

# NEXT IAS

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Registration Number : NIAS 23.000.18245 Date of Examination : ..... 5/9/23 .....

Exam Centre : Old Rajinder Nagar  Bhopal  Online

Test - 6

Code : TC076

## MTS IGP Batch 2023

### GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

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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			
<b>Grand Total</b>				

Signature

MACRO COMMENTS



## IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS

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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.
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1.

"अंतरराज्यीय सीमा विवाद, यदि शीघ्र और निष्पक्षतः नहीं सुलझाए गए, तो स्थायी विवादित मुद्दों में परिवर्तित हो सकते हैं जो विकास में बाधक बनते हैं और टकराव या संघर्ष उत्पन्न करते हैं"। अंतरराज्यीय विवादों को हल करने के लिए संवैधानिक और विधिक ढाँचे पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, स्पष्ट कीजिए कि स्वतंत्र भारत अंतरराज्यीय सीमा विवादों को सुलझाने में क्यों विफल रहा है।

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

"Interstate border disputes, if not promptly and impartially settled, can transform into persistent issues that impede development and generate friction". Highlighting the constitutional and legal framework to resolve interstate disputes, explain why Independent India has failed to resolve inter-state border disputes.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Recently WEF Risks Report has mentioned inter-state disputes as one of top 10 risks for India. Recent border disputes related to Belgaum (Maharashtra vs Karnataka) or demand for inclusion of Chandigarh to Punjab or perennial issue of Cauchy dispute are examples of persistent issues.

Deaths across Assam - Mizoram border last year show extreme cases.

Constitutional framework

↳ Article 3 provides the Union Government to readjust boundaries

↳ Independent Supreme Court has original jurisdiction for state-state disputes (except water disputes)

↳ Parliament to create law for inter state river disputes

- ↳ Article 263 provides for Inter-state Council  
 ↳ Article 355 mandates Centre to protect states  
 (role of NHA)

### Legal framework

- ↳ 1956 legislation for linguistic creation of states  
 ↳ set up of committees like Mahajan Committee (for Belgaum issue)  
 ↳ River Board Authority Act and Dispute Act for creation of tribunals  
 ↳ Zonal Councils Act

### Challenges

1. Political → misuse for vote bank politics  
 ↳ fanning regionalism & sons of soil policy
2. Historical → artificial boundaries created by Britishers  
 ↳ divide & rule British policy
3. Limitations of Supreme Court to deal with technical matter
4. Lack of cooperative federalism

Thus disputes should be amicably resolved. Home Affairs can play a proactive role.

2.

ऊर्ध्वाधर (केंद्र-राज्य) और क्षैतिज (अंतर-राज्य) अंतर-सरकारी सहयोग और समन्वय को बढ़ावा देने में अंतर-राज्य परिषद की भूमिका का परीक्षण कीजिए।

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

Examine the role of the Inter-state Council in promoting vertical (Centre-State) and horizontal (Inter-State) Intergovernmental cooperation and coordination.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Recently, Government announced revival of Article 263 to create Inter-state Council (also recommended by several Commissions like Sarkaria Commission).

Promote vertical coordination

↳ Inter-state council will be led by Prime Minister with presence of Home Minister and another Union Ministers and chief Ministers of each state. This creates platform for raising federal concerns

↳ It can be used for suggestions on laws of concurrent list subjects (List III)

↳ Contentious issues like CBI jurisdiction, BSF enforcement (beyond 50 kms), IAS cadre rules can be discussed here

- ↳ Challenges of fiscal federalism and demand of grants be raised here
- ↳ Governor appointment can be done with bi-partisan consensus
- ↳ Pending state laws/bills be approved (Eg: NEET bill in TN)

### Horizontal coordination

- ↳ Inter-state disputes including boundary & river disputes be addressed with mediation of others
- ↳ Asymmetric federalism concerns be addressed
- ↳ Regionalism can be prevented with common mobility regime (facilitate migrant movement Eg: Bihar migrants in Tamil Nadu).

263 should be thus made a permanent body with Permanent Secretariat (independent)



3.

लोक लेखा समिति (PAC) के प्रमुख कार्यों पर चर्चा कीजिए। सार्वजनिक धन के सच्चे रक्षक के रूप में इसकी प्रभावशीलता को बढ़ाने के लिए लोक लेखा समिति (पीएसी) में सुधार के लिए क्या कदम उठाए जाने चाहिए?

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

Discuss the key function of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC). What steps should be taken to revamp the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) in order to enhance its effectiveness as a true guardian of public funds?

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Recently, we celebrated 100 years of Public Accounts Committee - which is an important financial Parliamentary Committee. It's responsible to Lok Sabha but has members from both houses.

### Key functions

- ↳ It studies the CAG reports
- ↳ It analyses the expenditure of both Union Government and Public sector units (PSUs)
- ↳ It checks for receipts of government
- ↳ It highlights any mismatch of expenses as mandated by the Parliament under budget session

## Further reforms required

- ↳ There should be dedicated Parliament session to discuss report of PAC
- ↳ Recommendations of PAC could be made binding with a resolution is passed to that effect
- ↳ CAG should be appointed by PAC and made answerable to it only to avoid delays in publishing reports
- ↳ Provide more legal, technical experts to PAC to assist MPs in studying financial accounts (eg: support of ICAI)
- ↳ CAG should ensure that all reports are ready in time-bound manner and available in easy-to-read manner.

These changes will ensure further effectiveness of PAC and make important reform towards making accountability paramount role of Parliament

4.

राष्ट्रीय आर्थिक विकास के चालक के रूप में नगरीकरण की अहम भूमिका को स्वीकार करते हुए, पंद्रहवें वित्त आयोग ने शहरी स्थानीय निकायों (ULBs) के लिए प्रमुख सुधारों का सुझाव दिया है। भारत में यूएलबी को बढ़ावा देने और पुनर्जीवित करने के लिए पंद्रहवें वित्त आयोग द्वारा दी गई सिफारिशों का मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

Recognizing the pivotal role of urbanization as a driver of national economic growth, the Fifteenth Finance Commission has suggested major reforms for Urban Local Bodies. Evaluate the recommendations put forward by the Fifteenth Finance Commission in promoting and revitalizing ULBs in India.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission under Article 280  
in guidance of Mr N.K. Singh gave several  
recommendations including for grants to ULBs.

① Tied Grants → these grants to  
be provided only if ULBs  
take recommendations of 15<sup>th</sup>  
finance commission and states  
make more devolution

② Untied Grants → these grants to  
be provide irrespectively to  
ULBs. However, their quantum is  
reduced.

③ General recommendations that  
state finance commissions should  
be setup in time

## Revitalize ULBs

### Positives

↳ It will nudge the state governments towards reforming the ULBs which play important role in localization of SDGs

↳ It will bring more devolution of funds, functions & functionaries (3F noted by Aiygar Committee)

### Negatives

↳ It will make ULBs more dependent on state government

↳ Their own source of revenue is already low (RBI report) and this add fiscal pressure

Overall measure is positive but it's not sufficient as there is need for holistic reforms as noted by 2<sup>nd</sup> APC.

5. मौलिक अधिकारों की तुलना में संसदीय विशेषाधिकारों के तहत प्रदान की गई वाक् और अभिव्यक्ति की स्वतंत्रता के दायरे में प्रमुख अंतरों पर प्रकाश डालिए। संसदीय विशेषाधिकार और मौलिक अधिकारों के बीच संतुलन बनाए रखना क्यों आवश्यक है?

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

Highlight the key differences in the scope of Freedom of speech and expression as provided under Parliamentary privileges vis a vis Fundamental rights. Why is it necessary to maintain a balance between parliamentary privilege and fundamental rights? (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Recent incidents of expulsion of remarks and inclusion of words as unparliamentary has led to debate between Article 19(1)(a) and Article 105.

### Key Differences

#### Freedom of Speech & Expression

- ↳ 19(1)(a) and restrictions under 19(2)
- ↳ Available to all citizens
- ↳ Restricted by Article 19(2)
- ↳ May approach Supreme Court (Article 32)

#### Parliamentary Privileges

- ↳ Article 105 (and subject to conventions)
- ↳ Available only to MPs (and Attorney General) inside floor of house
- ↳ Restricted by Rules & Conduct of House & Conventions
- ↳ No remedy available

↳ multiple and varied interpretation of "reasonable" restrictions and vastness due to defamation, securiy, friendly relations clause

↳ clear guidelines of unpatriametary words

↳ Privileges Committee can enquire into breach

### Balance

↳ MPs are representative of people, they should both raise issues of common people but also maintain decorum

↳ MPs act as role model for people, breach of privileges and unpatriametary language create wrong message

↳ overall constitutional morality be upheld

This will help in smooth functioning of parliament which saw less than 40% productivity in Monsoon session

6. नागरिक समाज संगठन, "सार्वजनिक कल्याण के लिए सामूहिक निजी कार्रवाई" को बढ़ावा देने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाते हैं। स्थानीय संसाधन जुटाने (एलआरएम) और निगमित सामाजिक उत्तरदायित्व (सीएसआर) के माध्यम से कॉर्पोरेट (निगमों द्वारा) वित्तपोषण प्राप्त करने में उन्हें किन चुनौतियों का सामना करना पड़ता है? साथ ही सार्थक उपाय भी सुझाएँ। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

Civil society organizations, play a pivotal role in fostering "collective private action for the public good". What challenges do they face in local resource mobilization (LRM) and corporate funding through corporate social responsibility (CSR)? Also, suggest measures. (Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Civil society organizations are non-state, non-market arm of governance facilitating service delivery.

### Challenges in resource mobilization

- 1) Lack of awareness and sense of duty among local citizens
- 2) Apathy towards common issues
- 3) Trust deficit with CSOs
- 4) Lack of actionable agenda and outcome of CSO prevent common participation
- 5) People would want to donate <sup>to</sup> a particular cause (eg: nearby <sup>^</sup> temple or mosque) and hence don't have enough resources left

## Challenges in CSR mobilization

- Poor accounts management
- Lack of personnel to reach out for CSR funds
- Lack transparency & accountability
- local NGOs may not be proficient with English or technology to connect with big corporate houses
- Placement effect of CSR (limited to few regions)

## Measures

- ↳ Adopt Jyoti Srinivas committee report recommendations
- ↳ Have social stock Exchange
- ↳ Provide training & accountability practices
- ↳ Use online portals (like DARPPAN)
- ↳ More awareness among citizens about their constructive work (eg: social media, local news)

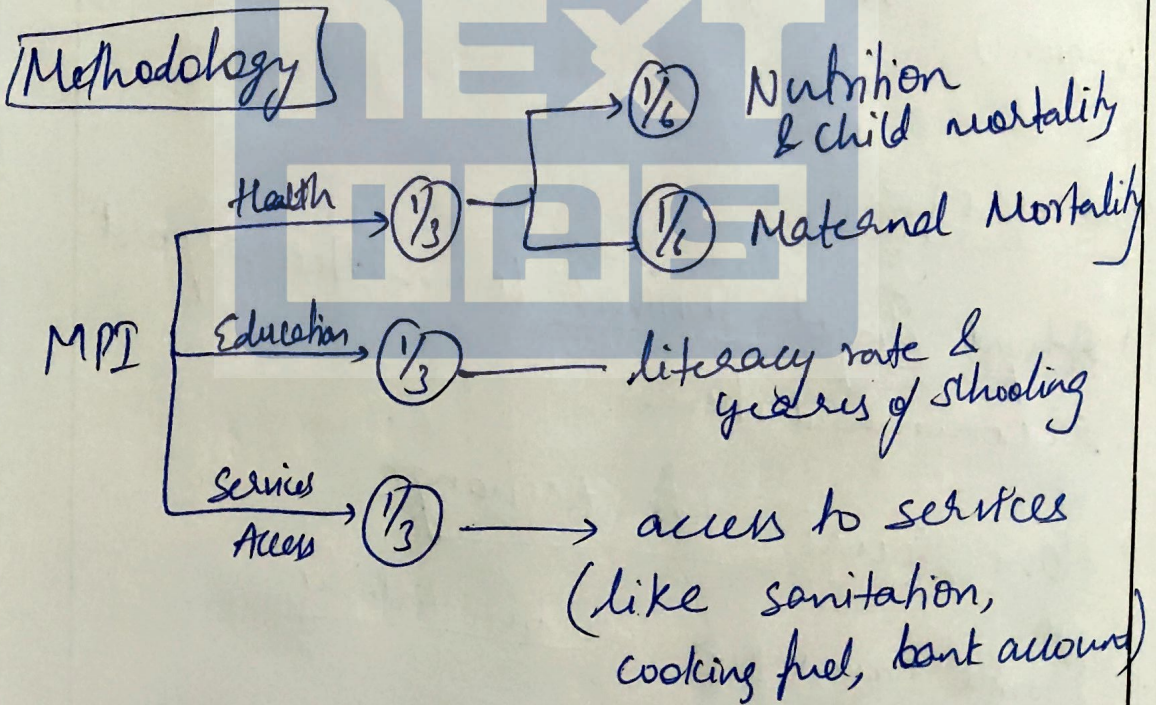


7.

गरीबी उन्मूलन की दिशा में पहला कदम कार्यक्रम के डिजाइन, कार्यान्वयन और निगरानी के लिए आवश्यक विश्वसनीय गरीबी मूल्यांकन करना है। इस संदर्भ में नीति आयोग के राष्ट्रीय बहुआयामी गरीबी सूचकांक की पद्धति और महत्त्व पर चर्चा कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

The first step to eradicating poverty is reliable poverty assessment for program design, implementation, and monitoring. In this context discuss the methodology and significance of NITI Aayog's National Multidimensional Poverty Index. (Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

NITI Aayog which has replaced Planning Commission publishes MPI index though there has not been any study based on consumption pattern (eg: Rangarajan, Tendulkar Committee)



It is designed based on MPI index by VNDP and OPHI. However 2 more indicators are added which

are access to bank accounts and maternal mortality.

### Significance

#### Positive role

→ analyse poverty beyond access to food, clothing, shelter

↳ compare states performances (competitive federalism)

↳ Use NFHS data which is periodically available

#### Challenge

↳ it is not substitute for holistic assessment based on consumption expenditure (poverty line calculation)

As per recent report, 415mn exited poverty between 2014-05 to 2019-21. However, given COVID challenge government should constitute a committee for holistic study

8. भारत के संदर्भ में, संवैधानिक प्रावधानों, कानूनी पूर्व-उदाहरणों और अंतर्राष्ट्रीय प्रतिबद्धताओं की उपस्थिति के बावजूद, जो स्वास्थ्य के अधिकार के लिए एक मजबूत आधार स्थापित करते हैं, इस अधिकार की स्पष्ट कानूनी मान्यता का अभाव क्यों रहा है? (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

In the context of India, despite the presence of constitutional provisions, legal precedents, and international commitments that establish a robust foundation for a right to health, why has there been a lack of explicit legal recognition of this right? (Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Recent Rajasthan Government legislation on right to health that put the issue on national level for debate.

## Provisions for Right to Health

### Constitutional

- ↳ Article 21: Rights life includes right to health
- ↳ Article 38: justice including social & economic
- ↳ Article 46: states to ensure welfare of weaker sections
- ↳ Article 47: Promote health & ban intoxicating substances

Legal → Rajasthan Government legislation

Int'l. Commitment → SDG 3  
 → Universal Declaration of Human Rights  
 ↳ Part of WHO

Candidates  
write on this

## Lack of explicit recognition

- 1) fiscal constraint to provide universal healthcare
- 2) Challenge of including all diseases like non-communicable diseases like diabetes, cancer etc
- 3) Lack of infrastructure development (especially in rural & tier 3- tier 4 areas)
- 4) Counter movement by private sector (lobbying & vested interests)
- 5) Ever increasing burden with new diseases (eg: chronic diseases)
- 6) Lack of commensurate medical seats

## Way Ahead

- Develop insurance policies (Bima Trinity) especially for missing middle
- Overcome challenges of PM-JAY (as noted by NAs)
- Use PPP model for attracting private investment

This will help to inch a step closer to right to health

9. ब्रिक्स राष्ट्रों की सामूहिक शक्ति असंख्य मुद्दों पर सार्थक सहयोग की अनुमति देती है, हालाँकि, द्विपक्षीय संबंधों के प्रक्षेप पथ को प्रभावित करने की मंच की क्षमता सीमित है। क्या आप सहमत हैं? (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक
- The collective strength of BRICS nations allows for meaningful cooperation on myriad issues, however, the platform's ability to influence the trajectory of bilateral relationships remains limited. Do you agree?
- (Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Recently held BRICS Summit in Johannesburg has been hailed as revolutionary with consensus on several issues, as noted in declaration.

### Meaningful cooperation

- ↳ Reform multilateral institutions like MDIs (Eg: New Development Bank has equity principle)
- ↳ CRA (reserve assets) is call for IMF quota reforms
- ↳ Cooperation on startups, MSMEs and key economic challenges
- ↳ Leverage cultural diplomacy
- ↳ Move to de-dollarization with bilateral currency trade

Counter Argument → overall success is slow except for NDB & CRA. Many view it as Anti-west coalition.

## Bilateral relationship

- ↳ Recent example of different statements by Indian & Chinese governments on talks at highest level show limitation of BRICS
- ↳ India-China faces complex regional challenges with active border dispute

However, it still provides a platform for dialogue and diplomacy. And something is better than nothing. Convergence on common interests like voice of global south is a step in right direction and can be used to solve bilateral issues, which is anyways a long complex process involving many stakeholders (eg: Army)

BRICS + 6 is step in right direction to further have more voices for multilateral cooperation.

10. सिंधु जल संधि में संशोधन की हालिया माँगों के आलोक में, भारत और पाकिस्तान के बीच जल-बंटवारा व्यवस्था पर पड़ने वाले इसके संभावित प्रभावों की चर्चा कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक  
In light of the recent demands to amend the Indus Waters Treaty, discuss the possible implications it could have on the water-sharing mechanism between India and Pakistan.  
(Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Government of India has given noble under provision for mutual consideration of IWT 1962.

### Current Mechanism

- 1) 3 western rivers : Indus, Jhelum, Chenab (used by Pakistan)
- 2) 3 eastern rivers : Ravi, Beas, Sutlej (used by India)
- 3) But India can use western rivers for non-consumption purpose and building run of river project
- 4) Dispute resolution (stepped)

IWT  
mutual  
resolution → Neutral  
Expert → Arbitrator  
(PLA)

However, Pakistan has violated the mechanism & simultaneously appointed 2 resolution mechanisms.

## Implications

- 1) Renegotiate treaty and clarify dispute resolution process
- 2) Clarify conditions of non-consumptive use
- 3) Ensure that Pak doesn't misuse treaty to stall projects (like Rattle, Baglihar hydroelectric dam of river)
- 4) On a worse case, it could lead to potential deadlock & politicization by vested interest
- 5) May be misused by china as a precedent (to disallow Brahmaputra river flow)

positive

negative

India, nonetheless, should take legal course & send notice as per IWT.

It should be opportunity to incorporate international best practices like Helsinki Rules for water sharing of transboundary rivers.



11. संसदीय संप्रभुता और न्यायिक सर्वोच्चता के सिद्धांत ने भारत और संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका के संवैधानिक ढाँचे को आकार देने में अत्यधिक महत्वपूर्ण प्रभाव डाला है। प्रासंगिक न्यायिक निर्णयजन्य विधियों का हवाला देते हुए इन देशों में संविधान को प्रभावित करने में न्यायपालिका की भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। क्या भारत में न्यायिक समीक्षा का दायरा व्यापक है? (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

The doctrine of Parliamentary sovereignty and judicial supremacy has exerted considerable influence in shaping the constitutional frameworks of India and the USA. Citing relevant case laws discuss the role of the judiciary in influencing the constitutions in these countries. Is the scope of judicial review wider in India? (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Parliamentary sovereignty means will of people is supreme and judiciary cannot strike down a law (procedure established by law). While judicial supremacy gives primacy to due process of law and Parliament's Constitutional amendment can be struck down.

### Judiciary influencing in India

- ① Golaknath case led to 24<sup>th</sup> Constitutional amendment
- ② Keswanda Bhatti case giving doctrine of basic structure thus limiting powers under Article 368
- ③ I.R. Coelho case led to schedule 9 under judicial review

Candidates  
write on

- ④ Indira Sawhney Case made 50% threshold for reservation under Article 16
- ⑤ Rameshwar Prasad Case providing guidelines for Governor as well as giving constitutional morality doctrine and constitutionalism (limited government)
- ⑥ Supreme Court struck down parts of 97th Constitutional Amendment emphasizing federalism spirit
- ⑦ Independence of judiciary (in 4th judges cases) and evolution of collegium (against Article 124A)

### Judiciary influence in USA

1. Removal of affirmative action for minority students
2. Overturning of Roe vs Wade making it states responsibility to legislate on abortion issue

## Scope of judicial review

- In India Parliament's constitutional amendment can also be struck down
- Basic structure doctrine and its interpretation by judiciary (evolved in many cases) put primacy on judiciary
- Supreme court and high courts both can strike down legislation ultravires to constitution (of both states & center)
- In US, Federal Supreme Court can strike down only federal laws

Thus, Indian review can be said to be more comprehensive.

'निष्पक्ष प्रतिनिधित्व सुनिश्चित करने और एक मत, एक मूल्य के सिद्धांत को बनाए रखने के लिए सीटों का परिशीमन आवश्यक है।' निर्वाचन क्षेत्रों में अप्रतिनिधित्व से उत्पन्न हुई चुनौतियों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए संघीय तनाव पैदा करने में जनसंख्या-आधारित परिशीमन के प्रभावों का विश्लेषण कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

Delimitation of seats is essential to ensure fair representation and uphold the principles of one vote, one value'. Highlighting the challenges posed by misrepresentation in constituencies analyze the ramifications of population-based delimitation in creating federal tension. (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

As per Constitution, Parliament should pass a Delimitation Act after every census. It is to be composed by retired judge, CEC and state election officer and its report cannot be enquired by courts.

Recently, Delimitation Commission gave report for Jammu & Kashmir and Assam creating uproar among communities.

Challenges of Misrepresentation

- ↳ It effects formation of legislature and ultimately the government
- ↳ It creates challenges of minority communities to raise their voice
- ↳ It ignores on-ground physical realities like difficult terrain

in Kashmir region to access both  
state machinery & election process  
(Eg: hilly regions)

↳ It would derail consultative process  
in legislature

↳ Put more emphasis on fewer  
regions (like North)

Population based delimitation

Currently delimitation of Parliament  
is postponed to 2026 but after Census 2022  
data it would lead to challenges

(i) Southern states would feel cry  
of regions based measures for  
population (& not getting benefits)

(ii) more voice to Hindi Heartland  
favouring a particular party

(iii) create asymmetrical federalism

with more voice to states with  
 more population but lack of resources  
 and poor contribution

(ii) Accentuate regionalism with  
 north-south divide

Thus, a balanced approach  
 should be followed and look at other  
 principles as done in recent J&K And  
 Assam delimitation.

Further, there should be  
 more dialogue with states who are  
 doing population reforms so that tax  
 devolution (horizontal) can be reaped  
 by them also.

Finally, as President remarked we  
 need to look beyond caste, communal &  
 regional lines for development of  
nation first.

13. देश में स्वतंत्र और निष्पक्ष चुनाव कराने की निर्वाचन आयोग की संवैधानिक जिम्मेदारी के निर्वहन में उसके हाथों को मजबूत करने में भारत के सर्वोच्च न्यायालय की भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक  
Discuss the role of the Supreme Court of India in strengthening the hands of the Election Commission in the discharge of its constitutional responsibility of conducting free and fair elections in the country.  
(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Article 324 establishes fair and independent Election Commission but it also makes Supreme Court as arbiter of justice and enforcing constitutional spirit.

### Role of Supreme Court

1. In Jayalalitha Case, Supreme Court upheld the role of EVMS in elections and called for paper verified trail.
2. In Subramaniam Swamy Case 2013, it asked Election Commission to modify model code of conduct (MCC) to include Section-8 on manifestos and responsibility of parties.

3. In Lily Thomas case, it struck down section 8(4) of RPA 1951 as calling it ultra vires to constitution
4. In Association of Democratic Reformers (ADR) case, it asked political parties to declare antecedents of criminals on website
5. In Sadiq Ali case, it upheld ECI power to decide on party disputes
6. In recent Baranwal case, Supreme Court using Article 142 made a collegium for appointment of ECs (PM, LoP, CJI). It also called for other reforms like service conditions.

### Positive role

- upholding free & fair elections
- ensuring independence of ECI
- raising concerns of voters & parties



## Criticism of recent judgement

- Many legal experts have called it an encroachment on Parliament powers as explicitly mentioned in 324(3).
- Further, it could create conflict of interest if case of EC appointment reaches the court.

## Way Ahead

Supreme court criticisms is appreciable but it should not be an over reach.

Thus recent bill to create another collegium and providing service conditions and charged expenditures are welcome step.

In Constitutional democracy, both legislature & judiciary should work simultaneously for upholding powers of ECI.

संसद की घटती भूमिका शक्तियों के पृथक्करण के मूल सिद्धांत को कमजोर करती है, क्योंकि यह कार्यकारी शाखा पर नियंत्रण रखने और सत्ता का संतुलित प्रयोग सुनिश्चित करने की विधायिका की क्षमता को कम कर देता है। विवेचना कीजिए।

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

'The declining role of Parliament undermines the fundamental principle of separation of powers, as it diminishes the legislature's ability to serve as a check on the executive branch and ensure a balanced exercise of power.' Discuss.

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Recently, during session of Commonwealth of Parliamentary Association <sup>Speaker</sup> lamented upon rising disruptions in Parliament.

### Declining role

1. Productivity of monsoon session was less than 40% for Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha
2. In 2021 monsoon session, 18 bills were passed with average 34 min discussion. Some bills like IBC amendment passed within 5 minutes. It leads to hasty legislation & more bills go to

### Courts

3. Declining trend of bills recommended to select committees (Eg. recent demand to refer Forest Conservation Amendment Bill to committee for review was ignored). As per PRS, in 16 h

Lok Sabha only 25% bills were referred

4. In recent book on 'Popular House', author argues that parliament disruption has become entrenched used by all parties for political purpose
5. 10<sup>th</sup> schedule prevent MPs to raise their independent view point

Not able to check executive

- Bills are passed in haste
- No serious budget discussion
- Executive is not being made answerable if question hour is disrupted
- Prevent lack of discussion on national issues due to politicization (Eg: Manipur case)

Candidates  
write on

Not able to exercise balanced power

- ↳ It leads to frequent intervention  
by judiciary
- ↳ MPs are suspended for political  
reasons
- ↳ Concerns of citizens not voiced  
accurately
- ↳ Committee recommendations not  
discussed

Way Ahead

1. Shri Om Birla has asked for  
citizens duty to bring accountability  
of their MPs
  2. Create online portal of MPs performance
  3. Provide dedicated opposition days
  4. Make separate committee hours
  5. Fix Parliament calendar (byard 100 days)
- MPs should follow 3Ds - Debate,  
Discuss & Decide else disruption be there  
which is against justice of Sengal - which should  
not bend

15.

भारत में लिंग-संवेदनशील कानूनों पर विमर्श को आकार देने में राष्ट्रीय महिला आयोग द्वारा निभाई गई महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका पर चर्चा करें। राष्ट्रीय महिला आयोग को संवैधानिक संस्था बनाने से उसका प्राधिकार किस हद तक सुगुंज होगा?

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

Discuss the crucial role played by the National Commission of Women in shaping the discourse on gender-sensitive laws in India. To what extent the elevation of the National Commission for Women to a constitutional body would reinforce its authority?

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

National Commission of Women is a statutory body established to look into concerns of women. Recent incidents of violence against women in Manipur, Rajasthan, has raised debate on their efficacy.

Role played

1. It has power of civil court to look into cases of violation of women rights
2. It admits cases from women and can also take suo-motu cognisance
3. It advises the government into matters of welfare of women
4. It recommends policies for enhancement condition of women

5. It publishes an annual report and presents it to the government

### Challenges faced

1. Role is limited to that of recommendation
2. Cannot enquire into cases of abuse of power by army or defence forces
3. It faces several variances and infrastructural & manpower challenges (India Justice Report 2022)
4. Often recruitment is based on political leaning
5. Expenditure is not charged
6. Lack of field visits and work done on merely papers & documentation

### Need for constitutional status

1. To prevent politicization of post of chairperson

2. It have parliamentary accountability instead of executive accountability
3. It will lead to more independence in service conditions & expenses

However, constitutional status alone will not be a panacea. For eg: Commission on Scheduled Tribes has not published report in 4 years.

Therefore, it becomes important that chairperson & members of NCW makes it their legal and ethical responsibility to discharge duties.

Active civil society should also play a proactive role.

‘शिकायतों का संतोषजनक और समयबद्ध निवारण ‘न्यूनतम सरकार, अधिकतम शासन’ की आधारशिला है।’ इस संदर्भ में मौजूदा शिकायत निवारण तंत्र से जुड़ी चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए और इस प्रक्रिया को सुदृढ़ करने के लिए उपाय सुझाएँ।

‘Satisfactory and timely redressal of grievances is the cornerstone of ‘minimum government, maximum governance.’ In this context discuss the challenges associated with current grievance redress mechanisms and suggest measures to strengthen the process.

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

(Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

Minimum government, maximum governance is the doctrine to provide ease of living, ease of doing business and ensure ethical governance framework.

Grievance addressal is bulwark of effective governance as it reinforces accountability and responsiveness and creates positive feedback loop for transparency and citizen participation through answerability.

### Challenges associated

#### 1. Legal:

↳ There is no statutory backing to social accountability tools like Citizen Charter



↳ Departmental interference in complaint procedure (Eg: CVC recommendations are not binding)

↳ Article 311 and Article 312 through pleasure of President creates huge power structures in bureaucracy (noted by 2<sup>nd</sup> APE)

## 2. Institutional challenges

↳ lack of training

↳ lack of sensitization

↳ no codified grievance redressal mechanism

↳ lack of transparency in complaint process

## 3. Social challenges

↳ colonial mindset of officers

↳ lack of active civil society to bring errant officers to just trial

## Measures

1. Legislate Public Service Bill
2. Shift to Swastham model
3. Use technology for grievance redressal (Eg: CPGRAMS)
4. Promote social accountability tools like (Citizens report card)
5. Proper training of officers
6. Streamline complaint process
7. Make awareness among citizens about their rights

These will truly help in realizing maximum governance which puts people at center.

17. 'भ्रष्टाचार शासन के ताने-बाने को जर्जर कर देता है, जिससे लोकतांत्रिक संस्थाओं में जनता का विश्वास कम हो जाता है।' भ्रष्टाचार विरोधी शासन या व्यवस्था की प्रभावशीलता को बढ़ाने के लिए सूचना का अधिकार (आरटीआई) अधिनियम, व्हिसलब्लोअर संरक्षण अधिनियम (डब्ल्यूबीपीए), और लोकपाल और लोकायुक्त अधिनियम, 2013 के बीच समन्वय स्थापित करने के सामर्थ्य का परीक्षण कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

'Corruption corrodes the fabric of governance, eroding the public's faith in democratic institutions.' Examine the potential for harmonizing the Right to Information (RTI) Act, the Whistleblower Protection Act (WBPA), and the Lokpal & Lokayukta Act, 2013, to enhance the effectiveness of the anticorruption regime. (Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

Worldbank defines corruption as misuse of public office for monetary or non-monetary gains. It is a need in system.

- We have several legislations like
- (i) RTI Act → for transparency & accountability
  - (ii) WBPA (whistleblower) → for protecting complainant
  - (iii) Lokpal & Lokayukta → for redressal of complaint & action under fair investigation

Thus, in effect it's a series of actions taken by citizens to first, get data; secondly, file complaint freely; and finally, ensure action is taken with fair & independent trial.

## Potential to harmonize

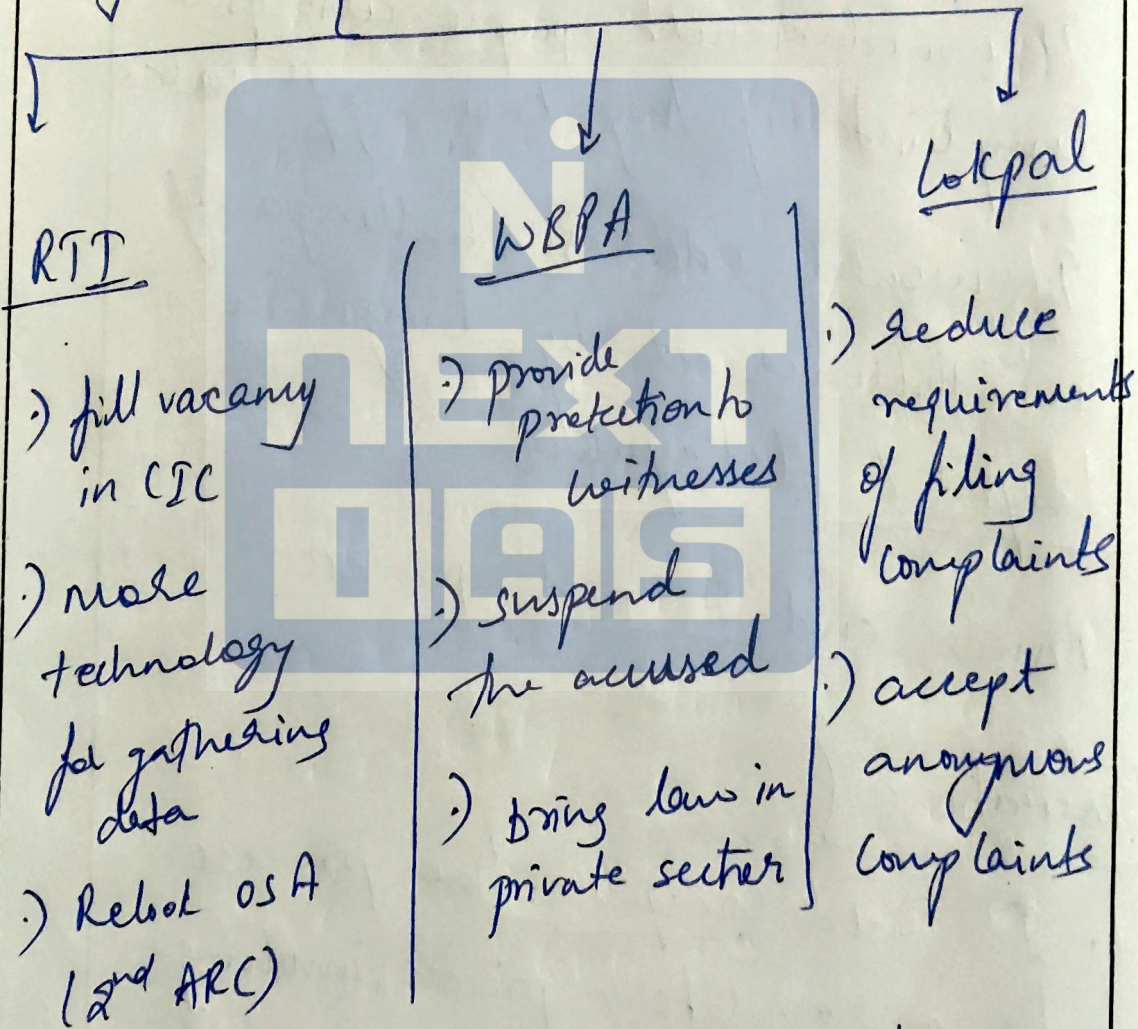
1. It will create a chain reaction from noticing irregularities of RTI data
2. It could thus protect RTI activists
3. It would ensure people also file complaints if they know graft cases
4. It would address challenges of whistleblower act by bringing in lokpal & lokayukta
5. Provide end-to-end process

## Limitations

1. It could complex the process for a regulatory process involving high authorities of lokpal
2. People could be hesitant to file RTI complaint

3. Already awareness of RTI is low
4. It's better to address individual concerns in each legislation

Way Ahead



Thus, we should rather work at addressing individual challenges first.

गरीबी का प्रभावी ढंग से मुकाबला करने के लिए हाशिए पर रहने वाले समुदायों के बीच कौशल विकास, उद्यमिता और आय सृजन के लिए एसएचजी का लाभ एक मंच के रूप में उठाने में शामिल संभावित चुनौतियों और लाभों का विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Analyze the potential challenges and benefits involved in leveraging SHGs as platforms for skill development, entrepreneurship, and income generation among marginalized communities to effectively counter poverty.

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

Recently, Economic Survey applauded SHGs for their role in women empowerment, financial inclusion, upward social mobility and social awareness. India has 1.2 crore SHGs with 88% women led.

### Benefits

1. Provide training to women about account management & financial governance (Thrift & saving model)  
(Es: bank-linkage has led to savings of 50,000 crores - ES data)
2. It opens newer avenues like labour Didi's, Pashu Sakhis for employment

3. SHGs can work in addressing local concerns like floating markets in Kerala for providing day-to-day services
4. It helps members to move beyond agriculture activities (eg: looms in Ladakh, kudumshree, Lijjat Papad)
5. It addresses concerns eg: sale of SHGs during COVID in preparing masks appreciated by world bank
6. Provide upward mobility opportunity (eg: 2 crore lakhpati didis vision of PM)
7. It helps to raise interaction with Gram Sabha (Gram Swaraj Yojana)

### Challenges

1. SHGs overall lack training and skilled manpower

2. There is hesitation to mobilize beyond caste lines
3. Many SHGs are skill limited to agri and allied sectors
4. Women lack access to property (only 14% women own land)
5. It would need sustained handholding of the government

### Way Ahead

Efforts like NRLM, eSHAKTI (for digitization), SHG Development fund, Niyadashini scheme, Sonchirayi are steps in right direction.

Government vision of leaving no woman behind & creating lakhpati didis will help leverage principle 'Sanghan se Shakti' and usher into women led growth



19.

'भारत अपनी समृद्ध संस्कृति के लिए विश्व मानचित्र पर अद्वितीय स्थान रखता है।' इस संदर्भ में भारत की सॉफ्ट पावर कूटनीति के साधन के रूप में संस्कृति, प्रवासी और लोकतंत्र की भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। भारत किस हद तक खुद को स्मार्ट पावर के रूप में स्थापित करने में सक्षम हो पाया है? (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

'India is uniquely positioned on the world map for its rich culture.' In this context discuss the role of culture, diaspora, and democracy as instruments of India's soft power diplomacy. To what extent India has been able to position itself as a 'smart power'? (Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

According to MEA, India has 31 million strong diaspora, including NRIs & PIOs. They act on-ground ambassadors of India.

### Role of diaspora

- ↳ Showcase the talent of doctors, engineers, scientists to the world
- ↳ Promote Indian values abroad
- ↳ Act as living testament of ancient values like Varanasi, Varanasi, Varanasi
- ↳ Leaders like Rishi Sunak, Kamala Harris bring Indian perspective to negotiation table

### Role of culture

- ↳ Promotion of Yoga, millets, Ayurveda as global goods

- ↳ value of tolerance, harmony are promoted
- ↳ Emphasis on balance of science & spirituality
- ↳ Attract more tourists to explore

### Role of democracy

- ↳ Create credentials for freedom of speech at global stage
- ↳ Makes our statements by leaders more persuasive as voice of 1.4 crore people
- ↳ Make governments trust in our engagement (as opposed to debt trap diplomacy)

### India as smart power

Smart power is balanced mix of hard and soft power.

	Success	More needs to be done
Hard Power	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>↳ Nuclear power</li> <li>↳ Emerging as defence exporter</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>↳ historic reliance on imports</li> </ul>
Soft power	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>↳ people recognize India as voice of global south &amp; voice of global good</li> <li>↳ UN declared 21<sup>st</sup> June as Intl. Day of Yoga</li> <li>↳ 2023 as year of millets</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>↳ a lot can be done as we become more Amanisbhar</li> <li>↳ internal conflicts need to be tackled</li> </ul>

In this context we can leverage Parliamentary Committee report that calls for making dedicated policy for diaspora.

भारत और ऑस्ट्रेलिया के बीच साझा मूल्यों और जीवंत लोगों से लोगों के बीच संबंधों का साहचर्य दोनों देशों के बीच दीर्घकालिक व्यापार संबंधों और रणनीतिक सहयोग को बढ़ावा देने के लिए उपजाऊ जमीन तैयार करता है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

The synergy of shared values and vibrant people-to-people connections between India and Australia creates a fertile ground for fostering long-lasting trade relations and strategic collaboration between the two nations. Analyse.

(Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

During the state visit to Australia, PM recognized the strength of our ties beyond 3Cs (cricket, curry and Commonwealth), 3Ds (democracy, demographics, diaspora) and 3Es (energy, education and employees)

Shared values

- ↳ Both are democracies
- ↳ Both favour rules based international order
- ↳ Both want free, open and inclusive Indo-Pacific

- ↳ Both share history of British rule and have shared systems (Parliamentary form of governance)
- ↳ Both recognize ASEAN centrality
- ↳ Both are members of Quad for strengthening relations in Indo-Pacific
- ↳ We have Supply chains resilient infrastructure initiative (along with Japan)
- ↳ Both favour equitable access to critical minerals
- ↳ Business contacts have shared values of ESG and corporate governance

## Vibrant People-to-People Ties

1. Australia hosts a strong Indian diaspora
2. Australian cricketers are well known in India
3. Our cuisines can be shared

Thus, there is huge convergence in our ties and it can be further strengthened by increasing trade potential and attracting more Australian businesses into India.