

VAJIRAM & RAVI

SURE SHOT TEST SERIES FLT - 2025

General Studies Full Length Test Test - 6 (GS - 2) Test Code - VR1052506	Evaluator Code: Date of Assignment: CQ:
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STUDENT ID.:	19VR19323	Email:
UPSC ROLL NO.:	0313210	Submission Date:
MOBILE NO.:		07/08/2025

QUESTION PAPER SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions:

There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH**. All the questions are compulsory.

The number of marks carried by a question/ part is indicated against it. Word limit in questions, wherever specified, should be adhered to. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

Q No.	Marks	Q No.	Marks	Q No.	Marks
Q1	/10	Q8	/10	Q15	/15
Q2	/10	Q9	/10	Q16	/15
Q3	/10	Q10	/10	Q17	/15
Q4	/10	Q11	/15	Q18	/15
Q5	/10	Q12	/15	Q19	/15
Q6	/10	Q13	/15	Q20	/15
Q7	/10	Q14	/15	Total	/250

Instructions:-

- Legible Scanning:** Exercise due diligence in scanning your scripts for clear legibility
- Submissions** marred by poor scanning, notably those with illegible sections or blackened pages due to improper scanning, risk being excluded from the evaluation process.
- Non-Adherence Consequences:** Failure to comply with the aforementioned instructions may lead to the disqualification of your submission.

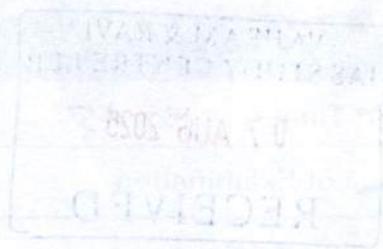
For Student Only

Start Time - 07 AUG 2025	End Time - 1.45
Mode of Examination RECEIVED	Online <input type="checkbox"/> Offline <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Receiving date -	Dispatch date -

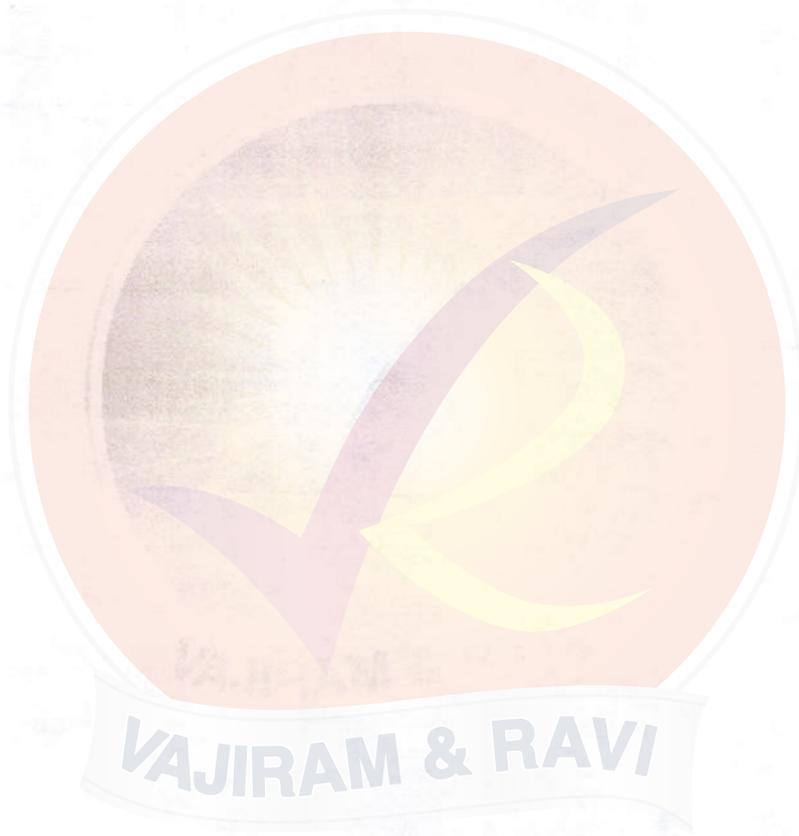
Parameters		Good	Average	Needs Improvement
Conceptual Understanding				
Understanding Demand of Question				
Structure	Introduction			
	Body			
	Conclusion			
Presentation-Illustrations, flowcharts, diagrams, etc.				
Language and Handwriting				
No. of Questions Attempted				
Adherence to Word Limit: Yes/No				

Mentor's Feedback

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Evaluator/Reviewer Suggestions



👍 😊 All the Best 😊 👍

Evaluator/Reviewer Suggestions



(Answer questions in NOT MORE than the word limit specified for each in the parenthesis. Content of the answer is more important than its length.)

1. Discuss how the tussle between various organs of the state reflects tensions between the doctrine of separation of powers and the need for checks and balances in Indian democracy. Illustrate with case laws. (10 marks, 150 words)

Honorable supreme court in S.R. Bommai case said that "Separation of powers" is one of the "Basic Structure of Indian constitution.

Tussle between organs reflecting tensions between separation of power & Check and balance

①

Tussle between Judiciary and Executive

① Appointment delays in judiciary.

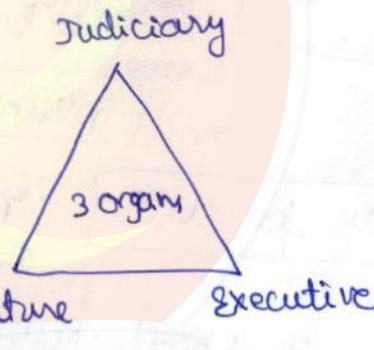
⇒ 40% of posts are vacant

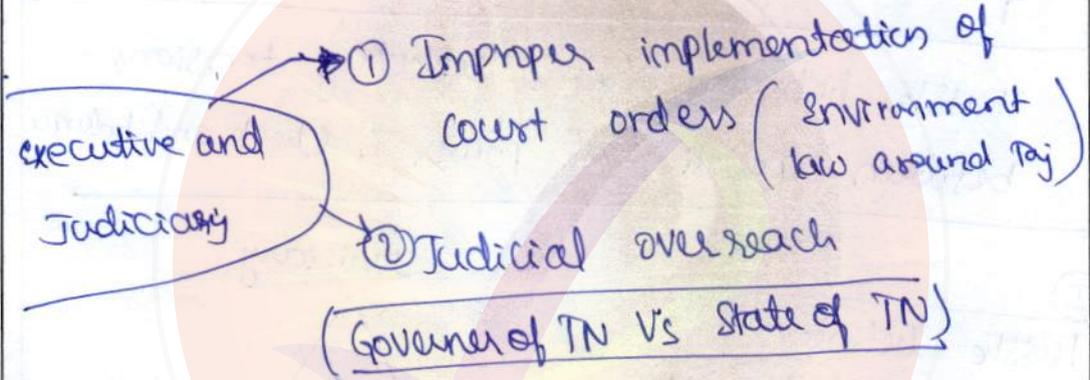
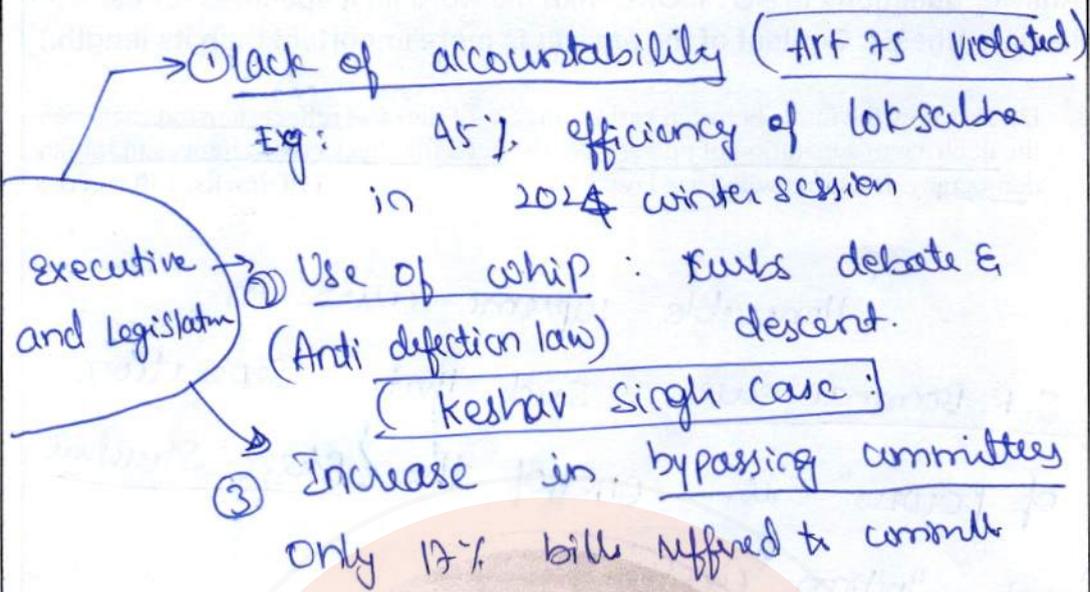
② Judicialies supreme / ambiguity in selecting candidates by collegium

⇒ No set code or rules for collegium

⇒ violates check and balance

③ No discussion bar on post retirement posting





Way forward National Commission for Review of Constitution

- ① Judicial Restraint: Ex: Judiciary in same sex marriage case
- ② Improve Executive accountability in legislature
⇒ compulsory committee like in UK
- ③ Code of conduct for judges (Bangalore code)

Synchronization of three organs is quintessential for success of democracy and upholding Constitutional Morality

Introduction	
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

2. "The anti-defection law was envisaged to curb unethical political defection but has ended up centralising power within party leadership". Examine the implications of this trend on federalism and intra-party democracy.

(10 marks, 150 words)

Antidefection law was added to Schedule 10 of constitution by 85th Constitutional amendment act making Indian one of few countries to do so in the world.

Centralizing power due to Antidefection law

Law being used to every vote in Parliament/Legislature pushes power to Party lines defying purpose of debate in Parliament.

Implications of this trend on federalism

- ① Increases rift in federal politics by tending power to leadership and more number
Eg: ① MOK MP more voice
- ② Neglect of regional demands and concerns
eg: North-eastern MP's low voice

- ③ Reduces Parliamentary accountability and leaves discriminatory policies
- ④ Leads to Top-down approach neglecting participation of stakeholders.
Eg: Farm laws
- ⑤ Intra-State tussle over resources
Eg: North-South Debate over Population Control

Implications of this trend on intra party democracy

- ① It reduces voice of party workers defeating democracy within party
 - ② Unequal power distribution leading to "Dynastic politics"
 - ③ Youth are averted to politics because of such tendencies
 - ④ "Against the voice of people" and
 - ⑤ ~~demo~~ way forward
 - Law for intra-party democracy
 - Bring parties under RTI
 - Political university for training future leaders
- Debate, Discussion and Bissent are soul of Democracy - Amartya Sen

Introduction
Body
Conclusion
Presentation
Marks:

3. Allowing a candidate to be declared automatically elected without facing a poll not only violates the principle of free and fair elections but also strikes at the root of the citizen's fundamental democratic right to support or reject a candidate. Argue.
(10 marks, 150 words)

Indian Constitution starts with word "WE THE PEOPLE" shows the power of people to choose the course and leader of their country

Allowing candidate to be declared elected without facing a poll violates free & fair election and fundamental right to choose

① Supreme court has noted that 'Right to vote' is fundamental right subjected to states regulations (Art 326)

② Candidate without Peoples consent violates

- Constitutional morality
- Democratic principle to represent people
- Peoples right to express ones will (Art 19) towards leadership choosing

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③ It increases the gap between People and leadership.

Eg: Monarchy rule of swaziland

④ leaders are not accountable to the people they represent.

⑤ It transforms "Rule of law" to 'Rule by Person'

⑥ It results in top-down approach in Policymaking.

⑦ Sometimes leaders are chosen without free & fair election due to

Case study

Indira Navan Case

SC declared election Null & void

- Public apathy
- Improper implementation of law
- Overpower by few individuals

Way forward

Empower Election Commission of India with legal reforms

public awareness by ECI
eg: online campaign

People are King in democracy

Vox Populi Vox Dei

Introduction
Body
Conclusion
Presentation
Marks:

4. "The right to property, although not a fundamental right, its deprivation must still follow due process of law." Discuss the statement in light of the recent Supreme Court's directions on demolition protocols and the principles of natural justice.
(10 marks, 150 words)

Right to property became a constitutional right after it was moved from Art 19(a) to Art 300A by 42nd amendment act

Right to property's deprivation must follow due process of law

① Indian judiciary enlarged "Rule of law" (Art 14) to include "due process of law" in "Maneka Gandhi case"

② SC recently noted deprivation of property is violation of persons
 ↳ Right to home (Art 21)
 ↳ Right to dignified life
 ↳ Right to express

Thus must follow due process by

③ Giving proper compensation
 As per law Right to compensation act, 2013

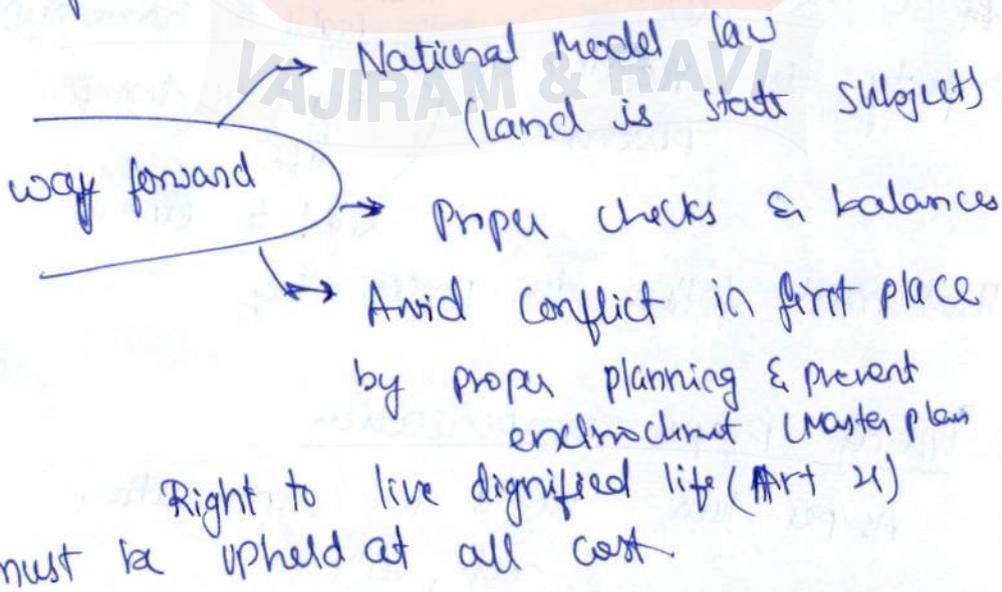
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- ④ Must follow due procedure such as
 - a. Prior notice before demolition
 - b. Proper time to appeal to court
 - c. Uphold dignity while demolition done
(No manhandling)

⑤ It should not be based on allegation
 Eg: "Bulldozer justice"

⑥ Officials must be held accountable for any violation of law.

⑦ Uphold principle of Natural justice during procedure
 Eg: No office must hear its own case



Introduction	
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

5. Despite its transformative intent, the implementation of the provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 (PESA) has remained uneven and inconsistent across states. Comment.

(10 marks, 150 words)

PESA (Panchayat Extension to Scheduled Areas) is a transformative law to decentralize ^{power to} Panchayats in tribal areas and give them autonomy for regulating their Culture & Land.

Implementation of PESA uneven and inconsistent across states

① Not all the states (10 states) has decentralized powers to Panchayats.

② Improper implementation of law

Eg: As per Ministry of Tribal Affairs only 3 states gave Annual report to President.

③ Politicization of "Tribal Advisory Council"
⇒ Neglects local concerns & people

④ lack of funding & human resource to Panchayats.

⑤ Uncertainty among leaders :

⇒ As per PRS, > 50% of panchayat representatives don't have complete provisions of PESA.

⑥ Violation of law due to strategic interests

Eg: Hydropower projects in MP
Narmada Project

⑦ No proper mechanism to ensure free & fair election to PESA

⇒ leading to power capture

⑧ Increase in land transfers to non-tribals using loopholes

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Compulsory annual report
way forward → Independent election Commission
Capacity building of local leaders

~~There~~ Xaka committee recommendation must be implemented to improve condition

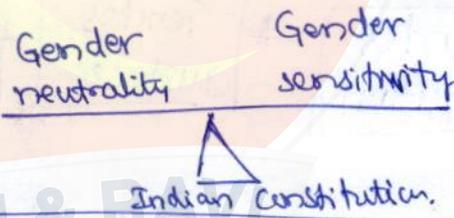
Introduction	
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

6. How can India reconcile the need for gender sensitivity with the demand for gender neutrality in its legal system to achieve true substantive equality?
(10 marks, 150 words)

As per Gender Gap Index by World Economic Forum India would take 134 years to fill the gender gap at current pace highlighting the emergency in gender justice jurisprudence

Reconciling need for gender sensitivity with demand for gender neutrality in its legal system

① Gender justice at the heart of legal reforms



Eg: Supreme Courts recent gender neutral dictionary to remove gender bias

② Removing patriarchal norms

→ Amending archaic laws like Hindu marriage act, Islam marriage act to remove male superiority

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③ Increase women in decision making role

Eg: Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam

④ Participatory approach Bottom up role

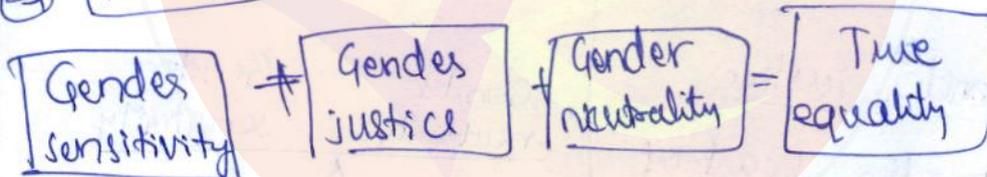
Sakhi model of odisha to spread gender awareness

⑤ State role by affirmative actions

① Special reservation : States like Karnataka give 33% seats in employ.

② Schemes : KIRAN Schem for women in stem

③ Policies : National Education Policy



SDG 5
Gender neutrality and gender sensitivity must go hand in hand like two wheels of cart

'Nari tu Narayani' (women you are creator) principle must be upheld.

Introduction	
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

7. "The one-size-fits-all approach to policymaking often ignores India's regional heterogeneity". Discuss the implications of centralized governance on state-level autonomy and inclusive development. (10 marks, 150 words)

"Unity in Diversity" is the core principle of Indian Constitution and Indian civilization since ancient times.

Implications of centralized governance on state level autonomy & inclusive development

- ① Violates Principle of "Division of power" in Indian federalist polity
Eg: states & centre got same status as per Indian constitution.
- ② Violates right to preserve ones own culture & identity (Art 29)
Eg: English education to Tribals
- ③ Increases gap in implementation of policies Eg: Environmental act, 1980

④ Increases barrier between centre and states in policy making.

Eg: Keral and Centre over resource sharing

⑤ Regional difference in development

Eg: slow growth for north-east due to cultural, border & other implications

⑥ Intra-state tussles:

Recent tussle over delimitation of constituencies over population differentials in north & south

⑦ Rises inequality in society.

Eg: only few takes benefit PVTG in STs left out

Way forward NITI Aayog

① Bring $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Competative} \\ \text{Cooperative} \\ \text{Compensatory} \end{array} \right. \rightarrow$ federalistic principle

② Need and Right based approach.

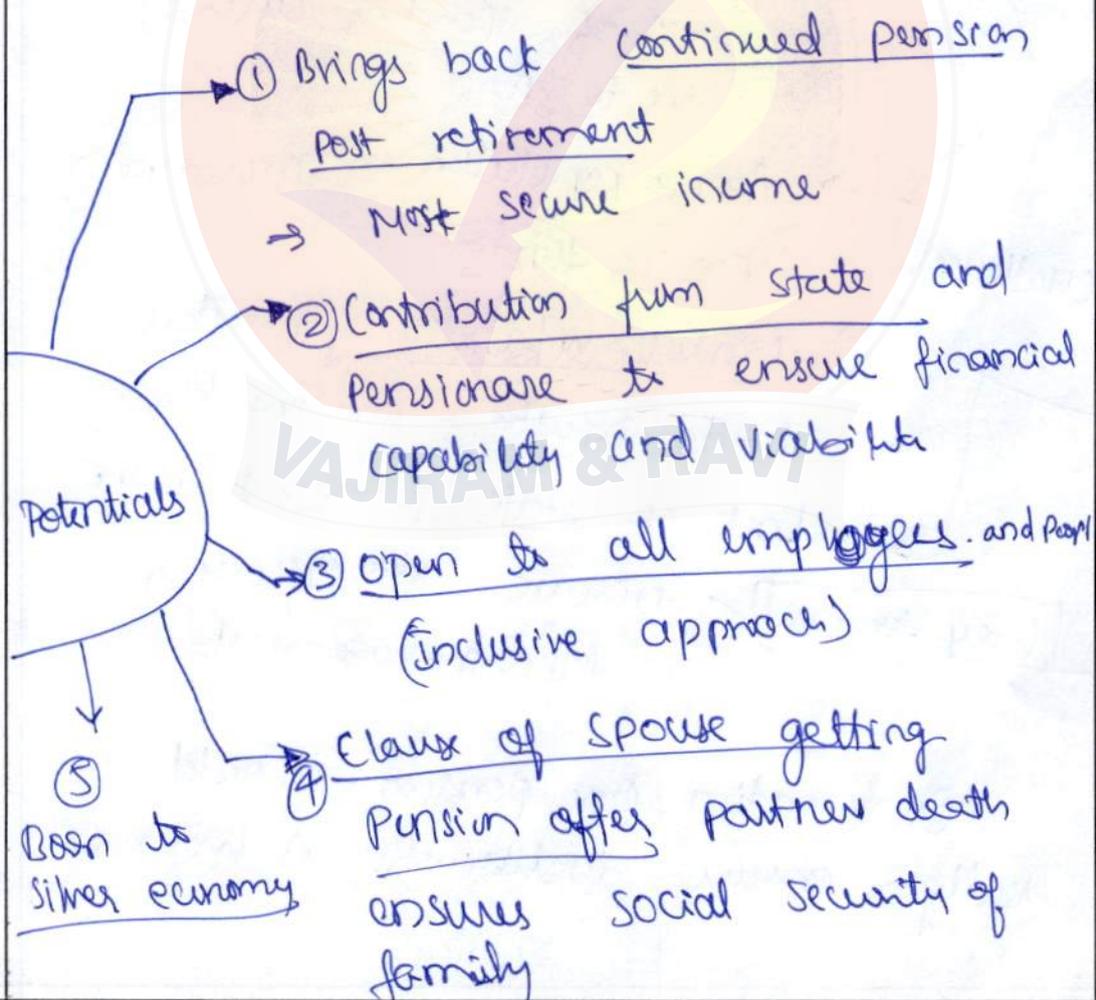
Accepting difference and forging the gap will lead us towards sustainable development & Viksit Bharat

Introduction	
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

8. The Unified Pension Scheme (UPS) seeks to integrate fragmented pension systems across sectors. Critically evaluate its potential to ensure inclusivity and social security. (10 marks, 150 words)

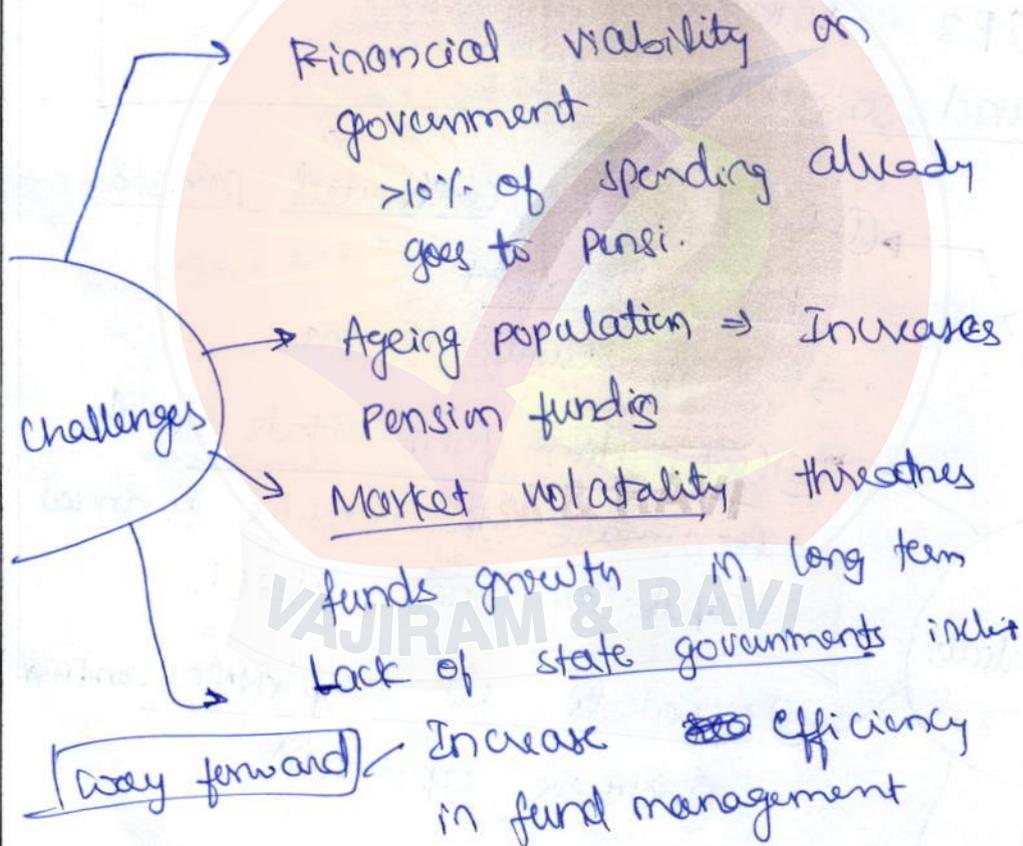
Unified pension scheme^(UPS) is combination of old pension scheme and New pension scheme to address lacuna of both schemes.

UPS potential to ensure inclusivity and social security



⑤ Option to switch to UPS for current employees ensures no one is left out.

⑥ New clause of increasing government contribution to 14% is commendable
=> shows states promise to include all



One nation one pension could really ensure inclusivity in long run

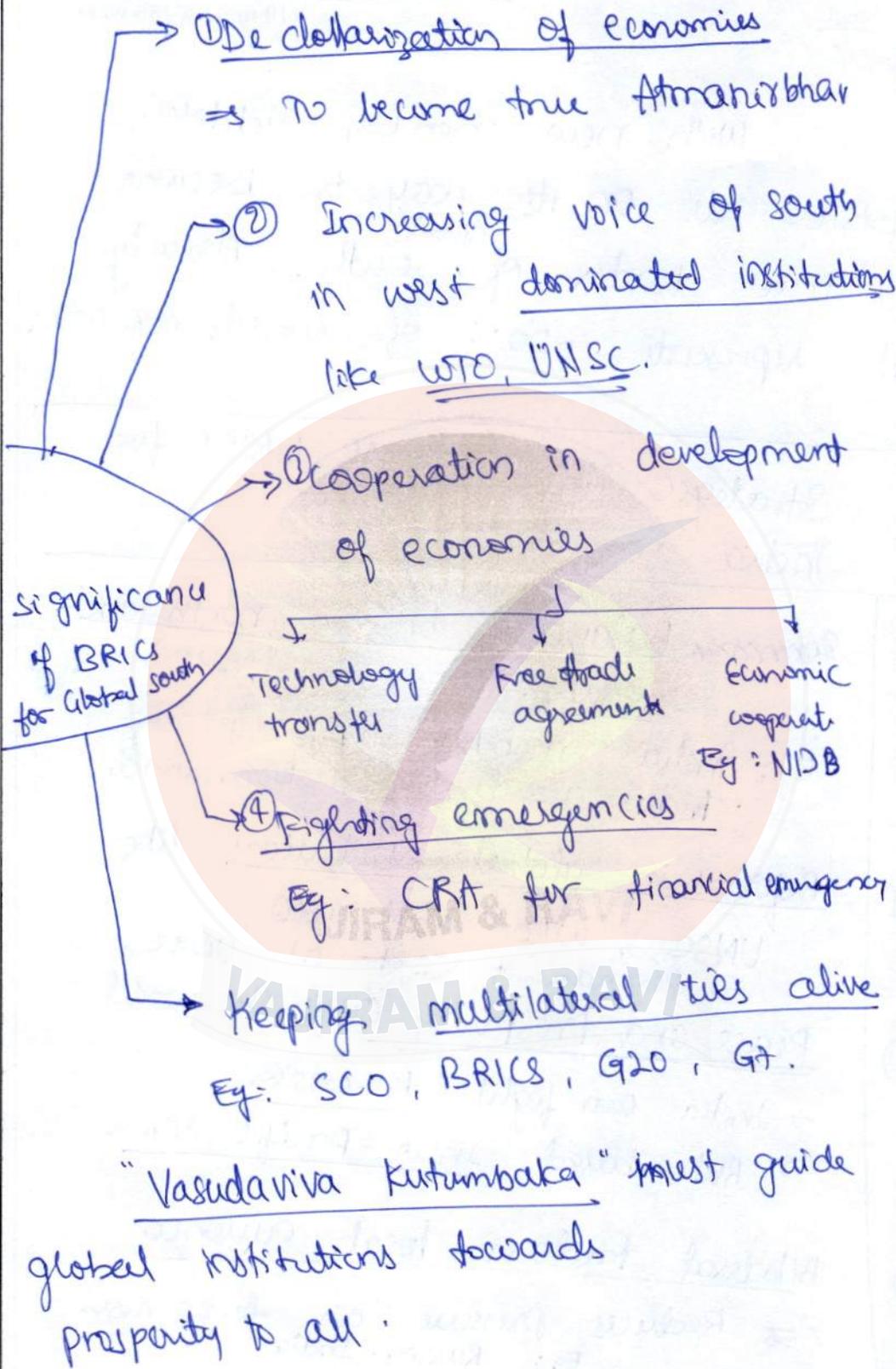
Introduction	
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

9. The growing focus on multipolarity has kept BRICS relevant in an evolving world order. Examine the strategic significance of BRICS for India and the Global South. (10 marks, 150 words)

With new members addition BRICS is on its way to become a true leader of ^{Global} south. Already it represents ~50% of world's population.

Strategic significance of BRICS for India

- ① ~~Strategic~~ Balancing between north and south : (BRICS) (QUAD)
Eg: India's membership helps in India as bridge to both worlds
- ② Reforms in global institutions like UNSC, WTO and WHO.
→ permanent seat at UNSC
- ③ Peace and Prosperity across the world
→ India can fight terrorism
→ Rule based Indo-Pacific region
- ④ Bilateral trade in local currency
→ Reduces pressure on forex res
Eg: Russia-India
- ⑤ Global cooperation on issues like climate change



10. Analyze how the recent crisis in Bangladesh impacts India-Bangladesh relations and India's Neighbourhood First Policy.

(10 marks, 150 words)

Recent political crisis in Bangladesh highlights drift between India and Bangladesh due to political over-spillage.

Impact on India - Bangladesh relations

① On diplomacy :

→ Pressure on diplomacy & leadership to extradite Sheikh Hasina

② On economy : Slows down trade between countries due to border closure

③ On security :

→ Rise in infiltration of illegal migrants and goods due to lack of cooperation across border : Unrest in Assam

④ On policies :

Divergent decisions: India had to cancel Bangladesh access to ports due to security reasons

⑤ On people to people collaboration

⇒ Rise of attacks on minorities in

Bangladesh : Rise concern in India
⇒ Unrest in North-east region

Impact on Neighbourhood first Policy

① Dent on India's leadership role

⇒ Due to Perception of Big brother attitude

② Rise of Chinese influence

⇒ Bangladesh moving close to China

③ Stalled projects

+ BBIN highway network

④ Challenges to Act East Policy

(to secure North Eastern interests)

⑤ Wrong precedence to others
eg: Nepal and Sri Lanka

India must follow 5-S principle
Samvad, shanti, Sahyog, Samridhi
shakti to grow its Neighbourhood
first policy's stake in region

Introduction

Body

Conclusion

Presentation

Marks:

11. The constitutional status of State Election Commissions (SECs) has not translated into real functional independence. Discuss the impact of this institutional weakness on the functioning of local self-governments in India.

(15 marks, 250 words)

As per 73rd and 74th
Constitutional amendments act State
Election Commissions (SEC) got
constitutional status. But concern of
independency still remain under question

SECs independence not realized due to

- ① No transparency in appointments:
State governments appoint SEC's
Chairman: No specific requirements listed
- ② No independent funding like Election Commission of India
- ③ Lack of infrastructure & human resource to SECs
- ④ Vacancies & delays in appointment
CAG report highlight 20% vacancy
- ⑤ Lack of accountability
No proper audit & reports to government

Impact of this weakness on functioning of local - self governance

- ① No timely elections
Eg: Bengaluru City Corporation election delay by 25 years
- ② Politicization of delimitation in local bodies
⇒ Due to lack of independency
- ③ No free & fair elections:
Eg: Chandigarh mayor poll election rigging of votes.
- ④ Too much dependency on state administration
binds down independency of SEC
- ⑤ Discrepancies in preparing voter rolls during elections
Eg: Many migrants are not considered as citizens of city
- ⑥ Increase of public apathy toward elections

Eg: <50% voting in city polls
(ADR report)

⑦ Defeats true purpose of decentralization of democracy.

⑧ Increased judicial cases leading to paralysis of election process.

⑨ Corruption in system

Way forward IInd ARC report

① Make SEC spending as charged expenditure

② High level committee to appoint the SEC chief and members
- Include leader of opposition

③ Mandatory yearly reports

④ Digitization of process

⑤ Voter education : SVEEP by ECI must be replicated in states

Independent & strong election commission is bedrock to the building of democracy

to without loads. Hence it is time to reform SEC

Introduction	
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

12. Explain the concept of 'cohabitation' in the French semi-presidential system. Analyse why India's parliamentary system structurally prevents such an arrangement. What lessons, if any, can India draw from the French experience?

(15 marks, 250 words)

Despite being one of the oldest democracies both France and India adopted different governance systems that suited needs of their country.

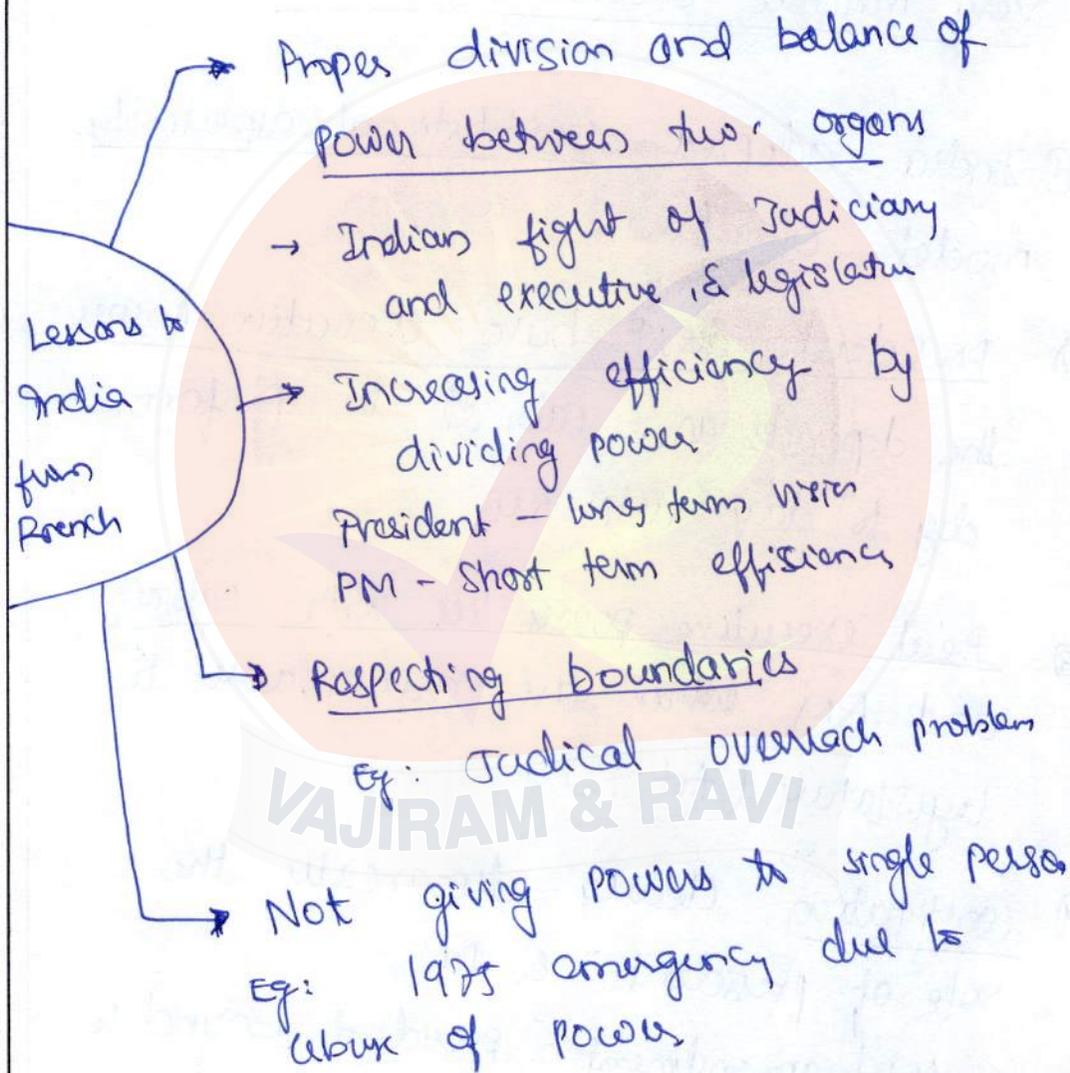
Concept of cohabitation in French Semi-presidential system

- ① It is balance of Prime minister and President in dividing power.
- ② Both co-habit the same governance structure by dividing powers & their spheres.
President - National & global issues
PM - daily governance system
- ③ It is complex setting based on rules, conventions and arrangement
- ④ There is existence of multiple executives at same level

India's parliamentary system presenting such arrangement

- ② As per B.R. Ambedkar "Indian president is purely a ceremonial position with very minimal discretionary powers"
- ① India adopted constitutional superiority model of law
- ② President don't have executive power. She depends on cabinet to perform day to day activities
- ③ Real executive power lies with cabinet and PM who are accountable to legislature (Art 75)
- ④ Constitution clearly demarcates the role of president & PM
Art 79 amendment: President bound to give assent to constitutional amendment
- ⑤ Parliament's power to impeach President : Check & balance

⑥ Independence of President from cabinet is very limited where government has no clear mandate.
Eg: In choosing PM during hung assembly



Indian democracy can enhance its effectiveness by enhancing its proper implementation and borrowing best from the world

Introduction	
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

13. "Absence of timelines for granting assent under Article 200 enables constitutional subversion." Do you agree? Justify your answer.

(15 marks, 250 words)

Recently supreme court in State of Tamil Nadu Vs Governor of Tamil Nadu highlighted absence of timeline in Art 200 and gave timelines by using Art 142 (complete justice)

Absence of timelines for granting assent under Art 200 enables constitutional subversion

- ① It violates democratic mandate of people.
→ laws not passed by governor on timely basis
- ② Threat to federal principle of India
→ It shows imbalance in federal principles subverting states to law state.
- ③ Delays in implementing laws

Eg: welfare scheme delay might hamper sustainable development

④ Increases gap between governor and state government

Eg: Tamil Nadu governor walked out of assembly speech in middle

⑤ It lowers dignity of position of Governor & President

→ They are first citizens of State.

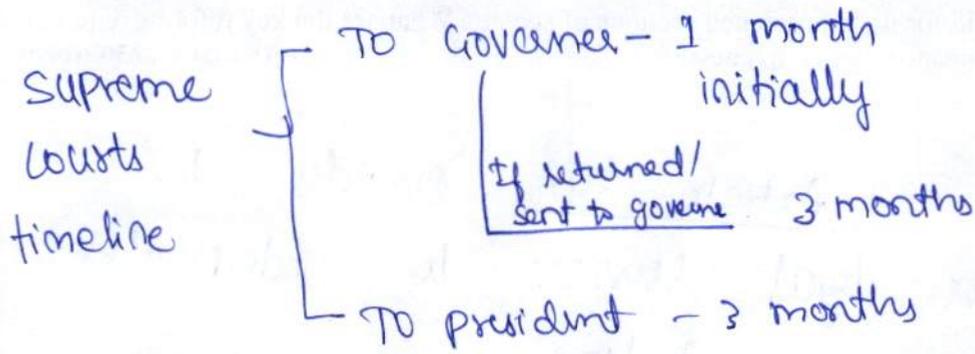
⑥ Loss of public trust on governance

→ due to delay & inefficiency

⑦ Political rift increases

Against constitutional morality of neutral

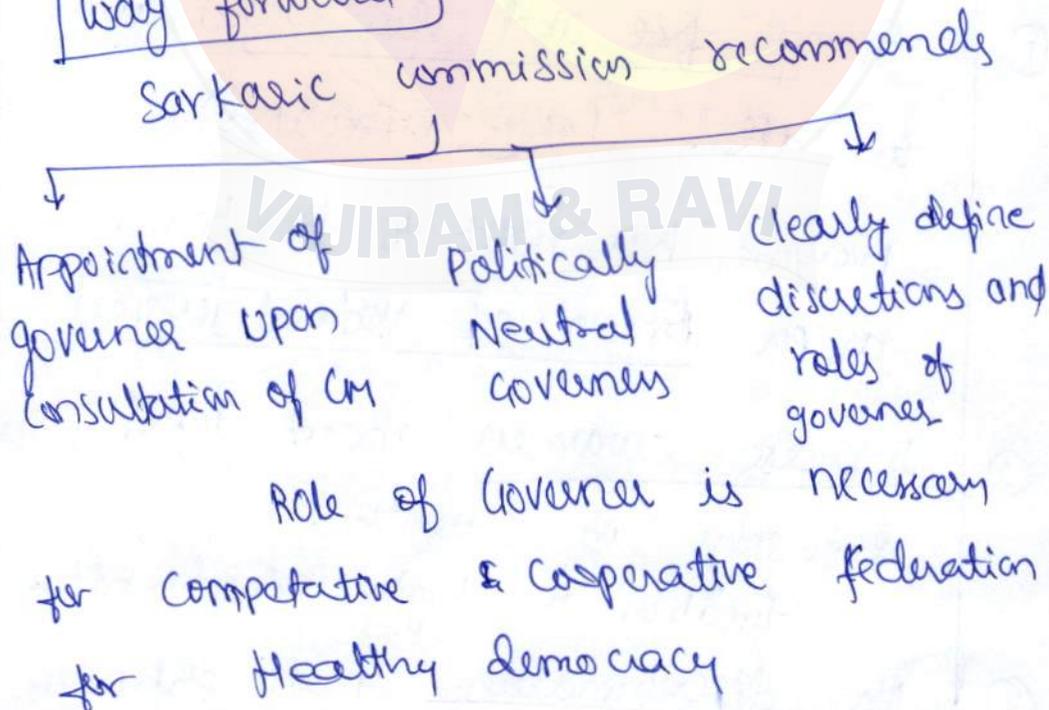
As K.M. Munshi says "Governor is link between state & Centre to cooperate, collaborate policies"



However this also violates the Constitution because it is

- ① Judicial overreach
- ② Disregard to highest position President is not to be scrutinized judicially for his/her actions

Way forward



Introduction	
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

14. Evaluate the role of the Legal Services Authority in ensuring equal access to legal aid for underprivileged sections of society. What are the key reforms required to enhance its effectiveness? (15 marks, 250 words)

Article 39A provides for free legal services to underprivileged section of India

This government passed NALSA act to realize aims of Directive principles of State Policy.

Role of legal service authority in ensuring equal access to legal aid

- ① Giving free and fair legal aid to all. (Public prosecutors)
Everyone has right to be heard as per Principle of Natural justice
- ② Increase awareness about legal provisions in country.
Education to higher education institute
- ③ Non discrimination among stakeholders

- ④ Judicial oversight to legal service authority for accountability
⇒ Ensures transparency & efficiency.
- ⑤ Support to private - non-profits
collaboration of LSA and legal-clinics
- ⑥ Lok Adalats
At state and national level to expedite justice system
- ⑦ Support judicial innovation
NALSA acting as amicus curie.

Challenges

- lack of awareness among people. (ADP report only 40% of beneficiaries know about NALSA / SALSA)
- low man power in authorities
- Not frequent lok adalats
- Infrastructure and technology issues
- lack of funds for development

Key reforms for Legal Service Authorities

① Appointments: Through competitive exams to attract best talent pool

② Awareness: Online and offline campaigns with social
→ media + Nukkad + school education

③ Infrastructure: special dedicated fund for capacity building

④ Funding & financials: state support and enable CSR funds

⑤ Technology: Enable tech enabled services to reach e-courts

⑥ Universal legal aid: UK model
Make it available to all.

Right to be heard is fundamental right under Art 19, Art 22. Thus legal services authority must be enhanced to realize justice to all

Introduction

Body

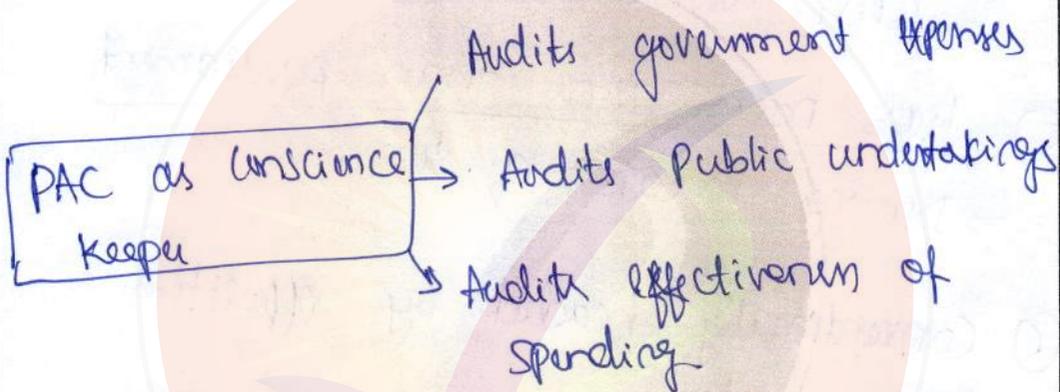
Conclusion

Presentation

Marks:

15. While the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) is often seen as the conscience-keeper of Parliament, it faces structural and political constraints. Critically assess the committee's effectiveness in ensuring transparency and accountability in public financial management. (15 marks, 250 words)

Public Account committee is key committee which audits government accounts with the help of Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG)



Committee's effectiveness in ensuring transparency and accountability in public financial management

I Keeping government accountable

① It comprises members of Opposition & other parties by excluding ministers
⇒ Role of Executive is minor

② ⇒ Independency of investigation is ensured.

③ It gives chance to every member
⇒ Appointment ^{time} of 1 year

④ Has Expertise backing
CAG assist committee

⑤ Has more time than parliament
⇒ During break of sessions

⑥ Conventionally headed by opposition party leader
⇒ Keeps government accountable

However there are challenges to PACs working

① Very short duration of term (only 1 year)
⇒ very less time to get hold of accounting nuances

② Post-mortem analysis

⇒ Audit is done after the spending is over

③ Cannot take all the department's expenses

⇒ It can choose few departments.

④ Less number of meetings

⇒ Due to politicization of meetings

⑤ Members lack expertise in dealing with accounts.

⑥ No representation from Rajya Sabha

Way forward

① Increase duration of members

② Prior auditing before spending
- like in UK

③ Include Rajya Sabha members

Financial auditing is key principle for state welfare - one of saptangas given by Kautilya in Arthashastra

Introduction

Body

Conclusion

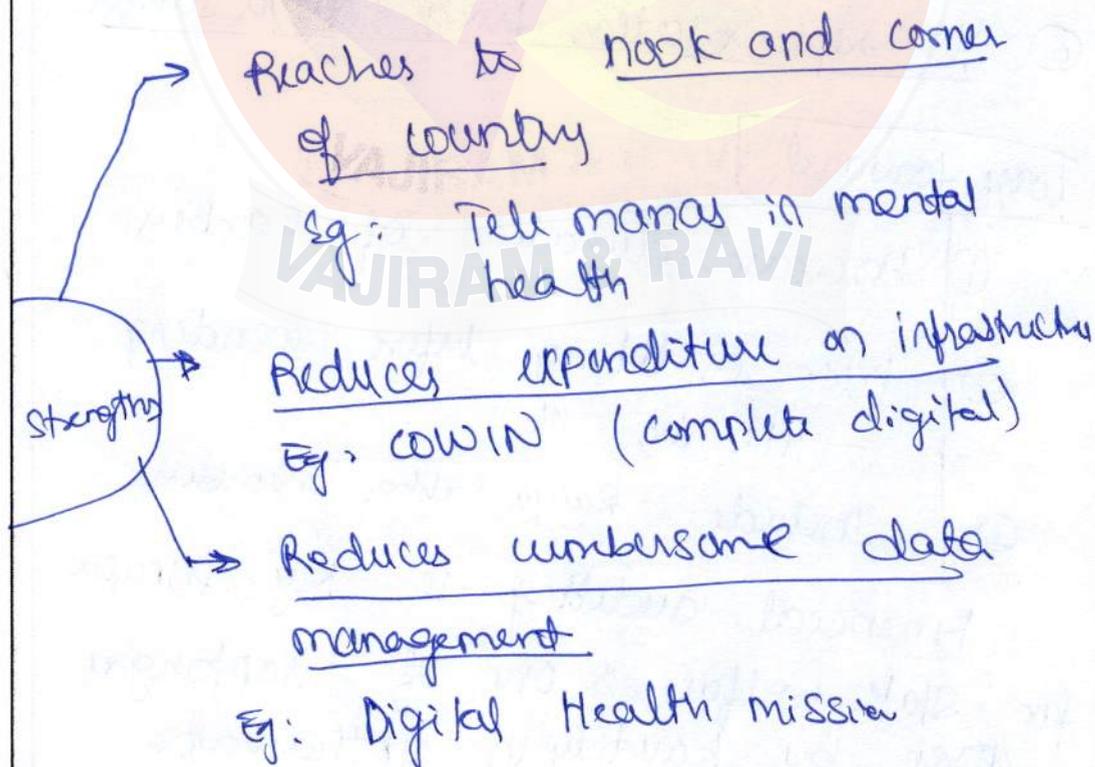
Presentation

Marks:

16. Digital health is not just a technological solution but a governance imperative." In light of India's initiatives like Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) and CoWIN, examine how digital infrastructure can strengthen universal health coverage. (15 marks, 250 words)

India's health sector is transforming millions of life with reducing out of pocket spending (48% NFHS-5) and improving governance due to digital & governance initiatives.

Digital infrastructure in strengthening Universal health coverage



- ④ → Cost effective in nature
→ Online consultancy through e-doctor
- ⑤ Increases health impacts
positively with more effectiveness
- ⑥ Easy to spread awareness
Mygov.in, social media
- ⑦ It is quick too
Ex: Nikshay portal
- ⑧ Integrates health systems
⇒ One nation one health Id.
for easy access to data

However it has its own Challenges in governance aspect of digital initiatives

- ① Digital divide problem
only 24% of rural households use internet (NSO)

- ② Internet connection issues in remote areas @ Bastar regions
- ③ Privacy issues
 - ④ leakage of details of COVID
- ④ Threat of cyber security attacks
 - Eg: AIIMS cyberattack shook down entire system
- ⑤ Data management issues
 - DPPA act not yet operational
- ⑥ Corporitization of data
 - leads to future data mafia by insurance companies.

Way forward

Digital

Governance

- ① Strengthen infrastructure
 - ② Increase reach by State support
 - ① Clear Digital health Policy
 - ① Bottoms down approach
- Digital Health has huge potential to realize sustainable development goal SDG - 3

Introduction

Body

Conclusion

Presentation

Marks:

17. Does the lateral entry reform in civil services strike the right balance between efficiency and accountability? Examine. (15 marks, 250 words)

Government of India allowed lateral entry in 2018 based on various committee (Basawan) reports to enhance efficiency in governance

Lateral entry

→ Entry of officials at mid-managerial positions (Joint secretary level)

Lateral entry bringing efficiency

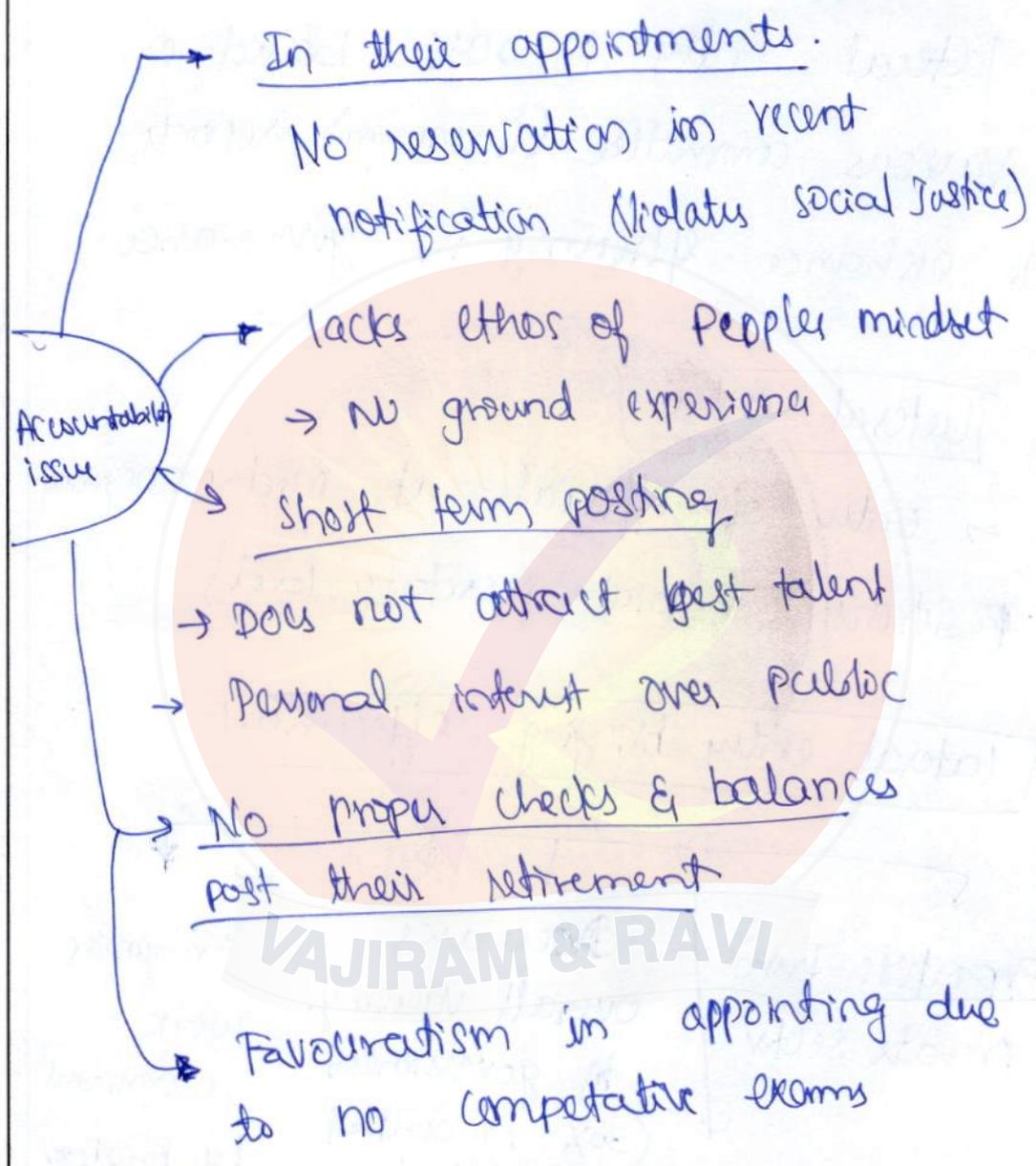
Expertise from private sector

Introduces competition among officers

Decreases overall vacancy in government (30% in central deputation)

Enhances work environment by breaking government work culture

But lateral entry lacks accountability



Thus there is need to strike balance between accountability and efficiency

NITI Aayog gives solution

- ① Competitive exams for appointment
- ② uphold policy of reservation
in lateral entry (Art 16)
- ③ Provision of extending time
if based on performance
- ④ Increase institutional check and balance by e-governance
- ⑤ Training in the beginning to shift cases
- ⑥ Field immersions

Also we can think of deputation of government officers to private organisation to increase efficiency.

Lateral entry a good way but needs finetuning to match needs of government

Introduction

Body

Conclusion

Presentation

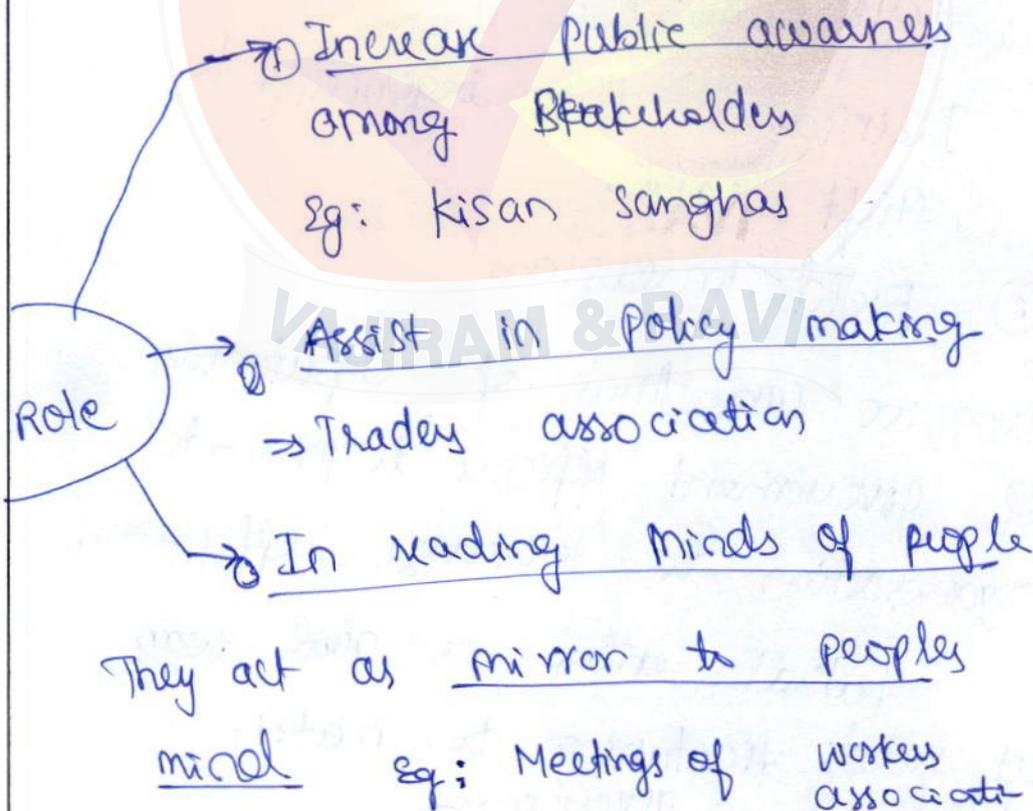
Marks:

18. Informal pressure groups often act as early warning systems in democratic societies. Assess their role in safeguarding public interest.

(15 marks, 250 words)

Pressure groups of union of people with common interest and common goal. They act as extended arm of public voice in reaching government

Role of Informal pressure groups in safeguarding public interest



- ④ They advocate for security and welfare of concerned groups.
Eg: Caste based sabhas
- ⑤ Assist government in monitoring implementation of schemes
Eg: Womens organization in liquor ban in Bihar
- ⑥ They help in maintaining healthy debate, discussion etc.
Eg: Majdoor sabha
- ⑦ Increases public reach to get government facilities
Eg: .
- ⑧ Bridge between people and government
Eg: ~~Some~~ City welfare association

However sometimes they act as radicals in system disrupting government functions

①

Communal Violence

Propagated by informal pressure groups

eg: Muzaffargarh Violence

②

Integration with other vested interest

Farm strikes Vandalizing Delhi Public property

③

Political undertone to pressure groups.

④

Illegal funding Pakistan activities

Way forward

→ Implement PMLA act.

- Register groups in societies act
- Monitoring NGO Darpan

Thus pressure groups keep governance People centric.

Introduction
Body
Conclusion
Presentation
Marks:

19. The India-Russia relationship is rooted in Cold War solidarity but faces strategic inertia in a fast-changing multipolar world. Examine whether this bilateral relationship needs a pragmatic reset. (15 marks, 250 words)

'India and Russia are all weather friends have passed many challenges in the past'

- PM. Narendra Modi

India Russia relationship rooted in cold war solidarity

- ① Currently Russia supplies largest arm to India
- ② Political bonhomie is everlasting
- ③ Increase in Strategic partnership through, BRICS and SCO
- ④ 2+2 meetings with Russia (ongoing)

Need of Reset in fast changing Multipolar world

① American Sanctions on Russian-oil
impacts Indian economy

② Changing interaction between India and Russia

From $\text{Arms} \rightarrow \text{oil} \rightarrow \text{Multiangle trade \& investment}$

③ Increasing connectedness through various routes
Ex: INSTIC corridor

④ Balancing Indian autonomy between Russia, America, China and Global south

⑤ Increasing Russia-China Nexus
Threat to Indian borders

⑥ Russia - Ukraine war
Indian diplomacy tightrope

Way forward

- ① Trade in local currencies
→ FTA with Russia
 - ② Dehyphenation of issues
for pragmatic outlook (war)
 - ③ Call for cooperation and peace across world
 - ④ India should always maintain Strategic Autonomy putting national interests above all
(Realpolitik by Machiavelli)
 - ⑤ Increase multilateral engagement to become a problem solver
G20, BRICS, SCO, QUAD.
- India should maintain autonomy along with national interest by forging convergence in interests & balancing divergences. — E.A. Jaishankar

Introduction

Body

Conclusion

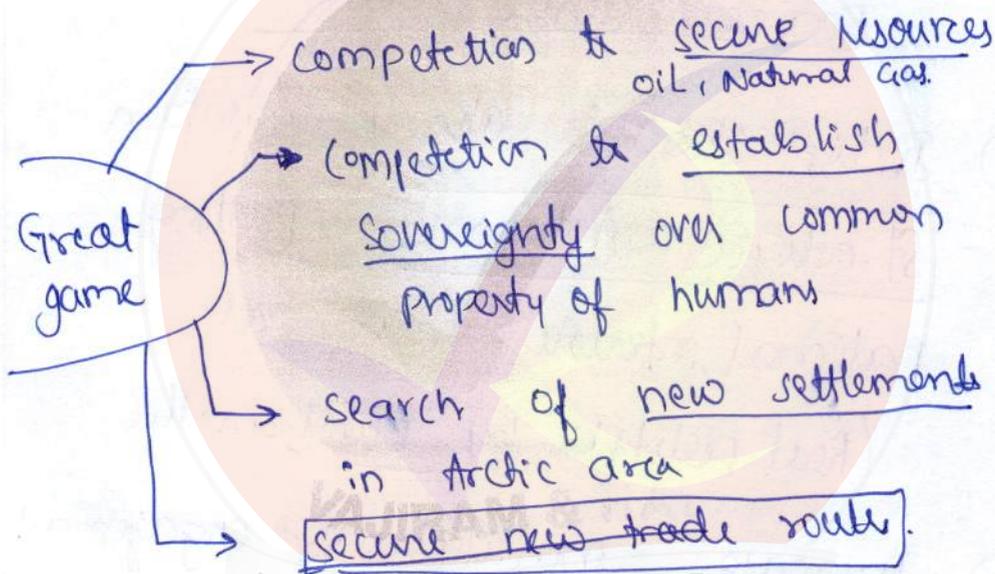
Presentation

Marks:

20. The evolving "Great Game" in the Arctic has opened new frontiers of strategic competition. Discuss its implications for India's energy security, scientific diplomacy, and multilateral engagement.

(15 marks, 250 words)

Recent climate change and Arctic ice melting has opened up much of space to make way for "Great Game" for nations across the globe

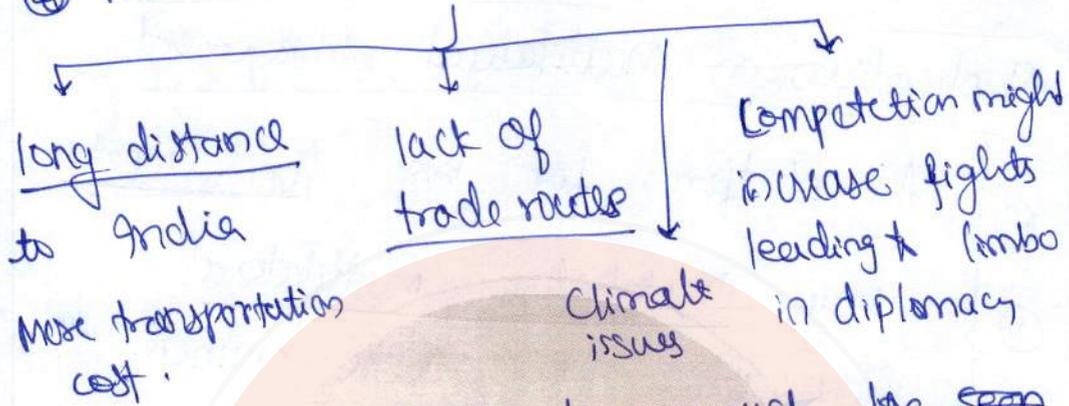


Its implication on India's energy security

- ① It helps India to explore for new diversified energy suppliers
- ② Reduces tension on supply chain risk if Arctic oil is explored

③ Ensures Indian energy security at competitive price.

④ However it has its own challenges



Thus its implications must be ~~seen~~ calculated with pinch of salt

Implications on scientific diplomacy

① Arctic study to help climate change in better way:

↳ India's Himalaya 3rd pole of world.

② Maitri station - to help Arctic scientific diplomacy

③ Impact on Indian monsoon and wind patterns

↳ Western disturbances in winter triggered from Arctic phenomenon

④ Research on neutrino :
origin and evolution of earth helps
in understanding geology better

Implications on Multilateral engagement

- ① A platform for big fight, competition
- ② May Destabilize multilateral institutions like Arctic council.
- ③ competition → conflict if unchecked.
Eg: USA and Russian submarines in arctic
- ④ Threat to Climate change diplomacy
Eg: USA out of UNEP & exploiting arctic resource
- ⑤ Details Common goals of mankind
⇒ Paris Agreement

"Eco-centric approach" along with equal rights to all stakeholders is key to maintain integrity of arctic

Introduction	
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

Space for Rough Work



Space for Rough Work

