

## NEXT IAS

## AIM - MTS (2025)

(To be filled by candidate)

TEST CODE : MTS2503

Test No. : 03

Name of Candidate: MOHIT GUPTA.....Mobile No. ....Roll No. : AIM2468RA017/MTS251TRA004 Start Time 12:00 End Time 18:19Date of Examination: 04/07/25 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, Email, Roll No, Mobile, etc. in the space allocated.
3. Candidate is expected to attempt all 12 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, ईमेल, 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 12 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: .....

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

<u>Student Concerns / Query</u>	<u>Evaluator's Feedback / Response</u>
1 .....	1 .....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
2 .....	2 .....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
3 .....	3 .....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....

<b>MARKING SCHEME *</b>			
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

 <p>Topper's Copy</p>	 <p>Common mistake and Correct Filled QCAB</p>
 <p>Copy Scanner App</p>	 <p>Next IAS Test Centre Location</p>

**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

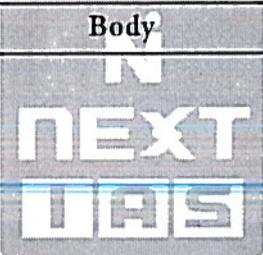
Q11.

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





1. संवैधानिक नैतिकता क्या है? समान नागरिक संहिता (यूसीसी) का कार्यान्वयन भारतीय संविधान में निहित संवैधानिक नैतिकता के दृष्टिकोण से किस हद तक संरक्षित है? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक
- What is constitutional morality? How far does the implementation of the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) align with the vision of constitutional morality as encompassed in the Indian Constitution? (Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Ans) →

B.R. Ambedkar asserted "Constitutional morality refers to ideas and values of Constitution permeating entire socio-cultural fabric".

### Tenets of Constitutional Morality

- ① George Grote defined it as "permanence reverence to ideals of Constitution" like Pledge.
- ② Rooted in values of Constitutionalism i.e. limited government and ideas of Preamble like Justice, Equality, Liberty & Fraternity.
- ③ Narain Singh Case : SC asserted that "Constitutional morality supersedes social morality".

UCC aligns with ideas of Constitutional morality

- ① Art 44 mandating UCC aims to secure

secular equality based civil order.

② Gender Justice by → uniform method of divorce.

→ Equality in succession & inheritance.

→ Removing gender discrimination in personal laws.

③ It aims to build progressive rational society rooted in Part IV (DPSP) & Part IVA (Fundamental duties).

④ Simplifying legal structure to enable equal access to justice (Art 39A) & Rule of Law (Art 14)

Challenges with UCC & Constitutional Morality

→ ① Conflict between minority rights (Art 25-28) & Art 41

→ ② Equality based & not equity based.

③ Difficult to reconcile tribal customs.

Law Commission suggested that UCC should come through democratic consensus to preserve constitutional ideals.



2. भारतीय संसद में विशेषाधिकार प्रस्ताव क्या है? विशेषाधिकार समिति ऐसे प्रस्तावों की जांच और निपटान किस प्रकार करती है? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक

What is a Privilege Motion in the Indian Parliament? How does the Committee of Privileges examine and deal with such motions? (Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Ans 2)

Privilege Motion mentioned in Rules & Procedure of both houses, censures the members if they violate individual or collective privileges of the members of House.

Privilege Motion of Indian Parliament

① In case of misuse of privileges <sup>by</sup> Mt's.

Ex: Hate speech in Parliament by Mt's.

② Violating collective privilege of House.

Ex - Publishing reports of secretive meeting.

③ Graves misconduct by Mt's in House.

Committee of Privilege <sup>(CoP)</sup> Examining & Dealing with the motion

① Reference : After privilege motion notice is submitted ~~to~~ to Presiding officer, he/she refers it

to CoP for examination.

② Advice on admissibility : CoP examines grounds of motion & validity of motion.

③ Rejection/Acceptance : AS If grounds are found to be false, then CoP advises to Speaker to reject the motion.

AS If grounds are true, CoP advises procedural admissibility of motion.

④ Voting on motion after discussion on motion in the House.

⑤ If Privilege motion is accepted, CoP advises Presiding officer over the extent of penalty to members/non-members.

⑥ Finally, House votes on suggested penalty & motion is executed.

Privilege motion helps protect sanctity of Parliamentary proceedings by preserving privileges protected by Constitution.

3. संविधान का अनुच्छेद 143 राष्ट्रपति संदर्भ तंत्र के माध्यम से सर्वोच्च न्यायालय को सलाहकार क्षेत्राधिकार प्रदान करता है। इस प्रावधान के अंतर्गत सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के सलाहकार क्षेत्राधिकार के महत्व और दायरे की जांच कीजिए।

(उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक

Article 143 of the Constitution confers advisory jurisdiction upon the Supreme Court through a presidential reference mechanism. Examine the significance and scope of the Supreme Court's advisory jurisdiction under this provision. (Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks



Ans 3) Recently, President under Art. 143 has asked Supreme Court (SC) opinion on whether it has the power to impose time limits on actions of President / Governor.

Significance of advisory jurisdiction of SC

① Clarifies the ambiguity in laws / constitutional provisions / treaties etc.

Ex: President refused interpretation of Art 18 to be used as titles or not.

② Helps Executive / legislature as guiding force for further policies.

Ex: 1960 Beabari Presidential reference that transfer of land requires constitutional amendment

③ Gives SC backing to future actions of Executive

④ Mitigates Conflict & Reduces Litigation

due to various ambiguous issues.

Ex: 1988 reference on Collegium system.

⑤ Upholds Constitutional Principles.

Ex: 2024 reference on separation of powers between judiciary & executive

Scope of Presidential reference under Art. 143

① Reference on Pre-Constitutional Treaties & Laws: SC is bound to give its opinion.

② Reference on matters of General Public Interest: SC may give its opinion.

③ Under Art. 143 such opinion must be rendered by minimum 5 judges bench.

④ Such opinion is merely advisory and has no binding force.

Art. 143 reflects Cooperation between executive & judiciary to maintain institutional harmony.



4. भारत और ब्रिटेन में राष्ट्राध्यक्ष की शक्तियों की तुलना कीजिए। उनकी भूमिकाएं किस प्रकार उनकी संबंधित प्रणालियों के संवैधानिक सिद्धांतों को प्रतिबिंबित करती हैं? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक  
 Compare the powers of the head of state in India and the UK. How do their roles reflect the constitutional principles of their respective systems? (Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Ans 4) Head of State refers to King/Queen i.e. Monarch in UK while President of India is Constitutional head of state.

Powers of Head of State in India & UK

<u>India</u>	<u>UK</u>
① Head of <u>Constitutional Republic</u>	① Head of <u>Moralistic Republic Democracy</u>
② Elected indirectly through <u>electoral college</u>	② <u>Hereditary position</u> passed down through <u>succession</u>
③ Constitution envisages <u>independent functions</u>	③ Merely <u>ceremonial functions</u> & has <u>little say</u> in <u>day to day</u>
(a) <del>is</del> Appointing PM & Council of Ministers	

(b) Can send bills back  
for reconsideration.

functioning of government.

(c) Supreme Commander  
of Armed Forces.

(4) Extraordinary powers  
during Emergency, Hung  
Assembly etc.

(c) No such functions  
are envisaged under  
the Constitution.

### Roles reflecting Constitutional principles

(1) Indian Constitution envisages President  
as Head of Executive to preserve & uphold the  
Constitution (Constitutional Sovereignty)

UK's Ceremonial role as Parliament is  
Supreme i.e. Parliamentary Sovereignty.

(2) India's Emphasis on Executive stability  
during elections & administrative continuity

UK's Merely a continuation of tradition  
post Glorious Revolution of 1688

(3) Indian Constitution makes President a  
~~Republic~~ Head of states too (through Governor & LG)  
however, UK is unitary in nature.

Both systems envisage independent roles  
due to unique/constitutional designs.



5. स्वतंत्रता के बाद से, संसद सदस्यों (एमपी) की बदलती सामाजिक-आर्थिक स्थिति के साथ भारतीय संसद की संरचना में महत्वपूर्ण परिवर्तन आया है। भारत में प्रतिनिधि लोकतंत्र की समग्र गुणवत्ता पर इस बदलाव के प्रभाव का विश्लेषण कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक

Since Independence, the composition of the Indian Parliament has undergone a significant change with the changing socio-economic profile of the Members of Parliament (MPs). Analyse the impact of this shift on the overall quality of representative democracy in India.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Ans 5) Parliamentary Composition reflects socio-economic power shifts and changing demographic composition of India.

Composition of Indian Parliament over years

- ① Constituent Assembly till 1956 : Dominated by Congress party especially by legal luminaries.
- ② 1966-1999 : Rise of regional parties and diverse composition of Parliament.
- ③ 1999-2024 : Coalition based governments as power distributed among multiple parties.
- ④ 2024 → 106<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment Act mandating 33% Reservation for females.

Positive impact of shift on representative democracy

- ① Shift from single party dominance to

multiple parties enhance accountability of executive

② Inclusive Parliamentary Composition as regional interests are raised.

Ex: North-East MPs demanding greater allocation of funds.

③ Increasing women participation increases policy discussion on gender issues.

Ex: 17th Lok Sabha had highest women MPs.

④ Representation of diverse interests and Coalition governments

However, it has also led to certain issues

① Coalition pressures promoting populism & concessionary executive.

② Increasing criminalisation of politics.

Ex: 18th Lok Sabha: 45% MPs have criminal cases.

③ Parliamentary Logjam due to stove-cooling factors of regional parties.

P D Acharya claims "Though Parliament has become more representative, however it has made it difficult to develop consensus".



6. संविधान सभा में महिला संस्थापकों के योगदान और उनके नारीवादी दृष्टिकोण ने भारत के संवैधानिक विमर्श को आकार दिया है। चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक

The contributions of the founding mothers in the Constituent Assembly and their feminist perspective have shaped India's constitutional discourse. Discuss.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Ans) India's National Movement as well as India's Constituent Assembly had female representation which guided discourse towards gender justice.

Contribution of Founding Mothers & their feminist perspective

- ① Radhakumari Amrit Kaur advocated for banning female trafficking as reflected in Art. 23 & 24 of the Constitution.
- ② Making special provisions for women & children to enable equitable development.
- ③ Art. 15(1) allows state to make special provisions for women.
- ④ Sarjini Naidu emphasized on equal

Remuneration as well as special allowance during waterfuity for women.

- Ex: Aft. (39) → Equal pay for equal work
- Aft. (43) → special provisions during waterfuity for women.

(4) India was among the first countries to give Constitutional status to universal adult franchise.

- Ex - Aft. (326) → Equal voting right without disability of gender.

(5) Vijayalakshmi Pandit argued for progressive outlook for women by giving equal opport-  
unities in employment & public sphere.

- Ex: Aft. (16) → equality in employment

Post Constituent Assembly Development → (1) 7th & 7th Amendments  
↳ 1/3rd seats reserved for women in local bodies.

(2) 106th Amendment  
↳ 1/3rd reservation in Parliament & state legislature.

(3) Various laws like Prevention of Child Marriage, POSH etc.

Gender justice & empowerment is rooted in Constitutional principles & morality.



7. "एक लोकतंत्र उतना ही मजबूत होता है जितना उसका विपक्ष।" इस संदर्भ में, लोक सभा में नेता प्रतिपक्ष की भूमिका का परीक्षण कीजिए तथा भारत में इस संस्था की प्रभावशीलता बढ़ाने के उपाय सुझाइए।

(उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक

"A democracy is only as strong as its Opposition." In this light, examine the role of the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha and suggest measures to enhance the effectiveness of this institution in India.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Ans 7) J.L. Nehru asserted, "Parliament belongs first to opposition and then to ruling side", highlighting role of opposition in democracy.

Role of leader of opposition (LoP) in Lok Sabha

① Provides leadership to opposition camp and has rank equivalent to Cabinet Minister under LoP Act, 1977.

② Demands accountability by questioning government policies & action.

Ex: 17th LS: LoP raised question on effectiveness of Ayushman Bharat.

③ Key role in setting agenda of Parliamentary business by representing issues & demands of opposition.

④ Raising issues not covered by government policies. (Ex) % Lot raised issue of post-employment benefits of Agri worker

⑤ Role in various selection Committee.

(Ex) % Lot is members to pick CVC, CEC, CBI Director, Lokpal etc.

### Measures to enhance effectiveness of Lot

① Relooking provision of minimum 10% seat requirement to be recognised as Lot.

② Lot must raise issues of all opposition parties, not his parent party.

(Ex) % Two national parties tussled over Lot declining request of other party in 2024.

③ Lot's role is to ensure democratic accountability. Parliamentary stonewalling must be minimized (Ex) - walkouts.

④ Lot can be nominated to important Parliamentary Committee like PAC, Estimates etc.

Lot ensures that government prioritised public interest & checks executive despotism.



8. भारत में अल्पसंख्यक शैक्षणिक संस्थानों से संबंधित संवैधानिक प्रावधान क्या हैं? न्यायिक घोषणाओं ने भारत में समानता के अधिकार और अल्पसंख्यक पहचान को सुरक्षित रखने के अधिकार के बीच संतुलन को किस प्रकार आकार दिया है?

(उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक

What are the constitutional provisions related to minority educational institutions in India? How have judicial pronouncements shaped the balance between the right to equality and the right to preserve minority identity in India? (Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Ans 8) Minority Educational Institutions (MEIs) are institutions aimed at educational upliftment & social progress for religious & linguistic minorities.

Constitutional Provisions for MEIs in India

- ① Art. 29 : Right of every section to preserve unique culture.
- ② Art. 30 : Establishing institutions for protection of culture.
- ③ Art. 15(4) and 15(5) and 15(6) : Minority educational institutes are exempted from reservation requirements.
- ④ ~~from~~ Article 300A and Art. 30 providing for protection from arbitrary acquisition of MEIs property.

Judicial Pronouncements shaping balance between right to equality & minority rights

① Aligarh Muslim University Case : 1993

real intent of establishing MIEs will be taken into consideration.

(b) State cannot arbitrarily alter governance structure of MIEs.

② Saint Stephen's Case 2024 : MIEs can

reserve certain seats for benefits of minorities

③ MIEs are exempt from quota requirements under RTE Act (UP Madarasa Case)

④ minority status does not preclude withdrawal of state support.

⑤ Harmonious construction between right to equality & minority rights.

These judicial pronouncements and constitutional prescriptions promote Equitable development of minorities.



9. अधिकार-आधारित लोकतंत्र में, एनएचआरसी जैसी संस्थाओं को प्रतीकात्मक उपस्थिति से आगे बढ़कर वास्तविक समय प्रभाव तक विकसित होना चाहिए। इस संदर्भ में, भारत के मानवाधिकार ढांचे के भीतर संरचनात्मक और कार्यात्मक मुद्दों पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक

In a rights-based democracy, institutions like the NHRC must evolve beyond symbolic presence to real-time impact. In this context, discuss the structural and functional issues within India's human rights framework. (Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Ques) NHRC (National Human Rights Commission) was established under Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993 as "Guardian & watchdog against violation of Human Rights".

Structural and Functional Issues associated with NHRC

(A) Structural Challenge :- (A) Low manpower strength as it does not have separate cadre.

(B) Vacancies in appointment of members owing to low frequency for meeting of selection committee.

(C) NHRC only has advisory role due to lack of constitutional status.

(1) Absence of funding towards compensation for victims.

(2) Functional Issues : (a) NHRC can take cognizance only within year.

(b) Overlapping jurisdiction with NCST/NCSC/NCBC etc.

(c) Critics allege neglect of grave human rights violations like bulldozer justice violating human right of shelter.

(d) 75% rejection rate at level of admission of cases.

Way forward : (1) Contemplating Constitutional status to NHRC.

(2) Lifting limitation of year for taking cases.

(3) Separate fund for NHRC functioning as well as awards.

(4) Mandatory Action Taken Report (ATR) on NHRC recommendations.

Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions recommend institutional & functional independence of NHRC.



10. परिसीमन 'एक नागरिक, एक वोट' के विचार को मान्यता देता है, लेकिन इसके निहितार्थ संघवाद के सिद्धांतों के खिलाफ जाते हैं। टिप्पणी कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक

Delimitation upholds the idea of 'one citizen, one vote', but its implications go against the principles of federalism. Comment. (Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Article 82 provides for delimitation after every census (forced by 86th Amendment) to uphold idea of 'one citizen, one vote'.

Delimitation upholds idea of one citizen, one vote

- ① Ensure dynamic distribution of seats based on changed population figures.
- ② Upholds democratic framework i.e. ~~states~~ each MLA / MP should represent roughly same population size.
- ③ Helps to effectively raise issues & enact government policies for welfare of maximum number of people.
- ④ Prevent mass discontent by maintaining democratic balance.

⑤ Allow for ~~repres~~ MP's accountability as she/he represents smaller section of population.

Goes against basic principles of federalism

① Disincentivizes progressive demographic policies. Ex - Southern states alleging discrimination for lower fertility rate.

② Confrontational Federalism due to reaction by seat losing states.

Ex - TN Assembly passed resolution against Delimitation.

③ Increase constituency size in low population state hindering effective representation.

Ex - Ladakh has 2 MPs despite vast area.

④ Federal distress due to inadequate representation challenges due to competing interests.

Delimitation requires consensus building to maintain federal balance.



11. विपक्ष शासित राज्यों में राज्यपालों की भूमिका केंद्र-राज्य संबंधों में विवाद का विषय रही है। आलोचनात्मक रूप से चर्चा कीजिए कि किस प्रकार राज्यपाल का अतिक्रमण राज्य सरकारों की स्थिति को चुनौती देता है तथा ऐसे संघर्षों को कम करने के लिए सुरक्षा उपाय सुझाएँ। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

The role of Governors in opposition-ruled States has been a flashpoint in Centre-State relations. Critically discuss how gubernatorial overreach challenges the position of state governments and suggest safeguards to mitigate such conflicts.

(Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

Ans)

Recent conflicts between Governor & State governments in Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Punjab, West Bengal etc. has reflected federal distress due to gubernatorial overreach.

Gubernatorial overreach challenging position of state government

① Governor assuming arbitrary executive powers outside constitutional design.

Ex) - Tamil Nadu Governor declined to appoint a minister.

② Issues of delays of bills & Presidential reservation under Art 200

Ex) - State of Punjab v/s Governor of Punjab: SC ruled that Governor must give assent within 3 months.

③ Issues of Governor's overreach in day-to-day functioning of government.

Ex - West Bengal Governor summoning DGP & Chief Secy daily to his house

④ Allegations of partisan conduct by allying with centre.

⑤ Democratic subversion by rejecting bills passed by legislature.

Ex: TN Governor rejected Vice Chancellor Bill despite multiple passages by Assembly.

⑥ Issues of Art-356 of arbitrary dismissal of government.

Ex - Nabam-Bibia Case of Assam Pradesh.

⑦ Governor challenging ideological legitimacy of state governments.

Ex - Tamil Nadu Governor declining to read out Governor's address.

However, it's not gubernatorial overreach case always

① Constitutional responsibility to uphold

Rule of law in state.

② Necessary to maintain Union & state  
harmony - Governor as ~~connecting~~ connecting link

③ Constitution allows situational discretion  
to governor. Ex: Art. 200 & Art. 356

Safeguards to mitigate such conflicts

① Funchhi Commission: (a) Fixed tenure of  
5 years to allow independent conduct

(b) Consult CMA in appointment to minimize Conflict

(c) Governor should follow aid and advice of  
State Council of ministers

② S.R. Bommai Case: (a) Constitutional  
Discretion only in cases of extreme emergency.

(b) Constitutional duty to not hinder day-to-  
day functioning.

③ Governor should ideally be a political person  
from outside the state. (Sarkaria Commission)

Cooperation between Governor & state executive  
will be intra-aug-noni for smooth functioning.



12.

राजनीतिक प्रतिनिधित्व में वृद्धि के बावजूद, पंचायती राज संस्थाओं में निर्वाचित महिला प्रतिनिधियों (ईडब्ल्यूआर) को प्रभावी भागीदारी और नेतृत्व में बाधाओं का सामना करना पड़ रहा है। इस संदर्भ में, ईडब्ल्यूआर के सामने आने वाली चुनौतियों पर चर्चा करें तथा लिंग-समावेशी जमीनी स्तर पर शासन को सक्षम बनाने के लिए आवश्यक सुधारों का सुझाव दीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

Despite increased political representation, Elected Women Representatives (EWRs) in Panchayati Raj Institutions continue to face barriers to effective participation and leadership. In this context, discuss the challenges EWRs face and suggest reforms needed to enable gender-inclusive grassroots governance. (Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

Ans) Despite women constituting 46% of EWR at Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), still their political empowerment is depressed.

Provision enabling increased EWR → ① 73<sup>rd</sup> Amendment  
Minimum 33% to be women.

→ ② Many states mandating 50% reservation like MP, Bihar etc.

→ ③ Increasing literacy and gender laws enabling public participation.

### Challenges EWRs face in PRIs

① Challenges of PRIs in terms of Funds, Function, Functionaries & Functionality also hamper EWR leadership in PRIs.

② Tokenism in representation & institution  
of Sampradh Kadi is still prevalent.

③ Male dominated P.R. Bureaucracy which  
does not heed to female EWRs.

Ex: Many EWR in Kooa (Chattisgarh) <sup>demanded</sup>  
increased women as fund grant secretaries.

④ Political leadership at higher level (M.P./M.L.A.)  
may encourage women led initiatives.

Ex: Only 74 women MPs in 18th Lok Sabha.

⑤ Patriarchal attitudes of general masses  
which are not susceptible to EWR initiatives.

⑥ low levels of literacy and low financial  
autonomy hampering independent decisions.

⑦ Criminalisation of Politics at local  
level & high muscle power in local  
elections stalling effective participation.

Reforms for gender inclusive grassroots governance

① Kerala's Big Bang Model (a) Panchayat  
Ombudsman to counter patriarchal practices.

(b) All women Panchayats to enable gender-  
centric initiatives.

(c) Training elected EWS for effective  
discharge of duties.

② Educating female EWS to exercise  
PFI powers independently.

③ Female Quota in Panchayat bureau-  
cracy for effective implementation.

④ State level monitoring Committee to  
counter female tokenism.

⑤ Wider Gender  
Reforms at  
grassroot level

① Increased literacy  
of females.

② Female led civil  
society for gender  
just governance.

③ Economic empowerment of women,

73rd Amendment gave LETTER to gender  
inclusivity, need to inculcate SPIRIT



13. फ्रांस में अर्ध-राष्ट्रपति प्रणाली राष्ट्रपति और प्रधान मंत्री के बीच सत्ता-साझाकरण का एक विशिष्ट मॉडल प्रस्तुत करती है। इस मॉडल की तुलना भारत की संसदीय प्रणाली से कीजिए, जिसमें कार्यकारी स्थिरता सुनिश्चित करने के लिए प्रत्येक द्वारा प्रदत्त संवैधानिक सुरक्षा पर जोर दिया गया है। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

The semi-presidential system in France presents a distinct model of power-sharing between the President and Prime Minister. Compare this model with India's parliamentary system, with emphasis on the constitutional safeguards each offers to ensure executive stability.

(Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

Ans 13) France has semi-presidential system which has a mix of Parliamentary & Presidential system to ensure stability of government.

Semi-Presidential Model as distinct model of Power sharing

- ① President is elected directly by people while Prime Minister is appointed by President.
- ② President & PM may belong to same party or different party.
- ③ Real Executive Power lies with President with PM mainly to secure party coordination in Parliament.

## Comparing Models of India & France

### India

### France

① Art. 78: PM is head of the government, while President (Art. 58) is Head of the State.

① President is Head of the Govern-ment as well as Head of the State.

② Executive powers are vested in President but he uses them on aid and advice of Council of Ministers only (Art. 74).

② Executive power is vested in President who exercises it according to own policies.

③ Executive head is indirectly elected: PM is chosen by majority party in Lok Sabha.

③ President is  voted directly by people for term of 5 years.

④ President has fixed term.

④ President has

while PM remain  
as long as he/she  
enjoy majority

fixed term & cannot  
be removed mid-way.

⑤ Policies originate  
in Parliament and  
require President's  
assent to become a  
law

⑤ Division of powers  
as President can make  
independent law on  
Defence, Foreign relations  
etc while some  
subjects <sup>remain</sup> ~~are~~ with  
Parliament.

⑥ President cannot  
dismiss PM if  
majority support exist.

⑥ wide grounds for  
dismissal of PM  
is available.

⑦ President, <sup>is</sup> generally  
supported by  
political parties during  
elections.

⑦ President goes  
into election independ-  
ently of Parliament.

French Constitution & Indian Constitution  
designed executive structure differently to  
meet unique needs of this political <sup>systems</sup> ~~system~~.



14. मौलिक अधिकारों और राज्य नीति के निर्देशक सिद्धांतों के बीच विकसित होता संबंध भारत की संवैधानिक यात्रा की एक गतिशील विशेषता रही है, जिसके लिए अक्सर न्यायिक हस्तक्षेप और संवैधानिक संशोधनों की आवश्यकता पड़ती है। चर्चा कीजिए।  
(उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

The evolving relationship between Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles of State Policy has been a dynamic feature of India's constitutional journey, often necessitating judicial interventions and constitutional amendments. Discuss.

(Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

Ans/14) Part III Fundamental Rights (FR) are

Justiciable Rights while Part IV Directive

Principle of State Policy (DPSP) are

non-justiciable rights forming philosophical

basis of constitution.

Evolving Relationship between FR & DPSP

① 1st Amendment, 1950 : Introduction of 9th schedule to give effect to DPSP by violating certain FRs. This was done to prevent judicial review of socialistic laws.

② Shankari Prasad Case : FR hold primacy over DPSP and FR cannot

be subverted to implement DPSP.

③ Golak Nath Case, 1967 : SC reiterated that DPSP are merely advisory while FR are justiciable and laws giving effect to DPSP cannot subvert FR.

④ 24th and 25th Amendment : introduced Article 31 such that DPSP were declared to hold primary over FR.

⑤ Keshavnanda Bharati Judgement : highlighted that certain aspects of 24th & 25th amendments are unconstitutional and there exists delicate balance between DPSP and FR.

⑥ 42nd Constitutional Amendment : Article 31B highlighting primacy of Art 39(b)

2. Art. 39(C) over Art. 14 & 19

⑦ Minnesota Mills Case : (a) Upheld Constitutionally validity of Art. 31B giving preference structure as :

FR excluding (14) & (19) > Art. 39(B) & 39(C) > FR (14) & (19) > Remaining DPSPs

(b) Doctrine of Harmonious Construction between FR and DPSP highlighting harmony between Part (3) and Part (4)

⑧ Bardolua Mukti Morcha Case : State can make any law regarding DPSPs as long as it aims to promote Fundamental Rights.

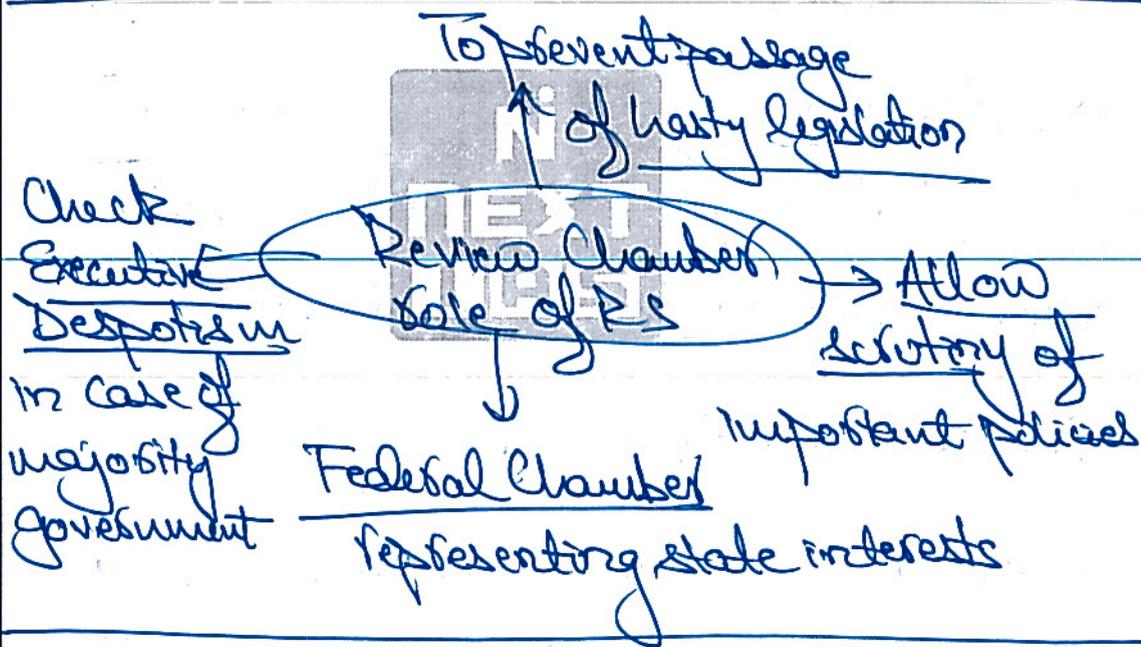
⑨ Justice K.S. Puttaswamy Case : Re-assertion that FR & DPSP are complementary & not conflicting.

Justice S. Nariman has asserted that evolving nature of FR & DPSP reflect evolving political aspirations of India.



15. उच्च सदन की परिकल्पना एक समीक्षा सदन के रूप में की गई थी, न कि निचले सदन के प्रतिद्वंद्वी के रूप में। इस वाक्य के आलोक में, क्या आपको लगता है कि समकालीन भारतीय राजनीति में राज्य सभा इस दृष्टिकोण को पूरा कर रही है? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक
- The Upper House was envisioned as a reviewing chamber and not a rival to the Lower House. In light of this statement, do you think the Rajya Sabha continues to fulfil this vision in contemporary Indian polity? (Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

Ans (15) Council of States / Upper House / Rajya Sabha was envisioned as reviewing chamber & thus integral part of Parliament.



Rajya Sabha fulfilling vision of reviewing chamber in Indian Polity

① Detailed scrutiny of legislation & policies of government.

② 18th RS discussed on inflation of Jal Teerka Mission Expenditure.

② Acted as revisory chamber for important legislations.

Ex - RS revised draft bill of DADA Bill

③ Executive accountability through Various Committees.

Ex - RS Members in PAC, Joint Committees etc.

④ Raising interests of state through RS MPs.

Ex - ~~Under~~ Manipal RS MPs raised demand of central intervention.

⑤ Platform for deliberation & discussions in case Lower House hastily approves legislation.

Ex: J&K Reorganisation Act was debated at length in RS

However, there are certain limitations too

① RS does not have power in case of Money Bills to make changes.

Ex: RS cannot recommend cuts in Budget.

② MPs often toe party line rather than

independent stance.

③ Growing disruptions, adjournments etc. reducing effectiveness of RS functioning.

④ - Frequent walkouts by opposition & low working hours.

④ Unnecessarily delaying legislation subverting democratic mandate (as bills are passed by Lower House).

⑤ Very few bills have been amended or revised by RS in 16th & 17th LS → highlights declining role as reviewing chamber.

Way Forward

① Independent stance of MR for detailed discussion on bills.

② Time Bound passage of important legislations.

③ Increased hours & sitting of RS.

(Punchhi Commission recommended minimum 100 sittings per year)

RS is not merely reviewing chamber but solest technical & constitutional chamber of Parliament



16.

भारतीय संविधान में नियंत्रण और संतुलन के सिद्धांत को अक्सर विधायी और कार्यकारी क्षेत्रों में न्यायपालिका की बढ़ती भूमिका द्वारा चुनौती दी जाती है। कारणों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, विभिन्न अंगों के बीच कार्यात्मक पृथक्करण पर इसके प्रभाव का आकलन कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

The principle of checks and balances in the Indian Constitution is often challenged by the judiciary's expanding role in legislative and executive domains. Highlighting the reasons, assess its impact on the functional separation between various organs.

(Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

Ans) Recent cases on ~~the~~ judicial decisions in Charadhani Case or Anoop Baranwal Case reflect judicial expanding role in legislative & ~~expanding~~ executive domains.

Reasons for expanding judicial role

① Proactive judiciary to fulfill legislative vacuum.

Ex: Vishaka Case : Guidelines for sexual harassment prevention.

② Executive inaction invite judicial pronouncements.

Ex - Charadhani Case : SC mandating compulsory EIA for projects.

③ Rising number of PILs demanding judicial intervention.

④ - Supreme Court recently asked States to reverse remission ~~for~~ rules.

④ Duty to protect fundamental rights -

④° NALSA Case ° Giving recognition to transgender people -

⑤ low judicial accountability due

to ° → Independent Appointment

→ Difficult Removal Process

→ Judges conduct cannot be discussed (except for removal motion)

⑥ Coalition Compulsion leading to policy paralysis demanding judicial intervention.

④ - SC modifying award of Convey Tribunal -

⑦ wide powers of judicial review -

⑧ Article 142 enabling Supreme Court to do complete justice -

④ - Use of Art 142 to form selection committee for appointing CEC.

## Impact or functional separation

- ① Confrontation among various organs -
  - Ex - Executive vs Judicial standoff after NATC case (Fourth Judges Case)
- ② Decreasing Parliamentary authority & legitimacy by Judicial legislations -
- ③ Threat to judicial independence by legislative overturning of verdicts -
  - Ex - GNCTA Act overturned SC stand on Delhi Governance -
- ④ Executive actions subverting judicial verdicts - Ex - MoEFCC relaxed rules overruling Chandhuan judgement -
- ⑤ Trust deficit & poor cooperation among organs
- ⑥ Dilution of separation of powers -

Justice Bhaishikala suggested "Judicial Restraint is prime indicator of Judicial Abstinence".



17. चुनाव प्रक्रिया की विश्वसनीयता चुनाव आयोग की स्वायत्तता और तटस्थता पर निर्भर करती है। क्या आपको लगता है कि भारत का निर्वाचन आयोग चुनावी लोकतंत्र में जनता का विश्वास बनाए रखने में विश्वसनीयता के मुद्दों का सामना कर रहा है? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

The credibility of the electoral process rests on the autonomy and neutrality of the Election Commission. Do you think the Election Commission of India is facing credibility issues in sustaining public trust in electoral democracy? (Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

Ans/A) <sup>Election Commission of India (ECI)</sup>  
Article (324) - (329) envisages ~~ECI as~~  
watchdog of Indian Democracy by giving  
autonomy & constitutional powers to  
ECI.

Credibility of Electoral Process rests on  
ECI's autonomy & neutrality

- ① Ensuring free & fair elections as part of democratic process -
- ② Trust of all parties in ECI as neutral watchdog.
- ③ Public legitimacy of results & peaceful transfer of power.
- ④ Ensuring level playing field for all parties.

ECI facing credibility issues in sustaining public trust

① Debates on use of EVMs & VVPATs

Ex - Germany & Ireland reverted back to postal ballots.

② Doubts on independence of Commission

as CEC & other EC Act, 2024 overturned

Anoop Baranwal verdict → Selection

Committee is % PM + Cabinet Ministers + LoT

↳ Executive Dominance

③ Opposition parties have raised doubts on electoral rolls & bogus votes.

Ex - Debates on Maharashtra Assembly Election.

④ Impartiality in allocating election symbols especially after breaks & mergers.

Ex - Shivsena (UBT) vs Shivsena Case 2022

⑤ Opposition raising partisan conduct

in enforcing ~~what~~ Model Code of Conduct.

⑥ Growing criminalisation of elections  
& role of money power.

Ex) : CMS asserted ₹1.35 lakh crore was  
spent in 2024 general elections.

⑦ Functional Dependence of ECI on  
Government for funds and manpower.

However, ECI has also maintained credibility.

① Challenging false narratives about EVMs.

Ex) - Open Hackathon of EVM in 2018, 2020 etc.

② Technological Upgradation, continuously  
ensuring free & fair elections.

Ex) - Launch of C-VIGIL app.

③ Victory of diverse parties highlight  
Independence of ECI.

However, Law Commission suggests

FUNCTIONAL & OPERATIONAL Independence  
of ECI will further improve its credibility.

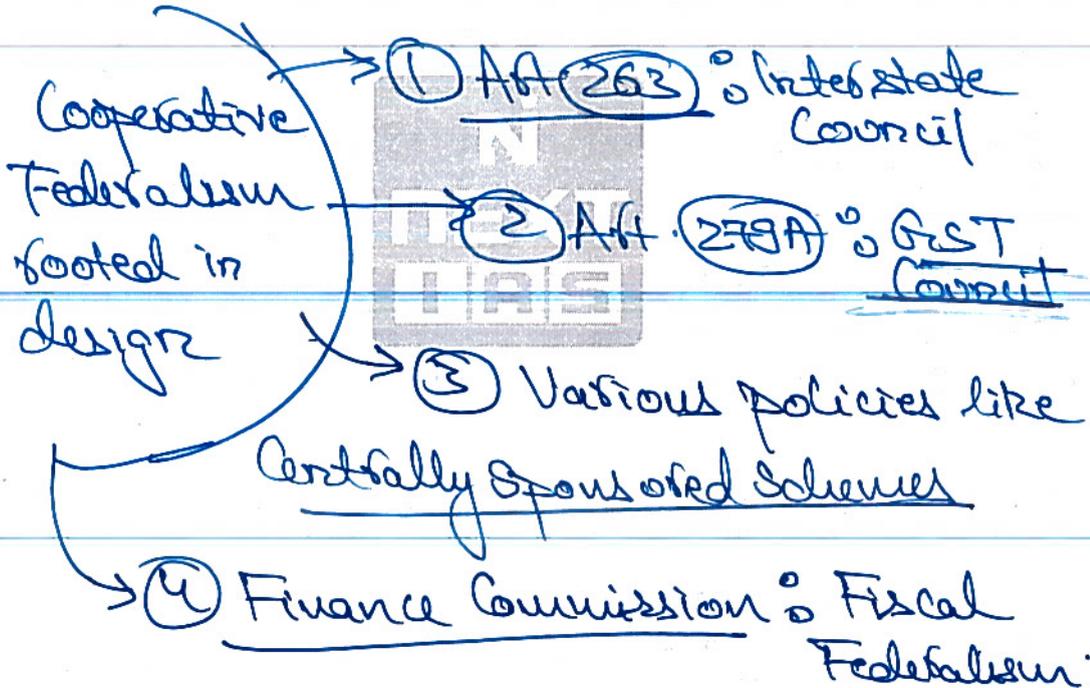


18.

जबकि सहकारी संघवाद संविधान के डिजाइन में निहित है, राजनीतिक विचारों ने प्रतिस्पर्धी और टकरावपूर्ण संघवाद को जन्म दिया है। भारत के संघीय ढांचे के भीतर इन प्रवृत्तियों को समेटने में संवैधानिक और संविधानेतर संस्थाओं की भूमिका का परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

While cooperative federalism is rooted in the design of the Constitution, political considerations have given rise to competitive and confrontational federalism. Examine the role of constitutional and extra-constitutional institutions in reconciling these trends within India's federal structure. (Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

Ques) Cooperative Federalism refers to cooperation between Union & State & among states to ensure federal synergy in governance.



Political Considerations giving rise to Competitive & Confrontational federalism

① Confrontation over distribution of powers & finances.

② ° Vertical Fiscal Imbalance between Centre & States.

- (2) Governors overreach leading to Confrontation.
- (3) Intra-state disputes based on regionalist politics -  
 Ex) - Maharashtra vs Karnataka over Belgaum issue.
- (4) Disputes over Centre's interference in state affairs. Ex) % Issues like repositioning of Hindi.

### Role of Constitutional and Extra-Constitutional Mechanisms to Reconcile Tense

- (1) Judiciary ~~is~~ <sup>CSC</sup> Supreme Court under Art. 131 to resolve federal disputes.  
 Ex) % SC laying down timelines for Governors.
- (2) Fiscal Federalism through GST and GST Council (Art. 236A & 279A)  
 Ex) - 66% votes of states & 33% of Centre in GST Council.
- (3) Permanent Interstate Council (Art. 262)  
 to resolve confrontational issues.

④ Zonal Councils | under State Reorganisation Act to discuss regional issues.

Ex - North East Council discussion on removal of AFSPA.

⑤ NITI Aayog | Governing Board of various wings emphasize collective vision for governance.

⑥ Chief Ministers' Conference | For amicable settlement of inter-state issues.

⑦ Finance Commission (Art. 280) to ensure functional distribution of revenue collection. Ex | Art (282) for post devolution revenue deficit grants.

⑧ Various institutional mechanisms like PRAGATI & GATISHAKTI for promoting Cooperative federalism.

Cooperative federalism when combined with positive competitive federalism, turn to COLLABORATIVE FEDERALISM.



19. सहकारी समितियाँ भारत के सामाजिक-आर्थिक विकास का अभिन्न अंग हैं। बहु-राज्य सहकारी समितियों (एमएससीएस) के सामने आने वाली शासन और स्वायत्तता की चुनौतियों की जाँच कीजिए और चर्चा कीजिए कि हाल ही में पारित बहु-राज्य सहकारी समितियाँ (संशोधन अधिनियम, 2023) इन मुद्दों को किस प्रकार संबोधित करने का प्रयास करता है।

(उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

Cooperative societies are integral to India's socio-economic development. Examine the governance and autonomy challenges faced by Multi-State Cooperative Societies (MSCSs) and discuss how the recent Multi State Cooperative Societies (Amendment Act, 2023) seeks to address these issues. (Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

- Ans 19) Cooperative Societies are reflective of Gandhian Model of Development and 74th Constitutional Amendment further cemented their salience in socio-economic development.
- Governance and Autonomy challenges faced by MSCS
- ① Dual Regulation as they are registered with Union Registrar but perform operations at state level.
  - ② - MSCS Sugar Cooperative face double burden of regulation.
  - ③ Regulatory Overload due to high compliance requirements at all stages.

③ Governance Structure Anomalies :

Ⓐ No uniform method for electing office bearers

Ⓑ Different governance structures across multiple MSCS.

Ⓒ Qualification requirement - 2, ~~1~~ <sup>allowed</sup>  
~~1~~ number of re-election not mentioned.

④ Absence of auditing mechanism to trace flow of funds.

⑤ Lack of single window clearance

⑥ Operation Issues → low innovation & outdated technologies

Absence of uniform strategy for development.

→ Social issues like elite capture of cooperatives

MSCS (Amendment Act) addressing above issues

① Registration : only once with Union

## Regulation for MSCS Cooperatives

(2) Single point licensing for multi-state operations to reduce regulatory burden.

(3) Governance changes (a) Specified method of elections of office bearers.

(b) Term & Qualifications of office bearers to be ~~clear~~ clarified.

(4) Provision for developing single window clearance under Union Cooperative Ministry.

(5) National Cooperative Policy 2025 to have special emphasis on MSCS operational issues.

(6) Mandating independent audits of cooperative accounts

MSCS Amendment Act promotes ease of functioning aligning with vision of "Cooperatives for Viksit Bharat".



20. भारत में विचाराधीन कैदियों की बढ़ती संख्या आपराधिक न्याय प्रणाली में प्रणालीगत और प्रक्रियागत खामियों को दर्शाती है। हाल ही में सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के निर्देशों के आलोक में, अंतर्निहित चुनौतियों पर चर्चा करें तथा इस संकट से निपटने के लिए बहुआयामी दृष्टिकोण का सुझाव दीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

The growing number of undertrial prisoners in India reflects both systemic and procedural lapses within the criminal justice system. In light of recent Supreme Court directions, discuss the underlying challenges and suggest a multi-pronged approach to address this crisis.

(Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

Ans 20) NCRB Prison Statistics 2022 highlights

that 75.8% of all jailed individuals are undertrials with average annual growth of 2-3% reflecting growing percentage of undertrials.

Reflects both systemic & Procedural lapses

① High pendency of cases & low <sup>Completion</sup> ~~provision~~ rate. (30% are undertrials > 1 year)

② Despite SC's assertion that "Bail is rule, Jail is exception" → Subordinate judiciary does not easily grant bail.

③ Long pending investigations reflected in slow judicial progress -

④ Hon'ble President Musum highlighted that (Unavailability of Legal Aid and Inability to Furnish Bail Bond) is resulting in high undertrials.

⑤ Socio-economic marginalization ° SC/ST/OBC are over-represented in undertrials.

Underlying Challenges vs-a-vs SC directions

① Lack of state fund to furnish bail bond for undertrials.

② Judicial aversion at lower levels to grant bail due to public scrutiny.

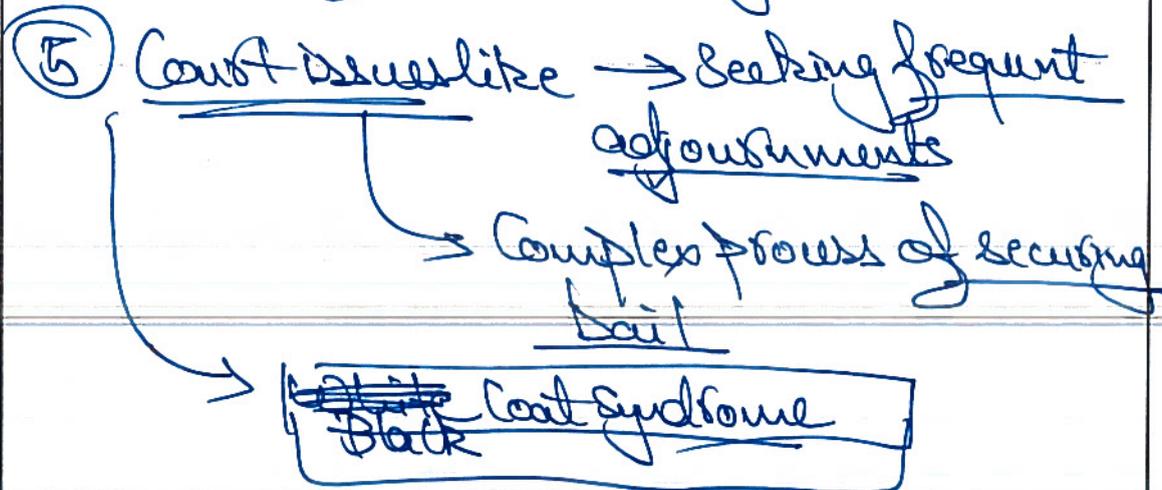
Ex - Bail to undertrial criminals

③ Legal provisions complicating granting of bails.

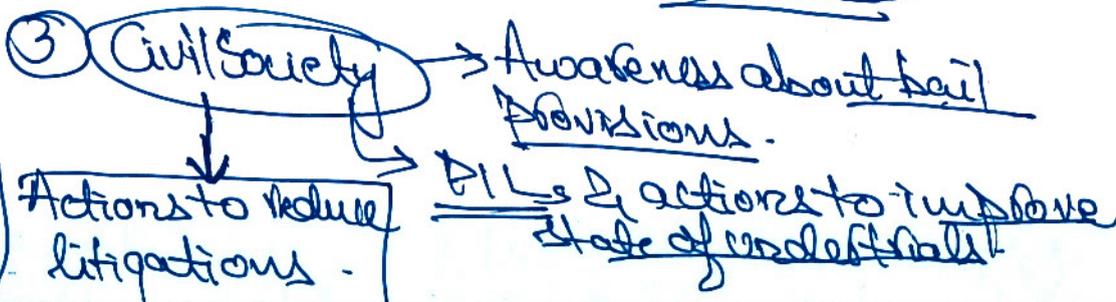
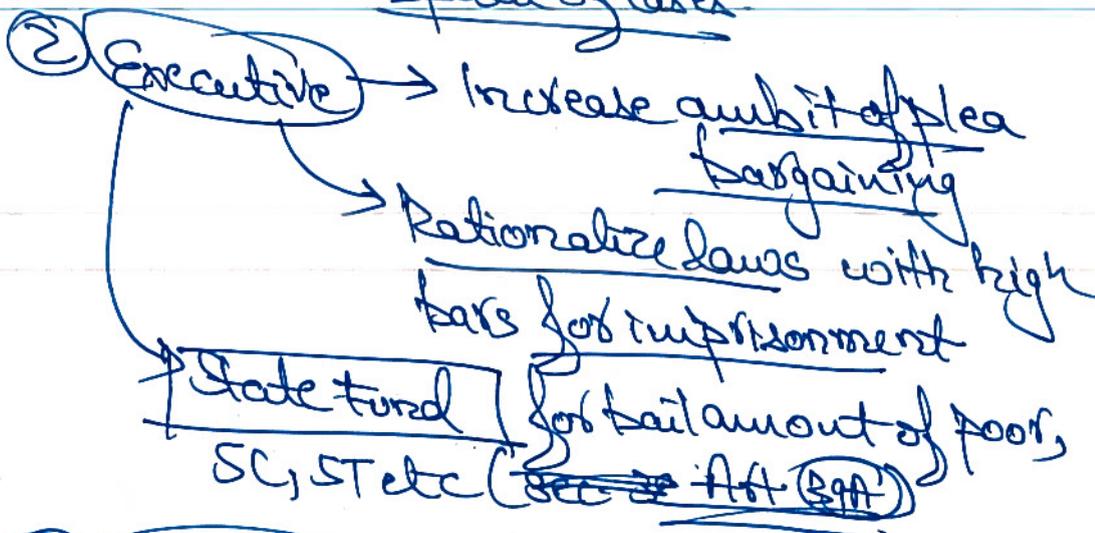
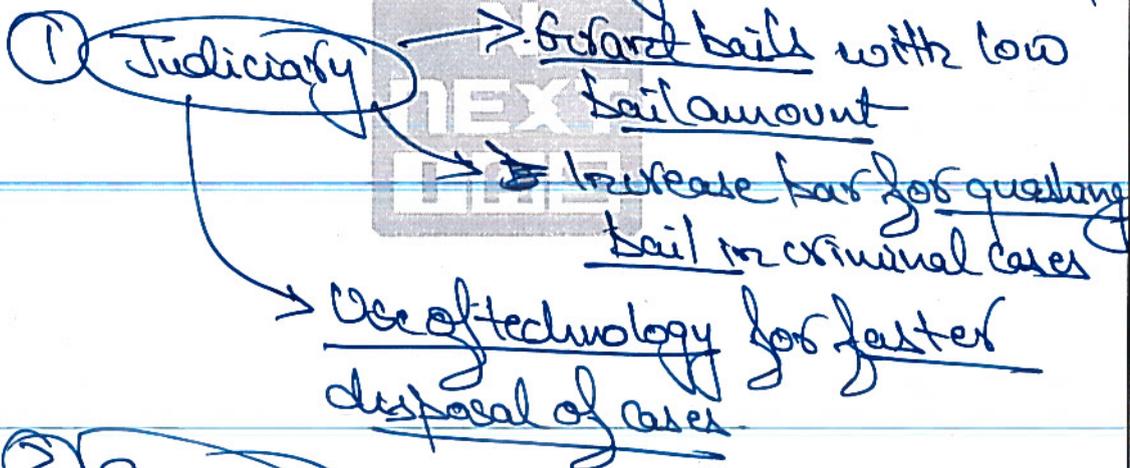
Ex ° UAPA & PMLA lays down stringent bail provisions.

④ long time period for investigation and

Absence of plea bargaining - in most cases.



Multi pronged strategy to address issues





# NEXT IAS

---

*Space for Rough Work*

A series of horizontal lines for rough work, consisting of multiple parallel lines in various colors (blue, red, black) spaced evenly down the page.

# NEXT IAS

## 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.

## SPECIAL REQUEST FOR CANDIDATE AVAILING ONLINE FACILITY

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.
2. Please scan the QCA booklet in ample light. Copies scanned under moderate light can hamper evaluation quality.
3. Any page/pdf having shadow needs to be rescanned. Please make sure that the pdf that you upload is as clean as possible.
4. **Candidates not using the QCA booklet** must mention their details on the front page. And leave the next page blank for the macro comments. It must be understood that the answer should start from Page no. 3 in of the scanned pdf.
5. Candidates not using the QCA booklet must follow the sequence of the answer as per the question paper.
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.