



NEXT IAS

MAINS TEST SERIES 2.0 - 2025 (FLT)

(To be filled by candidate)

TEST CODE : FLT2505

Test No. : 05

Name of Candidate: Himanshu Singh Mobile No. 8058600155

Roll No. : MT25FLTRA035 Start Time 10:20 AM End Time.....

Date of Examination: 13-07-2025 Medium : English ☒ Hindi ☐

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

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
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।

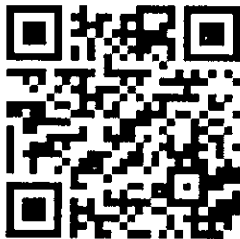
REMARKS:

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

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

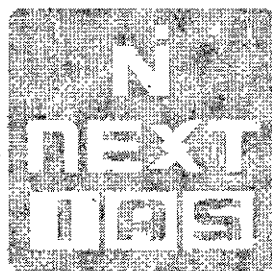
Introduction	Body	Conclusion

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? (150 शब्दों में उत्तर 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

Constitutional morality is steadfast adherence to principles enshrined in the constitution such as welfare state, progressive rights of people, secularism etc.

Uniform civil code (UCC) is set of common personal laws which pertain to marriage, succession laws etc applicable to all irrespective of religion, race, caste etc.

Implementation of UCC aligning with constitutional morality ⇒

- ① Unfulfilled dream of constitution makes part 44 of DPSP
- ② will ensure gender equality and Justice
- ③ SC in Sarla Mudgal case highlighted need for UCC.
- ③ Secularism in true sense ⇒ with uniform application of laws and scrutinising laws which do not stand test of time.

④ Ensuring "Justice" with whole of society approach.

↳ legal clarity and Judiciary ease

⑤ Root out identity centric grievances and feeling of "us vs them"

Implementation of VCC not aligning with Constitutional morality →

① Inherent conflict with Right to religion under art 25-28.

② undermine India's multiculturalism and may promote homogenisation

③ Political brinkmanship and low public consensus.

Measures to be taken

① Ensuring uniform application of existing laws such as succession act, banning instant triple talaq etc.

② Setting up Inter-faith council (AARWC) to facilitate dialogue.

As Dr. B.R. Ambedkar said Constitutional morality in Indian society is not natural sentiment it needs to be cultivated, VCC can cultivate this if applied correctly by dialogue and inclusiveness.

2. 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।

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर 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

Constitution provides advisory jurisdiction to Supreme Court under art 143, where President may seek advice of SC.

Scope of SC's advisory jurisdiction

- ① President may seek advice on matters of public importance from SC.
- ② President may seek advice on matters arising out of Pre-constitutional treaty from SC.
- ③ SC may or may not tender its advice in 1st case but it should tender its advice necessarily in 2nd case.
- ④ In no case, President is bound by advice of SC on this matter.

Significance of SC's advisory Jurisdiction

- ① A method to ensure constitutionalism
↓
checks and balances.
- ② Preventing hasty legislation on pre-constitutional matter
- ③ Solving problem that require judicial expertise
- ④ May prevent hasty legislation from enacting.

President has not yet enforced advisory jurisdiction on SC till date. But changing times necessitates its application such as same-sex marriages, uniform civil code etc -

3. 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।
(150 शब्दों में उत्तर 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

From 1st Lok Sabha to 18th Lok Sabha now Parliament has housed various ideologies and eminent persons from diverse socio-economic profiles.

Changing Composition of Indian Parliament

- ① Rise in women representatives $\approx 14\%$ (AOR)
- ② SC, ST reservation according to their population in Parliament.
- ③ Representation from various religious communities
- ④ Graduated M.P.'s compose $\approx 78\%$ of Lok Sabha
- ⑤ Expertise inculcated through nominated members of Rajya Sabha - Art, Science, Law etc.

Impact of this shift on quality of representative democracy

① Positive Impact

- ① Voice to diverse set of communities and groups.
- ② Socio-economic caste census idea.

- ② Divergence of opinions is central to vibrant ~~to~~ democracy.
 - eg Question hour discussions on Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam.
- ③ Giving access to resources using PPLAS
 - Agent of ^{the} social change
 - eg Gender Budgeting.
- ④ Negative impact
 - ① Rise in criminal elements $\rightarrow$ 46% (AOP) MP's in LS
 - Rules in Parliament
 - eg only 274 sitting in 17th LS
 - ② Voting on party lines rather than debates and discussion
 - eg Last private member bill passed in 1980's
 - ③ Polarisation in discussions and misuse of Parliamentary privileges
 - eg Recently a ~~man~~ M.P. was expelled from house - ~~cash~~ cash for query case.

Parliament is a temple of democracy, hence to ensure constructive discussions NCRWC recommends providing research support to M.P's and fixing days of sitting ¹²⁰⁻¹³ _{100 P's}. Further, Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam needs to be enforced.

4. 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। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर 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

NHRC (National human rights commission) is apex institution for protecting human rights established through Protection of human rights act 1992.

Structural Issues within India's human right framework

- ① NHRC's role being criticised by GANHRD
 - ↳ lack of independence
 - ↳ appointment issues.
- ② low enforcement of NHRC's recommen-
-dations and non-tabling of reports of NHRC in Parliament.
- ③ 2019 amendment which gave wider role to executive challenging its autonomy
 - ↳ vacancies
- ④ Selective taking up of issues by NHRC
 - eg Manipur issue still not solved.

⑧ NHRC depends on other investigative agencies for investigation.

⑨ Sambhal violence issues

Functional issues within India's human right framework

- ① Low awareness about human rights in common citizenry.
- ② Low participation by NAO's in human right measures.
- ③ Hecklers veto to deny rights to marginal groups.

Measures to be taken

- ① Creation of apex ^{autonomous} institution within which NHRC, NCU, NESC etc can be subsumed.
- ② Adopting HANHRI's framework to enforce Universal declaration of human rights.
- ③ Adopting practice of involving NAO's and appointing human rights activist to NHRC.

Hence, such measures need to be taken to enforce "Paris principles" as threat to human rights of one person is threat to all.

5. परिसीमन 'एक नागरिक, एक वोट' के विचार को मान्यता देता है, लेकिन इसके निहितार्थ संघवाद के सिद्धांतों के खिलाफ जाते हैं। टिप्पणी कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर 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 and article 170 provides for delimitation after every census for purpose of elections to respective legislatures. ~~Ques~~ There have been 4 delimitation commissions with last meaningful exercise done on basis on 1971 census which dilutes "one citizen, one vote principle" in present times.

Delimitation's implications against the principles of federalism

- ① Demographic challenges with southern States Concerns
 - ⑥ A recent study shows Southern States may loose 7-10 seats on 2011 census data.
- ② Penalising population control measures as Northern States will gain more seats
 "Higher population density
- ③ May cultivate feeling of Regionalism
 "3-3-3 puzzle.

Delimitation implications not against principles of federalism ->

- ① Public disconnect -> large constituencies has lead to democratic backsliding.
- ② Mal-apportionment in democracy with some regions having less bargaining power.
- ③ Today's scenario reflects "erry maneuvering?"

Measures to be taken ->

- ① European union practice of degraded representation can be adopted
- ② Delimitation commissioner of 2003 suggested to do delimitation ^{after} every census so change is not significant
- ③ Allocation of Rajya Sabha seats may be reformed to satisfy state needs
- ④ Population measures can be rewarded by seat allocation.

Such measures need to be taken to ensure principle of "one person, one value, one vote"

6. "कौशल विकास को प्रभावी बनाने हेतु, प्रधानमंत्री इंटरनशिप योजना (PMIS) जैसे कार्यक्रमों को केवल सहभागिता तक सीमित न रहकर, रोजगारोन्मुख परिणाम सुनिश्चित करने की आवश्यकता है।" टिप्पणी कीजिए।

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

"To make skilling meaningful, programs like PM Internship Scheme (PMIS) must ensure not just participation but employability-linked outcomes." Comment.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

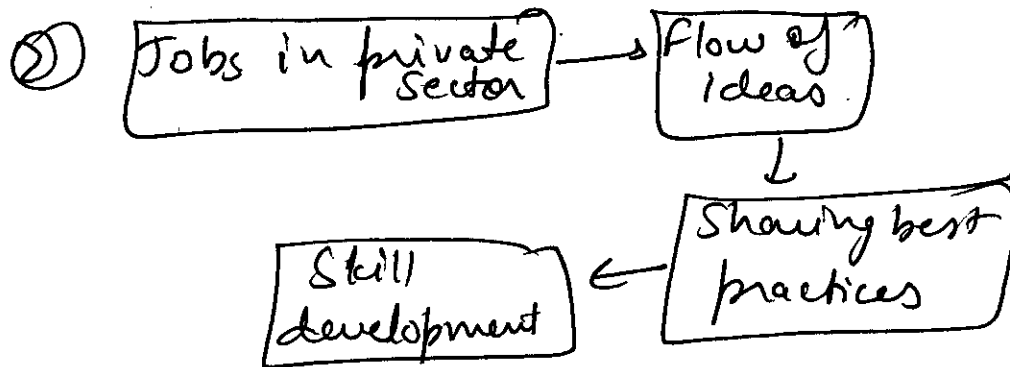
Recently centre has notified PM internship scheme (PMIS) for better academia-industry linkage by providing on job experience.

PMIS ensuring participation is

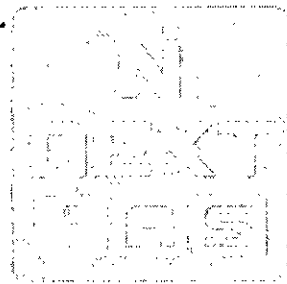
- ① mandatory internships will provide on job experience to students.
- ② Reduces the gap between graduation level and job related skill level.
- ③ Realising demographic dividend by skill enhancement.

PMIS ensuring employability linked outcomes

- ① Bridging spatial mismatch between employers and employees.



Hence PM-internship schemes will transform India's workforce by providing industry-relevant skills and experience.





7. "महिला-केन्द्रित कल्याण योजनाओं को महज कल्याणकारी दृष्टिकोण से आगे बढ़कर सशक्तिकरण की दिशा में अग्रसर होना चाहिए।" प्रमुख योजनाओं के परिप्रेक्ष्य में परीक्षण कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक
- "Women-centric welfare schemes need to move beyond welfare to empowerment." Examine in the context of key women-centric welfare schemes. (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Women empowerment in true sense means power to, power with, power within women. However, current women-centric welfare schemes focus on just welfare rather than empowerment.

Women-centric welfare schemes

- ① Mission - Shakti to provide agency to women
- ② Bedi Pachao Bedi Bachao abhiyan
Nudge effect
- ③ PM Matru - Vandana Yojana
- ④ DAY - NREGM with women component
- ⑤ Mahila Samman certificates.

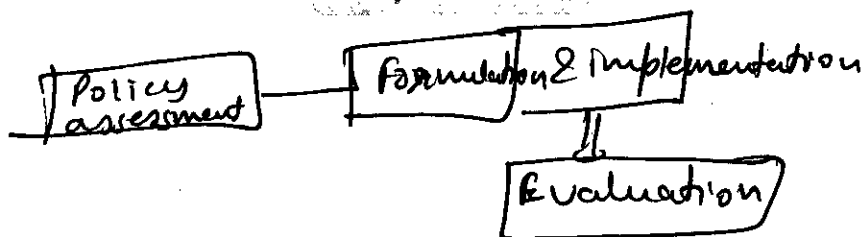
Challenges with women centric welfare Schemes

- ① Perpetuates aid curse leading to gender inequality.
- ② Freebies - Ladli Behan Yojana.

- ② Top-down approach not catering to regional needs
- ③ Intersectionalities are often ignored
 - eg Tribal women - sanitation programmes
- ④ Gender stereotyping is still not addressed

measures to be taken

- ① Reforming STH-Bank linkage program
making it universal
- ② women participation in



- ③ Nudge effect using Behavioural economics
 - eg Bangalore case study to provide information about jobs.

If India is to achieve developed Nation status, women needs to come out of their traditional gender roles which will demand participation from all the sections of society.

8. "डिजिटल शासन वैश्विक एजेंडा का नया मोर्चा बनकर उभर रहा है, और भारत उदाहरण स्थापित करने का प्रयास कर रहा है।" इस पर विचार कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

"The increasing regulatory oversight on civil society organisations risks shrinking democratic space." Examine. (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks



India is home to largest Civil society organisations, however they are ridden with various challenges.

Increasing regulatory oversight on CSO
- challenge to democratic space

- ① FCRA regulations amendment in 2019
↓
caused funding crunch.
- ② They rely on volunteering and internal will
↓
Now transformed into career due to Govt. regulations.
- ③ Innovative models of service delivery
now transformed into just advocacy for funds.
- ④ Eco-terrorism as a result of this
⑤ Greenpeace organisations

Measures to be taken

① Vijay Kumar committee

↳ light regulation

↳ setting up of National oversight committee

② 2nd ARC

↳ institutionalising NGOs and CSOs
in policy process

↳ NGO regulation needs to be decentralised

Govt efforts → NGO Darpan
↳ SVEP

NGOs and CSOs with their unique service delivery methods address underlying challenges in governance system, hence they need to be lightly regulated to give them democratic space.



9. "भारत का अफ्रीका के साथ संबंध अब केवल विकास सहयोग तक सीमित नहीं रह गया है, बल्कि वह रणनीतिक तथा आर्थिक हितों से भी प्रेरित होता जा रहा है।" विवेचना कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

India's engagement with Africa is no longer limited to development cooperation but is increasingly shaped by strategic and economic considerations. Discuss.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

India and Africa share a fraternal relation from times of handhipi and Bandung conference (1955) and now it is transforming into collaboration at different levels.

India's engagement with Africa - Development cooperation

- ① Pre-1970's → India's Anti-colonial measures for decolonization
↳ Collaboration through NAM.
- ② Post-1970's → Asia Africa growth corridor (with Japan)
↳ India's educational institutions in Africa (→ IIT Madras in Zanzibar).
- ③ Fighting malnutrition and anti-poverty measures.

India's Engagement with Africa - Strategic and Economic

- ① Inclusion of African union in G20 under India's presidency.
- ② Collaboration as multilateral institutions

for reformed multilateralism

(eg) WTO on AOA
+ WIPO - TICDL treaty.

(2) Collaboration on critical minerals front

(eg) DRC - Cobalt → KABIL of Quelug.

(4) Automobile sector and Telecom sector as sunrise industry

(eg) Airtel - 5G initiatives in Africa
Hero Motocorp - bikes in Africa.

(5) Fighting climate change and advocating CBDR-RC

(eg) Mahatishi Initiative - Millets.

(6) Tourism + soft power using medical tourism, sports tourism, Bollywood movies etc.

Hence, India and Africa are natural partners in this age of heteropolar world to realise Asian and African growth century dreams.

10. "खाड़ी क्षेत्र में भारतीय प्रवासी भारत की अर्थव्यवस्था एवं जन-आधारित कूटनीति को आकार देने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाते हैं।" चर्चा कीजिए।
(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

The Indian diaspora in the Gulf region plays a pivotal role in shaping India's economic relations and people-centric diplomacy with West Asia. Discuss.

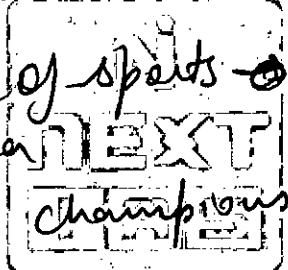
(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Indian diaspora in Gulf region in countries like Qatar, S-Arabia, UAE, Bahrain ~~has~~ plays significant role in enhancing soft power of India.

Indian diaspora playing role in India's economic relations with Gulf

- ① Ensuring energy security from countries like S-Arabia, Qatar etc.
- ② Demand of India's food processing units from Gulf.
- ③ Collaboration on free-trade agreements
⑥ CEPA with UAE.
- ④ Remittances from Gulf region drives Indian economy and hence reducing trade deficit.

Indian diaspora role in people - centric diplomacy

- ① Cultural diplomacy — Temple In UAE
- ② Reforming state policies
 @ S. Arabia adopting liberal policies for women
- ③ Enhancing People to People ties.
- ④ Demand of sports and Indian cinema
 @ UAE —  Champions trophy.

However, certain challenges for Indian diaspora such as kafala system, trafficking still exist which needs to be balanced using diplomatic leverage of India.



11. 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।
(250 शब्दों में उत्तर 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

73rd ~~and~~ CAA inserted Part IX and schedule XI to establish Panchayati Raj institutions (PRI) with 33% reservation to women in local bodies. According to AOR - 46% representatives in PRI are women.

Family
Barriers

Social
Stigma

Lack of
Role
models

Training
and
Education

Fig. Barriers to EWR's in PRI's.

Challenges EWR's face in gender inclusive governance

- ① Descriptive representation instead of Substantive representation
- ② Issue of sarpanch pati
- ③ Gender stereotyping and low bargaining power further amplifies the issue

- ③ Dual burden of care work and professional work.
- ④ Lack of proper training and role models.
- ⑤ Ester Dufflo's study highlighting the issue
- ⑥ Bureaucratic related issues in terms of apathy and lack of cooperation.
- ⑦ Low functional devolution under schedule XI - 2a subjects
- ⑧ Creation of parallel institutions - DDA's
- ⑨ Low use of act 2434 to develop rural oriented economic plans.

Measures to be taken

- ① Mani Shankar Iyer committee
 - ↳ Link PRI's with SHG's
 - ↳ Providing training to PRI representatives through NAO's collaborations

- ② NCR WC recommended
↳ Separate state local body cadres
↳ Creation of State Panchayat council
under chief minister.
- ③ Awareness generation and Education
at early stages to break the social
stigma.
- ④ Following best practice of Rajasthan
govt. - linking with digital public
infrastructure of state.

Thus, these reforms need to be
adopted for women led development
and ensure gender inclusive grassroot
governance to achieve DPSPs.



12.

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। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर 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

France follows semi-presidential system within Parliamentary democracy where power is divided between President and Prime Minister, whereas India is a parliamentary democracy with President at head of state.

France distinct model of Power sharing

① President directly elected and appoints Prime Minister and council of minister (on advice of PM)

② President looks after defence, foreign relations etc.

whereas Prime Minister looks after day-to-day affairs in the state.

Comparison with Indian Parliamentary system

	India	France
Constitution	① written constitution adopted in 1950	written constitution latest one being adopted in 1958
President	② Indirectly elected with no bar on reelection	Directly elected with bar on reelection (only 2 consecutive terms)
Relation with Council of Ministers	③ President appoints Prime Minister and Council of Ministers and bound by their <u>advice</u>	President appoints PM & CoM but not bound by their advice
Executive	④ Drawn from legislature and is responsible to it	Responsible to Parliament
Federalism	⑤ Quasi-federal state with Union having substantial power	Unitary system

Amendment to Constitution

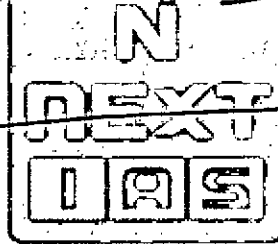
⑥ Parliament can amend the constitution under art 368 with some provisions requiring state assent. But cannot draft new constitution

⑥ Parliament can amend and draft new constitution (1st adopted in 18th century)

Judiciary

Integrated judiciary with power of Judicial review -

Judiciary with different Court of Appeals



Both, democracies can learn from each other in terms of secularism (France learning from India) and Judicial system (India learning from France's ADR mechanism).



13. 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।
(250 शब्दों में उत्तर 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

Indian constitution has adopted principle of checks and balances (Ram Jawaya Kapoor case) instead of strict separation of power, which at times has resulted in encroachment in domain of other organs.

Judiciary's expanding role in legislative and executive domains :

- ① Use of Judicial review to strike out certain laws and amendments.
 (eg) NJAC was struck down citing basic structure doctrine
- ② Excessive use of art 142 - to bring out complete justice
 (eg) Recent TN governor case to limit the veto power of governor & putting a time frame.

③ Use of article 136 (special leave) to take out matters which are not in its traditional domains

eg Delimitation commission orders and Interstate river water disputes.

Reasons for Judiciary's expanding role

① Legislative and executive vacuum in certain cases

eg Vishka guidelines.

② Will of people and protecting their fundamental rights.

eg NALSA judgement - transgender

③ Changing times and evolving society.

eg Ramji Singh case - Right against climate change adverse effects.

Impact on functional separation between various organs ⇒

Ⓐ Positive impact ⇒

① Increased oversight

eg ADK case - struck down electoral bonds.

② Executive on its toes to provide services to establish welfare state.

eg Right to speedy trial - Hussainara Khatoon case.

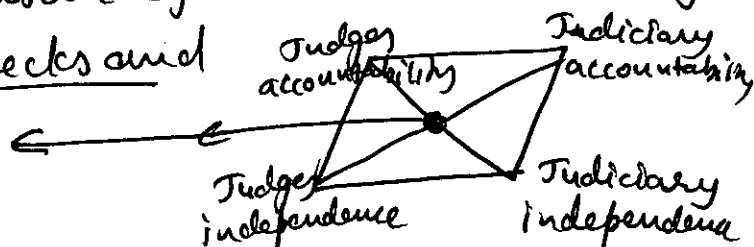
③ Negative impact ⇒

- ① Judicial overreach to venture into other domains.
- ② undermining legislative wisdom
- ③ undermining executive expertise
eg Cracker ban on Diwali - enforcement challenge.
- ④ Erosion of trust → Pendency of cases
→ Ivory tower approach & Paternalism

Measures to be taken

- ① Judiciary to practice Judicial restraint
eg SC restricted itself to expand special marriage act in Supriyo case - left it to Parliament.
- ② NJAC with veto power to CJI for appointments.
- ③ Adhering to Wadiche judgement 2004 - cautious use of art 136 and 142 - only on public importance.

Further judiciary can adhere to Bangalore principle to ensure judicial accountability and ensure checks and balances





14. 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? (250 शब्दों में उत्तर 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

Article 324 In part XV provides for Election Commission of India for elections to President, vice-president and legislatures (state and centre). However in recent time institutional challenges has undermined its role.

Credibility of electoral process resting on EC

- ① Free and fair elections
 - electoral roll preparation
 - enforcing model code of conduct
 - Notifying elections
- ② Disqualification under RPA 1951
- ③ Registration of political parties.

Election Commission of India (ECI) facing credibility issue

- ① Appointments → Recent ~~act~~ act of EC and other EC act 2023.
 - Executive supremacy (PM, LoP, minister appointed by PM)

- ② Role of election commissioners
 - not barred from further appointments
 - Removal rests on advice of Chief election Commissioner.
- ③ Perceived biased role in matters of election notification.
- ④ Enforcement of model code of conduct still remains a challenge
- ⑤ use of hate speeches and religion in election process
- ⑥ Funding and supp parties remains a challenge.
- ⑦ ECI does not have power to de-register parties.
- ⑧ ECI relies on other investigative agencies
- ⑨ West Bengal election issue.
- ⑩ Controlling freebies and lavish election manifesto remains a challenge.

ECI not facing credibility issue in sustaining public trust

- ① Elections are held on time and results are declared on time.

- ⑤ Use of technology → VVPAT'S
→ RTM'S
- ③ ~~Last~~ mile connectivity → setting up
home polling for elderly and
specially able.

Measures that can be taken to ensure neutrality

- ① Adherence to Judgement of Anoop Baranwal
case - CJI (a member in selection committee)
- ② ECI to be given power to de-register
parties (Dinesh Goswami committee)
- ③ Election Commissioner position to be
made equivalent to Chief election
Commissioner in matters of removal.
- ④ NCRWC
↳ state funding of elections
↳ wider role to ECI in anti-defection law
i.e. advice to President.

Elections are oxygen to democracy,
hence Election commission of India needs to
be reformed into an inclusive institution
to ensure public trust



15. 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।

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर 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

Article 19(1)(c) provides for fundamental right to form cooperatives and recently UN has declared 2025 to be year of cooperative highlighting its importance.

Cooperative societies integral to India's socio-economic development

- ① Collective bargaining power leverage
↳ access to loans
↳ pooling resources.
- ② Democratic functioning and innovative models of development
(eg) India's largest food grain storage programme.
- ③ Generation of employment and skill development
- ④ Bridging regional disparities by creation of capital resources & infrastructure
(eg) Storage, branding, procurement infrastructure.

Governance and autonomy challenges faced by Multi-state cooperative societies (MSCS)

- ① Political brinkmanship and interference in appointments and day today functions.
- ② Lack of transparency and accountability often leading to corruption.
- ③ Influence of rich and powerful pressure groups rather than democratic approach.
- ④ eg Influence of large farmers and adatiyas.
- ⑤ Access to market and regional challenges in terms of logistics remains an issue.
- ⑥ Elections are not held timely in (MSCS)

Multi-state Cooperative Society (amendment) act, 2023

- ① Gives a wider role to union for enforcing elections and regulations.
- ② Establishment of cooperative electoral commission.

- ③ Measures to enhance transparency and accountability in governance process.
- ④ Setting up of cooperative rehabilitation for financial purposes.
- ⑤ Mandatory grievance redressal mechanism to be setup.
- ⑥ Integrated Digital public infrastructure to cooperatives to make it more transparent and participatory.
- ⑦ setting up audit mechanisms.

Thus, MSCS (amendment act, 2023) seeks to ensure sabka sahn, sabka vikas to achieve Viksit Bharat 2047 dream.



16. "सूचना आयोगों की संस्थागत स्वतंत्रता की दुर्बलता ने सूचना के अधिकार (RTI) व्यवस्था की प्रभावशीलता को क्षीण किया है।" सूचना आयोगों की स्वायत्तता एवं स्वतंत्रता के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

"Weak institutional independence of Information Commissions has diluted the effectiveness of the Right to Information (RTI) regime." Discuss in the light of autonomy and independence of the Information Commissions. (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Right to information is a fundamental right under art 19(1)(a) and RTI act establishes Information Commission as statutory body to ensure transparency. born in centre and states

Weak institutional independence of Information Commissions diluting effectiveness of RTI

- ① Appointments → 2019 amendment to RTI act has given wider role to central govt.
 ↓
 Challenging its autonomy and independence.
- ② Removal with just executive action (earlier similar to chief election commission)
- ③ Appointments to state Information commission
 • has a role for centre
 ↓
 Federalism challenge.
- ④ Huge vacancies and pendency of cases in state information commission and ~~chief~~ information commission.

- ⑤ Low enforcement of its orders in RTI cases and independent enforcement mechanism still remains a challenge.
- ⑥ Lack of proper information storage mechanisms further amplifies the issue.
- ⑦ High use of section 8 to conceal information by PIO's remains a challenge.
- ⑧ Conflict with other laws such as recent DPDP act and Official secrets act 1923
 amended section 8(1)(5) of RTI act

Measures to be taken →

- ① Timely appointments to Information Commissioners and practice of appointing social and RTI activists.
- ② Removal to be made similar to Chief election commissioner
 ↓
 for autonomy.

③ 2nd ARC ⇒

- ↳ Information management system for systematic data management
- ↳ Enforcing use of section 4 of RTI (proactive disclosure)
- ↳ amending and repealing colonial laws such as OSA, 1923

④ NCRWC

- ↳ ~~the~~ Civil service conduct rules to be recast in light of RTI
- ↳ Oath of transparency to replace oath of secrecy.

As Thomas Jefferson said "Information is currency of democracy". Hence RTI act needs to be amended to ensure good governance.



17.

“भारतीय सिविल सेवाओं की परिकल्पना निष्पक्षता एवं दक्षता के उपकरण के रूप में की गई थी, तथापि वर्तमान में इन्हें कठोर तथा राजनीतिक रूप से प्रेरित माना जा रहा है।” इस धारणा के कारणों की समीक्षा करते हुए उपयुक्त सुधारात्मक उपाय प्रस्तुत कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

"Civil services in India were envisioned as instruments of neutrality and efficiency, yet they are increasingly perceived as rigid and politicised." Examine the issues responsible for this perception and suggest corrective measures. (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

India is a parliamentary democracy whereby civil services are envisioned to ensure policy implementation and act as steel frame of India

Civil services envisioned as instruments of neutrality and efficiency

- ① Providing continuity to the governance system.
- ② Tendering apolitical and non-bias advice to political representative
- ③ Serve as karmayogi and inclusive institutions.
- ④ Bring out innovative models of service delivery and optimal use of resources.

Issues responsible for being perceived as rigid and politicised

- ① Ivory tower approach by civil services
 ↓
 Bureaucratic apathy.

- ② Red tapism and corruption in governa
nce system.
→ over reliance on rules and laws
- ③ Birds of passage ⇒ Promoting own career
by political appeasement
rather than service delivery.
- ④ Transfers and favourable postings are
used as tools of exploitation by political
counterparts.
- ⑤ Lack of inclusion of citizens in policy
formulation, implementation and evaluation.
- ⑥ Lack of grievance redressal mechanism
and feeling of paternalism (we know best)

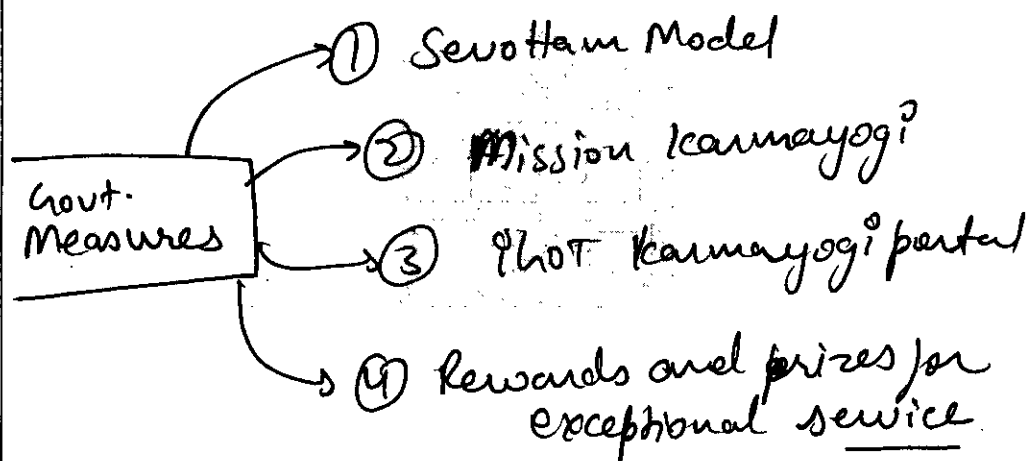
Measures to be taken ⇒

- ① NCRWC
 - Oath to adhere to principles of
good governance
 - Amending civil services conduct rules
to reflect changing times
 - Establishment of civil services board
for appointments and transfers.

② 2nd ARC

- ↳ Training and capacity building
- ↳ using innovative technological models for service delivery.

③ Lateral entries and reforming department System from top heavy bureaucracy to bottom heavy bureaucracy.



Thus, such reforms need to be taken to reform civil services and establish ethical care giving state



18. निरंतर आर्थिक प्रगति एवं सामाजिक क्षेत्र में व्यय के बावजूद भारत का वैश्विक मानव विकास सूचकांक में प्रदर्शन संतोषजनक नहीं है। समावेशी एवं न्यायसंगत मानव विकास में बाधा उत्पन्न करने वाले संरचनात्मक कारणों की विवेचना कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

Despite consistent economic growth and social sector spending, India continues to perform poorly in global human development rankings. Examine the structural issues that inhibit equitable and inclusive human development. (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

India has recently become 4th largest economy, yet its Human Development Index rank 2024 remains 134 (UNDP).

India spends heavily on social sector Education (2.9%), Health (2.1% of GDP), nutritional measures, anti-poverty measures yet human development remains a challenge.

Structural issues that inhibit equitable and inclusive human development

- ① Top-down approach and adherence to trickle down theory of development.
- ② Lack of inclusion of citizens in policy formulation, implementation.
- ③ Lack of demand driven approach.
- ④ Aid curse and shifting focus to freebies rather than capacity building.

- ④ 3-3-3 puzzle - largest 3 states are 3 times bigger than smallest 3 states
 // resulting in
 Regional disparities.
- ⑤ High poverty rates in some states and other demographic challenges.
- ⑥ Bihar poverty rate linked with literacy rates.
- ⑦ Low skills and quality of workforce still remains a challenge.
- ⑧ Gender inequality and discrimination of vulnerable groups.
 //
 low access to social services
- ⑨ Outdated education system
 +
 Healthcare related challenges → Non-Communicable diseases
 Malnutrition

Measures to be taken

- ① Increasing spending on health as envisioned by National Health Policy (2017)
 //
 3% of GDP.

② Increasing spending on education to 6% of GDP + better industry-academia linkage
(National education policy)

③ Capability approach of Amartya Sen
↳ skill development to realise demographic dividend.

④ Gender Inclusion and ~~core~~ role models
↓
women led development and social change

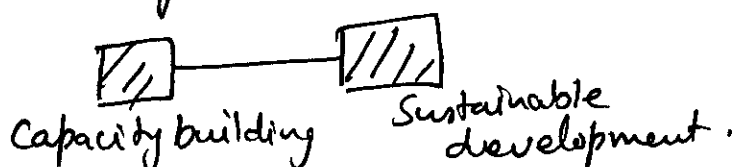
⑤ Innovative measures of service delivery using Technology and 3rd sector organisations

↓
Direct benefit transfer

↓
Stem-bank linkage
NGOs → Helpege India
Aashay Patra foundation

measures taken → one Nation one Ration card
→ Mission Shakti
→ DAY-NRLM, DAY-NULM
→ MGNREGA
→ PM Internship programme

A barbell strategy needs to be adopted for human development and ensuring inclusive growth.





19. "BRICS के विस्तार से भारत को वैश्विक आर्थिक शासन में अपनी भूमिका को सशक्त करने का अवसर प्राप्त होता है।" BRICS Plus मंच के माध्यम से भारत किस प्रकार वैश्विक दक्षिण (Global South) के हितों को प्रोत्साहित कर सकता है, चर्चा कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

"The expansion of BRICS offers opportunities for India to strengthen its voice in global economic governance." Discuss how India can leverage the BRICS Plus to advance the interests of the Global South. (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

BRICS has recently expanded to include Iran, S. Arabia, Indonesia, Argentina, Egypt, UAE etc. offering different opportunities for India to become BRICS+

India to leverage BRICS Plus to advance interests of Global South

- ① Supply chain diversification in light of a polycentric crisis
- ② Energy needs of Global South.
- ③ Reforming multilateral bodies such as world bank, WTO, UN etc.
- ④ A new approach to economic institutions for funding and financial needs
- ⑤ New development bank

- ④ Security enhancement → maritime security
→ Fight against terrorism
- ⑤ Critical mineral resources and their development and processing.
⑥ China controls production.
Argentina - resource rich.
- ⑥ Fight against climate change and pushing for CBDR-RC at global stage
- ⑦ De-Dollarisation of de-risking
↳ BRICS new currency.
- ⑧ Enhancing People to People ties through tourism → sports tourism
→ Medical tourism

Challenges

- ① Lack of permanent secretariat and continuation mechanism.
- ② Diverging interests of different countries.
- ③ Dominance of China in supply chain and economic might

BRI Cs.

④ Geopolitical confrontation of member countries

↳ Russia - Ukraine war

↳ Iran - Israel conflict

Measures to be taken →

① Forging convergences using common challenges. → migrant policies
→ Climate resilient infrastructure

② Setting up permanent secretariat

③ Coming up with connectivity initiative
↳ BRICS pipeline.

BRICS+ with its expansion provides opportunity for India to be a mediator, mobiliser and motivator in global south as well as at global level to become Vishwa Mitra and Vishwakhury.

20.

"'एक्ट ईस्ट नीति' केवल आर्थिक कूटनीति का उपकरण नहीं, बल्कि यह क्षेत्रीय संतुलन सुनिश्चित करने का भी माध्यम है।" ASEAN के साथ भारत की सहभागिता एवं हिंद-प्रशांत क्षेत्र में बदलती शक्ति-संरचना के परिप्रेक्ष्य में इस कथन का विश्लेषण कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

"Act East Policy is as much about regional balancing as it is about economic diplomacy." Analyse this statement in the context of India's engagement with ASEAN amidst shifting power dynamics in the Indo-Pacific. (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Act East policy is an extension to look west policy (1992) aimed at enhancing ties with South East Asian countries popularly known as Tiger economies (ASEAN).

India's engagement with ASEAN about regional balancing

- ① Establishing Free & Open Indo-Pacific by fostering convergences and managing divergences.
- ② Fighting traditional and non-traditional threats
 eg South China Issue - 9 dash line
 Myanmar military crisis
 + drug trafficking & Singapore washing.
- ③ Defence cooperation
 eg Indonesia - Akash missiles.
 & Vietnam + Brahmos missiles.
- ④ Connectivity → Sea lanes of communication
 + Malacca strait dilemma of China
 eg India's Andaman and Nicobar project.

India's engagement with ASEAN - economic diplomacy

- ① India has various bilateral FTA's with several countries like Singapore, Indonesia + member of Asean regional forum.
- ② Collaboration on critical minerals and technological advancements.
eg - Indonesia - Cobalt reserves
- ③ India's diaspora in South East Asia
↳ eg Singapore - Indians a major community
- ④ Collaborating on Blue economy and port lead development.
- ⑤ Cultural diplomacy
eg Mekong Ganga Initiative

Shifting power dynamics in Indo-Pacific

- ① China's expansionism and its legal warfare
eg South China issue with Philippines.

- ② USA'S FONOPS strategy - Freedom of Navigation.
- ③ AUKUS as security architecture
- ④ Radicalisation and rise of non-state actors
- ⑤ cyber slavery

measures to be taken by India for navigating power dynamics

- ① ~~Repe~~ Renegotiating FTA's and re-looking at RCEP
- ② Collaboration through multilateral bodies Quad, South Quad, Asian development bank etc
- ③ Leveraging IPEF platform for trade facilitation.

Hence, India should adopt min:imaxing strategy (minimising threats, maximising collaboration) to navigate through shifting power dynamics.

NEXT IAS

Space for Rough Work

NEXT IAS

Space for Rough Work

NEXT IAS

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प्रत्यक्ष निर्देश	अभ्यर्थियों को निर्देशित 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 प्रश्निका के भीतर कहीं भी अपना नाम या पंजीकरण संख्या न लिखें। 2. अपनी OCA प्रश्निका में कहीं भी प्रश्नों के बाह्यविक उत्तरों के अलावा कुछ भी न लिखें। 3. अपनी OCA प्रश्निका से कोई भी पृष्ठ न फाड़ें, यदि आपका कोई पृष्ठ गायब लगे, तो परीक्षक/निरीक्षक को सूचित करना न भूलें। 4. अपनी OCA प्रश्निका को अपनी डेबल 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. OCA प्रश्निका 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. एक नोटस या गणना के लिए, इस प्रश्निका के अंतिम दो खाली पृष्ठों का उपयोग किया जाना चाहिए। एक नोटस को बाद में फाड़ कर देना चाहिए। 5. यदि आप किसी कार्य को रद्द करना चाहते हैं, तो उस पर अपना घेन चलाएं या उस पर "रद्द" लिखें, अन्यथा उसका मूल्यांकन किया जा सकता है। 6. परीक्षा हॉल छोड़ने से पहले अपनी OCA प्रश्निका व्यक्तिगत रूप से निरीक्षक को सौंप दें।	

ऑनलाइन सुविधा का लाभ उठाने वाले अभ्यर्थियों के लिए विशेष अनुरोध

1. OCA प्रश्निका को ठीक से स्कैन करें। हम चाहेंगे कि आप स्कैनिंग के लिए कैमस्कैन ऐप (CAM-SCANNER) का उपयोग करें। (यह कोई प्रमाण नहीं है)।
2. कृपया OCA प्रश्निका को पंजीकृत योगी में स्कैन करें। कम योगी में स्कैन की गई प्रश्निकाएं, 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. OCA प्रश्निका का उपयोग नहीं करने वाले उम्मीदवारों को अपना विवरण पहले पृष्ठ पर देना चाहिए और भंडी 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. OCA प्रश्निका 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 शीर्षक संस्करण के अनुरूप है।

