

NEXT IAS

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(To be filled by candidate)

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Registration Number : Date of Examination : 02/07/2023

Exam Centre : Old Rajinder Nagar Bhopal Online

Test - 2

Code : TC072

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			
Grand Total				

Signature

MACRO COMMENTS



IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS

Q1

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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.
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.
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Q1

जन प्रतिनिधित्व अधिनियम, 1951 की धारा 8 में उल्लिखित नियोग्यता प्राक्धानों में उपस्थित अस्पष्टता का समाधान करने की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

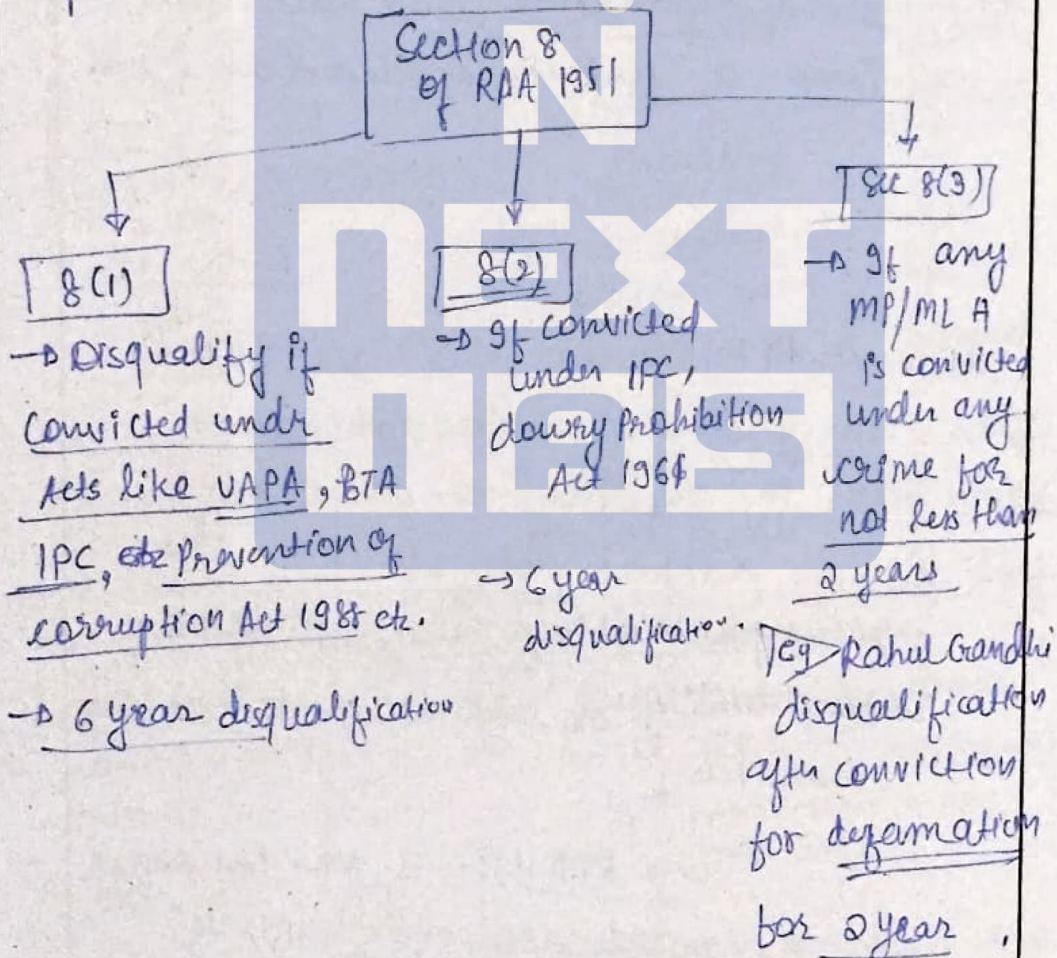
(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

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.

Representation of people Act 1951

provides various provisions like Qualification, Disqualifications, seats in parliament etc thus providing clear idea about the election process.



Section 8(4) was identified as unconstitutional by SC in Lily Thomas case (2013) which provided that MP can hold position/seat if appeals to SC within 3 months.

What are the ambiguities?

① Election commission's discretion

↳ MP can approach to EC under section 11 of RPA, 1951

↳ Discretion to remove disqualification

② Ambiguous terms and not clearly defined.

eg) Case of defamation could have been given a sentence of less than 2 year

However RPA, 1951 has also highlighted other clear grounds for disqualification which helps in strengthening democracy

eg) - corrupt practices (sect 12.3)
- prevent promoting emity, practicing untouchability or appealing to ascriptive identities,

Thus RPA, 1951 is an important act guiding towards achieving vision of free & fair elections.

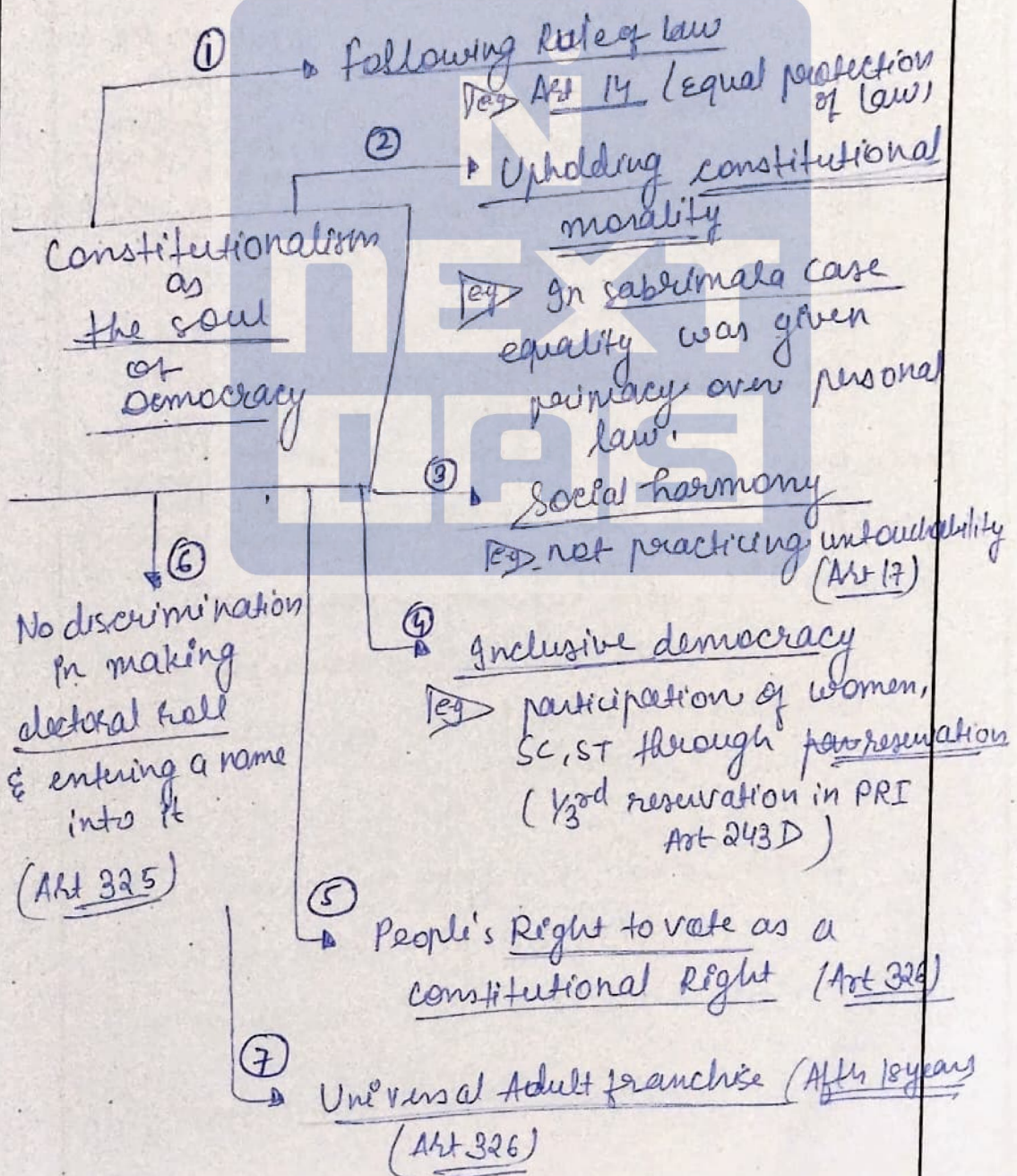
संविधान मात्र एक कंकाल है जबकि संविधानवाद लोकतंत्र की आत्मा है। विवेचना कीजिए।

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

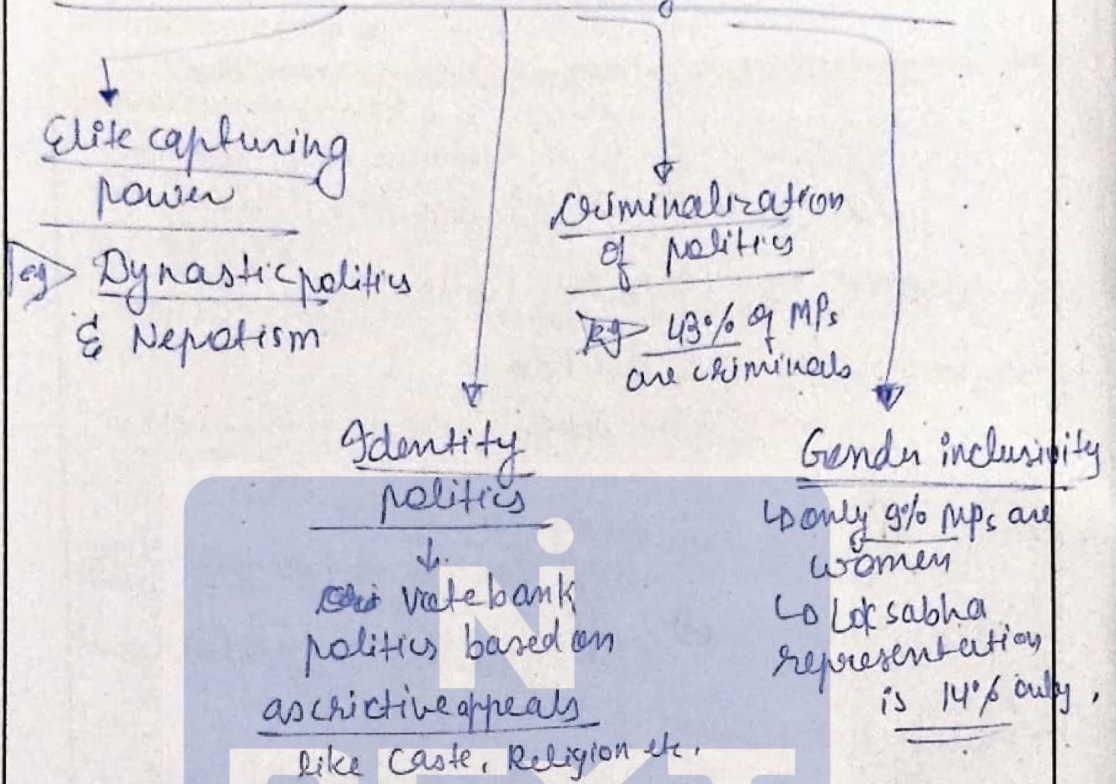
Constitution is a mere skeleton whereas constitutionalism is the soul of democracy. Discuss.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks.

Constitutionalism can be defined as the process of strictly following to the provisions of constitution.



However certain challenges are there



Thus constitutionalism becomes an important way to adhere to constitutional principles and thus achieving a truly democratic country.

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 कैद 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 bond is an instrument to fund political party in an Anonymous way.

Positives of it

- ① An instrument to prevent influence of donors on policies of political party.
↳ Anonymity is necessary.
- ② Prevent Black marketing and any parallel economy
↳ Bonds can only be encashed within 15 days
- ③ Clear account of customer/donor through KYC norms ⇒ Transparency in political funding.
- ④ A convenient way → can be issued in Jan, April, July & October
↳ In values like 1000, 10000, 100000 etc.
↳ Any individual or company can donate.

(A double edged sword)

① High Anonymity thus funds remain unknown to ECI,

↳ ADR Report says 40% funds given to party was from unknown sources, (25% of which was from Electoral bond).

② Removed the cap of 7.5% of profit of corporate that could be donated.

③ No compulsion on political party to disclose funds to ECI.

Gupta ^{Gupta} Committee suggested state funding of election to eliminate all the issues pertaining to election funding.

रामान 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.

UCC can be defined as the process of applying similar law across the India in matters of civil cases like marriage, Adoption, Divorce etc. instead of different personal laws.

Why it should be implemented:

① Ensure Gender equality

↓
Personal laws are disproportionately favouring men.

eg Triple Talaaq

↓
Law can enhance gender equality

eg Equal co-parcenary rights in inheritance.

② Constitutional mandate → Art 44 directs State to implement UCC.

③ Supreme Court in case Shayra Bano case highlighted its importance in National integrity & harmony.

④ Sarla Mudgal case → SC said that its power of Parliament to bring UCC in effect.

Challenges

- ① S.R. Bommai case 1994 - SC upheld that state being secular shouldn't interfere with personal laws.
- ② Still a sensitive issue → can bring religious conflict & instability.
- ③ Civil laws are equal already
 ↳ e.g. contract Act, Evidence Act etc.
- ④ Jeopardizing Tribals' rights (Art 29)
 ↳ Tribals distinct cultural rights and practices are at risk.
- ⑤ Law Commission said that it's neither necessary nor desirable.

↳ A gradual approach is needed (piecemeal approach)

Way forward

↳ Codification of personal law can help in reducing arbitrariness.

In Constituent Assembly, B.R. Ambedkar also supported UCC but advocated for its being voluntary and not forced.

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.

Governor's position is an important constitutional office. He is appointed by president and there can be a common governor for two or more states.

Constitutional Role

- ① Appointing various officials like chairman of SPSC
- ② Reserving bills for president Assent (Art 200)
eg. Bills that affect powers of High Court
- ③ Report to president on constitutional machinery failure (Art 365)
- ④ Governor make ordinance when legislative is not active (Art 213)
- ⑤ Role in scheduled & tribal Area (Schedule 6)
eg. Modified rules are implemented.

Contribution in federalism

- ① Appointed by centre and work in state.

- Establish liaison between Centre & State.
- (2) President Rule is implied ^{generally} only after Governor's report to president.
- (3) Governor is an important link between centre & state
 ↳ Also play role in Decentralization
 Veg → Autonomous District Councils make rules after Governor's consent.

However there are certain issues

- (1) Delays in Bill assent by governor (Pocket veto)
 Veg → Tamil Nadu bill.
- (2) Act as an agent of centre (crisis say that)
- (3) Governor - CM conflict
 Veg → Tamil Nadu - After Governor skipped some part of Anti Governor's Address.
- (4) These discretionary powers (Art 163(3)) often conflict with elected government.

Way forward

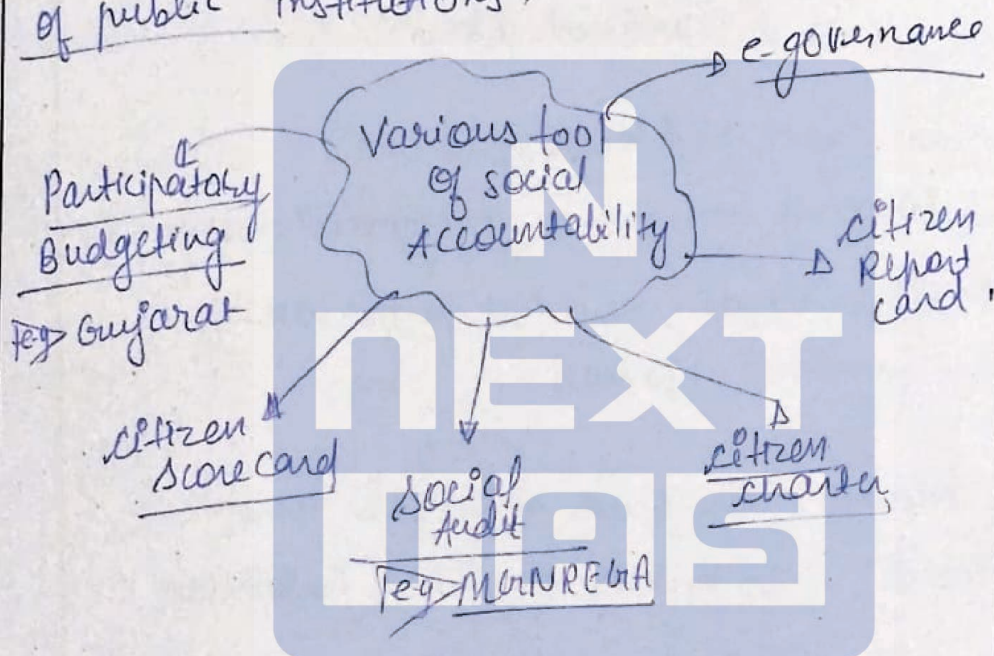
- ↳ Punchhi Commission recommends fix five year tenure of Governor
- ↳ Sarkaria Commission - Governor should be an outside person, a detached figure from the local politics.

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 laws are tool for the citizen to uphold the accountability of public institutions.



How it can lead to good governance & citizen participation:

① Ensuring Accountability in utilization of public fund.

→ Participatory Budgeting by some states.

② Citizen engagement

→ Social Audits are done by the beneficiaries of the law.

③ Following Rule of law → As the accountability measures are there - public institutions will follow rule of law.

④ Transparency → RTI Act 2005

⑤ Quality of service delivery
 → Citizen charter ensure timely delivery & standard services.

⑥ Grievance redressal
 ↳ these tool make government responsive
 → Citizen charter also has provision of Grievance redressal.

Many states have taken the good steps → Jam soochna portal by Rajasthan

→ Social Accountability law by Meghalaya

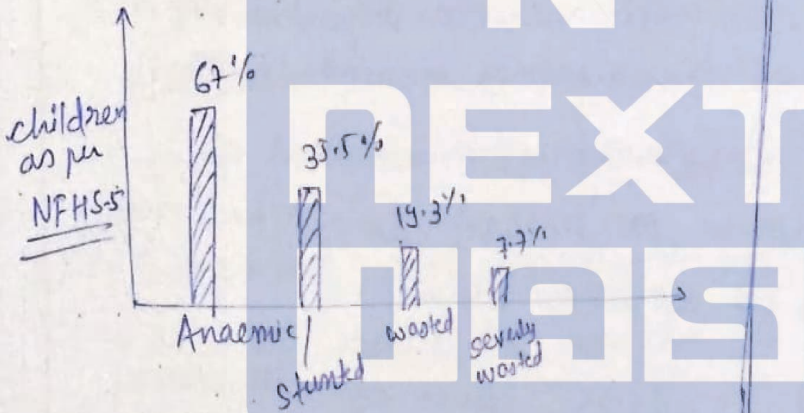
Other states should also learn the best practices to achieve good governance.

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

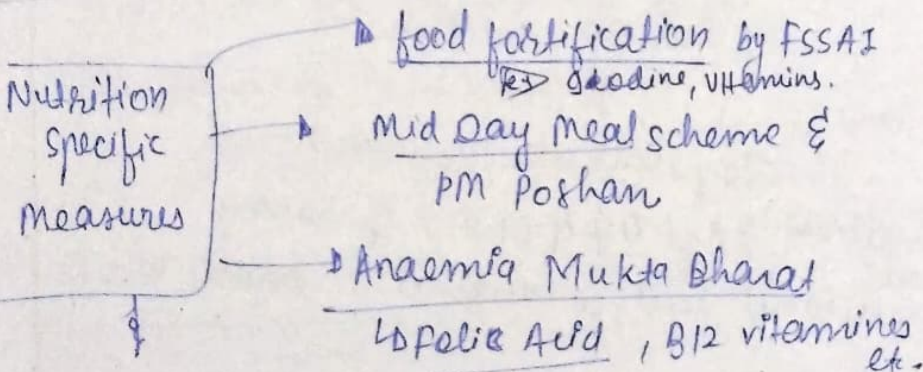
There is a need for convergence of 'nutrition-specific' and 'nutrition-sensitive' interventions to effectively tackle child undernutrition in India. Examine. (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks.

Undernutrition can be defined as the deficiency of important nutrients among children which affect their cognitive and learning ability as per WHO.

Fig: Issue of child undernutrition



Tackling undernutrition in India



Nutrition
Sensitive

→ Integrated Child Development Scheme → 0-6 year children are targeted.

→ Poshan Abhiyan with targets like reducing anaemia by 3%

Need of convergence

- ① For Better targetting and better nutrition addressing
- ② To converge various departments and institutions working in silos.
- ③ Need of convergence is evident as new scheme PM Poshan came after merging many sch existing schemes.
- ④ Need to address issues of nutrition as a whole
 ✓ Nutritional challenge of mother can't be separated from nutrition of challenge children.

To fulfill the constitutional obligation (Art 47 & DPSP) of raising nutritional level, convergence is needed.

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.

MGNREGA is an initiative to provide 100 days employment to rural unskilled workers.

[A lynchpin of Rural poverty alleviation]

- ① 100 days guaranteed employment to unskilled labourer
- ② Increased wages during COVID-19 pandemic under Aatma Nibhar Bharat package.
- ③ Increased work security to women
↳ 56% of MGNREGA workers are women.
- ④ Unemployment allowances are given if fail to provide jobs within 15 days
- ⑤ Important for creation of Assets
↳ Drinking water facility } help in rural
Irrigation facility etc. } poverty alleviation.
- ⑥ people participation and social Audit is done

Issues

① Financial Apathy

↳ 0.2% of GDP is allocated to MGNREGSA (Budget 2023)

↳ It should be at least 1.6% as per World Bank.

↳ Decreased budgetary allocation from previous year Budget.

② Wage delays & compensation & allowances are also not given

③ Kaste issue

↳ wage delays are more in castes like SC (46%) & ST (37%)

④ The technical approaches like NMMS app & attendance through it has added to the woes of workers (illiterate & have less knowledge).

⑤ Fake job cards and inclusion error (fictitious names)

⑥ Poor implementation and monitoring of works

↳ Many incomplete & low quality works are done.

MGNREGSA is important for inclusive growth and should be implemented fairly with increased fund allocations and a similar alternative should be for urban unskilled labour.

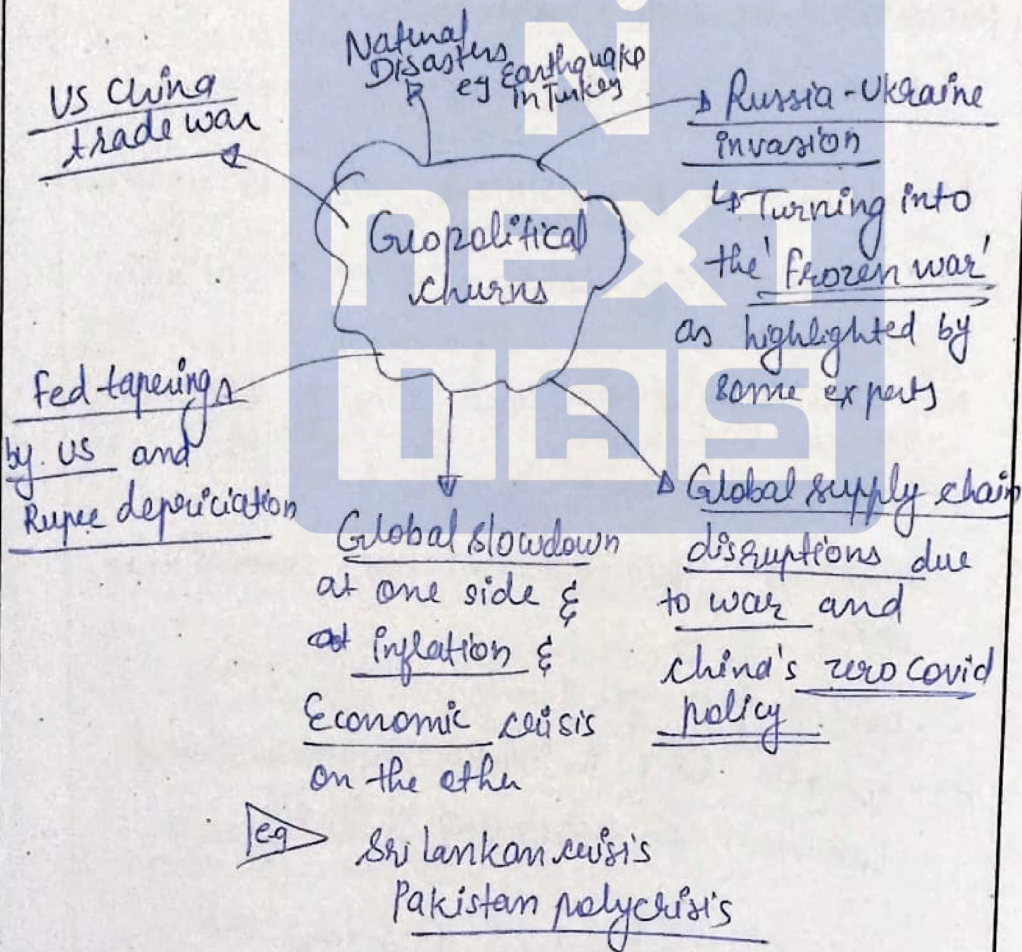
"भारत को इसका लाभ उठाना चाहिए, यदि प्रकथन नहीं किया गया तो वैश्विक विभाजन हो जाएगा।" वर्तमान भू-राजनीतिक मंथन वैश्विक स्तर पर भारत के उत्थान का मार्ग कैसे प्रशस्त कर सकता है?

(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.

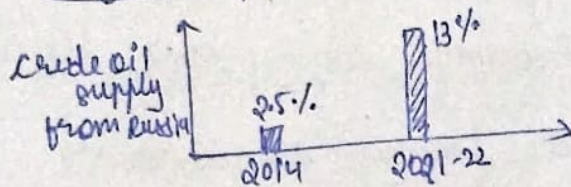
The present geopolitical crisis as also highlighted by the Economic Survey 2022 should be leveraged in India's favour to secure its National security & National interest.



How India can leverage these

① Ensuring National interest

eg cheap crude oil from Russia has made it the largest supplier to India.



② Ensure strategic autonomy by not getting pressurized by any western power.
↳ balancing both US-Europe & Russia.

③ Maintaining & rejuvenating ties with neighbourhood
eg almost \$4bn has been given to Sri Lanka.

④ Net security provider and aim of becoming voice of Global south country

eg Presiding "Voice of Global South Summit" under G20.

⑤ Establishing the good will

eg operation Dost in Turkey despite unsolicited comments on abrogation of Art 370.

However some challenges like Russia-china, china pakistan challenges are there but India can ~~can~~ will have to manage these to become a VISHWAGURU.

“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 relationship established with the strategic treaty which was the first ever treaty signed with an European nation.

Significance of India-Germany Relation

- ① Mainly engage in scientific Research and collaborations.
- ② people to people ties in terms of Tourism and students going for study.
- ③ Strategic importance is there as it can serve as a gateway of European Union.
↳ Can help in negotiations of Bilateral Trade & Investment Agreement (BTIA).

④ The people's access to Germany for tourism, higher studies (eg-medical) gives a way to other European nation by showing the mutual trust and mutual relation with Germany.

⑤ Economic relations like Export of gems, stones, pharmaceuticals, textile products etc are immense to Germany.

↳ Can help in capturing the market of European Union as well.

However there are concerns like lack of geographical proximity (no boundary), low Economic Trade between them.

These challenges can be solved through enhanced connectivity measures like INSTC, & more trade agreements.

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.

Anti defection Law or the method of disqualifying a candidate based on defection was inserted into the constitution by 52nd Constitutional Amendment Act 1985, in 10th schedule of the constitution.

If a member votes or abstains to vote against order of whip.

Grounds of Defection

If a members voluntarily gives up the membership

If any nominated member joins any party after expiry of 6 months.

If an independent member joins any political party

How does it impact relation

① Whip or the party head orders & regulates all the actions of an individual.

- ② It has the provision that exempts merger if $\frac{2}{3}$ rd member of party wants to merge to another party.
- ③ However 91st CAA removed provision of split ($\frac{1}{3}$ rd member earlier could split from the party)
- ④ strain in relations
↳ delay in decision and final Authority lies with speaker/chairman (who themselves are a member of any party).

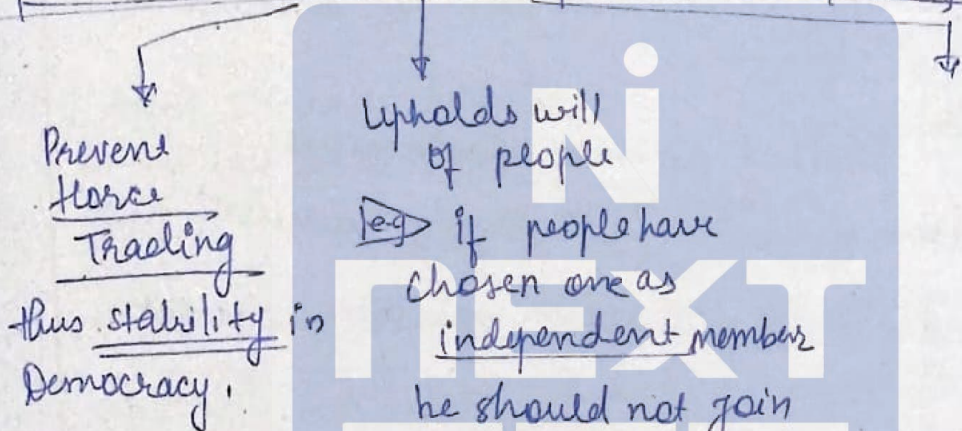
Unintended Consequence on Democracy

- ① No Members are not allowed to listen to their own conscience → only follow whip order
- ② Exemption is based on number and not based on reason.
i.e If wrong is done by majority, it won't be punished.
- ③ It doesn't allow to vent out dissent which ultimately gets form of disruptions and protests by MPs/MLAs in house.

(4) As representatives are only following whip guidelines → are often not able to exercise people's will thus undermine democracy.

(5) Speaker is a member of party thus question impartiality and also doesn't have the judicial expertise.

However there are some positive consequences



way forward

▷ Dinesh Goswami committee says that it should be used only when danger to government.

Supreme Court in Keisham Meghbandram case

▷ 2nd ARC says Authority should be with President/Governor on consultation with ECI.

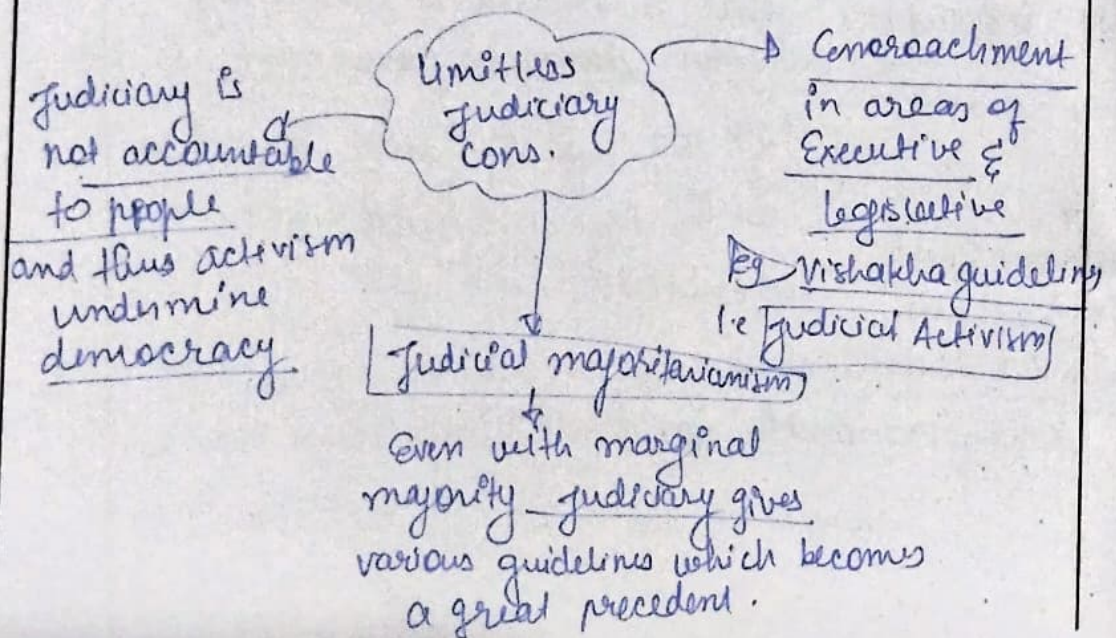
▷ fixes 3 month for decision.

- 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.

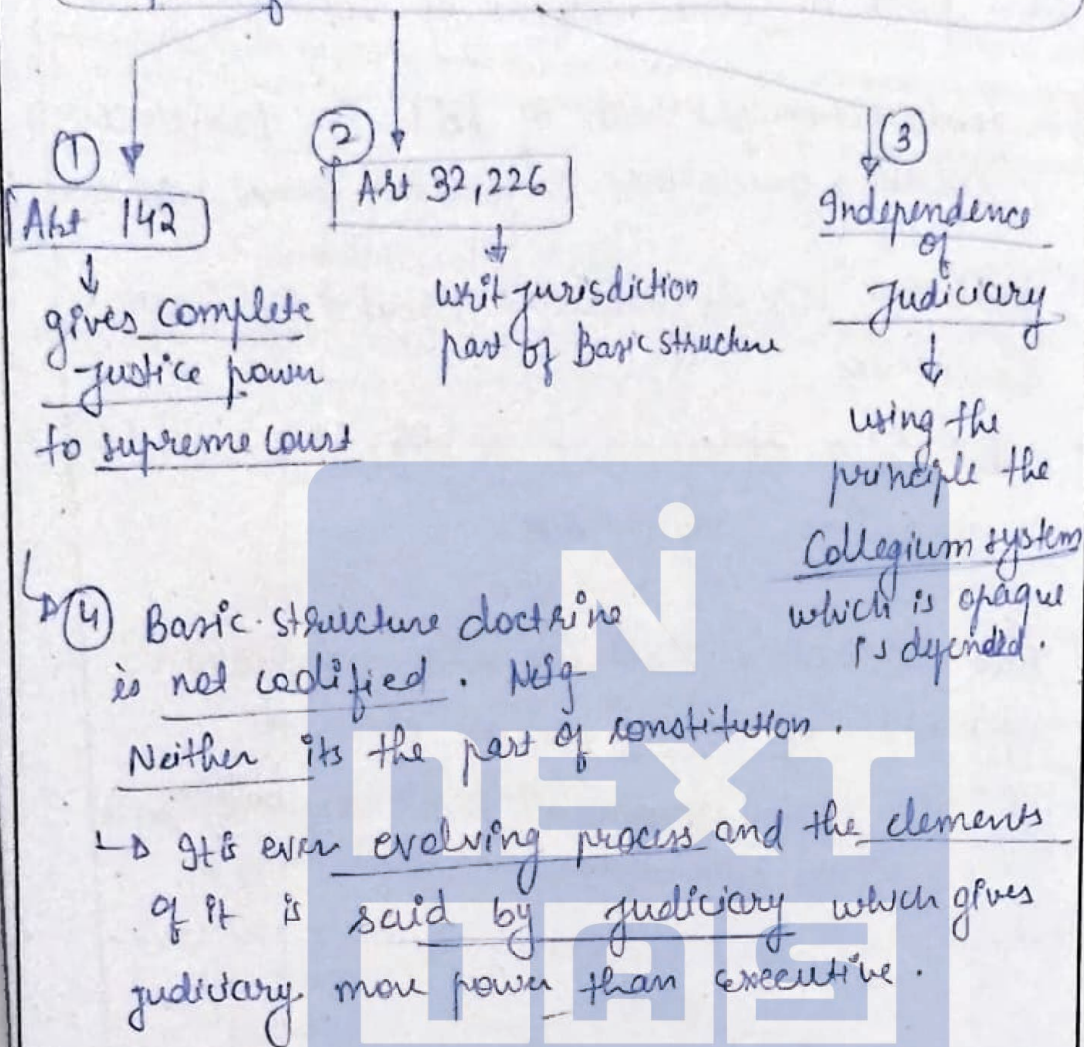
Basic structure doctrine brought by hon. SC in Kesavananda Bharati case (1973) highlights that there are some core principles of the Constitution which shouldn't be amended or changed.

Limited power of Parliament, Separation of power (Judiciary & Executive) and independence of judiciary are some elements of it.

→ As separation of power is a basic structure limitless judiciary is against basic structure.



Basic structure doctrine - making Judiciary powerful



Arguments Against

① the basic structure doctrine and judicial autonomy has made the constitution a "living document"

↳ Evolving as per need of the society

eg. Limited power of Parliament, federal structure, Free & fair elections etc.

eg. expansion of fundamental rights (K.S. Puttaswamy case Right to privacy)

② - the independent judiciary actively takes part in the welfare of society.

eg - Guidelines for sale of Acid in Laxmi case - Vishakha guidelines to prevent sexual harassment.

③ Judiciary fills the vacuum created by inactive Executives

eg - Directing government to take step in manipur crisis ASAP.

④ Basic structure doctrine also mentions separation of power as an element
i.e. It doesn't promote limited judiciary rather an independent judiciary.

what should be done?

△ A codification can be thought by learning from Germany.

△ Judiciary is also not exempted from check (Review)
↳ Art 137 provides for judicial correctness (Review Petition)

Basic structure doctrine has been asserted by SC time & again and thus form the bed rock and a guiding light to the Constitution.

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.

Fundamental rights are basic human rights enshrined in the constitution under Part III (Art 12-35).

▶ These are basic human rights that should be endowed to every human.

Fundamental Right
Features & independence from state.

▶ Ensures constitutional supremacy by providing rights & ensuring individual liberty.

eg) Sabrimata case - Constitutional morality was upheld (Art 14)

▶ Ensure basic principles like Right to life & liberty, (Art 21)

States can't interfere or take away any fundamental rights as it is basic structure

▶ Equal protection of law and positive discrimination for welfare. (Art 14 & 15 respectively)

eg) Limited power of parliament to amend.

Desirability of Reasonable Restriction

- ① Fundamental Rights are not absolute sanction.
- ② One's fundamental Right can endanger other basic rights too.
 - ↳ Right to free speech & expression [Art 19(1)(a)] can lead to hate speech, Defamation, Contempt of court etc ⇒ thus restrictions [19(2)]
- ③ Reasonable restriction keep check on individual's rights to maintain Rule of law.
 - ↳ Right to move freely of a person can endanger cultural Rights (Art 29) of Tribals.
- ④ To ensure Right to life & liberty (Art 21)
 - ↳ 'Right to privacy' can't be abridged by others as its basic essential part of human life & dignity.
- ⑤ Reasonable restrictions to protect public order, sovereignty & integrity of nation.

↳ Art 19(2)

- (E) To prevent state from favouring any particular religious group or institutions.
- (F) To ensure public interest at large
 (eg) - Not telling the grounds of preventive detention
 - Officials of Army, Navy etc are not allow to fully enjoy their freedom of speech & expression.
- (G) To maintain social harmony and the welfare of people at large.
 (eg) - Religious propagation can be done but proselytizing can't or forceful conversion is not allowed.
 - freedom to work/profession (19(1)(g)) can't allow human trafficking.

However there are certain challenges like ambiguities in words, judicial activism etc but fundamental rights provide as bedrock of the constitution.

See 3
364

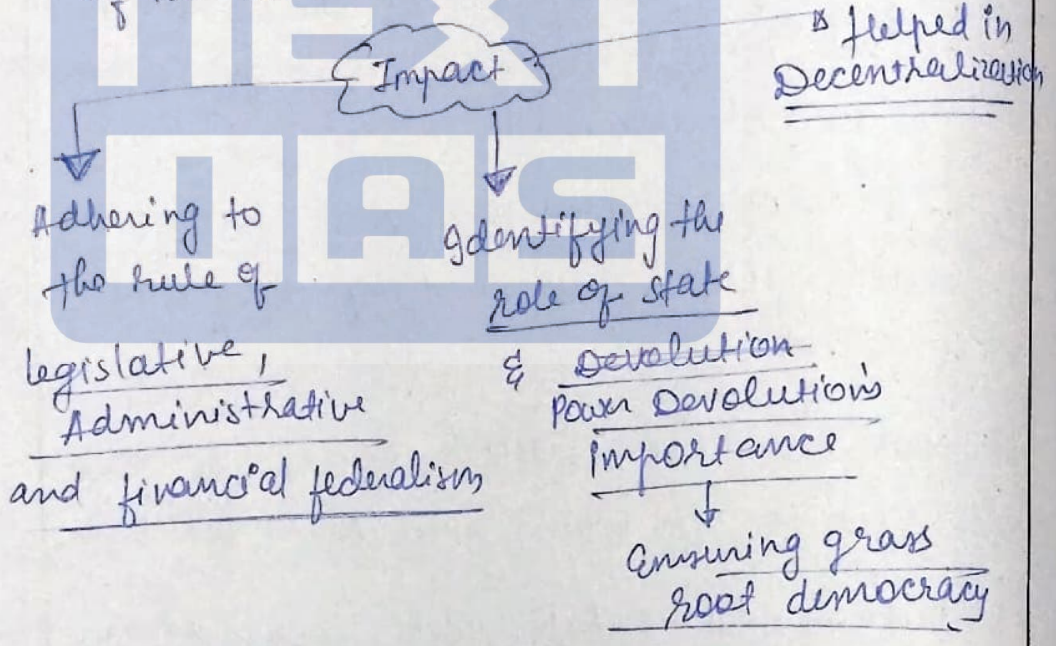
Q.14 'एस.आर. बोम्माई बनाम भारत संघ मामले ने संघ द्वारा किसी राज्य के प्रशासन पर नियंत्रण ग्रहण करने के संघ के अधिकार की न्यायिक व्याख्या में एक आदर्श बदलाव का संकेत दिया।' इस संदर्भ में संघीय ढाँचे को मजबूत करने पर निर्णय के महत्त्व और प्रभाव पर चर्चा कीजिए।
(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

'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 Uo India 1994 laid many basic guidelines through which India's federal structure become more stronger.

Judicial interpretation & its impact

① Federalism was made a basic structure of the Constitution.



② Democracy & Democratic principles were highlighted and was made a part of basic str.

- Impact**
- Democratic Decentralization was emphasized.
 - More emphasis on devolution of power

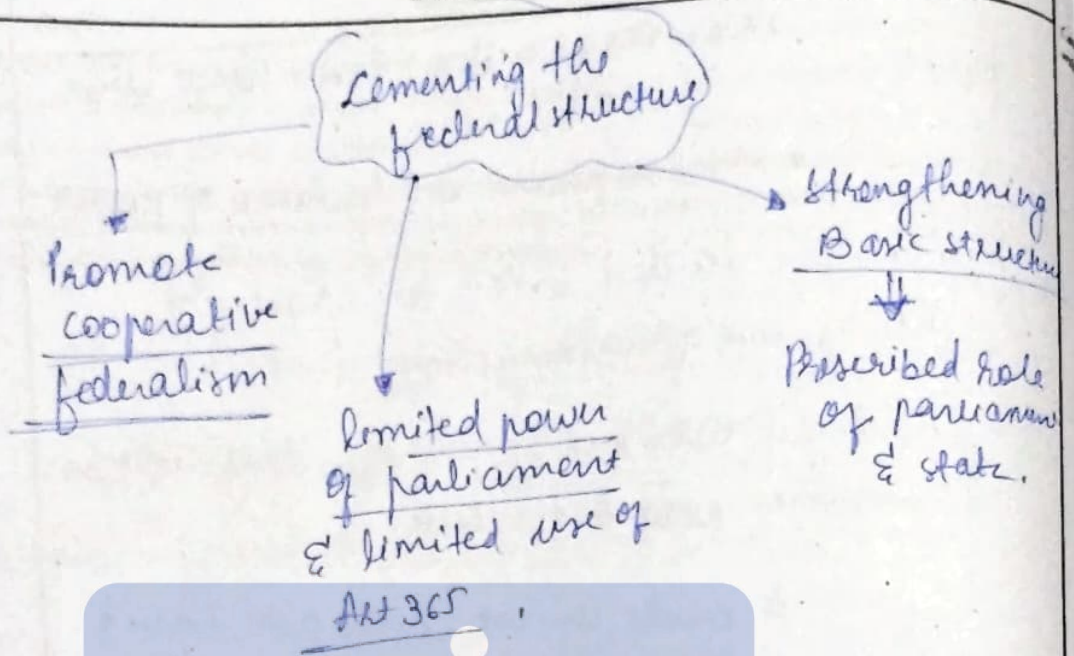
③ Judiciary guided Union to sparingly use power of Emergency.

↳ sparingly use Art 365 (President rule) to assume powers of state.

- Impact**
- made union conscious to use this power rarely.
 - recognise state's autonomy and its role is resolving issue cooperatively.
 - Limiting role of Parliament and thus ensuring cooperative federalism.

④ secularism was also made a part of Basic Structure.

- Impact**
- strengthening and reasserting the state's impartial role in sphere of Religion.
(Art 25 to 28)
 - Judiciary highlighted that "secular aspect of life shouldn't be mixed with Religion".



Thus S.R. Bommai case helped in cementing the federalism by highlighting the various provisions of constitution & basic structure.

15

प्रभावी विकेंद्रीकरण की कुंजी 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।

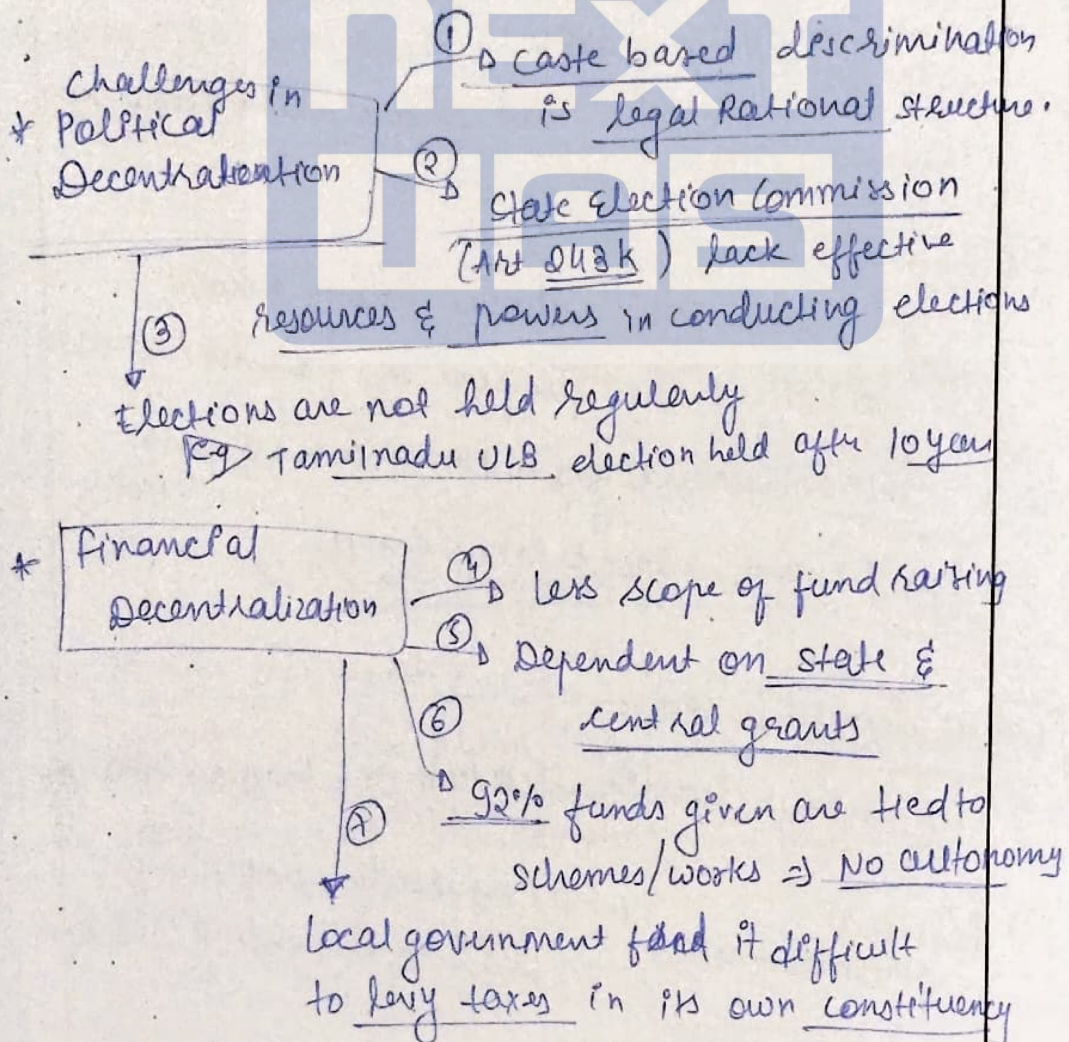
(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

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.

The local governance or third tier governance was recognized by 73rd & 74th CAA, 1992 and was empowered as per the vision of constitution in DPSP Art 40.

but recent years has witnessed many issues in effective decentralization :-



⑧ State finance commission (243I & 243Y)
are not regularly set up

⑨ No serious consideration over recommendations of state finance commission.

Functional Powers

- State don't devolve effective power to local tier
- Constitution says "states may..." and thus leaving this crucial part on the discretion of state.
- many important functions like drinking water, sanitation, education etc are not share with local govts.

Other issues

- "Sarpanch pati" shows proxy power to failing the purpose of positive reservation.
- Infrastructural gap → No computers & own quarters.
- functionary → lack of talent & skills.

What should be done?

Effective decentralization can happen through

- ① Political Decentralization → Regularly establishing SEC and holding elections.

→ effective role of women & other caste people to maintain inclusivity.

↳ 44.4% Representation of women highlighted by Global Gender Gap Index (WFP)

② Financial Decentralization

- devolving powers to fund
- implement 15th FC recommendation of local government grants

↓
Institutional measures

like formations of SFC (State Finance Commission)

③ Functional Devolution

- Art 243G (11th schedule, 29 subjects)
- Art 243W (10th schedule, 18 subjects)

All should be devolved for effective utilization of resources

The third tier government has key role in the democracy (2nd ARC) as it helps in better planning and executing the schemes, and thus ensure inclusive growth.

NEXT IAS

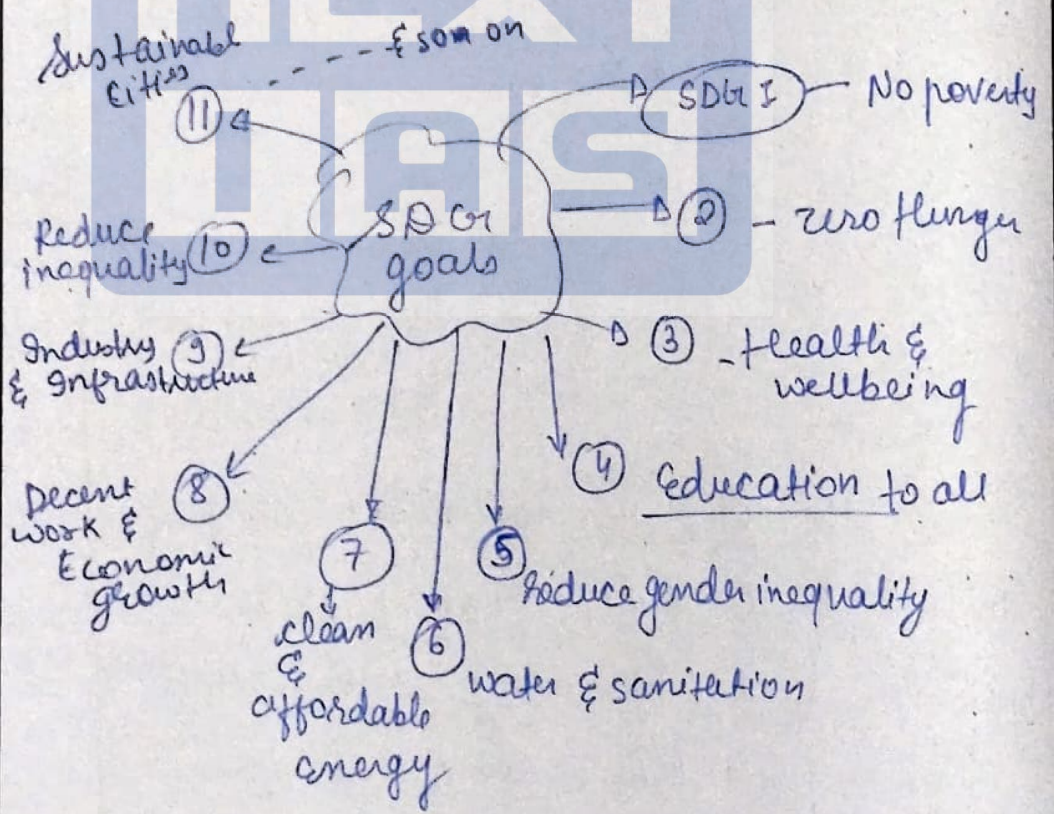
Q.16

सांघुहिक विशेषज्ञता और नेटवर्क (संजाल) का लाभ उठाने के लिए बहु-हितधारक साझेदारी महत्त्वपूर्ण 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 is the way of using resources in a way that meet the demand of present generation without jeopardising the needs of future generation (Brundtland Report)

Sustainable Development Goals pursue idea of sustainable development. UNDP has identified 17 goals to be achieved by 2030.



Role of multi stakeholder partnership

① Issues like poverty & inequality can only be addressed through multistakeholder partnership

eg → Union-state-local government will have to work together to have better targeting.

② International collaboration are also needed

eg → SDG 13 → Action against climate change
SDG

③ Role of 3rd sector i.e. NGOs, SHGs, CSOs etc.

eg → Ensuring quality & effective education by many NGOs (SDG 4)

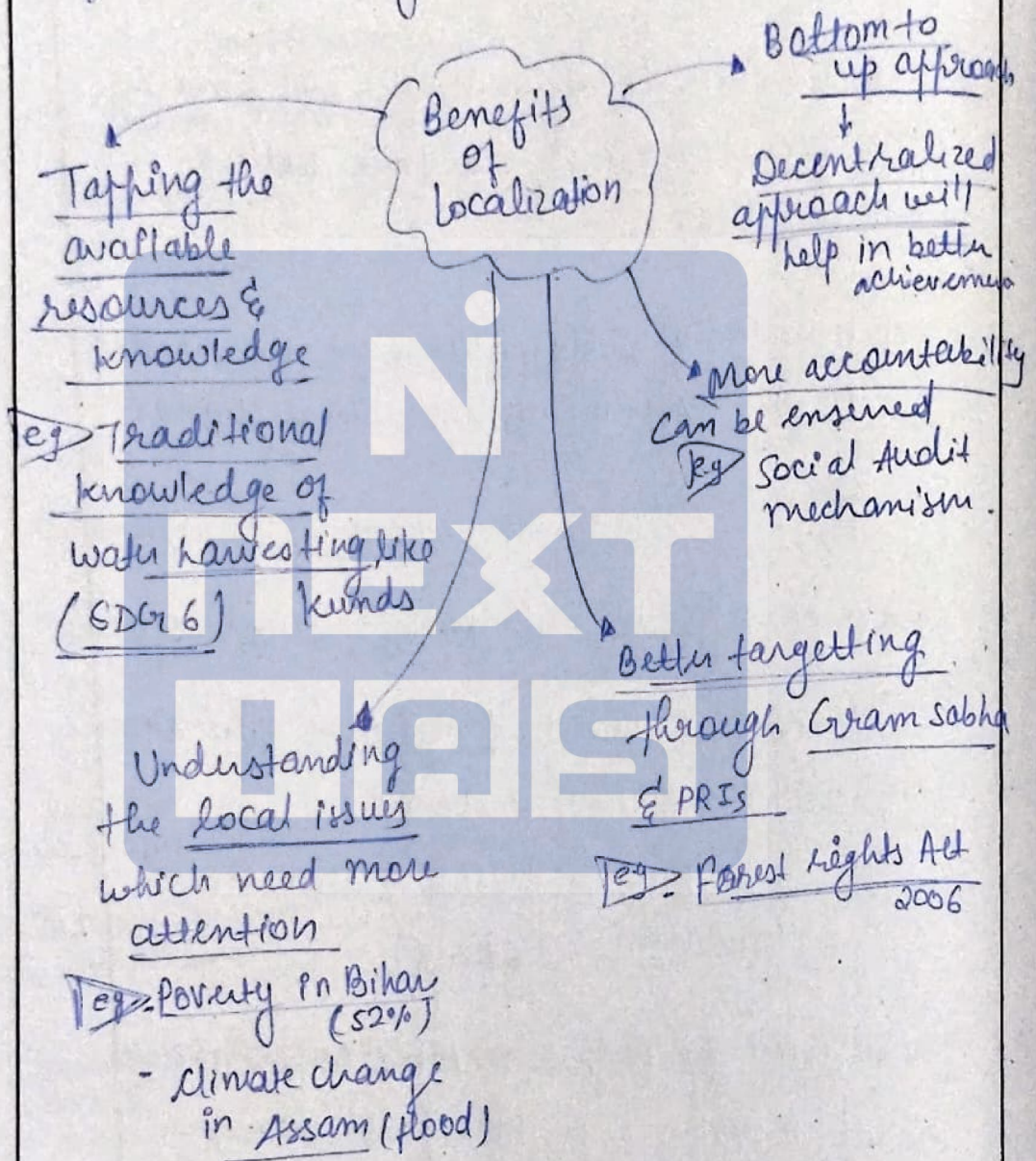
- SHGs helps in Health & Nutritional awareness (SDG 3)

④ Inclusivity by Private sector & Corporations

eg → Gender inclusion & workforce participation by providing friendly infrastructure like crech (SDG 5)

Localization of SDG

NITI Aayog's Report highlighted the importance of localising the SDG.



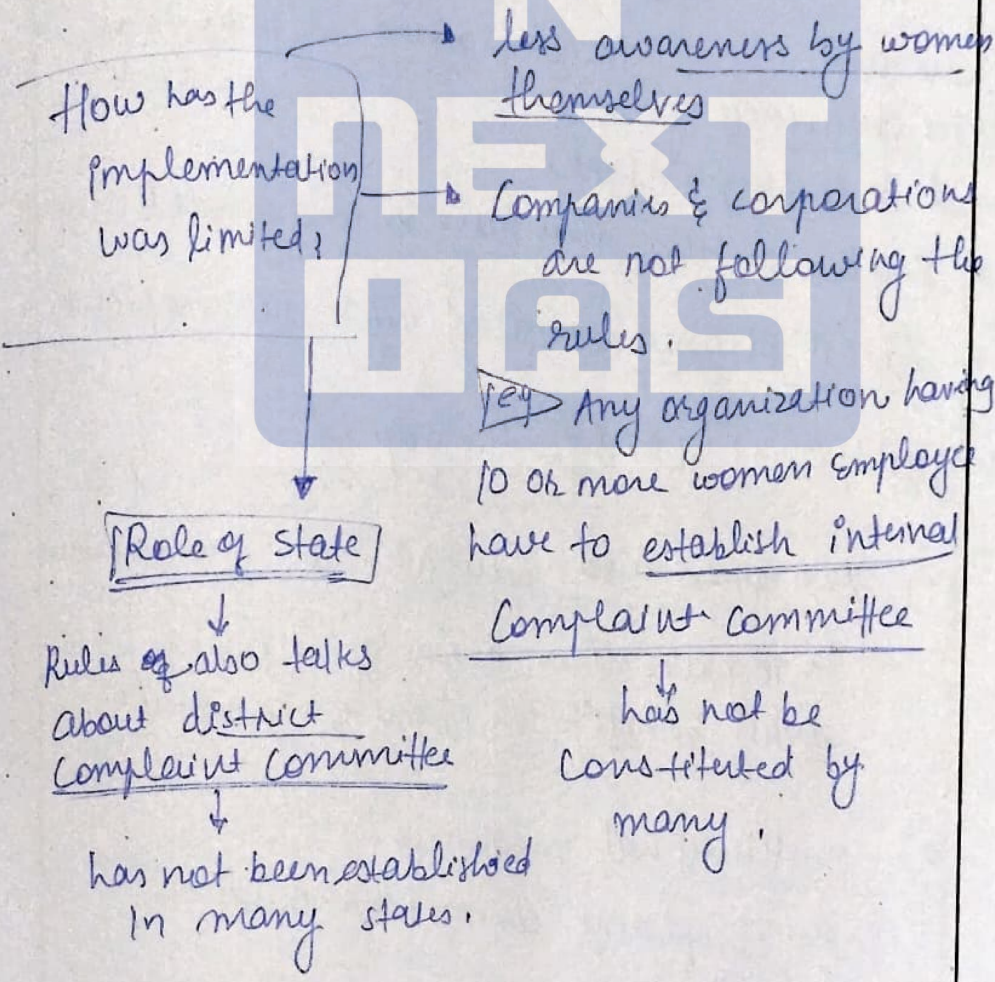
This implementation needs enhanced actions as UNDP's report highlights that no country is on track to achieve SDG on time.

Q.17

पीओएसएच अधिनियम के कार्यान्वयन से यौन उत्पीड़न के बारे में जागरूकता बढ़ाने में सीमित सफलता ही क्यों मिली है, और किन कारणों 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।

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. (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Prevention of sexual harassment at workplace was main theme of Vishakha guidelines by SC which paved the way for implementing POSH Act.



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factors
hindering
the benefit
of women
in unorganized
sector

① → less social security provided
thus no formal means to
complain (No inquiry comm
or complaint committee)

② → women in unorganized sector
are majority illiterate / semi-literate
and are unaware of these
rules.

③ → Due to less employment security
& social security, they often fear
in complaining ⇒ may lose their
livelihood.

There are
data deficiency

and improper checks

of implementing this rule in unorganized sectors.

④ → social stigma associated with such complaints.

Suggestions to bridge the gap

① Awareness and Educational programmes

↳ To make them aware of how to
avail benefits & how to complain.

② Institutional measures

↳ Complaint committee should be
build.

↳ Online grievance redressal mechanism

Can be a way out,

③ Leveraging Smart phone penetration

↳ Online complaints

↳ Using Apps

↳ Social media can be used for
Awareness (#MeToo campaign encouraged
many)

preventing sexual harassment
and ensuring safety can enhance the
women participation in workforce thus increasing
the growth (GMP)

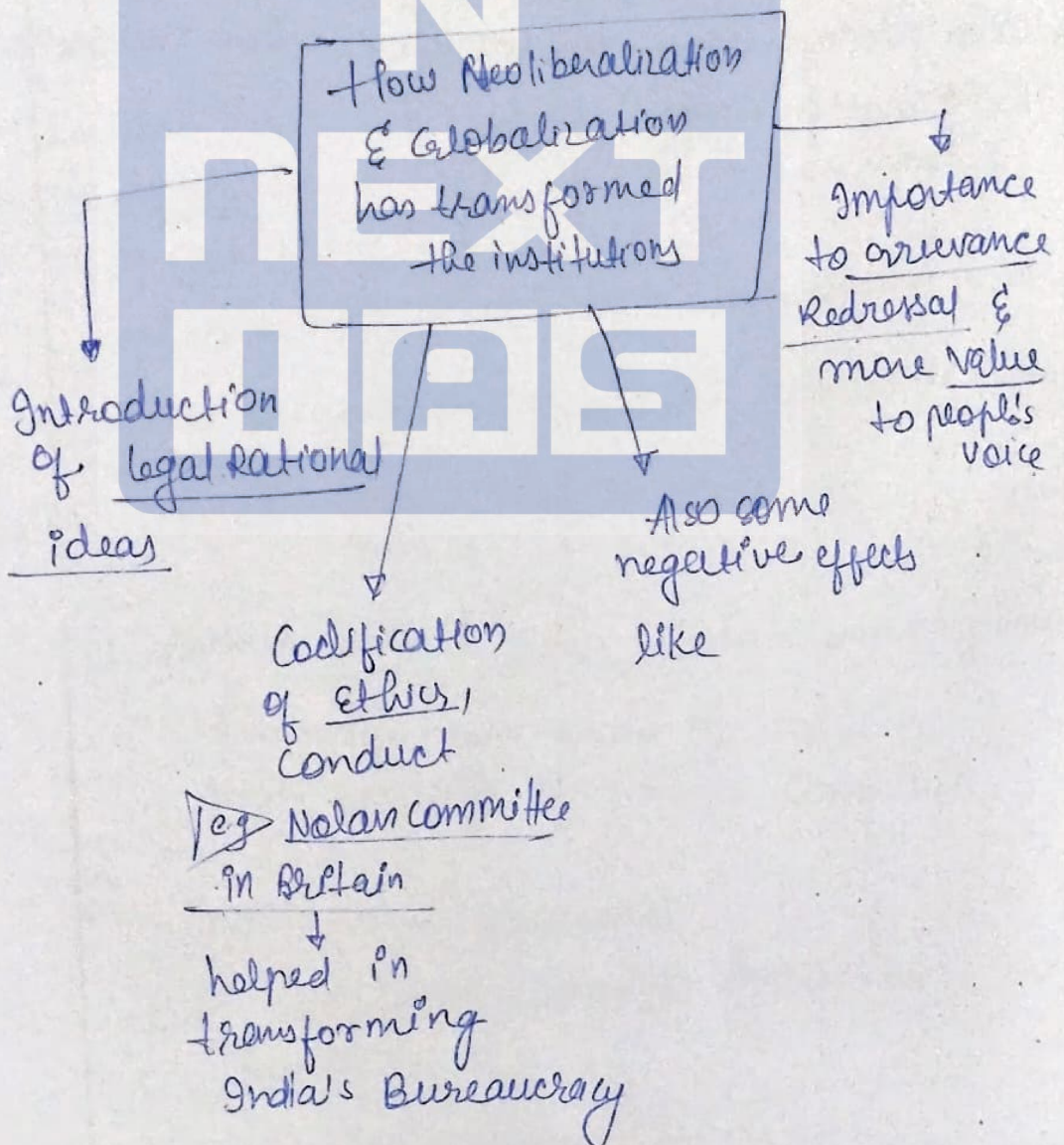
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Q.18 'नव-उदारवादी सुधारों और वैश्वीकरण ने कल्याणकारी राज्य की संस्थाओं को गहराई से बदल दिया है और एक नई प्रकार की सिविल सेवाओं के लिए आधार तैयार किया है।' इस संदर्भ में सेवा वितरण के समक्ष आने वाली चुनौतियों का परीक्षण कीजिए और पर्याप्त सुधारों हेतु 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.

Neo liberalization and globalization
has ensured coming of new ideas and
strengthening of the legal rational Authority
of the civil services.



Challenges faced in service delivery

① Globalization has created unstable stability
i.e. stability only from outside but
internally weak institutional structure.

eg → Corruption

② Lack of Transparency and Accountability

eg → RTI can't be filed against political party

③ Demand-supply mismatch.

eg → Increasing population has increased
the welfare needs

↳ Not responsive government & institutions

④ Demand side
Challenges

↳ people's complacent Attitude

eg → "chalta hai" in corruption &
bribe

↳ less people participation in
service delivery process

eg → Social Audit - on paper only

⑤ Supply side
Issues

↳ No grievance redressal mechanism

∴ less responsive service delivery

↳ Lack of standard & Quality

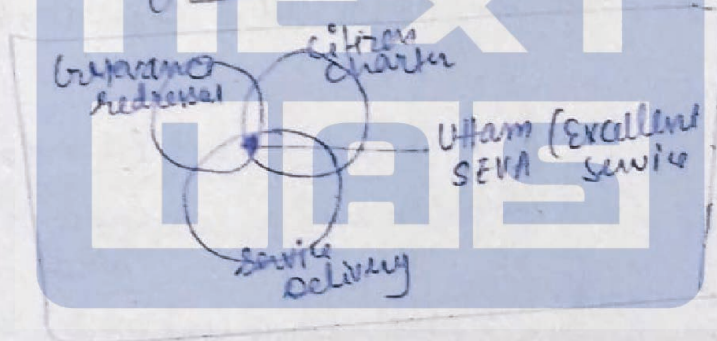
eg → citizen charter not available
in local language.

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Way forward - suggestions

- ① Ensure Accountability
 ↳ Through Social Accountability tools
- ↓
- Citizen charter ↓ Citizen Scorecard & Report card ↓ Social Audits of Scheme
 ↳ MGNREGA

- ② Engage people in policy making
 ↳ putting draft in public domain to have people's view on it (EIA)
- ③ Adopting "Sevottam Model" → 2nd ARC suggested



- ④ Multistakeholder Approach → To ensure Transparency proactively disclosure should be done.

Public service delivery should be Qualitative and meeting demands of people to achieve Inclusive growth.

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 faces several clashes like seen in 2020 (Gadwan valley clash) where almost 20 Indian foremen lost their lives.

India - China as "Asian Rival"

① The geopolitical position makes them Rival.

①.1 They are established in "Age of instability" and "Age of uncertainty"
(Rajiv Sikri)

② ①.2 clashes in Indo Pacific

→ China's 9-dash line approach & expansionist policies threatens India's advantaged position.

② Geo-Economic Rivalry

②.1 China's debt trap policy / checkbook policy

→ Hambantota port & Gadwan port is with China now.

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(2.2) India counters it through policies like Neighbourhood first, Line of credits and concessional loans to countries

eg - \$3bn support to Sri Lanka
 - \$400 mn to Maldives for Greater male development program.

(3) Strategic & security dimensions

(3.1) India counters China through various alliances

eg - I2U2, QUADA ("Asian NATO" as considered by China)

(3.2) Omnidirectional foreign policy

eg - maintaining ties with USA & Russia at the same time.

(4) Hyphenation of development & security

→ India stops developmental activities with China if it poses security threats.

eg - Banning ^{Chinese} ~100 apps accused of surveillance

(5) Border development - vibrant village program
 → Border Area Development program

However there are many convergence too.

① Trade relations

↳ India-China trade stood at \$77 bn in 2022

↳ China is India's 2nd largest trading partner after USA.

↳ India imports electronics
pharmaceuticals
etc.

↳ 67% of API is important from China.

② Convergence at multilateral forums

↳ SCO, BRICS, BIMSTEC etc.

③ Some cultural ties like Buddhism and some Indian students in China.

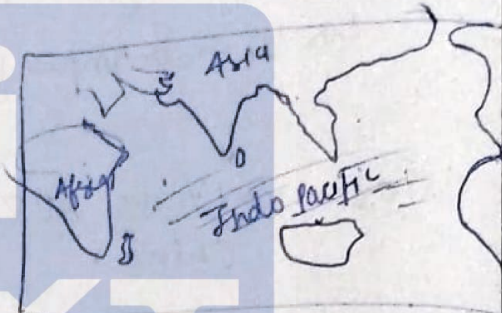
Thus India-China share some convergences but recent standoffs more highlight about divergence. It should be solved by dialogues while maintaining the national interest.

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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 is the region of dynamic foreign policy ranging from African, Asian continent to American & Oceania continent.



Indo Pacific as a zone of Diverging interests

① Indo Pacific is the region which is termed as "Arc of uncertainty & instability" due to various diverging interests.

② China's expansionist policy

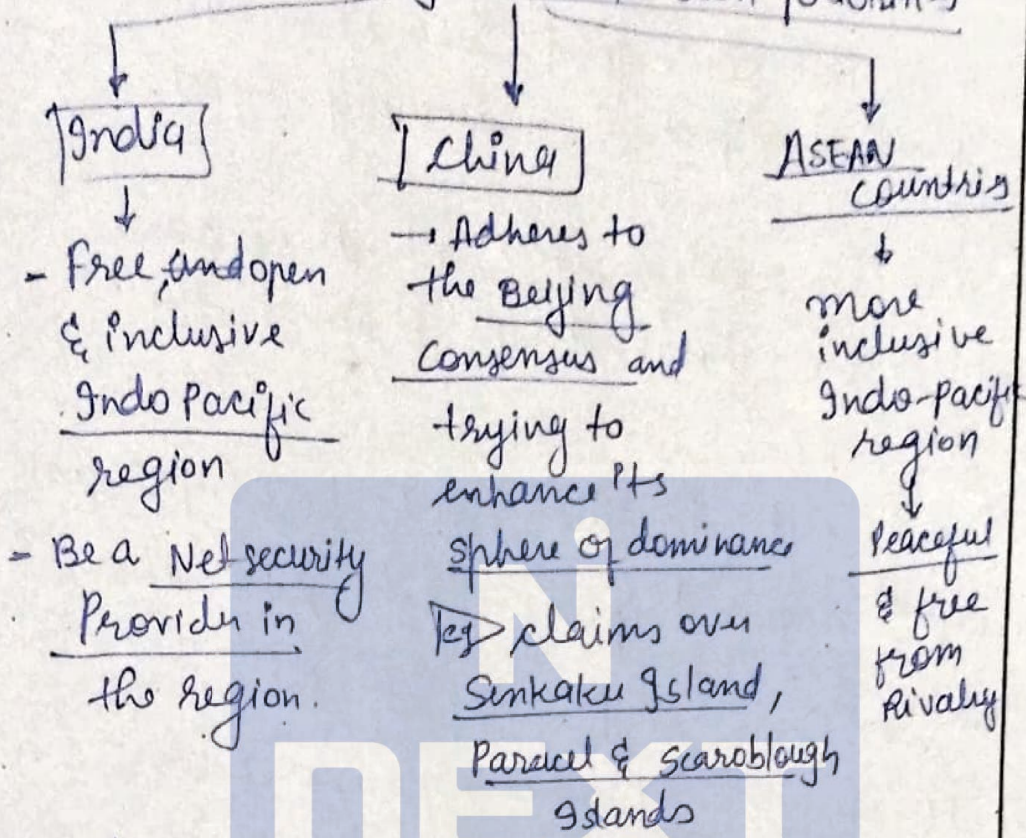
↳ - Nine-dash line

- claim over EEZ of other countries like Vietnam & Philippines

③ A zone of proxy war between US & China

↳ China views QUAD, AUKUS etc as a threat to itself.

⑨ Every country has its own priorities



While US is ~~st~~ sticking to the new Washington Consensus and enhancing its hegemony and influence through various tools like QUAD, IPEF (Indo Pacific Economic framework)

Global security initiative is a China led framework based on five main principles like free & inclusive Indo Pacific, holistic & mutually respectful region.

Will it supersede QUAD?

→ It has some good intra elements of mutual respect & inclusivity aspect.

But in real practice, China's expansionist policies has resulted into chaos in the region

↳ Counter to this, experts highlight that major regional players like Australia, India, US etc & Japan giving the

challenge to Chinese expansionism & hegemony

Thus it won't be able to supersede QUAD as QUAD is supported by major regional players.