrastructure Investment Board (KIIB) issue.

(iv) The role played by Central Armed Police force (CAPF) often gets into turf war with local police. eg: BSF conflicts with Punjab police.

(v) The Union government can influence functioning of state legislatures through financial nature of grants via Discretionary Grants of the Finance Ministry.

Despite above cases, it would not be completely true that the relationships are always sour. There are examples on other sides as well where cooperative federalism has shown its address.

उम्मीदवारों को
इस कक्ष में
गंभीर निम्न
लिखित
Candidates
must not
write on
this margin

(y) Resolution of disputes by Assam - Meghalaya along with Hare Ministry (x) the Tripura Ker Betwa Project between MP/UP/Union Government.

As far as possible there has to be smooth functioning of state legislature. This can be done via.

- (i) Punchhi Commissions - Governor tenure of 5 years, being political and outside of state; Reforms.
- (ii) Exercising powers under Article 356 cautiously.
- (iii) Consultation of disputes at forums such as Inter-State Council (Article 263).

The role played by state legislatures along with prime heads and Union government will remain pivotal in laying foundation of a 'Vishist Bharat'.

Q: The Powers, Privileges and Immunities of Parliament and its Members as envisaged in Article 105 of the Constitution leave room for a large number of un-codified and un-nominal privileges to continue. Assess the reasons for the absence of legal codification of 'parliamentary privileges'. How can this problem be addressed. (10m).

उम्मीद है
एक उत्तर है
यही उत्तर
होगा
Candidates
must not
write in
this margin

Powers & Privileges draw its sources from Article 105, judicial cases, conventions, etc. They have remained uncodified leading to issues of breach of Constitutionalism, lawmakers violating fundamental rights (Beachlight Case), etc.

Reasons for absence of legal codification :-

- (i) The legal codification would reduce the overall flexibility and make privileges rigid.
- (ii) It would bring the codified privileges under the purview of judiciary which can be another reason for tussle.
- (iii) Legal codification of privileges is a complex process due to vague nature of privileges and immunities.
- (iv) Lawmakers are the lawbreakers which can only exist until there are uncodified privileges.

(V) Weak role played civil societies to bring this issue into public discourse.

उम्मीदों से
एक प्रति है
नहीं निरा
संशय
Candidates
must not
write on
this margin

Ways to address the problem:

- (i) Codified privileges and immunities of parliamentarians around the world can be studied together and compiled.
 - (ii) Rather than complete codification, it can begin with codification of most used privileges to begin with.
 - (iii) Law Commission or any other Parliamentary committee can be tasked for its codification.
 - (iv) The help of retired judges and parliamentarians can be taken.
- THE UNCODIFIED PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES AT THE EVE OF 75th INDEPENDENCE ~~does~~ not augur well with the principles of constitutionalism. Hence they must be codified at the earliest.

Q:- Delegated legislation plays role in reducing the burden on parliament also provides flexibility in rules, acts, etc. What are the issues arising out of such useful tool and how to tackle these challenges so that executive don't override the parliament? (15m)

Day 07
Moolhan
Agarwal

Delegated legislation is a process by which the detailed rules and regulation of an act passed by parliament are prepared by executive. This is also called as 'Subordinate legislation'.

Even though delegated legislation has its own benefits, it can lead to following issues:-

उम्मीदवारों को
एक कॉपी में
नहीं लिखना
होगा।
Candidates
must not
write on
this margin

- (i) Violation of separation of power as executives are intruding into domain of legislative.
- (ii) The rules so made may allow enough discretion to mould the application of act in a desired manner.
- (iii) Executives can hold application of an law by not making desired rules and regulations.
(eg) No rules released for the Citizenship Amendment Act.
- (iv) The rules so made may not be well deliberated and may violate the rights of vulnerable sections.
(eg) Rules under Transgender People Act

denies the virtue of self Identity.

(v) Rules are the actual flesh of the process while acts are merely skeleton, this would ^{lead to} ~~be~~ concentration of power in hands of few.

(vi) The above matters become even more serious as India follows Weberian model of Bureaucracy which is regulated by rules itself.

In this regard, it becomes imperative to adopt following solutions to make things better :-

(i) The powers of "Committee on subordinate legislation" must be increased by providing it with increased staff, experts for evaluation of rules.

(ii) There must be a check on executives by the opposition parties to ensure they do not bypass parliament.

उम्मीदवारों को
इस स्थिति में
कोई लिखना
नाहीं
Candidates
must not
write on
this margin

(iii) Using informal 'parliamentary forums' to discuss and form these rules/regulations wherever possible.

(iv) Keeping the ideals of Preamble i.e. Justice, Liberty, Equality and Fraternity in mind while setting rules.

(v) e-governance must be used as far as possible to reduce role of rules.

(vi) Active role must be played by pressure groups and non-governmental organisations.

Through above solutions, we can ensure that Delayed legislation remain a useful useful tool while ensuring that parliament is not bypassed.

Q2:- Explain the process of the Introduction and the passage of Money Bill. (10M).

A Bill which exclusively deals with one or more matters enlisted under Article 110 of the Constitution is called as a Money Bill.

उम्मीदवारों को इस कठिनाई से नहीं निपटाना चाहिए।
Candidates must not write in this margin.

(eg) Bill dealing with Custody of Consolidated Fund or Contingency Fund.

Process of Introduction

- (i) The Money Bill can only be introduced in Lok Sabha (Special Privilege).
- (ii) The recommendation of President becomes mandatory before the bill is introduced in Lok Sabha.
- (iii) The bill is certified by Speaker as a Money Bill which can be challenged in court.

Passage of Money Bill :-

- (i) The Bill is first introduced in the Lok Sabha where it is thoroughly discussed and debated.
- (ii) The Bill is then passed by ordinary majority.

(iii) Post this, the same is sent for recommendations of Rajya Sabha. Rajya Sabha can only recommend but not amend the bill.

उम्मीदवारों को
इस कलम में
कोई लिखावट
करिए
Candidates
must not
write on
this margin

(iv) The time available for Rajya Sabha to suggest changes is 14 days. These changes are merely 'recommendation'.

(v) Lok Sabha can either accept or reject changes of Rajya Sabha and pass bill for assent of President.

(vi) President generally does not hold assent to Money Bill so it was introduced by his/her own recommendation.

Thus we can see how Money Bill provides greater say to Lok Sabha. Recently, a trend has emerged to use 'Money Bill route' to bypass Rajya Sabha. This must be curtailed

by restricting to provisions of Article 110.

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
Q:-	Explain the process for the removal of the judges of the Supreme Court. 10M. The constitutional articles dealing with apex court stand in range of <u>Article 124 to 147 of Part V of Constitution</u>. The process for removal of judges have been further detailed in <u>Judges Enquiry Act</u>. <u>Process for Removal of Judges</u>:- (i) a motion for removal of judge is moved by either 100 members of Lok Sabha or 50 in case of Rajya Sabha (ii) The same may or may not be accepted by the presiding officer. (iii) Once accepted, an ^{three member} enquiry committee to investigate allegations is set up led by Chief Justice of India, Judge and an eminent jurist.	

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
	(iv) Post the enquiry, the <u>report</u> is presented to the both the houses. (v) The removal motion has to be passed by <u>$\frac{2}{3}$rd majority of present & voting</u> by each house. Overall the process is <u>rigid and time taking</u> to ensure that the same is not misused. The sanctity of our judges can be understood from the fact that <u>no judge has ever been removed under the Indian constitution.</u>	

YOUR ZEAL • OUR EXPERTISE

Date:		Topic
Question No.	UPSC	Remarks

Q2: The structure of ministries and dept in India is the legacy of the British rule, such structure is unsuitable in a rapidly changing world today there is a need to abandon this structure and adopt a new structure. Elaborate the above statement. (15M)

The current structure of ministries and departments was established under the 'Portfolio system' proposed under Lord Curzon via the Indian Council Act 1861.

The aim of this structure was to ensure division of work and ensure that specialisation is prevailed.

However from the colonial era to new liberal era times have rapidly changed which make this structure unsuitable due to :-

(i) Slows decision making: more than 75+ ministries exist along with that different departments, wings and sections - overall slows action.

Date:

Question No.

UPSC

Topic

Remarks

(ii) Inter-ministerial conflict: due to overlapping
nature of work (eg) PESA Act leads to
turf war between ministry of Tribal Affairs and
Ministry of Panchayati Raj.

(iii) Siloed vision and functioning: operate in compartments
(eg) road right of way bought but televisions
fibre cables/fiber pipes not laid
leading to duplication.

(iv) Red Tapeism and bureaucratic hurdles
reduce ease of doing business.

All this make current system unsuitable
for today's changing time.

Proposal for a new structure: -

(A) Reforms in existing:

→ NCRWC recommended total ministers
to 10% of Lok Sabha (instead of 15%
cap by 94th Amendment Act).

Date:

Question No.

UPSC

Topic

Remarks

↳ Using Suspended Council of Ministers formed during COVID-19 to speed up decision making.

⑧ New Structure:

↳ can be deliberated by Administrative Commissions.

↳ Agile approach needs to be adopted instead of Baskett approach.

A strong and lean executive is the "Spearhead" that can transform Indian governance and push us forward towards inclusive growth and faster economic growth.

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
Q10-	Analyse the various issues faced by Indian Judiciary. (3 page). Judiciary acts as the <u>guardian of fundamental rights and custodian of constitution</u>. Its overall efficiency & functioning is directly correlated to social justice, inclusive growth & GDP growth. <u>Issues faced by Indian Judiciary</u> :- (i) <u>High number of pendency of cases</u>: As per National Judicial Data Grid, <u>approx 4 crore cases</u> are pending in India, most in the <u>lowest court</u>. (ii) <u>High number of vacancies & lower judges to population</u>: Currently India has 10 judges for 1 million compared to 50 judges per million recommended by Law Commission. (iii) <u>Opacity and non-transparency</u>: in appointment of judges due to closed <u>ad hoc "Collegium system"</u>	(15M).

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
	(iv) <u>Judicial evasion</u> : due to inability to form benches for sensitive cases. (v) <u>Roster system</u> : for allotment of judges to benches is opaque and often questioned. (vi) <u>Lack of budget</u> : overall Judicial budget stands at only $< 1\%$ of GDP. (vii) <u>Costly justice</u> : overall fighting case at the level of Supreme Court can cost lakhs leading to gap in justice delivery. (viii) <u>Several High Courts</u> : have not framed rules of RTI Act or charged heavy fees leading to inefficiencies. (ix) <u>At lower level</u> , use of <u>technology</u> has been minimal, combined with poor state of court infrastructure.	

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
	<u>This can solved via:</u> (i) <u>National Judicial Council</u> as suggested by <u>2nd ARC Report</u> (ii) <u>National Judicial Infrastructural Authority of India (NJIAI)</u> as suggested by CJI. (iii) Use of <u>Minute Dispute Resolution and plan</u> bargaining to reduce case load. (iv) Reform Criminal justice system (<u>Mamath Committee</u>) to speed up case delivery. (v) Use of technology at lower levels. ↳ e-courts 2.0 is a good step. A strong judicial system can act as a <u>"self correcting mechanism"</u> that can repair any challenge faced by democracy, for which above steps become important.	

Date:

Topic

Question No.

Remarks

UPSC

Q: What do you mean by Pressure groups? Do they always bring a positive change in the policy realm of the government? (15m).

A pressure group is involved in organising promoting and defending their 'common' interest. They are also called interest groups or vested groups.

Pressure Groups Types -

Institutional
Associational

(operate closely with the state)

eg. IAS/IPS associations

Associational

organised

Business group, trade union

Non
Associational

unorganised,

fractured without banner

Anomic
group

sporadic in nature

Pressure groups exhibit different features such as of an 'unofficial government' using both traditional and modern methods, represent a specific cause, etc.

They use different methods such as lobbying, Representation, Education, Political participation, etc.

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
	<u>Positive role played by them:</u> (i) <u>In Social Justice:</u> Naz Foundation fought to decriminalise homosexuality (section 377). (ii) <u>In environmental protection:</u> Fought against Sterile Copper plant by groups. (iii) <u>In protection of farmer interests:</u> Karnataka Milk Federation ensured fair price like of milk. (iv) <u>In economic development:-</u> Bodies such as FICCI & Confederation of Commerce Advocate from necessary taxation & budget reforms. (v) <u>In protection of Vulnerable:</u> Narmada Bachao Andolan led by Medha Patkar to ensure rightful compensation to displaced tribals.	

Date:		Topic
Question No.	UPSC	Remarks
	However, <u>all is not bright for pressure groups because</u> - (i) <u>Resistance to change</u>: progressive laws such as 3 farm Acts resisted without discussion. (ii) <u>Hinders diplomacy</u>: ^{damning ourselves} protested against India's entry to RCEP due to fear of cheap imports. (iii) <u>Usage of violent means</u> to deliver their argument. (iv) Pressure groups can also be a tool used by <u>non-state actors</u> to cause <u>blockage in development</u>. Like western nations pressure groups have to <u>transcend</u> and <u>move beyond</u> petty issues and contribute as the <u>4th pillar of constitution</u>.	

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
Q1:	The relationship of NGOs and CSOs with the state is that of '<u>cooperative conflict</u>' in the development discourse. Explain (10m) Both government and voluntary sector (NGO/CSO) form part of <u>different pillars of governance</u>. In post neo-liberal paradigms, their interaction is pivotal for growth but is both positive and negative. <u>Instances of cooperation:</u> (i) <u>Policy Advocacy</u>: done by different NGOs. ↳ <u>Environment</u>: Bird Census By BNHS. ↳ <u>Political</u>: PRS Legislative. (ii) <u>Policy Implementation</u>: Eg: Ashray Patra helps in POS scheme (iii) <u>Policy Evaluation</u>: done by different groups. Eg: Pratham NGO 'ASER' report on education (iv) <u>Mobilisation of resources</u>: during HADR, crowd funding during covid.	

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
	<u>Marked by conflict :-</u> (i) Less than 10% submit annual reports as per CBI (ii) Violation of <u>FCRA norms</u> and creating "<u>distortive</u>" development work (iii) But Used as tool by ^{TENA} state & non-state actors EXCELLENCE ACHIEVEMENT (iv) Seen as a new frontier of war by NSA <u>fight</u> <u>round</u> (v) Differences in <u>internal democracy</u> arises with diverse state <u>levers</u>. (impact operation). <u>Rajivram Rajan</u> saw <u>NGOs/CSS</u> as a <u>third pillar of development</u>. They must follow the <u>National Policy on Voluntary sector 2008</u> which expects transparency from <u>NGs</u> and regards <u>state</u> to take measures for cooperation with voluntary sector.	

Date:	UPSC	Topic:
Question No.		Remarks
Q2:	Explain the role of SHGs in engendering development in India (15m). Self Help Groups strengthened by the <u>Bank Linkage Program</u> are voluntary group who for have <u>common objective</u> and <u>similar social/eco. background</u>. With more than 80% SHGs women based, they play a <u>key role</u> in engendering development. <u>Role of SHGs in engendering development :-</u> (i) <u>Organised growth</u>: through formal structures and associated <u>eg</u> SEWA by Ela Bhatt. (ii) <u>Entrepreneurship</u>: to scale different ideas and turn them into <u>businesses</u>. <u>eg</u>: <u>Lijjat Papad</u> started from <u>Rs. 80</u> now a <u>800 crore</u> business. (iii) <u>Sense of self worth</u>: is ensured among women through SHGs. <u>eg</u>: loan/credit access on group basis.	

Date:

Question No.

UPSC

Topic

Remarks

(iv) Ability to bring change: in either social or environmental space.

(eg) SHGs used by state government to reduce child marriage.

(v) Access to resources: becomes a platform to access different resources and skills.

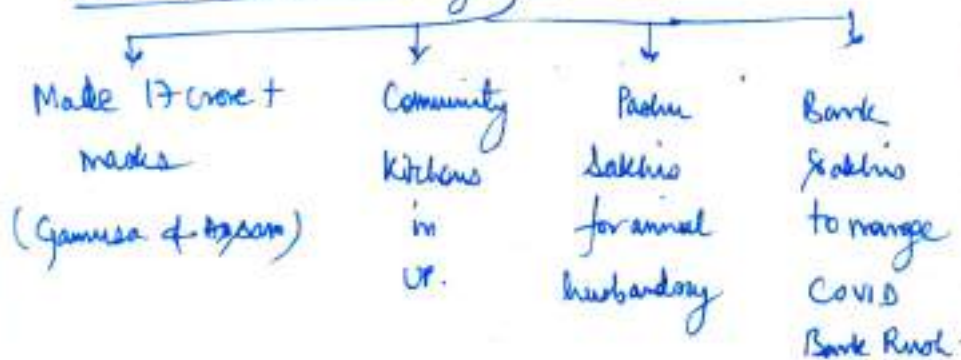
(eg) learning digital banking together.

(vi) Control over their lives: by become financially and psychologically independent.

↳ (eg) SHGs in Uttar Pradesh used paper plates made of leaves after ban on single use plastic.

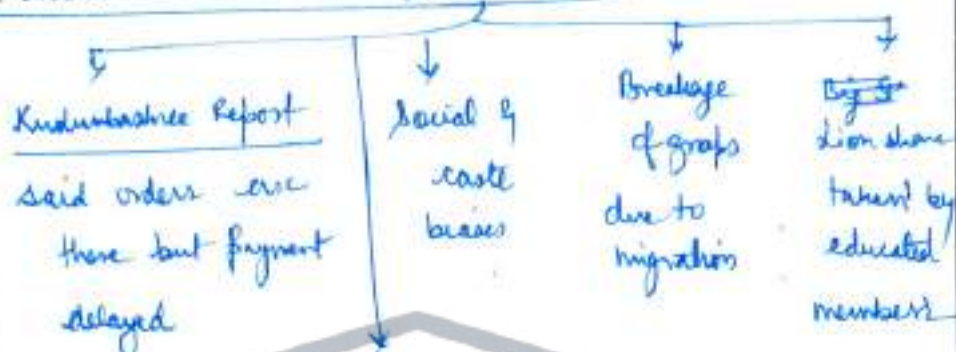
And not just above they played a

crucial role during COVID



Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks

However there are some issues:



systematic scrutiny
needed for microfinance
units

The solutions can revolve around:

- Bangladesh Grameen Bank Model
- Taking SHGs to credit deficient areas of MP, UP, CG.
- Upgrading and use of technology
- Regular assessment of microfinance.

Currently, there are 61 lac SHGs and government aims to increase them to 75 lac for developed India, ^{Hon.} PM Modi said SHGs need to be seen as National Nation Help Groups.

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
Q1:	<u>Analyse</u> the role of Jan-Dhan in promoting financial inclusion in India? (10m) Jan Dhan scheme is among the <u>flagship scheme</u> to Union government aiming to provide banking access to population via <u>no frills saving account</u>. <u>Role in Financial Inclusion:-</u> (i) <u>Banking the unbanked</u>: more than 10 crore Jan Dhan accounts have opened. (ii) <u>Securing the uninsured</u>: by providing a free accidental insurance to bankholders. (iii) <u>Used for Direct Benefit transfer</u>: which eliminates intermediaries and help targetted benefits. (Q) <u>500 per account</u> given to women Jan Dhan (Covid Stimulus)	

Date:

Question No.

UPSC

Topic

Remarks

(iv) Growth of savings :: as depositors get returns on term deposits.

(v) Access to credit :: by the account holders based on credit profile.

(eg.) loan to craftsmen, farmers.

(vi) Digital transactions provided via UPI, Debit cards, etc.

However, it has also seen some bottle

necks:

(i) Lack of use of accounts = being inactive in nature.

(ii) Misused as a tool during the demobilisation drive.

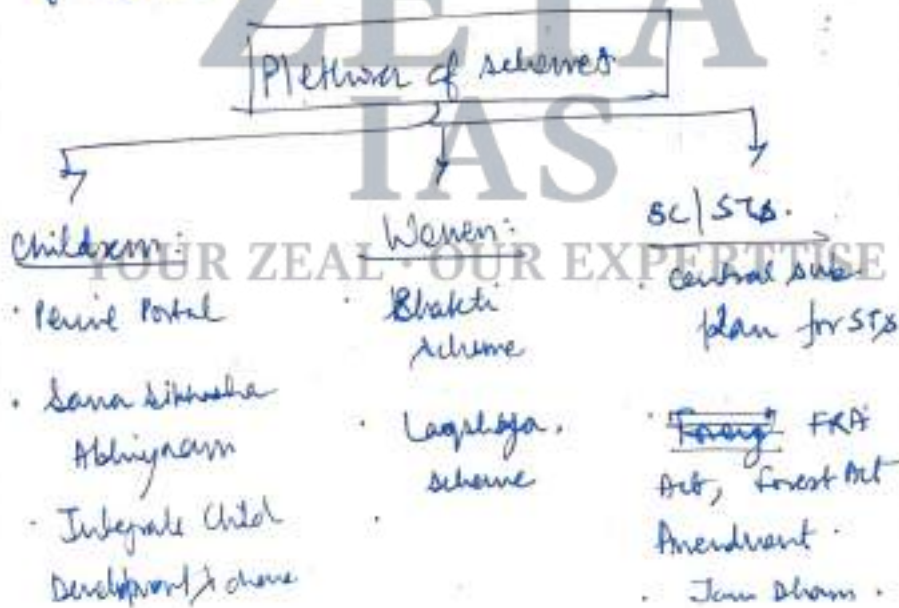
For further financial inclusion today we need build up on this scheme through awareness and training. This will allow Sabka Saath and Sabka Vishwas.

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks

Q2:

Despite so many schemes for weaker and vulnerable sections in India since independence, it continues to be at bottom of various developmental indices. Discuss.

India ranked at 131st rank on the Human Development Index, 101 at the Global Hunger Index and also low performance at Gender Gap Report. All these highlight to weakness in delivery of schemes to vulnerable sections.



Despite above, the rank at indexes rank below due to:

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
(i)	A lot of schemes creates thereby funding rather than targeted approach. (ii) Leakage of benefits due to corruption. (iii) Technological pitfalls. (eg) NITI Aayog Report - 1 in 3 payment in PM Matru Vandana in wrong account. (iv) <u>Fragmented policy making</u> leads to duplication and wastage of resources. (v) <u>Ineffective sensitisation of workforce</u> leads to apathetic attitude. (vi) Issues of <u>red tapism</u> reduces the benefit penetration at lower levels. (vii) <u>Lack of awareness of schemes created</u> for benefit of vulnerable sections. (viii) Inclusion/Exclusion error in schemes. (eg) POS based on 2011 census, (new joiners yet to be identified).	

Date:

Question No.

UPSC

Topic

Remarks

(ix) Issues of the widows:- lack of proper accountability, biased approach, not being comprehensive in question setting or sample collection.

Our focus must to be lay a society where vulnerable sections feel safe and advance ahead.

Solutions:

- Monitoring and evaluation of schemes (eg. PRAPTI portal)
- Good governance standards from different states/countries.
- Training to officers, sensitisation
- Awareness campaigns to spread message.

"When only some shine, India does not shine". We need to take all together on our road to developed country status by 2047.

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
Q1:	Examine the <u>mandate</u> of <u>Nat. Comm. for Women</u> and <u>how effective</u> it has been in <u>resolving issues</u> faced by the <u>women of country?</u> (10m). National Commission for Women (NCW) is a <u>statutory</u> formed under act of Parliament. Its <u>Chairperson</u> and <u>members</u> are appointed by Union Government. <u>MANDATE:</u> - Look into the <u>complaints</u> raised to its forum. <u>Investigate</u> the <u>matters</u> concerning women of different ages in India. - Take <u>suo-moto cognisance</u> of matters that harm the <u>dignity</u> of women. - Provide <u>suggestions</u> and <u>recommendations</u> to Union government for improving the status of women.	

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
	Effectiveness in solving women issues: <u>Successes:</u> → Took <u>suo moto</u> cognisance of the matter in <u>Hallwasi Rape case</u> - leading to <u>proper overview</u> / <u>supervision</u> → submitted reports concerning improving safety of women at work and public places. <u>Areas of Issues:</u> → Patriarchal attitudes by the <u>chairperson</u> go <u>antagonistic</u> to idea of <u>NCW</u> → Vacancies in <u>NCW</u>, irregular appointments → Reports not discussed leading to violation of right of women <u>Recommendations:</u> <u>Only voluntary</u> with no power to enforce To further improve the status of women, NCW need urgent filling of vacancies, more teeth as well moral reforms within itself. <u>(min)</u>	

Date:	UPSC	Topic:
Question No.		Remarks
Q2:	Analyse the vulnerability of <u>LGBTQIA</u> community in India. Should there be a National Commission for LGBTQIA? LGBTQIA community is a group of people having <u>heterogeneous</u> sexual identities. Due to their <u>difference</u> from traditional view, they become most vulnerable. The group includes <u>lesbian</u>, <u>gay</u>, <u>bisexual</u>, <u>transgender</u>, <u>queer</u>, <u>intersex</u>, <u>asexual</u> identities. <u>Vulnerabilities</u>:- (i) <u>social exclusion</u>: from the traditional and conservative society. (eg) transgenders live away from own home. (ii) <u>Homophobia</u>: developed a narrative where it is seen as a <u>disease</u> instead of choice. (eg) seen as a <u>mental disorder</u>.	

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
	(iii) <u>Human rights abuse</u>: denied their identity, not allowed to express publically, physical abuse of community. (iv) seen as (iv) <u>Economic exclusion</u>: As per NHRC, 96% + transgender faced exclusion from economic opportunities and are forced to indulge in beshai, sex work. (v) <u>Expensive sex alignment treatment</u> and surgeries. (vi) <u>Ghost citizens</u> with no major grants/ trade union backing them. (vii) <u>Wrong portrayal</u> by media houses - in movies and TV serials. <u>Need for LGBTQIA's National Commission :-</u> The above vulnerabilities call for a special commission to enable:	

Date:

Question No.

UPSC

Topic

Remarks

Separate
Commission

→ Fast track resolution of
complaints

→ Conduct proper studies and
data collection

→ Lead programs for their social
rehabilitation

NHRC is
already
overburdened.

Under the Right of Transgender Persons Act,

"National Council for Transgender" has been

created. I believe the scope of the
same can be widened to include whole

LYBTQIA+ community. Further steps under

Yogyakarta Principles must be taken at

war footing.

In the long run our Article 14/15

can widened to include prohibition of discrimination

based on 'sexual identity' as done in

Constitution of South Africa.

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
Q1:	"India needs a renewed health care system which focus on the core lessons from the pandemic and rebuild trust in public health". Elaborate. (10m) COVID pandemic was litmus test of health care system. It acted like an X-ray revealing its various shortfalls: Overdependence on private sector. Focus on curative care. Regional disparity in spread of resources Poor spending leading to disparity of soft & hard infrastructure ∴ Thus we need to take following lessons and rebuild health care system: (i) <u>Regionally spread health care</u>: one that promotes inclusive growth. (eg) <u>PM-ABHIJAN scheme</u> for hospital at every block.	

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.	Remarks	
	(ii) <u>Focus also on preventive care</u>: People who were physically fit could recover earlier from COVID. (iii) <u>Spending in health care research and expenditure</u>: to predict and analyse upcoming for ^{for} potential pandemics. (iv) <u>Insurance penetration</u>: to ensure hardships in financial sense are reduced. (currently less ^{more} than 50% insured) (v) <u>Increasing overall spending</u> in healthcare to 8% of GDP as recommended by 15th Finance Commission. (vi) <u>Mock drills</u>, <u>training</u> to hospital staff for ease of services. <u>Trust</u> is a <u>public good</u> which is necessary to ensure good governance and hence achieve <u>SDG 3</u> (good health & well being)	

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
Q2:	In the light of issues and challenges in higher education, Is it right to move towards hire education based higher education? (15m). The current poor state of <u>gross enrollment ratio</u> of 26% at higher education calls for <u>serious introspection</u> for this level. (compared to 50% in USA). <u>Issues & Challenges faced:</u> (i) <u>Unemployable graduates</u>: ^{India Skilling} As per report, only 47% graduates are employable. (ii) <u>Low quality of education</u>. ^{YOUR ZEAL: OUR EXPERTISE} focusing more on rote learning and theory rather than dynamism. (iii) <u>Colleges are not accredited</u>: Only 14% colleges are accredited by <u>NATAC</u>.	

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
	(iv) <u>Poor performance in rankings</u> - as per QS World Rankings, only 3 Indian universities in top 200. (v) <u>Low focus on innovation</u> - overall less spending on R&D. (vi) <u>Gender disparity</u>: Only 17% women go for STEM courses (NITI Aayog). (vii) <u>Tussle for funds among central and state universities</u> - both blame the other or funds taken up by premier institutes like IIT, IIMs. (viii) <u>Governance by archaic traditions and laws</u>.	
	<u>Moving to high education based higher education</u> Our focus has to be one where :- (i) We are able to create <u>skilled graduates</u>. and	

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
	(ii) Enough well paying jobs for the upcoming graduation. Without adequate jobs, graduates having degree will <u>remain unemployed</u> leading to wastage of human capital. Government has taken various Missions, Steps such as Skill India, EQUIP 2.0, Institute of Eminence or opening up for Foreign Universities. The <u>way ahead</u> lies in quality based education, focus on higher ED, partnership of academia and business to harness demographic dividend which will uncover when we achieve 50% GER Target as per <u>New</u>. <u>Education Policy 2020</u> ∴	

Date: Question No.	UPSC	Topic Remarks
Q:	The key to achieve SDGs is to <u>combat poverty in a multidimensional way rather than looking poverty only food security (10m).</u> The multidimensional poverty for India stands at <u>28%</u> as per <u>UNDP</u>. This calls for a <u>relook to approach SDG 1</u> <u>No Poverty</u> <u>Initial / Current approach:</u> ↳ looking to poverty as a micro cause of hunger only. ↳ leads to focus on provision of food and other resources (eg: <u>PDS system</u>). But as per <u>Amartya Sen</u>, poverty is not just lack of income/food but lack of <u>voice & choice</u> to leading a meaningful to life.	

Looking multidimensionally to achieve

Sog 1:

- (i) Development of human capital through Quality Education & skilling (Sog 4)
- (ii) Universal health care - affordable and accessible to curb cyclical poverty due to high charges.
- (iii) Provision of financial inclusion to ensure they can access various benefits (eg. via Jan Dhan Yojana).
- (iv) Providing ease of living and ease of getting justice through free legal aid by NALSA.

Our aim at 2047 must not be to just eradicate poverty rather our goal must be to bring "prosperity" to all in diverse ways.

Date:

Question No.

UPSC

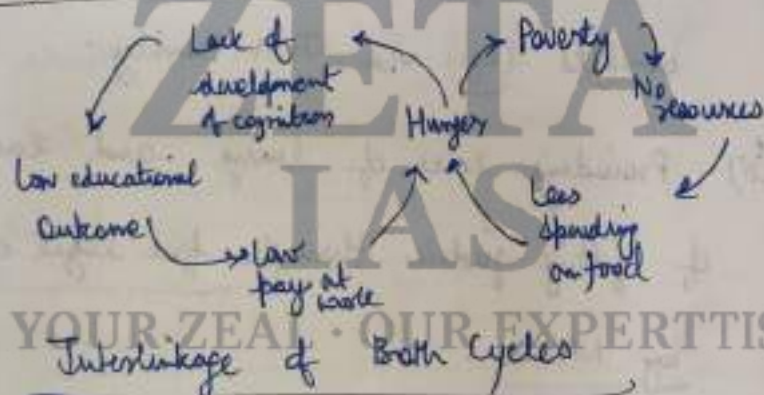
Topic

Remarks

Q: "Poverty and Hunger are self enforcing vicious cycle. ⁽¹⁾ to break this cycle ⁽²⁾ multidimensional ⁽³⁾ role is needed by multiple sectors". ⁽⁴⁾ (15m).

The first two SDG goals are SDG 1
No Poverty and next is SDG 2 Zero
Hunger, this shows the gravity of
these social evils and their importance.

Self enforcing vicious cycle:-



(i) India has a poor ranking on
Multidimensional Poverty at 23% as
well as Global Hunger Index ranking
of 101st.

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
	(ii) Regions with high state of poverty also have poor nutritional outcomes. (eg.) High poverty in Bihar, = low BMI Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh High Total Fertility rate. (iii) Poor person finds himself in a <u>Poverty Trap</u> which is difficult to beat without state support. (iv) Hungry person or child has lower ability to learn or perform at work leading lower income for the family.	
	<u>Multi dimensional</u> role to break the cycle. (i) <u>Agriculture sector</u>: need bottom up reforms to make the sector viable. ↳ Take out disguised labour through provision of skilled jobs.	

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
	(ii) <u>Education sector</u>: Use these sector to convert sufferers into a <u>Human Capital</u> (iii) <u>Health Sector</u>: Provision of healthcare and <u>insurance</u> to reduce out of pocket expenditure. (iv) <u>Hunger</u>: to be seen broadly by not just food access but also eradication of <u>hidden hunger</u> (lack of micro-nutrients). (v) <u>Strengthen anganwadis and increase resources with ASHA workers</u> (vi) <u>Target the most vulnerable - via Aspirational Blocks Program (500 blocks).</u> Thorough rapid focus we have been able to remove <u>271 million people</u> out of poverty and reduce stunting from 50% in 2001 to 35% today. This needs to be taken further as India shines when everyone shines.	

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
Q1:	CM conference of 1996 is considered as landmark for accountability and transparency in India. (10m). CM conference of 1996 is often quoted as watershed and enabler of good governance in India. Topics of different kinds were discussed such as state of governance, state - centre issues, civil service reforms. However, most prominent was the outcome of <u>CITIZEN CHARTER</u>. Citizen Charter is a written document that outlines standards of time, quality and nature of public service. It is based on the premise that <u>"CITIZEN IS KING!!"</u>	

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
	<u>How conference created accountability and transparency:</u> ↳ Stimulated a discussion at various forums for good governance ↳ Secretaries were advised to formulate a <u>design for Citizen Charter</u> based on the <u>UK Model</u>. ↳ Ushered a wave of 1000s of citizen charter. (eg) <u>Charter of Railways</u> - covers details of days of claiming refund, grievance redressal in trains, etc. Overall this conference <u>boosted value of governance</u> by incorporating <u>choice for citizen</u> and <u>accountability for the governance machinery</u>.	

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
Q2:	What do you mean by social audit? How it transformed accountability in India? Social audit is a process to examine utilisation of public resources by an authority by the public. It leads to <u>social accountability</u>. This ensures that authority does not misuse public resources, performs its tasks/duties and promote good governance. (eg) Social Audit under MGNREGS scheme. <u>Transformed Accountability:</u> (i) Earlier only vertical and horizontal accountability was in place but now social accountability has been created. <pre> graph TD Seniors --> Changed[Changed] Peers --> Changed Changed --> PeopleLed[people led.] </pre>	

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
	(ii) <u>Direct participation</u> of people rather than through democracy, makes <u>democracy participative</u>. (iii) Constant vigil and check on the authority makes him/her follow the rules. (iv) Accountability has now become more <u>decentralised</u>. (v) The check is <u>quicker</u> due to being at the ground level. (vi) <u>Verification</u> of performance is <u>more</u> realistic due to <u>clarity</u> of people to the project outcome. <u>However</u>, there are some issues too: (i) People are <u>unaware</u> of their rights. (ii) Lack of <u>transparency</u> (<u>rejection of RTI</u>) leads to social audit <u>powerless</u>.	

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
(iii) People refrain from acting against their close people (eg) won't complain about 'panchayat' due to close relations. Thus we need <u>adequate steps</u> to boost social audit (i) Proper training to people. (ii) Use of civil societies to make people aware of rights. (iii) <u>Meghalaya</u> - first state to bring a law to enforce social audit. (iv) Strengthening RTI Act - based on recommendations of 2nd ARC 1st Report With other forms of accountability like Cuckoo, RTI becoming weak, social audit stands as a <u>watchdog</u> for <u>ensuring good governance</u>		

Date:	UPSC		Topic
Question No.			Remarks
Q1:-	Highlight the difference between <u>E-govt.</u> and <u>E-governance</u> and discuss <u>any</u> <u>one</u> <u>successful</u> <u>e-gov. projects</u> in India (10m) E-government and e-governance are often used interchangeably but they are different.		
<u>Basis.</u>	<u>E-GOVT.</u> ZEAL EXCELLENCE	<u>E-GOVERNANCE.</u> TENACITY ACHIEVEMENT	
<u>Meaning</u>	Taking basic operations of government online	Transforms the whole governance mechanisms through use of <u>I.C.T.</u>	
<u>Scope.</u>	Narrow in scope	Wider and includes - e-govt. as one of the type along with G2C, G2B mechanisms.	
<u>Role of Business Process Reengineering</u>	Not applicable	Extensively used.	
<u>Example</u>	Merely sharing govt. decisions online.	E-gov would be to transform decision making via data analysis.	

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks

One successful - e-gov initiative

The creation of "COWIN Platform" is a major recent success of India's e-governance.

Reasons:

- transparent and real time
- Vaccination status of more than 200 crore
citizens.
- Data and time trail
- Used as an open source technology
by the other nations
- When developed nations like USA had
paper system, we went Paperless.

This shows the power of innovation & e-governance, which when got combined allowed India to run largest vaccination program for the world

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
Q2:	To what <u>extent</u>, e-governance can ensure <u>transparency</u> and <u>accountability</u>. Is it the <u>ultimate pill for corruption</u> in India. (15m). As per 2nd ARC 11th Report, e-governance is carrying out and achieving the objectives of governance using Information Communication technology. It links people, resources and technology. <u>Ensuring Transparency:</u> (i) e-governance <u>removes the physical interface</u> between public and authorities. (eg) <u>online status of passport</u> at MEA website (ii) <u>Real time</u> updation of information to people. (eg) <u>e-NAM</u> real time prices of agri-goods.	

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
(ii)	<u>Large Volumes of information</u> can be shared and processed online quickly. (eg) Data Framework by NITI Aayog. <u>Ensuring accountability:</u> (i) A <u>trail of record</u> is set up for the acts of people making them more <u>accountable</u>. (ii) Higher levels can have <u>greater control</u> on chain of command. (eg) <u>PRAGATI</u> to monitor status of schemes. (iii) Sanctions can be imposed on those who <u>don't perform well</u>. (eg) <u>e-HRM</u> under Dept. of Personnel. However, e-governance cannot be said to be ultimate fill — (i) It has its <u>own flaws</u>. ↳ systemic loopholes used to fudge data online.	

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
	(ii) Collusion of maker and checker can create desired trail. (iii) e-governance is expensive and requires high initial investment. (iv) Ultimately it is the <u>morals of those in power</u> to use the means of e-governance well. <u>Thus ethics do matter.</u> Thus. As no system is perfect, we must adopt changes to make e-governance better ↓ Establish National Enterprise Architecture (eg. Singapore One) ↓ Ethical training of Officers ↓ Nagpur resolution must be adhered. In today's era of 4th Industrial revolution, data and demographic dividend, e-governance can be a potent tool to turn coming decade into <u>"India's Techade"</u>.	

Date:	UPSC		Topic
Question No.			Remarks
Q:	Discuss the <u>functioning of citizen charter</u> in India. What <u>more measures</u> are needed to make it <u>more effective</u>? (10m). Citizen Charter is a <u>written document</u> that outlines an organisation's <u>commitment</u> to types, <u>quality</u> and <u>timing</u> of service delivery. <u>Positive functioning of Citizen Charters.</u> <u>Case Study:</u> Charter of 'Railways' regarded as one of the finest. Covers services of <u>time for refund</u>, <u>complaint numbers in each coach</u> for <u>cleaning</u>, <u>bed rolls</u>, etc. <u>It has led to:</u> - Value for taxpayer's money - Standard Service - Choice for the people - Transparency & Grievance redressal.		

Date:

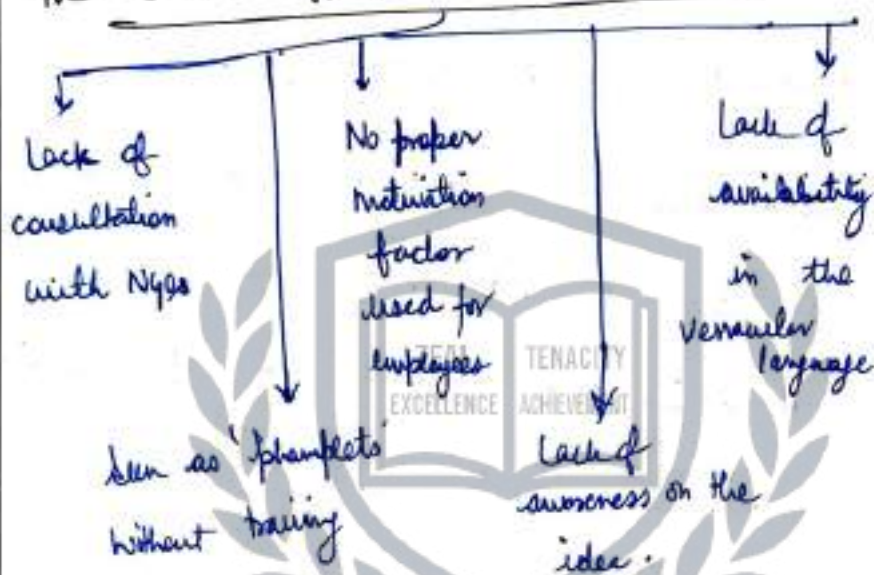
Question No.

UPSC

Topic

Remarks

However, despite 1000s of citizen charters the overall effectiveness is low because:



Measures suggested by 2nd ARC 12th Report
'CITIZEN CENTRE ADMINISTRATION'

- Availability in multilingual format
- training to officers and no transfer during creation of charter to ensure completion.
- Motivational factor on lines of UK Model
- Allocation of funds for greater awareness

Citizen Charter is a means to put the ideology of "CITIZEN FIRST".

Date:

Question No.

UPSC

Topic

Remarks

Q:

Analyse the functioning and effectiveness of Lokayukta in acting as a deterrent against corruption. (15m).

Lokayukta are ~~the~~ ombudsmen that operate at state level to check corruption and reduce unfair practices in public good delivery.

Functioning of Lokayukta. :-

- (i) Interview on proceedings of alleged corruption acts.
- (ii) Amid covers wide range of actors from political executive to the civil servants.
- (iii) Different tools to regulate public service.
(eg.) Submission of assets by the people covered to Lokayukta.

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
	(iv) Look into the <u>complaints</u> written to it by people (v) Protection of identity of complainant to deter harassment. <u>Effectiveness:</u> Overall the institution has been marred by <u>several issues</u>: (i) <u>Non-formation of Lokayukta</u> by several states. (ii) <u>Reports not discussed</u> or tabled before state assembly. (iii) Large number of <u>inconclusive</u>. (iv) The ones filled are often of <u>bureaucratic background</u> of members. (v) Do <u>not</u> take up matters proactively <u>summarily</u>.	

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
	(vi) Lack of <u>effective powers</u> to punish the charge-sheeted / guilty functionary. To improve our ranking at the <u>Corruption Perception Index</u> which stands at <u>86th</u>, we must (1) Provide <u>proper teeth</u> to the Lokayuktas. (2) <u>Uniform coverage</u> of functionaries to reduce arbitrary acts. (3) <u>Independent experts</u> of variety of fields to be deployed. (4) State assembly must submit <u>Action Taken Report (ATR)</u> for recommendations. Lokayuktas are the <u>quadrant</u> guardians of good governance and once established can usher a '<u>VIKSI BHARAT</u>' on <u>war footing</u>.	

Date:

UPSC

Topic

Question No.

Remarks

Q:

What role does civil services play in strengthening and sustaining democracy in India? (10m).

Civil services is regarded as the 'Steel frame' of democracy by Sardar Patel.

Positive role in strengthening and sustaining democracy:

- (i) Ensure continuity of administration even after regime change (Ramsay Muir)
- (ii) Acts as a face of government to enable last mile service delivery.
- (iii) Behind the smooth conduct of elections at regular intervals.
- (iv) Ensure law and order in the state and allow people to prosper.

Date:

Question No.

UPSC

Topic

Remarks

(v) Channel for grievance redressal of common citizens (eg) via Citizen charter.

(vi) Promote inclusive growth by adopting wider interests at policy formulation stage.

(vii) Provides a platform for other players such as market and civil societies to function properly.

(eg) Ease of doing business, DRRON Portal for NCPs funding.

However, the bureaucratic mindset can sometimes resist change, lead to hoarding of authority and citizen dissatisfaction.

For this necessary reforms under 2nd Arc 4th Report as well as NTI Rayag's

India@75 must be adopted.

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
Q2:	In the light of the imminent Industry 4.0, if the civil services do not transform itself it will not only make civil services institution irrelevant but also acts as a <i>cul de sac</i> in country's development. In the light of above statement should civil services be reformed or abandoned altogether. Justify your view. (15m) Industry 4.0 unlike its predecessors has been faster and pervasive for all sectors including civil services. Without transformation may make the service irrelevant → No longer agile to adapt to dynamic environment ↓ Artificial Intelligence can make routine desk jobs redundant. → IR 4.0 requires <u>real time response</u> rather than red tapeism	

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
<u>Acting as 'catalyst</u> <u>for</u> <u>country's</u> <u>development</u> <u>Unable to</u> <u>respond to</u> <u>the market</u> <u>which</u> <u>is adopting IR. 4.0 rapidly.</u> <u>Become a 'blocking cog'</u> <u>due to being unskilled.</u> <u>(eg.) Robots as workers in automobile sector</u> <u>Reform or abandoned altogether.</u> <u>The idea must be to reform the</u> <u>service rather than completely abandoning</u> <u>because:-</u> <u>(i) They act as a solid foundation</u> <u>for democracy to operate.</u> <u>(ii) Can enable directive and regulated</u> <u>growth of IR. 4.0 to avoid</u> <u>misuse.</u> <u>(iii) Completely doing away can lead</u>		

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
	to suboptimal outcomes. <u>Reforms that are needed :-</u> (i) <u>Analyse proactively</u> the extend to which IR 4.0 would impact governance. (ii) <u>Training, skilling and continuous upskilling</u> to match the needs. (iii) <u>Autonomy in operations</u> by altering redundant rules. (iv) Using <u>lateral entry</u> as a means to fuel new innovative talents. (v) <u>Institution establishment</u> - such as National Institution of Public Administration and ARC 4th Report. The culture of <u>'perform or perish'</u> has been brought by IR 4.0. The service must now be <u>'agile and responsive'</u>.	

Date:	UPSC	Topic						
Question No.		Remarks						
Q:	Highlight the <u>key aspects of Gyal Doctrine</u> in light of <u>India's relationship with immediate neighbours</u>. (10m) Gyal doctrine is a foreign policy approach towards our neighbours. It was put forward by <u>former PM I. Gyal</u>. <u>It forms</u> <table border="1"><thead><tr><th>Key aspects</th><th>Relationship with immediate neighbours</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>(i) Non-interference into domestic matters.</td><td> - Do not intervene directly into Myanmar's crisis. - Try to maintain relationship with all factions of the country - Be it Nepal, Maldives, etc. </td></tr><tr><td>(ii) <u>Non-reciprocity</u> (expecting nothing in return)</td><td> - Largest official donor to Bhutan - Vaccine Maitri - and help for medicines during COVID. </td></tr></tbody></table>	Key aspects	Relationship with immediate neighbours	(i) Non-interference into domestic matters.	- Do not intervene directly into Myanmar's crisis. - Try to maintain relationship with all factions of the country - Be it Nepal, Maldives, etc.	(ii) <u>Non-reciprocity</u> (expecting nothing in return)	- Largest official donor to Bhutan - Vaccine Maitri - and help for medicines during COVID.	
Key aspects	Relationship with immediate neighbours							
(i) Non-interference into domestic matters.	- Do not intervene directly into Myanmar's crisis. - Try to maintain relationship with all factions of the country - Be it Nepal, Maldives, etc.							
(ii) <u>Non-reciprocity</u> (expecting nothing in return)	- Largest official donor to Bhutan - Vaccine Maitri - and help for medicines during COVID.							

Date:

Topic

Question No.

Remarks

UPSC

- Help of aid of Sri Lanka
(food, fertilizers, meds).

(iii) Territorial
Integrity
(Wholeness of one's
territory)

- Solving disputes through
bilateral dialogues

- Showing of ships maps
with contested areas
No unilateral change of
status quo.

- Boundary Agreement with
Bangladesh to solve
legacy issues.

(iv) Not allow one's
territory to be used
for terrorism

- Counter-terrorism
via SAARC

- Joint Military
exercise BMSTEC.

YOUR ZEAL . OUR EXPERTISE

The policy still forms a basis of
our "NEIGHBOURHOOD FIRST". India must
provide adequate support to neighbourhood
to ensure stability, prosperity and security
to the region.

Date: Question No.	UPSC	Topic Remarks
Q:	The <u>EU</u> is benchmark for neighbourhood relations. What are the <u>roadblocks</u> in having such relations in India's subcontinent. (15m). Neighbourhood relations have remained central for foreign policies of countries around the world, this city providing different models for adoption. <u>EU Model as a benchmark.</u> (i) Based on a <u>common identity</u> of European culture. (ii) <u>Joint decision making</u> and articulation of interests by people through <u>common parliament</u>, same monetary policy. (iii) Non-restricted <u>flow of people</u>, <u>goods and capital</u> among the region. (<u>Schengen Visa</u>) (iv) Common foreign policy stance in various forums (eg: <u>EU as member of the G20</u>)	

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
	Even though the model is unique, it faces several roadblocks: - (i) <u>No single factor that binds together except geography</u>. - each country has own culture/ language and beliefs. (ii) Differences in <u>historical narratives</u> block any sort of cooperation. (iii) Each country has <u>different economic status and standard of living</u>. <u>Bhutan</u> = green GDP; <u>India</u> = 5th largest economy; <u>Sri Lanka</u> = facing economic crisis (iv) <u>Strong sense of nationalism</u> which comes before regional identities. (v) <u>Failure of organisations</u> such as SAPRC, SASEC, BIMSTEC. (eg) <u>SAPRC FTA</u> had limited gains <u>: BBIN Highway</u> yet to take off.	

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
	Our MINISTER. (vi) <u>S. Jaishankar</u> said India suffers from <u>unintegrated region</u>, <u>unresolved disputes</u> and <u>underexploited opportunities</u>. (vii) Attitude of '<u>BIG SCOTTER</u>' due to <u>asymmetry in relations</u>. <u>Way Ahead</u> : (i) Use <u>trade and economic</u> investments as a binding factor. (ii) Exploit <u>energy potential</u> of region = solar in Afghanistan, hydel in Nepal, Pakistan. (iii) Revival of <u>SARC</u> for building a <u>South Asian Identity</u>. (iv) Regular <u>people to people</u> exchanges to forge connectivity. Our journey to becoming a <u>Asian and world power</u> is incomplete without <u>integrated region of our neighbourhood</u>.	

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
Q:	BIMSTEC was considered as an alternative to SAARC but the obstructionist approach by Pakistan, BIMSTEC has failed to realise its potential. Analyse (10m). BIMSTEC is a regional grouping of <u>seven</u> members formed in <u>1997</u>, together bound by the <u>Bay of Bengal</u> region. <u>Alternative to SAARC</u> SAARC was formed in <u>1985</u> but failed to realise its fullest potential due to <u>obstructionist approach of Pakistan</u>. ↓ Use of 'terror' as a tool of diplomacy eg: Pothohar attack ↓ Bilateral relationships made to supersede group's interest ↓ Denial of access. eg: No access to Afghanistan via land. Thus idea of <u>BIMSTEC</u> was layed down with <u>added members from the South East Asia (Myanmar & Thailand)</u>:	

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
	<u>Deficits, BIMSTEC failed to realise potential:</u> (i) <u>The charter document</u> was finalised after <u>23 years</u>. (ii) <u>Lack of summit level meetings</u> regularly only 3-4 have happened. (iii) <u>Asymmetry and alleged Big brother Attitude.</u> (iv) <u>Lack of consensus</u>: slow progress of BBIN Highway due to Bhutan's denial. (v) <u>China factor takes over decisions.</u> ↳ Nepal did not participate in joint defense exercise. (vi) <u>Diverged focus</u>: ↳ of India on SAARC ↳ of Thailand on ASEAN. India must build upon recent engagements in both the forums. BIMSTEC remains crucial as it represents <u>22% of world's population</u> and <u>2.6 Trillion dollar of GDP.</u>	

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
Q:	"With <u>geopolitical volatility</u> of 2022 set to continue in 2023 along with the fears of <u>global recession</u>, such international order leaves India with little room for comfort". Discuss. (15m). The <u>decade of 2020s</u> has been particularly <u>volatile</u> in terms of <u>foreign diplomacy</u>. Impact at one place is having ramifications on other due to inter-dependencies and linkages. <u>Volatility of 2022 continuing in 2023.</u> ↳ <u>Russia Ukraine conflict</u>, becoming a frozen war ↳ <u>Fed rate hike</u> along with other banks to control inflation. ↳ <u>Global recession</u> due to disturbance of supply networks. ↳ <u>Churn in West Asia</u>: with formation of Abraham Accords, I2U2.	

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remark
	↳ Major economies specially developed ones expecting negative or near zero growth. ↳ Arms race and boost to weaponisation. Above leaves India with little room: (i) Russia Ukraine conflict has led to sudden hike in prices of <u>major commodities</u> like crude oil, edible oil, fertilizers. (ii) Rate hikes lead to <u>'flight of capital'</u> to safer locations. (iii) <u>Exports</u> led growth of sectors like <u>software</u> and <u>petroleum products</u> might get hampered. (iv) <u>Supply chain shocks</u> affecting domestic programs such as Production Linked Incentives and MSMEs. (eg.) global semiconductor shortage.	

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
(v)	Remittances of diaspora (which amount to <u>over \$100 bn</u>) is expected to fall.	
(vi)	Continuance of <u>conflict in Russia-Ukraine</u> making our current <u>G20 presidency</u> underfocused.	
(vii)	Arms race and <u>rearmament</u> - leads to shift of resources from human developmental areas.	
<u>Way ahead</u>		
→ Must build on new partnerships to boost trade and security like QUAD, I2U2. → Ensure stability of economy by providing fiscal and monetary stimulus. → Export to newer regions (eg: wheat to Egypt).		
India must leverage its <u>G20 leadership</u> to achieve <u>Vaandev Kumbhakaran</u> by reducing ills of global volatility.		

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
Q1:	Recently India - Japan celebrated 70 years of diplomatic relations. Highlight the <u>key initiatives and cooperations</u> between the two nations (10m). India - Japan are <u>two Asian democracies</u> who have <u>never been adversaries</u> and share <u>deep cultural linkages</u>. <u>Key Initiatives and cooperations</u> Ⓐ <u>Bilateral front:</u> (1) Japan as the <u>largest official donor</u> for India. (2) Transfer of technology and joint development of <u>Bullet train</u>, <u>Economic corridor</u> as well as development of <u>North East India</u>. (3) Joint HADR and defense exercises eg: GARUDA, <u>2+2 dialogue</u>. (4) <u>Buddhism diplomacy</u> as a soft power tool.	

Date:

Question No.

UPSC

Topic

Remarks

(B) Regional level:

↳ Together run Africa-Asia Growth Corridor (AAGC) for regional approach to development of Africa.

(C) Global level:

↳ India supported Japan led supply Chain Resilience Initiative

↳ Part of grouping such as QUAD, G4 (for UNSC reforms).

↳ Role played by Japanese central bank governor in Asian Development Bank.

Both nations have large complementarities (old population of Japan vs young India) as

well as common challenges which call for greater synergy among the two natural friends in Asia.

Date:	UPSC	Topic								
Question No.		Remarks								
Q2:	What is the <u>significance of G20</u> in the <u>current geopolitical situation</u>? What are the <u>key aspects of BALI Declaration 2022</u>? (15m). G20 is a global grouping of 19 nations and European Union. India currently leads the <u>troika</u> as a President during global geopolitical turmoil. <u>SIGNIFICANCE of G20:</u> <table><tr><th><u>Geopolitical situation</u></th><th><u>Significance of G20</u></th></tr><tr><td>(i) Crisis in Russia & Ukraine</td><td>Use this platform to <u>promote dialogue and diplomacy</u></td></tr><tr><td>(ii) Growing conflicts in all parts such as W. Asia, Africa</td><td>Message of <u>Vandev Kumbhakam</u> to <u>spread peace</u>.</td></tr><tr><td>(iii) Lawlessness in terms of cyberterrorism, cyber laws, etc</td><td>Use <u>working groups</u> to create a <u>global synergy</u>.</td></tr></table>	<u>Geopolitical situation</u>	<u>Significance of G20</u>	(i) Crisis in Russia & Ukraine	Use this platform to <u>promote dialogue and diplomacy</u>	(ii) Growing conflicts in all parts such as W. Asia, Africa	Message of <u>Vandev Kumbhakam</u> to <u>spread peace</u> .	(iii) Lawlessness in terms of cyberterrorism, cyber laws, etc	Use <u>working groups</u> to create a <u>global synergy</u> .	
<u>Geopolitical situation</u>	<u>Significance of G20</u>									
(i) Crisis in Russia & Ukraine	Use this platform to <u>promote dialogue and diplomacy</u>									
(ii) Growing conflicts in all parts such as W. Asia, Africa	Message of <u>Vandev Kumbhakam</u> to <u>spread peace</u> .									
(iii) Lawlessness in terms of cyberterrorism, cyber laws, etc	Use <u>working groups</u> to create a <u>global synergy</u> .									

Date:	UPSC		Topic
Question No.			Remarks
(iv)	Bilateral Issues among several players be it US- China, or India - China	can act as an avenue to <u>promote side talks</u> to foster ties.	
(v)	Tackling issue of inflation and rate hikes.	Using coordinated approach among major central banks.	
(vi)	Under-representation of global south	Act as a voice of global south. (eg: Call to include African Union in G20.	
(vii)	Problems of climate change and extreme events like forest fires	Call for One Earth, One Planet and One Future approach.	
Key aspects of BAI Declaration 2022.			
(i)	A call to promote peace, dialogue and territorial integrity.		
(ii)	Adopt an approach to stimulus by		

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
	countries that do not burn the developing nations. Overall G20 can be a key pillar to display India's diversity, diplomatic prowess as well as Indian soft power at this point of global geopolitical churning.	

ZETA
IAS

YOUR ZEAL • OUR EXPERTTISE

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
Q1:	Analyse the <u>functioning</u> of <u>WTO</u> and to what extent it has been able to protect the <u>interest</u> of the <u>developing country</u> like India? (10m). World Trade Organisation is a global UN body aiming to facilitate <u>global trade</u> based on <u>rules based order</u>. <u>Functioning of WTO</u>: - Minister level meetings every two years - Decisions taken by a <u>consensus</u> <u>Dispute resolution</u> among countries. <u>Favourable role of WTO for India</u>: (i) Protection of special and differentiated treatment for developing nations. (ii) Special safeguard mechanism as well as peace clause to protect the domestic agricultural subsidies.	

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
	(iii) Resolution of disputes with which India does not have FTA eg: USA (dispute over solar panels subsidy) <u>Unfavourable role of WTO:</u> (i) <u>Platform of dictat</u> by developed countries over developing (eg: failure of Doha Agenda) (ii) <u>Dispute resolution</u> - being blocked by USA by not appointing judges (iii) <u>De-globalisation</u> is being promoted by multilaterals, WTO + approach (iv) <u>Failure of rule weaponisation of supply chain</u> by several players WTO needs serious reforms to such as definition of developing, disclosure of notification requirements, dispute resolution to save itself from crisis of confidence it faces today.	

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
Q2:	What is the <u>need for enhancing India's engagement with South African Development Community</u> and what are the <u>challenges</u> in this regard? (15m). South African Development Community (SADC) is a <u>grouping of South African countries</u> who <u>cooperate on</u> <u>wide areas</u> of trade, culture, agriculture, etc. <u>Need for enhancing India's engagement:</u> (i) SADC works in tandem with <u>African Union</u> and can <u>facilitate regional dialogue</u> (ii) <u>Promote mutual needs of both sides</u> (eg: <u>Branding dryland agriculture</u>) (iii) <u>Build upon partnerships with South Africa in groupings such as G20, BRICS, IBSA.</u>	

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
	(iv) Boost economic trade and investments in the region. (eg:) <u>Role of Airtel in Africa</u>, automobile companies of India. (v) Promote connectivity to boost cultural ties with our <u>diaspora</u>. specially the old diaspora. (vi) Convergence on global challenges of <u>climate change</u>, UNSC reforms. <u>Challenges on the way:</u> (i) <u>Lack of high level political visits</u> among both sides (ii) The idea has remained <u>stagnant</u> due to irregular <u>summit level meetings</u>. (iii) <u>Issues of connectivity</u> that act	

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
	as a hurdle to promote ties. (iv) Trade has remained around few minerals and agriculture. (v) Role played by other countries such as <u>China</u> creating <u>scramble for Africa 2.0</u>. <u>Way forward:</u> ↳ Revive the <u>Summit level meetings</u> ↳ Use relations with <u>African Union</u> to leverage ties. ↳ Take a <u>regional approach</u> with like minded countries such as <u>Japan</u>. India can be a <u>best partner</u> for SADC as issues taken up India are mutually defined and partner led.	

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
Q:	Highlight the key <u>tasks</u> <u>functions</u> and <u>achievements</u> of UN Eco Soc. (10m). ECOSOC or UN Economic and Social Council is <u>one of the six primary</u> <u>organs</u> of the United Nations. <u>Functions of ECOSOC</u> (1) Acts as a <u>coordination body</u> for all UN related agencies such as WHO, UNESCO, World Food Program, etc. (2) Divided into <u>10 functional commissions</u> focusing on different areas. (eg) <u>Comm. on Status of Women</u> Comm. on Drug and Psychotropic Substances (3) Five <u>regional panels</u> - covering members around the world. (eg) UNESCAP - for Asia and Pacific region.	

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
	<u>Achievements of Ecosoc.</u> (i) Acts like a <u>binding thread</u> and has <u>reduced coordination issues</u>. (ii) Adequate focus on <u>all regions</u> <u>approach</u> by different regional panels. (iii) Provided <u>opportunity to members</u> to raise voice on various areas. (eg.) India as the chair of Comm. on Status of Women, Population, etc. (iv) Keeps a <u>watch over different UN Bodies</u> YOUR ZEAL · OUR EXPERTTISE Even though Ecosoc has worked well, there is a scope to reform by reducing bloated bureaucracy and duplication of work.	

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
Q.	How does <u>Indian diaspora</u> play a unique role in the global system? (13m) As per <u>World Bank Report</u>, India has one of the largest diaspora totalling to about <u>30 million</u>. <u>Types of Diaspora</u> <pre> graph TD A[Types of Diaspora] --> B[Old Diaspora] A --> C[Gulf Diaspora] A --> D[New Diaspora] </pre> Playing a Unique role in global system (i) <u>Political Role</u>: people of Indian origin are now spread across biggest political tables across the world. → US Vice President = Kamala Harris → UK PM = Rishi Sunak. → Leaders from = Guyana, Fiji, Caribbean Nations, etc. Help India grow diplomatically.	

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
	(ii) <u>Economic</u> : ↳ Provide <u>remittances</u> to the tune of <u>\$ 100 Bn +</u> ↳ Leading as CEOs of <u>major Corporates</u> - eg: Sundar Pichai @ Google Alphabet - Satya Nadella @ Microsoft	
	(iii) <u>Social</u> : ↳ <u>Social remittances</u>: in terms of cultural exchanges and mixing. ↳ <u>Soft Power</u>: spread of Indian cuisine, language, festivals, etc. - eg: Hindi taught at schools in US, New York schools to have <u>DIWALI</u> holiday.	
	(iv) <u>Promote Brand India and attract investments</u> : ↳ Become an <u>ambassador</u> for India. ↳ <u>NRI deposits</u> and FDI for India's growth.	

Date:	UPSC	Topic
Question No.		Remarks
	However, unique role curtailed by challenges: ↳ <u>Human Right Violations</u> in West Asia (eg: passport confiscation, arrest, ↳ Wave of <u>Nationalism</u> going against immigrants. ↳ <u>VISA issues</u>, Brain drain, etc. <u>Government steps</u> such as: ↓ - Pravasi Bhartiya Divas - Know Your India Scheme - PIO Parliament & VAKA Scheme have been crucial to further build on our <u>diaspora diplomacy</u>. Diaspora needs and issues must be dealt with priority as they act as <u>"LIVING BRIDGE"</u> between India and the world.	



ZETA IAS

 **CONTACT US**

9004928370

8850452151

 www.zetaias.in

 Telegram - zetaias

ZETA IAS Mains 2025 Test Series (Offline + Online)

ZETA DAILY QUEST

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
GENERAL STUDIES

ZETA MAINS MATRIX

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
GENERAL STUDIES

ZETA "Z" MOCKS

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
GENERAL STUDIES

ZETA ESSAY PRISM

Many aspirants who were previously stuck in the Mains stage not only cleared it but also secured top ranks under the guidance of Mr. Monish Bhawale - Founder of ZETA IAS and faculty for GS II, Ethics, and Public Administration.

**Address: 313 (third floor), 4-B Grover Chambers, PUSA Road.
Near Karol Bagh Metro station. Old Rajendra Nagar. NEW DELHI.**