NEXT IAS

anubhav-2025

(To be filled by candidate)

TEST CODE : ANV2502

Name of Candidate: Esha Jain Mobile [redacted]

Roll No. : ABVHT25E101 Start Time 2:30 End Time 5:30

Date of Examination: 2/7/25 Medium : English ☑ Hindi ☐

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1.	10	
2.	10	
3.	10	
4.	10	
5.	10	
6.	10	
7.	10	
8.	10	
9.	10	
10.	10	
TOTAL MARKS - 100		

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
11.	15	
12.	15	
13.	15	
14.	15	
15.	15	
16.	15	
17.	15	
18.	15	
19.	15	
20.	15	
TOTAL MARKS - 150		

GRAND TOTAL - ...../ 250 EVAL CODE: ..... EVAL DATE: .....

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. Immediately on receipt of the QCA 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.
2. Candidates must mention all relevant details like Name, Roll No, Mobile, etc. in the space allocated.
3. Candidate is expected to attempt all 20 questions within the given timeline.
4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized at the time of admission.
5. Candidates must write answers for the specific question under the respective question itself. Any answer written outside the space allotted may not be given credit.
6. Please write neatly. Avoid illegible writing.
7. Do not write/mark irrelevant matters in the QCAB.

सामान्य निर्देश

1. QCA पुस्तिका प्राप्त होने पर कृपया तुरंत जांच लें कि इस QCA पुस्तिका में कोई पृष्ठ या सामग्री आदि गलत छपी हुई या फटी हुई या गायब तो नहीं है। यदि ऐसा है, तो इसे एक नई QCA पुस्तिका से बदल लें।
2. अभ्यर्थियों को सभी प्रासंगिक विवरण जैसे नाम, रोल नंबर, मोबाइल नंबर आदि का आवंटित स्थान पर उल्लेख करना होगा ।
3. अभ्यर्थियों से अपेक्षा की जाती है कि वह आवंटित समय-सीमा के भीतर ही सभी 20 प्रश्नों के उत्तर-लेखन का प्रयास करें।
4. प्रत्येक उत्तर, प्रवेश के समय चुनी गयी भाषा के माध्यम में ही लिखे जाने चाहिए।
5. अभ्यर्थियों को विशिष्ट प्रश्न के उत्तर संबंधित प्रश्न के नीचे ही लिखने होंगे। आवंटित स्थान के बाहर लिखे गए किसी भी उत्तर को क्रेडिट नहीं दिया जाएगा।
6. कृपया साफ-सुथरा लिखें। अपठनीय लेखन से बचें।
7. QCAB में अप्रासंगिक तथ्यों को न लिखें / न ही चिह्नित करें।

REMARKS: .....

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FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Student Concerns / Query	Evaluator's Feedback / Response
1	1 .....
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2	2 .....
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3	3 .....
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MARKING SCHEME *

Marks Per Ques	Below Average	Average	Above Average
10 Marks	Below 3.00	3.00 - 3.75	4.00 and above
15 Marks	Below 4.50	4.50 - 5.75	6.00 and above

* Subject to change without prior notice.

IMPORTANT QR CODES

Topper's Copy

Common mistake and Correct Filled QCAB

Copy Scanner App

Next IAS Test Centre Location

MACRO COMMENTS

The Purpose of MTS 2.0 Score Improvement Program (SIP) is to provide constructive suggestions on 'How to improve Answer Writing and thereby score better marks.

Q1.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q2.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q3.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q4.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q5.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q6.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q7.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q8.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q9.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q10.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q11.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q12.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q13.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q14.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q15.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q16.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q17.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q18.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q19.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q20.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion


N
next
DAS

Candidates must not write on this margin

1. समाजवादी आदर्श और पंथनिरपेक्षता भारत में मूल संरचना के सिद्धांत की मुख्य विशेषताएँ हैं। इस संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए कि किस प्रकार न्यायिक निर्णयों ने इन सिद्धांतों को संवैधानिक पहचान की आधारशिला के रूप में स्थापित किया है।
(उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक

Socialistic ideals and secularism are core features of the Basic Structure doctrine in India. In this context, discuss how judicial decisions have cemented these principles as the cornerstone of constitutional identity.
(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Basic Structure Doctrine as enumerated in Kesavananda Bharati case reflects the constitutional values of equality, rule of law, justice, secular values etc.

I. Socialistic ideals – reflected by Judiciary

1) upholding individuals right to healthy living (Eg: Bandhua Mukti Morcha case

2) ensuring equal representation of all sections to provide substantive equality & not just procedural
(Eg: Indra Sawhney reservation case
Davinder Singh – subcategorisation of SC

3) ensuring female empowerment to make them equal members in society and economy (Eg: Umadevi – Right to maternity (Art 42)

Candidates must not write on this margin

4) ensuring equal distribution of resources to reduce concentration of wealth (Article 39(b)) (Eg) Property owners association case

II Secularism - protected by Judiciary

5) preventing outdated religious practices (Eg: triple talaq - Shahyra Bano

6) upholding equality of women to reflect spiritual ideals (Eg): Sabrimala case

7) abolishing and protecting intercaste marriages and change of faith (Eg): Shakti Vahini case

8) reflecting true practices and upholding essential religious beliefs (Eg) Shirur Mutt case - Sikhs allowed to wear kirpan instead of helmet

Thus, as described in S R Bommai case, secularism and socialism constitute basic structure.

Candidates must not write on this margin

2. "चुनावी कदाचार के उभरते रूपों से निपटने के लिए जन प्रतिनिधित्व अधिनियम, 1951 के अंतर्गत 'भ्रष्ट आचरण' के दायरे का विस्तार करने की आवश्यकता है।" टिप्पणी कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक

"There is a need to expand the scope of 'corrupt practices' under the Representation of the People Act, 1951, to address emerging forms of electoral malpractices." Comment. (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Section 8A of Representation of People act, 1951 (Article 327) provides for corrupt practices to ensure free and fair elections (Indira Gandhi case)

⇒ Need to expand scope of corrupt practices

1) inclusion of paid news into corrupt acts (Eg) Narottam Mishra case

2) changing nature of bribery needs to be included to reduce & prevent political nexus

3) Incomplete and false information (Sec 125) to be included under Section 8A — (Eg: Krishna moorthy case

Candidates must not write on this margin

4) Social media postings and videos should be included under Sec. 126
(Eg): Umesh Sinha Committee recommendation

5) POCA act section comprising for bearance of office, illegal pecuniary resources etc to be included within RPA, 1951 due to policy level corruption

6) anonymity of electoral malpractices and funding under electoral bonds
(Eg) ADR case, 2024

Measures needed → ① Dinesh Goswami recommendation - to include bribery as corruption
↳ ② Indrajeet Gupta - State funding of elections
③ enhanced ECI powers - TN Sheshan case

Thus, 'corruption definition' needs to be broadened due to changing nature of activities

Candidates must not write on this margin

3. भारत और फ़्रांस की संवैधानिक संरचना में परिलक्षित समानता से संबंधित विशिष्ट दृष्टिकोणों का विश्लेषण कीजिए।
(उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक

Analyse the distinguishing perspectives on equality as reflected in the constitutional frameworks of India and France. (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

'Right to equality' was adopted into Indian constitution from french revolution inspiration of 'liberty, equality and fraternity'.

⇒ Distinguishing perspectives

India	France
I Political equality	
1) universal adult franchise with equal right to vote for PM	1) allows direct vote for both PM and President.
2) anyone can participate in election irrespective of religion, race, caste	2) Equal participation is restricted due to citizenship clause.
II Social equality	

Candidates must not write on this margin

3) allows everyone to follow religion with government protecting all religion	3) government does not interfere in religious practices
4) government induced mixed economy	4) private players dominate
III Economic equality	
5) existence of PSU of government	5) capitalism dominant
6) welfare program by government	6) allows market to decide economy autonomy

However, both France and India respect some ideals of equality for benefit of citizens as a whole

Candidates must not write on this margin

4. संघ के सकल कर राजस्व में राज्यों की प्रभावी हिस्सेदारी में लगातार कमी और संसाधनों के क्षैतिज वितरण में समता पर अत्यधिक बल देने के कारण भारत में राजकोषीय संघवाद को लेकर गंभीर चिंताएँ उत्पन्न हो रही हैं। विश्लेषण कीजिए।
(उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक

The shrinking effective share of States in the Union's gross tax revenues, coupled with equity-heavy criteria in horizontal devolution, raises critical concerns for fiscal federalism in India. Analyse.
(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Fiscal federalism (Article 264-293) reflects centre's position to devolve taxes and revenue on recommendatory of criteria set by Finance commision (A280)

Fiscal equivalence ← [Fiscal Federalism] → decentralisation theorem

↓

Principle of subsidiarity

I Shrinking share of State's in Union tax

1) 14th FC recommended 42% but 15th FC devolved 41% share

2) 25% cess (Article 271) is non devolvable

3) coming of GST (Article 269A), devolut. on share reduced to State Eg: Mumbai MCD → 37% to 29%.

Candidates must not write on this margin

II equity heavy criteria for horizontal devolution.

a) bridging divide between state on basis of income distance (45%), population & area (15%), demography dividend (12.5%, fiscal effort (2.5%)

b) reducing north-south divide by bringing performance grant (5%)

⇒ Critical concern

1) reducing state ability to generate own funds (<40% own-funds)

2) inequal devolution raises gap between north and south Eg: UP gets shares equal to all southern states

3) population criteria to undermined

4) Centrally Sponsored schemes put burden upon state

Hence, 16th Finance commission efforts will have to be directed towards equality, fiscal consolidation

Candidates must not write on this margin

5. "नागरिकता संवैधानिक अधिकारों और दायित्वों का विधिक आधार है।" चर्चा कीजिए कि नागरिकता के प्रति भारत का दृष्टिकोण संवैधानिक मूल्यों के प्रति उसकी प्रतिबद्धता को किस प्रकार दर्शाता है।

(उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक

"Citizenship is the legal foundation of constitutional rights and responsibilities." Discuss ~~how~~ India's approach to citizenship reflects its commitment to constitutional values.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Recent CAA, 2019 issue has raised concerns regarding citizenship criteria and effectiveness (Article 5-11)

Citizenship → I Constitutional rights
↓
II Responsibility

- Fundamental duties (Article 51A)
- fundamental right of job opportunity (A 16)
- religious protection (A 29-30)
- Right to vote ~~##~~

⇒ India's approach to citizenship ⇒ commitment to constitutional values

1) ensuring equal protection to all citizen religion rights, minorities institution protection etc (A 29, 30)

(Eg) AMU case - allowing minority citizen to claim status

2) preventing persecution of ~~citizens~~

Candidates must not write on this margin

religious minorities residing in Pakistan, Afganistan, Bangladesh for Hindus, Christians etc Eg: CAA, 2019 criteria change for citizenship requirements.

3) bringing all beneficial citizens for inclusion into various welfare schemes (Eg): NRC exercise

4) upholding value of free and fair election (Eg) Bihar electoral roll review

5) merging of OCI + category for ensuring equality and protection of resources

6) opportunity for employment [Article 16(1)] open for only citizens

Hence, India aims to protect its citizen while upholding constitutional value of peace and liberty.

Candidates must not write on this margin

6. घटती प्रजनन दर और बढ़ती जीवन प्रत्याशा के कारण, प्रजनन-केंद्रित हस्तक्षेपों के स्थान पर मानव पूँजी निवेश की ओर बदलाव की आवश्यकता है। हालिया जनसंख्या प्रवृत्ति के आलोक में परीक्षण कीजिए।

(उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक

Declining fertility rates, coupled with rising life expectancy, require a shift from fertility-focused interventions to human capital investments. Examine in the light of recent population trends.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Recent TFR (total fertility rate) reduction to 2.0 which is below replacement level rate (2.1) is a cause of concern.

⇒ Shift from fertility focus intervention
- → (1) Assam - 2 child policy
- → (2) Kerala - contraceptive model
- → (3) forced sterilisation (emergency era)

⇒ Shift to human capital investments

1) focus on economic and educational enforcement of girls - (Jaya Tethi to understand their requirement — Constable - 21 year marriage)

2) focusing on awareness about biological body requirements

Candidates must not write on this margin

about correct age for pregnancies.

3) focus R&D (0.7%) to enable better targeted human capital growth

(Eg): improve health knowledge.

4) to reduce demographic winter like in Japan, Italy

5) ensure efficient utilisation of demographic dividend (59%) to improve economic and social indicators.

Hence, a shift to human capital will enable better controlling population needs according to economic and societal trends

Candidates must not write on this margin

7. "शासन की गुणवत्ता लोकतांत्रिक प्रक्रियाओं में नागरिक सहभागिता की सीमा और प्रकृति से महत्त्वपूर्ण रूप से जुड़ी हुई है।" भारतीय संदर्भ में सोदाहरण विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक

"The quality of governance is critically linked to the extent and nature of citizen participation in democratic processes." Discuss using examples in the Indian context.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Citizen Participation is an important principle of good governance as highlighted by World Bank in report 'Governance and Development'

⇒ Quality of Governance ⇒ citizen participation in democratic process

I [Extent of participation]

1) involvement of citizen in policy making cycle - especially at policy evaluation stage (Eg: Social audit (43I.) of MGNREGA (section 17)

2) grievance redressal allows government to know lacunas

(Eg:- CPgrams model

Candidates must not write on this margin

3) Improve awareness of citizen enable improving vibrant democracy
(Eg): Mygov portal

4) reducing red tapism and policy paralysis (Eg): PRAGATI portal - enabling connecting with grassroot.

II | Nature of Participation

5) to upholds accountability of government
(Eg): Citizen Charter, Citizen Report card, EN

6) enhancing decentralised democracy through Panchayat (A243) (Eg): e-gram Swaraj

7) active participation by direct connection (Eg): PM Man ki Baat

8) Inclusive growth for ensuring equal development (Eg): e-niwaran grievance redressal for farmer

Hence, an active citizenry results into proactive governance

Candidates must not write on this margin

8. "शैक्षणिक परिणामों और बाज़ार की आवश्यकताओं के मध्य कम अनुकूलन सामाजिक और आर्थिक असमानताओं में वृद्धि कर सकता है।" भारत के कौशल पारितंत्र के संदर्भ में इस कथन का परीक्षण कीजिए।

(उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक

"Low alignment between educational outcomes and market needs can widen social and economic inequalities." Examine this statement in the context of India's skills ecosystem.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

According to India Skill report, only 48% citizen are employable which reflects a very huge demand-supply gap.

⇒ low alignment between educational & market needs

(1) industry linked academic studies missing - more focused on rote learning

(2) examination pattern are based on academic knowledge rather than practical capabilities

(3) vocational education (Shivraj Patil) - less focus given.

I Widening of Social inequality

1) women who have high fertility

Candidates must not write on this margin

rate (3.2%) when no proper education leads to demography bomb.

2) ~~less attn~~ increased burden on state resources to provide welfare (Eg): MGNREGA & MDM.

3) non of soil factor claiming inadequate rights (Eg): Karnataka bill for state local reservation.

II Widening economic inequality

4) low level skill job reduces Indian economy productivity - 45% employees involved in manual work

5) R&D remain weakly integrated due to lack of talent and skills

6) issue of disguised employment in agriculture.

Hence, measures under NEP should include — market studies, financial inclusion, R&D to achieve

Candidates must not write on this margin

9. "अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य संरचना के प्रति प्रमुख शक्तियों की शिथिल होती प्रतिबद्धता समतामूलक वैश्विक सहयोग के लिए गंभीर चुनौतियाँ प्रस्तुत करती है।" विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठन से अमेरिका के हटने और भारत पर इसके प्रभावों के आलोक में विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक

"The weakening commitment of major powers to international health frameworks poses serious challenges to equitable global cooperation." Discuss in light of the U.S. withdrawal from the WHO and its implications for India. (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Recent USA withdrawal of WHO after post-Trump reforms have influenced and impacted health approach worldwide.

⇒ Challenges due to weak commitment of Major powers to health cooperation

1) quality and quantity of vaccine development impacted – major scientist come from developed economies.

2) reduced funding slows down process of disease eradication Eg: 24% funding of WHO by USA

3) high cost of generic drugs

Candidates must not write on this margin

to developing countries like Africa for polio, typhoid increase fiscal burden.

4) issue of policy and program delays like 'One health goals', 'Pandemic agreement' remain tokenised.

⇒ Implication for India

Positive
- ① India can capitalise to provide more generic drugs to WHO
- ② efficient utilisation of India's talented pharma pool
- ③ boost to Indian Ayurveda

Challenges
- ① lack of R&D and funding
- ② issue of IPR and compulsory licensing.

India should thus capitalise by improving its position through improved R&D efforts

Candidates must not write on this margin

10. पश्चिम एशिया में चल रहे संघर्ष ने क्षेत्रीय कूटनीतिक संवेदनशीलताओं को उजागर कर दिया है। इस परिप्रेक्ष्य में, भारत की सामरिक स्वायत्तता और क्षेत्रीय सहभागिता पर पश्चिम एशियाई संघर्ष के प्रभावों की चर्चा कीजिए।

(उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक

The ongoing conflict in West Asia has exposed the vulnerabilities of regional diplomacy. In this light, discuss the implications of the West Asian conflict for India's strategic autonomy and regional engagement. (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

West Asia issues of Iran-Israel and Israel Palestine, Syrian government fall have had worldwide implications.

⇒ Implication for India

I [Strategic autonomy]

1) Economic engagement is on risk from GCC which contributes 15.6% to GDP

2) energy security and diversification - 35% oil and 70% gas comes from West Asia is risked due to closing of strait of Hormuz

3) India investments - of Chabahar port and IMEC corridor delayed

Candidates must not write on this margin

4) India's neutral stand on Israel-Palestine raised eye brows on it 'Vishwaguru stand'

II Regional engagement

5) 3.5 mn diaspora and 50% remittance flow from West Asia is under threat

6) connectivity with Central Asia and Europe can be hampered.

7) slowing down FTA signed with West countries, UAE

Measures India should adopt
- ① diplomacy and soft power
- ② humanitarian assistance. Ex Ayy
- ③ diversify energy source (utilise I2U2)

Hence, India should uphold its strategic autonomy to ensure its best interests

Candidates must not write on this margin

11. विभाग-संबंधी स्थायी समितियाँ विधायी समीक्षा के लिए संस्थागत आधार के रूप में कार्य करती हैं, फिर भी उनकी क्षमता का पूरा उपयोग नहीं किया जाता है।" भारत में कार्यपालिका की जवाबदेही सुनिश्चित करने में संसदीय समितियों के समक्ष आने वाली चुनौतियों का समालोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

"Department-related Standing Committees serve as the institutional backbone of legislative scrutiny, yet their potential remains underutilised." Critically analyse the challenges faced by Parliamentary Committees in ensuring executive accountabilty in India.

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Department related Standing Committee (DRSC) came in 1990's which consist of 31 members - 10 from Rajya Sabha and 21 from Lok Sabha.

DRSC - institutional backbone of legislative scrutiny

→ ① ensures thread bare scrutiny since it works throughout year (Eg: IBC act

→ ② have access to experts for detailed analysis

↓ ③ free from political involvement as ministers cant be part

④ ensures opposition a chance to analyse (Eg: DPDP act

⇒ Challenges faced by Parliamentary committee

1) time period of one year

Candidates must not write on this margin

restricts number of reports to be scrutinized (Eg): PAC scrutinises only 10-12 reports a year

2) lack of independent secretariat makes them inefficient in scrutiny

3) services of CAG (AMG) is limited only to PAC.

4) they have power to summon but no power to punish

5) perform post-mortem function majorly which reduces efficiency

6) cannot scrutinise day to day matters of government and parliament (Eg) estimates committee limited to budget

7) lack of attendance and no calender timing for committees Eg: 50% attendee

8) reduce bills sent to committee (17th 17th)

Candidates must not write on this margin

8) inquiry committees like Ethics and Petition committee not effectively utilized.

9) lack of training to parliamentarians

⇒ Measures to improve Committee scrutiny

[NCRWC recommendations]

1) increase tenure to 5 years
2) provide independent secretariat
3) compulsory report submitting to committees (UK model)
4) Strengthen ethics committee
5) training to committee members and bring rotations.

Hence as Wilson referred,

" Parliament in session is parliament in exhibition, but parliament in committee is parliament at work "

Candidates must not write on this margin

12. "राष्ट्रपति शासन, शासन की विफलता से निपटने के लिए एक संवैधानिक तंत्र है, यह राजनीतिक सुविधा का तंत्र नहीं है।" किसी राज्य में किन परिस्थितियों में राष्ट्रपति शासन लागू किया जा सकता है? इससे संबंधित संवैधानिक सुरक्षा उपायों और न्यायिक निर्णयों पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

"President's Rule is a constitutional mechanism to deal with governance failure, not political convenience." Under what circumstances can President's Rule be imposed in a State? Discuss the constitutional safeguards and judicial verdicts associated with it.

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

President rule (Article 356) is a unique feature of Indian constitution which Dr Ambedkar believed to be a 'dead letter'.

However, recent use of A 356 for political convenience

→ ① Uttarakhand & Bihar, 1993 – governor misuse

→ ② due to change in parties at centre and state (eg: congress v/s Janta party)

↓

③ lack of effective evidence – RJ - corruption induced u/s A 356

⇒ Circumstances for President rule imposing

1) Article 356 – breakdown of constitutional machinery and not administrative machinery

2) Article 365 – when state does not

Candidates must not write on this margin

adhere to executive direction of Centre

3) internal subversion of constitutional machinery

4) in case of hung parliament (Arunachal like no government is case) able to form.

5) after governor has conducted floor test and still no party able to form government

⇒ Constitutional safeguards for President rule

1) On imposition of A356, the Council of minister can be dissolved

2) legislative has to be kept under suspended animation and cannot be dissolved (SR Bommai)

3) President and Parliament gets power to formulate laws on

Candidates must not write on this margin

State list (Article 350)

4) State budget cannot be passed without approval of President

5) President through governor can ensure effective governance of state

⇒ Judicial verdicts for A 356

1) A356 uphold judicial review and can annulate government if illegally done (SR Bommai) (Pandit Sharma case)

2) President rule can should not be done in case of law and order problem (Sarkaria)

3) Governor discretion should be defined to provide for president rule (Arunachal case)

Hence, President rule is a mechanism to ensure constitutional supremacy must be upheld

Candidates must not write on this margin

13. हाल ही में जारी किए गए अंतरण सूचकांक में पंचायती राज संस्थाओं को सशक्त बनाने में राज्यों के प्रदर्शन में व्यापक भिन्नता को उजागर किया गया है। इस भिन्नता के लिए उत्तरदायी कारणों की व्याख्या करते हुए, पंचायती राज संस्थाओं को उनके संवैधानिक अधिदेश को पूरा करने में सक्षम बनाने में क्षमता निर्माण पहल की भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए।

(उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

The recently released Devolution Index reveals wide variation in the performance of States in empowering Panchayati Raj Institutions. While explaining the reasons behind this variation, discuss the role of capacity-building initiatives in enabling PRIs to fulfil their constitutional mandate.

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

The Panchayat Devolution index shows an increase from 40% to 44% in devolution and 44% to 54% in capacity building.

However, wide variations exist in devolution

1) issue of reduction in central transfers of Finance Comission

(eg) 15th FC – 4.36 lac cr → only 37% have been devolved.

2) State discretions hampers local capacity building because of want of power Eg: PJ devolved 6%. Services (Shedul XI)

Candidates must not write on this margin

3) Issue of parochial bodies creating institution fragile problem (Eg): DDMA (district authority) exists along with Gram Sabha

4) Centralisation and lack of political will

5) Issue of Panch Pradhan reduces gender empowerment evolution.
(Eg): PJ - 41% time.

6) functionality challenges due to lack of resource

⇒ Role of capacity building institutes for PRI

1) enhance human capital training of gram Sabha members
(Eg) Capacity building institute, Bihar
Social audit (sept 17)

2) timely formulation of State election

Candidates must not write on this margin

and State Finance Commission (A 243 I)

3) providing mahilla sabhas to ensure effecient and inclusive empowerment

4) strict safeguards as provided by 15th FC to devolve funds and function as criteria for devolution

5) shift schedule XI function to local list criteria under A 256 (Ajay committee)

6) appointment of Panchayat Secretary to ensure effective devolution (Sumit Bose committee)

Thus, through these initiatives PRI can succesfully fulfil its role of direct democracy, principle of subsidiarity and decentralisation to bring Gram Uday se Bharat Uday.

Candidates must not write on this margin

14. उभरते संवैधानिक और राजनीतिक परिदृश्य में, सांविधिक आयोगों की प्रभावशीलता उनकी संरचनात्मक स्वायत्तता और स्वतंत्रता पर निर्भर करती है।" राष्ट्रीय महिला आयोग (NCW) और राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग (NHRC) जैसे सांविधिक आयोगों के लिए संवैधानिक दर्जे की बढ़ती माँग के संदर्भ में विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

"In the evolving constitutional and political landscape, the effectiveness of statutory commissions depends on their structural autonomy and independence." Discuss in the context of the growing demand for constitutional status for statutory commissions like the National Commission for Women (NCW) and the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC).
(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Statutory Commissions are those institutional bodies which receive their ~~Go~~ mandate and functioning from legislative acts.

Effectiveness of statutory commissions

I Depends on structural autonomy
→ ① to have own investigative body
→ ② ~~inde~~ reduce political interference
③ ensures speedy functioning ← Independence
④ improve competency ←

I Need for NHRC Statutory status to constitutional status

1) NHRC lacks independent

Candidates must not write on this margin

investigative agency - depends upon states which shows effectiveness

2) laws of NHRC - Protection of human Rights act is outdated

↳ does not allow to take up cases above 1 year

↳ no authority over armed forces

3) recommendatory in nature

II Need for NCW

4) inability to bring justice to women due to delays and increasing backlog of cases

5) laws formulated and implemented in letter and not spirit.

⇒ Hence, constitutional status will

1) improve mandate of Statutory institution by

Candidates must not write on this margin

bringing clarity and updation

2) provide for judicial review as involved in justiciable part.

3) create deterrence against not acceptance of recommendation

4) empower Mahilla Lok Aadalatelt and Human Right Courts by bringing them under constitutional supervision

5) enable clarity in composition and regularisation of appointment

6) reduce delays and policy paralysis by giving definite mandate.

Hence, constitutional status can enhance and empower statutory Commissions..

Candidates must not write on this margin

15. "संवैधानिक मूल्यों को बनाए रखने के लिए एक स्वतंत्र न्यायपालिका आवश्यक है, किंतु जनता के विश्वास को बनाए रखने के लिए इसे जवाबदेह भी होना चाहिए।" हाल ही के मुद्दों के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।

(उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

"An independent judiciary is essential for upholding constitutional values, but it must also remain accountable to preserve public trust." Discuss in the context of recent issues.

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Recent Justice Yashwant Sinha case of corruption has raised concern regarding Judiciary balancing constitutional values and accountability

I Independent Judiciary ⟹ essential for upholding constitutional values

1) judicial independence and seperate of power (Article 50) is basic structure doctrine – Keshavananda case

2) ensure judicial activism through bringing complete justice (Article 142) – Eg: Tamil Nadu Governor case – for limiting governor discretion.

3) keeps democracy vibrant and empowers citizen Eg: Vishaka guidelines.

Candidates must not write on this margin

4) puts effective checks and balances on other organs of government
(Eg): SR Bommai - federalism

5) fills the gap that is left by ~~judiciary~~ executive & legislature
(Eg): Article 21 expansion - MC Mehta case
- Puttaswamy case

6) uphold principle of secularism, constitutional supremacy etc.
(Eg): Malik Mineral case

II Issue of accountability ⇒ to preserve public trust

1) close door affairs due to collegium system

2) lack of step by step procedure for in house review Eg: Veeraswami case in house mechanism is not stated

Candidates must not write on this margin

3) increased backlog of cases
- 5.5 cr (National Judicial data)

4) Issue of undertrial (77%) ~ and 68% already jailed serving

5) lack of technical infrastructure in Judiciary

6) Issue of vacancy (5700 seat)

Measures needed to uphold accountability

→ ① All India Judicial Service - (44 amendment)

→ ② Judicial standards and accountability bill to replace Judges enquiry act

↳ ③ Judicial performance index - NTI

④ National Judicial infrastructure corporation

↳ ⑤ bring NJAC + Memorandum of Procedure

"Judiciary needs to be overhauled for ensuring it keep the faith of democracy burning bright" - J. BV Nagarathna

Candidates must not write on this margin

16. विश्वसनीयता, पारदर्शिता और निष्पक्ष प्रतिस्पर्धा सुनिश्चित करने के लिए क्षेत्रीय विनियामकों की संस्थागत स्वायत्तता अत्यंत महत्त्वपूर्ण है। हाल ही की घटनाओं के आलोक में, भारत में विनियामक निकायों की स्वतंत्रता और स्वायत्तता से संबंधित मुद्दों का परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

Institutional autonomy of sectoral regulators is critical for ensuring credibility, transparency, and fair competition. In light of recent incidents, examine the issues pertaining to the independence and autonomy of regulatory bodies in India.

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Regulatory bodies in India like SEBI, RBI, IRDA are essential in corporate welfare era to ensure minimum government and maximum governance

⇒ 4 issues of regulatory bodies.

1) political interference in regulators decides its purpose

(Eg: Madhvi Buch - SEBI case

2) issue of regulatory capture of market entities government

(Eg: CCI case of Amazon

3) reduces publicness needs due to focus on profit motive

(Eg: Jio issue with TRAI

Candidates must not write on this margin

4) overlapping functioning of regulatory bodies hampers speed and efficiency (Eg): SEBI and IREDA on investment limits

5) issue of political appointments on boards of regulatory body leads to rent seeking behaviour (Eg): coal block scam

6) policy paralysis and over emphasis on reporting hampers with mandate of regulation (Eg): RBI reports to MPC

⇒ Ensuring institutional autonomy

1) Damodaran Committee -

1-1) create an independent parliamentary committee on regulation

Candidates must not write on this margin

1.2) regulatory impact assessment

2) ARC II - update guidelines of regulations periodically

3) Vijay Kelkar - create an umbrella regulator to ensure single point access

4) make regulators accountable through CAG audits

5) removing overlapping jurisdictions

Hence, regulation in India should move from a "work-in progress" (Arvind Subramanyam) to a more inclusive and comprehensive regulation.

Candidates must not write on this margin

17. आपके विचार में, प्रशासनिक चुनौतियों के बावजूद, सामाजिक न्याय और समतामूलक विकास के लक्ष्यों को प्राप्त करने की दिशा में जातिगत जनगणना किस सीमा तक एक आवश्यक कदम है? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

How far do you think a caste census is a necessary step toward realising the goals of social justice and equitable development, despite the administrative challenges it poses?

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

The 16th census which is going to begin from October 2026 (Ladakh) and rest of India (2027) is going to be the 1st caste census after 1931.

⇒ Need for caste census

[Realising goals of social justice]

1) enable upholding substantive equality and not just procedural equality (Article 16)

2) will provide to evidence based policy making (Article 340 - constitutional mandate). (Eg): MGNREGA, Mid day meal.

3) affirmative actions will be

Candidates must not write on this margin

based on actual data and not inflated data (Eg) M. Nagaraj case

4) enable subcategorisation of castes to promote need based empowerment (Eg) Ravinder Singh case

II | Equitable development

5) ensuring equal opportunity and access to government welfare initiatives

6) beneficiary targetting by Gram Sabha can be improved.

7) bringing other castes who were left back into mainstream.

⇒ However, administrative challenges

1) diversity of castes and sub castes Eg: 4200 castes

Candidates must not write on this margin

2) variation across states

(Eg): Jats in Punjab vs UP

3) increase caste based identity politics and vote bank issue

4) lack of effective administrative manpower to conduct highly sensitive caste census.

5) may lead to caste consciousness and violence in country

Measures → ① pre census preparation
→ ② employ technology and train enumerators
→ ③ sensitivity training & soft skills provided
④ power to state regists as general.

Hence, caste census in India can bring empowerment of grass root.

Candidates must not write on this margin

18. "आधुनिक शासन की जटिलता अनुकूलनीय और गतिशील प्रशासनिक सुधारों की माँग करती है।" भारतीय शासन में दक्षता, पारदर्शिता और जवाबदेही में सुधार लाने में प्रशासनिक सुधारों की भूमिका का मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

(उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

"The complexity of modern governance demands adaptive and dynamic administrative reforms." Evaluate the role of administrative reforms in improving efficiency, transparency, and responsiveness in Indian governance. (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Indian administration needs a switch from present status quoist, rule orientation, procedural following to a more adaptive, dynamic admin.

⇒ Role of Administrative reforms

I Bring efficiency

1) filling the administrative gap by radical reform (Eg) Mission Karmayogi → 92% J&K police perception improved.

2) performance orientation inbuilt to make them more 'entrepreneurial oriented (Eg): Perform & Reform culture, 2017

Candidates must not write on this margin

3) improving performance appraisal system to ensure motivation, morale and need based training (Eg SPARROW - Robisky & Sobel

II. Bring transparency

4) demand side accountability ensured through RTI (section 4) and social audit (section 17) (Eg Jan Sewa Kendra, Ahmedabad

5) improve timelines in completion of projects to reduce cost-taken (Eg PRAGATI portal updates

6) upholding ethical governance under New Public Service code, Civil Service conduct rules, 1964

Candidates must not write on this margin

III Reforms required

7) switch to role orientation and flexible administration. (Eg) CPgrams - grievance redressal ensuring proactive governance.

8) improving citizen centricness in service delivery (Eg) My gov portal.

Challenges:
- (1) Centralisation structure
- (2) digitalising leading to re governmentalisation
- (3) 'mai-baap' nature of colonial Indian service

Measures:
- (1) adopting governance, process reengineering
- (2) building positively training
- (3) improve transparency

Hence, Administrative reforms can ensure effective governance orientation.

Candidates must not write on this margin

19. विगत् 75 वर्षों में भारत-चीन संबंधों की प्रगति व्यावहारिक सहयोग और अनसुलझे रणनीतिक तनावों के बीच संतुलन को दर्शाती है। इस उभरती नीति की रूपरेखा पर चर्चा कीजिए और चीन के साथ विषमताओं को संतुलित करने के लिए भारत द्वारा उठाए जाने वाले कदमों को रेखांकित कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

The trajectory of India-China relations in the last 75 years reflects a balance between pragmatic cooperation and unresolved strategic tensions. Discuss the contours of this evolving policy and highlight the measures India should take to counterbalance asymmetries with China. (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

The recent disengagement with China recalls India's efforts with need to balance strategic autonomy and selective engagement.

⇒ Contours of evolving Indo-China

I Balance pragmatic cooperation

1) use of strategic diplomacy dialogue between foreign ministers (Eg: resolution for Mansarovar Yatra

2) multi-lateral institution like BRICS & SCO enable cooperative engagement (Eg) BRICS Kazan declaration — disengagement policy

Candidates must not write on this margin

3) trade ties and strategic minerals supply engagement

(Eg): >90% of India's API from China.

III Unresolved strategic tensions

4) issue of Galwan valley standoff - creating sovereignty to work

5) issue of BRI - CPEC corridor of China going through POK area

6) crippling encirclement and string of pearls challenge

(Eg): Gwadar port, Pakistan
Hambantota, Srilanka.

7) debt trap diplomacy and Salami Slicing strategies

(Eg): claim of Arunachal Pradesh

8) water war issue Eg: 3 large dam of China on Brahmaputra

Candidates must not write on this margin

⇒ Measures India should take

1) utilise multilateral forums for encouraging talks with China Eg: BRICS

2) ~~Insta~~ ensure strategic hedging to avoid future dependency
(Eg) India opening 5th Semiconductor plant

3) enhance India's ask for UNSC permanent seat - to prevent China veto

4) building trust through water sharing data Eg: dam of Yarlung Zangbo

5) use of soft power diplomacy
(Eg) Bollywood dance to deepen bilateral ties

Hence, India and China should ensure support of each other for sizing Asia

Candidates must not write on this margin

20. चतुर्पक्षीय सुरक्षा संवाद (QUAD) का एक समुद्री सुरक्षा समूह से बहुआयामी साझेदारी के रूप में विकास, हिंद-प्रशांत क्षेत्र में बदलती रणनीतिक वास्तविकताओं को दर्शाता है। इस संदर्भ में, भारत की क्षेत्रीय आकांक्षाओं और रणनीतिक स्वायत्तता के लिए QUAD द्वारा प्रस्तुत अवसरों और चुनौतियों का परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

The evolution of the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QUAD) from a maritime security grouping to a multidimensional partnership reflects changing strategic realities in the Indo-Pacific. In this context, examine the opportunities and challenges that QUAD presents for India's regional aspirations and strategic autonomy. (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

QUAD is a grouping of USA, Japan, Australia and India that account for 24% population and 40% trade

Changing strategic realities in Indo-Pacific
- → (1) China pressure
- → (2) issue of piracy
- → (3) rise of economic groupings - IPEF

⇒ Opportunities QUAD provides India

I | Regional aspirations |

1) ensure free, open, inclusive indo pacific which is in line with India's Indo-Pacific Ocean initiative (IPOI)

Candidates must not write on this margin

2) influence India's position in South China sea to safeguard its trade (50% trade)

3) enabling India to rise as leader of global south by cooperation from North powers

II Strategic autonomy

4) uphold India's initiative of Net security provider in Indo-Pacific

5) enhance India's Mahasagar efforts for cooperation.

6) countering China for safeguarding

7) enhancing critical mineral supply chain.

8) maintain climate diplomacy.

Space for Rough Work

Candidates must not write on this margin

⇒ Challenge of QUAD for India

I Regional challenges.

1) ~~to~~ Create chinese interest in disengagement

2) ~~lack of indi~~ issue of militarisation of QUAD does not suit well for India.

II Strategic autonomy

3) dependence on critical supplies on QUAD countries.

4) need for maintaining hedging ~~ag~~ for ~~red~~ autonomy.

Measures for India to adopt →
- (1) enhance engagement.
- (2) build economic ties.
- (3) maintain required alignment - IPEF

QUAD can become India's ~~guide~~ direction for becoming Vishwa Guru.

महत्वपूर्ण निर्देश

अभ्यर्थियों को निम्नलिखित निर्देशों को ध्यानपूर्वक पढ़ना चाहिए। किसी भी निर्देश का उल्लंघन करने पर दण्डित किया जा सकता है।

क्या न करें-

1. इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका के भीतर कहीं भी अपना नाम या पंजीकरण संख्या न लिखें।
2. अपनी QCA पुस्तिका में कहीं भी प्रश्नों के वास्तविक उत्तरों के अलावा कुछ भी न लिखें।
3. अपनी QCA पुस्तिका से कोई भी पृष्ठ न फाड़ें, यदि आपको कोई पृष्ठ गायब लगे, तो पर्यवेक्षक/निरीक्षक को सूचित करना न भूलें।
4. अपनी QCA पुस्तिका को अपनी टेबल पर न छोड़ें, परीक्षा समाप्त होने के पश्चात इसे निरीक्षक को सौंप देना चाहिए।

क्या करें-

1. कवर पृष्ठ पर दिए गए निर्देशों को ध्यान पूर्वक पढ़ें और उनका सख्ती से पालन करें।
2. QCA पुस्तिका के कवर पृष्ठ पर दिए गए स्थान पर अपना पंजीकरण नंबर और अन्य विवरण लिखें।
3. स्पष्ट और पठनीय तरीके से लिखें। खराब/अपठनीय लिखावट में न लिखें।
4. रफ नोट्स या गणना के लिए, इस पुस्तिका के अंतिम दो खाली पृष्ठों का उपयोग किया जाना चाहिए। रफ नोट्स को बाद में क्रॉस कर देना चाहिए।
5. यदि आप किसी कार्य को रद्द करना चाहते हैं, तो उस पर अपना पेन चलाएं या उस पर "रद्द" लिखें, अन्यथा उसका मूल्यांकन किया जा सकता है।
6. परीक्षा हॉल छोड़ने से पहले अपनी QCA पुस्तिका व्यक्तिगत रूप से निरीक्षक को सौंप दें।

ऑनलाइन सुविधा का लाभ उठाने वाले अभ्यर्थियों के लिए विशेष अनुरोध

1. QCA पुस्तिका को ठीक से स्कैन करें। हम चाहेंगे कि आप स्कैनिंग के लिए कैमस्कैनर ऐप (CAM SCANER) का प्रयोग करें। (यह कोई प्रमोशन नहीं है)।
2. कृपया QCA पुस्तिका को पर्याप्त रोशनी में स्कैन करें। कम रोशनी में स्कैन की गई पुस्तिकाएं, उनके मूल्यांकन की गुणवत्ता को बाधित कर सकती हैं।
3. स्कैन के दौरान छाया वाले किसी भी पृष्ठ/पीडीएफ को फिर से स्कैन किया जाना चाहिए। कृपया सुनिश्चित करें कि आपके द्वारा अपलोड की गई पीडीएफ यथा संभव स्पष्ट हो ।
4. QCA पुस्तिका का उपयोग नहीं करने वाले उम्मीदवारों को अपना विवरण पहले पृष्ठ पर देना चाहिए और मैक्रो टिप्पणियों के लिए अगला पृष्ठ खाली छोड़ दें। यह समझना चाहिए कि उत्तर स्कैन की गई पीडीएफ में पृष्ठ नंबर 3 से शुरू होना चाहिए।
5. QCA पुस्तिका का उपयोग नहीं करने वाले उम्मीदवारों को प्रश्नपत्र के अनुसार उत्तर के अनुक्रम का पालन करना चाहिए।
6. कृपया स्कैन किए गए संस्करण में उत्तर के अनुक्रम और कुल पृष्ठों की संख्या की जाँच करें। सुनिश्चित करें कि यह उसी के भौतिक संस्करण के अनुरूप है।

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.
3. Do not tear off any pages from your QCA Booklet, if you find any page missing do not fail to notify the supervisor/invigilator.
4. Do not leave behind your QCA Booklet on your table unattended, it should be handed over to the invigilator after conclusion of the exam.

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.

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1. Scan the QCA booklet properly. We suggest the uses of the app CAM scanner (Scan QR code in page 2) based on our previous experiences.
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6. Please check the sequence of the answer and total number of pages in the scanned version. Make sure it is in consonance with the physical version of the same.

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