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Q4(b)

Discuss the role of Panchayati Raj Institutions in transforming traditional power hierarchy in rural India

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2021 · Anthropology GS 2 · 15 marks · Indian Village

5.1 Indian Village-Significance of village study in India; Indian village as a social system; Traditional and changing patterns of settlement and inter-caste relations; Agrarian relations in Indian villages; Impact of globalization on Indian villages.

Facts & figures for this PYQ only.

Numbers move. Confirm the latest Budget, Economic Survey or census round. This sheet is for revision, not a substitute for the model answer.

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73rd Amendment

Constitutionalised panchayats with reservations and a three-tier structure.

Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act (PESA)

Extends panchayats to Scheduled Areas with stronger gram sabha powers on paper.

Reserved sarpanch

Seat set aside for women or SC/ST; often the test of whether hierarchy actually moved.

Proxy rule

Informal control of a reserved chair by a husband or caste elder.

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