



Nitin sir

COMPREHENSIVE TEST

MAINS MAXIMA 2024

# FORTUNE IAS ACADEMY

GS - PAPER II

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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		<p><b>Question Understanding:</b></p> <p><b>Presentation(Neatness):</b></p> <p><b>Content:</b></p> <p><b>Innovation:</b></p> <p><b>Other suggestions:</b></p>
2	10		
3	10		
4	10		
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6	10		
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19	15		
20	15		

**SECTION: A**

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

Candidates must not write on this margin

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 fiberised  
(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

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 contentious 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 - US 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

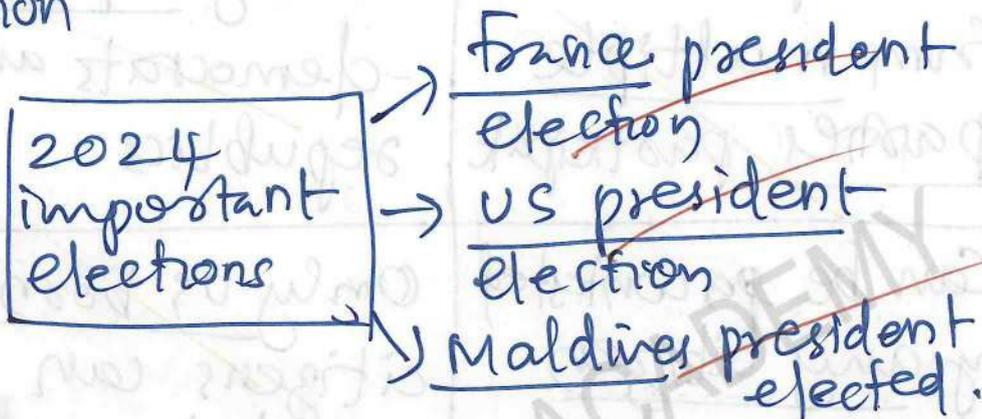
Way forward

- 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

Candidates must not write on this margin

Elected president as as <u>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>contested</u> 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

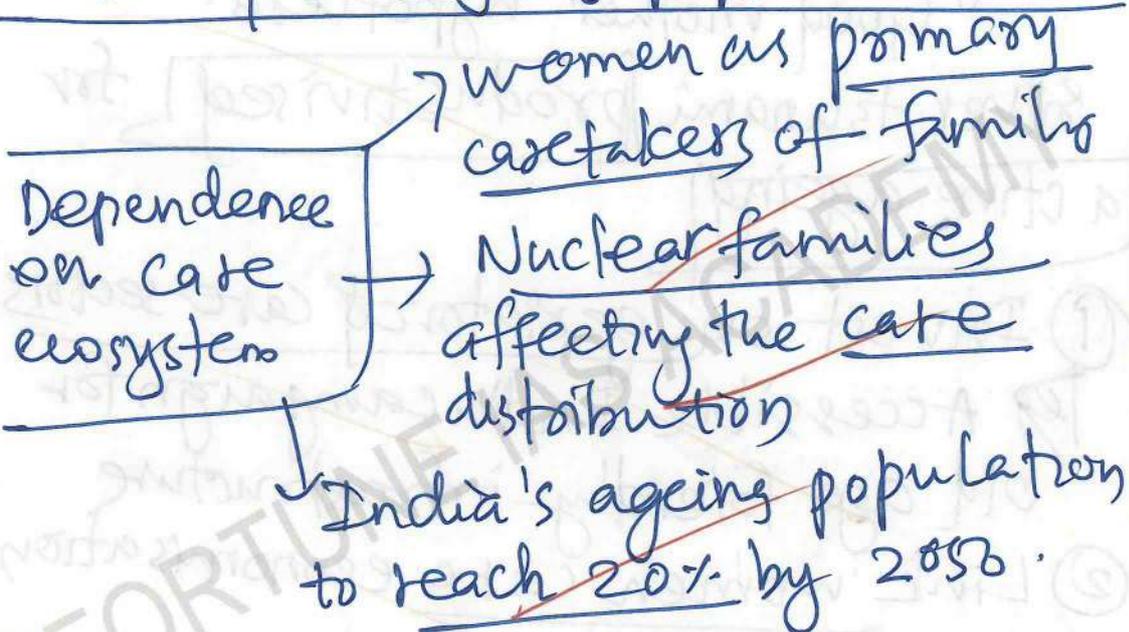
Both US & Indian president election may have many differences - yet we both exist as largest and oldest democracies

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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, palative nurse

③ Development of area where  
geriatric population can participate

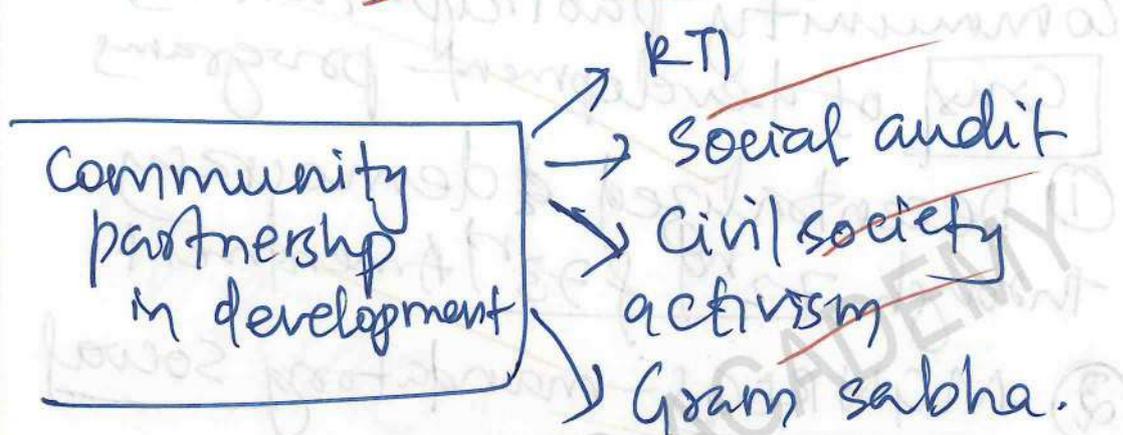
↳ Religious tourism

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

↳ Meghalaya model social audit

② Efficient distribution of fruits of development

↳ Subsidy to Banking correspondents to reach out to beneficiary

③ Help vulnerable people's welfare

→ ASHA workers for pregnant ladies' welfare

Community participation as  
Core of development programs

① Decentralized & democracy  
through 72<sup>nd</sup> & 73<sup>rd</sup> 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 core 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

72<sup>nd</sup> & 73<sup>rd</sup> Amendment acts based on principle of subsidiarity (2<sup>nd</sup> 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 Soochen 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 Inclusion

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 Shentepreneur 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 didi 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

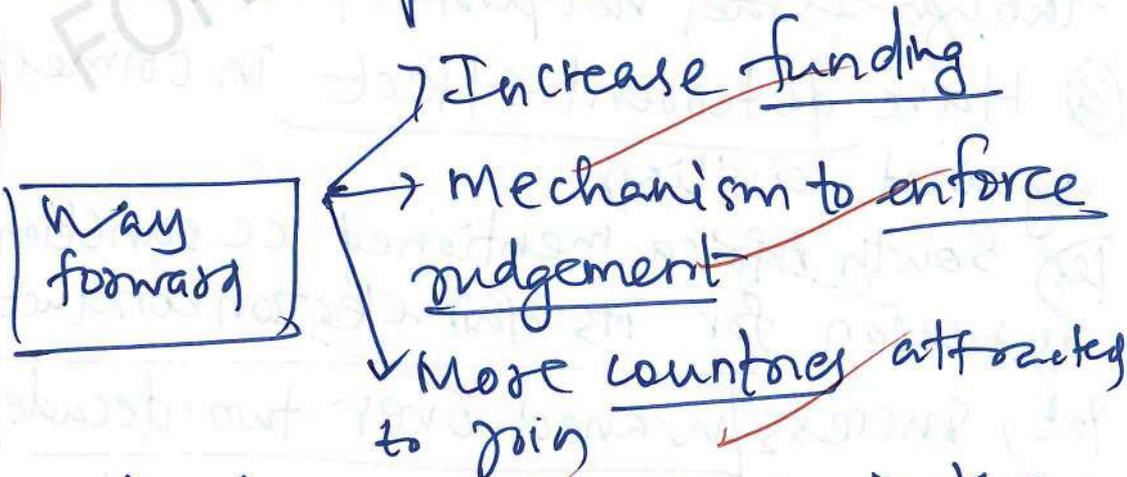
→ No action for arrest warrant against Putin

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

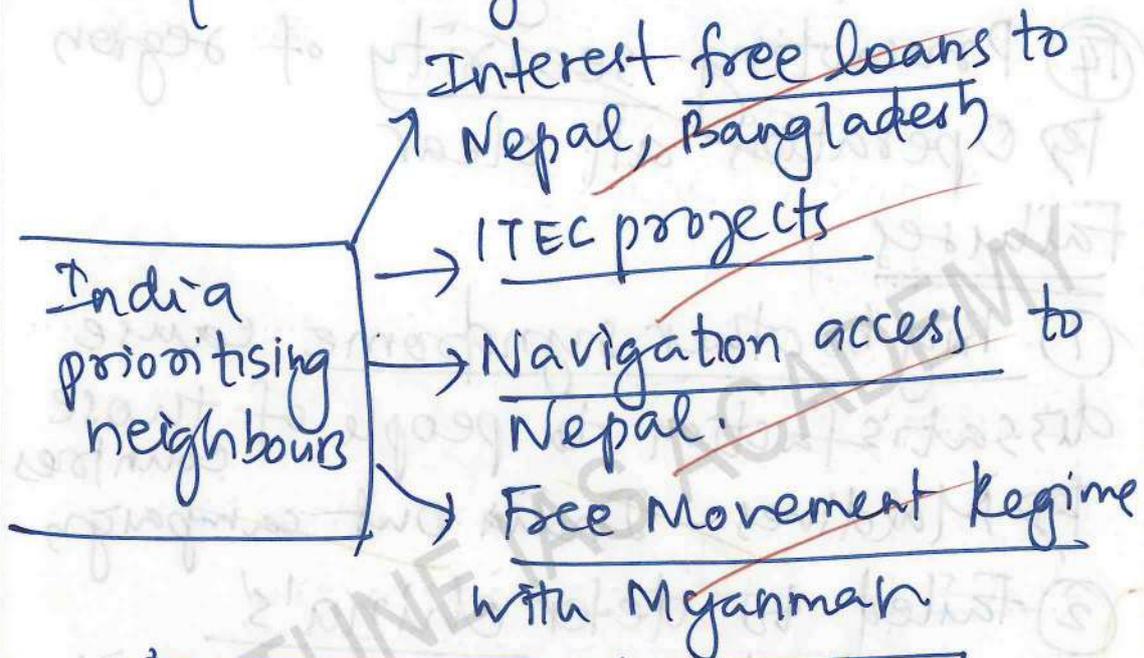


ICC's slogan - This cause is the cause of humanity need to be taken in spirit<sup>20</sup> for world peace

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.



Success 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  
↳ Pashupatinath temple Nepal maintenance by ASI

④ Promoting security of region  
↳ Operation all clear

### Failures

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

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

③ Delay in projects leading to protest  
↳ 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 must not 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 Adhiniyam (BSA)~~  
replaced IPC, CrPC & Evidence Act

New criminal laws bring change

I. BNS

- ① New forms of punishment →  
↳ ~~community work as punishment~~ <sup>retributive justice</sup>
- ② Confidence to judicial judgements  
↳ ~~Section 377 removal as per Navtej 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 Rajyadroha replaced sedition  
with vague definition which

can be misused by state.

### III Other - Gender issue

① Marital rape like crimes not  
criminally

② Gender neutrality in rape laws  
not addressed

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 → reduce pendency  
→ right to speedy justice

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

### NGT performance

#### POSITIVES

① Ensure that environmental law violations are strictly monitored  
→ 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 environment 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 (VR Krishnayar) which reduce women recruitment.
- ② Being district judge need 7 year continuous service ⇒ Motherhood penalty

### II Judgements

- ① Judgements without gender sensitivity  
eg high court judgement that rape cannot be framed without skin to skin contact
- ② Verbal rape of victims in court room  
eg Tarun Jeppal case - sex history

of survivor publicised

### III Infrastructure

① Lack of basic facilities like washroom, restroom

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

Ensuring greater gendersensitivity

#### I. Judgement

① Gender sensitivity training for judges

→ 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 - → NJAC <sup>30</sup> revitalised

with more inclusive board member.

② Reservation of women judges in Naxi shakti vandhan Adhiniyan (337.) 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.

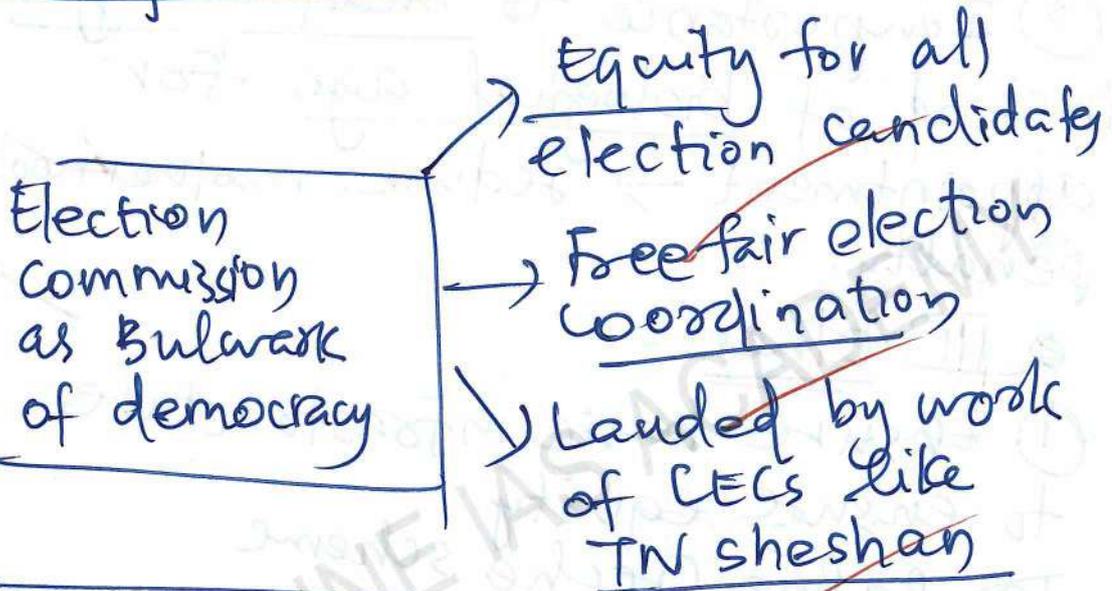
As CJI said 'ensuring safe environment for women judge is the responsibility of every citizen'

— 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



Performance of EC in free election

3. 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

## 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.

Candidates must not write on this margin

## Issues in Election Commission as a constitutional body

- ① No separate budget - depend on govt
- ② Asymmetric removal of CEC & other election commissioners
- ③ selection committee skewed to ruling govt (PM + <sup>Union</sup> minister + <sup>opposition</sup> leader)  
- not follow Anoop Baranwal case  
directive of including SC CJ

### Way forward

- ① Inclusive selection committee members - can include experts, <sup>Citizen.</sup>
- 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 credentials

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 (census) but 25% of India's poor (World Bank)

## 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 regiment

③ Selecting power people from  
themselves

eg) BSF 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 Ayyang IAs - established  
tribal hospital in Telangana -  
reduced travel of 160 km.

Yet, Issues persist

① Beaucroatic 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

Eventhough 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

7 Issues in FTA

for  
India

→ Automobile  
import

→ dairy  
import

Service  
sector

labour  
intensive  
sectors.

for  
EU

Indo - Pacific Cooperation

① SAGAR doctrine to ensure  
cooperation of all  
others

② Addressing Red sea crisis —  
Houthi rebel threat

② climate change negotiation  
as a common area of cooperation  
→ ISA, CDRI participation.

③ 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