Slot 1: POLITY

1) Historical underpinnings, evolution; Features, amendments, significant provisions & basic structure.
2) Comparison of Indian constitutional scheme with that of other countries.

Qn No.	YEAR	QUESTION	TOPIC	MARKS
1	2013	Discuss Section 66A of IT Act, with reference to its alleged violation of Article 19 of the Constitution.	FR 19	10
2	2014	What do you understand by the concept "freedom of speech and expression"? Does it cover hate speech also? Why do the films in India stand on a slightly different plane from other forms of expression? Discuss.	FR 19	12.5
3	2015	Does the right to clean environment entail legal regulations on burning crackers during Diwali? Discuss in the light of Article 21 of the Indian Constitution and Judgement(s) of the Apex Court in this regard.	FR 21	12.5
4	2015	Khap Panchayats have been in the news for functioning as extra-constitutional authorities, often delivering pronouncements amounting to human rights violations. Discuss critically the actions taken by the legislative, executive and the judiciary to set the things right in this regard.	Rights	12.5
5	2015	Discuss the possible factors that inhibit India from enacting for its citizens a uniform civil code as provided for in the Directive Principles of State Policy.	DPSP	12.5
6	2016	Discuss each adjective attached to the word 'Republic' in the preamble. Are they defendable in the present circumstances stances?	Preamble	12.5
7	2017	Examine the scope of Fundamental Rights in the light of the latest judgement of the Supreme Court on Right to Privacy.	FR 21	15
8	2018	Under what circumstances can the Financial Emergency be proclaimed by the President of India? What consequences follow when such a declaration remains in force?	Emergency	10
9	2018	India and USA are two large democracies. Examine the basic tenants on which the two political systems are based.	USA	15
10	2019	What can France learn from the Indian Constitution's approach to secularism?	FRANCE	10
11	2019	"Parliament's power to amend the Constitution is a limited power and it cannot be enlarged into absolute power." In the light of this statement explain whether Parliament under Article 368 of the Constitution can destroy the Basic Structure of the Constitution by expanding its amending power?	Amendment	15
12	2020	The judicial systems in India and UK seem to be converging as well as diverging in recent times. Highlight the key points of convergence and divergence between the two nations in terms of their judicial practices.	UK	10
13	2021	Constitutional Morality' is rooted in the Constitution itself and is founded on its essential facets. Explain the doctrine of 'Constitutional Morality' with the help of relevant judicial decisions.	Significance	10
14	2021	Though the Human Rights Commissions have contributed immensely to the protection of human rights in India, yet they have failed to assert themselves against the mighty and powerful. Analyzing their structural and practical limitations, suggest remedial measures.	Rights	15
15	2022	"The most significant achievement of modern law in India is the constitutionalization of environmental problems by the Supreme Court." Discuss this statement with the help of relevant case laws.	Evolution	10
16	2022	"Right of movement and residence throughout the territory of India are freely available to the Indian citizens, but these rights are not absolute. " Comment.	FR 19	10
17	2022	Critically examine the procedures through which the Presidents of India and France are elected.	FRANCE	15

1) Executive (structure, organization, functioning)
2) Ministries and Departments (of Union and State govts.)

Qn No.	YEAR	QUESTION	TOPIC	MARKS

1	2014	Instances of President's delay in commuting death sentences has come under public debate as denial of justice. Should there be a time limit specified for the President to accept/reject such petitions? Analyse.	President	12.5
2	2014	The size of the cabinet should be as big as governmental work justifies and as big as the Prime Minister can manage as a team. How far the efficacy of a government then is inversely related to the size of the cabinet? Discuss.	Cabinet	12.5
3	2021	To what extent, in your view, the Parliament is able to ensure accountability of the executive in India?	Executive	10
4	2021	Do Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committees keep the administration on its toes and inspire reverence for parliamentary control? Evaluate the working of such committees with suitable examples	Committees	15

1) Union and State Legislatures (structure, functioning, conduct of business, powers & privileges; issues therein)
2) Salient features of the Representation of People's Act.

Qn No.	YEAR	QUESTION	TOPIC	MARKS
1	2013	The role of individual MPs (Members of Parliament) has diminished over the years and as a result healthy constructive debates on policy issues are not usually witnessed. How far can this be attributed to the anti-defection law, which was legislated but with a different intention?	Anti-defection	10
2	2014	The 'Powers, Privileges and Immunities of Parliament and its Members' as envisaged in Article 105 of the Constitution leave room for a large number of un-codified and un-enumerated privileges to continue. Assess the reasons for the absence of legal codification of the 'parliamentary privileges'. How can this problem be addressed?	Parliamentry Privilege	12.5
3	2016	The Indian party system is passing through a phase of transition which looks to be full of contradictions and paradoxes." Discuss.	Political Parties	12.5
4	2017	The Indian Constitution has provisions for holding joint session of the two houses of the Parliament. Enumerate the occasions when this would normally happen and also the occasions when it cannot, with reasons thereof.	Parliament	15
5	2017	To enhance the quality of democracy in India the Election Commission of India has proposed electoral reforms in 2016. What are the suggested reforms and how far are they significant to make democracy successful?	Electoral reforms in 2016	15
6	2017	'Simultaneous election to the Lok Sabha and the State Assemblies will limit the amount of time and money spent in electioneering but it will reduce the government's accountability to the people' Discuss.	Election	10
7	2018	In the light of recent controversy regarding the use of Electronic Voting Machines (EVM), what are the challenges before the Election Commission of India to ensure the trustworthiness of elections in India	Election	10
8	2018	Why do you think the committees are considered to be useful for parliamentary work? Discuss, in this context, the role or the Estimates Committee.	Parliamentry Committee	10
9	2019	On what grounds a people's representative can be disqualified under the Representation of People Act, 1951? Also mention the remedies available to such person against his disqualification.	RoPA	15
10	2019	Individual Parliamentarian's role as the national lawmaker is on a decline, which in turn, has adversely impacted the quality of debates and their outcome. Discuss.	Debate	15
11	2020	Rajya Sabha has been transformed from a 'useless stepney tyre' to the most useful supporting organ in past few decades. Highlight the factors as well as the areas in which this transformation could be visible.	Rajya Sabha	15
12	2020	"There is a need for simplification of procedure for disqualification of persons found guilty of corrupt practices under the Representation of Peoples Act". Comment.	RoPA	10
13	2020	'Once a Speaker, Always a Speaker'! Do you think this practice should be adopted to impart objectivity to the office of the Speaker of Lok Sabha? What could be its implications for the robust functioning of parliamentary business in India?	Speaker	10

14	2021	Explain the constitutional provisions under which Legislative Councils are established. Review the working and current status of Legislative Councils with suitable illustrations.	Legislative Council	15
15	2022	Discuss the role of the Vice –Presidents of India as the chairman of the Rajyasabha	Rajya Sabha	10
16	2022	Discuss the procedures to decide the disputes arising out of the election of a Member of the Parliament or State Legislature under The Representation of the People Act, 1951. What are the grounds on which the election of any returned candidate may be declared void? What remedy is available to the aggrieved party against the decision? Refer to the case laws.	RoPA	15
17	2022	Discuss the essential conditions for the exercise of the legislative powers by the Governor. Discuss the legality of the re-promulgation of ordinances by the Governor without placing them before the Legislature.	Governor	15

1) Separation of Powers (between different organs, dispute redressal mechanisms, institutions)
2) Judiciary (structure, organisation functioning)

Qn No.	YEAR	QUESTION	TOPIC	MARKS
1	2013	The Supreme Court of India keeps a check on arbitrary power of the Parliament in amending the Constitution. Discuss critically.	SC	10
2	2014	Starting from inventing the 'basic structure' doctrine, the judiciary has played a highly proactive role in ensuring that India develops into a thriving democracy. In light of the statement, evaluate the role played by judicial activism in achieving the ideals of democracy.	Role of Judiciary	12.5
3	2015	Resorting to ordinances has always raised concern on violation of the spirit of separation of powers doctrine. While noting the rationales justifying the power to promulgate ordinances, analyze whether the decisions of the Supreme Court on the issue have further facilitated resorting to this power. Should the power to promulgate ordinances be repealed?	SoP Ordinance	12.5
4	2016	What was held in the Coelho case? In this context, can you say that judicial review is of key importance amongst the basic features of the Constitution?	Judicial Review	12.5
5	2017	Critically examine the Supreme Court's judgement on 'National Judicial Appointments Commission Act, 2014' with reference to appointment of judges of higher judiciary in India.	SC	10
6	2018	Whether the Supreme Court **J**udgement (**J**uly 2018) can settle the political tussle between the Lt. Governor and elected government of Delhi? Examine.	SC	15
7	2019	From the resolution of contentious issues regarding distribution of legislative powers by the courts, 'Principle of Federal Supremacy' and 'Harmonious Construction' have emerged. Explain.	SoP	10
8	2019	Do you think that constitution of India does not accept principle of strict separation of powers rather it is based on the principle of 'checks and balance'? Explain.	SoP	10
9	2020	Judicial Legislation is antithetical to the doctrine of separation of powers as envisaged in the Indian Constitution. In this context justify the filing of large number of public interest petitions praying for issuing guidelines to executive authorities.	SoP	15
10	2021	Discuss the desirability of greater representation to women in the higher judiciary to ensure diversity, equity and inclusiveness.	Women in Judiciary	10
11	2022	To what extent, in your opinion, as the decentralisation of power in India changed the governance landscape at the grassroots?	SoP	10

Functions & responsibilities of the Union and the States; issues and challenges of federal structure
Devolution of powers and finances to local levels; challenges therein.

Qn No.	YEAR	QUESTION	TOPIC	MARKS

1	2013	Constitutional mechanisms to resolve the inter-state water disputes have failed to address and solve the problems. Is the failure due to structural or process inadequacy or both? Discuss.	Water Dispute	10
2	2013	Many State Governments further bifurcate geographical administrative areas like Districts and Talukas for better governance. In light of the above, can it also be justified that more number of smaller States would bring in effective governance at State level? Discuss.	Local level	10
3	2013	Recent directives from Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas are perceived by the `Nagas' as a threat to override the exceptional status enjoyed by the State. Discuss in light of Article 371A of the Indian Constitution.	State	10
4	2014	Though the federal principle is dominant in our Constitution and that principle is one of its basic features, but it is equally true that federalism under the Indian Constitution leans in favour of a strong Centre, a feature that militates against the concept of strong federalism. Discuss.	Federalism	12.5
5	2015	In absence of a well-educated and organized local level government system, `Panchayats' and 'Samitis' have remained mainly political institutions and not effective instruments of governance. Critically discuss.	Local level	12.5
6	2015	The concept of cooperative federalism has been increasingly emphasized in recent years. Highlight the drawbacks in the existing structure and the extent to which cooperative federalism would answer the shortcomings.	Federalism	12.5
7	2016	Did the Government of India Act, 1935 lay down a federal constitution? Discuss.	Federalism	12.5
8	2016	To what extent is Article 370 of the Indian Constitution, bearing marginal note "Temporary provision with respect to the State of Jammu and Kashmir", temporary? Discuss the future prospects of this provision in the context of Indian polity.	State	12.5
9	2016	Discuss the essentials of the 69th Constitutional Amendment Act and anomalies, if any that have led to recent reported conflicts between the elected representatives and the institution of the Lieutenant Governor in the administration of Delhi. Do you think that this will give rise to a new trend in the functioning of the Indian federal politics?	Federalism	12.5
10	2017	"The local self-government system in India has not proved to be effective instrument of governance". Critically examine the statement and give your views to improve the situation.	Local level	10
11	2018	Assess the importance of Panchayat system in India as a part of local government. Apart from government grants, what sources the Panchayats can look out for financing developmental projects.	Local level	15
12	2019	"The reservation of seats for women in the institutions of local self- government has had a limited impact on the patriarchal character of the Indian Political Process." Comment.	Women Local Govt	15
13	2020	How far do you think cooperation, competition and confrontation have shaped the nature of federation in India? Cite some recent examples to validate your answer.	Federalism	10
14	2020	Indian Constitution exhibits centralising tendencies to maintain unity and integrity of the nation. Elucidate in the perspective of the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897; The Disaster Management Act, 2005 and recently passed Farm Acts.	Federalism	15
15	2020	The strength and sustenance of local institutions in India has shifted from their formative phase of 'Functions, Functionaries and Funds' to the contemporary stage of 'Functionality'. Highlight the critical challenges faced by local institutions in terms of their functionality in recent times.	Local level	15
16	2022	While the national political parties in India favour centralisation, the regional parties are in favour of State autonomy." Comment.	Federalism	15

1) Appointment to various Constitutional posts; Constitutional Bodies (powers, functions and responsibilities)
2) Statutory, Regulatory and Quasi-judicial bodies.

Qn No.	YEAR	QUESTION	TOPIC	MARKS

1	2013	The product diversification of financial institutions and insurance companies, resulting in overlapping of products and services strengthens the case for the merger of the two regulatory agencies, namely SEBI and IRDA. Justify.	Financial Bodies	10
2	2013	Discuss the recommendations of the 13th Finance Commission which have been a departure from the previous commissions for strengthening the local government finances.	FC	10
3	2014	The setting up of a Rail Tariff Authority to regulate fares will subject the cash strapped Indian Railways to demand subsidy for obligation to operate non-profitable routes and services. Taking into account the experience in the power sector, discuss if the proposed reform is expected to benefit the consumers, the Indian Railways or the private container operators.	Railway Authority	12.5
4	2014	National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) in India can be most effective when its tasks are adequately supported by other mechanisms that ensure the accountability of a government. In light of the above observation assess the role of NHRC as an effective complement to the judiciary and other institutions in promoting and protecting human rights standards.	NHRC	12.5
5	2015	"For achieving the desired objectives, it is necessary to ensure that the regulatory institutions remain independent and autonomous." Discuss in the light of the experiences in recent past.	Regulatory	12.5
6	2015	What are the major changes brought in the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 through the recent Ordinance promulgated by the President? How far will it improve India's dispute resolution mechanism? Discuss.	Constitutional Post	12.5
7	2016	What is a quasi-judicial body? Explain with the help of concrete examples.	Quasi-Judicial	12.5
8	2016	Exercise of CAG's powers in relation to the accounts of the Union and the States is derived from Article 149 of the Indian Constitution. Discuss whether audit of the Government's Policy implementation could amount to overstepping its own (CAG) jurisdiction.	CAG	12.5
9	2017	Is the National Commission for Women able to strategize and tackle the problems that women face at both public and private spheres? Give reasons in support of your answer.	NCoWomen	15
10	2018	How far do you agree with the view that tribunals curtail the jurisdiction of ordinary courts? In view of the above, discuss the constitutional validity and competency of the tribunals in India.	Tribunals	15
11	2018	How is the Finance Commission of India constituted? What do you understand about the terms of reference of the recently constituted Finance Commission? Discuss.	FC	15
12	2018	"The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) has a very vital role to play." Explain how this is reflected in the method and terms of his appointment as well as the range of powers he can exercise	CAG	10
13	2019	"The Attorney-General is the chief legal adviser and lawyer of the Government of India." Discuss	Attorney General	15
14	2019	"The Central Administration Tribunal which was established for redressal of grievances and complaints by or against central government employees, nowadays is exercising its powers as an independent judicial authority." Explain.	Tribunals	10
15	2020	Which steps are required for constitutionalization of a Commission? Do you think imparting constitutionality to the National Commission for Women would ensure greater gender justice and empowerment in India? Give reasons.	NCoWomen	15
16	2021	The jurisdiction of the Central Bureau of Investigation(CBI) regarding lodging an FIR and conducting probe within a particular state is being questioned by various States. However, the power of States to withhold consent to the CBI is not absolute. Explain with special reference to the federal character of India.	CBI	15
17	2021	How have the recommendations of the 14th Finance Commission of India enabled the states to improve their fiscal position?	FC	10

18	2021	Though the Human Rights Commissions have contributed immensely to the protection of human rights in India, yet they have failed to assert themselves against the mighty and powerful. Analyzing their structural and practical limitations, suggest remedial measures.	NHRC	15
19	2022	Discuss the role of the National Commission for Backward Classes in the wake of its transformation from a statutory body to a constitutional body.	NCBC	10
20	2022	Discuss the role of the Election Commission of India in light of the evolution of the Model Code of Conduct.	Election Commission	15

Slot 2: Welfare Schemes & Policies for sectors, services

Welfare Schemes (centre, states; performance, mechanisms, laws, institutions and bodies constituted for protection of vulnerable sections);

Qn No.	YEAR	QUESTION	TOPIC	MARKS
1	2013	Electronic cash transfer system for the welfare schemes is an ambitious project to minimize corruption, eliminate wastage and facilitate reforms. Comment.	Mechanisms	10
2	2013	The basis of providing urban amenities in rural areas (PURA) is rooted in establishing connectivity. Comment.	Scheme	10
3	2014	Do government's schemes for up-lifting vulnerable and backward communities by protecting required social resources for them, lead to their exclusion in establishing businesses in urban economics?	Scheme	12.5
4	2014	Two parallel run schemes of the Government viz. the Adhaar Card and NPR, one as voluntary and the other as compulsory, have led to debates at national levels and also litigations. On merits, discuss whether or not both schemes need run concurrently. Analyse the potential of the schemes to achieve developmental benefits and equitable growth.	Scheme	12.5
5	2017	Does the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 ensure effective mechanism for empowerment and inclusion of the intended beneficiaries in the society? Discuss	Law	10
6	2018	Multiplicity of various commissions for the vulnerable sections or the society leads to problems or overlapping jurisdiction and duplication of functions. Is it better to merge all commissions into an umbrella Human Rights Commission? Argue your case.	Bodies	15
7	2018	Whether National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSCJ) can enforce the implementation of constitutional reservation for the Scheduled Castes in the religious minority institutions? Examine.	Bodies	15
8	2019	Performance of welfare schemes that are implemented for vulnerable sections is not so effective due to absence of their awareness and active involvement at all stages of policy process – Discuss.	Performance	15
9	2019	The need for cooperation among various service sector has been an inherent component of development discourse. Partnership bridges bring the gap among the sectors. It also sets in motion a culture of 'Collaboration' and 'team spirit'. In the light of statements above examine India's Development process.	Mechanisms	15
10	2019	'In the context of neo-liberal paradigm of development planning, multi-level planning is expected to make operations cost effective and remove many implementation blockages.'-Discuss.	Mechanisms	15
11	2022	The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 remains only a legal document without intense sensitisation of government functionaries and citizens regarding disability. Comment.	Law	10
12	2022	Besides the welfare schemes, India needs deft management of inflation and unemployment to serve the poor and the underprivileged sections of society. Discuss.	Performance	15

Poverty and hunger issues

Qn No.	YEAR	QUESTION	TOPIC	MARKS

1	2013	The Central Government frequently complains on the poor performance of the State Governments in eradicating suffering of the vulnerable sections of the society. Restructuring of Centrally sponsored schemes across the sectors for ameliorating the cause of vulnerable sections of population aims at providing flexibility to the States in better implementation. Critically evaluate.	Schemes	10
2	2015	Though there have been several different estimates of poverty in India, all indicate reduction in poverty levels over time. Do you agree? Critically examine with reference to urban and rural poverty indicators.	Reduction	12.5
3	2017	'Poverty Alleviation Programmes in India remain mere show pieces until and unless they are backed by political will'. Discuss with reference to the performance of the major poverty alleviation programmes in India.	Programmes	15
4	2017	Hunger and Poverty are the biggest challenges for good governance in India still today. Evaluate how far successive governments have progressed in dealing with these humongous problems. Suggest measures for improvement.	Reduction	10
5	2018	How far do you agree with the view that the focus on lack or availability of food as the main cause of hunger takes the attention away from ineffective human development policies in India?	Policies	15
6	2019	There is a growing divergence in the relationship between poverty and hunger in India. The shrinking of social expenditure by the government is forcing the poor to spend more on Non- Food essential items squeezing their food – budget.- Elucidate.	Inter-relation	10
7	2020	"The incidence and intensity of poverty are more important in determining poverty based on income alone". In this context analyse the latest United Nations Multidimensional Poverty Index Report.	Report	15

Social Sector & Social Services (health, education, human resources – issues in development, management)

Qn No.	YEAR	QUESTION	TOPIC	MARKS
1	2013	Identify the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) that are related to health. Discuss the success of the actions taken by the Government for achieving the same.	Health	10
2	2013	The concept of Mid Day Meal (MDM) scheme is almost a century old in India with early beginnings in Madras Presidency in pre-independent India. The scheme has again been given impetus in most states in the last two decades. Critically examine its twin objectives, latest mandates and success.	Scheme	10
3	2014	Should the premier institutes like IITs/IIMs be allowed to retain premier status, allowed more academic independence in designing courses and also decide mode/criteria of selection of students. Discuss in light of the growing challenges.	Educational Institute	12.5
4	2014	An athlete participates in Olympics for personal triumph and nation's glory; victors are showered with cash incentives by various agencies, on their return. Discuss the merit of state sponsored talent hunt and its cultivation as against the rationale of a reward mechanism as encouragement.	HR	12.5
5	2015	Public health system has limitations in providing universal health coverage. Do you think that the private sector could help in bridging the gap? What other viable alternatives would you suggest?	Public Health	12.5
6	2015	The quality of higher education in India requires major improvements to make it internationally competitive. Do you think that the entry of foreign educational institutions would help improve the quality of higher and technical education in the country? Discuss.	Educational Institute	12.5
7	2016	Professor Amartya Sen has advocated important reforms in the realms of primary education and primary health care. What are your suggestions to improve their status and performance?	Primary Health and Education	12.5

8	2016	"Demographic Dividend in India will remain only theoretical unless our manpower becomes more educated, aware, skilled and creative." What measures have been taken by the government to enhance the capacity of our population to be more productive and employable?	HR	12.5
9	2016	Examine the main provisions of the National Child Policy and throw light on the status of its implementation.	Policy	12.5
10	2017	'To ensure effective implementation of policies addressing water, sanitation and hygiene needs, the identification of beneficiary segments is to be synchronized with the anticipated outcomes' Examine the statement in the context of the WASH scheme.	Scheme	10
11	2018	Appropriate local community-level healthcare intervention is a prerequisite to achieve 'Health for All ' in India. Explain.	Health	10
12	2019	Despite Consistent experience of High growth, India still goes with the lowest indicators of human development. Examine the issues that make balanced and inclusive development elusive.	HR	10
13	2020	National Education Policy 2020 is in conformity with the Sustainable Development Goal-4 (2030). It intends to restructure and reorient education system in India. Critically examine the statement.	Education Policy	15
14	2020	In order to enhance the prospects of social development, sound and adequate health care policies are needed particularly in the fields of geriatric and maternal health care. Discuss	Health	10
15	2021	"Besides being a moral imperative of Welfare State, primary health structure is a necessary pre-condition for sustainable development." Analyze.	Primary Health	10
16	2021	"'Earn while you learn' scheme needs to be strengthened to make vocational education and skill training meaningful." Comment.	Scheme	10
17	2021	Has digital illiteracy, particularly in rural areas, couple with lack of Information and Communication Technology(ICT) accessibility hindered socio-economic development? Examine with justification.	Literacy	15
18	2022	The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 remains inadequate in promoting an incentive-based system for children's education without generating awareness about the importance of schooling. Analyse	Education	15

Government Policies & Interventions for development of various sectors (issues in their design, implementation)

Qn No.	YEAR	QUESTION	TOPIC	MARKS
1	2014	Though 100 percent FDI is already allowed in non-news media like a trade publication and general entertainment channel, the Government is mulling over the proposal for increased FDI in news media for quite some time. What difference would an increase in FDI make? Critically evaluate the pros and cons.	FDI	12.5
2	2016	Has the Indian governmental system responded adequately to the demands of Liberalization, Privatization and Globalization started in 1991? What can the government do to be responsive to this important change?	LPG Development	12.5
3	2017	Explain the salient features of the constitution(One Hundred and First Amendment) Act, 2016. Do you think it is efficacious enough 'to remove cascading effect of taxes and provide for common national market for goods and services'?	GST	15
4	2018	"Policy contradictions among various competing sectors and stakeholders have resulted in inadequate 'protection and prevention of degradation' to environment." Comment with relevant illustration.	Policy	10
5	2021	"Though women in post-Independent India have excelled in various fields, the social attitude towards women and the feminist movement has been patriarchal." Apart from women education and women empowerment schemes, what interventions can help change this milieu?	Women in Sectors	15
6	2022	Reforming the government delivery system through the Direct Benefit Transfer Scheme is a progressive step, but it has its limitations too. Comment.	DBT	10

Slot 3: Governance.

Important aspects of governance; Transparency and accountability (institutional and other measures), Citizens Charter E-Governance (applications, models, successes, limitations, potential)

Qn No.	YEAR	QUESTION	TOPIC	MARKS
1	2013	'A national Lokpal, however strong it may be, cannot resolve the problems of immorality in public affairs'. Discuss.	Lokpal	10
2	2013	Though Citizen's charters have been formulated by many public service delivery organizations, there is no corresponding improvement in the level of citizens' satisfaction and quality of services being provided. Analyze.	Citizens Charter	10
3	2015	"If amendment bill to the Whistleblowers Act, 2011 tabled in the Parliament is passed, there may be no one left to protect." Critically evaluate.	Transparency	12.5
4	2015	In the light of the Satyam Scandal (2009), discuss the changes brought in corporate governance to ensure transparency, accountability.	Transparency	12.5
5	2016	In the integrity index of Transparency International, India stands very low. Discuss briefly the legal, political, economic, social and cultural factors that have caused the decline of public morality in India.	Transparency	12.5
6	2016	"Effectiveness of the government system at various levels and people's participation in the governance system are inter-dependent." Discuss their relationship with each other in context of India.	Effectiveness	12.5
7	2017	Discuss the role of Public Accounts Committee in establishing accountability of the government to the people.	Accountability	10
8	2018	Citizens' Charter is an ideal instrument of organizational transparency and accountability, but. it has its own limitations. Identify the limitations and suggest measures for greater effectiveness or the Citizens Charter.	Citizens Charter	15
9	2018	E-Governance is not only about utilization of the power of new technology, but also much about critical importance of the 'use value' of information Explain.	E-Governance	10
10	2019	Implementation of information and Communication Technology (ICT) based Projects / Programmes usually suffers in terms of certain vital factors. Identify these factors, and suggest measures for their effective implementation.	E-Governance	10
11	2020	"The emergence of Fourth Industrial Revolution (Digital Revolution) has initiated e-Governance as an integral part of government". Discuss.	E-Governance	10
12	2020	"Recent amendments to the Right to Information Act will have profound impact on the autonomy and independence of the Information Commission". Discuss.	Transparency	10

1) *Development Processes & Development industry (role of NGOs, SHGs, groups & associations, donors, charities, institutional and other stakeholders)*

2) *Pressure Groups & Formal, Informal associations (and their role in the polity)*

3) *Role of Civil Services in a democracy.*

Qn No.	YEAR	QUESTION	TOPIC	MARKS
1	2013	The legitimacy and accountability of Self Help Groups (SHGs) and their patrons, the micro-finance outfits, need systematic assessment and scrutiny for the sustained success of the concept. Discuss.	SHG	10
2	2013	Pressure group politics is sometimes seen as the informal face of politics. With regards to the above, assess the structure and functioning of pressure groups in India.	Pressure Group	10
3	2014	Has the Cadre based Civil Services Organisation been the cause of slow change in India? Critically examine.	Civil Services	12.5
4	2014	The penetration of Self Help Groups (SHGs) in rural areas in promoting participation in development programmes is facing socio-cultural hurdles. Examine.	SHG	12.5

5	2015	How can the role of NGOs be strengthened in India for development works relating to protection of the environment? Discuss throwing light on the major constraints.	NGO	12.5
6	2015	The Self-Help Group (SHG) Bank Linkage Programme (SBLP), which is India's own innovation, has proved to be one of the most effective poverty alleviation and women empowerment programmes. Elucidate.	SHG	12.5
7	2015	Examine critically the recent changes in the rules governing foreign funding of NGOs under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA), 1976.	NGO	12.5
8	2016	"In the Indian governance system, the role of non-state actors has been only marginal." Critically examine this statement.	Institutions	12.5
9	2016	"Traditional bureaucratic structure and culture have hampered the process of socio-economic development in India." Comment.	Civil Services	12.5
10	2017	How do pressure groups influence Indian political process? Do you agree with this view that informal pressure groups have emerged as powerful than formal pressure groups in recent years?	Pressure Group	10
11	2017	'The emergence of Self Help Groups(SHGs) in contemporary times points to the slow but steady withdrawal of the state from developmental activities'. Examine the role of the SHGs in developmental activities and the measures taken by the Government of India to promote the SHGs.	SHG	15
12	2017	Initially Civil Services in India were designed to achieve the goals of neutrality and effectiveness, which seems to be lacking in the present context. Do you agree with the view that drastic reforms are required in Civil Services. Comment	Civil Services	15
13	2019	What are the methods used by the Farmers organizations to influence the policy-makers in India and how effective are these methods?	Stakeholders	10
14	2020	"Institutional quality is a crucial driver of economic performance". In this context suggest reforms in Civil Service for strengthening democracy.	Civil Services	10
15	2020	"Micro-Finance as an anti-poverty vaccine, is aimed at asset creation and income security of the rural poor in India". Evaluate the role of Self Help Groups in achieving the twin objectives along with empowering women in rural India.	SHG	15
16	2021	"Pressure groups play a vital role in influencing public policy making in India." Explain how the business associations contribute to public policies.	Pressure Group	10
17	2021	Can Civil Society and Non-Governmental Organizations present an alternative model of public service delivery to benefit the common citizen? Discuss the challenges of this alternative model.	NGO Civil Society	15
18	2021	Can the vicious cycle of gender inequality, poverty and malnutrition be broken through microfinancing of women SHGs? Explain with examples.	SHG	10
20	2022	Do you agree with the view that increasing dependence on donor agencies for development reduces the importance of community participation in the development process? Justify your answer.	Donor	15

Slot 4: International relations.

India and its Neighbourhood (relations)

Qn No.	YEAR	QUESTION	TOPIC	MARKS
1	2013	What is meant by Gujral doctrine? Does it have any relevance today? Discuss.	Pakistan	10
2	2013	In respect of India — Sri Lanka relations, discuss how domestic factors influence foreign policy.	Sri Lanka	10
3	2013	Discuss the political developments in Maldives in the last two years. Should they be of any cause of concern to India?	Maldives	10
4	2013	The protests in Shahbag Square in Dhaka in Bangladesh reveal a fundamental split in society between the nationalists and Islamic forces. What is its significance for India?	Bangladesh	10

5	2013	What do you understand by 'The String of Pearls'? How does it impact India? Briefly outline the steps taken by India to counter this.	South East Asia	10
6	2013	The proposed withdrawal of International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) from Afghanistan in 2014 is fraught with major security implications for the countries of the region. Examine in light of the fact that India is faced with a plethora of challenges and needs to safeguard its own strategic interests.	Afghanistan	10
7	2014	With respect to the South China sea, maritime territorial disputes and rising tension affirm the need for safeguarding maritime security to ensure freedom of navigation and over flight throughout the region. In this context, discuss the bilateral issues between India and China.	China	12.5
8	2015	Terrorist activities and mutual distrust have clouded India-Pakistan relations. To what extent the use of soft power like sports and cultural exchanges could help generate goodwill between the two countries? Discuss with suitable examples.	Pakistan	12.5
9	2015	Project `Mausam' is considered a unique foreign policy initiative of the Indian Government to improve relationship with its neighbors. Does the project have a strategic dimension? Discuss.	Policy	12.5
10	2016	"Increasing cross-border terrorist attacks in India and growing interference in the internal affairs of several member-states by Pakistan are not conducive for the future of SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation)." Explain with suitable examples.	Pakistan	12.5
11	2017	'China is using its economic relations and positive trade surplus as tools to develop potential military power status in Asia', In the light of this statement, discuss its impact on India as her neighbor.	China	10
12	2022	India is an age-old friend of Sri Lanka.' Discuss India's role in the recent crisis in Sri Lanka in light of the preceding statement.	Sri Lanka	10

Effect of Policies & Politics of Developed and Developing countries on India (India's interests, diaspora)

Qn No.	YEAR	QUESTION	TOPIC	MARKS
1	2013	Economic ties between India and Japan while growing in the recent years are still far below their potential. Elucidate the policy constraints which are inhibiting this growth.	Japan	10
2	2015	Increasing interest of India in Africa has its pros and cons. Critically examine.	Africa	12.5
3	2016	Evaluate the economic and strategic dimensions of India's Look East Policy in the context of the post-Cold War international scenario.	Core Policy	12.5
4	2017	Indian Diaspora has an important role to play in South-East Asian countries' economy and society. Appraise the role of Indian Diaspora in South- East Asia in this context	Diaspora S-E Asia	15
5	2017	The question of India's Energy Security constitutes the most important part of India's economic progress. Analyze India's energy policy cooperation with West Asian Countries.	Energy	15
6	2018	'India's relations with Israel have, of late, acquired a depth and diversity, which cannot be rolled back." Discuss.	Israel	10
7	2018	In what ways would the ongoing US-Iran Nuclear Pact Controversy affect the national interest of India? How should India respond to this situation?	Nuclear Pacts	15
8	2019	"What introduces friction into the ties between India and the United States is that Washington is still unable to find for India a position in its global strategy, which would satisfy India's National self- esteem and ambitions" Explain with suitable examples.	USA	15
9	2019	"The long-sustained image of India as a leader of the oppressed and marginalised Nations has disappeared on account of its new found role in the emerging global order". Elaborate.	Image	15

10	2019	'The time has come for India and Japan to build a strong contemporary relationship, one involving global and strategic partnership that will have a great significance for Asia and the world as a whole.' Comment.	Japan	10
11	2020	What is the significance of Indo-US defence deals over Indo-Russian defence deals? Discuss with reference to stability in the Indo-Pacific region.	Defence	15
12	2020	'Indian diaspora has a decisive role to play in the politics and economy of America and European Countries'. Comment with examples.	Diaspora US Europe	10
13	2021	"If the last few decades were of Asia's growth story, the next few are expected to be of Africa's." In the light of this statement, examine India's influence in Africa in recent years.	Africa	10
14	2021	"The USA is facing an existential threat in the form of a China, that is much more challenging than the erstwhile Soviet Union." Explain.	USA- CHINA	10
15	2022	Clean energy is the order of the day.' Describe briefly India's changing policy towards climate change in various international fora in the context of geopolitics.	Climate policy	15

1) Important International institutions, agencies, for a (structure, mandate)
2) Bilateral, Regional, Global groupings & Agreements (involving and/or affecting India)

Qn No.	YEAR	QUESTION	TOPIC	MARKS
1	2013	The World Bank and the IMF, collectively known as the Bretton Woods Institutions, are the two inter-governmental pillars supporting the structure of the world's economic and financial order. Superficially, the World Bank and the IMF exhibit many common characteristics, yet their role, functions and mandate are distinctly different. Elucidate.	WB IMF	10
2	2014	WTO is an important international institution where decisions taken affect countries in profound manner. What is the mandate of WTO and how binding are their decisions? Critically analyse India's stand on the latest round of talks on Food security.	WTO	12.5
3	2014	India has recently signed to become founding a New Development Bank (NDB) and also the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) .How will the role of the two Banks be different? Discuss the significance of these two Banks for India.	NDB AIIB	12.5
4	2014	Some of the International funding agencies have special terms for economic participation stipulating a substantial component of the aid to be used for sourcing equipment from the leading countries. Discuss on merits of such terms and if, there exists a strong case not to accept such conditions in the Indian context.	Funding Agency	12.5
5	2014	The aim of Information Technology Agreements (ITAs) is to lower all taxes and tariffs on information technology products by signatories to zero. What impact should such agreements have on India's interests?	Agreements	12.5
6	2015	Discuss the impediments India is facing in its pursuit of a permanent seat in UN Security Council.	UNSC	12.5
7	2016	What are the aims and objectives of the McBride Commission of the UNESCO? What is India's position on these?	UNESCO Comission	12.5
8	2016	"The broader aims and objectives of WTO are to manage and promote international trade in the era of globalization. But the Doha round of negotiations seem doomed due to differences between the developed and the developing countries." Discuss in the Indian perspective.	WTO	12.5
9	2017	What are the main functions of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)? Explain different functional commissions attached to it.	UNESCO Comission	10
10	2018	What are the key areas of reform if the WTO has to survive in the present context of 'Trade War', especially keeping in mind the interest of India?	WTO	15
11	2018	A number or outside powers have entrenched themselves in Central Asia, which is a zone to interest to India. Discuss the implications, in this context, of India's joining the Ashgabat Agreement, 2018.	Agreements	10

12	2019	'Too little cash, too much politics, leaves UNESCO fighting for life.' Discuss the statement in the light of US' withdrawal and its accusation of the cultural body as being 'anti-Israel bias'.	UNESCO	10
13	2020	Critically examine the role of WHO in providing global health security during the Covid-19 pandemic.	WHO	10
14	2020	'Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad)' is transforming itself into a trade bloc from a military alliance, in present times – Discuss.	QUAD	15
15	2021	The newly tri-nation partnership AUKUS is aimed at countering China's ambitions in the Indo-Pacific region. Is it going to supersede the existing partnerships in the region? Discuss the strength and impact of AUKUS in the present scenario.	CHINA	15
16	2022	Do you think that BIMSTEC is a parallel organisation like the SAARC? What are the similarities and dissimilarities between the two? How are Indian foreign policy objectives realized by forming this new organisation?	BIMSTEC	10
17	2022	How will I2U2 (India, Israel, UAE and USA) grouping transform India's position in global politics?	I2U2	15

This file was prepared by notias9 and was shared by Team KJS
Best Wishes