

NEXT IAS

MAIN TEST SERIES 2024 (FLT)

(To be filled by candidate)

TEST CODE : FLT010

Test No. : 10

Name of Candidate: Himanshu Singh Mobile No.

Roll No. : MT24FLT010005 Start Time 2:30 End Time 5:45

Date of Examination: 1 Sep 2024 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 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, 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 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:

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

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

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

MACRO COMMENTS

The Purpose of evaluation@nextias.com is to provide constructive suggestions on 'How to improve Answer Writing and thereby score better marks.'

STRENGTHS OF THE CANDIDATE

AREAS OF IMPROVEMENT



IMPROVEMENT SUGGESTIONS

1. "संसद संविधान की रचना है, न कि उसका स्वामी।" प्रासंगिक वाद संबंधी कानूनों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए चर्चा कीजिए कि न्यायिक हस्तक्षेप ने संविधान और संसदीय संप्रभुता के बीच संतुलन को कैसे आकार दिया है।

(उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक

"Parliament is a creature of the constitution, not its master". Highlighting relevant case laws discuss how judicial intervention has shaped the balance between the Constitution and parliamentary sovereignty.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Indian constitution is based on constitutionalism i.e. limited govt. That envisages Parliament as a facilitator, mobiliser not master of constitution.

Judicial intervention has shaped balance between constitution and parliamentary sovereignty

① Keshava Nanda Bhargava case (1973) → envisaged Basic structure doctrine whereby Parliament can amend any part other than Basic structure of constitution.

② Minerva Mills case 1980 → Harmonious construction of DPSP, whereas art 31(b) and 31(c) hold significance over some Fundamental rights.

③ IL Coelho case (2007) → 9th schedule is not immune from judicial review on Basis of basic structure doctrine.

- ④ Separation of power → Part of basic structure → Indira ^{VS} Raj Narain case 1976
Ram Jawaya Kapoor case → checks and balances.
- ⑤ Constitutional morality → Transformative power of constitution.
eg Nalsa judgement → Transgender as 3rd gender.
- ⑥ Federalism → as part of Basic structure → S.R. Bommai case 1994.
- ⑦ Judicial independence → part of basic structure — NJAC case 2014.
- ⑧ Judicial review of President's rule — eg An Pradesh Assembly case 2016.
- ⑨ Substantive due process of law (by widening procedure established by law) in Maneka Gandhi case 1978.

Constitution of India is 1st and foremost a social document made for transformative changes (Granville Austin). Judicial intervention has led to upholding the principle of constitutionalism while also maintaining parliamentary sovereignty.

2. भारत और संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका के नागरिकता संबंधी कानून और नीतियाँ उनके संवैधानिक ढाँचे के भीतर किस प्रकार भिन्न हैं? भारत और अमेरिका में नागरिकता कानूनों और नीतियों पर चल रही चर्चा पर टिप्पणी कीजिए।

(उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक

How do the citizenship laws and policies of India and the United States differ within their constitutional frameworks? Comment on the ongoing debate on citizenship laws and policies in India and the US.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

India and United States are two largest and oldest democracies, however they have similarities and divergences in their approach to citizenship.

Differences

	India	USA
Source	Constitution and Parliament made laws (Art 5-11)	Constitution and its subsequent amendments
Type	Single Citizenship	Dual Citizenship States Federal
Principle	Based on principle of Jus Sanguine and Jus Soli ↳ Naturalisation etc Registration	Based on principle of Jus Soli only.
Termination	By deprivation, renunciation etc.	can't terminate themselves, only state can.

Benefits	Enjoy all fundam ental rights ~~include~~ opportunity to become <u>president</u> -	Enjoys all FR's but only person born in USA can become President.
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Ongoing debates in citizenship laws and policies

A India →

- ① CAA and CAA rules notified in 2023
↳ immigration from Pak, Afghan, Nepal, Bhutan etc.
- ② NRC - to create a register of citizens and normal residents.
- ③ Illegal immigration - strengthening border infrastructure to curb Rohingyas, B'desh immigrants.

B USA →

- ① Donald Trumps attack on muslim country's immigrants.
- ② Dunkley → illegal immigrants.
- ③ Immigrants from Mexico.

India and USA show both convergence and divergence in their approach to citizenship.

3. "इंटरनेट एक्सेस का अधिकार भारत में अन्य मौलिक अधिकारों की प्राप्ति और प्रयोग का अभिन्न अंग है।" इस संदर्भ में जाँच कीजिए कि भारत में इंटरनेट एक्सेस को मौलिक अधिकार के रूप में मान्यता देना राज्य के प्रतिबंध लगाने के अधिकार के साथ कैसे मेल खाता है। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक

"The right to internet access is integral to the realization and exercise of other fundamental rights in India." In this context examine how the recognition of internet access as a fundamental right in India reconciles with the state's authority to impose restrictions.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

India is home to largest Internet Shutdowns $\geq 60\%$ of the world.

Recognition of internet access as fundamental right

① Anuradha Bhasin case $\rightarrow$ SC declared right to internet under art 19(1)(a)

② Shreya Singhal case $\Rightarrow$ SC upheld right to express oneself through modern means of communication as fundamental right under art 19

Integral to enjoy other rights

① Right to profession $\Rightarrow$ Gig-economy and other internet services can be enjoyed.

② Freedom of speech and expression under art 19(1)(a) can be truly recognised by Right to internet.

③ Right to association - art 19(1)(c) to create online groups.

State's authority to impose restriction

① art 19(2) → Security of state, public order, contempt of court, friendly relations with foreign countries, defamation are reasonable restrictions

② CrPC 144 → SC upheld CrPC 144 in Babulal Parate case and hence can impose restrictions.

③ Rationale → for exams
→ public health
→ misinformation, disinformation.

SC in Manuphaisah case upheld that art 19(1)(a) would mean very little if it can't keep up to modern changes. Hence right to internet should be curbed on the above mentioned reasonable grounds only.

4.

44 वें संविधान संशोधन ने भारतीय संविधान में आपात उपबंधों को किस प्रकार प्रभावित किया?

(उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक

How did the 44th Constitutional Amendment impact the emergency provisions in the Indian Constitution?

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

44th CAA was enacted in 1978
In the wake of the then imposed
Emergency 1975-1977.

Impact

	Pre- 44 th CAA	Post 44 th CAA
Grounds	~~Internal~~ External aggression and internal disturbance (Art 352)	Armed rebellion and external aggression (Art 352)
Application	within 2 months with simple majority shall be approved by Parliament	shall be approved by parliament within 1 month with $\frac{2}{3}$ members present Quorum
Cabinet's role	minimum Cabinet role, only PM can ~~order~~ recommend President to impose emergency	written recommendation of cabinet is <u>required</u>

Effect on fundamental rights	All fundamental rights are automatically suspended	art 20 and 21 Cannot be suspended art 19 can be suspended only when emergency is declared on grounds of external aggression (art 358, 359)
Role of Lok Sabha	Equal to Rajya Sabha	Given a special role ↓ if 10% of members give in writing to speaker a special session will be called to decide within 14 days

Judicial review → SC can review national emergency as declared in Raj Narain case and Minerva Mills case → everything is under judicial review.

Thus, 44th CAA established enough safeguards so that National emergency cannot be applied on malefic grounds.

5. राज्य विधानमंडल द्वारा पारित विधेयकों के संबंध में राज्यपाल की शक्तियाँ और उन्मुक्तियाँ/प्रतिरक्षाएँ क्या हैं? क्या ये शक्तियाँ असीमित प्रकृति की हैं? प्रासंगिक निर्णयों के आलोक में चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक
- What are the powers and immunities of the Governor in relation to bills passed by the state legislature? Are these powers unlimited in nature? Discuss in light of relevant judgements. (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Governor plays a dual role i.e. head of state and agent of centre. Executive power of state is vested in him under art 163.

Powers and immunities of Governor in relation to bills

① art 200 → Governor can
 Pass the bill
 withhold assent
 can return the bill
 can reserve it for President.

② art 163 → Provides for discretionary power of Governor i.e. bound by aid and advice of state com unless he is to act in his discretion.

③ art 213 → Ordinance making power of Governor.

④ art 361 → Governor cannot be held liable for acts done by him in official capacity.

No these powers are not unlimited
in nature -

① Shamsher Singh case $\Rightarrow$ Discretionary
power of governor under Judicial
review.

② A.K. Roy case $\Rightarrow$ SC can see
the material on
which ordinance was passed.

③ Nabam Rabia case $\Rightarrow$ Governor
bound by
aid and advice of state council
of minister

④ TN Governor case $\Rightarrow$ Governor cannot
reserve the bill for president if bill is
re-enacted following the order of President.

⑤ State of Punjab ⑤ Principal secretary
to Punjab governor case
Governor should exercise his discretionary
power to withhold assent in a time bound
manner.

Sarkaria Commission and Punchhi
commission recommendation can be
applied to reduce the friction between
governor and state com.

6. क्या आपको लगता है कि लेटरल एंट्री (पार्श्व प्रवेश) से भारतीय नौकरशाही की प्रभावशीलता में उल्लेखनीय वृद्धि हो सकती है?

(उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक

Do you think that lateral entry can significantly enhance the effectiveness of the Indian bureaucracy?

(Answer in 150 words) 10marks

Lateral entry is a process where civil servants are inducted at higher bureaucrat levels based on their expertise outside of traditional recruitment procedure.

Lateral entry enhancing the effectiveness of Indian bureaucracy

- ① Expertise → Lateral entry will bring in expertise of ~~the~~ required to formulate public policies.
- ② Managerial skills → Best practices from private sector can be inculcated in the policy process.
- ③ Curbing corruption and Red-tapism by increasing efficiency and effectiveness.

- ④ In line with 2nd ARC's recommen-
- dation -
- ⑤ Promote competitiveness among
traditional bureaucrats.

Issues ⇒

- ① chances of favouritism and
Nepotism.
- ② Lack of ground level experience
- ③ Short tenure, can lead to
lack of experience
- ④ Can discourage other bureaucrats.

Solutions

- ① NCRWC → setting up autonomous
Civil services board.
- ② A board like UPSC can be provided
wider role.
- ③ 360° evaluation with KPI's and KRA's

lateral entry though provides an
opportunity to bring in expertise should
be handled cautiously so as to
achieve Sardar Patel's idea of steel frame.

7. जातिगत जनगणना और जातियों के उप-वर्गीकरण की माँग भारत की जातिगत समस्या के समाधान में नव-उदारवाद की विफलता को दर्शाती है। चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक
- The demand for a caste census and the sub-categorization of castes reflects the failure of neoliberalism to address India's caste problem. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Caste census refers to census and data collection to realise differential impacts of welfare schemes and policies.

Demand for caste census and sub-categorization of castes reflecting failure of Neoliberalism

- ① Inequality is Rising inequalities and feeling of relative deprivation has instilled Caste consciousness.
- ② Lack of employment opportunities leading to race to backwardness.
- ③ Caste groups on social media further adds to the problem.
- ④ Politicisation of caste and categorisation of politics
 $\downarrow$
 amplifying the challenges.

Benefits of caste census

- ① will enhance data based governance
- ② Help in measuring head count ratio and incidence of anti-poverty measures.
- ③ Addresses Intersectionalities between various groups.

way forward

- ① SECC should be done in such a way that does not widen the cracks in society while also achieving the goals of welfareism.
- ② SC in Davinder Singh case has called for sub-categorisation within SC and ST.

Thus, SECC should be carefully channelised to achieve "Ethical care giving state" objectives.

8. महत्वपूर्ण प्रगति के बावजूद, STEM क्षेत्रों में महिलाओं का प्रतिनिधित्व कम है। STEM में महिलाओं की भागीदारी में क्या बाधाएँ हैं, तथा लैंगिक समानता को बढ़ावा देने के लिए कौन-सी नीतिगत कारवाइयाँ इन चुनौतियों का समाधान कर सकती हैं? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक

Despite significant advancements, women remain underrepresented in STEM fields. What are the barriers to women's participation in STEM, and what policy interventions can address these challenges to promote gender equity? (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

India despite having highest no. of ^{women} graduates in STEM $\approx$ 49% suffers from problem of leaky pipeline with only 29% jobs in STEM for women.

Barriers in women's participation

- ① Gender ^{pay} gap $\approx$ 34%
- ② Problem of glass ceiling, sticky floor
- ③ Socialised for domestic role
- ④ Unintended consequences of MTP Act
 $\downarrow$
 Motherhood penalty.
- ⑤ Lack of role models in ~~STEM~~ field
 $\approx$ only 8% of women in ISRO.

⑥ Ideological indoctrination of patriarchy in the society.

Private patriarchy → Public patriarchy.

Strategies →

① Sectors that can readily absorb women should be encouraged.

② Media should show women issues and women role models such as Dr. Ritu Srivastava (Chandrayaan) — 3

③ Expenditure on education should be increased $\geq 60\%$ (in line with NEP) of GDP.

④ Better implementation of Post Act ¹⁶ IEC and LEC should be setup.

Nation cannot progress if half of us are held back. Hence, a comprehensive plan of action should be designed as suggested by Justice Verma Committee

9. 'ब्रिक्स समूह का विस्तार एक अधिक बहुध्रुवीय विश्व व्यवस्था की ओर बदलाव का संकेत है।' चर्चा कीजिए कि किस प्रकार यह विस्तारित समूह भारत के समक्ष कुछ चुनौतियाँ प्रस्तुत करते हुए इसे अपने वैश्विक नेतृत्व को बढ़ाने के अवसर प्रदान करता है। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक

'The expansion of BRICS signals a shift towards a more multipolar world order.' Discuss how this expanded grouping presents India with opportunities to enhance its global leadership while introducing certain challenges. (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

BRICS is multi-national, multi-regional organisation consisting of Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa. Recently it has expanded to include Iran, Ethiopia, Egypt, and UAE.

Opportunities for India

- ① Promoting connectivity and economic cooperation for mutual cooperation and development
- ② International solar alliance and Global biofuel alliance as a bridge to push clean energy, hence achieve net zero targets.
- ③ De-dollarisation → By promoting trade in regional currencies
eg BRICS plans to introduce its own currency.

- ④ Geopolitical and geostrategic opportunities
- Global governance structure reforms
 - multipolar world
 - choice points such as Gulf of Aden, Persian gulf and Iran's proximity

Challenges

- ① Diverse regime
- dictatorship
 - Democracy
 - Communist
 - Islamic republic
- can put challenges to cooperation and consensus building.
- ② Border issues with china and china's expansionist goals.
- ③ Low trade ties and India's trade deficit with most of the countries.
- ④ Low people to people ties and global crisis
- Diplomatic tight rope for India.

BRICS and India's ^{role} are perfectly placed in global scenario to complement each other. Hence FTA and a new currency should be finalised as soon as possible.

10. रणनीतिक रूप से स्थित बंदरगाह क्षेत्रीय और आर्थिक एकीकरण में महत्वपूर्ण परिसंपत्तियाँ हैं। इस संदर्भ में भारत की कनेक्टिविटी बढ़ाने की रणनीति में चाबहार और सित्तवे जैसे बंदरगाहों के महत्व व भारत के भू-राजनीतिक उद्देश्यों में उनके योगदान पर चर्चा कीजिए।

(उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक

Strategically located ports are vital assets in regional and economic integration. In this context discuss the significance of ports like Chabahar and Sittwe in India's strategy to enhance connectivity and their contribution to India's geopolitical objectives.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Ports are both economically and strategically important for a country's growth.

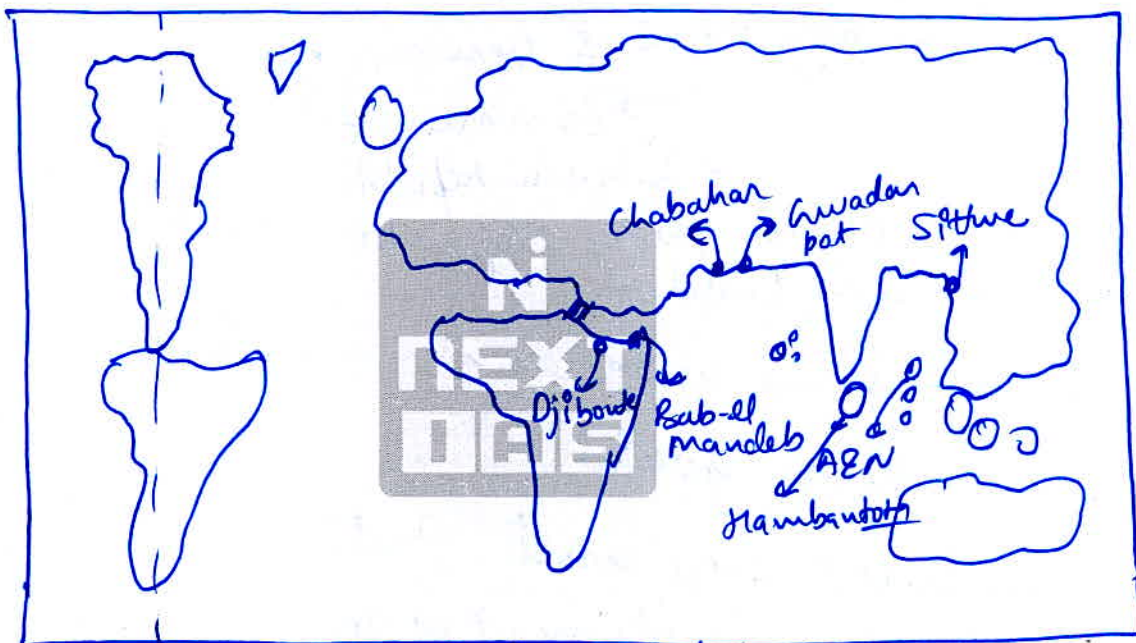


Fig Strategic located ports -

Significance of chabahar port →

- ① Strategic mirroring → strategic mirroring of Gwadar port to overlook China's ambitions.
- ② Connectivity to Central Asia → But Delaram - zaranj road to Afghanistan.

- ③ Significant for Indian PSV's like IOCL and ~~Kanva~~ Kabil Ltd.
- ④ Energy security → crude oil from Russia, Nuclear raw material from Kazakhstan.

Significance of siting port →

- ① Connectivity → Kaladan multimodal project and Thailand trilateral highway to enhance economic cooperation.
- ② Connectivity to North East → alternate route to Tripura from Myanmar
- ③ Focal point of India's act East policy and BIMSTEC.
- ④ India's role as net security provider in Indian Ocean region.
- ⑤ curbing traditional and non-traditional threats such as drug trafficking, piracy, illegal immigration.

Strategic located ports align with India's policy of free, open, inclusive Indo-Pacific to establish rules based order.

11. मध्यस्थता, बीच-बचाव से किस प्रकार भिन्न है? मध्यस्थता अधिनियम, 2023 के हाल ही में अधिनियमित होने के आलोक में, भारतीय न्यायालयों में लॉबित मुकदमों को संबोधित करने तथा निजी पक्षकारों और सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के उपक्रमों के बीच स्वैच्छिक मध्यस्थता की संस्कृति को बढ़ावा देने की इसकी क्षमता का आकलन कीजिए।

(उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

How does mediation differ from arbitration? In light of the recent enactment of the Mediation Act, of 2023, assess its potential to address the backlog of litigations in Indian courts and foster a culture of voluntary mediation, especially among private players and public-sector undertakings.

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Mediation and arbitration are alternate dispute resolution mechanisms based on principles of Natural Justice and settling up matters outside traditional court rooms

	Mediation	Arbitration
Role of 3rd party	3rd party only mediates does not decide the case	3rd party consists of experts and judicial members to decide on the matter and give "award"
Legal binding	Mediation is not legally binding and party can walk out if not satisfied	Arbitration is legally binding on both the parties
Effectiveness	Mediation results in timely resolution of dispute due to involvement of both the parties	Can lead to delays relative to mediation

Potential of mediation Act, 2023

- ① Can reduce backlogs of cases from judiciary by outside courtroom settlements.
- ② Sets up mediation council of India to facilitate mediation in country.
- ③ Govt. is the largest litigant in judiciary (275 crores were spent in last 5 years for litigation)
It can reduce the incidence and taxpayers money.
- ④ Mediation Act, 2023 is also applicable to international entities.
eg. Vodafone
- ⑤ Timely completion of mediation due to absence of strict procedural laws
- ⑥ Complements other dispute resolution system such as Industrial disputes act

Issues

- ① lack of awareness about the mechanism
- ② lack of independent mediators
 $\Downarrow$
 vested interests
- ③ dissatisfaction might lead to
 adoption of judicial route
 $\Downarrow$
 defeating the purpose
- ④ process is not binding in nature

hence, Singapore convention on
mediation can be adopted to
find an effective solution.

12. विभिन्न स्तरों पर निर्वाचित निकायों वाले राष्ट्र का संघीय चरित्र द्विसदनीय विधायिका के माध्यम से सर्वोत्तम रूप से सुरक्षित होता है। इस संदर्भ में, चर्चा कीजिए कि भारत में द्विसदनीय विधायिका किस प्रकार संघवाद का समर्थन करती है। साथ ही संघीय ढाँचे को सुदृढ़ करने और राष्ट्रीय शासन में राज्यों का प्रभावी प्रतिनिधित्व सुनिश्चित करने के लिए क्या अतिरिक्त उपाय किए जा सकते हैं? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

The federal character of a nation comprising elective bodies at different levels is best secured through a bicameral legislature. In this context, discuss how a bicameral legislature supports federalism in India. What additional measures can be taken to strengthen the federal structure and ensure effective representation of states in national governance?

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Indian Parliament follows a model of bicameralism, where Rajya Sabha is upper house of parliament comprising of 245 members. Whereas Bicameral legislature in state is only functional in 6 states (Vidhan Parishad or Legislative Council).

Bicameral legislature supporting federalism in India :-

- ① Representation ⇒ Representing interests of states by discussions and debates in parliament.
- ② Bills ⇒ Constitutional amendment bill and ordinary bills can be passed by agreement of both the houses
 ↓
 Preventing hasty legislations.

- ③ art 249 $\Rightarrow$ Rajya Sabha can allow Parliament to make a law on state subject ($\frac{2}{3}$ ^{present} ~~of the~~ _{voting}) by passing a resolution.
- ④ art 312 $\Rightarrow$ Can allow for creating All India services
eg Need of AITS arising in recent times.
- ⑤ Committees $\Rightarrow$ Contributes to committees for bill scrutiny such as PAC (15+7) ^{by RS} and 8 DRSC work under Rajyasabha
- ⑥ President election and impeachment $\Rightarrow$ Carries equal vote value in their election and impeachment
- ⑦ Contributes to 12 nominated members thereby promoting specialisation.
- ⑧ Equal say in President's rule or (356 art)
National emergency (art 352) and
financial emergency (art 360)

- Challenges
- ① Unequal representation of smaller states
eg U.P. $\rightarrow$ 31 RS seats (vs)
Tripura $\rightarrow$ 1 RS seat
 - ② Declining Parliamentary productivity
eg Question hour functioned only for 52% times in RS.
 - ③ Declining annual sittings = 55 in last term.

Additional measures that can be taken

- ① NCRWC $\Rightarrow$ fixing sitting of RS = 100
[S = 120]
sittings a year
 $\rightarrow$ Institutionalising committee system for stakeholder engagement.
- ② New yardsticks to grant seats to smaller states
eg European parliament's degressive proportionality system.
- ③ Representation to local self governance can be provided.

In the short run, Rajya Sabha members can be provided with research support (National advisory council 2005) for better discussions and debates to uphold federalism.

13. एक स्वतंत्र संसदीय सचिवालय एक मजबूत लोकतंत्र की रीढ़ है, जो संसद को अपने मूल कार्यों को पूरा करने में गैर-पक्षपातपूर्ण समर्थन सुनिश्चित करता है। चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

An Independent Parliamentary Secretariat is the backbone of a robust democracy, ensuring non-partisan support to Parliament in carrying out its core functions. Discuss.

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Art 98 provides for Parliamentary secretariat both both the houses (independently).

Independent parliamentary secretariat backbone of Robust democracy

(A) Supports speakers office →

① Helping him in Business advisory committee to decide agenda of day and allocate time.

② Helps in conducting voting in the house on bills and motions.

③ Maintains Gazette of India and its publications.

(B) Supports Parliamentarians →

① Providing research support to the M.P's by use of technology.

② Coordination between various members

③ Supports Committee's →

① Interoperation of department related standing committee's is overlooked by it.

② Helps in research and file management.

④ Supports entire house →

① Returning officer of elections of speaker, Chairman, and other presiding officer is chief secretary of house.

② Provides feedback in rules, regulations and legal loopholes.

③ maintains parliamentary conventions

④ Responsible for security of the house.

⑤ Clears gallery of the house when called for secret meetings.

- ⑥ Detailed scrutiny of bills and its related publication is supplied on the desk through technology.
- ⑦ Maintains records of the house in both digital and physical format
- ⑧ Provides feedback to speaker about the conduct of parliamentarians

Hence, parliamentary secretariat plays multidimensional role in maintaining robust democracy.

14. स्थानीय शासन में पंचायती राज संस्थानों (PRIs) की महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका को देखते हुए, उनकी वित्तीय स्वायत्तता को मजबूत करने में चुनौतियों और अवसरों का आकलन कीजिए। पंचायती राज संस्थानों के वित्तपोषण में सुधार भारत में जमीनी स्तर पर अधिक प्रभावी शासन में किस प्रकार योगदान दे सकता है? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

Given the significant role of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in local governance, assess the challenges and opportunities in strengthening their financial autonomy. How can reforms in PRI financing contribute to more effective grassroots governance in India?

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

73rd Constitutional amendment act provided for Panchayati Raj institutions by adding Part IX and schedule XI with 29 subjects.

Significant role of PRI's

- ① Grassroot governance by promoting democratic decentralisation.
- ② Ensures participation of common man through @ gram sabha in governance.
- ③ Implements govt. schemes.
eg Jal Teeran mission, Swachh Bharat
- ④ Provides representation of vulnerable sections especially women, hence ensuring Gender Justice
eg women representation = 49% in PRI's

- ⑤ Ensure's last mile delivery of programmes such as NRLM, MGNREGA
local solution for local needs.

Challenges and opportunities in strengthening financial autonomy

- ① State's reluctance to grant power of taxation to PRI's under 243G and H.
- ② State finance commission (art 243I) recommendations are not followed and they are not even constituted in timely manner
- ③ PRI's own reluctance to tax local citizens
eg only 5% of funds are generated for use of PRI's by their own revenue.
- ④ Tied funds and discretionary grants contribute to 95% of the funds for PRI's
- ⑤ Bureaucratic hurdles and corruption in lower bureaucracy.

Reforms to ensure grassroot governance

① 2nd ARC recommended →

- Gram Sabha should be of appropriate size
- State should undertake comprehensive exercise to map tax sources under art 243H.
- PRI's should have power to appoint its own bureaucracy.

② NCRWC →

- Creating state Panchayat council under CM, consisting of Sarpanch.
- Schedule II should be ~~the~~ suitable structured to create a fiscal domain for PRI's.

③ Mani-shankar Iyer Committee →

- NAO's should be institutionalised

④ SFC's should be constituted in Sync with Finance Commission of India.

Thus, above mentioned reforms should be undertaken to achieve DPSP 40 and achieve Idea of grassroot governance as envisaged by Gandhiji.

15. संवैधानिक अधिदेश की अनुपस्थिति के बावजूद, राष्ट्रीय महिला आयोग (NCW) की भारत में कानूनी सुधारों को प्रभावित करने और लैंगिक न्याय को सुरक्षित करने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका रही है। क्या आप इससे सहमत हैं?

(उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

Despite the absence of a constitutional mandate, the National Commission for Women (NCW) has had a significant impact in influencing legal reforms and securing gender justice in India. Do you agree?

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

National commission for women (NCW) is a statutory body constituted in 1992 by ~~the~~ NCW act.

NCW's significant impact in influencing legal reforms and securing gender justice

- ① NCW completed its visits in almost all the states and UT's except Lakshadweep and Andaman & Nicobar.
- ② Takes up suo-moto cognisance or complaints in matters of women's human right violation cases.
- ③ Coordinates with other organisations like NCPER, NCSC, NEST, NHRC etc to address intersectionality.

- ④ Provides support to Standing committee on women empowerment in parliament.
- ⑤ Provides feedback on laws such as POSH, 2013, POCSO, 2012, MTP Act 2017 etc.
- ⑥ Overlooks the implementation of laws and finds legal loopholes
eg Directed TN govt. on state's discrimination among married women.

Ncw's challenges

- ① Power $\Rightarrow$ The recommendations and reports are not tabled and accepted in letter and spirit.
- ② Conflict of interest $\Rightarrow$ Not taking up critical issues such as Manipur issue, Hathras case, women wrestler's issue.
- ③ Lack of funds and capacity of the Institutions.

- ④ limited research capacity and does not have powers of civil court to summon. i.e depends on other institutions.

Measures to be taken

- ① Constitutional status should be given to NCW to achieve SDG 5.
- ② women ^{rights} activist and feminist should be appointed to the commission.
- ③ Pam Rajput Committee → Recommended
NCW should go beyond passive or reactionary role and play an active role.
- ④ ~~A central human rights commission can be constituted with~~
- ⑤ Timely devolution of funds and mandatory tabling of reports.

NCW can be given a wider role such as feedback of gender budgeting to achieve DPSP 39, 41.

16. उदारीकरण के बाद के भारत में, उचित प्रतिस्पर्धा व पारदर्शिता सुनिश्चित करने के लिए स्वतंत्र विनियामकों की स्थापना की गई। स्वतंत्र विनियामक अपने अधिदेशों में किस सीमा तक प्रभावी रहे हैं तथा उनकी स्वायत्तता पर सरकारी दबावों के प्रभाव की चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

In post-liberalized India, independent regulators were established to ensure fair competition and transparency. To what extent have independent regulators been effective in their mandates and discuss the impact of government influence on their autonomy.

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Independent regulators role in post liberalised economy is crucial in growth and development of the country.

Independent regulators effective in their mandate

- ① Competition Commission of India ⇒
 ↳ Punished cement companies for unfair trade practices
 ↳ also punished e-commerce sites such as flipkart, amazon for market exploitative tendencies.
- ② SEBI ⇒ Promoted interests of shareholders and investors by ensuring ethical corporate governance and curbing unfair practices
- ③ TRAI ⇒ regulates telecommunication services and hence facilitated the reach of mobile network in hinterlands

- ④ IRDA $\Rightarrow$ regulates insurance sector and hence upheld the mandate by finding legal loopholes in terms and conditions.
- ⑤ FSSAI $\Rightarrow$ certifies food products and other packaged items to uphold the trust of consumers.

Challenges $\Rightarrow$

- ① Conflict of interest $\Rightarrow$ often chairmen of these regulatory bodies are criticised for their partisan tendencies
eg SEBI's chairman - Hindenberg report.
- ② Quality certification issues such as MON, Everest masala product issue ~~for~~ from FSSAI side.
- ③ Dependent on govt. for financing with appointments of political affluent leaders.

- ④ Powers are limited with lack of research support.
- ⑤ Post poll market crash - SEBI's failure.
- Measures required →

- ① FSLRC committee recommended creation of a unified body of market regulator comprising of IRDA, SEBI etc.
- ② Chairman and board members should be someone of expertise not favouritism and nepotism.
- ③ Learning from best practices around the globe.

Indian regulatory ecosystem is still at nascent stage, hence can collaborate with global best practices to promote Economic development and market stabilization.

17. नारी शक्ति वंदन अधिनियम, 2023 भारतीय राजनीति की पितृसत्तात्मक गतिशीलता को किस प्रकार नया स्वरूप प्रदान करेगा? क्या आपको लगता है कि इसे स्थानीय स्वशासन संस्थानों जैसी ही सीमाओं का सामना करना पड़ सकता है?

(उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

How does the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam, 2023 aim to reshape the patriarchal dynamics of Indian politics? Do you think it might encounter similar limitations as those seen in local self-government institutions? (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Nari Shakti Vandan Abhiniyam, 2023
(NSVA)
provides for $\frac{1}{3}$ rd reservation in
State legislature and Parliament for
15 years applicable from next delimitation
(due in 2026)

NSVA, 2023 reshaping patriarchal dynamics
of Indian politics

① Gender Justice $\Rightarrow$ will ensure gender
angle by stakeholder
participation from various sections of
society.

② Gender budgeting $\Rightarrow$ Increasing role
and oversight to
check the implementation of gender
welfare schemes.

③ Role model $\Rightarrow$ will provide for
role models for upcoming generations.

④ laws such as MTP act, 2023 have had unintended consequence of motherhood penalty. $\Downarrow$
Diverse opinions will reduce the chances of such happenings.

⑤ Access to resources — both political and economic will lead to feeling of self worth hence gender empowerment.

⑥ Agent of social change — by mobilising masses and reduce stereotyping and prejudices.

It might encounter similar limitations as seen in local governance, because

① Lack of intra-party democracy in major political parties of Nation.

② Proxy candidates or Sarpanch party problem might expand into national problem.

③ Increase ~~in~~ in muscle & money power
role might lead to intersectionalities
eg CMS ~~report~~ 1.35 lakh crores were
Spent in 17th LS elections -

④ current women ~~in~~ participation
stands at LS $\approx 14\%$
RS $\approx 12\%$
SLA $\approx 11\%$

extra Increase might lead to
unserious candidates.

Measures to be taken

① NCRWC recommended $\rightarrow$ Separate
law for intra-party democracy.

② Training and capacity building
to create supply of ^{women} political leaders.

③ Jaya Jaitley Committee recommended
50% reservation in all decision making
bodies

④ Delimitation should be done as soon
as possible to implement the law.

when a woman is empowered, family moves,
Nation moves, society moves - JL Nehru
Hence, This law provides a window of opportunity
to achieve SDG-5.

18. भूख, निर्धनता का कारण और परिणाम दोनों है और इसे संबोधित करने के लिए एक बहुआयामी दृष्टिकोण की आवश्यकता है। प्रमुख सरकारी पहलों के उदाहरणों के साथ बहुआयामी दृष्टिकोण की प्रभावशीलता का विश्लेषण कीजिए।

(उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

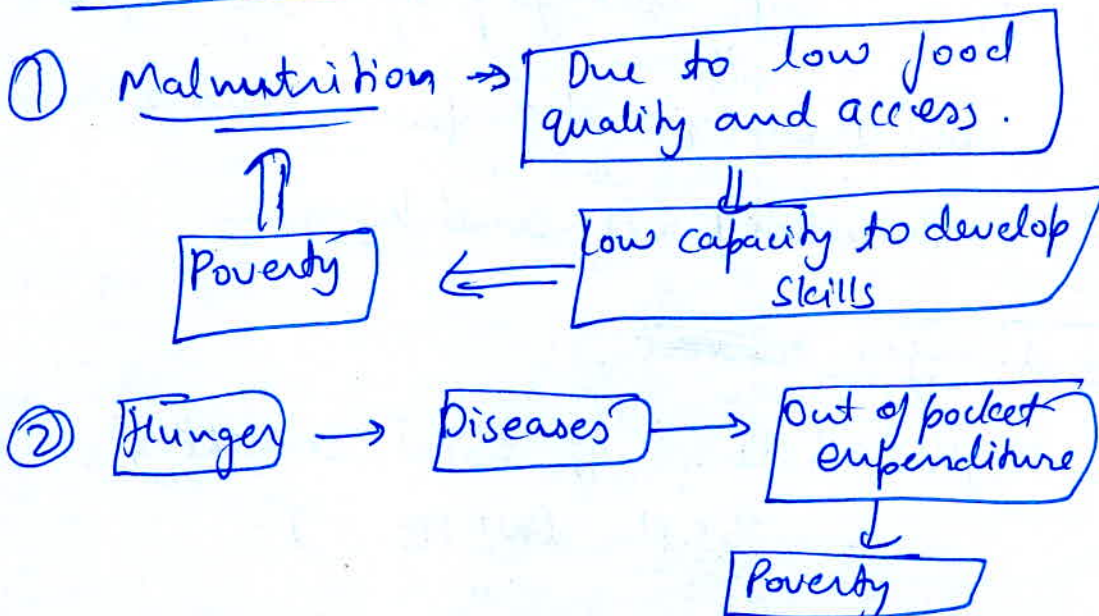
Hunger is both a cause and a consequence of poverty, and addressing it requires a multidimensional approach. Analyze the effectiveness of a multidimensional approach with examples from key government initiatives. (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

India stands at 112 out of 125 in global hunger index, whereas multi-dimensional poverty in India is $\approx 11\%$. (NITI Aayog's MPI)

Hunger as cause of Poverty

- ① Access to resources $\Rightarrow$ lack of economic resources leads to cut in nutritional expenditure causing hunger
- ② Food Inflation further aggravates the problem due to poverty.

Poverty as cause of Hunger



Effectiveness of multidimensional approach

- ① NRLM and MGNREGA $\Rightarrow$ has led to timely employment reducing incidence of poverty.
- ② POS and MDM schemes $\Rightarrow$ rise in nutritional levels reducing hunger
- ③ PM Matru Vandana Yojana $\Rightarrow$ for new born babies and mothers
 $\Downarrow$
Reduction malnutrition and MMR
- ④ Ayushman Bharat scheme
 $\Downarrow$
less out of pocket expenditure
reducing poverty.
- ⑤ SHG-Bank linkage program, SVEP etc
 $\Downarrow$
Skill training and empowerment to women
 $\Downarrow$
Reduction poverty and hunger.

Challenges ~~issues~~

- ① High Incidence of child stunting
 $\approx$ 35% (NFHS-5)

② Rising inequalities and persistent food inflation adding to the misery.

③ Dietary practices and pollution → Diseases
Hunger ← Poverty ←

④ low insurance penetration $\approx 4.6\%$ of GDP (eco-survey)

Measures required

① Inclusion of beneficiaries in policy formulation, implementation and monitoring stage to reduce leakages.

② J. Satyanarayan committee → National health blueprint to reduce out of pocket expenditure.

Hunger and poverty needs to be eradicated to achieve SDG 1 (No poverty) SDG 2 (No hunger).

19. 'G-20 में अफ्रीकी संघ का शामिल होना दक्षिण-दक्षिण सहयोग को सुदृढ़ करने की दिशा में एक महत्वपूर्ण कदम है।' भारत के लिए इस विकास के महत्व और अफ्रीका के साथ भारत के संबंधों में इसके निहितार्थ पर चर्चा कीजिए।
(उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

The African Union's inclusion in the G-20 marks a significant step towards strengthening South-South cooperation.' Discuss the importance of this development for India and its implications for India's relations with Africa. (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

African union was admitted to G-20 (AU) under India's G20 presidency in 2023.

Step towards strengthening South-South Cooperation

- ① Global governance reforms → AU's rise in stature will push for global governance reforms specially UNSC reforms.
- ② Food security and climate changes → Push for CBDR and climate financing while also ensuring food security.
- ③ Economic ties and de-dollarisation → to challenge western hegemony.

Importance and its implications for India

- ① Geopolitical implications → curbing power of expansionist powers in the region eg china's check book diplomacy.

- ② Automobile sector → market for Indian vehicle manufacturers like Mahindra, Pero, Tata. etc.
- ③ Green energy → promoting solar energy and wind energy to achieve net zero.
- ④ Dynamic economy and demography of Africa and India is expected to change global scenario
eg Africa's economy grew by 3.7% in 2023.
- ⑤ Connectivity → Strengthening connectivity in the region
eg Japan and India's Africa-Asia growth corridor.
- ⑥ Geostrategic → Bab-el-Mandeb and Red sea are choke points but are important for India's trade to Europe.
- ⑦ Curbing maritime piracy and other non-traditional threats like Drug trafficking and Gold smuggling
eg Houthis rebels in Red sea.

⑧ Food security → India's Mahatma
initiative and
push for millet.

⑨ P2P ties → strengthening
cultural diplomacy
eg IIT Madras in Tanzania.

⑩ Critical minerals → Africa is
rich in critical minerals and
other energy resources
eg DRC and Congo - cobalt reserves.

African union's inclusion in G-20
signifies India's role as mediator,
mobiliser and manager in global
scenarios

20.

विकासशील देशों की आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करने में अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मुद्रा कोष (IMF) और विश्व बैंक से जुड़ी प्रमुख चुनौतियाँ क्या हैं? साथ ही, उभरती वैश्विक चुनौतियों का समाधान करने के लिए बहुपक्षीय विकास बैंकों (MDBs) में सुधार की आवश्यकता का आकलन कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

What are the key challenges associated with the IMF and World Bank in addressing the needs of developing countries? Also, assess the need for reforms in Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) to address the evolving global challenges.

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

IMF and world bank are multilateral organisation setup after Bretton wood's conferences. They provide loans to developing and underdeveloped countries in need.

Challenges associated with IMF and world Bank →

- ① Status quoism → western countries want to freeze the movement by undermining the current global scenario.
- ② Dominance of western currencies in IMF's SDR → Dollar, Euro and Pound etc
- ③ unequal voting powers signifies hegemony of western powers.
- ④ Biassness in decisions related to trade practices
eg COVID vaccine war.

- ⑤ undermines sovereignty of developing countries by putting and imposing unsustainable conditions for loans.
eg Sri lankan crisis and loans by IMF.

Need for reforms in multilateral development banks

- ① Rising multipolarisation - The current system does not represent multipolar world.
- ② Global polycentric crisis and failure of such institutions to do something
eg Hamas-Israel war, Russia-Ukraine war.
- ③ Frienshering and weaponisation of anything
 ↳ vaccines
 ↳ climate
 ↳ data colonialism
 eg chip wars
- ④ Climate change called for climate fund and adaptation fund.

Reforms required

- ① Better representation of global south
+
equal voting powers -
 - ② Removal of any veto powers in the organisation -
 - ③ Climate finance taking up historical contributions to the pollution.
 - ④ Reforming SDR - to include new currencies.
 - ⑤ Conditions to be imposed on loans should be decided by consensus -
 - ⑥ Creation of disaster risk reduction & mitigation fund.
- Thus, multilateral development banks should be reformed to portray global ~~a~~ multipolar world -

NEXT IAS

Space for Rough Work

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Space for Rough Work

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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 SCANNER) 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।

