

# NEXT IAS

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Registration Number :	Date of Examination :		04/08/23
Exam Centre :	Old Rajinder Nagar <input type="checkbox"/>	Bhopal <input type="checkbox"/>	Online <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Test - 2

Time : 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Code : TC072

## MTS IGP Batch 2023

### GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

This Question-cum Answer (QCA) Booklet contains 56 pages. Immediately on receipt of the booklet, please check that this QCA booklet does not have any misprint or torn or missing pages or items, etc. If so, get it replaced by a fresh QCA booklet.

Candidates must read the instructions on this page and the following pages carefully before attempting the paper.

Candidates should attempt the questions strictly in accordance with the instructions specified in the question paper and in the space prescribed under each question in the booklet. Any answer written outside the space allotted may not be given credit.

Question paper will be provided separately and can be taken by the candidates after conclusion of the exam.

SUBJECT/PAPER  
GENERAL STUDIES

Invigilator's Sign. : .....



(For filling by Examiners only)

Evaluator Code :

Q.No	Pg No.	Maximum Marks	Marks	Total
1	1			
2	3			
3	5			
4	7			
5	9			
6	11			
7	13			
8	15			
9	17			
10	19			
11	21			
12	24			
13	27			
14	30			
15	33			
16	36			
17	39			
18	42			
19	45			
20	48			
Grand Total				

Signature

MACRO COMMENTS



## IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS

CANDIDATES SHOULD READ THE UNDERMENTIONED INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY. VIOLATION OF ANY OF THE INSTRUCTIONS MAY LEAD TO PENALTY.

### DONT'S

1. Do not write your name or registration no. anywhere inside this Question-cum-Answer Booklet.
2. Do not write anything other than the actual answers to the questions anywhere inside your QCA Booklet.
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### DO'S

1. Read the Instructions on the cover page and strictly follow them.
2. Write your registration number and other particulars, in the space provided on the cover of QCA Booklet.
3. Write legibly and neatly, Do not write in bad/illegible handwritings.
4. For rough notes or calculation, the last two blank pages of this booklet should be used. The rough notes should be crossed through afterwards.
5. If you wish to cancel any work, draw your pen through it or write "Cancelled" across it, otherwise it may be evaluated.
6. Handover your QCA Booklet personally to the invigilator before leaving the examination hall.

Q.1

जन प्रतिनिधित्व अधिनियम, 1951 की धारा 8 में उल्लिखित नियोग्यता प्रावधानों में उपस्थित अस्पष्टता का समाधान करने की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

There is a need to resolve the ambiguity in the disqualification provisions under section 8 of the Representation of People Act 1951, Discuss. (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks.

Section 8 of Representation of People's Act, 1951 provides for various disqualifications of MPs as:-

Section 8(1): Convicted for promoting enmity between groups / bribery.

Section 8(2): Convicted for corruption / disloyalty in government service.

Section 8(3): Convicted for > 2 years.

Need to Resolve Ambiguity

① Very broad terms like 'bribery', 'enmity' leads to potential misuse.

② Conviction for > 2 years can be even for relatively lesser crime.

Eg:- Defamation.

- ③ Trials are held in court which is time taking. Eg:- Fast Track Courts for MPs gave result only in 11.1. cases -
- ④ Doesn't bar heinous crime convicted MPs  
Eg:- Rape, Murder if not convicted.

### What is Needed

- ① Disqualification if charged for offence with punishment > 5 years - NCRWC, 2000.
- ② Clearly specifying crimes in line with today's demands. Eg:- No need to consider Sati today but data leaking, profiling can be included.

Section 8 of RPA, 1951 will have to balance people's representation with ensuring Rule of Law is upheld for MPs.

Q.2

संविधान मात्र एक कंकाल है जबकि संविधानवाद लोकतंत्र की आत्मा है। विवेचना कीजिए।

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

Constitution is a mere skeleton whereas constitutionalism is the soul of democracy. Discuss.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks.

Constitution is a legal document, which provides a framework for country's governance system.

Constitutionalism on the other hand ensures constitutional supremacy - limited govt. powers, checks & balances, etc.

### Constitution AS Skeleton

- ① Provides basics like Fundamental Rights, Directive Principles, etc.
- ② Provides for governance system like Council of Ministers (Ar. 74), High Court powers (Ar. 226), etc.
- ③ Provides other principles like SC/ST



Reservation (Ar. 330) .

## Constitutionalism As Soul

- ① Limiting government powers: Eg:- Fundamental rights can be amended only by amendment.
- ② Checks & Balances: Courts can declare law / order as unconstitutional (Ar. 13).
- ③ Parliamentary Control Over government:  
Question hour, Adjournment motion, etc.
- ④ Ensures wisdom, regulatory & legal  
consideration in govt. spending — CAG,  
Public Account Committee, etc.

Hence, while "constitution provides framework, constitutionalism ensures its proper implementation by keeping check on government"  
— SC in IR Coelho Case (2007)

Q.3 'चुनावी बॉण्ड एक दोधारी तलवार है, जो दानकर्ताओं को अनामिता प्रदान करता है जबकि राजनीतिक वित्तपोषण में पारदर्शिता के बारे में चिंताएँ बढ़ाता है।' चुनावी बॉण्ड ने किस सीमा तक चुनावी वित्तपोषण में अपारदर्शिता को वैध बना दिया है? (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

"Electoral bonds are a double-edged sword, providing anonymity to donors while raising concerns about transparency in political funding." To what extent have electoral bonds further legitimized opacity in electoral funding? (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks.

Electoral Bonds are a type of promissory note which can be issued to public / corporates for raising funds for political parties.

Increased Opacity in Funding

- ① 70% of funding to national parties from 'Unknown Sources' with 90% from electoral bonds. (Association For Democratic Reforms).
- ② Parties don't need to disclose donor if amount < Rs 2000  $\Rightarrow$  Public cannot know quid-pro-quo.
- ③ 90% electoral bonds > Rs 1Cr  $\Rightarrow$

influence of few corporates & HNIs.

④ Bonds deposited in SBI Delhi Branch  
 ⇒ Govt. controlled ⇒ undue advantage  
 to ruling party.

⑤ Subsidiaries of foreign companies can  
 contribute ⇒ Global influence in elections.

However, it has positives

① KYC norms with banks ⇒ donor identity  
 can be established if needed.

② Anonymous donation decreased Rs 20,000  
 to Rs 2,000.

What is Needed

① Election Commission should have the  
donation details → make it public

② Partial state funding (Indrajit Committee) -

Supreme Court have upheld

the legality of Electoral Bonds in 2022.

Q.4

समान नागरिक संहिता पर बहस के केंद्र में लैंगिक समानता का प्रश्न है। इस आलोक में यूसीसी को संविधान में निहित लैंगिक समानता के साथ सामंजस्य स्थापित करने में क्या चुनौतियाँ हैं? (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

The question of gender equality is central to the debate on Uniform Civil Code. In this light what are the challenges in reconciling UCC with gender equality as enshrined in the constitution?

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks.

Article 15 of constitution prohibits discrimination on grounds of sex thus establishing gender equality. UCC seeks to further gender equality by uniformizing personal laws.

Challenges in reconciling UCC with Gender Equality.

① Diverse personal laws: Muslim law allows marriage at puberty ~~is~~ (~16 years) v/s 18 years under Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006.

② Will not change mindset: Eg:- Sabrimala women entry ban existed even with Right to worship to women.

- ③ UCC won't provide educational, employment opportunities for women which is needed to achieve gender equality.
- ④ Acceptance by public might be slow as it would be external enforcements v/s internal empowerment.
- ⑤ Gender equality needs other focus areas - Sexual, Reproductive empowerment, transgender stigma alleviation, etc.

However, UCC will at least start the transformation to gender equality. It can be implemented along with other measures like skilling, social empowerment, etc. to achieve true gender equality.

Q.5

‘राज्यपाल का कार्यालय न तो आलंकारिक है और न ही अप्रासंगिक है, यह गहन सारयुक्त संवैधानिक भूमिका निभाता है’ राज्यपाल, किसी राज्य के शासन में किस सीमा तक सक्रिय रूप से योगदान देता है और देश में संघवाद के सिद्धांतों को सुदृढ़ करता है? (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

‘The Governor’s office is neither decorative nor inconsequential, it assumes a constitutional role of profound essence’ To what extent does the Governor, actively contribute to the governance of a state and reinforce the principles of federalism in the country? (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks.

In India, the office of Governor ensures India remains a federal state with Unitary bias i.e. quasi-federal.

### Role of Governor in Governance

- ① Approval of bills, can even withhold if it endangers public interest.
- ② ~~Determining~~ Chancellor of all universities - can shape education of state.
- ③ Responsible for appointing Chief Minister, dismissing council if lost majority, etc.
- ④ Govern state via Chief Secretary in case of President's Rule (Ar. 356).

## Role of Governor in Federalism

- ① Upholding asymmetric federalism: Deciding extent of applicability of Parliament laws in 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> schedule areas.
- ② Determining amount to be paid as royalty to autonomous district council of tribal areas.
- ③ Ensuring cooperative federalism: State Bills like restriction on trade & commerce (Ar. 301) can be introduced only by Governor consent.

Hence, Governor plays an important role in federalism. It can be made even more impartial & ineffective by appointing apolitical person as governor — Sarkaria Commission.

Q.6 हाल ही में एक राज्य में सामाजिक जवाबदेही कानून बनाने को लेकर माँग उठ रही है। इस तरह का कानून किस प्रकार सुशासन की ओर ले जा सकता है और निर्णय लेने में नागरिकों की भागीदारी को कैसे बढ़ावा दे सकता है। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

Recently demand has been rising in a state regarding the enactment of Social Accountability Law. How such a law can lead to good governance and boost citizens' participation in decision-making. Comment.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks.

## Social Accountability Law

refers to government agencies being directly accountable to public. Eg:- Social audit of MGNREGA.

### Improved Governance, Citizen Participation

- ① Direct accountability ⇒ quicker actions by govt. Eg:- MoSarkar initiative of Odisha government.
- ② Increased awareness among citizens about standard of service delivery, accountability measures, etc.
- ③ Can lead to voicing of on-ground issues directly.



- ④ Increased focus on decentralized bodies (3<sup>rd</sup> tier) as they are closest to citizens.
- ⑤ Reduced corruption, nepotism, etc. due to constant watch.
- ⑥ Better utilization of initiatives like Citizen Charter, etc.

### Way Ahead

- ① Empowering citizens: Citizen charters via apps, Jan Sookha Portal (Rajasthan), etc.
- ② Training of civil servants to work with public ~~via~~ via Mission Karmayogi.

Participative democracy can ensure equitable development of India by 2047. (SDG-10)

- Q.7 भारत में बाल कुपोषण से प्रभावी ढंग से निपटने के लिए 'पोषण-विशिष्ट' और 'पोषण-संवेदनशील' कार्यक्रमों को अभिसरित करने की आवश्यकता है। परीक्षण कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक।  
There is a need for convergence of 'nutrition-specific' and 'nutrition-sensitive' interventions to effectively tackle child undernutrition in India. Examine. (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks.

In India, 68% of Under 5-mortality is due to child undernutrition which leads to loss of 3% of GDP - NTI Aayog.

### Convergence in Interventions Needed

Currently, govt-interventions focus on 2 different things - nutrition specific (providing iron supplements, folic acid, ICDS, etc.) & nutrition sensitive (augmenting nutrition assimilation). If they are converged:-

- ① Comprehensive care for child: Providing nutrition while avoiding diseases.

- ② More focus on local needs:- Via initiatives like Comprehensive Nutrition Rehabilitation Scheme as seen in Nanded.
- ③ Longer term impact :- over child's lifetime.
- ④ Better coordination among govt. Functionaries like anganwadi workers.
- ⑤ Synergies have potential to reduce cost for government.

The convergence can help government achieve SDG (2) - Hunger, SDG (3) - Health which can be stepping stone to all other SDGs.

Q.8

ग्रामीण गरीबी उन्मूलन की धुरी मनरेगा, राजकोषीय उदासीनता का शिकार हो गया है।" हालिया घटनाक्रम के आलोक में कथन का आलोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

"MGNREGA, the lynchpin of rural poverty alleviation, has become the victim of fiscal apathy." Critically analyze the statement in light of recent developments. (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks.

The allotted funds of MGNREGA for FY23 were exhausted in October 2022 leading to delayed payments.

### Fiscal Apathy by Government

- ① Budget in FY23 at Rs 60,000 Cr vs FY22 expense at Rs 99,000 Cr although demand has not fallen drastically.
- ② ~30% of payments not processed by central govt. within stipulated time of 7 days.
- ③ Wage rate at Rs 280-320 per day  $\Rightarrow$   $\sim$  Rs 30,000 for 100 days  $\Rightarrow$  spending only of  $\sim$  Rs 100 per day possible  $\rightarrow$  too low

for today where 1 litre milk costs - Rs 50.

④ Wage rate rise is not in line with inflation.

⑤ National Mobile Monitoring Network for MGNREGA has created additional fiscal burden of buying smartphone on Contractor.

However, it is a strategic decision

① MGNREGA is demand based scheme ⇒ supplementary grant can be provided if demand increase (as done in 2022)

② Govt. is trying to signal rural workers to move to other sectors like construction which can have multiplier effect.

Going ahead, govt. will have to balance its strategic ideas along with rural distress for optimum utilization of MGNREGA.

Q.9

"भारत को इसका लाभ उठाना चाहिए, यदि प्रबंधन नहीं किया गया तो वैश्विक विभाजन हो जाएगा।" वर्तमान भू-राजनीतिक मंथन वैश्विक स्तर पर भारत के उत्थान का मार्ग कैसे प्रशस्त कर सकता है?

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

"India must leverage, if not manage, the global divides". How can the current geopolitical churn pave the way for India's rise to the global high table?

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks.

Today, with rising of global powers like China, India, France, Australia, world has become multi-polar & more divided than ever.

### Leveraging Global Divides

- ① US-China divide: Strengthening relationship with US to counter China's aggression at borders.
- ② Establishing manufacturing base: As countries look to diversify from China under China +1 policy. Eg:- Vedanta - Foxconn deal.
- ③ Reducing import dependence: Military hardware (Russia), oil (Middle-East) by

Forming new partnerships.

④ Improving Strategic autonomy - Not taking sides in conflicts like Russia-Ukraine while upholding human-rights.

⑤ Establishing new outreaches:

→ Middle-East: As US withdraws. Eg:-  
Ending support to Saudi war.

→ Small-Island Developing States: via IRIS  
CDRI for environmental concerns.

"In the midst of difficulty

lies an opportunity" - Albert Einstein.

The global geopolitical churn can provide India opportunity to rise on political, economic & social level in the world.

Q.10

"बर्लिन यूरोपीय संघ में भारत के लिए प्रवेश द्वार हो सकता है।" यूरोपीय संघ के साथ भारत के संबंधों में जर्मनी के महत्त्व के बारे में विस्तारपूर्वक वर्णन कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

"Berlin can be India's gateway to the European Union." Elaborate with respect to Germany's significance in India's relationship with the EU. (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks.

India - Germany have had  
Strong diplomatic, political, economic  
ties which can catapult India's  
venture into EU.

Germany's Significance in Relationship  
with EU

① Stronger political connect via 2+2  
mechanism ~~connect~~ between India - Germany  
vis-a-vis EU

② New age partnerships between India -  
Germany like

- Green hydrogen development
- Renewable development
- Green shipping development



can be marketed in EU's market.

- ③ Germany is proponent of India. Egs -  
Support in UNSC, part of G4 → Better  
relationship with EU.
- ④ India - Germany can work on developing  
common standards to enhance trade  
with EU.
- ⑤ Germany has supported India's interest  
in FTA with EU.

Thus Germany can help  
India make greater inroads into EU  
leading to export diversification, resilient  
supply chains & new age partnerships.

Q.11 दल-बदल विरोधी कानून ने भारत में राजनीतिक दलों और वैयक्तिक विधायकों/सांसदों के बीच संबंधों को कैसे प्रभावित किया है? हाल की घटनाओं के आलोक में भारत में लोकतंत्र की प्रकार्यात्मकता पर इस कानून के अनपेक्षित परिणामों की भी चर्चा कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

How has the Anti-Defection Law impacted the relationship between political parties and individual legislators in India? In light of the recent incidents also discuss the unintended consequences it has on the functioning of democracy in India. (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks.

## 52<sup>nd</sup> Amendment of 1985

brought Anti-Defection Law to avoid horse trading, better political stability, etc.

Impact on relationship between parties & legislators

+ve Impact

+ve Impact

① Lesser shifting of political allegiances

① forced to follow party directions

② Legislators aligned with political ideology of party

even if one is against it

③ More cohesive decision making in government.

② Cannot truly represent constituency.

Eg:- Need to agree even if any Bill

I might have -ve impact on  
constituency.

### Other unintended Consequences

- ① Instability still exists with mass defections. Eg:- Maharashtra, Arunachal (Nabam Rebia Case), Goa, etc.
- ② No healthy debates in parliament as it is dominated by ruling party.
- ③ Gives more preference to collective responsibility vs individual responsibility of MPs.
- ④ Does not differentiate between dissent & defection.
- ⑤ Speaker bias: Supreme Court had to intervene after Manipur speaker

did not act on defection case.

### What is Needed

- ① Providing defection decision powers to EC / Courts.
- ② Allowing dissent although voting can be on whip's guide, to ensure govt. can pass the needed bills.

Although anti-defection has led to more stability v/s 1980s, for effective democratic functioning it has to balance dissent v/s defection.

Q.12 आलोचकों का दावा है कि असीमित न्यायिक अधिकार मूल ढाँचा सिद्धांत की संरचनात्मक अस्पष्टता पर निर्भर है। क्या मूल ढाँचा सिद्धांत की लोचदार प्रकृति ने न्यायपालिका को कार्यपालिका से अधिक शक्तिशाली बना दिया है?

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

Critics assert that limitless judicial authority rests on the structural ambiguity of the basic structure doctrine. Has the elastic nature of the basic structure doctrine made the judiciary more powerful than the executive? (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks.

## Supreme Court in Kesavnanda

Bharti Case, 1973 propounded Basic

Structure Doctrine which is basic tenants of constitution which cannot be changed by Parliament. Eg:- Federalism, Judicial Independence, etc.

### Making Judiciary More Powerful

- ① Judiciary has expanded the concept of Basic Structure as & when needed.
- ② Judicial independence has led to opacity. Eg:- Collegium System.
- ③ Expansion of Art. 21 - Right to Life

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has led to judiciary interfering with executive functions. Eg:- Court committee for oxygen distribution

④ Judiciary has challenged own reforms.  
Eg:- Striking down National Judicial Appointment Commission.

⑤ Judiciary is interfering in appointments like Election Commissioner, CBI director, etc. under Basic Structure of Free & Fair Elections.

However, Judiciary is not limitless

① Parliament still has power to impeach judges.

② Judges are appointed by the President

who can disagree. Eg:- Judge Santosh  
Kiipal, Akil Kureshi, etc.

③ Basic Structure has led to more  
proactive judiciary. Eg:- VISHAKHA  
guidelines.

④ Upholding Fundamental Rights has been  
possible due to their inclusion in Basic  
Structure. Eg:- SC pardoned in A.G. Peraiyalar  
case after Governor failed to take timely  
action.

Hence, while Basic

Structure has led to Constitutionalism,

Supreme Court should be careful to

not turn it into a weapon against

executive, fine balance will have to be

maintained.

- Q.13 मौलिक अधिकार राज्य द्वारा प्रदत्त उपहार नहीं हैं बल्कि एक व्यक्ति उन पर राज्य से स्वतंत्र रूप से अधिकार रखता है। इस संदर्भ में विभिन्न मौलिक अधिकारों पर युक्तियुक्त निर्बंधन की वांछनीयता पर चर्चा कीजिए।

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

Fundamental rights are not gifts bestowed upon by the state rather an individual possesses them independently of the state. In this context discuss the desirability of reasonable restrictions on various fundamental rights. (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks.

### Part III of Indian Constitution

deals with Fundamental Rights which are basic rights available to all citizens.

#### Possession Independent of State

- ① They are natural rights. Eg:- Right to Life (Ar. 21)
- ② Promote democracy. Eg:- Freedom of Speech, Expression (Ar. 19).
- ③ Deal with personal matter which is not state concern. Ar 25, 26, etc.

#### Restrictions Needed

- ① Should not encroach rights of others.



Eg:- Freedom under Ar. 19 cannot be  
Freedom to kill someone.

② Should promote equality for all. → Special  
provisions for backward classes in  
Ar. 15, Ar. 16(4), etc.

③ Should not hinder functioning of govt.  
Eg:- Immunity to President (Ar. 14),  
Parliament can prescribe residence as  
employment criteria. (Ar. 16).

④ Should be in public interest. Eg:-  
Restriction in entering tribal areas (Ar. 19).

⑤ Government should be able to ensure  
sovereignty & integrity, security in  
emergency situations. Eg:- Suspending  
Fundamental Rights during National

Emergency (Ar. 358 & 359).

### Excessive Restrictions Today

- ① Excess use of stringent laws like UAPA, Sedition suppress dissent — conviction only at 2-3%.
- ② Frequent internet shutdowns: held as Fundamental Right in Anuradha Bhasin v/s Union of India, 2020.

Hence, while restrictions are necessary, it should be used judiciously & only to ensure public order, security, etc. SOPs should be developed to avoid misuse.

Q.14

'एस.आर. बोम्मई बनाम भारत संघ मामले ने संघ द्वारा किसी राज्य के प्रशासन पर नियंत्रण ग्रहण करने के संघ के अधिकार की न्यायिक व्याख्या में एक आदर्श बदलाव का संकेत दिया।' इस संदर्भ में संघीय ढाँचे को मजबूत करने पर निर्णय के महत्त्व और प्रभाव पर चर्चा कीजिए।

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

'S.R. Bommai v. Union of India signified a paradigm shift in the judicial interpretation of the union's authority to assume control of a state's administration.' In this context discuss the significance and impact of the judgement on cementing the federal structure. (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks.

S.R. Bommai v/s Union of India;

1994 was a landmark case in history of Indian Federalism.

Significance of Case

- ① Underlined independent constitutional existence of state.
- ② Made declaration of President's Rule (Art. 356) subject to judicial review.
- ③ Made states less dependent on Union -  
"States are not mere satellites of centre, they have their own existence" — Supreme Court.

## Impact of Case

- ① Decreased imposition of President's Rule & State Assembly suspensions.
- ② Led to cooperative federalism — state & union cooperate to achieve common national goals.
- ③ Led to more consultative platforms like NITI Aayog, GST Council where states have their own voice.
- ④ Regional parties like Shiv Sena, TMC flourished as they no longer feared central parties due to security from suspension.
- ⑤ Supreme Court reinstated illegality

Suspended governments. Eg:- Nabam  
Rebia case, 2016.

- ⑥ Courts have restricted discretion of  
governor to ensure stability. Eg:- Trust  
vote only on advice of Council of Ministers.

What is Needed More

- ① Improved fiscal federalism: States' share  
in Gross Tax Revenues decreased  
from 37.1. (FY19) to 29.1. (FY 21)
- ② Competitive Federalism: States compete  
on R&D, environment, investment →  
develop India as a whole.

By Via S.R. Bommai Case,  
Supreme Court has led to decentralization  
of power which can improve participative  
democracy in India.

Q.15 प्रभावी विकेंद्रीकरण की कुँजी यह है कि राजनीतिक विकेंद्रीकरण को वित्त और प्रकार्यात्मक विकेंद्रीकरण का अनुगमन करना चाहिए। भारत में स्थानीय शासन के समक्ष आने वाली बाधाओं के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

The key to effective decentralization is, 'political decentralization should follow finance and functional decentralization'. Discuss in the context of impediments faced by local governance in India.

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks.

73<sup>rd</sup> & 74<sup>th</sup> Amendment paved way for establishing 3<sup>rd</sup> tier of governance - Panchayats & Municipalities which increased no. of elected representatives from ~ 5,000 to 32L increasing local governance.

However, 3<sup>rd</sup> tier face impediments

- ① Low revenue generation: Only 0.2% GDP vs 3% in developed countries.
- ② Low functional devolution: More guided by Central / State schemes. Eg:- PM-KISAN, MGNREGA, etc.
- ③ Ineffective local participation: 'Panchayat Pati' as substitute for women members.

Eg:- Dhar, Panna Gram Panchayat

### Need for Decentralisation

#### (A) Financial

- ① New age finance instruments. Eg:-  
Carbon credit, Disaster Risk Reduction  
(DRR bonds).
- ② More devolution under Ar. 275 which can  
be used for local purposes v/s Ar.  
282 which is scheme specific.
- ③ Increased taxing power: which has been  
reduced due to subsuming of Octroi,  
entertainment tax under GST.
- ④ Regular constitution of State Finance  
Commission:- Currently, 50% states have  
not constituted 6<sup>th</sup> State Finance  
Commission.

- ③ Functional :
- ① Completely developing areas like health, roads, etc. which can be handled at local levels.
  - ② Capacity building workshops for Sarpanch, other members.
  - ③ Promotion of successful models like Hiware Bazar.
  - ④ Encouraging new functions like environment conservation. Eg:- Palli Gram Panchayat is Energy self-sufficient.

“ Voice of People is voice of God.  
Voice of Panchayat is voice of People”

Mahatma Gandhi. We need to make

Panchayats truly functionally &

financially independent for more participative democracy.



- Q.16 सामूहिक विशेषज्ञता और नेटवर्क (संजाल) का लाभ उठाने के लिए बहु-हितधारक साझेदारी महत्वपूर्ण है। भारत में सतत विकास लक्ष्यों (एसडीजी) की प्राप्ति में तेजी लाने के लिए प्रभावी साझेदारी और स्थानीयकृत कार्यान्वयन प्रयासों को कैसे बढ़ावा दिया जा सकता है? (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक
- Multi-stakeholder partnerships are the key to leveraging collective expertise and networks. How can effective partnership and localized implementation efforts be fostered to accelerate the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in India? (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks.

## Sustainable Development Goals

(SDGs) are set of ~ 169 goals across

17 categories which seeks to improve Socio-economic-environmental condition

of the world. Eg:- Alleviating poverty (SDG-1).

### Need for Multi-Stakeholder Partnership

- ① Leads to distribution of funds, risks among parties.
- ② Leads to sharing of Best Practices.
- ③ Responsibility of development shifts from govt. to private players, NGOs, society, etc.

## Fostering Partnership

- ① Augmenting govt efforts :- NGO Red Cross Society has helped in drug rehabilitation, Akshay Patra provides Mid day Meal (SDG-2).
- ② Private partnerships improves efficiency.  
Eg.- Indore Municipality generating Rs 350Cr from waste via private waste processing plants (SDG-11: Sustainable Cities).
- ③ Leads to blended finance: Privatization of ports, mines, roads  $\Rightarrow$  Better infrastructure, innovation (SDG-9).
- ④ Society Capacity building :- Pappinasseri Gram Panchayat produces zero waste (SDG-14, 15).

⑤ Academia - Govt. linkage: Unnat Bharat Abhiyaan - IITs solve rural problems.

⑥ Global Coordination: Indices like Gender Inequality Index (SDG-5), Multi-Dimensional Poverty Index (SDG-1) helps govt. assess priority areas.

### Way Ahead

① Improving finances via reforming multi-lateral banks - increasing <sup>lending</sup> capacity from \$200 bn./year to \$1 trillion.

② Building local capacities via skilling.

SDGs have potential to improve socio-economic condition of world while ensuring environmental sustainability.

- Q.17 पी.ओ.एस.एच. अधिनियम के कार्यान्वयन से यौन उत्पीड़न के बारे में जागरूकता बढ़ाने में सीमित सफलता ही क्यों मिली है, और किन कारकों ने असंगठित क्षेत्र में कार्यरत महिलाओं तक इसकी प्रभावी पहुँच में बाधा उत्पन्न की है? इस अंतर को पाटने और असंगठित क्षेत्र में महिलाओं के लिए कार्यस्थल पर उत्पीड़न के विरुद्ध व्यापक सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करने के लिए रणनीतियाँ प्रस्तावित कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

How has the implementation of the POSH Act resulted in limited success in raising awareness about sexual harassment, and what factors have hindered its effective outreach to women employed in the unorganized sector? Propose strategies to bridge this gap and ensure comprehensive protection for women in the unorganized sector against workplace harassment. (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks.

Prevention of Sexual Harassment at Workplace Act, 2013. seeks to uphold dignity and Right to Work of women by providing strict penalties for sexual harassment.

### Limited Success of Act

- ① > 95% workforce in informal sector  
⇒ Act doesn't apply for < 50 employees. Eg:- ICC not mandatory.
- ② Did not raise awareness among women.
- ③ Sexual Harassment continues. Eg:- Tarun Tejpal case, #MeToo movement.

## Factors that have hindered outreach...

- ① Lack of social empowerment: via education, family to speak up.
- ② Low success rate: Eg:- Employers/perpetrators file defamation case as counter to harassment case.
- ③ Forced nature of work: Low employment opportunities  $\Rightarrow$  women's need to work  $\rightarrow$  Taken advantage by employers.
- ④ High pendency in courts, poor investigation by police, expensive legal remedies.
- ⑤ Informal sector not as strictly monitored by govt. as formal companies.

However, considering female LFPR at only 25% (PLFS 20-21) v/s global average of 47%, it is time to act.

## Ensuring Comprehensive Protection

- ① Formalising of jobs, especially women led sectors like gig economy, care economy, etc.
- ② Forming Ombudsmen for group of ~ 50 informal companies
- ③ Empowering women:
  - Teaching guidelines in school/college.
  - Regular HR sessions to be arranged by Ministry of Women, Ministry of MSE, etc.
- ④ Creating strict deterrence via stringent action against perpetrator.

" No country can truly flourish if it stifles its women & deprives itself of contribution of half of its population."

— Michelle Obama

- Q.18 'नव-उदारवादी सुधारों और वैश्वीकरण ने कल्याणकारी राज्य की संस्थाओं को गहराई से बदल दिया है और एक नई प्रकार की सिविल सेवाओं के लिए आधार तैयार किया है।' इस संदर्भ में सेवा वितरण के समक्ष आने वाली चुनौतियों का परीक्षण कीजिए और पर्याप्त सुधारों हेतु सुझाव दीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक
- 'Neo-liberal reforms and globalization have deeply transformed the institutions of the welfare state and set the ground for a new type of civil services.' In this context examine the challenges faced in service delivery and suggest adequate reforms. (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks.

Service delivery to citizens  
with increased globalization, awareness  
among citizens, new-age reforms.

### Challenges Faced

- ① Insulating from global shocks: Eg -  
rising inflation due to Russia-Ukraine.
- ② Ensuring equality: in days of  
rising capitalism. Today bottom 50%  
own 13% wealth in India.
- ③ Ensuring data privacy & security as  
Service delivery becomes more &  
more data centric. Eg:- Telegram  
bots giving details of vaccinated.

- ④ Providing new age services: Environmental protection, psychological support, NCD care, etc.
- ⑤ Upholding Law & order: In times of cyber fraud, lone wolf attack, etc.
- ⑥ Developing new technologies for public welfare. Eg:- Quantum computing for weather predictions, crypto for Central Bank Digital Currency, etc.

### Reforms Needed

- ① Specializing civil services :- 20 years into tenure. Eg:- Secretaries can take broad specialization like environment, health, infra, etc.
- ② More devolution, democraticisation,



Decentralization to 3<sup>rd</sup> tier to distribute responsibilities, risks, etc.

③ Increased private sector participation for implementation while govt. can focus on strategic planning.

④ More collaborative - breaking silos among ministries, departments, etc.

⑤ Use of technology: Platforms like PRAGATI, National Data Analytics Platform for evidence, fact based decisions making.

The new age service

delivery can ensure India's goal of developed economy by 2047 can be achieved.

Q.19

चीन भारत को अपने "एशियाई प्रतिद्वंद्वी" के रूप में देखता है जिसमें एशिया में उसके वर्चस्ववादी लक्ष्यों का मुकाबला करने की जन्मजात क्षमता है। भारत-चीन संबंधों में इन कठिनाइयों के बावजूद, अभिसरण के भी कई क्षेत्र हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

China views India as its "Asian Rival" with an innate ability to counter its hegemonistic goals in Asia. Despite these difficulties in India-China relations, there are also many areas of convergence. Discuss.

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks.

India - China have gone from "Hindi - Chini Bhai - Bhai" in 1950s to two nations with constant border disputes, killings, etc. since May 2020.

### China's Perception of India as Rival

- ① India's Military Strength: One of the largest military standing.
- ② Economic strength: 5<sup>th</sup> largest economy, countering China's BRI, refused to join China led RCEP.
- ③ Countering China's hegemonistic goals: Supplying Brahmos missile to Philippines, supporting Vietnam's defence, etc.

## Areas of Convergence

- ① Asian development: as a part of global South neglected by west.
- ② Trade Synergies: India developing EV, semi-conductor manufacturing while China processes 60% of global lithium.
- ③ Environmental responsibilities :- Enforcing Common But Differentiated Responsibility, getting more environmental funding, carbon space, etc.
- ④ Alternative to bi-polar world: Dominated by US - v/s - Russia.
- ⑤ Technology development: Increased R&D due to relatively young & technologically adept population.

⑥ Youth Exchange: Organized by Ministry of Sports & Youth Affairs to explore culture, education in both countries.

⑦ Startup collaboration: Booming industry in both nations.

### Way Ahead

> China needs to stop border aggression for Business As Usual.

> India can promote track 2 diplomacy for more confidence building measures.

India - China need to follow

"Competition with Cooperation without Confrontation"

— External Affairs Minister

Q.20 हालिया दिनों में हिंद-प्रशांत क्षेत्र अलग-अलग हितों और प्राथमिकताओं वाले क्षेत्र के रूप में उभरा है। चर्चा कीजिए। क्या आपको लगता है कि वैश्विक सुरक्षा पहल (GSI) इस क्षेत्र में क्वाड (QUAD) का स्थान ले लेगी (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

Indo-Pacific region in recent times has emerged as a zone of diverging interests and priorities. Discuss. Do you think the Global Security Initiative will supersede QUAD in the region?

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks.

Indo-Pacific ~~interest~~ region  
comprises of region from Africa to Pacific  
with 60% of global trade, ~ 20% of  
Tuna catch etc.



Indo-Pacific Region.

Fig. Indo-Pacific

### Diverging Interest & Priorities

#### A) China's interest:

- ① Gaining more territories; Flowing of

9-dash line award by Permanent Court of Arbitration.

② More oil & gas exploration to resolve its Malacca Dilemma.

③ Indian Interest:

① Ensuring Open Sea Lanes of Communication.

— 60% of India's trade with Asia passes through Indo-Pacific.

② Creating asymmetric warfare: Pressure in Indo-Pacific as China transgresses on borders in LAC.

④ West: keep trade routes open & counter China's belligerence

⑤ Small-Island Developing States: Ensure economic & security against climate change.

In this light, China has launched Global Security Initiative to counter West's Quad & AUKUS &

gain more control on Indo-Pacific.

Can G51 supersede Quad?

Yes

No

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>① Countries like <u>Laos</u>, <u>Cambodia</u> are virtual China dependencies.</p> <p>② China has better proximity to Indo-Pacific.</p> <p>③ China has enrolled countries in <u>debt trap</u>.</p> | <p>① Quad has better <u>democratic credentials</u>.</p> <p>② Quad / AUKUS has more <u>military strength</u> than China.</p> <p>③ Quad focusing on <u>diverse aspects</u> like environment, supply chain, tax evasion, etc. via Indo-Pacific Economic Framework.</p> |
|--|---|

While G51 will not supersede Quad, it will pose a challenge. Quad countries need to work more closely to ensure freedom in Indo-Pacific & equitable development of the region.