

# NEXT IAS

## GS MAIN ADVANCED COURSE 2024

(To be filled by candidate)

TEST CODE : GSMAC2402

Test No. : 02

Name of Candidate: Aditya Agarwal Mobile No. XXXXXXXXXXRoll No. : GSMAC T24 A1094 Start Time 9:00 am End Time 12:20Date of Examination: 26th Aug' 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
1	10	
2	10	
3	10	
4	10	
5	10	
6	10	
7	10	
8	10	
9	10	
10	10	
TOTAL MARKS - 100		

GRAND TOTAL - ...../ 250

EVAL CODE: ..... EVAL DTE: .....

## GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

- 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.
- Candidates must mention all relevant details like Name, Email, Roll No, Mobile, etc. in the space allocated.
- Candidate is expected to attempt all 10 questions within the given timeline.
- Answers must be written in the medium authorized at the time of admission.
- 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.
- Please write neatly. Avoid illegible writing.
- Do not write/mark irrelevant matters in the QCAB.

## सामान्य निर्देश

- 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 उसे एक नई QCA पुस्तिका से बदल लें।
- अभ्यर्थियों को सभी प्रासंगिक विवरण जैसे नाम, ईमेल, रोल नंबर, मोबाइल नंबर आदि का आवंटित स्थान पर उल्लेख करना होगा।
- अभ्यर्थियों से अपेक्षा की जाती है कि वह आवंटित समय-सीमा के भीतर ही सभी 10 प्रश्नों के उत्तर-लेखन का प्रयास करें।
- प्रत्येक उत्तर, प्रवेश के समय चुना गया भाषा के माध्यम में ही लिखे जाने चाहिए।
- अभ्यर्थियों को विशिष्ट प्रश्न के उत्तर संबंधित प्रश्न के नीचे ही लिखना होगा। आवंटित स्थान के बाहर लिखे गए किसी भी उत्तर को क्रेडिट नहीं दिया जाएगा।
- कृपया साफ-सुथरा लिखें। अपठनीय लेखन से बचें।
- 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.

<b><u>IMPORTANT QR CODES</u></b>	
 <p style="margin-top: 10px;">Topper's Copy</p>	 <p style="margin-top: 10px;">Common mistake and Correct Filled QCAB</p>
 <p style="margin-top: 10px;">Copy Scanner App</p>	 <p style="margin-top: 10px;">Next IAS Test Centre Location</p>

**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**



Q1. विधि का शासन और न्यायिक समीक्षा एक दूसरे पर निर्भर हैं, क्योंकि किसी भी एक का दूसरे के बिना अस्तित्व नहीं हो सकता है। इस संदर्भ में क्या न्यायिक समीक्षा को संविधान के मूल ढांचे का गठन करने वाले आयामों में सबसे महत्वपूर्ण आयाम माना जा सकता है? (150 शब्द, 10 अंक)

The rule of law and judicial review are interdependent, as one cannot truly exist without the other. In this context can judicial review be considered the most important aspect among those that constitute the basic structure of the Constitution? (150 words, 10 marks)

The basic structure was constituted by the Supreme Court in Kesavananda Bharti case 1973. The judicial review was made part of basic structure under Minerva Mills case of 1980.

Judicial review refers to the power of courts to decide on the constitutionality of any law or executive order passed by the government

Rule of law and judicial review are interdependent because:-

- Rule of law enable the functioning of the different sections of the government
- Rule of law enables the different part of the polity to ensure proper checks and balances on the power of others.

→ Judicial review ensures rule of law in the society.

Judicial review can be considered as the most important aspect as:

- It helps to maintain rule of law.
- It makes those law void which are unconstitutional.

(Eg) NJAC Act was held void as it violated the separation of power.

- Judicial review keeps the check on power of the legislature to make laws.

(Eg) Power of executive during emergency of 1973 was extended.

However, there are other aspects of basic structure that enables this —

- secular state, fundamental right to equality, liberty, prohibition on discrimination.

Judicial review and rule of law are thus needed to maintain equality and freedom among the people of India.

Q2. दिल्ली के उपराज्यपाल की शक्तियों और अधिकारों की तुलना, विशेष रूप से मंत्रिपरिषद की सहायता और उनकी सलाह पर कार्य करने के संदर्भ में अन्य राज्यों के राज्यपालों से किस प्रकार की जाती है? (150 शब्द, 10 अंक)

How does the power and authority of Delhi's lieutenant governor compare to that of the governors of other states, particularly in terms of acting on the aid and advice of the council of ministers? (150 words, 10 marks)

The National Capital Territory of Delhi (NCT) has a legislative assembly under Article 239 AA of the constitution. The lieutenant governor acts on the aid and advice of the council.

Differences of Delhi's LG with other states

- LG can take decisions on the subjects such as land, police and public order without the aid and advice of the council.
- The government of Delhi refers to the LG as per NCT Act.
- LG can act in discretion on certain matters.
- The powers of LG extends to giving direction to council on certain matters.



→ The transfer, postings of the civil servants are made by the LG.

However, there are many similarities as well :-

→ LG acts in aid and advice of council on matters that are under the purview of the legislative assembly.

Due to increasing tussle between LG and the Delhi government - there is a need for role clarity.

SC judgements made LG bound by the advice. However, subsequent acts of the central government made LG to act in his discretion.

The NCT of Delhi presents unique challenges in the governance of the UT. The representative government must have power to voice its concerns along with the maintaining unique nature of UT.

Q3. हाल के दिनों में, भारत में धर्म के अधिकार और संवैधानिक नैतिकता के मध्य तनाव/मतभेद को दूर करने में न्यायपालिका की भूमिका पर चर्चा करें। प्रासंगिक वाद विधियों की सहायता लें। (150 शब्द, 10 अंक)

Discuss the role of the judiciary in navigating the tension between the right to religion and constitutional morality in India in recent times. Refer to relevant case laws.

(150 words, 10 marks)

Article 25 to 28 of the Indian constitution provide for Right to Religion which states that a person has right to freely profess and propagate and practice their religion.

Constitutional morality refers to the morality derived from the various provisions of the constitution.

Tensions between Right to Religion and Constitutional Morality:

— The right to profess and propagate religion may clash with the fundamental right to freedom of expression and movement.

(Eg) Movement of procession in certain areas restricted.

— The constitutional morality calls for right to equality but the ~~track~~



religious practices may discriminate against people of certain caste or gender.

- Non payment of taxes by the religious institutions ~~and~~ clashes with the state role of collecting taxes.

Judiciary role in navigating these tensions :-

Judiciary has time and again maintained the supremacy of constitutional morality over right to religion.

- Sabari mala case : Women right to enter the temple allowed.
- Triple Talag case - ~~the~~ Divorce based on religious practice not legal.
- Hasina Begum case - Right of muslim woman to seek maintenance
- Right of Hindu women in ancestral property.

The constitutional morality has helped in ensuring that fundamental human rights take precedence over religious established morals.

Q4. 'शक्तियों के पृथक्करण' का सिद्धांत अमेरिकी संविधान की एक प्रमुख विशेषता है। इस संदर्भ में तुलना करें कि भारतीय संविधान में शक्तियों का कार्यात्मक पृथक्करण अमेरिकी प्रणाली से किस प्रकार भिन्न है। शक्तियों के कठोर पृथक्करण की तुलना में नियंत्रण और संतुलन प्रणाली के क्या लाभ हैं? (150 शब्द, 10 अंक)

The principle of 'Separation of Powers' is a key feature of the American Constitution. In this context, compare how the Indian Constitution's functional separation of powers distinguishes itself from the US system. What are the advantages of a check and balance system over a rigid Separation of Powers? (150 words, 10 marks)

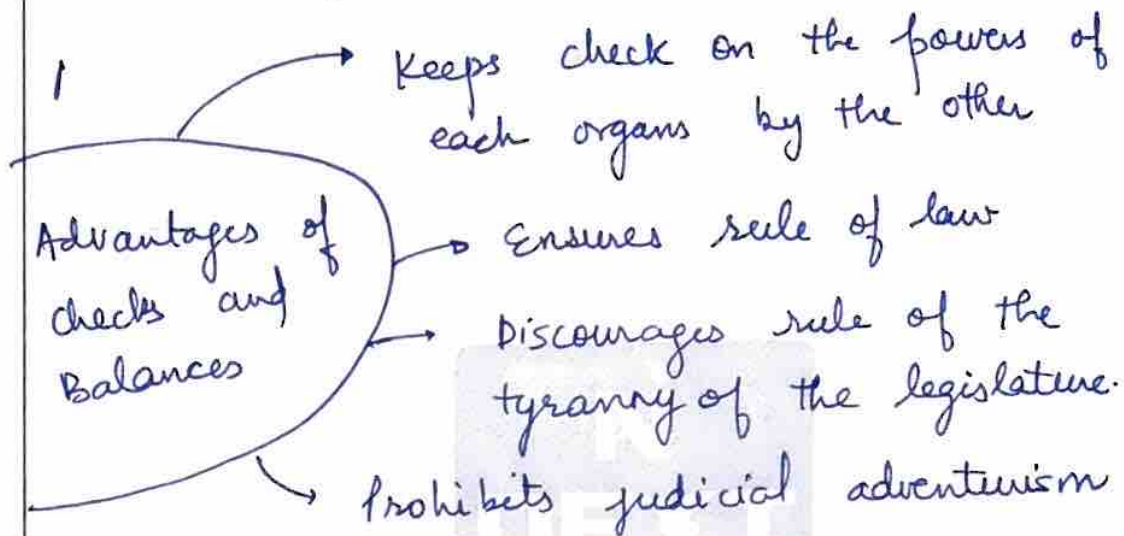
Separation of powers refers to the feature where different organs of polity have different powers that do not interfere with each other.

Difference in the feature :-

<u>American Constitution</u>	<u>Indian Constitution</u>
- Presidential form of the government	- Parliamentary form of government
- Executive is not responsible to the legislature.	- Executive is responsible to the legislature
- Different mode of election and of President and Congress.	- Executive derived from the legislature
- Separate constitutional court for judicial review.	- Supreme court functions as both court of appeal and constitutional court.



The American system is based on the complete separation of power whereas Indian system is based on checks and Balances system



These check and balances are ensured by:-

- Judicial review : deciding on the constitutionality of laws made
- Election petition
- Power of legislature to remove judges
- Contempt proceeding of the court
- Power of legislature to withdraw support for executive.

Checks and balances are integral feature of the Indian constitution enabling separation of power also enshrined Article 50.



Q5. भारतीय संविधान की छठी अनुसूची आदिवासी क्षेत्रों को स्वशासन का अधिकार देने वाले विधिक प्रावधानों से कहीं अधिक है। छठी अनुसूची किस प्रकार उनकी पारंपरिक शासन प्रणालियों और सांस्कृतिक प्रथाओं का सम्मान करते हुए विकास को बढ़ावा देती है? (150 शब्द, 10 अंक)

The Sixth Schedule of the Indian Constitution is more than a legal provision that empowers tribal regions with self-rule. How does the sixth schedule foster development while respecting their traditional governance systems and cultural practices? (150 words, 10 marks)

Sixth schedule of the Indian constitution provides for the administration of tribal areas in the state of Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Tripura.

It enables tribal regions with self rule by the following :-

- Tribal Autonomous districts / regions set up.
- These regions have power to regulate their affairs in the areas of health, education, agriculture, forest produce etc.
- The members of these regional council are predominantly tribal.
- Any law of the state or center do not applies or apply with certain modification.

→ The governor works in aid and advice of these regional council for these areas.

This help in fostering development while respecting traditional governance system and cultural practices through :-

↳ Protect the customs and traditions of the tribals.

↳ prevents the outsiders from making laws and regulating their practices.

↳ ~~The~~ land can only be sold to other tribals and thus prevents land alienation.

→ Movement of people in the areas is regulated.

~~The~~ The sixth schedule enables the tribals to regulate their affairs

The demand for the status for ~~people~~  
UT of Ladakh showcase the importance of this.

Q6. नागरिक समाज संगठनों और सरकारी संस्थाओं के मध्य साझेदारी भारत के विकास लक्ष्यों में किस प्रकार योगदान देती है? (150 शब्द, 10 अंक)

How do partnerships between Civil Society Organizations and Government Entities contribute to India's development goals? (10 marks, 150 words)

Civil Society organisations are the entities composed of different civilian groups to further their common objectives.

Partnership between CSOs and Government Entities contribute to India's development goal in the following ways:-

- i) Provide the government with data on valuable indicators such as level of education, poverty, health in the society.
- ii) Checks and balances on the government by ensuring accountability related to government schemes and programs.
- iii) Apprise the government on the needs of the society.
- iv) Protest on the issues to generate adequate policy measures.



- v) Ensuring scheme implementation and checking on the corruption.  
(Eg) Social Impact Assessment.

~~ii)~~ Civil Society organisations may sometime hinder progress:-

- i) Focus on narrow vested interest.
- ii) Some leaders may use the CSOs for political power.
- iii) Hindrance in development projects that may affect livelihood in short term.
- iv) Influence from outside source to protest on wrong issues

Way forward

CSOs and Government entities need to work together by establishing clear line of communication, focus on pressing issues and participation in policy making.

Q7. भारतीय सिविल सेवकों में आजीवन सीखने की संस्कृति विकसित करने के महत्व पर चर्चा करें। मिशन कर्मयोगी ने इस उद्देश्य में किस प्रकार योगदान दिया है? उदाहरणों के साथ स्पष्ट करें। (150 शब्द, 10 अंक)

Discuss the importance of cultivating a culture of life-long learning among Indian civil servants. How has Mission Karmyogi contributed to this objective? Illustrate with examples. (10 marks, 150 words)

Mission Karmayogi is a capability development program for civil servants aimed at transforming the service from 'rule-based to role based' as per PM Modi

Importance of cultivating a culture of life long learning among civil servants:

- i) Tackling newer age issues: such as digital media, deepfakes etc.
- ii) Expanding the knowledge on issues and solutions (unique) for them.  
(Eg) Nature based solutions for climate change.
- iii) Tapping into experience of others to learn from them (Eg) Books from ex-coal secretary IAS Swarup Bhatnagar.
- iv) Helps generation of ideas for development of self and nation  
(Eg) Aadhar Based service delivery

- v) Helps develop emotional intelligence
- vi) Understanding the society and empathetic approach to the vulnerable sections.

Mission Karmayogi has contributed to this

- ↳ Training of the civil servants on key matters of governance
- ↳ New courses on the administration and better implementation of the scheme.
- ↳ Transforming the bureaucrats from rule focused to agile and innovative.
- ↳ Dynamic and more proactive diplomatic  
(Eg) S Jaishankar called this an era of 'energetic diplomacy'
- ↳ Transformation from weberian to democratic diplomacy.

The infusion of new-age technology and better service delivery has been made possible by a bureaucracy that understands needs of the society and constantly striving to fulfil them.

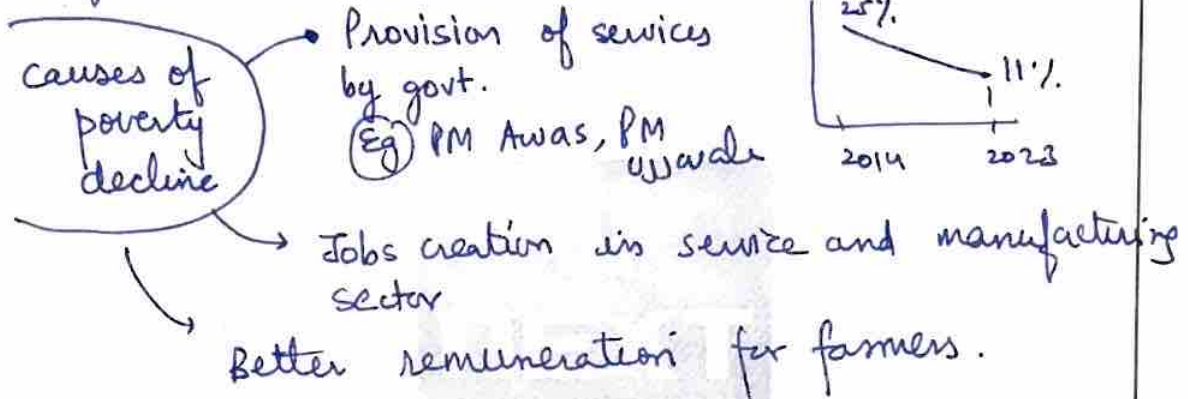


Q8. अत्यधिक गरीबी को कम करने में भारत की प्रगति को देखते हुए, क्या देश को वर्तमान सामाजिक-आर्थिक वास्तविकताओं को बेहतर ढंग से दर्शाने के लिए अपनी गरीबी रेखा को फिर से परिभाषित करने पर विचार करना चाहिए? गरीबी रेखा को फिर से परिभाषित करने से जुड़े संभावित लाभों और चुनौतियों पर चर्चा करें। (150 शब्द, 10 अंक)

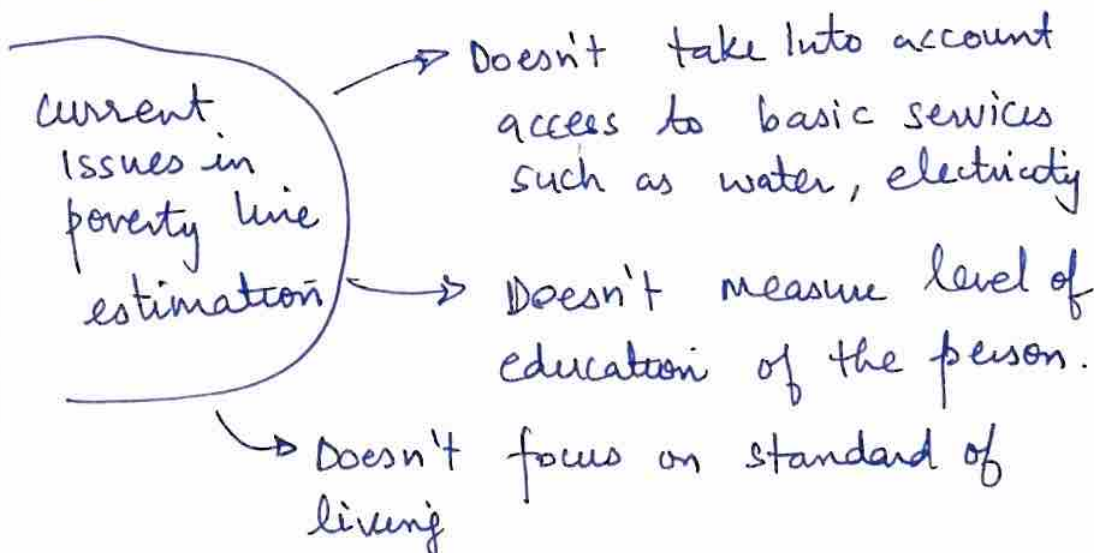
Given India's strides in reducing extreme poverty, should the country consider redefining its poverty line to better reflect the current socio-economic realities? Discuss the potential benefits and challenges associated with redefinition of the poverty line.

(10 marks, 150 words)

According to NITI Aayog Report, Multidimensional poverty index, the poverty has declined from around 25% to 11% in last decade



The current poverty line is based on the income levels of the people. It is based on the Tendulkar formula which defines poverty as amount required to fulfill basic calorie needs.



Therefore, there is a need to redefine the poverty line which should take into account!

- educational and health levels
- Per capita income of the person.
- Access to basic necessities
- Opportunities for growth.

Potential Benefits → comprehensive measure of poverty

↳ Takes into account the present needs of society

↳ Mobility (social and economical) based on education, healthcare and opportunities

However, there are challenges in these:

- measuring by various level of indicators
- Assigning weightage of different indicators
- varying levels of access

Multidimensional poverty index of NITI

Aayog is more comprehensive. There is a need to adopt similar new measures to redefine poverty levels in the society and strive to eliminate it. (SDG 1).



- Q9. प्रमुख पश्चिमी देशों के साथ गहरे होते राजनीतिक मतभेदों का वैश्विक शासन व्यवस्था और अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सहयोग पर पड़ने वाले प्रभाव का मूल्यांकन करें। वैश्विक मंच पर अपने राष्ट्रीय हितों को आगे बढ़ाने के लिए भारत को इन मतभेदों से किस प्रकार निपटना चाहिए? (150 शब्द, 10 अंक)

Evaluate the impact of the deepening political divisions with the major Western States on global governance and international cooperation. How should India navigate these divisions to advance its national interests on the global stage? (10 marks, 150 words)

Institutions such as UN, IMF, World Bank, WTO work towards international cooperation to solve major issues of the world.

Deepening of political division of India with major western states can be seen in—

- i) Relations with Canada soured after the killings of a separatist leader
- ii) No consensus on Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) with EU and UK.
- iii) Khalistani movements supported in garb of freedom of speech in O.K., Canada, Australia.
- iv) support to Chinese BRI by EU countries.
- v) Inaction by western powers in geopolitical conflicts
- vi) Reports by institutions situated in western states — undermining Indian democracy and false narratives.



Impact of these political divisions:

- i) Conflicts with the western state — termination / downgrading of diplomatic relation.
- ii) lack of consensus on important issues such as climate change — coal phase-out, funding loss and Damage, CBDR principles.
- iii) failure of global governance institutions such as WHO, UNSC to progress peace.
- iv) Cooperation to counter hegemony of China in South China Sea.
- v) Actions on terrorism and organised crime not taken
- vi) No cooperation on regulating digital assets

India to navigate these divisions through:—

- maintaining strategic autonomy
- forwarding democratic values.
- cooperation and conciliation on issues
- dialogue and diplomacy.

Political divisions have led to Kindleberger trap where no global power is able to provide goods. Discussions and cooperation on key issues are necessary.

Q10. भारत की आर्कटिक नीति उसके व्यापक विदेश नीति के उद्देश्यों के साथ किस प्रकार संरेखित है? आर्कटिक परिषद के साथ भारत द्वारा किए गए सहयोगों और समझौतों पर व्यापक रूप से चर्चा करें। (150 शब्द, 10 अंक)

How does India's Arctic Policy align with its broader foreign policy objectives? Broadly discuss the collaborations and agreements India is involved in with the Arctic Council.

(10 marks, 150 words)

India's Arctic policy is based on the peaceful use of arctic resources and scientific research in the area.

It aligns with broader foreign policy objectives as can be seen from:—

- i) National interest to be priority
- ii) Good relation with all the members of Arctic council — USA, Denmark, UK, Canada etc.
- iii) Research through stations such as Bharti and Maitri

India is an observer at the Arctic Council and it is involved in —

- ✓ Research at the Arctic on — climate change, ocean currents and global weather patterns.

- ✓ Declining sea ice and opening up of trade routes.
- ✓ Exploration of natural resources
- ✓ Preservation of Biodiversity at these regions.

Arctic sea will be ice free in the summers by 2050. New opportunities and coming challenges need appropriate measures in this regard.





- Q11. 16वें वित्त आयोग के समक्ष विचारार्थ विषय, पिछले वित्त आयोगों से किस प्रकार भिन्न हैं? बाद के वित्त आयोगों द्वारा उत्तरोत्तर प्रगतिशील हस्तांतरण के बावजूद, विभिन्न राज्यों में आर्थिक असमानताओं को बढ़ावा देने वाले कारकों का परीक्षण करें।  
(250 शब्द, 15 अंक)

In what ways are the terms of reference of the 16th Finance Commission different from that of the previous Finance Commissions? Despite increasingly progressive devolution by subsequent Finance Commissions, examine the factors that propel economic disparities across various States.  
(15 marks, 250 words)

16th Finance Commission has been setup by the ~~President~~ <sup>President</sup> under Article 280 of the Indian constitution.

Arvind Panagariya as its chairman have to provide the formula for distribution of taxes for the period 2026 - 2031.

Terms of References of 16th Finance Commission

→ To devise the formula for :-

→ vertical devolution of taxes between central and state.

→ horizontal distribution of taxes between the states.

→ To provide the suggestion on ways to augment the consolidate fund of state.

→ Grant-in-aids to certain states.

→ Funds to the Disaster Management Fund.

These terms are different from previous Finance Commission :-

- Do not specifically mention for providing funds for healthcare and education.
- funds are not tied to any reforms by the state.
- funds to local government not mentioned

Previous finance commissions

→ 5th Finance Commission:-

Allotment of funds to some states categorised as special category states

14th Finance Commission

- Increased vertical devolution from ~32% to 42% and SCS ~~code~~ status was no longer used.
- used the 1971 population as criteria.

15th Finance Commission

- 41% vertical devolution and 1% to newly created UT of Jammu and Kashmir.



— Used 2011 population census. Also population measures and tax efforts considered in criteria.

However, some factors has led to economic disparities among states :

- i) Increasing cess and surcharge reducing the divisible pool of taxes
- ii) Income distance given high weightage  
 (Eg) States contributing more such as Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Karnataka getting less → and Bihar, UP - major receiver.
- iii) Dependence on the aid - "aid curse" - despite receiving funds, no effort to maintain fiscal consolidation and growth.
- iv) High revenue expenditure leading to fiscal deficit of states. (Eg) OPS announced in some states.

Finance commission forms important part of fiscal federalism of the country. States must manage their finances to reduce disparities



- Q12. 'अनैतिक' आचरण और विशेषाधिकारों के उल्लंघन के मामलों को संबोधित करने में आचार समिति और विशेषाधिकार समिति की शक्तियों और कार्यप्रणाली की तुलना करें और उनमें अंतर करें। संसदीय अनुशासन बनाए रखने में ये समितियाँ एक-दूसरे की किस तरह से पूरक हैं? (250 शब्द, 15 अंक)

Compare and contrast the powers and working of the Ethics Committee and the Privileges Committee in addressing cases of 'unethical' conduct and breach of privileges. How do these Committees complement each other in maintaining parliamentary discipline?

(15 marks, 250 words)

Ethics and Privileges committee are the Parliamentary committees working towards ensuring the ethical conduct and ensuring privileges of the members respectively.

Powers and working of these committees

Ethics committee

Any acts that are considered unparliamentary or 'unbecoming' of the members of the house are dealt by ethics committee.

Any member of  
Parliament  
or  
any citizen  
via member

complaint to  
ethics  
committee

takes up  
the  
matter

Parliament  
decides on  
the case

presents  
report on the  
same to  
parliament



- The role of the committee is advisory in nature.
- It mainly reprimands or an advice to maintain conduct is given.
- It cannot advice for member suspension from house

### Privileges committee

- Ensure the collective privilege of the house mentioned under Article 105 of the constitution and other conventions
- May advice on the member suspension
- cases are considered to be of serious nature.

The two committees are complimentary in nature:-

- less serious cases are taken up by the Ethics committee whereas more serious cases are taken by privileges committee.

→ Suspension of members based on the seriousness of the offence of the member.

### Lacunae in the working

- Code of ~~conduct~~ Ethics not yet formed for the parliamentarians — vague definition of breach of ethics
- ~~Code~~ Privileges not yet codified and loosely based on the convention.

The recent cases of breach of ethics by an MP — taking money to ask questions in parliament raises the debate on the effective functioning of the House.

The House represents the people of the country and there is a necessity to ensure that ethics and privileges are followed in letter and spirit.



- Q13. भारत में सतत विधायी शिथिलता के संदर्भ में, सार्वजनिक नीति और शासन को आकार देने में न्यायिक सक्रियता की उभरती भूमिका का विश्लेषण करें। ऐतिहासिक न्यायालय के मामलों के उदाहरणों का उपयोग करते हुए, शासन संबंधी कमियों को दूर करने और नागरिकों के अधिकारों की सुरक्षा में न्यायिक हस्तक्षेपों की प्रभावशीलता का मूल्यांकन करें।

(250 शब्द, 15 अंक)

In the context of persistent legislative dysfunction in India, analyze the evolving role of judicial activism in shaping public policy and governance. Using examples from landmark court cases, evaluate the effectiveness of judicial interventions in addressing governance gaps and safeguarding citizens' rights. (250 words, 15 marks)

Judicial activism refers to the activity of the judiciary to ~~formulate~~ <sup>deliver</sup> laws that has the effect of law of the legislature.

Persistent legislative dysfunction has been due to :-

- i) low use of parliamentary <sup>standing</sup> committees to make laws — decline quality of bills and escape scrutiny.
- ii) Populist policies of the state undermining the principles of constitution.
- iii) Lack of progressive legislation by the government.
- iv) Inactivity due to fear of protests and vote bank.

Judiciary through its various judgements has shaped public policy and governance.

- i) Right to food as part of Right to life (A21)  
PuCL vs Union of India case.
- ii) Right to speedy justice - Hussainara  
Khatoon case.
- iii) Police reforms - Prakash Singh Judgement
- iv) Prevention of Sexual Harassment guidelines  
- Vishaka vs State of Rajasthan
- v) Right to clean environment (A14 and A21)  
- Ranjit Singh case (Great Indian Bustard case)
- vi) Subcategorisation of SCs and STs allowed  
overturning judgement in Chennaiiah case

### Effectiveness of judicial interventions

- Safeguarding of rights of the citizens  
- to food, livelihood, clean environment
- Addresses the governance gaps where states  
unable to make consensus on laws.
- Prevents the government tyranny and  
protect the vulnerable.
- Rights of women ensured.



The judiciary must also ensure restraint on its part to allow legislature to prevent any unintended consequences of the judgement.

(Eg) HC judgement allowing ST status to Meitias led to large scale ethnic clashes in the Manipur state.

Judicial restraint as seen in Supriyo case where supreme court left it on the central government to decide on the issue of same-sex marriage.

Judicial activism is necessary to nudge the government to act. However it should not turn into adventurism and maintaining a restraint is necessary.



- Q14. राजनीतिक दलों के भीतर आंतरिक लोकतंत्र का स्तर भारतीय दलीय प्रणाली की कार्यप्रणाली और वैधता को किस सीमा तक प्रभावित करता है? भारत में अपर्याप्त अंतर-दलीय लोकतंत्र की चुनौतियों का समाधान करने के लिए कौन-कौन से सुधार किए जा सकते हैं? (250 शब्द, 15 अंक)

To what extent does the level of internal democracy within political parties impact the functioning and legitimacy of the Indian party system? What reforms can address the challenges of inadequate intraparty democracy in India? (250 words, 15 marks)

India follows a multi party system where each party selects their candidate for particular constituencies.

Declining intraparty democracy can be seen in the following cases:—

- i) Winnability of candidate major factor behind selection of candidate
- ii) Candidates with money and muscle power preferred.
- iii) Candidates with criminal records allowed to compete election from the party.
- iv) Old, loyal candidates of the party given tickets.
- v) Lack of youth, women, SCs, STs in the candidate list.
- vi) Representation to minority only on reserved seats mostly.

Internal party democracy will help in:

- Selection of candidates that are better suited to ~~elect~~ represent people.
- Leads to more focus on work rather than external party politics.
- Provides representation to all.
- Reduction in money and muscle power
- Cleaner candidates will get more opportunities.
- Educated leaders will be preferred.
- Reduce the dynastic politics and nepotism in the political parties.

These will help in better functioning and legitimacy of ~~external~~ Indian party system.

However, there are some challenges to this:-

- i) Most political parties are dynastic formed by the people and their family members.



- ii) Charisma of leader - face of the party  
~~is~~ reducing focus on other members.
- iii) Reserved seats for SCs, STs and women  
(in future) will reduce the internal party  
democracy.

### Reforms needed to address the challenges

- ↳ Internal party democracy - elections, debates to be made mandatory in party manifesto by ECI
- ↳ Internal party reservation for vulnerable section.
- ↳ Equal distribution of seats among the members based on their status
- ↳ selection of party president based on consensus of members.
- ↳ Strict rules on defection.

Internal party democracy will ensure focus of members on the issues of the citizens, rather internal politics. It will also help to support genuine and strong candidates



Q15. "एन एच आर सी (NHRC) को न केवल एक निगरानी संस्था होना चाहिए, बल्कि हाशिए पर उपस्थित और उत्पीड़ित लोगों के लिए आशा की किरण भी बनना चाहिए।" इस संदर्भ में भारत में राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग (एन एच आर सी) की भूमिका और अधिदेश पर चर्चा करें। एन एच आर सी की वर्तमान संरचना और कार्यप्रणाली इसकी स्वतंत्रता और प्रभावशीलता को किस प्रकार प्रभावित करती है? (250 शब्द, 15 अंक)

"The NHRC must not only be a watchdog but also a beacon of hope for the marginalized and oppressed." In this context discuss the role and mandate of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) in India. How does the current composition and functioning of the NHRC affect its independence and effectiveness? (250 words, 15 marks)

NHRC was setup under protection of human rights Act as a statutory body to give effect to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights signed by the country.

Role and mandate of NHRC in India:-

- Take up matters of human rights violation issues.
- Suo motu ~~cognization~~ cognizance of the human rights issue.
- Aid and advice the government on human rights.
- Provide for compensation to the victims
- To inquire into the complaints received by it.
- Protect vulnerable such as women, children, SCs and STs

— Protection of religious and linguistic minorities.

Thus, the NHRC acts as a watchdog of human rights of the people.

However in several cases of human rights, it has failed to do its duty adequately — failing as a beacon of hope of marginalised and oppressed.

### Current composition

- Chairman: retired or working judge of supreme court.
- Members: ex-officio — chairman of National Commission of SCs, STs, women, OBCs, children.

### Functioning of NHRC

- Takes up matter of human rights importance
- Does not take all the matters but only prominent ones.

Also, the members are selected by a committee headed by the Prime Minister.

This leads to affecting its effectiveness and independences as:—

- shortage of staff to take several matters at a time.
- only those cases that happened in past 1 year taken up by it.
- lack of funding and autonomy
- only advisory powers and thus without teeth.

Several human rights violation cases such as Siddhi Vinayak incident, death of students, discrimination on minorities are not fully taken up.

there is a need to follow UN guidelines on human rights therefore enhancing the effectiveness of NHRC.

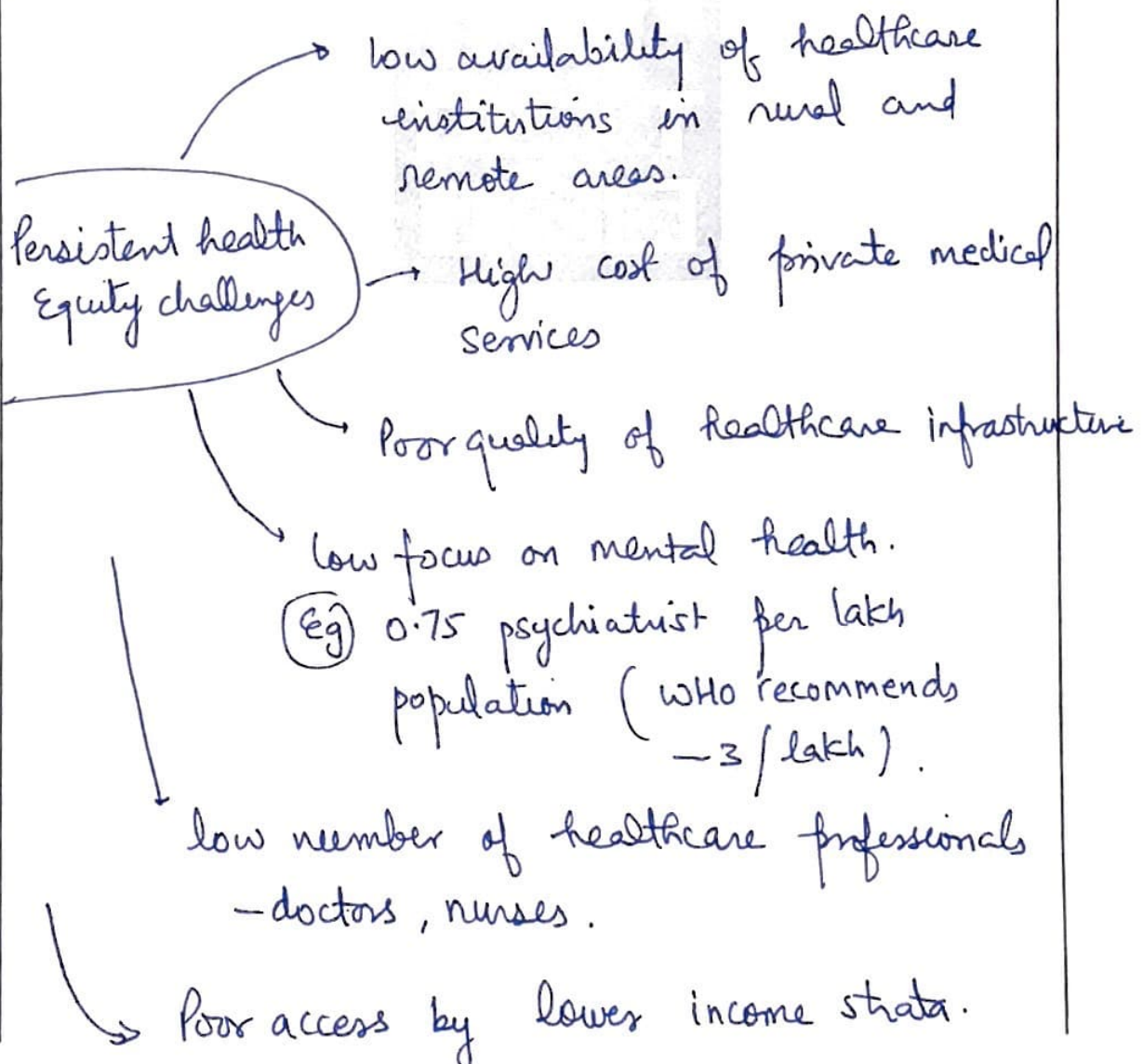


- Q16. भारत में स्वास्थ्य समानता की सतत चुनौतियां सार्वभौमिक स्वास्थ्य कवरेज प्राप्त करने में एक गंभीर बाधा उत्पन्न करती हैं। इस संदर्भ में ग्रामीण और शहरी क्षेत्रों में पर्याप्त स्वास्थ्य पहुंच और परिणाम सुनिश्चित करने में सार्वजनिक और निजी क्षेत्रों की भूमिका पर चर्चा करें। (250 शब्द, 15 अंक)

The persistent health equity challenges in India pose a critical barrier in achieving Universal Health Coverage. In this context discuss the role of the public and private sectors in ensuring adequate health access and outcomes across rural and urban areas. (250 words, 15 marks)

Universal Health coverage refers to the provision of quality, affordable, accessible healthcare to all the citizens.

Right to health forms an important part of Right to Life (Article 21).



Around 47% of the expenditure today on healthcare by citizens is out of pocket.

### Role of Public Sector in healthcare

- i) Ensuring access to healthcare in rural areas - setting up of primary health institutions. (Eg) Aarogya Mandirs.
- ii) Affordable secondary and tertiary healthcare. (Eg) PM - Ayushman Bharat providing treatment upto ₹ 5 lacs
- iii) Preventive healthcare facilities - vaccination  
(Eg) Mission Indradhanush.
- iv) Mental healthcare services (Eg) Mental Health Policy - Manodarpan initiative
- v) Health services in case of epidemics, pandemics and disaster.  
— under Disaster Management Act.
- vi) Promotion of healthy diets and lifestyle. (Eg) Millets Initiative, Khelo India, Fit India movement.



## Role of Private sector in Healthcare

- To provide high quality health services
- Mostly situated in urban areas and tier-II cities.
- Provide alternate options of healthcare to citizen.
- Research and Development in new drugs and diagnostics.
- Provide diagnostic services.

## Further steps that can be taken:-

- Insurance facility for healthcare to be made more accessible and affordable.
- Right to health to be made an Act similar to Rajasthan Government Efforts
- Regulation of private sector on overcharging.
- Generic medicine at centers — promote order

Healthcare facilities are necessary to productive functioning of the citizen and need efforts of both public and private sector. To reap demographic dividend, a healthy and productive citizenry is necessary.



- Q17. सतत विकास लक्ष्यों (SDGs) की प्राप्ति के लिए क्षेत्रीय संदर्भ और स्थानीय परिस्थितियों पर विचार करना आवश्यक है। इस कथन के आलोक में जमीनी स्तर पर विकास और सतत विकास को आगे बढ़ाने के लिए उत्प्रेरक के रूप में पंचायतों की भूमिका का परीक्षण करें। (250 शब्द, 15 अंक)

Achievement of Sustainable Development Goals requires consideration of regional context and local situations. In light of this statement examine the role of Panchayats as catalysts for grassroot development and advancing sustainable development. (250 words, 15 marks)

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are set of goals created by the UN to be achieved by 2030 for the sustainable development of the world — in harmony with nature.

Panchayats as the grassroot institutions can help in achieving these:-

↳ SDG 1 : Zero poverty , SDG 2 : No Hunger

Panchayats can work together to provide adequate means of livelihood.

Allocation of community land for agro-activities along with redistribution will help.

↳ SDG 3 : Health , SDG 4 : Education

Provision of primary healthcare opportunities and education of all is responsibility of the panchayats.

(Eg) Sarpanch Bhakti Sharma of Madhya Pradesh

ensured education of all women in the village.

→ gender equality: SDG 5

Panchayats provide political reservation for women. Panchayats also take up issues that affect women.

(Eg) Banning of liquor in Chandrapur district villages of Maharashtra

→ SDG 6: water Access, SDG 7: Energy.

SDG 8: ~~the~~ Livelihood, SDG 9: ~~Energy~~ Institutions

These goals aim at providing access to infrastructure and ~~cons~~ employment.

Implementation of government schemes like — Jal Jeevan Mission, MGNREGA, Solar Mission will help.

→ SDG — on climate change and biodiversity protection

Panchayats with their traditional knowledge and rural livelihood that considers the natural ecosystem can help in a sustainable growth.

(Eg) water harvesting structure, organic farming and agro-forestry adopted the panchayat.

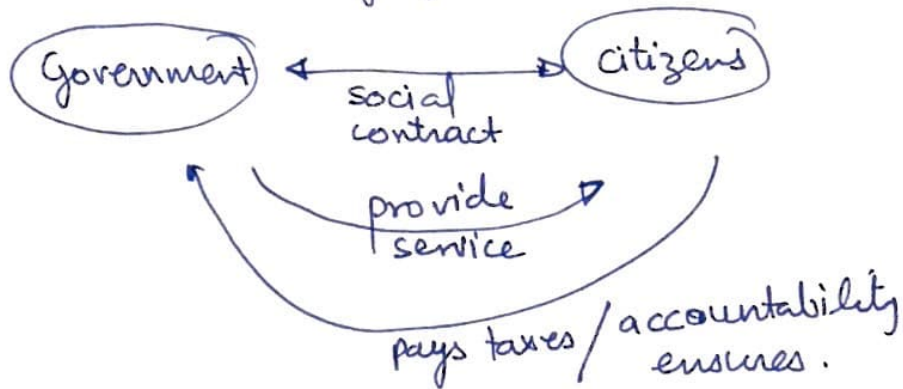
Carbon neutral — Meenangadi Panchayat



Panchayats can act as catalysts in ensuring the SDG goals are met.

However, they face certain challenges:-

- i) lack of funds : Over 95% of funds are devolved from center and states. (as per Economic Survey)
- ii) low tax bases and lack of willingness to tax people — due to proximity.
- iii) Most functions are taken up by state and block level — planning and execution
- iv) Lack of skills and education of members — hindering progress.
- v) Tied-nature of funds.



The social contract breaks due to non payment of taxes leading to low accountability.

Panchayats needs to have a more proactive role and function as grassroot institutions as enshrined in 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act.



- Q18. भारत में बाल अधिकारों और कल्याण पर पोक्सो (POCSO) अधिनियम के क्या निहितार्थ हैं? बाल संरक्षण के लिए भारत के विधिक ढांचे को परिवर्तित करने में POCSO अधिनियम की भूमिका का विश्लेषण करें। (250 शब्द, 15 अंक)
- What are the implications of the POCSO Act on the rights and welfare of children in India? Analyze the role of the POCSO Act in transforming India's legal framework for child protection. (250 words, 15 marks)

~~Prevention~~ Protection of children from sexual offences (POCSO) Act was enacted to ensure the protection of children from certain offences and punishing the guilty.

Features of the Act

- punishes the acts of sexual nature towards minors
- sets the age of 18 years for both boys and girls to define minor
- punishes sexual intercourse among minors.
- Awareness generation.

Implication of the Act on the rights and welfare of the minor:

- provides a free space for the development of minors
- Strict punishment helps as a deterrent to sexual misconduct.

- Right of minor to liberty and opportunities enhanced
- Punishes the cases of teen pregnancy, child marriage — ensuring women empowerment.
- Provides opportunity for education and self development by prohibiting any conduct that affects mental health.

It has transformed the Indian legal framework in the following ways:—

- i) Rights and welfare of children put at the forefront
- ii) Recognises the rights of minor against sexual acts.
- iii) Minimum age of sex for consenting adults defined
- iv) The minor - adult criteria utilised to solve other legal cases to determine the acts of accused.

However, some lacunae in the act exists

- i) Punishes consenting sex among persons of ~~same~~ minor age.
- ii) Fast track courts set up under the act sometimes delay the punishment
- iii) Punishment to husband of minor leads to other issues
- iv) low focus on rehabilitation and reformation.

Most of the ~~cases~~ cases of sexual harassment are not reported due to proximity of relation of perpetrator and the victim.

A justice system which encourages reporting, strict, and efficient is needed to implement the Act in letter and spirit. Definition of minor must be made uniform to better implement it



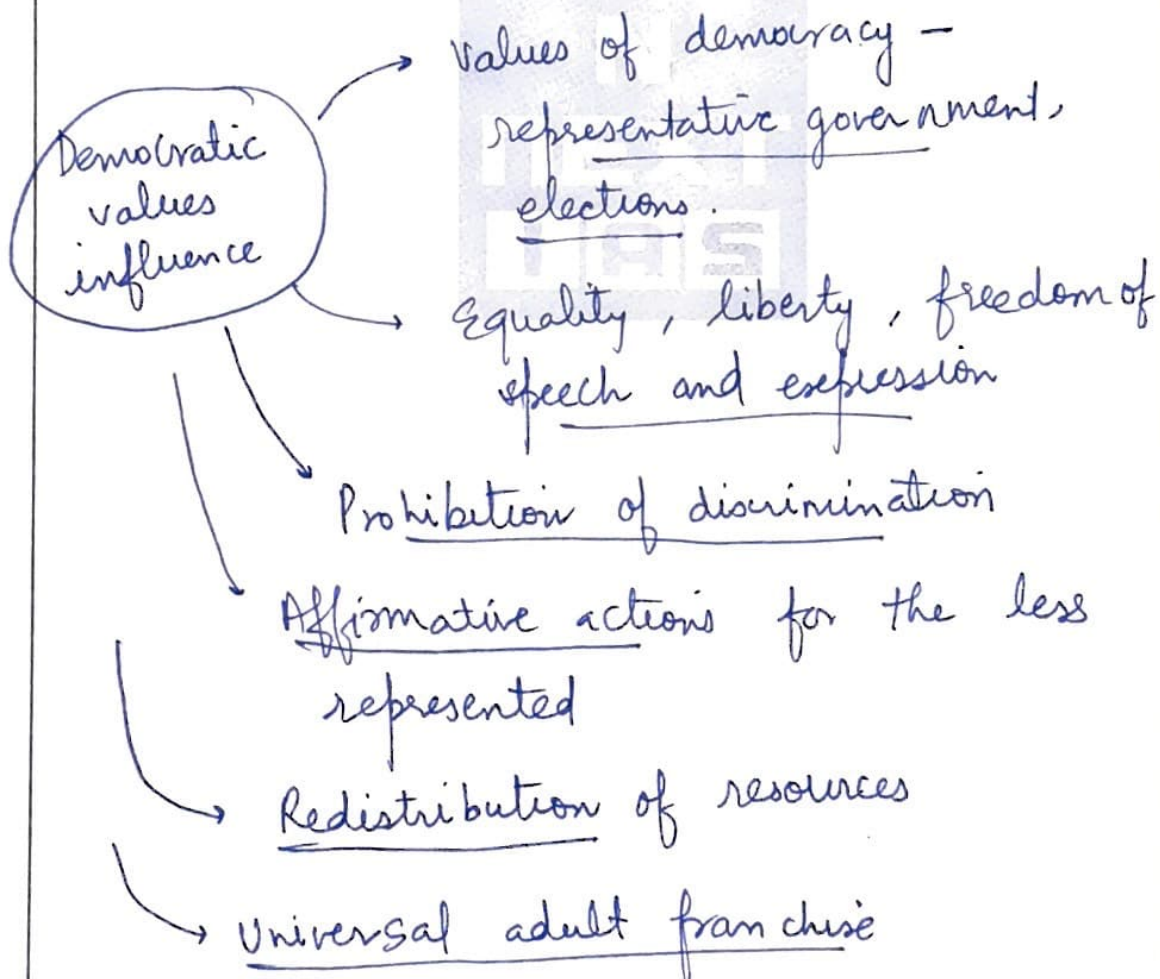
Q19. अमेरिका और भारत के मध्य राजनयिक संबंधों के सन्दर्भ में मानवाधिकार संबंधी मुद्दों और लोकतांत्रिक मूल्यों के प्रभाव का परीक्षण करें। इन चिंताओं ने द्विपक्षीय संबंधों को किस प्रकार प्रभावित किया है तथा इन मुद्दों से उत्पन्न तनाव को कम करने के लिए क्या किया जा सकता है? (250 शब्द, 15 अंक)

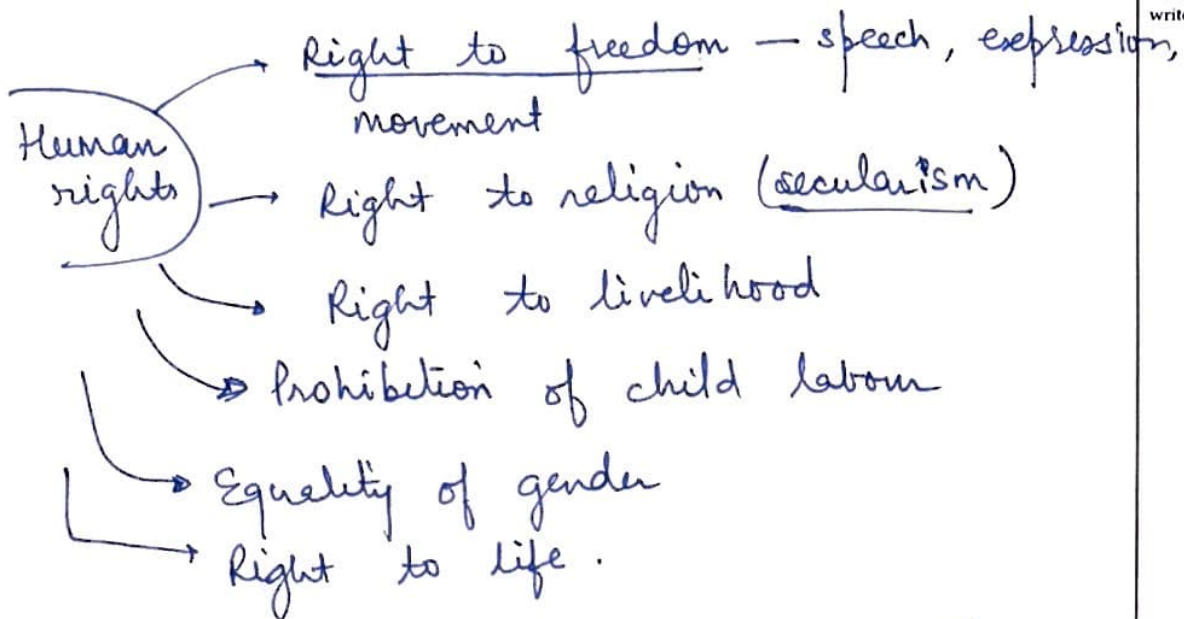
Examine the influence of human rights issues and democratic values on the diplomatic relationship between the U.S. and India. How have these concerns affected bilateral engagements and what can be done to mitigate tensions arising from these issues?

(250 words, 15 marks)

The recent killing of Khalistani separatist and subsequent calls for human rights issue has led to an affect on bilateral relations between India and USA.

Diplomatic relations between India and USA





These values and rights leads to strong convergences among the two countries, however, [U.S. has put allegation of violation of human rights:]

- Allegation of violence by armed forces in AFSPA regions, Jammu and Kashmir
- Human rights issues related to religious minorities and lower castes.

These concerns have affected the bilateral engagement in the following ways:-

- lack of supports in some forums by the U.S. citing human rights issues.



- Declining trade of commodities due to resistance of some citizens
- Attacks on the diaspora in the U.S.

Following steps can be taken to mitigate these issues :-

- i) Bilateral engagements - 2+2 meetings.
- ii) Convergence on the similar issues - climate change, terrorism etc.
- iii) Clarification on the issues - separatist violence, fake news etc.
- iv) Counter-narratives to dispel any misinformation.
- v) Strong commitment to human rights through institutions such as NHRC, NCSC, ~~NCS~~ NCST etc.

Diplomatic relations between India and US are stronger than ever. Former PM 'Atal Bihari Vajpayee' called "India-US as natural partners". Resolving these issues will lead to stronger ties.



- Q20. वैश्विक उन्नति के बावजूद दक्षिण एशिया में भारत के समक्ष आने वाली भू-राजनीतिक चुनौतियों का परीक्षण करें। भारत अपने क्षेत्रीय नेतृत्व को मजबूत करने के लिए इन चुनौतियों का सामना किस प्रकार कर सकता है? (250 शब्द, 15 अंक)
- Examine the geopolitical challenges India faces in South Asia despite its global rise. How can India navigate these challenges to strengthen its regional leadership?

(250 words, 15 marks)

India has risen to become 5th largest economy in the world and as per reports it will overtake Japan to become 3rd largest by 2030.

India's global rise can be seen in:-

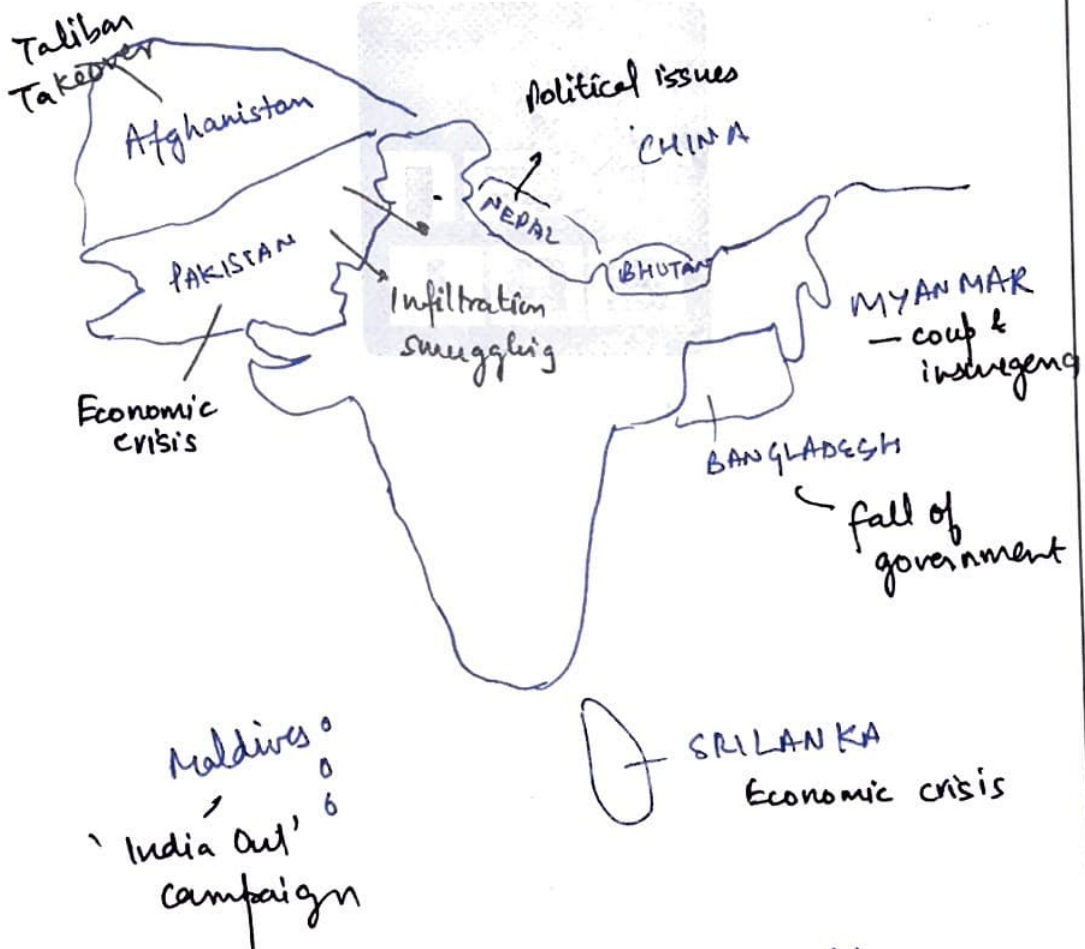
- ↳ Chair of the several UN agencies
- ↳ Economically stronger - with high GDP growth.
- ↳ Engagement and initiatives on climate change (eg) ISA, CDRI
- ↳ Member of multilaterals and other forums - I2U2, IPEF, Quad, BRICS, SCO

However, despite global rise, several geopolitical challenges are faced by

India:

- i) Unstable democracies in the neighbourhood - coup in Myanmar, Bangladesh
- ii) Low economic trade and poor fiscal capacity of countries such as Sri Lanka, Pakistan.

- iii) Infiltration and Incursions from across the border.  
 (Eg) Terrorist infiltration on Pakistan border  
 Incursion by Chinese PLA in Ladakh.
- iv) Boundary dispute and clashes.
- v) Terrorism emanating from ungoverned spaces.
- vi) Drug and arms trafficking - leading to internal security issues.



- vii) Chinese influence on the neighbours — leading to declining relations



India can navigate these challenges in the following ways :-

- i) Improving trade with the neighbours  
- utilising forums such as SAARC, BIMSTEC
- ii) Following the gyaral doctrine - no reciprocity in relations expected and neighbour to be given priority.
- iii) Engaging with the interim government, military establishment to foster relations.
- iv) Improving border infrastructure to counter smuggling and infiltration
- v) Regional development to minimise issues of insurgency
- vi) Aid to countries in crisis. (eg) vaccine matter.
- vii) solving water disputes  
(eg) Teesta with Bangladesh.

According to S. Jaishankar, "A nation that aspires to lead cannot continue with unsettled borders, unintegrated regions and underexploited opportunities" and therefore navigating the issues are necessary to achieve global rise.



# NEXT IAS

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*Space for Rough Work*

