

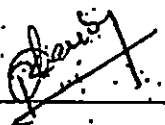
INDIAN POLITY AND GOVERNANCE

Time Allowed: 3 hrs.

Max. Marks: 250

Q.	Marks	Instructions to Candidate
1.		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• There are 20 questions.• All questions are compulsory• The number of marks carried by a question is indicated against it.• Answer the questions in NOT MORE THAN 200 words each. Contents of the answer is more important than its length.• Answers must be written within the space provided.• Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
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1. Invigilator Signature



2. Invigilator Signature

Name Hendra Pratap Singh

Roll No. [REDACTED]

Mobile No. _____

Date 24/08/2017

Signature Hendra

REMARKS

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Q1. "A party that comes second, has no right to form the Government." Comment on the statement keeping in mind the recently concluded elections in Goa. Analyze, if it was a case of (abuse) of Governor's discretionary powers? (12.5 Marks)

Article 163 of Part VI of the constitution provides for State executive who shall be the member of party holding majority in the legislative assembly.

Use Although/However But in the recently concluded Goa elections, the party which came at second position managed to form the govt. which doesn't seem to be good because
 → Mandate was against the party but then also it managed to form the government which goes against the spirit of democracy where only those who enjoy people's confidence should rule.

→ It also goes against the constitutional provisions where governor is expected to invite only those who hold majority (or majority coalition) to form the government. (5/6)

→ These kinds of act also shake people's faith in democracy because they come to believe that no matter who is ever they vote, the same party will come to power.

Remarks

Taken in strict sense, the case seems to be an abuse of governor's discretionary power because

As per traditions of parliamentary democracy, governor should invite only majority party/coalition to form the government. And if they decline to form the government then he can call the next

one.

The governor could have taken the advice of Independents in advance and then he could have called for making the government.

But at the same time the case is also of horse trading of legislators where the Independents & small party legislators are offered lucrative sum of money to come to one side or the other.

In this scenario, there is a need to strengthen the anti-defection law and improving of parliamentary traditions to solve these issues.

Remarks

Q2. Do you think, making National Commission for Backward Classes a constitutional body was necessary? Critically analyze how this move of assigning constitutional status would affect the working of this body? (12.5 Marks)

National Commission for Backward Classes ~~was~~ a statutory body created in 1993 to look into the issues of other backward classes holistically.

Government recently proposed to insert Article 338 B into the constitution to give National Commission for backward classes constitutional status renaming it to National Commission for Socially & Educationally backward classes.

Why it was necessary?

- ↳ Being a statutory body, N.C.B.C was sometimes considered as mere appendage of government and was not able to render sufficient safeguard to OBCs.
- ↳ Its recommendations were not taken very seriously. eg. In Jat reservation case it recommended for not giving them OBC quota but government on political considerations didn't listen to N.C.B.C.
- ↳ There was no clear cut role clarity, goal clarity & personnel policy of commission.

3

Refer list

Remarks

- Dis. bank control - Increased function? power? + Impact?

Granting constitutional status will be helpful in following way-

- 1) It will render much needed constitutional protection to the commission. Also its recommendations are likely to be accepted. If it is a constitutional body.
- 2) It will improve its jurisdiction as the role of National Commission for SC performed for OBCs will be transferred to it.

But on the hindsight there is unlikely to be any large scale change due to its constitutional status because-

- 1) There are apprehensions that it will still act like an appendage of government only in case of absence of provisions like expansion to be charged on consolidated fund of India, stability of tenure to members etc.

- 2) Inserting Article 338-B would mean that government sees the problem of OBCs same as those of SCs & STs which is not correct.

Thus, there is a need to have adebate on this matter, though granting N.C.B.C a constitutional status is a welcome move.

Remarks

Q3. The Religion, Caste, and Language has been the major theme of Social Segregation and division. In this reference, analyze whether the recent decision of the Supreme Court to put a blanket ban on political parties and candidates to appeal people on basis on religion, caste etc. would amount to strengthening of democracy in country? (12.5 Marks)

India is a diverse, multicultural country where religion, caste & language diversity is a reality

Supreme Court recently gave a verdict under which asking for votes in the name of religion, caste etc. would amount to corrupt practice under section 123(3) of Representation of People Act.

The decision is likely to strengthen the democracy in following way-

1) Religious and casteist appeals will wither away and political parties will have to ask for votes on secular considerations. In this scenario, rather than making an emotional appeal they will have to make development as their agenda.

2) Due to communalisation of elections there were at times feeling of alienation & insecurity among certain sections (tribals etc) which is likely to come down.

3) It will lead to greater harmony & peace in society.

4

Remarks

- more content required -

during elections as well as in between them.

4) The move is also expected to bring clean candidates who are accepted by all into political mainstream.

But at the same time the decisions of Supreme court is not very close to reality because-

1) In India religion & caste etc. is a reality and there is a need to deal with it in a constructive way and not suppress it.

2) Taken broadly it amounts to harmis of political parties like 'Akali dal' amounting to 'corrupt practice'.

Thus the decision of Supreme court is a progressive one but its actual effect on the ground will have to be seen in near future.

Remarks

Q4. In the light of growing pendency of cases with traditional judicature, the need for alternative dispute mechanism has been felt. What are the merits and demerits of alternative dispute redressal mechanism? Also suggest measures to improve the performance of the traditional judiciary (12.5 Marks)

There is a huge pendency of cases in different courts in India. As per recent estimates there are around 3 crore cases pending in different courts with 66000 cases pending in Supreme Court alone.

Taking the above situation into consideration, the need for Alternative Dispute Mechanisms has been felt. There are mainly of three forms -

- 1) Arbitration
 - 2) Mediation
 - 3) Conciliation

Merits of ADRs:-

- 1) They help resolve the cases instantly and with participation of concerned parties hence acceptability is likely to be high.
- 2) They reduce the judiciary of huge burden of cases.
- 3) They have now been institutionalised under the National Legal Services Authority act which states

4 1/2

Remarks

their relevance.

Remarks:-

- 1) concerned parties may not agree to dispute resolution through ADR mechanisms.
- 2) The party which loses in ADR mechanisms sometimes seeks redressal in court which invalidates the very nature of ADR mechanisms.
- 3) Nyaya Panchayats are not very effective in India and they have no legal basis.

way out - There is a need to improve the functioning of traditional judiciary for which following steps can be taken -

- 1) Considering creation of All India Judicial Service as suggested by Supreme court & recommended by Law Commission.
- 2) e-court, greater use of e-LT etc.
- 3) Restricted use of Special leave Petition by Supreme court.
- 4) Clearing the pending appointments & setting up of Fast track courts etc.

Remarks

India's Judiciary needs an all round reform to improve its functioning.

Q5. Indian states have not only been denied the, 'guarantee of their territorial integrity', but also due rights as federal units. Examine the above statement considering idea of co-operative federalism, especially in context of bifurcation of erstwhile Andhra Pradesh?

(12.5 Marks)

Article 1 of the Indian Constitution considers India a 'union' of states. Explaining the essence of the term 'union', Dr. B.R. Ambedkar in the constituent Assembly said:

"Andhra is an indestructible union of destructible states. Where states have been created by the constitution & they have no right to secede."

The states have also been denied the due rights as federal units. Article 3 of the constitution states that Parliament can create a new state by way of bifurcation, merger or addition with a reference being made to concerned legislative assemblies. The consent of legislative assemblies is not required in such a case.

The idea of co-operative federalism states that state and centre should co-operate with each other to offer citizens good governance.

But in the case of bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh into Andhra Pradesh & Telangana

4

write other points of welfare. In brief to

Remarks

→ focus on broader aspect, not only bifurcation & Telangana

The Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly was staunchly opposed to this. The reference bill sent by the President to Andhra Assembly was not passed. But then also Centre went ahead with creating a new Telangana State because

1) Telangana State demand seemed to be genuine due to huge developmental deficit in those areas.

2) The demand for separate Telangana State has been since the 1950s and hence it was in sync with the aspirations of people.

Thus, taking only the Union & State of Andhra Pradesh into consideration, it seems to be a case of combative federalism but if we take into consideration people of Telangana & their aspirations then it is a case of maturity of Indian federalism.

Remarks

Q6. Justice delayed is justice denied. Judiciary on one erstwhile hand is facing the crunch of manpower on other hand quality of talent is another big issue. In this reference examine the need of an All India Judicial Service? (12.5 Marks)

"Justice delayed is Justice denied". This statement holds very true in India where as per an study by DAKSH foundation most of the cases take 15-18 years to complete. The pendency of cases is around 3 crore.

The major reason for this a huge manpower and scarcity of talent at the lower level in Judiciary.

A Case for All India Judicial Service:-

The constitution was amended in 1950s to provide for three new All India services viz- All India Judicial Service, Indian engineering service and Indian forest service. Though IFS was finally created in 1966 but rest of the two are still pending.

2) Law commission in two reports has recommended for creating AIJS.

3) Supreme court has also suggested the idea of creating All India Judicial Service.

4) The creation of AIJS will bring uniformity in

Remarks

- As per work -

functioning of lower level judiciary and make it truly a career service.

5) The step is likely to attract young talents towards judicial services.

But there are a few issues in the creation of AJS.

1) States are likely to resist the idea of creating a new All India Service.

2) There has to be an independent agency like UPS to recruit the members of AJS.

Thus the idea of creating AJS is worth considering to ensure speedy justice.

Remarks

Q7. FRBM Act 2003, was introduced to bring transparency in fiscal management systems in the country and fiscal stability in long term. Critically analyze the success of FRBM Act and suggest the necessary reforms in the law, to make it more suitable to India?

(12.5 Marks)

FRBM Act was enacted in 2003 whose major provisions were-

- 1) To bring down revenue deficit to zero.
 - 2) To bring down fiscal deficit to 3% of GDP.
 - 3) To follow sound fiscal management policies.
- States were expected to enact similar legislations for sound fiscal management.

Performance of FRBM Act-

The performance of

FRBM Act was not very satisfactory as

- 1) Revenue deficit didn't come down to zero.
- 2) Fiscal deficit soared to more than 4% in 2012-13.

This led to international rating agencies downgrading India's rating on fiscal performance.

The reasons for limited success of

FRBM Act were-

- 1) Great financial recession of 2008 & Eurozone crisis of 2011, which made the deficit financing mandatory to keep the growth rate.

Remarks

5

- 1) Launching of host of welfare programmes like MGNREGS with huge financial allocation.
- 2) Inefficient fiscal management.

Placing above situation into consideration, govt appointed FPM Act reform committee whose major recommendations are-

- 1) Bring down fiscal deficit to 3% immediately & 2.5% in the long run.
- 2) Debt to GDP ratio should not go beyond 60%.
- 3) Revenue deficit should remain at 0%.

The above recommendations of the committee should be implemented but along with this there is a need for-

- 1) Subsidy reforms like Urea subsidy, LPG Paraffin subsidy, Power sector subsidy etc.
- 2) Adopting sound fiscal management policies.

The present government has pegged the fiscal deficit target to 3.2% of G.D.P. for current fiscal year which is a good step but more comprehensive reform is needed.

Remarks

Q8. The Internet is one of the fundamental aspect of infrastructure, which not only affects provision of government services, but also day to day transactions, especially when we are pushing hard towards the digital banking and cashless payments. In such a scenario, lacking the connectivity will not only increase digital divide, but also development deficit. Critically analyze the need for a recognition of right to internet in above context. Also, elaborate on the efforts taken by the government to achieve connectivity in rural areas.

(12.5 Marks)

We are living in an era of digital governance where internet is the biggest medium for transaction of information, banking, payments etc. This is the reason why United Nations recognised Access to Internet as one of the fundamental human rights.

Putting above situation into consideration, there is a need to recognise the right to internet because

- 1) It is a basic human right as accepted by UN.
- 2) It will help in implementing certain other rights like - Right to be informed (Art 19(1a)), Right to dignified living (Art 21) etc.
- 3) It will help in democratisation of country.
- 4) Actions like Direct Benefit transfer will help in reducing poverty.

4/2

e-gov
e-med = write
e-NAM imple

But there is a flipside also of recognising internet as a basic right -

Remarks

- ↳ Huge Infrastructure is needed to provide Internet connectivity to everyone which may not be possible at present.
27. It may breach the other right - Right to privacy through cyber attacks etc.
37. Just providing internet is not sufficient, In huge illiterate population, the skill & capacity building is also important.

Government has taken many steps in recent times to provide connectivity in rural areas -

- ↳ Launching of Digital India Programme in which digital infrastructure is a sub programme.
27. Launching of Bharat Net Project to provide Broadband connectivity to Gram Panchayats.
37. Government made a deal with Bangladesh to provide Internet connectivity in north-east in exchange of electricity.

Thus government has done all round efforts to provide connectivity to rural areas.

Remarks

Q9. Failure to implement the Lokpal Bill by the government is an indication of how the political parties engage in renege with impunity on the government's promise of a corruption-free India. Analyze the statement and elaborate the recourse available with citizen to deal with political parties forgoing their key promises. (12.5 Marks)

'India Against Corruption' movement was a huge civil society movement which forced the erstwhile government & parliament to adopt 'sense of house resolution' and discuss & draft a Lokpal Bill.

Even the present government came to power on the promise of making India corruption free but even after passing Lokpal Bill in 2013 itself, government has yet not notified it.

The argument of govt. is that the Act calls for leader of opposition in the panel of appointment of Lokpal but as there is no Lokpal present so it is hard to implement it.

But these supreme court recently said that the present law is workable and can be notified.

This has raised suspicion about the sincerity of government to fight with corruption. Though the government has taken many steps like - Demonetisation, Real Estate Act,

Remarks

Amendment to prevention of corruption Act etc. But it has hesitated to Notly Lokpal Bill.

The various recourse available to citizen to deal with political parties forgoing their key promises are -

- 1) They can vote them out in the next election as has happened in 2014 Lok Sabha election.
- 2) Strong civil society has emerged as a key defender of citizens rights. eg, India Against Corruption movement.
- 3) Recently supreme court suggested political parties not to promise those things which they can't fulfil and also tell the ways to fulfil their promises.

Thus there are only limited recourses to citizen against political parties. Steps like NOTA are still emerging while right to recall is restricted to panchayat level in certain states like Madhya Pradesh.

Remarks

Q10. The numerous parliamentary committees together are acting as an ad-hoc legislature, especially in times of frequent walk-outs by the opposition parties and parliamentary blockades. Discuss how this practice affects the legitimacy of legislature in Indian political system and also analyze its effects on a ordinary MP, who is merely whipped into submission. (12.5 Marks)

Parliamentary blockade and walkouts have become quite frequent in recent times because of opposition taking strict party line and indulging in opposition for sake of opposition.

This has resulted into parliamentary committees together acting as ad-hoc legislature.
Effect on Legitimacy of Legislature

17) Parliament is made up of word 'parli' which means discussion and discussion is the primary task of parliament but frequent disruptions affect this role of parliament.

27) The legislative role of parliament gets diluted hence creating a void. This void is generally filled by either delegated legislation or judicial activism. Both the cases may result in Executive despotism or Judicial overreach.

87) Due to frequent disruption, parliament is not able to hold the executive accountable hence

Remarks

undermining tenets of parliamentary democracy

4) Parliament loses respect in the eyes of citizen.
 Effect on ordinary MP -

1) With the emerged of whip system most of the time MPs are forced to take strict party line in the name of party discipline. This acts as a restriction on his freedom of speech & expression (Article 19(1a)).

2) It results into lack of constructive debate in parliament

Thus, there is an urgent need to improve parliamentary functioning under which following steps can be taken -

- 1) Making 100 days of sitting mandatory.
- 2) Abolishing whip system.
- 3) Reducing criminalisation of politics. As per ADR, 34% of present parliamentarians have criminal cases.

Remarks

Q11. The Constitution of India is remarkable for many outstanding features, which distinguishes it from other constitutions, even though it has been prepared after "ransacking all the known constitution of the world". Elaborate. Do you think that the bulk of the constitution is due to "patch work?" (12.5 Marks)

^{why written}
Constitution of India is largest written constitution in the world having 395 Articles & 12 schedules.

Though the constitution was prepared after "ransacking all known constitutions of the world" but it has many outstanding features like -

don't separate word

1) A union with Federal spirit - Granville Austin called

Indian constitution - 'quasi-federal' which means it is a federal constitution having certain unitary features. Article 1 of the constitution states that India is a union of states. Thus states owe their existence to union but there is 7th schedule as well which divides powers between union & states.

2) A Blend of Rigid & Flexible constitution -

Rigidity is the basic feature of US constitution whereas flexibility is the basic feature of UK constitution. Indian constitution is a blend of both. Certain provisions like Article 3 can be

4

Remarks

for balanced Ans. write what provision is & why??

amended with simple majority. Whereas majority of the provisions require special majority. Certain provisions like those related to judiciary require participation of states for amendment.

37) Emergency Provisions - Originally borrowed from German constitution, emergency provisions turn the constitution into unitary without formal amendment. Also there is a concept of financial emergency which is an Indian innovation.

Thus although major provisions of the constitution have been borrowed from many sources but they were tweaked according to Indian situation. This is the reason why constitution has worked well till date. Think globally & act locally was the strategy of constitution makers in this regard.

Remarks

Q12. Discuss the contribution of Kesavananda Bharti Case Judgement in retaining India as a cherished republic envisioned by its founding fathers? (12.5 Marks)

Kesavananda Bharti Judgement was delivered on 24th April 1973 which formed the basis of new form of constitutionalism in India.

Under Kesavananda Bharti case there were two questions to examine before Supreme Court -

1) Can parliament amend any part of the constitution?

2) If not, then what is the limit of parliament's amending power?

The 13 judges bench of Supreme Court held by 7-6 majority that. Although parliament can amend any part of the constitution including fundamental rights but its amending power is restricted to the 'basic structure' of the constitution.

Though the basic structure was not defined by the Supreme Court but some parts are as under -

- 1) Secularism
- 2) Parliamentary democracy
- 3) Welfare state
- 4) Republic form of government etc.

Remarks

5

The judgement helped India in retaining cherished republic as -

↳ It reinforced the doctrine of limited government and constitutionalism when there was presidentialisation of PM's post and also a threat to Indian democracy.

↳ Supreme court by its creative interpretation has added many things like welfare state, secularism etc into basic structure which has deepened our democracy.

Thus the Kesavananda Bharti judgement had profound impact upon jurisprudence in India and the 'basic structure' doctrine has now become an accepted feature in India.

Remarks

Q13. The tyranny of distance from the capital not only affects the provision of government and administrative services, but also the infrastructure. Critically analyze in context of the development deficit in NE of India. Also elaborate, how this affects even the media coverage of the regions affected by this phenomenon. (12.5 Marks)

The distance from capital affects government and administrative services because:

1) It leads to geographical isolation.

2) The voices of distant people are not frequently heard at the capital and hence there is a negligence of their felt needs.

Disproof But this is not necessarily true always which is evident from following examples-

1) Southern states like Tamil Nadu and Kerala etc are located quite distant away from the capital but their both social & economic development is high.

2) States like UP & Bihar despite being located close to capital are quite backward.

But the case of north-east India is different because -

1) It is connected with India through land only by 22 km Chitikan / Shigeni corridor and hence it is relatively isolated.

Remarks

4/2

2) The partition has resulted into NE India losing its market areas to Bangladesh.

3) Difficult terrain & insurgency has hindered the development to reach there.

4) Insurgency
Border issues
less political weight & hence relative neglect by center.

Government recently launched NE Vision 2022 which is expected to give much needed push to development in NE.

effect on Media coverage -

Due to isolation & less connectivity there is very less media coverage of this region. Thus many people don't get to know about NE culture & there people face discrimination in other parts like Delhi & Bangalore etc. This also results in adverse phenomenon like less coverage to recent

Assam floods etc.

conclude
q. no.

Thus there is a need to improve infrastructure & connectivity in NE.

Remarks

Q14. Discuss the initiatives taken by the government to improve attendance in government offices and analyze their impact? What steps can further be taken to improve the public delivery and work rate in government offices? (12.5 Marks)

To improve the cutting edge level bureaucracy, government has taken several steps like steps to improve attendance in government offices. A few initiatives under this are:

- 1) Installing biometric attendance system in the offices.
- 2) Making the attendance status public, who ~~we~~ ^{could} see the attendance level in U.P.S.C online now.
- 3) Working on steps like Performance Related Pay as recommended by 7th pay commission.
- 4) Hiring the 'deal wood' in public interest. eg, around 80 officers were asked to retire in 2016 due to non performance.

Although till now the impact has been only marginal due to status quo nature of bureaucracy. But the impacts are likely to be better in near future.

Moving
Ponds
Surprise
Visit

4

Remarks

Further Steps Required -

- 1) Improving the work culture of government officers. This can be achieved through better training (eg. Sensitivity training).
- 2) Adopting practices like Management By Objective; Management by exception etc.
- 3) Enacting public service delivery bill as recommended by 2nd ARe.
- 4) Whistleblower protection bill & Right to services bill should be passed.
- 5) Rightizing the bureaucracy.

These multitude of steps are required to improve the public delivery and work rate.

Remarks

Q15. The VIP culture of India is notorious and tantamount to having various categories of citizen as per their VIP status. However, of-late there seems to be a general disdain among political parties to stay away from such practices. Elaborate on the steps taken by government to reduce or curb the VIP culture in India? Analyze, if these have been successful? (12.5 Marks)

After Indian Independence, India inherited an institutional bureaucracy which worked through keeping a huge distance with the governed. Gradually this practice was also adopted by politicians & this gave rise to a VIP culture in India. → Impact on common masses.

However, of-late there seems to be a general disdain among political parties to stay away from this because-

- 1) Increasing democratisation of Indian polity where people are more likely to vote those candidates who are more accessible.
- 2) Coming of political parties like AAP who have their root in civil society. They launched a scathing attack on VIP culture & this forced others to change their way. → said as in contrary to all the time.

Steps Taken by Govt -

- 1) Prime Minister while declaring that every citizen is a VIP, said that there will be no use of

Remarks

4

beacons (red, blue etc) in the vehicles. Motor Vehicle Rules were amended to this effect. Although there are exceptions like ambulances, fire vehicles etc.

- 2) Officials have been asked by the government to be more accessible to people.

But these steps are not likely to have profound impact and we have seen people either defying or tweaking the provisions to show their VVIP status because-

- 1) Feudal mindset in the society with huge power distance
- 2) Dependency syndrome among people.
- 3) Huge disparity in the society.

Thus there is a need for attitudinal transformation, though the recent steps are a good beginning.

Remarks

Q16. Idea of Universal Basic Income has gained traction in many countries across the world in recent. Can universal basic income address the problem of poverty in India? Critically examine. (12.5 Marks)

The idea of providing Universal Basic Income in the form of certain monetary help to everyone was mooted by 2016-17 economic survey. UBI can help address the problem of poverty in following way.

explain
as per
the
+
example
of other
countries

- 1) UBI will assure a certain amount of income to every individual and hence it will help him come out of poverty.
- 2) The unit of analysis under UBI is individual & not household & hence it will help in bridging gender bias in poverty. (By helping women).
- 3) Assured income will help improve the creative potential of people and improve their skills.
- 4) Market may not be able to exploit the poor labour as he will be able to negotiate a fair wage in this scenario.
- 5) The mode of transfer will be simple (eg. Direct Benefit transfer) and it will reduce

4/2

Remarks

corruption and improve administrative efficiency.

Now ~~But~~ certainly UBL is not a panacea and it is likely to face following hurdles in its implementation -

- 1) The transferred money may not be used for productive purposes.
- 2) Distribution of money may not be equal in household
eg - women may not get their share.
- 3) The idea was tried (referendum) in Switzerland by people rejected it.
- 4) Closing down of welfare programmes may push people deep into poverty. like MARRGA & Right to Food.

Thus economic survey talks about implementing it along with other welfare programmes and giving people choice to choose one among them. This is a good step & idea its worth trying.

Remarks

Q17. Though government has taken several steps to improve the health care in India, but the sector severely faces the crunch of public funding and lacks a comprehensive approach that would include preventive and promotive health care. In this scenario, critically analyse National Health Policy 2017 as a solution to improve Health care system in India.

(12.5 Marks)

Remarks

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Remarks

Q18. India seems to be following precedents in other countries like New Zealand where a flowing river has been granted a legal status. Do you think recognizing rivers as living entities will bring change to their health and condition? Discuss. (12.5 Marks)

India has seen to be following the precedents of countries like New Zealand when Uttarakhand High Court declared that Ganga, Yamuna & their tributaries will have 'living status'.

The decision was a step in the right direction to save the Indian rivers who are sometimes called: 'life line' of Indian masses.

The 'legal status' will change the health condition of rivers in following way -

- 1) It will put judicial restriction on pollution of rivers which are in a highly polluted state.
- 2) It will help in generating awareness about the importance of rivers among the masses.
- 3) Uttarakhand Chief Secretary has been declared as 'legal guardian' and hence it will help in fixing the accountability.
- 4) The legal status has given protection to rivers.

Remarks

- River development - S.C. decision ??
way denied

from Himalayas to Bay of Bengal.

But the decision seems to have had hardly any impact on ground situation because...

- 1) There are many legal regulations pre-existing but the problem is lack of enforcement.
- 2) Government launched Namami Gange Programme but that also does not seem to have quite effective.
- 3) There are religious & cultural reasons for pollution of river in India. like cremation ground, immersion of idols.
- 4) Municipal sewage & industrial wastes are directly dumped into the river.

Thus the problem is on implementation side & not on legal side. Steps like Ganga Action Park Force, National Ganga Abhiyan are expected to improve implementation effectiveness.

Remarks

Q19. Government is expanding the mandatory usage of Aadhaar in availing various schemes and providing various services, despite the concerns regarding data security and its universal availability. Discuss benefits and challenges associated with using Aadhaar as a platform for public schemes and services. What government should do to subside the fear of people regarding privacy issue? (12.5 Marks)

Aadhaar is a 12 digit ^{unique} numeric identity issued to Indian residents. The Aadhaar is being implemented by UIDAI.

Government is ~~Aadhaar~~ expanding the mandatory usage of Aadhaar. eg. Recently Aadhaar was made mandatory for PAN card. But the concerns regarding data security still remain.

Benefits of Aadhaar

5/2

- 1) It helps in creating unique all India identity of individual and reduces duplication.
- 2) Linking Aadhaar with various welfare schemes like PDS & MNR. BBA reduces leakage. Recently government claimed that it saved around 6000 crore rupees on subsidy by curbing leakage.
- 3) It reduces the need of multiple identity cards.
- 4) It will also be helpful in monitoring demographic status of the country.

Remarks

Challenges

- 1) We are not a very data secure country and hence breach in Aadhaar data security may undermine the privacy of individuals.
- 2) In India there are no explicit law regarding the privacy of individuals and hence breach to privacy by government remains.
- 3) Government is pushing through the mandatory Aadhaar when the constitution bench of Supreme Court is hearing a petition on constitutionality of Aadhaar itself.

Govt should take following steps to subside the fear of people -

- 1) Adopt a persuasive approach
- 2) Come out with a comprehensive privacy policy
- 3) Empowering cyber security
- 4) Providing for strict punishment in case of breach of privacy

Thus Aadhaar has immense potential in

Remarks

Attaining the governance system and govt should adopt a comprehensive approach to tackle this problem.

Q20. NITI Aayog along with MHRD launched the School Education Quality Index for better monitoring and raising the education quality by providing insight on various parameters. In this reference discuss the major features of the School Education Quality Index. Also suggest steps needed to improve the learning outcomes in schools. (12.5 Marks)

NITI Aayog with MHRD launched SEQI for better monitoring & improve the performance of students. The major features of SEQI are as under-

- 1) It has divided the education performance into two categories:
 - (i) Outcome ✓
 - (ii) Governance
- 2) Each state will be evaluated based upon the parameters decided by NITI Aayog.
- 3) States will be incentivised to improve their performance. ✓

(4)

But there are other steps required to improve the performance of school education:

- 1) Implementing RDI in spirit and thus focussing upon imparting quality education. ✓

Remarks

add more content

- 2) focus on teacher training
- 3) creating better infrastructure and improving access to higher education

4) Government recently decided to participate in programme for International Student assessment of BU (IPISA) which is a good step.

write multiple points as answer

Thus there is a need to holistically review the educational policy & inputs can be taken from T & R Subramanian Committee to improve quality teaching in schools.

Remarks