

NEXT IAS

CSE (MAINS) TEST SERIES - 2024

(To be filled by candidate)

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Roll No. : MT24PSIL1009 Date of Examination : 27-07-2024

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Exam Centre : Old Rajinder Nagar ☐ Online ☒

Test-04

POLITICAL SCIENCE & INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Dated : 21-07-2024

Time Allowed : Three Hours

Maximum Marks: 250

QUESTION PAPER SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

(Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions)

There are EIGHT questions. Candidate has to attempt FIVE questions in all.

Question no 1 and 5 are compulsory and out of the remaining THREE are to be attempted. Among these THREE questions, one should be from each section.

Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission certification 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, wherever specified, should be adhered to.

Attempts of questions shall be counted in chronological order. Unless struck off, attempt of a question shall be counted even if attempted partly. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the answer book must be clearly struck off.

(For filling by Examiners only)

Q. No.	Page No.	Max. Marks	Marks	Total	Signature
1. (a)	4	10			
1. (b)	6	10			
1. (c)	8	10			
1. (d)	10	10			
1. (e)	12	10			
2. (a)	14	15			
2. (b)	17	15			
2. (c)	20	20			
3. (a)	24	15			
3. (b)	27	15			
3. (c)	30	20			
4. (a)	34	15			
4. (b)	37	15			
4. (c)	40	20			
5. (a)	44	10			
5. (b)	46	10			
5. (c)	48	10			
5. (d)	50	10			
5. (e)	52	10			
6. (a)	54	15			
6. (b)	57	15			
6. (c)	60	20			
7. (a)	64	15			
7. (b)	67	15			
7. (c)	70	20			
8. (a)	74	15			
8. (b)	77	15			
8. (c)	80	20			
Grand Total					

Remarks

Observations:

The first observation is that the sample is a mixture of two different materials. The first material is a light-colored, granular substance, and the second material is a darker, more fibrous substance. The two materials are mixed together in a way that suggests they were once separate but have now become integrated.

The second observation is that the mixture appears to be a solid, but it has a very loose, crumbly texture. This suggests that the materials are not strongly bonded together, and they can be easily broken apart. This is a common characteristic of many types of mixtures, especially those that involve a combination of a solid and a liquid.

The third observation is that the mixture has a very high degree of homogeneity. This means that the two materials are mixed together in a way that is very uniform, and there are no visible boundaries between the two materials. This is a good sign, as it indicates that the mixture is well-mixed and that the two materials are compatible.

The fourth observation is that the mixture has a very low density. This means that it is much lighter than most other materials of this type. This is a good sign, as it indicates that the mixture is not too heavy and that it can be easily handled.

The fifth observation is that the mixture has a very high degree of stability. This means that it does not change over time, and it remains in the same state. This is a good sign, as it indicates that the mixture is stable and that it can be used for a long time.

SECTION-A

Write the following question in about 150 words.

1. (a)

Discuss the factors responsible for the growth of regional parties in the Indian political system. (10 marks, 150 words)

The rise of the regional parties in the Indian political system was accompanied with breakdown of the Congress system. post 1969.

There are multiple factors for the growth of regional parties which involves both systemic factors as well as socio-personal factors.

Systemic factors include de-linking of the lok sabha elections with the state assembly elections. This allowed mobilisation of people on regional issues.

The Green Revolution and the state reorganisation commission also gave rise to regional parties.

Legendra Yadav, calls the rise of regional parties as first democratic upsurge. Similarly, the rise of ombuds after green revolution is termed as bullish Capitalist by Rudolph and Rudolph.

The Indian federalism where union dependent on state for executive federation (stronger Indian states)

The social movements like JP movement which gave rise to many regional leaders like Mulayam Singh Yadav, Lalu Yadav gave rise to regional parties. (socio-economic factors).

these regional parties shaped future of Indian politics after Congress System and still continuing to do so.

1. (b)

Discuss the reasons for the environmental movements in India. (10 marks, 150 words)

Candidates
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Environmental movements in India are the mix of both new social movement and old social movement, because of the Prismatic nature of Indian society. (FW Rbqqs).

The environmental movements has been caused by the grievances of the local tribal people to protect their livelihoods against the developmental model of Indian State.

Example - Niyangiri movement in Odisha against the Bauxite mining by the Vedanta groups.

Similarly, the Narmada Bachao Andolan movement, the Chipko movement showcase the breed and better issue of the local

tribal people as the reason behind the environmental movements.

however there are trends of new social movements also in preservation of environment.

example - conservation of Arrey forest in Maharashtra, conservation of forests in Delhi ridge.

Then the environment movements in India are both the old social movement and new social movement go hand in hand.

In this regard, Sumita Nandan has given the concept of "new environmentalism" which calls for giving more democratic rights to people to best conserve the environment.

1. (c)

Examine the impact of LPG on political discourse in India

(10 marks, 150 words)

Candidates must not write on this margin

During 1990s, India was facing the Balance of Payment Crisis. To overcome this, comprehensive reforms called LPG reforms were done in 1991 with the support of IMF.

LPG reforms brought structural changes in the Indian economy which not only brought transformational change to society, economy but also to Indian polity.

Earlier the Indian political system was following statist model of development, where state was at the commanding heights of the economy. This has led to "overdeveloped state" (Hamza Alvi).

Post LPG reforms, the neoliberal notions of development and economic growth were followed. It led to rolling back of state or minimal state (Hayek, Nozick).

Private Players emerged as the central pillars of development.

Corporatization of the Indian politics also increased. Increased role of money in politics - Indian politics was in favour of FDI, investments.

According to Milana Vaidhyan, the LPG reforms has led to increase role of army and muscle powers. There is increase role of and influence of businesses (emerged as potential pressure groups).

Today, both the traditional values (caste identity) is going together with development (market, money).

1. (d)

Discuss the objectives of land reforms implemented in post independence India.

(10 marks, 150 words)

Candidates
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Land reforms was a central pillar of the congress post independence to regulate land and promote distributive justice.

'Land to the landless'

was the important slogan popularised for implementation of land reforms in post independence India.

There were five core objectives of the land reforms : Abolition of Zamindari, imposition of the land ceilings, tenancy reforms by providing security of tenure to the tillers, land to the tillers or landless and land consolidation.

This was to promote redistributive justice, equality and inclusivity.

in the society. This was in accordance with the objectives enshrined in DPSP in Article 39b and Article 39c

However, implementation was not completely successful - According to Atul Kohli, the State in India lacked the organisational capacity to confront the political might of the propertied class. Gunnar Myrdal called it as "soft state".

Francis Frankel called that the accommodative politics of the Indian government diluted the radical agenda. Sudipto Kaviraj and Pranab Bardhan termed Congress and State as instrument of bourgeoisie

Thus, a new era of land reforms is necessary as it is today not only a developmental issue but also a security issue (left wing extremism in North East)

1. (e)

Difference between old and new social movements.

(10 marks, 150 words)

Candidates
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Social movements is a political representation where people come together with least degree of institutionalisation.

Hannah Arendt, calls social movement as communicative action in civic sphere.

Social movement can be categorised into old and new social movement.

Old social movement emerged in Europe during industrial revolution where people organised themselves for bread and butter issues.

Old social movement relate to grievances which are associated with the basic livelihood issues.

Example - Social movements led by the workers against the

Capitalists.

However, new social movements are new form of social movements which are related to improving "quality of life" issues. These are related to aesthetics.

example - conservation of environment in west. social movement against clean environment.

However, in primitive society like India and most other developing states, the distinction between the two is not very clear and they often overlap.

example - Environment movement in India is also bread and butter issue of the tribals as well as quality of life issues. This was seen in the Silent valley movement.

Thus, both new and old social movements allow people to mobilise themselves to fulfill objectives.

3. (a)

Analyze the nature of the demands made by ethnic groups in Northeast India and evaluate the approaches taken by the Indian government to address these demands.

(15 marks, 200 words)

Candidates
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The political sociology approach of Comparative politics studies the interface between politics and social factors like caste, religion and ethnicity.

According to Atul Kohli, since independence there has been many ethnic movements and conflicts in India, making India a laboratory to study.

There are multiple ethnic groups in India's Northeast Region with diverse demands which are sometimes conflict with demands of other ethnic groups and sometimes conflict with National interest.

In Nagaland, the Nagas are demanding for a separate Nagaland. But after Naga Peace accord, the NSCN (IM) came to agreement with

GoI to relinquish the demand of separate Nagalim but still they are demanding for separate flag and constitution.

Similarly, in Manipur there is ethnic violence among the Meiteis and the Kuki's for the scheduled tribe status demanded by Meiteis.

Due to the illegal immigration from Bangladesh, there has been demographic change in Assam which is creating ethnic violence.

GoI has adopted multi-dimensional approach to address these demands. Indian government is trying to negotiate and dialogue with the different factions to promote peace in the region. Example, Bodo peace accord was signed in 2020 in Assam, giving greater autonomy

to Bodo territorial region.

According to Atul Kohli, to address these ethnic groups' demands and manage ethnic movements, not less but more democracy is needed.

Thus, government is trying to accommodate their demands through various constitutional and legal means. Example - Inner line permit under Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation Act, bringing the states under schedule VI and strengthening autonomous district councils.

However, GOI is also resorting to force if the ethnic movements turn violent and which can endanger India's sovereignty.

Thus, more accommodative stance of the government can bring peace in the region.

3. (b)

Critically examine the role of social movements in strengthening the democracy of India.
(15 marks, 200 words)

Candidates
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Social movements is also a type of political representation like pressure groups and political parties but with least degree of ~~any~~ institutionalization.

Social movements represents communicative action in civil sphere, where people act in concert to each other and exercise power
(Hannah Arendt)

Social movements strengthen democracy as people directly come forward to exert influence. People organise themselves to put forward some common objective and demands.

Social movements show the reversal of elitist model of democracy where scholars like

Pareto calls 'circulation of elites' and Robert Michels 'Iron Law of Oligarchy'

Social movements allow people to directly put their grievances.
example - Narmada Bachao Andolan against the displacement of the tribals.

JP movement or total revolution movement strengthen democracy by generating awareness to different sections of the society ~~and~~ about their civil and political rights.

However, social movements also termed as plebiscitisation of politics. It leads to mobocracy.

The political culture approach in comparative politics (Sydney Verba)

said that too much participant culture is not good for democracy.

He called the civil culture as the best and ideal one which is judicious mix of participant, subject and parochial political culture.

Too much relying on social movements will lead to de-institutionalisation of political democracy. Institutions play an important role in democracy. otherwise democracy may lead to mass or mobocracy. (Plato's criticism of democracy).

Thus, social movements are successful in creating awareness and empowering people, but factors in institutions also necessary for everlasting democracy.

2 (a)

Discuss the role of the Finance Commission in enhancing federalism in India, and what are the major challenges it encounters in achieving this objective?

(20 marks, 250 words)

Candidates
must not write
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Finance Commission (Article 280) of the constitution is considered as the balancing wheel of fiscal federalism in India.

According to Vijay Kelkar (former finance secretary, GOI), fiscal federalism is the oxygen of federalism in India. It is the most important element of federalism in India.

Finance Commission role is to strengthen the fiscal federalism. It does so by various mechanisms and performing various roles.

Finance Commission decides the distribution of the net proceeds of the taxes between the centre and the state (vertical devolution).

and between the states (horizontal devolution)

The 15th finance commission headed by NK Singh has set the vertical devolution of 41% of the divisible pool thus increasing the availability of funds to states (strengthening federalism)

Similarly, the commission has decided to add the 'demographic criteria' (demographic performance) so that the southern states are not discriminated against (balancing fiscal federalism).

Finance commission also under Article 275 of the Constitution decides the 'statutory grants' to various states apart from the 41% devolution. This is to suit the special needs of the states.

Finance Commission also give suggestions to improve and strengthen the state finance commission so as to strengthen the finances of the local government.

However, there are some challenges which it encounters to fulfill the above objectives.

Finance Commission is a recommendatory body, the recommendations are not binding to the government which reduces its effectiveness.

The members of the finance commission are unilaterally selected by the union government and there is no provision of any 'panel' or "select committee" which questions on its autonomy.

There are also no fix criteria mentioned in the constitution on qualifications of the members.

The finance commission is also limited or bounded by the Terms of references (TOR) which is unilaterally decided by the union government. State government do not have any say in deciding TOR for finance commission. This dilutes the federal spirit.

The ^{statutory} discretionary grants (under Article 275) given by finance commission are overshadowed by discretionary grants u/A 282 of the constitution.

Thus, a select committee, and states say in deciding TOR should be increased to allow the finance commission to fulfil its objective.

4. (a)

Identify the factors that have continued the use of religion in Indian politics. Analyze its impact on Indian politics. (15 marks, 200 words)

Candidates must not write on this margin.

Like many other post colonial states, India is also a prismatic society (Friedson); where both traditional and modern values coexist, thus allowing the continued use of religion in Indian politics.

According to Atul Kohli, when modern values are inscribed into a traditional society, then the elites go for identity politics using caste, religion and ethnicity to mobilise people.

There are multiple factors that have continued the use of religion in Indian politics.

Since, independence, mobilisation of people on identity lines was prevalent - colonial legacy

of divide and rule. The partition of India was made on religious grounds. This legacy continued even after independence to motivate people by the elites.

But, the role of religion became prominent after 1990s Babri Masjid demolition, which gave rise to the party like BJP which were based on twin objectives of 'Hindu Nationalism' and 'new developmentalism'.

According to Christopher Jaffrelot, the rise of the BJP can be viewed as fear among the Hindus of the minority appeasement model of Congress.

Thomas Blom Hansen also reflected the rise of BJP in his book "Saffron weave".

The impact of religion in Indian politics is that Indian politics have become more polarised on communal lines.

There is rise of communal violence, hate speech in the society. This has reduced the role of caste in Indian politics. The BJP model of Hindutva has brought various castes into its fold. (Mandal politics overshadowed by Kamandal politics)

However, the 2024 general election verdict shows that role of caste is not dead. The verdict was a blow to Kamandal politics.

Thus, identity politics is not enough. Any political mobilisation should follow the ideal of social justice and inclusivity.

4. (b)

How effective has the National Human Rights Commission been in protecting and promoting human rights in India along the lines of the constraints it faces?

(15 marks, 200 words)

Candidates
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"Every state is known by the rights it maintains" - Laski

National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) is a statutory body under the NHRC act. The main role and function of NHRC is to protect the human rights of the people and strengthen the mechanism of human right regime in the country.

NHRC does various studies and try to implement the international laws to strengthen human rights legislation in India.

NHRC was successful in rehabilitation of the Chakma refugees in the North East Region. NHRC has voiced against

the police tortures and custodial deaths.

NHRC has generated awareness among the people about human rights. It has led to struck down of the laws like TADA and POTA. It has called for prison reforms where sor are undetainable and overcrowding of prison.

However, NHRC faces many constraints. Sou. Sarabjee has called NHRC as the toothy illusion. Similarly, former NHRC chairman H.L. Dattu, called NHRC as "toothless tiger".

This is because, NHRC is just a recommendatory body. It cannot enforce its judgements.

It does not have its own investigative agency and depend on the Union government for funds and functionaries. This reduces autonomy of the body.

The members are appointed by the President, but there is lack of diversification in its membership. It is dominated by judicial members and bureaucrats.

NHRC cannot take action against the Army and it cannot look into cases beyond one year old.

Thus, these lacunae must be improved. NHRC should be given constitutional status. Jeevan Reddy committee had recommended to allow NHRC to look into cases against the Army. This will strengthen NHRC and Human right regime in India.

4. (c)

Examine how the Comptroller and Auditor General of India enhances governmental accountability and acts as a watchdog over public finances. (20 marks, 250 words)

Candidates
must not write
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Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG)
under article 148 of the constitution
is a constitutional body and act
as a watchdog of public purse.

Dr. Ambedkar has called
CAG as one of the most important
office of India as it enforces
the financial accountability of
the executive thus strengthening
the 'parliamentary model' of democracy.

CAG audits various accounts
of the union and the state. It
audits the finance account, the
appropriation account and the
account on public undertaking.

CAG also undertakes two
kinds of audits, legal audit and

propriety audit - In legal audit CAG looks into the adherence of rules, laws by the government during expenditure and in ~~for~~ propriety audit, CAG also questions the broad wisdom of the government.

CAG places their audit reports by submitting it to the President, who in turn places it before the Public account committee, the report of which placed in the parliament. On the basis of the reports, the legislators can question the government on financial impropriety if any and hold the executive accountable. Thus ~~for~~ fulfilling Article 75.

In past, CAG through various audit reports has highlighted various scams like 2G spectrum allocation scam, Bofors deal scam,

Adarsh housing scam etc.

However, there are various issues in the functioning of the CAG, which has diluted its executive accountability.

CAG is just a recommendatory body. Its recommendations are not binding. There is a delay in putting the reports of CAG in parliament.

CAG is a single member body and also lack expertise to evaluate and audit the financial part of the administrative expenditure.

Most of the audits are post mortem in nature. Also CAG cannot question the broad

policy of the government -

There is no selection committee for appointing CAG thus questioning its autonomy -

there is lack of cooperation by the other ministries in seeking audits of the ministries and departments

Many times the reports of the CAG are not discussed in parliament. Executive accountability can only be ensured when it is discussed in parliament.

Thus, mandatory discussion of the reports, making the recommendations binding in nature and mandatory action taken report can strengthen executive accountability in financial matters.

SECTION-B

5. (a)

Discuss the key factors contributing to the agricultural crisis in India?

(10 marks, 150 words)

Almost 80% of the Indian population is involved in agriculture sector which contribute to just 20% of India's GDP.

The current sector of Indian agriculture is associated with various challenges and crisis. There is decrease output, crop failures, intermittent floods and droughts, lack of storage and marketing.

The factors of current agricultural crisis range from historical to social to political factors.

Historically, agriculture was neglected by the political class. Post independence, the Nehruvian model (Nehru-mahalanobis model) of planning led to neglect of the

agriculture sector.

The social factors attribute to fragmentation of land holdings. The land size is not conducive for mechanisation of agriculture reducing overall productivity.

The political factors attribute to the policy related to agriculture adopted by the government. Poor implementation of MSP, lack of input supports like subsidies on seeds, fertilisers leading to improvement of peasantry. Similarly, subsidies on urea, water and electricity leading to environmental crisis in arid regions.

Thus a comprehensive reform is needed in the agriculture sector, just like LPG reforms to solve the agriculture crisis.

5. (b)

Write a short note on - Nature of pressure groups in India (10 marks, 150 words)

Candidates
must not write
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Pressure groups are called as the
invisible empire - Finer

According to structure functional
approach of Almond and Powell,
pressure groups form the essential
function "interest articulators"

The nature of pressure groups
in India can be best understood
by the classification made by
Charles Almond.

In India, the pressure groups
are mostly institutional pressure
groups, atomic pressure groups
and pressure groups on identities
like caste, religion etc.

Since India is a post colonial
state, an overdeveloped state (Hansen
Ali), hence pressure groups

are institutional in nature. Example - civil service associations, the India Bank association. These are part of the ~~for~~ government and influence the government decisions from within.

Similarly, because of the ~~primary~~ nature of Indian society (few Reggs), Indian pressure groups are organised on caste lines, religious lines etc. example - Jat Mahasabha, Hindu Mahasabha

As India is a developing country, there is less degree of institutionalisation. Thus we see atomic pressure groups. example - candle march against rape victims etc.

Thus the unique characteristics of Indian democracy affects the nature of Indian pressure groups which are different from western pressure groups.

5. (c)

Mention primary reasons for the emergence of human rights movements in post independence India. (10 marks, 150 words)

Candidates must not write on this margin

"Every state is known by the rights it maintains" - Laski

Human rights movements in India emerged in post independence due to various reasons -

Primary reasons for its emergence can be attributed to failure of the state in protecting the human rights of the people.

Post independence, India witnessed multiple wars, 1947 with Pakistan, 1962 with China and 1965, 1971 again with Pakistan.

This has led to influx of refugees into India which call for emergence of human rights movement in India.

The judicial doctrine and interpretation of Article 14 in Menaka Gandhi's case led to due process of law and life with dignity. This led to emergence of human rights movements.

~~Justice~~ Justice P.N. Bhagwati brought the concept of Public Interest Litigation (PIL) and the protection of vulnerable sections calls for emergence of better human rights.

However, as Upendra Baxi criticises that human rights movement faces crisis of legitimacy. as they are selective in nature. They do not question the ~~bad~~ attacks to police forces by Marxists.

Thus, human rights movements have to comprehensively cover both cricketers and police forces to protect their legitimacy.

5. (d)

Influence of economic factors on electoral behaviour of Indian Voters.

(10 marks, 150 words)

Candidates
must not write
on this margin

Electoral Behaviour is a field in Indian politics which is influenced by the behaviouralism (David Easton).

It studies how the Indian voters vote in elections and why they vote how they vote.

Traditionally, influence of traditional factors like caste, religion was dominant in deciding electoral behaviour. Christophe Jaffrelot says, "Indians don't cast their vote, they vote their caste".

However, post liberalisation and specially after the 'New developments' model of BJP like "Sabka saath, Sabka vikas", the economic

factors are also influencing the electoral behaviour.

there is rise of the new middle class which has greater aspirations in terms of growth, income, employment which influences the Indian politics.

the "new developmentalism" of BJP was the reason behind its rise in 2014, ~~but~~ and this is also the reason behind its setback in 2024 elections, because of failure in implementing its development promise.

increasing inflation, unemployment, has dominated the national and regional politics in 2024 elections.

Yogendra Yadav, rightly says that Indian politics moving from identity politics to identity plus politics.

5. (e)

Comment on : Role of Union Public Service Commission.

(10 marks, 150 words)

Candidates
must not write
on this margin

Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) is a constitutional body to promote the system of merit in India.

Dr. Ambedkar called UPSC as one of the most important institution apart from CAG and Election Commission.

Role of UPSC is to select meritorious candidates for various posts in All India Services (IAS, IPS), central civil services (IFS) and other important group A and group B offices under government of India.

It promotes transparency and merit in the recruitment process.

Apart from recruitment, UPSC also

play important role in case of disciplinary actions, ~~offer~~ promotions and other matters in the civil services. However, this role has been diluted post formation of CVC (Central Vigilance Commission).

There are some issues which hinder UPSC in discharging its role in fair manner. It is just a recommendatory body, its decisions are not binding, there may not be necessary for the government to provide Action taken Report.

The final decisions related to recruitment also lies with DoPT which sometimes contradict UPSC.

Thus, UPSC should be strengthened by checking the loopholes to promote merit in the country.

6. (a)

Discuss the major provisions of the recently proposed CEC and Other ECs (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Act, 2023. Do you agree these provisions effectively ensure the free and fair election of India? (15 marks, 200 words)

Candidates
must not write
on this margin

"India is known for three things in the world, Gandhi, Taj Mahal and Elections" - former CEC, S. Venkatesh

To conduct free and fair elections it is a must to have a healthy democracy. Election Commission (EC) is an important constitutional body under Article 324 of the Constitution to fulfill the objective of free and fair elections.

The government of India, recently proposed CEC and other ECs Act 2023. The main provisions of this includes -

① provision of selection committee -

It is a three member committee comprising Prime Minister, Leader of opposition Lok Sabha and Union

- appointed minister appointed by PM.
- (a) search committee - headed by union law minister to recommend a panel of 8 five members to the selection committee
 - (b) the term of the members of Election Commission will be 6 yrs or 65 years of age whichever is higher.
 - (c) members not eligible for reappointment
 - (d) salary similar to SC judges.
 - (e) removed on the same ground and same manner as judges of the supreme court.
 - (f) Qualifications of the members / eligibility criteria - they should not be below the rank of secretary to Govt and should be person of integrity and knowledge of conducting elections.

These provisions has settled most of the debates related to autonomy

of the Election Commission. However
there are some issues.

The selection Committee does
not involve CJI which is against
judgement of Anoop Bamraal case.

The ~~Contract~~ does not bar members
from ~~for~~ any post retirement jobs.
(Quid pro quo chances are there)

The salary, security of tenure
should be mentioned in the constitution
itself to provide greater autonomy

The Election Commission is
not empowered to deregister any
political party. Moreover the eligibility
criteria restricted to just Secretary
to GoB.

Thus the recommendations of
Bhush Goswami Committee, Law Commission
and NCRWC should be implemented
to make PFI conduct free and
fair elections.

6. (b)

Discuss the nature of the Indian political system from the time of independence in 1947 to the onset of the Emergency period in 1975 (15 marks, 200 words)

Candidates must not write on this margin

The nature of the Indian political system has changed and evolved overtime, from independence till date.

Post independence, Congress was the major political party both at the centre and the state.

Rajmohan has termed the period between 1947 to 1969 as the Congress System. Congress was a broad church, it was a coalition of different ideologies.

As a result, there was spirit of cooperative federalism where both centre and state were cooperating each other.

The Nehruvian economic model of planning led to the establishment

of Planning Commission. It was Nehru's vision of making India a sovereign independent self sufficient state.

It was also Nehru's vision of "progressive socialism" which led to equitable distribution of resources in the economy. (Article 39b and 39c of the Constitution)

The Nehru cabinet was centralised towards the Prime Minister. PM was a "moon among stars" driven by strong personality cult.

This changed ~~with~~ by 1969, when there was rise of regional parties, called by ~~separate~~ separate federals as "first democratic upsurge". This has challenged the Congress system ~~at~~, but still

Congress was strong at the centre, but there was rise of regional parties in the state leading to what is called "Bargaining Federalism".

This has led to more authoritarian nature of the Union, specially during the time of former PM Indira Gandhi. There was tussle between judiciary and parliament - The remarkable Keshavananda Bharti judgement gave the doctrine of Basic Structure which protected India's democracy.

The imposition of Emergency was also a severe blow to India's democracy. The JP movement or total revolution was one of the most important civil liberties movement that gave rise to new regional leaders like Kuldeep Singh Yadav, Uda Yadav who later changed the future of Indian politics after 1975.

6. (c)

The increasing criminalization of Indian politics is often attributed to the nexus between money, muscle, and politics. Do you believe that implementing state funding for political campaigns could help mitigate this issue? (Give your opinion. (20 marks, 250 words))

Candidates
must not write
on this margin

"Indians are under the rule of money and muscle power and not under the rule of law" - Christophe Jaffrot.

Criminalization of Indian politics is often attributed to the nexus between money, muscle and politics. It is a post 1967 phenomenon. N N Vohra committee has highlighted this nexus between the bureaucrats, politicians and criminals as unholy nexus (Neta-Babu-Laala nexus)

Similarly, Saranam Committee said that "Electoral corruption is the root cause of corruption in India"

Thus cleaning the electoral campaigns by reducing the role of money and muscle power

is not only crucial for elimination of criminalisation of politics. but also to ensure free & fair elections by ensuring level playing field in India's elections.

To reduce this role of money and muscle power, there are multiple recommendations given by various committees.

Dinesh Goswami Committee

particularly provided for state funding of elections to mitigate this menace.

State funding of elections means every candidate funding for campaign should be given by the state. As a result political candidates do not seek to help of illegal means or criminals for funding of elections.

This would also ensure level playing field as every section of the society specially marginalized sections would able to contest elections.

However there are some practical challenges and limitations in state funding of elections.

The Law Commission has not agreed for state funding of elections. State funding would increase the burden of the government (fiscal deficit).

There would be no level playing field if party's expenditure is not limited. It is practically difficult to monitor other sources of funding.

State funding would work only if other sources of funding

were strictly prohibited -

Law Commission has supported for giving support in kind rather than state funding. like providing space for campaign, relaxation in taxation etc.

Thus, more integrated approach need to be adopted to curb criminalization of politics. Election Commission need to be empowered to deregister political party. Awarding to NCRWC, model code of conduct should be given legal backing.

Law Commission also suggested to disqualify candidates with pending criminal cases and disqualify candidates who failed to disclose election expenses to Election Commission on time.

Such integrated measures along with state funding would help.