

Mains Q& A Test-5 (04/09/2022)

Approach for the Mains Answer Writing

- **Start Your answer briefly introducing the Topic**
- **Discuss the Key points about the Topic with the Context in the Question**
- **Discuss Pro and Cons of the Topic (if applicable)**
- **Quote the Statistics (if there are any)**
- **Draw the Conclusion (Make Sure your answer doesn't support any particular view and make it look balanced)**

Explain about the Treaty of Lahore and the sequence of events which led to it? (250 words)

Introduction

- Major Broad was placed in Amritsar as the East India Company's agent in 1843.
- The Sikh forces crossed the Sutlej in December 1845 and took offensive positions against the English forces.
- Battle was fought in different places and the English victory at Sobraon led to the signing of the Lahore Treaty in 1846 which ended the war

TREATY OF LAHORE

- Sikh had to give the southern territory of Sutlej – the Jalandhar Doab.
- Punjab had to give rs 1.5 crore as indemnity but Lahore Darbar was not in position to give it.so it agreed to transfer to the company the territories situated between the rivers Beas and Indus, including Kashmir and Hazarah,

in lieu of one crore rupees . Punjab agreed to pay the remaining 50 lakh rupees in cash.

- The Maharaja of Punjab gave up his entire claim over the forts, land, hills situated between Beas and Satluj.
- Maharaja agreed to reduce his army. Punjab was not allowed to retain more than 12000 troops in cavalry and 20,000 troops in infantry.
- All 250 guns were given to the British
- British troops were to be allowed to pass through Lahore territories.
- Without the prior approval of the British no European or American would be employed in Punjab.
- Dalip Singh was recognized as the Maharaja, his mother Rani Jindan as regent and Lal Singh as Wazir.
- The company promised not to interfere in the internal matter of Punjab. However the Company's Resident in Punjab, Sir Henry Lawrence always violated this code.

Explain the Art & Architecture of Mandu with Examples (250 words)

Introduction

- Mandu is a typical representation of the medieval provincial style of art and architecture.
- It was a complex mix of official and residential-cum-pleasure palace, pavilions, light and airy, so that these buildings did not retain heat.
- Local stone and marble were used to great advantage.
- The royal enclave located in the city comprised the most complete and romantic set of buildings, a cluster of palaces and attendant structures, official and residential, built around two artificial lakes.

Architecture in Mandu, Madhya Pradesh

The city of Mandu is located in Madhya Pradesh, at an elevation of over 2000 feet and overlooks the Malwa Plateau to the north and the Narmada valley to the south.

- Mandu's natural defence encouraged consistent habitation by Parmana Rajputs, Afghans, and Mughals.
- As the capital city of the Ghauri Dynasty (1401-1561) founded by Hoshang Shah, it acquired a lot of fame.
- Mandu was associated with the romance of Sultan Baz Bahadur and Rani Rupamati.
- The Mughals resorted to it for pleasure during the monsoon season.

Examples

The Hindola Mahal, Mandu

- It looks like a railway viaduct bridge with its disproportionately large buttresses supporting the walls.
- This was the audience hall of the Sultan and the place where he showed himself to his subjects.
- Batter was used very effectively to give an impression of swinging (Hindola) walls.

Ahaaz Mahal, Mandu

- It is an elegant two storey '**Ship Palace**' between two reservoirs, with open pavilion, balconies overhanging the water and a terrace.
- It was built by **Sultan Ghiyasuddin Khilji** and was possibly used as his harem and the ultimate pleasure and recreation resort.
- It had a complex arrangement of watercourses and a terrace swimming pool.

Explain Various writ Jurisdictions, what role do writs play in the favor of interests of Citizens (250 words)

Introduction

- The Supreme Court and High courts have power to issue writs in the nature of habeas corpus, quo warranto, mandamus, certiorari, prohibition etc., under **Arts. 32 and 226 respectively**.

- These writs have been borrowed in India from England where they had a long checkered **history of development and consequently have gathered a number of technicalities.**
- Power to issue writs is primarily a **provision made to make available the Right to Constitutional Remedies to every citizen.**
- **Similarly High courts in India are also empowered to issue writs for the enforcement of any of the rights conferred by Part III and for any other purpose**

Types of Writs

There are five types of writs –Habeas corpus , Quo warraranto , Mandamus , Certiorari and Prohibition

1. Habeas Corpus:

- By this writ the court directs the person or authority who has detained another person to bring the body of the prisoner before the court so as to enable the court to decide the validity, jurisdiction or justification for such detention.
- The principal aim of the writ is to ensure swift judicial review of alleged unlawful detention on liberty or freedom of the prisoner or detention.
- The great value of the writ is that it enables immediate determination of the right of a person as to his freedom.
- Under Art. 22, a person arrested is required to be produced before a magistrate within 24 hours of his arrest, and failure to do so would entitle the arrested person to be released .Habeas corpus cannot be granted where a person has been committed to custody under an order from a competent court when prima facie the order does not appear to be without jurisdiction or wholly illegal.
- Writ of habeas corpus can be invoked not only against the state but also against any individual who is holding any person in unlawful custody or detention.

2. Quo Warranto:

- The term quo warranto means what is your authority .
- The writ of quo warranto is used to judicially control executive action in the matter of making appointments to public offices under relevant statutory provisions.
- The writ is also used to protect a citizen from the holder of a public office to which he has no right.
- The writ calls upon the holder of a public office to show to the court under what authority he is holding the office in question.
- If he is not entitled to the office, the court may restrain him from acting in the office and may also declare the office to be vacant.
- Quo warranto prevents illegal usurpation of public office by an individual. the necessary ingredients to be satisfied by the court before issuing a writ is that the office in question must be public , created by the constitution or a law and the person holding the office is not legally qualified to hold the office in clear infringements of provisions of the constitution or the law .

3. Mandamus

- Mandamus is a command issued by a court to an authority directing it to perform a public duty imposed upon it by law.
 - For example, when a body omits to decide a matter which it is bound to decide, it can be commanded to decide the same.
- Mandamus can be issued when the Government denies to itself a jurisdiction which it undoubtedly has under the law, or where an authority vested with a power improperly refuses to exercise it.
- The function of mandamus is to keep the public authorities within the limits of their jurisdiction while exercising public functions .Mandamus can be issued to any kind of authority in respect of any type of function – administrative, legislative, quasi-judicial, judicial Mandamus is used to enforce the performance of public duties by public authorities .Mandamus is

not issued when Government is under no duty under the law. When an authority fails in its legal duty to implement an order of a tribunal, mandamus can be issued directing the authority to do so.

4. Certiorari and Prohibition

- These writs are designed to prevent the excess of power by public authorities. Formerly these writs were issued only to judicial and quasi-judicial bodies. Certiorari and Prohibition are regarded as general remedies for the judicial control of both quasi-judicial and administrative decisions affecting rights.
- A writ of certiorari or a writ in the nature of certiorari can only be issued by the Supreme Court under Art. 32 and a High court under Art. 226 to direct , inferior courts , tribunals or authorities to transmit to the court the record of proceedings disposed of or pending therein for scrutiny , and , if necessary , for quashing the same .
- **Certiorari under Art. 226 is issued for correcting gross error of jurisdiction i.e. when a subordinate court is found to have acted**
 - without jurisdiction or by assuming jurisdiction where there exists none , or
 - in excess of its jurisdiction by over stepping or crossing the limits of jurisdiction or
 - Acting in flagrant disregard of law or rules of procedure or acting in violation of principles of natural justice where there is no procedure specified and thereby occasioning failure of justice.

Conclusion:

- **These are the five types of writs which were issued by the Supreme Court and High court under Arts. 32 and 226 of the constitution.**
- Habeas corpus and Quo warranto being confined to specific situations, Certiorari and Mandamus are the two most commonly **sought writs to control the actions of administrative bodies.**

Discuss about the grants provided in the constitution to the states from the Centre (150 words)

Introduction

The Parliament has exclusive power to levy taxes on subjects enumerated in the Union List, the state legislature has exclusive power to levy taxes on subjects enumerated in the State List, both can levy taxes on the subjects enumerated in Concurrent List whereas residuary power of taxation lies with Parliament only. Besides sharing of taxes between the Center and the States, the Constitution provides for Grants-in-aid to the States from the Central resources.

There are two types of grants:

- **Statutory Grants:** These grants are given by the Parliament out of the Consolidated Fund of India to such States which are in need of assistance. Different States may be granted different sums. Specific grants are also given to promote the welfare of scheduled tribes in a state or to raise the level of administration of the Scheduled areas therein (Art.275).
- **Discretionary Grants:** Centre provides certain grants to the states on the recommendations of the Planning Commission which are at the discretion of the Union Government. These are given to help the state financially to fulfill plan targets (Art.282).

Discuss the Appointment, composition, and Functions of Finance Commission (250 Words)

Finance Commission

Appointment: Article 280 of the Indian Constitution provides for a Finance Commission which is to be constituted every 5th year. It recommends to the President certain measures relating to the distribution of the financial resources of the country between the Union and the States.

The President of India constitutes the Finance Commission in every five years or sometimes even earlier as the President of India deems fit.

Functions of the Finance Commission:

- To make recommendations to the President of India regarding the distribution between the Union and the States of the net proceeds of the taxes.
- To make recommendations to the President as to the principles this should govern the grants-in-aid of the revenues of the states out of the Consolidated Fund of India.
- To help the President in any other matter referred to the Finance Commission by the President of India.
- To suggest measures data needed to augment the Consolidated Fund of the state to supplement the resources of the municipalities in the state.

Composition of the Finance Commission:

The Finance Commission consists of: –

- A Chairman, who must have experience in public affairs and
- Four other members who should be selected from the following criteria,
 1. A High Court judge or a person who is qualified to be appointed as one.
 2. A person having special knowledge of the finance an account of the government.
 3. A person having great experience relating to financial matters as well as administration.
 4. A person having special knowledge of economics.
- The qualification and manner for such appointments as member of the Finance Commission may be determined by the Parliament only.

Discuss the evolution of Indo-Islamic Architecture over the Years (250 words)

Introduction

The establishment of the Muslim rule since the end of the 12th century brought together two great architectural traditions. Eventually, this led to a greater synthesis and fusion of the best in both traditions which manifested in some of the most beautiful Indo-Islamic monuments in the Indian sub-continent. Mosques and mausoleum were centers of Islamic architecture in India.

Evolution of Indo-Islamic Architecture

- In the 7th and 8th centuries CE, Islam spread towards **Spain and India**.
- Islam came to India particularly with merchants, traders, holy men and conquerors over a passage of 600 years.
- Although by the 8th century Muslims had begun to construct in Sindh, Gujarat, etc., it was only in the 13th century that large-scale building activity was begun by the **Turkish state, established after the Turkish conquest of North India**.
- A noteworthy aspect of these migrations and conquests was that Muslims absorbed many features of local culture and tradition and combined them with their own architectural features.
- Thus, in the field of architecture, a mix of many structural techniques, stylized shapes, and surface decorations came about through constant interventions of acceptance, rejections or modifications of architectural elements.
- These architectural entities or categories showcasing multiple styles are known as **Indo-Saracenic or Indo-Islamic Architecture**.
- By the 12th century, India was already familiar with monumental construction in grandiose settings.
- Certain techniques and embellishments were prevalent and popular, such as **trabeation** (the use of beam rather than arches or vaulting), brackets, and multiple pillars to support a flat roof or a small shallow dome.
- The arches in early constructions were shaped in wood and stone, and were unable to bear the weight of the domes/top structures.
- Such arches needed to be constructed with voussoirs (series of interlocking blocks) and fitted with keystones.

The Office of the Comptroller Auditor General (CAG) of India is a Key Stone in the arch of Constitutional Measures of Accountability but in recent years there is a decline in the schedule reports. Comment (250 words)

Introduction

Article 148 of the Indian Constitution provides for an Independent Office of Comptroller Auditor General (CAG)

Head of the Indian Audits and Account Department

It is an apex authority for external and internal audits of the expenses of the National and State governments

Duties of CAG:

Articles 148,149,150 and 151 of the Constitution of India describe the function and power of CAG office

-CAG will conduct of all expenses from Consolidated Fund in all the states and UT has a legislative assembly

-CAG Audits all the expenses from the Contingency Fund of India and Public accounts of India as well as the Contingency Fund of State and Public Accounts of a State

-CAG Audits all trading accounts, manufacturing, profit and loss accounts, balance sheets and other subsidiary accounts kept by any department of the Central and State Governments

-CAG Audits the receipts and expenditures of all bodies and Authorities which are financed by the Central and State Government revenues

-CAG Submits audit reports relating to the Central Government to President and State Governments to Governor, they will furnish these reports in parliament as well as in-state assemblies



- CAG submits three reports to the President **1-Report on Appropriation accounts, a report on financial accounts, and report on Public Undertakings**

Important Observations

-CAG is performing only Auditor duties not Comptroller duties but in Colonia Period CAG used to Perform both

-CAG is not a Member of Parliament but in the Colonial Period CAG does belong to House

Conclusion

Analysis Shows the Past six years, part of which fall before the pandemic, have seen steady declines in reporting schedules. The number of bodies releasing annual reports has declined from 180 in 2015-16 to 102 in 2020-2021

Major reason for these tardy submissions appears to be linked to the delays by the Comptroller and Auditor general in completing Audits

The global economy relied on oil for much of the 20th century. Why is oil considered as most important resource in global strategy?

The global economy relied on oil for much of the 20th century as a portable and indispensable fuel. The immense wealth associated with oil generates political struggles to control it, and the history of petroleum is also the history of war and struggle. Nowhere is this more obviously the case than in West Asia and Central Asia. West Asia, specifically the Gulf regions, accounts for about 30 percent of global oil production. But it has about 64 percent of the planet's known reserves, and is therefore the only region able to satisfy any substantial rise in oil demand.



Saudi Arabia has a quarter of the world's total reserves and is the single largest producer. Iraq's known reserves are second only to Saudi Arabia's. And, since substantial portions of Iraqi territory are yet to be fully explored, there is a fair chance that actual reserves might be far larger. The United States, Europe, Japan, and increasingly India and China, which consume this petroleum, are located at a considerable distance from the region.