

**GSSCORE**

**An Institute for Civil Services**

---

**IAS TOPPER'S**

**TEST COPY**

**VIDUSHI SINGH**

**AIR - 13**

**(CSE 2022)**

**GENERAL STUDIES**

---

 **8448496262**  **iascore.in**

## POLITY - 3

Time Allowed: 90 min.

Max. Marks: 150

Q.	Marks	Instructions to Candidate
1.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• There are 10 questions.</li><li>• All questions are compulsory.</li><li>• The number of marks carried by a question is indicated against it.</li><li>• Answer the questions in 250 words each. All questions carry equal marks. <span style="float: right;">15 x 10 = 150 Marks</span></li><li>• Keep the word limit indicated in the questions in mind.</li><li>• Answers must be written within the space provided.</li><li>• Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.</li></ul>
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		

47

Name Vidushi Singh

Roll No. 40666

Mobile No. \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature Vidushi

1. Invigilator Signature \_\_\_\_\_

2. Invigilator Signature \_\_\_\_\_

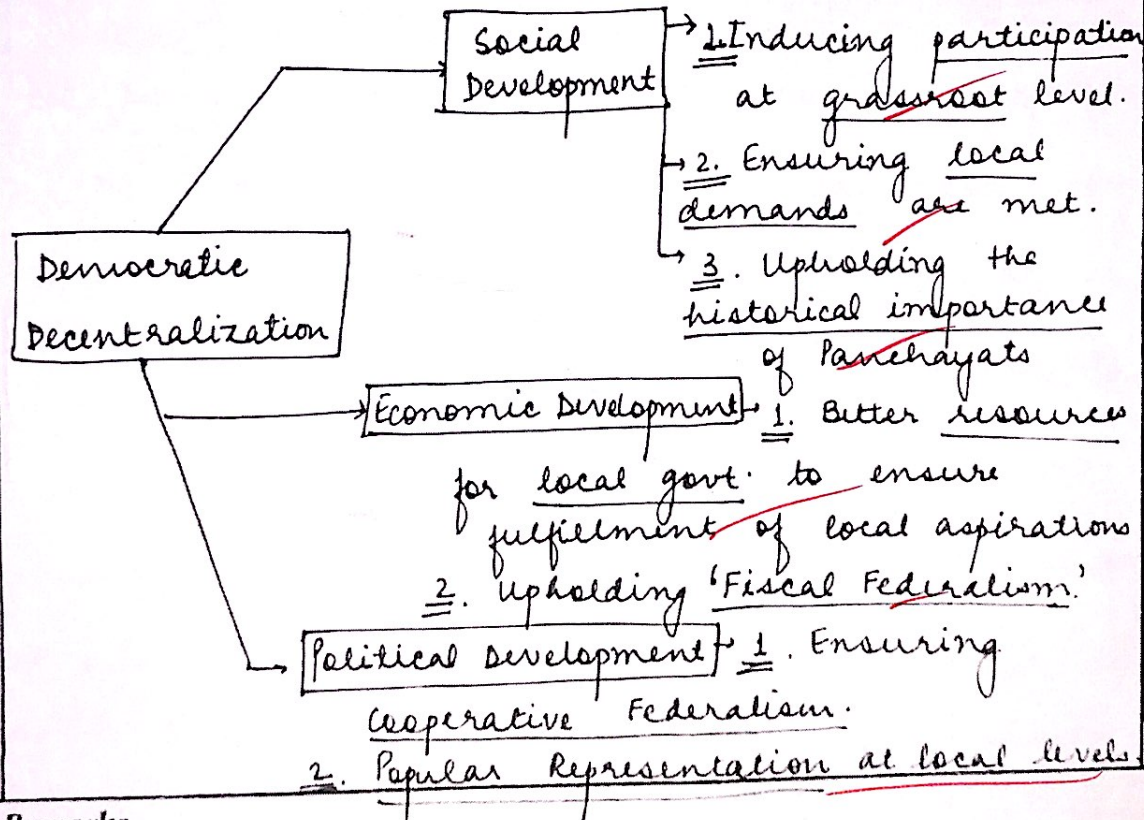
→ Try to focus on to the point answer writing throughout.

→ Try to explain the keyword of given question in introduction.

Q1. Democratic decentralization is regarded as a necessary condition of social, economic and political development. To what extent does it establish social harmony, community spirit and political stability? Discuss with suitable examples. (15 Marks) (250 Words)

73<sup>rd</sup> & 74<sup>th</sup> Amendment Acts of 1992 established Grassroot Democratic Institutions in India by providing constitutional status to 'Panchayats' and 'Municipalities'. This has transformed the notion of representative democracy into participatory democracy. Democratic Decentralisation is a necessary condition for Social, Economic & Political development as:

Explain democratic decentralisation as well.



Remarks

Without Democratic Decentralization, the people might feel distant from their representatives and be aloof from the political sphere altogether. Moreover, in a vast country like India, it is important to maintain unity by celebrating the diversity entailed in it.

Democratic Decentralisation has made it possible to establish:

1. **SOCIAL HARMONY:** (i) Gram Sabha: a compulsory provision of 73<sup>rd</sup> amendment Act has been empowered, as it takes part directly in the economic and cultural plans of panchayat.
- (ii) PESA Act, 1996: provides adequate provisions for scheduled Areas and ensures holistic development.

Remarks

2. COMMUNITY SPIRIT: (i) Under PESA Act, 1996, approval from Gram Sabha for economic & development plans is necessary. Thus, consensus based community spirit is mobilised.

Sound

analysis

of

role of

democratic

decentralisation

(ii) By ensuring subjects like small-scale industries, forest produce, khadi, etc., age old community traditions are preserved in 11th schedule.

3. POLITICAL STABILITY: (i) 3-tier structure: at village, block & zila and further similar system in municipalities ensures wider application of and thus ensures stability.

Need

to

highlight

some

limitations

of

democratic

decentralisation

(ii) SFC: every 5 year makes provisions for finances & resources and ensures smooth functioning of LSG.

as well as this, democratic decentralisation is a necessary condition for Social, Economic & Political Development as well it ensures Social Harmony, Community

as Remarks Spirit & Political stability. However, there is need to further strengthen LSG in India by providing adequate resources to them.

6

Do not use this space for writing

Q2. The populist programs often come at the cost of long term sustained development. Evaluate the statement with special emphasis on India. (15 Marks) (250 Words)

Populist Programs refer to programs formulated to extract political gains from the masses. These programmes often tend to put social, cultural and religious problems at the forefront, ignoring the developmental priorities of a country.

It is not kind of appeasement policy but freebies

Come to the point directly

In Indian context, political sphere in the last 7 decades has undergone significant changes. During one party rule, long term developmental plans with huge central bias were the norm. However, since the Coalition Era of 1990s, the political sphere has witnessed upsurge in populist programs. With every new government in power, overlapping schemes are introduced which cost high and put

Remarks

immense burden on exchequer. This also comes at the cost of long term sustained development, as :

1. Religious Policies: to consolidate vote banks often overlook the developmental needs of the masses. Eg: Triple Talag Bill, Ram Mandir, etc.

2. Renaming Places: changing names of places, eg: Prayagraj instead of Allahabad, although tries to preserve history of the place, but has no impact on development of the area.

3. Renaming Policies: With every new govt. in power, same policies often are subsumed into new policy with a different name. Eg: PMAY, etc.

4. Overlapping Policies: often, parallel schemes are introduced, rendering older schemes

Need to discuss negative implications of populist program

Remarks



redundant.

This clearly shows how the conflict between Populist & Developmental Programs often comes at a high cost to the fiscal expenditure. However, some populist

programs are deemed crucial to implement in order to establish equality and upholding the spirit of constitution.

A case in point is Triple Talag Bill, which empowers Muslim women. Populism

is often considered as a means to garner support of the masses. It does not make the long term Development Goals

in some cases, however to imply Populism as the sole cause of underdevelopment would be erroneous. Thus,

although populist policies do come at the cost of sustained development, these are sometimes very important for social and

Remarks

Populist programs are actually freebies like free food, etc.

None of the populist programs cited is satisfactory in context

by you given

1/2

Q3. The last few decades have seen arguments on abolishing as well strengthening bicameralism in state governments. Elaborate the structure of bicameral legislature in Indian states. Also examine the need for such an institution?

(15 Marks) (250 Words)

U/A 169, a state legislature can pass a resolution to either create or abolish legislative council of the state. legislative council is the upper house of state legislature. Currently, it is present in only 6 states of India.

Structure of Bicameral legislature in States:

legislative Assembly and council together ~~form~~ establish Bicameral legislature in Indian states.

- 1. legislative Assembly / lower House is headed by Speaker and the representatives are chosen via direct election. While in upper House, 'Chairman' leads the council and representatives are elected indirectly.
- 2. lower House has special powers in terms

Briefly explain bicameralism in intro

Focus on structure of bicameralism rather than comparison between two houses

Remarks

of money bills. Money bills can only be introduced in lower House and legislative council has to ~~only~~ send back the bill within 14 days, ~~and~~ with or without recommendations.

Try to get the essence of given question carefully.

3. An ordinary bill is introduced in either house and has to be passed in both houses.

If Upper House rejects the bill, the bill is sent back to lower House. If it passes it again, it bill is deemed as passed.

4. Ministers can belong to either house.

5. Ordinances have to be approved in both houses.

Thus, ~~Upper~~ <sup>Upper</sup> House has been given lesser power than the assembly, however the 'need' for council in state legislature

is :

1. Council checks the hasty, defective &

Remarks

ill - considered legislations by assembly.

2. It facilitates representation of eminent professionals who cannot face direct elections & are nominated by governors.

Arguments for abolishing Bicameralism:

1. Council is often referred to as 'secondary chamber' as it has lesser powers.

2. It enables unpopular & rejected politicians to occupy post of Chief Minister.

3. It is deemed costly as well.

Arguments for strengthening Bicameralism:

1. It can work as a checkpost for all ill-considered legislations.

2. Can work as Rajya Sabha works in centre. It can be an effective revising body, instead of just an advisory body.

Thus, Bicameralism in state legislature has both positives and negatives. It can however be important institution in terms of 'better governance' as Rajya Sabha has been

Remarks at the Union level.

Sound analysis of arguments for against

3 1/2

Stick to bicameralism of legislatures at states

Q4. Parliamentary Standing Committees allow Parliament to scrutinize the executive more effectively, making it more responsible to the people. Elaborate the statement with reference to the role of Parliamentary Standing Committees in India. Also explain how they make the executive more accountable to the legislature.

(15 Marks) (250 Words)

### Parliamentary Standing Committees (PSCs)

are permanent bodies working on continuous basis, which are constituted every year to assist Parliament in detailed scrutiny of legislative matters. There are 6 categories of PSCs in the Parliament.

Sound  
intro

### Need for Parliamentary Standing Committees:

1. Parliament neither has time, nor the expertise to ensure detailed scrutiny of legislative matters. PSCs ensure this takes place.
2. It ensures wider participation without political bias in the parliament. This ensures that representatives are not merely party flagholders, but they have a say in parliamentary matters.

Come  
to  
role  
PSCs  
directly.

Remarks

## Role of Parliamentary standing committees in India :

1. PSCs are devoid of any political bias and ensure rigorous scrutiny of all legislative matters.
2. The system ensures economy & efficiency in public expenditure as ministries / departments are more careful in formulating demands.
3. Facilitate opportunities to all members of Parliament to participate & understand functioning of government.
4. It can avail expert opinion or public opinion to make reports. This fills in the lacunae of Parliament being lacking of expertise.
5. They provide greater role to opposition & Rajya Sabha in exercising their powers.

Sound Analysis of roles of PSC

Remarks

6. It ensures that executive is more responsible to legislature. This is ensured as:

- (i) Opposition and RS can exercise financial control over executive, thus increasing spectrum of opinions.
- (ii) Ensures scrutiny of executive in all legislative matters.
- (iii) Ensures transparency and accountability in legislative proceedings, thus making executive more accountable as well.
- (iv) Examines subordinate legislation through committee on subordinate legislation, ensuring that Executive is performing delegated tasks properly.

Sound analysis

7

Thus, PSCs are a powerful tool mentioned in the constitution, which provide structure to the Legislative and Executive organs of the government.

Remarks

Q5. Upper Chamber of the Parliament across the world is generally considered to be less powerful than the Lower Chamber. However, they are also vested with certain functions and powers, which enable them to play a decisive role. Critically analyze the above statement with special emphasis on India.  
(15 Marks) (250 Words)

Rajya Sabha (RS) or the Upper House of Parliament along with Lok Sabha (LS) establish Bicameral legislature in India at Union level. Previously known as Council of States, RS in India is at par with Upper Chamber of Parliament across the world.

Importance of RS:

1. It checks hasty, defective, careless & ill-considered legislation.
2. It facilitates representation of eminent professionals and experts who cannot face elections.
3. It maintains federal equilibrium by protecting interests of state against interference by centre.

Sound intro

Need to focus on comparative lesser power of RS than LS

Remarks



RS has been endowed with 4 exclusive powers that are not enjoyed by LS:

1. U/A 249: It can authorise Parliament to make law on a State Subject.

2. U/A 312: It can authorise Parliament to create All-India Services.

3. U/A 67: It can alone initiate a move for removal of Vice President.

4. Emergency can remain effective when RS alone has approved it if LS is dissolved.

However, RS, in our constitutional system is often unequal in status with LS when:

1. Money Bill: can only be introduced in LS. RS can only provide recommendations on the Bill, which are not bound to be accepted by LS.

2. Financial Bill: can only be introduced in LS.

Remarks

Sound analysis

3. Joint Sitting: in case of deadlock, Speaker presides over Joint Sitting
4. No-confidence Motion: RS cannot remove Council of Ministers, as Council of Ministers U/A 78 are responsible ~~for~~ only to LS.
5. Emergency: Resolution for discontinuance of National Emergency U/A 352 can be passed by LS only.
6. Budget: RS cannot vote on demand for grants.

Sound analysis

G1  
G2

Therefore, RS has been given less powers than LS, however, its position in our Constitutional system is not as weak as Upper chambers of other countries like Senate in USA & House of Lords in Britain.  
Except in financial matters, and control of Council of Ministers, RS's powers in all other spheres are broadly equal with

To justify it need to explain upper chambers of across the world as well.

Remarks that of LS.

Q6. Parliamentary privileges often come in conflict with freedom of expression of citizens. Discuss the issues arising out of conflict between privileges and fundamental right of expression. Also, suggest remedies for the same. (15 Marks) (250 Words)

Parliamentary Privileges are special rights, immunities and exemptions enjoyed by the 2 houses of parliament, their committees and members U/A 105. These are necessary to secure independence and effectiveness of actions of MPs.

Parliamentary Privileges are of 2 types: (1) collective; (2) Individual. Under Individual Privileges, members have freedom of speech in parliament. No member is liable to any proceedings in court for anything said in parliament. This often leads to conflict between privileges and fundamental right of expression of citizens as:

1. Fundamental Right of Freedom of Speech &

Remarks

Good intro

Ans

expression U/A 19 is often subject to considerable restrictions on grounds of sovereignty & integrity of India, contempt of court, etc.

Do  
write  
your  
answer  
as per  
the  
demand  
of  
question  
only

2. Privileges U/A 105 guarantee MP that their statements cannot be held against in any court.

Restrictions on privileges are:

1. U/A 121 says that except for a motion against a judge of SC / HC, no discussion shall take place w.r.t. conduct of judges in the Parliament.

2. Rules of LS specify that use of unparliamentary language & conduct is prohibited.

In light of this, SC recently opined that vandalism of any sort in Parliament cannot be termed as freedom of speech and expression, as had happened in Kerala

Need  
to  
focus  
on  
how  
privileges  
are  
violative  
of  
Art. 14.

Remarks

Legislative Assembly.

Issues out of privileges & freedom of speech & expression:

1. Different treatment of citizens & MPs violates ideal of equality and ~~part~~ freedom of speech & expression.
2. Vandalism in Parliament & Assemblies.
3. Undefined restrictions on freedom of speech & expression for MPs.
4. Delayed proceedings of Parliament due to opposition's way of protesting.
5. Uncodified Privileges

Remedies for the conflict:

1. Parliamentary Privileges should be subject to reasonable restrictions. ~~and also~~
2. Constitutionally defined restrictions to remove ambiguity.
3. Stricter Breach of Privilege & Contempt of House.
4. Codifying Privileges  
Thus, Parliamentary Privileges should be a tool to ensure independence of MPs, but should

Remarks be defined/codified for proper use.

Would these not confine legislature?

Make each of these self explanatory.

5

Q7. The institution of the Governor should rise above its present stature of a mere representative of the Central government. Examine. Also, discuss the role of Governor in the view of Punchhi commission recommendations. (15 Marks) (250 Words)

Governor is the de jure executive of the state. All executive actions are taken in name of Governor. Governor also acts as an agent of central government.

Thus, Institution of Governor in India has dual role.

Governor as representative of central Govt.:

1. While giving assent to a bill, Governor has the option of reserving bill for president.
2. Governor is not elected, but appointed by President on advise of Council of Ministers and his/her term of 5 years is subject to pleasure of President.
3. Governor often belongs to some political party (usually ruling party at Centre).

Remarks

Sound intro

Sound analysis of issues

Thus, Governor is often seen as a mere representative of central Govt. However, Governor's office should be strengthened as:

Better  
discuss  
role  
of  
governor

1. To improve legislative <sup>and executive</sup> process in the states.
2. Eminent person detailed from politics will bring in unbiased view to the executive and ensure smooth functioning of state machinery.
3. ~~Governor should have~~ This can also prevent unnecessary interference by Centre in state matters.
4. This will also keep in check the proper use of discretionary powers of governor.

Thus, Institution of Governor is of importance and should be strengthened to rise above as mere representative of state.

Remarks

PUNCHHI COMMISSION : Role of Governor

1. Appointment of Governor according to Sarkaria Commission recommendations wherein Governor is eminent person from different state & ~~has not taken too~~ great a part in politics.
2. Fixed Tenure of 5 Years.
3. U/A 163: Discretionary power is limited and Governor's choice of action should not be arbitrary or fanciful.
4. Clear Guidelines for role of Governor in appointment of CM in case of hung assembly.
5. Governor should ~~be assisted~~ <sup>insist</sup> by CM to ~~lose~~ prove majority on floor in case of dismissal of CM.
6. Governor should have right to sanction for prosecution of minister against Council of Ministers when Cabined is motivated by bias.
7. Convention of Governors as Chancellors of Universities should be done away with.

Need to be very precise with Punchhi Commission's recommendation

Thus, Punchhi Commission specified role of a Governor in State Legislature & Executive in a proper manner.

Remarks

34/32



Q8. The Indian Presidency differs from most other Presidencies across the world. Do you think the Indian President serves a purely ceremonial role? Give reasons in support of your answer. Also, discuss the discretionary powers of the President of India.

(15 Marks) (250 Words)

The Indian President is the head of the state and de jure executive of the state. He is the 1st citizen of India and acts as symbol of unity, integrity and solidarity of the nation.

*Satisfactory intro*

Although President of India is only a Nominal Head of the state, he ~~is~~ is not merely a ceremonial head, as:

1. President is elected by the representatives and thus, elected President marks the symbol of true Republic.

2. Executive Powers: (i) Appoints Prime Minister (PM) and council of states (U/A 74).

(ii) can seek any information relating to administration of affairs of Union.

(iii) can require PM to submit any matter which has not been considered by council

*You seem to have tried to negate the question.*

Remarks

of ministers (U/A 78)  
(iv) He can declare any area as Scheduled Area.

(v) U/A 340: He can appoint commission to investigate conditions of SEBC.

3. Legislative Powers: (i) Ordinance making powers.

(ii) President's prior recommendation necessary for certain bills to be introduced in parliament.

(iii) Nominates 12 members to RS

(iv) Decides on disqualification of members of Parliament along with ECI.

(v) Suspensive, Pocket & Absolute Veto.

4. Financial Powers: (i) U/A 280: constitutes a Finance Commission (FC) every 5 years.

(ii) Money Bills require prior recommendation from President.

5. Judicial Powers: (i) Appoints CJI & Judges of SC and HC.

The president does not act on his own while using his most of powers.

Remarks

(ii) U/A 143: can seek advice from SC.

(iii) U/A 72: can grant pardons, reprieve, respite, & remission, commute or suspension of sentence.

6. Military: Supreme Commander of Defence forces of India.

Thus, Indian President is not purely a ceremonial role.

### Discretionary Powers of President of India

President only has situational discretion

under the following:

1. Appointment of PM: when no party has a clear majority.

2. Dismissal of Council of Ministers: when it cannot prove the confidence of LS.

3. Dissolution of Lok Sabha: if Council of Ministers has lost its majority.

Thus, Indian Presidency differs from most presidencies across the world as it makes the President a Nominal Head, but not purely a ceremonial head.

Remarks

4  
It's just repetition of second argument in different words.

Q9. Local government institutions have helped women representatives in stepping-out of social and economic disadvantage and face male-domination and bureaucratic apathy. Critically analyze the linkage between women empowerment and local government institutions. (15 Marks) (250 Words)

Under 73<sup>rd</sup> and 74<sup>th</sup> Constitutional

Amendment Acts, not less than 1/3<sup>rd</sup> seats

have to be reserved for women for direct elections to Panchayats & Municipalities.

This provision was made to empower women and increase women's representation at grassroot level.

Reasons for this provision:

1. Patriarchy and male-domination: faced by

all women in the entire life-cycle. This provision helps in curbing this.

2. Economic Independence to women: Women

are often subjugated to oppression due to their economic dependence on their male

counterparts. This provision allows for

to upliftment of women economically.

3. Bureaucratic apathy: Women are generally

Remarks

Sounding

intro

Directly discuss

how local govt. institution

led to empowerment

of women

one of the least involved social group in the politics. ~~As~~ this leads to bureaucratic apathy. By allowing women to be local representatives, this provision allow women to participate in elections directly.

Thus, local government institutions were establish to empower women socially, economically & politically.

However, this provision suffers from several lacunae which has not directed the impact of empowerment of women in the desired manner. This is because:

1. Patriarchy: Concept of 'Pradhan-Pati' wherein, a woman candidate participate in the election, however, upon winning, the actual day-to-day matters are ~~looked~~ after by her husband

Remarks

2. Conservative Thinking: Women are although voted for, but, they ~~too~~ are often ridiculed by the conservative village elders.

3. The economic advantage for women envisioned through the acts are often not accrued to women representatives. Their Families & close relatives extract all economic gains.

4. Although, local institutions have undoubtedly <sup>grassroot</sup> increased women participation in democracy, this is yet missing at state and central levels. In 17<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha, a mere 14% ~~state~~ MPs are women.

Thus, local government institutions <sup>have</sup> ~~are~~ made provisions for women empowerment, but this has to be implemented effectively. This requires proper education to women, work on gender-discriminations and a life-cycle

**Remarks** approach for betterment of women.

Sound analysis of issues

7

Q10. The scheme of distribution of legislative subjects between Centre and state is either modified or suspended in abnormal times. In light of the above statement, elaborate with the areas where the Parliament legislates in a state's field during abnormal times.  
(15 Marks) (250 Words)

Better  
discuss  
distribution  
of  
power  
between  
Centre & states  
in india

Under Part XVIII of the Constitution, Emergency Provisions are enumerated under Articles 352 - 360. These provisions enable the government to meet any 'abnormal' situation effectively.

During an Emergency, the Central Govt. becomes all powerful and the states go into total control of the Centre. Thus, it converts federal structure into a unitary one without the amendment of the Constitution.

Areas where Parliament legislates in State's field during abnormal times:

U/A 352 → National Emergency: has wide ranging effect on Centre - State Relations.

1. Executive: During Emergency, executive power of Centre extends to any state on

Remarks

Need to focus on legislative aspect

any 'matter'. State govt., though not suspended, but are brought into complete control of centre.

2. Legislative: During Emergency, Parliament can make laws on any subject of state list. State legislature is overridden by Parliament, though not suspended.

→ President can issue ordinances:

→ All laws made by Parliament during Emergency U/A 352 become inoperative after 6 months of <sup>end of</sup> emergency.

3. Financial: During Emergency, President can modify constitutional distribution of revenues between centre & states. Such modifications continue till end of emergency.

U/A 356 → President's Rule is imposed. Through this the President can take up functions of the state governments and powers of governor. President can also declare that

Focus on areas where Parliament legislates in a state's field during abnormal times



Powers of State legislature are to be exercised by Parliament.

1. Executive:

State Council of Ministers is dismissed, and State Governor on behalf of President carries on State Administration.

2. Legislature: President either suspends or dissolves State legislature and powers are delegated to Parliament.

→ Ordinances can also be promulgated by President.

All laws are not coterminous with President's Rule.

U/A 360 - Financial Emergency is imposed. <sup>of Centre</sup> executive authority, is extended any state in financial matters. This may include reduction of salaries or reservation of money bills.

→ Thus, during financial emergency, Centre acquires full control over states in financial matters.

Hence, during abnormal times, normal scheme of legislative subjects between Parliament

Remarks & State Assemblies is altered. ~~to the~~

Read  
the  
question  
carefully  
&  
answer  
according  
ly

3