

**GUJARAT NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY
SILVASSA CAMPUS**

**Course: Center State Relations and Local Self Government
LL.M. Semester- II (Batch: 2024-25)**

End Semester Examination: April-May 2025 (LL.M.)

Date: 23rd April, 2025

Duration: 3 hours

Max. Marks: 50

Instructions:

- Read the questions properly and write the answers in the given answer book.
- Do not write anything on the question paper.
- The respective marks for each question are indicated in-line.
- Indicate correct question numbers in front of the answer.
- No questions or clarification can be sought during the exam period, answer as it is, giving reason, if any.
- Word Limit: (5 Marks:600-700 words),(10 Marks:1000-1200 words)

Answer any five of the following questions

- | | | Marks |
|------------|---|--------------|
| Q.1 | <p>“Neo-liberalism, understood in a narrow sense of an approach to economic policy, was part of a wider trend that involved not just the economy but administrative reforms, policy approaches (privatization, deregulation, introduction of market-type processes), which may be summed up as the attempt to reverse the high levels of state intervention and control that had characterized the Trente Glorieuses. It would take us too far outside the scope of this chapter to examine in detail all of these changes. What concerns us here is the impact of neo-liberalism on the nation-state and its system of territorial governance.”</p> <p>Drawing from the above excerpt, critically analyze how the neoliberal turn has impacted the role of the nation-state and its system of territorial governance. In your analysis, evaluate the implications of these neoliberal transformations for the theory and practice of federalism in contemporary governance structures.</p> | (10) |
| Q.2 | <p>“There is no simple ‘ideal’ or ‘pure’ form of federation. Ultimately, federalism represents a pragmatic prudential technique, the effectiveness of which depends on the relation of the particular form in which it is adopted or adapted to its particular political and economic circumstances. No single typology can account adequately for the rich range of variations found in federations”</p> <p>Drawing on the excerpt quoted above, discuss, in detail, the reasons that differentiates one federation from another.</p> | (10) |

- Q.3** “The party system transformation, neo-liberal economic reforms and globalization (10) triggered an irreversible process of federalization of a hitherto highly centralized, executive-dominated, predominantly parliamentary system with largely formalistic federal features. Several indicators of the growing federalization of the political system (in India) may be enumerated.”

Discuss, in detail, the trends identified by the author that hints towards a shift from centralization to decentralization of the Indian polity.

- Q.4** “...decentralization implies the “removal of core (fiscal, jurisdictional or administrative) (5+5) resources from the center to lower levels of a multi-tiered system” (the opposite holds for centralization). The decentralization/centralization distinction implies a clear trade-off across levels (what the state level loses, the central level gains and vice versa). The same does not necessarily hold for the interdependence-autonomy distinction: what the state level loses in terms of autonomy does not necessarily produce full-scale central or federal control. In reality, autonomy losses could strengthen the interdependence between levels and increase the input of the states in the governance of the center”

- a. In light of the passage quoted above, discuss the position that the Planning Commission occupied in the Indian federal framework.
- b. What are the criticisms, from the perspective of Center-State relations, that the author of the article levelled against the Planning Commission in India?

- Q.5** “There has been a long-standing—and perhaps not yet definitively resolved—debate (10) about whether Article 254(1) applies only to a law made under the Concurrent List or also to a law made under Lists I and II. The view preferred here, although not the one that has found favour with the Supreme Court, is that Article 254(1) does apply across the Lists.”

In light of the passage quoted above, shed light on the arguments advanced by the author in making a case for the application of Article 254(1) across lists in Schedule VII of the Constitution of India.

- Q.6** Discuss, in detail, various economic theories of federalism. Elucidate your answers by (10) referring to relevant examples from the Indian polity.
