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INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
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4(a)	20	
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Total Marks Obtained:

INSTRUCTIONS

- Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
- There are EIGHT questions printed in ENGLISH.
- All questions are compulsory. 1 & 5 (5)
- The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. 24
- 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 medium other than the authorized one.
- Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
- Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Alignment Competence
2. Context Competence
3. Content Competence
4. Language Competence
5. Introduction Competence
6. Structure - Presentation Competence
7. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

1. (a) "If planning for districts is crucial, that for urban agglomerations is not only crucial but also urgent" Examine. 10

Planning has been given a decentralized push by 74th amendment of constitution 243 ZD and 243 ZE provide for creation of district planning committee and metropolitan planning committee (with $\frac{1}{5}$ th and $\frac{2}{3}$ rd of elected members from among local bodies respectively).

Though, it is an important step, but planning for urban agglomeration is even more crucial due to following reasons:-

- 1) Indiscriminate migration towards the metro cities resulting into rapid rate of urbanization which leads to creation of slums in the absence of proper administration.
- 2) Socio-economic disparity increases quickly in UAs than tier-2 or 3 districts.
- 3) Crime rate increases and unidentified migrants are difficult to track due

to lack of identifications.

Due to these various reasons, the coordinated planning and its implementation becomes urgent due to rapidly changing scenarios. The representation of constituting local bodies and the consolidation of their plans in the master plan of MPC is a challenge. Quick measures should be taken to resolve issues & increasing problems of large agglomerations.

1. (b) Budget is a political statement of the government in power; at the same time, budget is also an instrument of transparency. Evaluate. 10

Budget, under article 112 is the annual financial statement consisting of all revenues sources and expenditures of the government in a fiscal year.

It is not merely an accounting device, rather a reflection of policies of political party in power. The priorities and commitment of govt is displayed through the budget eg economic reform agenda of current

govt is shown in the budget through strong resolve to industrial and labour reforms, focus on GST in the budget speech etc.

A government focussing on the social upliftment agenda will commit more expenditure towards social welfare, health, education & pension policies eg Greek Tsipras party.

Through budget, various departmental expenditures are also displayed, & scrutinized through departmental standing committees, discussion in the parliament, stakeholders & the media. Demand for grants are voted after thorough discussions and thus manifests openness of the govt's route to implementation of policies. Also, the declaration of resource generation (revenue) shows the clear balance and the dependence of govt on borrowing and market clearly.

1. (c) "Finance Commission remains at best a pale shadow of its constitutional self." Comment. 10

Finance commission is constituted under article 275 to recommend the devolution^{of} the funds from centre to states and augment the funds of local bodies and to guide the principles behind sharing of resources.

But, with the emergence of PC, the role of FC had been cornered. The discretionary grants of article 282 by PC took more importance than statutory grants of FC (article 280).

Recently, the PC has been abolished and this has reversed the role of FC in Indian polity. Also, tied grants under centrally sponsored schemes have been decreased which was the major criticism of PC.

Devolution of FC is a constitutional authority and for betterment of centre state relations, its imperative

to pay heed to the recommendations of FC. Their recommendations should not be rejected without due reasons.

Various committees on centre-state relations have asked for its strengthening. eg Rajamannar committee asked to make FC a permanent body and complete disbanding of PC. Devolution of more funds & resources to states is imperative for cooperative federalism and role of FC should be given its due place.

1. (d) Judicial activism is perceived as the inevitability of contemporary India.

Judicial activism has taken birth¹⁰ as a next step to 'judicial review' feature of Indian constitution by Supreme court & High courts.

Major reasons of its rise are:

1) Erosion of credibility of political class due to criminalization of politics and corruption has made people repose their faith in the judiciary.

- 2) Policy paralysis on the part of executive or legislature eg Delhi air pollution case by NGT.
- 3) Open authority due to non-acceptance of the feature of 'Parliamentary Sovereignty' in India.
- 4) Judges acting as the collective measures & considering it their responsibility as ^{upholding} public welfare.
eg Public distribution system (PDS)
judgement of SC leading to the biggest mid day meal program of world.
- 5) Rise of public interest litigation (PIL) has also expanded judicial activism.
- 6) Loss of public exchequer being checked by judiciary when executive fails to take steps eg coal block allocation case.
- 7) Upholding rights of individuals & freedom of expression due to actions of policy makers eg striking down 66A of IT act, Naz foundation case (transgender as 3rd sex)

1. (e) Mughal administration was despotic and monopolistic. Critically Examine. 10

Mughal administration is said to be a 'revenue' state because it worked meagerly for welfare of public or its people's lives.

Policies of mughal administration were focussed towards the creation of a decentralised system of provinces (Suba) further divided into (Paragana) and appointed officials to manage entities.

The appointment was based on the wish of king and they could be removed on their wish anytime. There was no meritocracy like Kautilya's times or British period. This involved the culture of lower ranking officials giving 'gifts' to their superiors to continue in the office. Patronage system gave rise to the despotism of local officials e.g. Kohwal.

and revenue officials. People were harassed and coerced into paying high taxes. Religious taxes on pilgrims (Tazūya) were also present.

Business was also focussed on only few commodities fields and free licenses were not permissible which further aggravated the monopolistic practices.

2. (a) It is often said that indirectly elected Rajya Sabha obstructs reforms agenda of the directly elected house reflecting public opinion. Do you agree that there need for reforms in the relationship between both houses on the lines of the Salisbury Convention? 20

2. (b) What is the difference between privatization and disinvestment? Public sector enterprise in India is suffering from some glitches, critically analyse these major problem areas and also elucidate the significant reforms in the context of liberalization. 15

2. (c) "Internal controls (which internal audit is an important element) can be regarded as one of the foundations of good governance and the first line of defense against improprieties". In light of above statement discuss the Weaknesses of the Present System of Internal Audit in India. 15

3. (a) "The credibility of the tax administration of a country depends to a very great extent upon the credibility of its dispute resolution mechanism." In light of given statement discuss the dispute resolution mechanism for Tax disputes? Suggest reforms for transparent and fair the dispute resolution mechanism. 20

Taxation regime is very important for the growth of industries and people in a country. A clear, predictable and efficient taxation administration will give the authentic information to investors and will promote the economy.

Role of dispute resolution is also equally important for the clarity of rules, laws and by-laws. A quick resolution to any conflicts arising between state & industry ~~should be~~ is crucial to maintain growth. Recent controversy like Vodafone-Hutchison deal or transfer pricing issue are the reflections of lacunae in Indian mechanism of dispute resolution.

The mechanism of dispute resolution works under ^{art.} 323 B of the constitution and creates 'Income tax appellate tribunal' and 'Customs & Excise appellate tribunal'. The composition of these bodies consists of HC Judges along with administrators and experts in the field of taxation administration.

Appeals to these tribunals lie further to High courts & Supreme court respectively.

Reforms needed:-

- 1) Clear, transparent and predictable comprehensive policy at national level.
- 2) Goods & services tax rollout to bring about more ease in taxation.
- 3) More benches of ITAT/CEAT to be created to reduce the workload.
- 4) Retrospective policies should be avoided.

- 5) Eminence of members of tribunals should be established to increase the quality of judgements.
- 6) Time-limited framework should be created in tribunals.
- 7) Commercial disputes bill, 2014 is a step in the right direction.
- 8) Appellate benches at HC should be created separately.

3. (b) Indian political system has seen many models of federation. Discuss relationship of union and states with reference to changing scenario in Indian political environment and development needs. 15

The relationship of union and states in India has been dynamic. In the beginning, till 1967 the relations have been smooth more or less due to same party ruling at centre and most states. But, the relationship underwent major change post-1967 when disputes and conflicts started arising in administrative, political & financial sectors.

Major contention areas have been:

- 1) ~~Governors~~^{President's} rule imposition (art 356 and 365)
- 2) Fiscal decentralisation (sharing of taxes and resources)
- 3) Centralised planning & CSS tied funds.
- 4) Water disputes among states and centre-states.

But, due to the changing political environment i.e. growing emergence of regional parties, formation of coalition governments at centre and the resulting impact, there is a call for the 'cooperative federalism'. States have been more vocal in articulating their demands eg WB Teesta river water agreement impact on bilateral relations with Bangladesh or TN's Tamil concerns in SL.

Disparate development in regions has also made states to call for their

particular needs proactively eg rise of industry in Chhattisgarh & Jharkhand emerging in top-10 states in ease-of-doing business ranking.

Call for these developmental support from centre gave rise to 'competitive federalism'. It is required that centre adopts stakeholders approach while dealing with states through inter-state councils, NITI Aayog, 14th FC, Recom, acceptance etc.

3. (c) "There is need to achieve greater uniformity in the structure and power of Regulatory Commissions in India" Discuss. 15

The regulatory structure in India is rather cumbersome, unstructured and random dealing with various sectors on an ad-hoc basis. Some like SEBI, IRDA, etc are regulated by their statute while some through only notification.

Unsatisfactory and inconsistent powers in the hands of 'Forward Markets Commission' gave rise to

the illegal off-exchange commodity derivative trading (dabba trading).

The need to go through multiple processes of approval, licensing & trading forced the govt to merge FMC & SEBI in 2015.

There is a need for more such reformative steps in the regulatory regime. Multiplicity of agencies gives rise to:

- 1) diffusion of responsibility
- 2) lack of clarity in jurisdiction
(SEBI-IRDA recent conflict over UTI)

- 3) blame-game in cases of an undesired event (Harshad Mehta scam)

Such issues are not conducive for the growth of business in the country. FSLRC (BN Sri Krishna Report) has also recommended a uniform framework for whole market eg

Uniform financial ^{regulatory} authority,
financial securities appellate
tribunal (FSAT) for markets.

Such convergence will lead to

- 1) Uniform rules over all markets →
ease of doing business will ^{be} improved
- 2) Centralised database of investors
will help in identifying fraudsters.
- 3) Dispute resolution will become
easier. 4) Coordination will improve

4. (a) The financing of disaster relief has been an important aspect of federal fiscal relations. Discuss the views of the Fourteenth Finance Commission
X disaster relief funding mechanism. 20

4. (b) In many cases, public sector enterprises have delivered beyond expectations. However in several cases, such undertakings have underperformed, thereby causing social and economic damage of a kind for which there is no quantitative measure. Analyze the issues which concern the public sector enterprises of India? 15

4. (c) 'Increasing collaboration and cross-fertilization between the public and private sectors is expected to have a profound and positive impact on the public sector's leadership ethos.' Comment. 15

5. (a) What is the relevance of Mughals administration in present day Indian administration? 10

Mughal administration has passed on its legacy to British and to current Indian state. There are many elements of Mughal states from which inspiration can be drawn in current times :-

- 1) Mughal state was the first to unite India into states (suba) & districts (paragana) - the system is followed till today but there was enormous autonomy in working to provinces from which we can gain - about balancing of states autonomy and country's unity.
- 2) It was a 'Kagazi Raj' due to lack of communication facilities which may not be relevant today due to ICT and e-governance, but the administration, coordination remains an inspiration.

3) Absence of meritocracy has been discarded in current democratic state.

4) Autonomy to village, Chowkidari can be an inspiration towards development of community policing & local bodies for services.

5) Tolerant system of Arbar & removing pilgrim tax is an inspiration to keep secular values intact, though the feature was not present during certain other rules.

5. (b) The powerful position of the Cabinet in India should not be described as its "Dictatorship". Comment.

10

Parliamentary democracy runs through council of ministers headed by PM but a small group of ministers including important portfolios as defence, finance, external affairs form cabinet and take major policy decisions.

But, this is inevitable because

1) Size of COM has grown to accommodate political allies and important specialised activities of government.

Therefore, coordination in a small group is easier.

2) Secretariat of cabinet provides expertise & guidance to it to frame major policies which may become chaotic, if includes full com.

This may not be taken as dictatorship as!

1) Proper checks and balances have been provided through parliamentary control over executive eg question hour, speeches, demand for grants.

2) Judicial review by courts.

3) Fourth estate - ie. media puts extensive analysis of policy decisions in public domain for debate and deliberations through experts.

4) Increasing awareness of citizens for following stakeholders approach.

5) Right to Information act provides a major deterrent for ill-thought policies.

5. (c) There is a long way to travel to achieve effective decentralized governance in India. Discuss. 10

Decentralisation in India has been kicked through 73rd and 74th constitutional amendments.

But, the political will at state level to devolve funds, functions and functionaries to local level has been low. Due to which, a scenario has emerged where even basic activities like creation of new services, budget, posts etc need approval of state govt.

The functions provided under 243G and 243W have not been assigned to local bodies. Planning at local level has not taken roots.

The dream of bottom-up plans formulation remains distant. Local bodies are starved of funds to even provide basic services and power to levy taxes for generation

of 'own revenue' has also been given in few states. Powers of GS (Gram Sabha) have not been realised in its true potential. Methodologies like 'social audit' have not been used effectively due to lack of awareness. Election disputes have not been solved ~~at~~ ^{within} appropriate time, which prevents democracy. Power of decentralisation is yet to be realised in India.

5. (d) The focus of planning in India has got a major shift under influence of liberalization. Examine. 10

Focus on centralised planning in India was due to the impact of Lenin's New economic policy post independence. But this top-down approach remained ineffective in bringing the 'development to the masses' and inequality grew. With the onset of LPG, there was a change in planning process

1) The excessive control in terms of license quota-inspector raj was abolished.

2) Foreign exchange management was eased.

3) Trade barriers were removed and it was made more accessible.

The decision making process was delegated to lower levels. State planning boards were given major impetus to put forward their requirement & need based plans. In the same year, 1991, 73rd & 74th amendment focussed on local planning.

Industry was given a freer hand and thus, the model was travelling downwards. Power centres were disturbed with emergence of multiple centres of decisions.

5. (e) The Constitution should not be changed too frequently. It must be changed when the situation requires to be changed. Comment. 10

Constitution is an organic, live and dynamic document. It must change when the circumstances need it to change.

Because of the emergence of newer challenges in political, economic and social arena, it must be able to cope up with needs - eg post-independence it was felt that concentration of land & power in few hands required dilution of fundamental right to property so, it was done to meet the needs.

But, if it is done too frequently the 'basic structure' or the underlying philosophy of the constitution may itself undergo the change. This should not be allowed as that represents the values of a country & its people.

Basic principles that guide the behaviour and action of the individual & polity may be adversely affected eg ~~policy~~ of values of secularism, DPSP, fundamental rights of individuals (Part III) etc.

Therefore, a vital balance & judgement is needed to make the changes in the constⁿ - what & when ^{being the most imp} aspects.

6. (a) Social media is often used for creating social confrontation and communal tensions. Discuss steps to empower law & order machinery to check the misuse of media platforms. 20

Social media has changed the way people interact. The wider reach & immediate dissemination of information make it a dangerous means of communication as well.

At many incidents, it has incited violence and disrupted law & order. Regulation of internet and in particular, social media

has become a challenge for lawmakers & law-enforcement agencies equally such as:

- 1) Identification of people is tougher due to virtual identity.
- 2) Tracking of user becomes difficult with the advent of many high technology inventions to hide real identity or IP address.
- 3) Infrastructure deficit & lack of capacity building for agencies.
- 4) International element involved in such crimes

Reforms :-

- 1) collaboration with media companies to identify violent, insinuating content and block it from spreading
- 2) Law enforcement machinery to increase manpower to deal with growing number of such cases.
- 3) Stringent punishment for citizens

Spreading provocative content through videos / photos etc -

4) Tracking system of agencies need to be strengthened to identify the originating place for contents going viral.

5) Technical training and capability of law-enforcers.

6) Dedicated enforcers for such malaise to avoid late detection as happened in Mehndi case in Bengaluru.

7) Internet governance framework to be discussed with international community as blocking such website becomes difficult as servers are outside our jurisdiction.

Though upholding freedom of expression is crucial in a modern state, security of citizen & nation is also equally important with growing threats of radicalisation.

6. (b) Do you agree that the National Judicial Appointments Commissions is better mechanism over the earlier to manage the judicial appointments? Give reasons. 15

To understand the betterment of a system, we first need to know problems of earlier mechanism i.e. Collegium system devised by SC in second and Third Judges cases.

- 1) Non-transparency and opaqueness in whole process.
 - 2) No framework for qualification of ~~former~~ judges.
 - 3) Subjective judgments without the element of clarity, openness and objectivity.
 - 4) Judges appointing themselves which has not been found in any other country.
- NTAC has resolved few of these concerns such as inclusion of executive and eminent persons has made the process more participative and veto provided

has also made it democratic.

But, the opaqueness in its working has not been fully resolved. Qualifications for judges has also not been laid down which is a major concern.

But, - these problems can be resolved through laying down the guidelines in rules and regulations of the act. If properly implemented, it does not itself violates 'basic structure' through not maintaining independence of the judiciary.

Therefore, with following improvements, NJAC should be given a chance

- 1) Putting the advertisement for posts in public domain and open competition
- 2) Minutes of the meetings to be put in website.
- 3) Qualifications should be clearly present in the act itself to avoid any conflict.

6. (c) The PIL is a socio-economic movement generated by the judiciary to reach justice especially to the weaker sections of the society but its misuse is often nowadays. Analyse. 15

PIL is an Indian judiciary innovation to give more chances to ^{public minded} citizens for asking justice relating to public welfare measures. It was started by Justice Bhagwati and the concept became a flag-bearer of innovative and welfare orientated methods of Indian judiciary.

Many important cases like declaration of criminal antecedents of politicians in nomination form, polluter-pays principle, Delhi air pollution case, recent case of Mumbai sound pollution (decrease in level during Diwali) have been brought to discourse through this platform.

It has empowered the citizens of the country and provided them

an important vent for their social inclinations.

But, lately, there has been seen an upsurge in no of PILs often having been directed against an individual and an organisation. SC has even fined PIL petitioners for wasting the time of court with unimportant and severe-oriented issues.

This misuse has caused the euphoria about PILs to die down. SC, already having been over-burdened should not be wasting its efficiency and time for miscreants of society. PIL should remain an aid to weaker sections of the society and proper guidelines and criteriae should be laid down for their application.

7. (a) Post independence, bureaucracy was re-oriented towards the development need of the new nation which faced enormous challenges. In your opinion, has the bureaucracy succeeded in fulfilling these expectations? Give reasons for your answer. 20

7. (b) Even before independence, a solid ground had been prepared for introducing and implementing administrative reforms in a systematic manner. Elucidate.

15

7. (c) Recommendations of Punchhi commission and sarkaria commission regarding appointment process of governors can go a long way in restoring the dignity of the post of governor. Analyse. 15

8. (a) "The umbilical cord which connects the local bodies to the States is stronger and so it is all the more important that funds to them flow only through the States". Examine the contentious issues in "Centre-State-Local" financial relations. 20

73rd and 74th constitutional amendment have provided for the creation of rural and urban local bodies. But, though 'local govt' is a subject under list-II (state list) of 7th schedule of the constitution of India, it has been given the authority to devolve power to local governments (LG).

But, this can not be the sole reason to argue that states should always serve as a link between union and local parts.

Rather, LGs also derive their authority directly from constitutional amendment, therefore their direct relationship with union govt should not be impeded and the notion of 'subordination to state' should be removed. SARC has even radically recommended that fiscal devolution should occur directly from union to local bodies through share in divisible funds of union govt.

Authority to state govt in devolution of funds, functions & functionaries (FFF) has not taken off due to lack of political will & resistance towards decentralisation.

FC's power to recommend the augmentation of local bodies' resources should be continued as its an organic link between the three.

(243 I) State finance commission should come up with 'index of backwardness' and recommend fiscal devolution. States need to pay heed to them and a written reply should be provided in case of non-acceptance.

Composition of SFC should be regular in all states and should converge with time of FC of India so that both suggestions can be implemented together for better coordination.

For local bodies also, it should be made obligatory to widen & deepen their tax base through various property-based taxes on individuals & also on union & state govt properties. Non-revenue sources should also be augmented. Market borrowing should be allowed by state govt

8. (b) The process known as 'agencification' has been the cornerstone of public service reforms around the world. Examine the above preposition with suitable examples from India and abroad. 15

'Agencification' implies to the formation of a special purpose organisation to carry out some particular specialised tasks.

The concept has been growing in various countries eg UK, Australia, South Africa and has developed the maximum in the context of local developmental and municipal services.

Large number of independent organisations have sprouted eg water & sewerage board, electricity board, road development agency etc. Though, there was euphoria while creation of these agencies as separate from local bodies and being accountable to state government in India,

there has not been all well with the system.

The lack of coordination due to multiplicity of agencies has led to the diffusion of responsibility and its abdication as well.

Therefore, it has been recommended that though technical expertise may require separate board or committee, they should not be outside the framework of local planning bodies eg DPC (art 243ZD) in India and they should serve as technical arm to planning in DPC.

8. (c) Functionalization of the IAS is a need of Today as there is increasing specialization of Government activities. Explain. 15

Generalist- specialist debate has been one of the legacies of the British in Indian systems. Northcote-Trevelyan report recommended for open literary exams for administrators and IAS has also been following the same in India.

But, the functions of the govt are not merely law & order, revenue administration; they require highly technical expertise in various matters of company laws, cyber crimes, telecom policies, renewable energy, climate change etc.

Therefore, the need of people-specialists in their areas is arising.

Paul Appleby and First ARC have also recommended the same. where one of the eight provided areas, IAS was recommended to

acquire specialisation and there is need to expand the scope of those eight basic functions such as revenue, finance, personnel etc.

More technical all India services also have been recommended by Punchhi commission such as medical, health, education etc.

This ^{will} give rise to the growth of an army of officers ready to cope up with challenges of modern international administration.

eg WTO negotiations, serious economic offences ^{relating to} laws ~~relating~~ of many countries, double taxation, e-governance etc require specialisation and a good blend of combination of both in adequate ratio is required.