



Nitin sir

COMPREHENSIVE TEST

MAINS MAXIMA 2024

FORTUNE IAS ACADEMY

GS - PAPER II

Name Of Candidate	NANDANAA G.P.		
Email Id	XXXXXXXXXX@XXXXX.COM	Roll No	24142
Mobile No	XXXXXXXXXX	Date	7/9/24

Time Allowed: Three Hours

Maximum Marks: 250

INDEX TABLE

Total marks

119½

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Please do furnish Name, Email, Roll No, Mobile No and Test Code in answer sheets.
2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH, all questions are compulsory.
3. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in a medium other than the authorized one.
4. Answers to Question Nos. 1 to 10 should be in 150 words, whereas answers to Question Nos: 11 to 20 should be in 250 words.
5. Word limit in questions should be adhered to. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

Start Time : 2

End Time : 5

Mode Of Examination :

Online

☐

Offline

☒

FORTUNE IAS ACADEMY

TABLE OF MARKS			REMARKS
Q NO	MAXIMUM MARKS	MARKS OBTAINED	
1	10		Question Understanding:
2	10		
3	10		Presentation(Neatness):
4	10		
5	10		Content:
6	10		
7	10		Innovation:
8	10		
9	10		Other suggestions:
10	10		
11	15		
12	15		
13	15		
14	15		
15	15		
16	15		
17	15		
18	15		
19	15		
20	15		

SECTION: A

Candidates
must not
write on
this margin

1. Discuss the evolving nature of the Right to Internet Access as a fundamental right under Article 21. (10 marks, 150 words)

Faheema Shirin vs State of Kerala
ensured that Right to Internet
is under Article 21

Evolving nature of Right to Internet

- ① UN declared Right to Internet
a human right in 2016 itself
- ② Puttuswamy case established
Right to privacy, a part of right
to internet in Article 21
- ③ Anuradha Bhasin guidelines
by supreme court in Internet
shutdown case
 - Right to internet may affect
Article 19 → Right to information
→ Right to occupation
- ④ In the era of AI, IoT etc,
denying right to internet can

affect Article 14, ~~right to~~
equality & Article 15 - ~~right to~~
equal opportunity

Issues

① State doesn't have the capability
to ensure 100% internet access
↳ Only 40% posts in India fibered
(70% world average)

② Digital haves & have-nots exist
↳ Only 55% rural area has internet
Only 33% women have internet access

Yet, Govt intervention exist -

① PM WAN - hotspot

② Bharat Net - Infrastructure

③ Computerisation of rural areas

Ensuring right to
internet would ensure equitable
information for all - data protection
law 2023 can be a thing in right
direction

2. Elaborate on the need for an independent Fiscal council to ensure fiscal discipline and balance in Fiscal Federalism. (10 marks, 150 words)

Candidates must not write on this margin

14th Finance Commission under NK Singh recommended for the establishment of Independent Fiscal Council (IFC)

IFC

I. Ensure fiscal discipline

- ① Ensure proper following of FRBM targets
- ② Transparency & reliability of fiscal data published by Govt ensured
- ③ Monitor Govt spending on proactive basis to ensure discipline & prudence

II Balance fiscal federalism

- ① Monitor devolution of fiscal resource by centre to state as per FC recommendation

② Can act as an adjudicating
forum to hear concerns of state

③ Proper devolution of GST
compensation cess like contention
issues.

④ Ensure borrowing prudence of
states - under Article 293

Issues → lack of consensus
among Centre & state
→ Reduce independence
of Govt → affect
people's mandate
Govt may need to go through
fiscal indiscipline in crisis

→ Counter cyclical fiscal policy
during COVID

Consensus need
to be reached to establish
IFE - vs Congressional Budget
office can act as a role model
for US.

3. Critically evaluate the role of the Vice President in maintaining parliamentary decorum amidst rising political tensions in the Rajya Sabha. (10 marks, 150 words)

Candidates must not write on this margin

Ex officio chairman of Rajyasabha is appointed as Vice president in our parliamentary democracy

Role of Vice president - In ensuring decorum

- ① Ensure that all MPs get equitable time to debate and participate in proceedings.
- ② Can name members in case decorum is not followed
- ③ Can suspend members in case rule of house violated.
- ④ Ensure right of people to hear the sides of both ruling & opposition MPs.

Rising political tension

- ① Lack of decorum by opposition MPs in Rajyasabha
- ② Passing bill when 140 MPs

were suspended
for passing ~~the~~ Criminal law when
140 MPs absent

Reason for tension

- ① Denying time for Opposition MPs
- ② Voice vote as a mean to pass important laws
- ③ live telecast of parliamentary proceedings → MPs take Rajyasabha as a place of activism

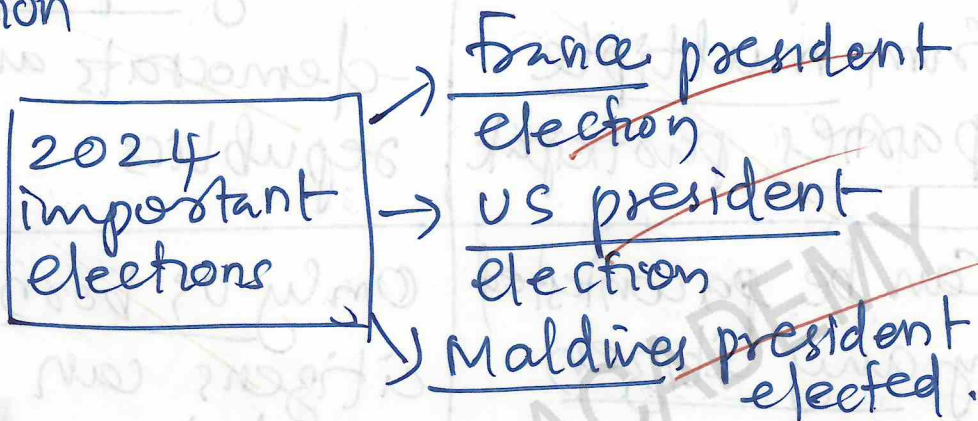
Way forward

- ① Can publish credentials, time allotted for each MP debates etc in website
 - ② Governance redressal body to MPs & review of their suspension
 - ③ Independence of Vicepresident ensured ~~for~~ can give post to opposition or independent MPs
- Independency of Vice president is necessary to ensure independency of Rajyasabha

4. 2024 is considered to a year of important election around the world. Bring out the differences in the system of elections in India and USA (10 marks, 150 words)

Candidates must not write on this margin

Multiple elections around the world is a testimony of world's belief in democracy as the best option



Difference in US & Indian president election

India	US
Electoral college - indirectly elect the president	Electoral college elected after multiple stages like caucuses, national convention
<u>Election Commission</u> conducts election	Multiple election bodies in federal states

Elected president as <u>as nominal</u> executive	Elected president as <u>real</u> executive
Multiple candidates from <u>multiple</u> parties participate	mainly <u>2 parties</u> - democrats and republicans
Can be <u>run</u> contested by <u>any</u> citizen - born or naturalized	Only <u>US born</u> citizens can contest

Yet, similarities

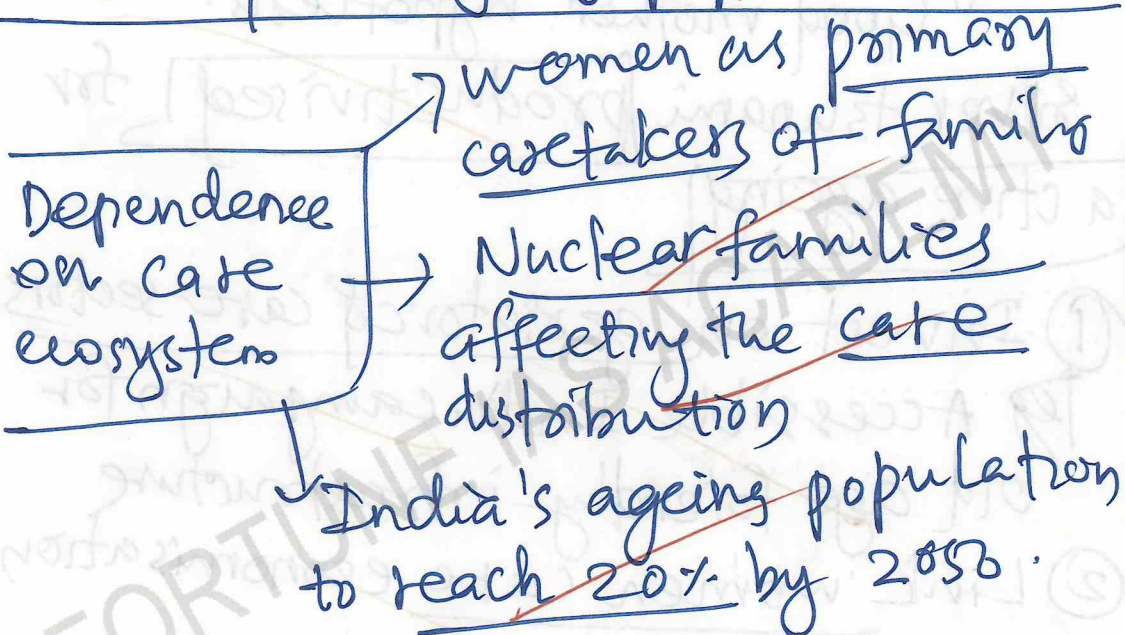
- ① Indirect election
- ② Electoral college elected by people

Both US & Indian president election may have many differences - yet we both exist as largest and oldest democracies

5. Womenomics and active ageing are both dependent on a robust care ecosystem. Draw lessons from womenomics policies to best productivise the looming silver tsunami of old age in India and encourage active ageing. (10 marks, 150 words)

Candidates must not write on this margin

womenomics concentrate on gender angle being emphasized on economic policies whereas silver economy is related to ageing population



Lessons from womenomics

- ① Commodification of women's care burden can improve economy
→ home nurse industry
- ② gender budgeting can ensure better economic outcomes
→ women LFRK 37% → 50%

can increase India's gdp by 27%

- ③ Focusing on women education
can have better social outcome
→ Bangladesh women education
led to better child health credential

"Good mother hypothesis."

Silver tsunami [productivised] for
active ageing

- ① Invest on geriatric care sectors
→ Accessible India campaign for
old age friendly infrastructure

- ② Link women care economisation
with palative care

→ Old age home staff, ^{nurse} palative

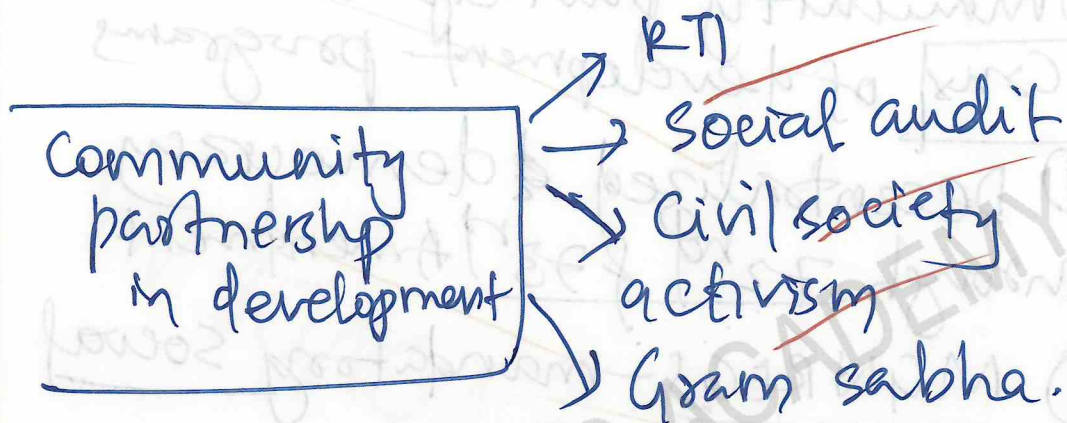
- ③ Development of area where
geriatric population can participate
→ Religious tourism

care economy -
part of SDG 8.3 need to be
harnessed

6. Community partnership, with every individual contributing for the overall growth and development of the community and society has been the crux of developmental programmes in India. Illustrate. (10 marks, 150 words)

Candidates must not write on this margin

Participative democracy ensure that developmental programs are carried out with efficiency



Community partnership ensure growth & development

① Ensure accountability of political structure

eg Meghalaya model social audit

② Efficient distribution of fruits of development

eg Subsidy to Banking correspondents to reach out to beneficiary

③ Help vulnerable people's
welfare

→ ASHA workers for pregnant
ladies' welfare

community participation as
[Cons] of development programs

① Decentralized & democracy
through 72nd & 73rd Amendment

② MGNREGS - mandatory social
audit

③ PM Awas - proactive reaching
out to beneficiary

④ Home ration for vulnerable

way
forward

→ channelize community
engagement through
panchayat

→ Jan Bhagidari

(people participation) should be
the cons of democracy of India

7. Participation, transparency, efficiency and inclusivity are fundamentals of the decentralised governance. Comment in Indian context. (10 marks, 150 words)

Candidates must not write on this margin

72nd & 73rd Amendment acts based on principle of subsidiarity (2nd ARC) provides decentralization in India

Fundamentals of decentralized governance

I. Participation

- ① Ensure that Jan Bhagirdari (people's role) is essential in governance
eg Gramasabha being primary in LSG
- ② Helps to ensure accountability of executive
eg Meghalaya model social audit

II Transparency

- ① Deterrence effect on corruption
eg RTI Act
- ② Ensure constant monitoring by civil society
eg Jan Soochan portal Rajasthan

III Efficiency

① Ensure proper utilization of tax
payer money
→ Social Audit in MGNREGS

② Effective service delivery
→ Subsidy → DBT saved 1.1%
gap

IV Inclusivity

① Ensure participation of vulnerable
section in democracy
→ 33% women reservation in LSG

Issues in decentralization → delay decision making
→ lack capacity to take
proper decision

way forward

Ensuring Fund, Function, Functionary
decentralization mentioned by 2nd
ARC

Decentralization
would ensure that democracy
remain for the people by the
people

8. SHGs acts as a bridge between women entrepreneurs who have the will to begin an enterprise but not the resources to fulfil their dream. Comment. (10 marks, 150 words)

Candidates must not write on this margin

Self help groups are community organization for economic empowerment especially of women.

eg Pashu Sahkhes → milk cooperative business
SHG as a Bridge for

I. women entrepreneur enterprise

- ① Help set up small scale business

eg Prerna canteens.

- ② Inculcate leadership & entrepreneurship skills in women

eg Entrepreneur training by BSLA group CSR.

- ③ Engage opportunities for entrepreneurship in phase of crisis

eg floating supermarkets by Kudumbasree during covid

II Resource to fulfil dream

- ① Loan assistance giving seed

money

→ NABARD - SHG Bank linkage

② Engagement with authorities
and fill gap to reduce red tapism

→ Bank Sakhis for loan access

③ Post production phase help
to ensure economy of scales

→ TATA promoting Chinkari embroidery SHG

Issues → lack of access to bank
6 lakh villages in India has
only 1.2 lakh bank branch
→ patriarchal social conditioning
reduce their full capability
usage.

SHGs should
be handholded by bank employee
sensitization, CSR fund, skill upgrade
etc to ensure 2 crore Lakhpati
didis aim.

9. International Criminal Court (ICC) originally viewed as an enormous success for the field of international criminal law has significantly waned over the past two decades. Comment. (10 marks, 150 words)

Candidates must not write on this margin

International criminal court was established as per Rome statute to persecute crimes against humanity

Originally viewed success

① Can persecute individuals which ICJ cannot

eg Case against Putin for Ukraine attack

② Extraterritorial jurisdiction give wide coverage

eg South Africa case against Israel though Israel not part of statute

③ Have deterrent effect in crimes against civilian

eg South Africa mentioned ICC sanction as reason for its fair election conduct

Yet, success waned over two decades

① Exit of countries which reduce its jurisdiction eg Burundi, Philippines exit

② No mechanism to make the judgement into force

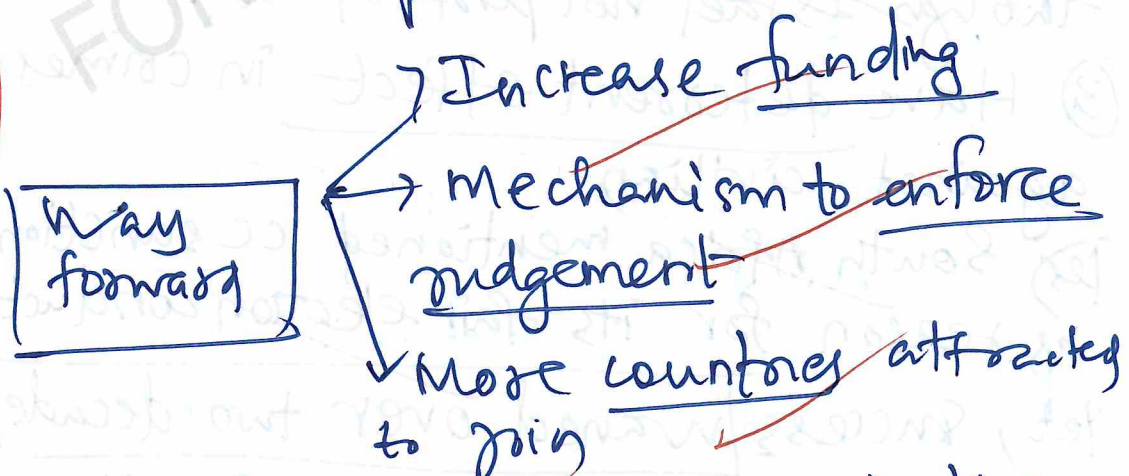
→ No action for arrest warrant against Putin

③ Dropping of charges as per whims & fancies

→ charge against Omar Al Bashir dropped

④ Absence of major countries like India, US

⑤ considered mechanism to target African, third world countries particularly

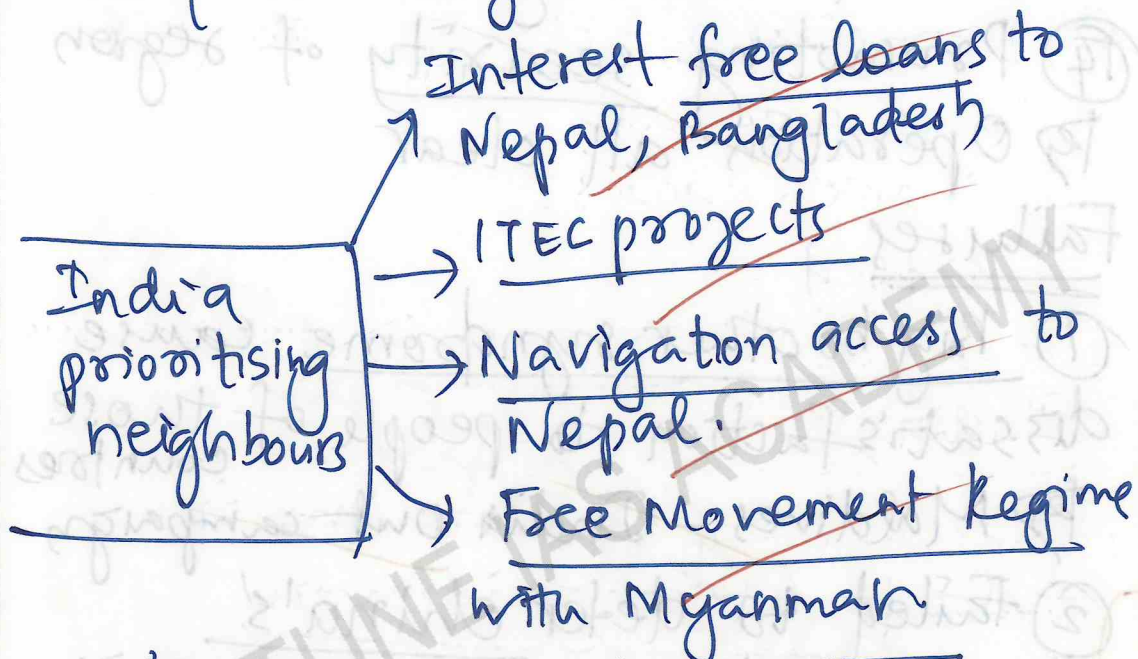


ICC's slogan - This cause is the cause of humanity need to be taken in spirit for world peace

10. Prioritising its neighbours has been a central tenet of India's foreign policy. In light of this statement, examine whether India's Neighbourhood First Policy was a success or failure. (10 marks, 150 words)

Candidates must not write on this margin

India's neighbourhood first policy gives utmost priority to neighbour hood country needs.



Star Neighbourhood 1st policy

Success

- ① Ensuring stability of South East Asia region
✓ Assistance in establishing Bangladesh as a nation
- ② Promoting democracy in the region
✓ Election commission help in conducting Bhutan election

③ Promoting people to people
participation, culture promotion
eg) Pashupatinath temple Nepal
maintenance by ASI

④ Promoting security of region
eg) Operation all clear

Failures

① Big brother syndrome cause
dissatisfaction to people of those
countries
eg) Maldives - India out campaign

② Failed to deter china's
engagement eg) India Bhutan issue
in Chumbi valley

③ Delay in projects leading to protest
eg) Nepal - Aun hydro project

way forward
→ Branding India's assistance
→ Expatriate community
as India Ambassadors

India can come with Neighborhood
first 2.0 to further engagement - Rs 100
crore assistance to Maldives is a stepping
stone

SECTION: B

Candidates
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write on
this margin

11. The introduction of India's new criminal laws brings forth significant changes, but also sparks concerns over expanded police powers and potential implications for civil liberties. Critically Analyse. (15 marks, 250 words)

Bharatiya Nyaya Samhita (BNS)
Bharatiya Nagarik Samhita (BNSS)
& Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinidhan (BSA)
replaced IPC, CrPc & Evidence Act

New criminal laws bring change

I. BNS

- ① New forms of punishment →
→ community work as retributive justice
- ② Confidence to judicial judgements
→ Section 377 removal as per Narley Johar case.

II BNSS

- ① Increasing territorial scope
of justice → Zero FIR
- ② Absentia trial to reduce
pendency of cases & speedy
justice (Article 21)

III BSA

- ① Electronic evidences as valid
mean in court
- ② Ensure video recording of
crime site → transparency

Concerns

I. Expanded police power

- ① Any police officer above rank of
SI can ask to take biometric
evidences ⇒ Privacy affect
- ② Increased days of detention
from 15 to 60 days which is
draconian power to police

II Civil liberty implication

- ① Trial in absentia ⇒ state can
prosecute anyone without the
person knowing.
- ② 'Rajya drossha' replaced sedition
with vague definition which

can be misused by state.

III Other - Gender issue

① Marital rape like crimes not criminalised

② Gender neutrality in rape laws not addressed

~~for~~ sexually harassed men cannot complain

Way Forward

- Madhav Menon committee

① Issue of undertrial (77% of prison) need to be addressed

② Law availability in regional languages ensured

③ Proper mechanism to protect liberty of citizens charged with sedition

The new laws ensure that Niti is served rather than the british law which was put forward to rule India not serve Nyaya

12. The core objective of tribunalisation was to provide specialised and speedy justice to the people. In light of the statement critically analyse the performance of National Green Tribunal (NGT). (15 marks, 250 words)

Candidates must not write on this margin

National Green Tribunal (NGT) was established as per NGT Act ~~to~~ as per directive of Godavariman case by supreme court.

Tribunalization

① Specialised justice as specialist judge hear case based on natural justice

② Speedy justice \leftarrow reduce pendency
 \leftarrow Right to speedy justice

Medical council solve case in (120 + 60 days) whereas court may take years.

NGT performance

POSITIVES

① Ensure that environmental law violations are strictly monitored
 \rightarrow Case against Volkswagen for anti pollution device scam

② Ensure pollution free environment

Case against Act of living
for pollution of Ganga.

③ Ensure justice to the affected
people speedy

Fine to Kerala govt for
Brahmapuram landfill fire.

④ No delay in cases — have to
solve case in 6 months

⑤ Have appeal hearing power also.

Issues

① Limited jurisdiction — can hear
cases in Schedule 1 of Act — only
wildlife protection act not
covered under schedule 1

② Vacancy in NGT affecting the
case solving speed.

③ Refusal of parties to obey
NGT judgement

UP govt didn't publish Ganga
pollution data despite NGT
judgement.

④ Judicial members constitute
half of NGT - ~~question over~~
their competency to hear environ-
ment cases

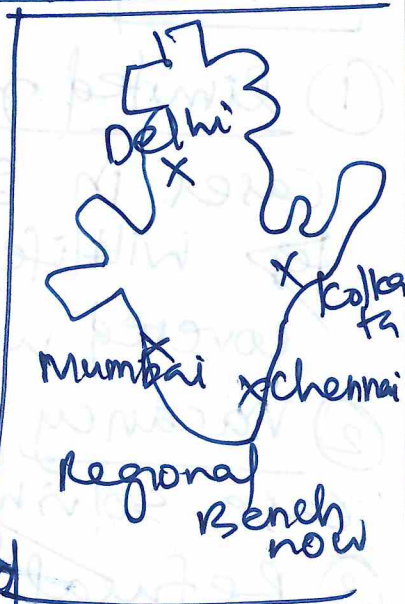
⑤ Favourable appeals to supreme
court defeat the purpose of
NGT

Way forward

① Fill up vacancies & increase
number of ecology experts in
the tribunal

② Increase number
of regional benches
to improve access

③ Expand schedule 1
of act to reflect new
reality eg climate refugees
of Ghoramara island



NGT need to have
a proactive role to ensure our
aim of pro planet people

13. Indian Judiciary reflects an inherent gender bias. How can the Indian judiciary ensure greater gender sensitivity in its judgments and appointments? (15 marks, 250 words)

Candidates must not write on this margin

After 75 years of independence, we only had 11 women supreme court judges which says the gender bias in judiciary.

Inherent gender bias in judiciary

I. Appointment

- ① Collegium system → kin syndrome (VE Krishnayyar) which reduce women recruitment.
- ② Being district judge need 7 year continuous service ⇒ Motherhood penalty

II Judgements

- ① Judgements without gender sensitivity
→ High court judgement that rape cannot be formed without skin to skin contact
- ② Verbal rape of victims in court room
→ Tarun Tejpal case - sex history

of survivor publicised

III Infrastructure

① Lack of basic facilities like washroom, restroom

eg 15-1. subordinate courts lack proper women toilet (Vidhi legal research)

Ensuring greater gendersensitivity

I. Judgement

① Gender sensitivity training for judges

eg Handbook on gender stereotypes published by supreme court - eliminated words like 'slut'

② Increased representation of women judges in benches to ensure feminine perspective.

II Appointment

① Transparent appointment process - eg NJAC revitalised

with more inclusive board member.

② Reservation of women judges
in Naxi shakti vandhan Adhiniyan
(334.) model in politics.

③ Importance to academic age
instead of biological age for
appointment → reduce motherhood
penalty.

③ III other

① Ensure basic infrastructure
to ensure equity

→ Palna Creche scheme

Global Best practice — Spain

Policy of Gender equity in

Judiciary

→ Reservation of judge

→ Special assistance to
women victims.

→ Help & resource person
for victims..

As CJI said 'ensuring safe
environment for women judge is
the responsibility of every citizen'

— Tiruvandam declaration is a stepping
stone

14. Election Commission of India has been functioning as the bulwark of parliamentary democracy in India. Analyze its performance in ensuring free and fair elections in the country. (15 marks, 250 words)

Candidates must not write on this margin

Article 324 of constitution envision Election commission to ensure free & fair election, a basic structure

Election Commission as Bulwark of democracy

→ Equity for all election candidates

→ Free fair election coordination

→ Lauded by work of CECs like TN sheshan

Performance of EC in free election

Ex. [POSITIVES]

I. Pre election

- ① Proper election ID card to prevent bogus voting
- ② coordinate human resource to ensure smooth election
- ③ Model code of conduct give

equal opportunity to ruling party & opposition

Candidates must not write on this margin

II Election phase

- ① Cancel election in case of booth snatch
- ② Regulate Returning officers, election observers for free election

III Post election

- ① Free & fair EVM counting
- ② VVPAT to crosscheck 5% booth votes.
- ③ Conduct by election.

ISSUES

I Pre election

- ① Model code of conduct is not legally enforceable
- ② No power to deregister party even if violation

II Election

- ① couldn't address citizen apathy in reduced vote count.
for Mumbai — just 50% voted.

Issues in Election Commission as a constitutional body

- ① No separate budget - depend on govt
- ② Asymetac removal of EC & other election commissioners
- ③ selection committee skewed to ruling govt (PM + ^{Union} minister + ^{opposition} leader)
- not follow Anoop Baranwal case
directive of including SC CJ

Way forward

- ① Inclusive selection committee members - can include experts, ^{Citizen.}
- ② Own budget, secretariat, human resource

Best practice - Canada - EC appointed
half by legislature, half by executive
Independence of EC
is essential to ensure India's
democratic credential

15. Do you agree that the road to tribal justice lies in bringing distributive justice and empowering the youth? Justify. (15 marks, 250 words)

Candidates must not write on this margin

Tribals constitute 8% of India's population but 25% of India's poor
(census) (world Bank)

III Road to tribal justice

I. Distributive justice

① Schedule 5 & Schedule 6 to ensure power distribution

② Distort Mineral foundation,
licence of Gramsabha for minor
mineral exploration ensure
economic distribution.

③ PESA Act & Autonomous District Council to ensure political distribution

II Empowering youth

① Ensuring equitable development
of region

for Aspirational district program

② More employment opportunities

for the youth

eg Bihar has recruited tribal
women police segment

③ Selecting power people from themselves

eg BSE recruit from left wing
extremism Area → Practical +
formal experience

④ Education as a pillar of empowerment

eg Ekalavya schools.

⑤ Improving health outcomes of region

eg Thumboti Ayyaz IAs - established
tribal hospital in Telangana -
reduced travel of 160 km.

Yet, Issues persist

① Beaurocratic persecution
affecting basic human rights

eg Vachathi persecution case
- a whole village exploited

② Fruits of development not reaching all
eg Tribal Stunting is 40% (greater than 30% national average)

③ Land rights denied leading to protests eg Palthalgadi movement

④ Exploitation by multinational companies affect their livelihood
eg Vedanta - Niyamgao hill protest

Way forward — Tribal panchsheel

① No forced enforcement of external culture on them.

② selecting administrators from themselves.

③ Approach them in their own language

As panchsheel
envision, India should stand as
not only a protecting force but
also a liberating one, — to ensure
Article 46

20. India and the EU face multiple shared crises which gives them a unique opportunity to deepen their partnership and shape the global agenda. Discuss. (15 marks, 250 words)

Candidates must not write on this margin

Even though India-EU relation started in 1960s, it is called as a loveless arranged marriage due to lack of engagement.

India - EU relation

2. Multiple shared crisis

Political

① Chinese threat and need to diversify through China + 1 strategy

② Terrorism as a common challenge to be addressed
for Lack of consensus on ECIT in UN

Economic

① Free trade Agreement negotiation not taking flight despite multiple rounds.

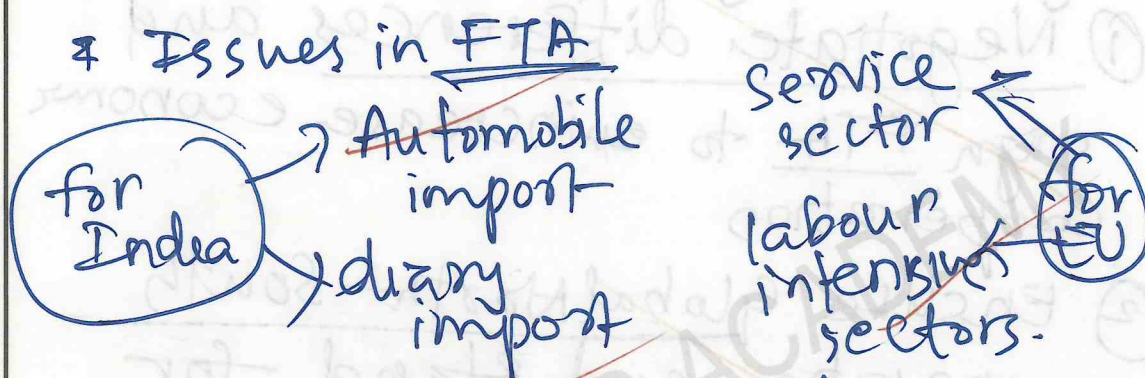
② Post covid economic recovery

II Unique opportunity to deepen cooperation

Candidates must not write on this margin

Economic cooperation through
① Negotiation & solving difference
in FTA

4 Issues in FTA



Indo - Pacific Cooperation

① SAGAR doctrine to ensure
cooperation of all
others

② Addressing Red sea crisis —
Houthi rebel threat

③ climate change negotiation
as a common area of cooperation
for ISA, CDRI participation.

④ Europe being population deficit
and India being population

surplus - can collaborate

→ France - 5 year schengen visa
for Indian masters students

Way forward to shape global
agenda together

① Negotiate differences and
sign FTA to increase economic
cooperation

② Ensure Global North-South
cooperation and stand for
reforms of multilateral organisation

③ Diversify areas of cooperation
↳ People to people contact
↳ Divali celebrated in European
countries
↳ establish 2+2 dialogues for
more engagement.

§ India-EU
relation is a necessity of new
world order - Horizon 2047

signed with France can be taken as
a model for cooperation