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FIAS - MGP 2021 - GS paper #2

ForumIAS			
GENERAL STUDIES			
Name Of Candidate	SHIVANI JERNGAL		
Roll No.	1910071059	Date:	27/11/21

Time Allowed: Three Hours

Maximum Marks: 250

INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTION
Q. No.	Max. Marks	Marks Obtained	<p>1. Please do furnish Name, Email, Roll No and Mobile in the answer sheet.</p> <p>2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI, all questions are compulsory.</p> <p>3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.</p> <p>4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided.</p> <p>5. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum Answer Booklet must be clearly Struck off.</p> <p><i>Any specific messages for ForumIAS Mentors/ Evaluators with respect to your copy? Write it here.</i></p> <p><i>I have attempted this paper in three sittings. kindly give feedback accordingly!</i></p> <p><i>~ 3 hour 30 minutes</i></p>
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Evaluator's Discretion: This is the marks awarded at the discretion of the evaluator based on your overall impression, on the basis of (but not limited to) your handwriting, presentation, use of diagrams, flowcharts, facts and figures or absolutely anything that he/she liked in your copy.			For Office Use Only
			ECN CODE: EG: Evaluation Date:

Note: You can discuss your evaluated copy with the Mentor. Raise a ticket from your portal to schedule a mentor call or visit the offline centre to meet mentor (all 7 days, Timings - 11 AM to 6 PM). Further if you are unsatisfied with the evaluation, you can seek re-evaluation of the copy.

Parameters	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor
Language						
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Presentation						
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ADDITIONAL REMARKS

Q.1) Though necessary; timely, free and fair elections are not sufficient to ensure a vibrant democracy. In your opinion, what are the essential requirements for a vibrant democracy? (10 marks, 150 words)

हालांकि एक जीवंत लोकतंत्र को सुनिश्चित करने के लिए अनिवार्य रूप से, समय पर, स्वतंत्र और निष्पक्ष चुनाव पर्याप्त नहीं हैं। आपकी राय में, एक जीवंत लोकतंत्र के लिए आवश्यक आवश्यकताएं क्या हैं? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The Constitution of India envisages free and fair elections to be conducted by the Election Commission of India, under article 324.

The recent post poll violence in west Bengal have been a blot on vibrant democracy.

Free and fair elections are not sufficient

1. Criminalisation of politics -

1-1	24%	→	30%	→	34%	→	43%
	(2003)		(2009)		(2014)		(2019)

As per ADR data

2. Loopholes in implementation of model code of conduct

3. Horse trading and by-passing of anti defection law as seen in Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh.

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1. Castitization of politics → voters vote along caste lines

all this has eroded faith in the role of free and fair elections in the eyes of public.

Essential Requirements for vibrant Democracy

1. Providing legal mandate to ECP on important issues.
2. Amendment in anti-defection law to reduce misuse
3. Voter's awareness → informed decision
4. Political parties must mandatorily publish details on pending criminal cases against candidates (as provided by supreme court Judgement)



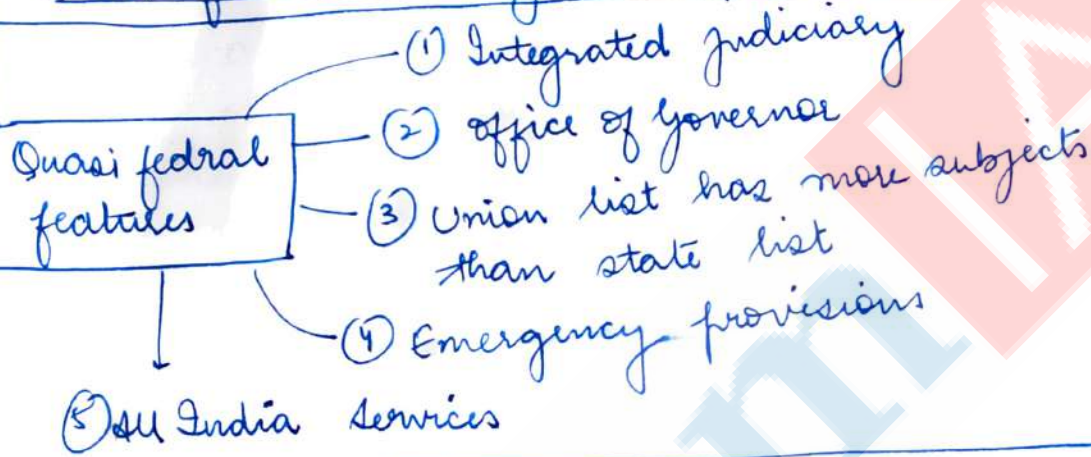
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98214_41074_1910071059_2024-11-27-19:34:49 Long centralizing tendency is to maintain the balance, as well as mutual respect, between political structures at the central and state levels. Explain in light of recent events. (10 marks, 150 words)

मजबूत केंद्रीकरण की प्रवृत्ति वाले एक संघीय देश में एक प्रमुख जिम्मेदारी केंद्र और राज्य स्तर पर राजनीतिक संरचनाओं के बीच संतुलन के साथ-साथ आपसी सम्मान को बनाए रखना है। हाल की घटनाओं के आलोक में व्याख्या कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

According to KC Wheare, India is a "Quasi-federal country".



Constitution makers envisaged such a provision in light of the newly achieved freedom from colonial rule.

However, Recently there have been issues.

1. Imbalance in federalism

- During COVID-19, union government unilaterally introduced complete lockdown that negatively impacted the states.

- GST regime has eroded state's share of taxation.
- 2. Mutual Disrespect
 - constant tussle between Union government and state of West Bengal
 - Inter-state mutual disrespect (as seen in Assam-Mizoram violence)
 - Blame game amongst states of National Capital Region with regards to pollution in winters.

A federal country with a strong centralising tendency must ensure that there is minimum conflicts between various units and maximum cooperation. The need of the hour is to ensure sabka saath, sabka vikas and sabka vishwas.

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Structure/ Presentation	
Question Interpretation	
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Q.3) How far do you agree that use of Self-Help Groups (SHGs) as instruments of delivery of services and implementation of projects by the government has led to undermining of legitimate authority of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs)? (10 marks, 150 words)

आप कहीं तक सहमत हैं कि सरकार द्वारा सेवाओं के वितरण और परियोजनाओं के कार्यान्वयन के साधन के रूप में स्वयं सहायता समूहों (SHGs) के उपयोग ने पंचायती राज संस्थानों (PRIs) के वैधानिक सत्ता को कमजोर करने को बढ़ावा दिया है? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

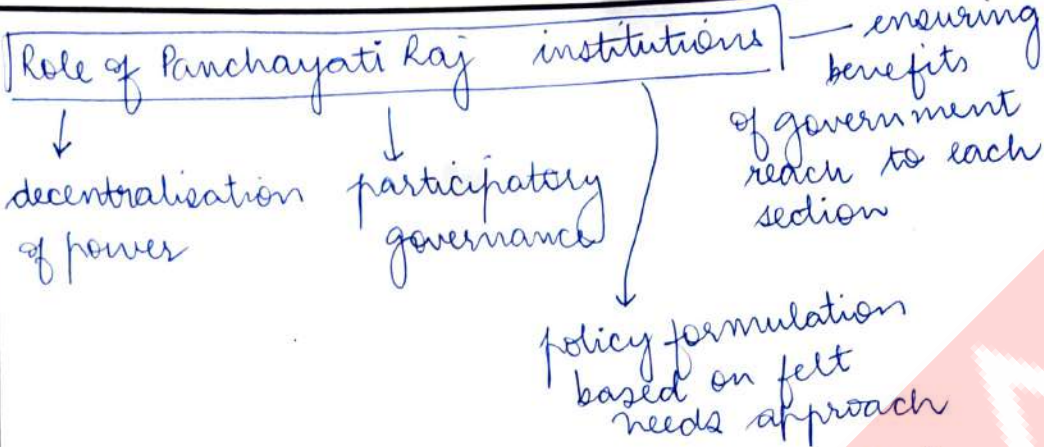
Article 38 of the DPSP deals with the Idea of Indian state as a welfare nation.
Decentralisation of the service delivery is seen as an important component with Self Help groups and Panchayati Raj institutions forming an integral part.

What is a self help group?

It is an informal association of people who choose to come together to find ways to improve their living conditions.

- Role of SHGs as instruments of service delivery and implementation of projects
- (1) financial inclusion
 - (2) women empowerment (socio-economic upliftment)
 - (3) SHGs used to inculcate spirit of savings and investments
 - (4) medium to impart skills to members
 - (5) provides access to government schemes.

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Self help groups and Panchayati Raj institutions do not undermine each other, rather the complement.



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Structure/ Presentation
Question Interpretation
Content
Value Addition
Total

Best Practise - Kudumbashree in Kerala

Mahatma Gandhi's idea of village as a republic supported both Panchayats and self help groups. Both can work in syncretic manner.

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Q.4) Highlighting the need of an All-India Judicial Services (AIJS), enumerate the various challenges associated with creation of an AIJS. (10 marks, 150 words)

अखिल भारतीय न्यायिक सेवाओं (AIJS) की आवश्यकता पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, AIJS के निर्माण से जुड़ी विभिन्न चुनौतियों का उल्लेख करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

All Indian Judicial services refers to a centralised cadre of district judges to be recruited centrally through an all India exam.

Need for All-India Judicial Services

1. To fill vacancies → currently more than 5000 positions vacant in subordinate courts
2. Improve justice Quality → judges will be recruited via a merit based exam
3. Reduce conflict of interests → judges from various states can work in different states
4. Reduction of pendency of cases → as per Economic Survey (2018-19), roughly 87% pending cases in subordinate courts.

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However, the creation of All India Judicial Services is a complex issue.

- CHALLENGES**
- ① may impact independence of judiciary
 - ② language barrier (North-South divide)
 - ③ Bureaucratization of judiciary
 - ④ Experience with NEET and other exams has shown that it may impact federal character
 - ⑤ undermines experiences of judges that is gained through field work.

All India judicial services have been recommended by 2nd ARC as well as NITI Aayog. However, a stakeholder based consensus needs to be achieved before the actual implementation.

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Q.5) Discuss the critical role of Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHA) and Anganwadi workers as a connecting link between the community and the state in promoting health, reducing malnutrition and controlling pandemic in rural areas. (10 marks, 150 words)

स्वास्थ्य को बढ़ावा देने, कुपोषण को कम करने और ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में महामारी को नियंत्रित करने में समुदाय और राज्य के बीच जोड़ने वाली कड़ी के रूप में मान्यता प्राप्त सामाजिक स्वास्थ्य कार्यकर्ताओं (आशा) और आंगनवाड़ी कार्यकर्ताओं की महत्वपूर्ण भूमिकाओं पर चर्चा करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The sustainable development goal 3.8 deals with the universal health coverage. India's aim to achieve "health for All" rests on prudent primary healthcare in which ASHA workers and Anganwadi workers play major role.

Issues in health; malnutrition; pandemic	Role of ASHA and Anganwadi workers.
<p>1. Weak health indicators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maternal mortality rate (122) - Infant mortality rate (28.3) - Issue of lack of institutional & delivery centres 	<p>1. Can spread awareness about maternal health, neonatal health</p> <p>2. Areas where institutional delivery is less, knowledge of ASHA workers can be used</p>

2. Poor health and hygiene

ASHA workers have played

huge role in behavioural change during Swachh Bharat mission

3. Poor nutritional indicators
 Acc. to global hunger index, rank = 101/116
 • stunting = 37.9%
 • wasting = 20.8%

• ASHA and Anganwadi workers ensure proper immunisation (Pulse Polio Campaign) and can ensure targetted health and nutrition benefits like Integrated Child Development Program

4. Issue of maintaining social distancing and covid appropriate behaviour

• ASHA workers instrumental in ensuring door to door vaccinations and contact tracing

Challenges faced

(3) poor salaries and job security

(1) According to Indian Medical Association, 75% health personnel face violence.

(2) lack of appreciation of role played by them.

A healthy India can only emerge from a healthy community. Due credit must be given to local level workers.

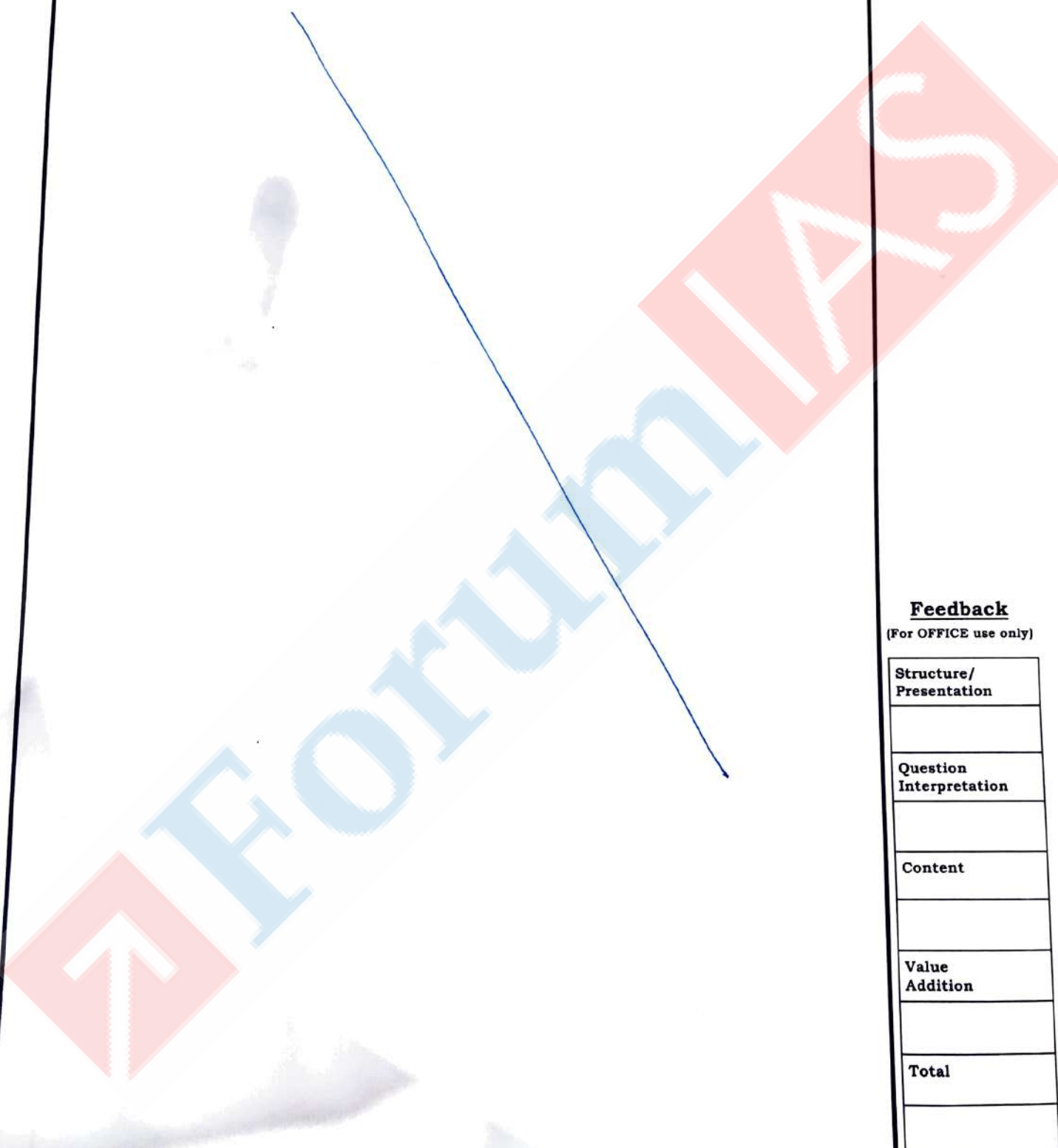
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Q.6) Populism has pushed politics towards socialism while economy continues to be dominated by global capitalism. Examine with examples. (10 marks, 150 words)

लोकलुभावनवाद ने राजनीति को समाजवाद की ओर धकेल दिया है जबकि अर्थव्यवस्था पर वैश्विक पूंजीवाद का वर्चस्व बना हुआ है। उदाहरण सहित परीक्षण कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)



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Structure/ Presentation
Question Interpretation
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Q.7) Comment on status of prisoners and custodial violence in the country keeping in mind Supreme court guidelines in the DK Basu case. (10 Marks, 150 words)

डीके बसु मामले में उच्चतम न्यायालय के दिशानिर्देशों को ध्यान में रखते हुए देश में कैदियों की स्थिति और हिरासत में हुई हिंसा घटनाओं पर टिप्पणी करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

"If the custodians of law themselves indulge in committing crimes, then no member of society is safe and secure."
- Supreme Court

The recent death of a youth in Uttar Pradesh in police custody has highlighted the issues of custodial violence as well as status of prisoners in the country.

Current Issues

1. According to NCRB crime in India Report (2001-2020) → In last 20 years,
1888 custodial deaths reported
893 cases registered
358 personnel charge sheeted; and only
26 convicted.

2. Issues faced by inter trials and non

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convicts → ~~out of 1185~~ As per NCRB Report, 1185 custodial deaths were of those "not on remand" → i.e. those who have been arrested but yet to be produced in court.

Reasons for Police Brutality

- ① psychological stress due to work load
- ② colonial hangovers.
- ③ lack of proper sensitisation against Anti-torture

↓
 ④ absence of scientific tools and techniques for investigation and interrogation.

In light of this, DK Basu guidelines becomes very important.

PROVISIONS

- ① installation of CCTV cameras in interrogation rooms.
- ② mandatory surprise inspections by Non official visitors (NOV)
- ③ strict actions against officers involved

④ fill up vacancies in Police forces.

On part of the Government, Anti Torture Bill (as proposed by law commission) must also be passed.

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Structure/ Presentation
Question Interpretation
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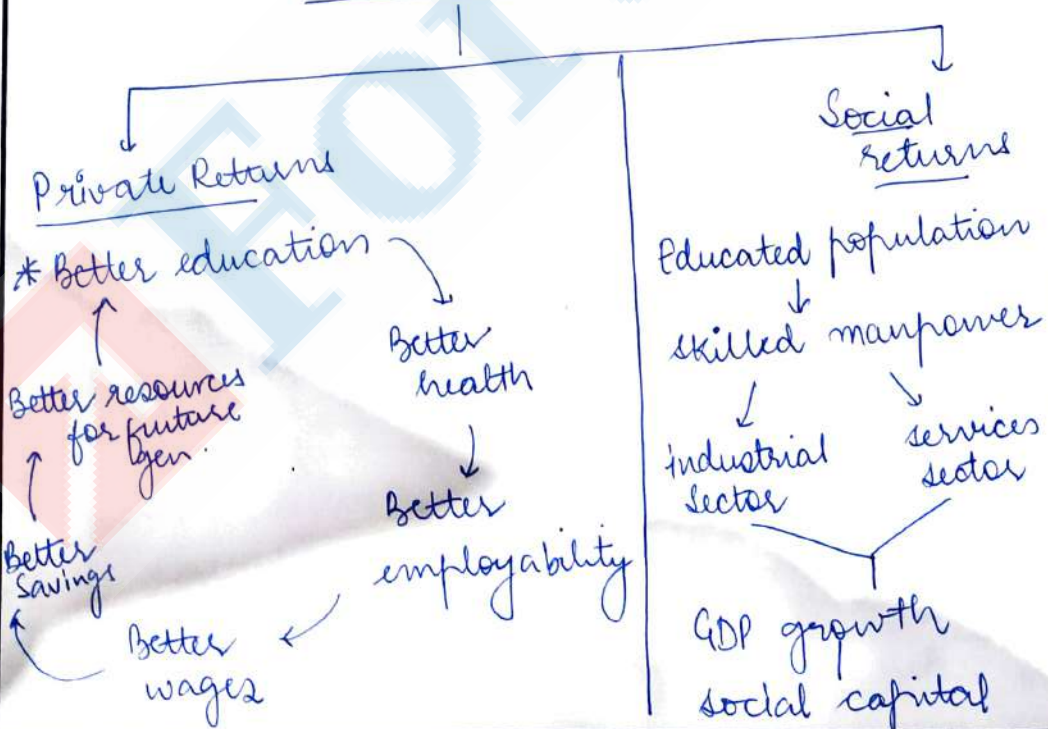
Q.8) Investment in education yields both private and social return, yet India shies away from investing in it. Do you agree? (10 Marks, 150 words)

शिक्षा में निवेश से निजी और सामाजिक दोनों तरह से लाभ मिलता है, फिर भी भारत इसमें निवेश करने से कतराता है। क्या आप सहमत हैं? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

India has roughly 62.5% of its population in the age group of 15-59 years. According to economic survey, India's demographic dividend will peak around 2041.

In order to ensure benefits from this, investment in education is a sin qua non.

Investment in Education

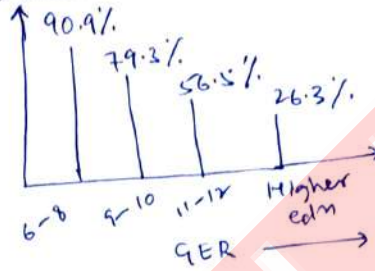


India shies away from spending on education

⑤ it has lead to food budget squeeze for the poor.

① Only 2.5% of GDP is spent on education

② Gross enrollment Ratio declines at each successive level.



③ massification of higher education

④ poor infrastructure

However, various steps have been taken to address this issue

1. New Education Policy, 2020 proposes utilisation of atleast 6% of GDP on education.

2. CSR funds are utilised to create infrastructure and provide last mile connectivity.

3. Public private partnership mode utilised (example Stree Project, world bank aided)

'New India' will only be possible on the bedrock of an educated and skilled India.

Feedback

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Structure/ Presentation
Question Interpretation
Content
Value Addition
Total

Q.9) Rooted in historical solidarity, India's multifaceted engagement with Africa has been critical for its foreign policy matrix. Discuss strategic significance of Africa for India and compare India's engagement with Africa vis-à-vis China. (10 Marks, 150 words)

ऐतिहासिक एकजुटता में निहित इसकी जड़ों सहित, अफ्रीका के साथ भारत का बहुआयामी जुड़ाव इसकी विदेश नीति के मैट्रिक्स के लिए महत्वपूर्ण रहा है। भारत के लिए अफ्रीका के सामरिक महत्व पर चर्चा करें और चीन के साथ भारत के जुड़ाव की तुलना अफ्रीका के साथ भारत के जुड़ाव से करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

According to S. Jaishankar, "A historical solidarity is today a modern partnership". This statement in context of Africa highlights importance of the continent for India

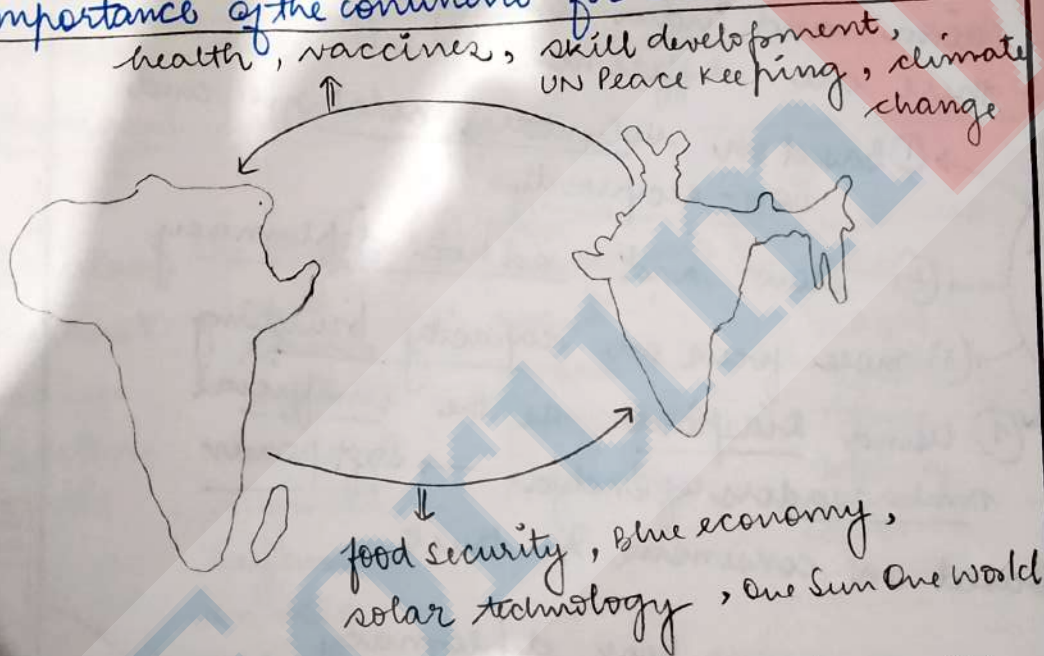


Figure 1 - India's multifaceted engagement with Africa

Strategic importance of Africa for India

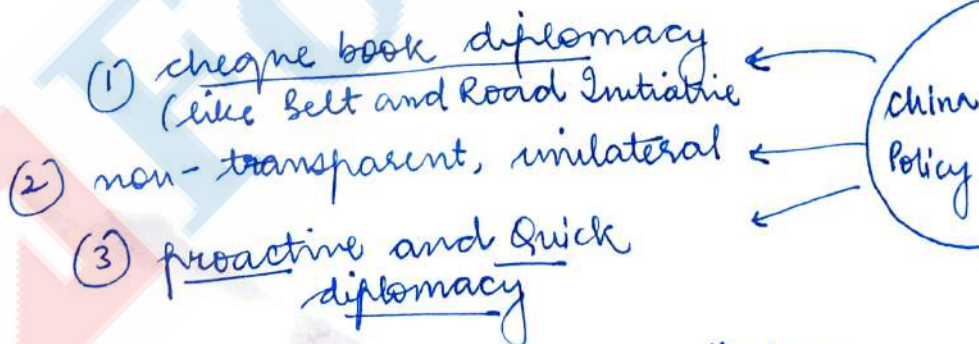
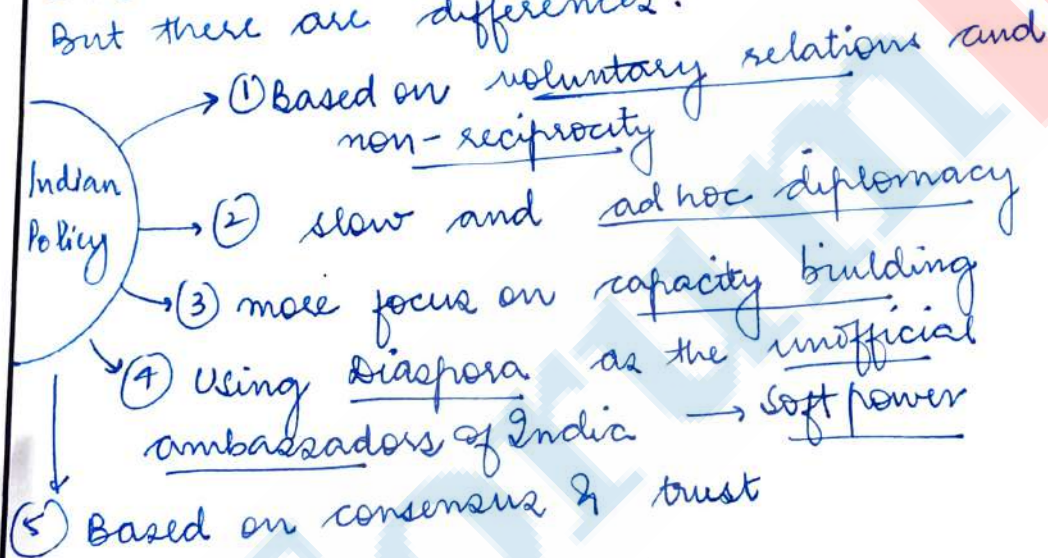
1. Energy security → Africa has 10% global oil reserves
2. Investment opportunities → especially for private players (Example - Airtel - largest)

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service providers in Africa)
 3. Countering Influence of China in Indian Ocean Region → Vanilla Islands are important partners.

4. Security issues (Piracy needs to be tackled)
 → Horn of Africa
 → Cape of Good Hope

Both China and India engaging with Africa. But there are differences.



Both India and China are part of "New Scramble for Africa". Only an Ubuntu philosophy (Inclusive growth) will help in long term sustainability of relations.

Feedback

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Structure/ Presentation
Question Interpretation
Content
Value Addition
Total

Q.10) Evaluate the significance of BRICS in shaping the emerging global order given the internal contradictions and divergent interests of its member countries. (10 Marks, 150 words)

अपने सदस्य देशों के आंतरिक अंतर्विरोधों और अलग-अलग हितों को देखते हुए उभरती वैश्विक व्यवस्था को आकार देने में ब्रिक्स के महत्व का मूल्यांकन करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

BRICS is a grouping of the emerging economies — Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.

It was established to secure South-South cooperation.

However, there are some contradictions and divergent interests

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| ↓
① mutual distrust among member states | ↓
② Russia and China want to be a regional hegemon in Asia | ↓
③ non-unanimous about global governance reforms: | ↓
④ countries like Brazil & South Africa facing economic issues. |
|--|---|---|---|

The role of BRICS is evolving as the global order evolves.

- Emerging Global Order
- ① state led capitalism
 - ② increasing role of trans national companies
 - ③ protectionism
 - ④ trade wars.

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Significance of BRICS in shaping the global order

1. It can be the voice of global south.
 2. cooperation in reforming multilateral institutions like WTO, UN.
 3. Emerging global challenges like climate change, cyber terrorism
→ India's International Solar Alliance Programme.
 4. New Development Bank → infrastructure funding in developing countries.
 5. Vaccine Diplomacy - India manufacturing Sputnik; South Africa - India calling for WTO waiver.
- The recent BRICS Joint statement on strengthening and reforming the multilateral system is a testimony to the important role that BRICS aspires to play in upcoming global order.

X → X

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Structure/ Presentation
Question Interpretation
Content
Value Addition
Total

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Q.11) What was held in Kedar Nath Singh Case 1962? Do you think that the judgement has outlived its utility and needs review? Discuss in light of recent controversies. (15 marks, 250 words)

केदारनाथ सिंह केस, 1962 में क्या हुआ था? क्या आपको लगता है कि इस फैसले की उपयोगिता खत्म हो गई है और इसकी समीक्षा की जरूरत है? हाल के विवादों के आलोक में चर्चा करें। (अंक 15, शब्द 250)

The Kedar Nath Singh case (1962) deals with Sedition (~~Article~~ [Section 124 (A) of the IPC].
In this, the constitutional validity of sedition was upheld.

Sedition → a conduct or speech that incites or attempts to incite people to rebel against the government.

Constitutional

① Based on archaic colonial to laws

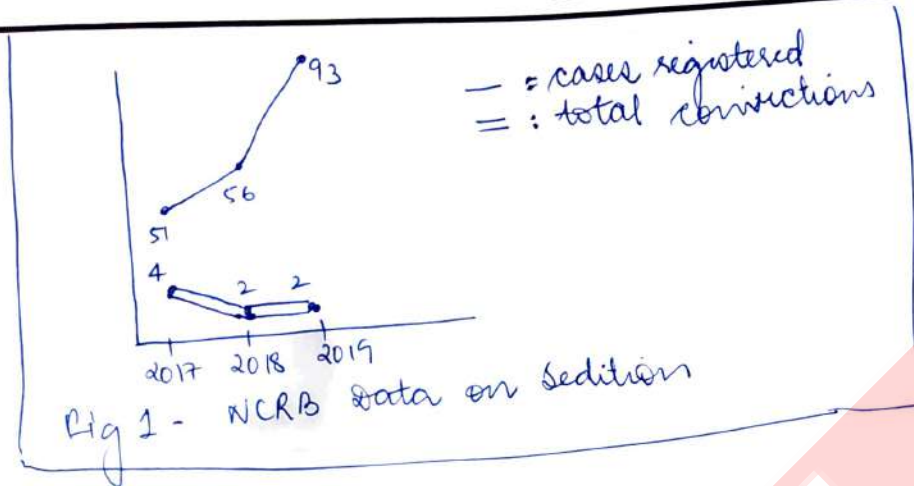
The judgement has outlived because

② Misuse due to vague interpretation of (no clear definition of sedition)

④ used to curb dissent

③ Conviction rate is very low

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Sedition law is against the spirit of democracy.

Recent incidents

① case registered against filmmaker for her statement regarding Administrators of Lakshadweep.

② many people protesting under CAA-NRC, farm laws.

Kedarnath Singh Judgment needs a review

1. Law Commission (2018) called for reconsideration.

2. In Common Cause vs Union of India (2016)

SC acknowledged the misuse of Section 124A and held that merely voicing disaff disapproval towards government policies does not amount to sedition.

Although sedition laws were introduced ~~to~~ and continued post independence to maintain sovereignty and integrity; but ~~they~~ the provisions have outlived and it must be reviewed.

X ————— X

Feedback

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Structure/ Presentation
Question Interpretation
Content
Value Addition
Total



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Q.12) Judicial review and soliciting constitutional justification for policies formulated by the executive is an essential function entrusted to judiciary by the constitution, but there is a fine line between judicial activism and judicial overreach. Discuss. (15 marks, 250 words)

न्यायिक समीक्षा और कार्यपालिका द्वारा तैयार की गई नीतियों के लिए संवैधानिक औचित्य सिद्ध करना संविधान द्वारा न्यायपालिका को सौंपा गया एक आवश्यक कार्य है, लेकिन न्यायिक सक्रियता और न्यायिक अतिरेक के बीच एक महीन रेखा निहित है। चर्चा कीजिए। (अंक 15, शब्द 250)

The constitution of India, under Article 13 gives the power of Judicial review to the judiciary, over legislative and executive actions.

Why was Judicial Review envisaged?

- ① ↓ to keep a balance of power
- ② ↓ upholding rights of citizens.
- ③ ↓ check for constitutionality of actions
- ④ prevent misuse or abuse of power

Judicial Review is a basic feature of the constitution as spined by Supreme court in Kesavananda Bharti case (1973).

Judicial review has over the years transformed into Judicial Activism

Judicial Activism refers to the proactive role played by judiciary to force the executive from discharging their constitutional duties.

Examples → Ordering restoration of Internet in Kashmir (Anuradha Bhasin case)

During COVID-19, Allahabad high court ordered to fix a minimum ex-gratia of ₹ 1 crore for every official who succumbed to the virus during panchayat fall duty. The state government had only fixed ₹ 30 lakhs.

Benefits of Judicial Activism

- ① judicial wisdom (as seen in Vishakha guidelines)
- ② speedy solutions. (Banning old vehicles in NCR)
- ③ Doing complete Justice (as seen during Bhopal gas tragedy)

However, recently many steps have been taken by Judiciary that have led to judicial overreach i.e. extreme judicial activism.

The rejection of National Judicial Appointments Commission (2014) is one such example.

Issues with judicial overreach.

- (1) violates separation of power
- (2) it is mostly a knee jerk reaction (as seen in case of highway liquor ban within 500 metres)

(3) Negligence of challenges faced by legislative and executive in terms of funds, functions and functionaries (as seen in cancellation of coal blocks)

Constitution makers did not want any full of ~~demog~~ democracy to gain immense power. In order to uphold the spirit of constitution, judicial activism must be practiced with judicial restraint.

Feedback

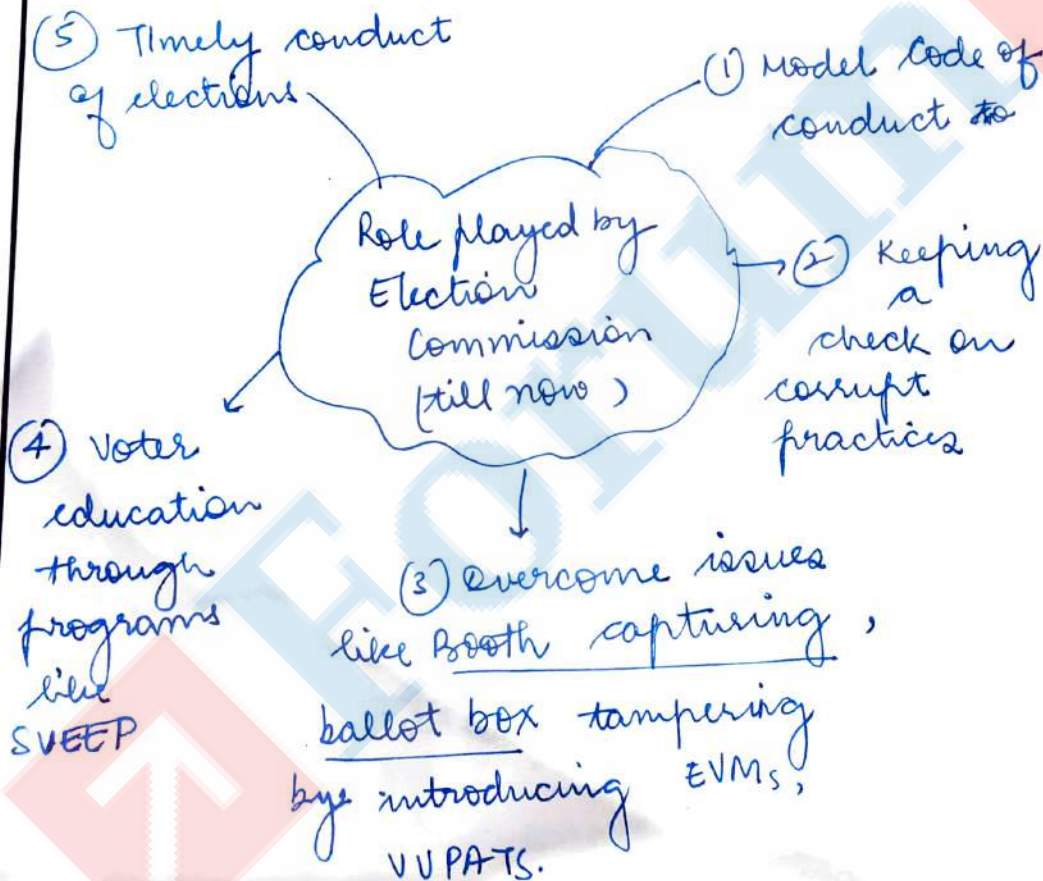
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Q.13) While the Election Commission of India has quite effectively neutralized the effect of muscle power and incumbency power, the commission has newer challenges to face. Discuss in the light of several long pending reform proposals that aim to clean up electoral process. (15 marks, 250 words)

जबकि भारत के चुनाव आयोग ने बाहुबल और सत्ता शक्ति के प्रभाव को काफी प्रभावी ढंग से बेअसर कर दिया है, फिर भी आयोग के सामने नई चुनौतियां मौजूद हैं। लंबे समय से लंबित कई सुधार प्रस्तावों जिनका उद्देश्य चुनावी प्रक्रिया को पारदर्शी एवं निष्पक्ष करना है, के आलोक में चर्चा करें।
(अंक 15, शब्द 250)

Article 324 of Indian constitution deals with the free and fair elections. The job to conduct these is entrusted upon an independent Election Commission of India.



Thus Election Commission has effectively

tried to neutralize muscle power in elections.

However, it is now facing with newer impediments.

Emerging Challenges faced by Election Commission

- ① No power to derecognise political parties
- ② No resources to tackle election campaigning through social media
- ③ Electoral bonds → opacity in electoral funding

④ Allegations of EVM Tampering (in recent Assam elections, EVMs were being transported in the vehicle of a contesting candidate)

⑤ No action taken against hate speeches (except banning for a few hours)

Reforms that need to be completed

1. Election Commission should have power to derecognise political parties or candidates.

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2. Mandatory 25% counting from VVPAT.
 3. Appointment process of Election Commissioners should be more transparent.

4. Independent secretariat to look into working of election Commission.

5. Implementation of One Nation One Election can reduce corrupt practices to some extent.

6. Proper implementation of Guidelines given by Supreme Court in Public Interest Foundation case 2018.

India will celebrate the 75th year of Independence in 2022. Free and fair elections under the aegis of the Election Commission of India have been the bedrock of our vibrant democracy over the years.

X ————— X

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Structure/ Presentation
Question Interpretation
Content
Value Addition
Total

Q.14) Obsession with ethnic identity and lack of economic development is the root cause of various interstate land border and river water disputes in the country. Discuss with relevant examples.

(15 marks, 250 words)

जातीय पहचान के साथ जुनून और आर्थिक विकास का अभाव देश में विभिन्न अंतरराज्यीय भू-सीमा और नदी जल विवादों का मूल कारण है। प्रासंगिक उदाहरणों के साथ चर्चा करें।

(अंक 15, शब्द 250)

India's vast cultural and geographical diversity has made it a vibrant democracy. However, it has also been a cause of various interstate land borders and river water disputes

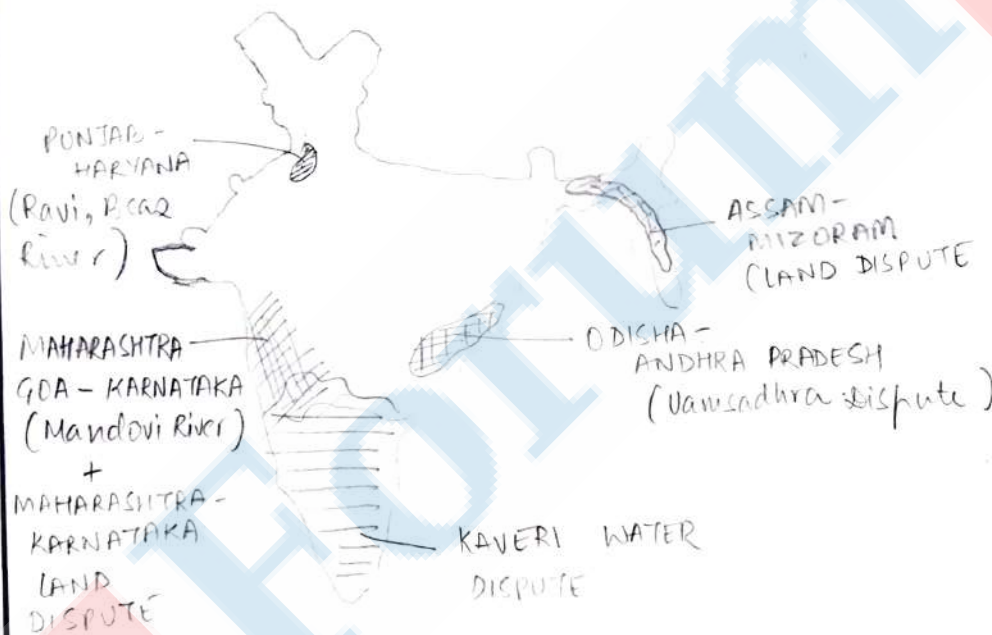


Fig 1 → Examples of some interstate land border and river dispute

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Impact of ethnic identity and lack of economic development

1. Assam - Mizoram land dispute due to ethnic ~~clash~~ issues between Lushai hill tribes and Assamese natives.
2. Maharashtra - Karnataka Belgaum Border Dispute → Belgaum district is Karnataka comprises of 814 villages which are predominantly Marathi speaking.
3. Kaveri River Dispute due to poor economic conditions of farmers in and around the catchment basin. Water is needed for agriculture development.

The Interstate land and river disputes lead to competitive federalism and social tensions as seen in the

Assam - Mizoram violent clashes.

Steps needed

1. Using platforms like Inter State Council and Zonal Councils.
2. Cooperative federalism must be promoted.
3. Timely resolution of disputes.
4. Confidence building mechanisms through dialogue, debates and deliberations.

India's vision of Ek Bharat, Shreshth Bharat can only be achieved by resolving these issues that hamper the socio-political fabric of the country.

x ————— x

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Q.15) Instead of making government more transparent to public, data has made public more transparent to the government. Discuss the issues related to data privacy and data utilization. Can the proposed data security legislation address these concerns? (15 marks, 250 words)

सरकार को जनता के लिए और अधिक पारदर्शी बनाने के बजाय, डेटा ने जनता को सरकार के लिए और अधिक पारदर्शी बना दिया है। डेटा गोपनीयता और डेटा उपयोग से संबंधित मुद्दों पर चर्चा करें। क्या प्रस्तावित डेटा सुरक्षा कानून इन चिंताओं को हल कर सकता है? (अंक 15, शब्द 250)

According to the Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI) Digital India Report (2019), India has about 504 million active web users.

This, along with the recent Pegasus controversy has highlighted the issue of data privacy and data utilization.

DATA
PRIVACY
CONCERNS.

① India has one of the highest number of cyber attacks (10th in global cyber security Index)

② Data monopoly and data colonisation

③ Manipulation of data

④ Data leakages. (Facebook papers)

(as per Greenbone sustainable Resilience - medical)

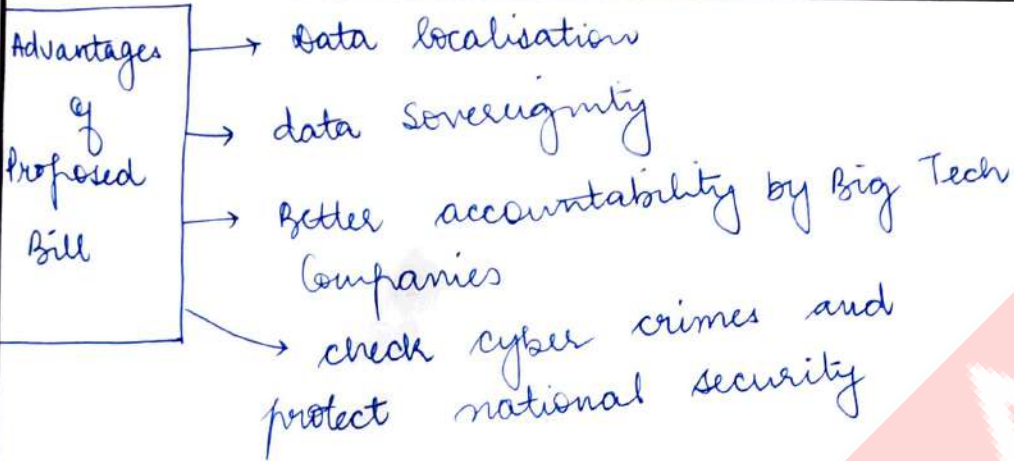
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data of 120 million Indian patients has been leaked.

In the light of this, a ~~draft~~ Data Protection Bill has been introduced in Lok Sabha and sent to Joint Parliamentary committee.

Key provisions

1. categories of data
 - Sensitive personal
 - critical personal
 - personal.
2. Data localisation → critical personal data to be stored and handled in India.
3. Rights of correction, right to data portability and right to be forgotten
4. setting up Data Protection Authority as an independent regulator.
5. central government may exempt any of its agencies from the provisions of the act.



Concerns

1. Poor infrastructure for data localisation
2. Data protection authority has all government nominees, hence it impacts independence of regulators
3. Government can exempt access data anytime on grounds of sovereignty and public order.

X ————— X

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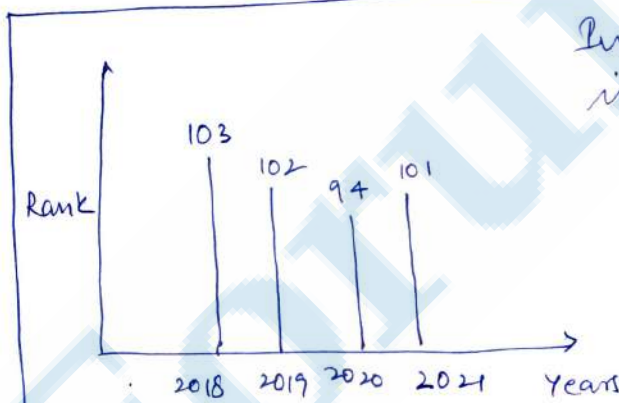
Q.16) Despite substantial rise in per capita income and surplus production of food grains, high level of malnutrition and hunger continues to persist in India. Examine the reasons for this divergence keeping in mind findings of Global hunger Index 2021. (15 marks, 250 words)

प्रति व्यक्ति आय में पर्याप्त वृद्धि और खाद्यान्न के अधिशेष उत्पादन के बावजूद, भारत में कुपोषण और भूखमरी उच्च स्तर पर वनें हैं। वैश्विक भूखमरी सूचकांक, 2021 के निष्कर्षों को ध्यान में रखते हुए इस विचलन के कारणों का परीक्षण कीजिए।

(अंक 15, शब्द 250)

In the crop year 2019-20, the foodgrain output in India was a record high of 297.5 mt. India is also the third largest economy in the world in PPP terms.

Despite this, India achieved a rank of 101 out of 116 countries in the latest Global Hunger Index



India is now infamously called "Republic of Hungry citizens".

Fig 1: Global Hunger Index (Trend)

Various reasons have lead to this paradox.

1. Undernourishment

- according to WHO, micronutrient deficiencies cause an estimated death of 1.4 million of the 3.1 million child deaths.

- Cause of undernourishment in India

↓
non diversified diet
(over reliance on cereals)

↓
poor maternal health.

↓
poverty - hunger trap

2. Child wasting

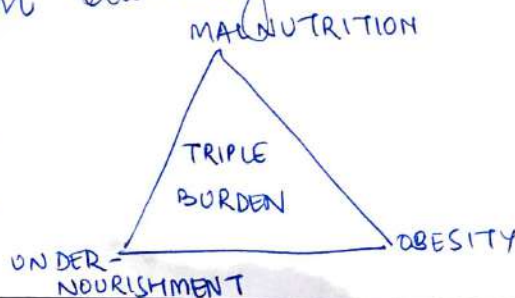
- In India, 17.3% children suffer from wasting with is the highest in the world.

underweight boys = 58.1%
underweight girls = 50.1%

3. Child stunting

- According to Global Nutrition Report, 37.9% suffer from stunting.

India is suffering from triple burden of malnutrition



Thus, malnutrition and hunger persist due to

- (1) flawed policies
- (2) poor economic status
- (3) absence of behavioural changes
- (4) Issues in implementation of programs (targetted delivery is missing)

Steps needed

1. Dietary diversification - inclusion of coarse grains in PDS and mid day meal (MS Swaminathan)
2. Proper Implementation of PM Poshan Scheme
 - * 450Kcal energy + 12 gram protein (to children)
 - * 700 Kcal energy + 20gram protein (to adolescent)
3. Food fortification (According to Copenhagen Consensus, every 1 Rupee spent on fortification results in 4 Rupees benefit.)

India has uplifted more than 270 million people out of poverty. It has also achieved food security. focus must now be on nutritional security.

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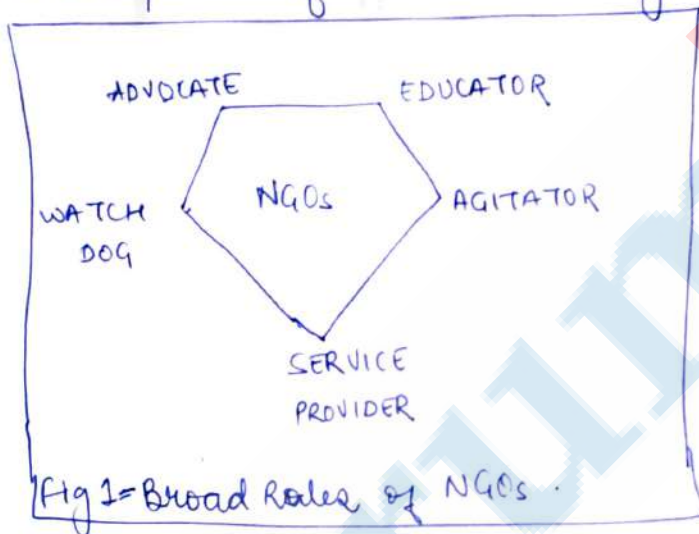
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Q.17) The rise of NGOs reflects the failure of Indian state and markets to usher in equitable development and economic redistribution. Examine. (15 marks, 250 words)

गैर सरकारी संगठनों का उदय न्यायोचित विकास और आर्थिक पुनर्वितरण में भारतीय राज्य और बाजारों की विफलता को दर्शाता है। परीक्षण करें। (अंक 15, शब्द 250)

According to Article 19 (1)(c), the right to freedom involves right to form associations. NGOs are one such association that form a crucial part of civil society.



According to CBP, India has 1 NGO for 600 people. This rise of NGOs has particularly been seen post LPG reforms.

Failure of Indian state
and market

Role played by NGO.

1. Poor policy
formulation by the
state

1. Samatha NGO
played a major
role in Vedanta vs
LOCSO

2. Regional disparities
(3 Indian states i.e.
Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu
and Karnataka
contribute more than
13 states towards
GDP)

2. NGOs like provide
last mile connectivity
in areas where
governments are
reluctant / incapable
of working

3. Exploitation of
vulnerable sections
like children,
women, transgenders
etc.

3. Kailash Satyarthi
foundation → Bachpan
Bachao Andolan

3.1 Bandhua Mukti
Morcha against
bonded labour

4. Poor policy
implementation

4. Ramakrishna
mission and NGOs
like Kerala Sastra
Sahitya played major

5. Environmental degradation

role in education at doorsteps

S. NGOs like Greenpeace, Narmada Bachao Andolan have ensured environment justice

According to World Economic Forum, civil society is indispensable for recovery from pandemic. This highlights the need to incorporate NGOs as stakeholders in development.

Kofi Annan, has rightly said that "The 21st century will be the era of NGOs".



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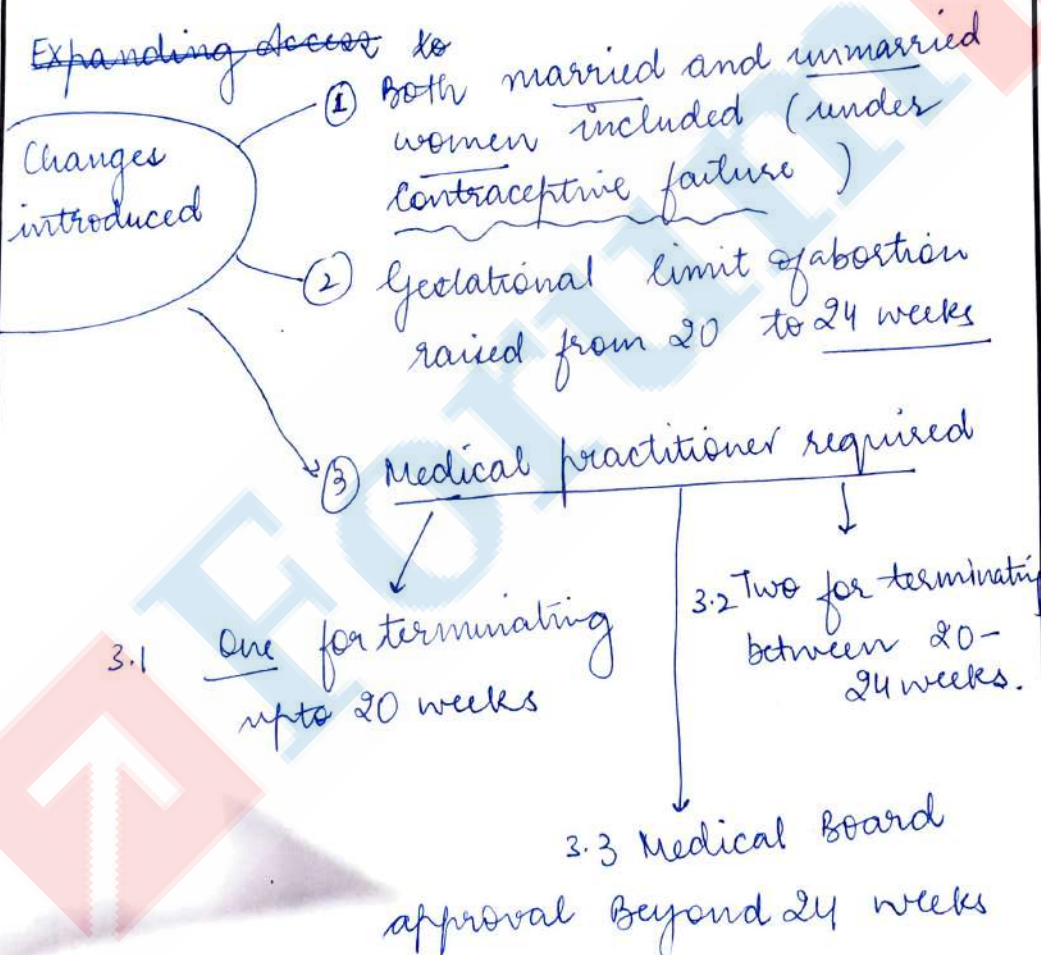
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Structure/Presentation
Question Interpretation
Content
Value Addition
Total

Q.18) Medical Termination of Pregnancy (Amendment) Act, 2021 has expanded access of women to safe and legal abortion services, but it fails to address the critical issues of reproductive rights and bodily autonomy of women. Examine. (15 marks, 250 words)

मेडिकल टर्मिनेशन ऑफ प्रेग्नेंसी (संशोधन) अधिनियम, 2021 ने महिलाओं की सुरक्षित और कानूनी गर्भपात सेवाओं तक पहुंच का विस्तार किया है। लेकिन यह महिलाओं के प्रजनन अधिकारों और शारीरिक स्वायत्तता के महत्वपूर्ण मुद्दों को संबोधित करने में विफल है। परीक्षण करें। (अंक 15, शब्द 250)

Parliament has recently passed the Medical Termination of Pregnancy (Amendment) Act, 2021, as a step towards empowering women towards their bodily autonomy.



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Failure to address critical issues

1. Against bodily autonomy → criticism for the need to constitute medical board
2. Beyond 24 weeks, only recourse is writ petition → women from rural areas may not have access.
3. Does not consider factors such as personal choice, domestic violence and sudden change in circumstances

The sustainable development goals 3.7 and 5.6 deal with universal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights.

Despite some shortcomings, the recent amendment is a bold step towards ensuring safety and dignity of women.

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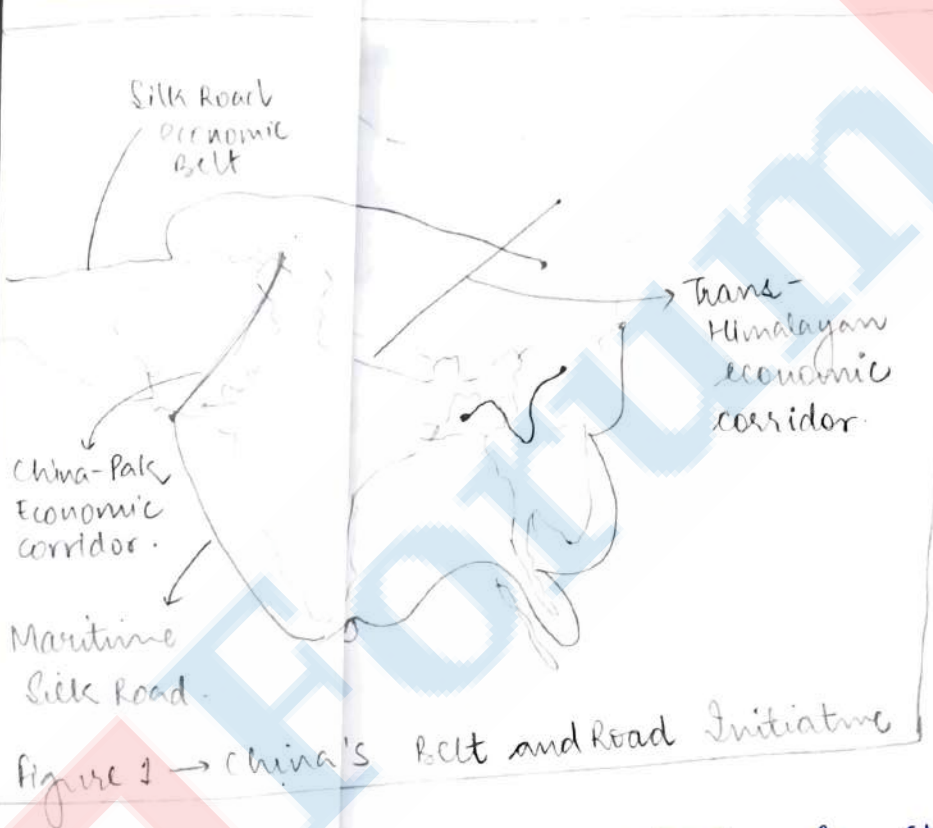
Q.19) Compare and contrast the Build Back Better World (B3W) with the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). Can joining the B3W initiative help India in furthering her national interest? Discuss.

(15 marks, 250 words)

बिल्ड बैक बेटर वर्ल्ड (B3W) की बेल्ट एंड रोड इनिशिएटिव (BRI) के साथ तुलना एवं समानता का उल्लेख करें। क्या B3W पहल में शामिल होने से भारत को अपने राष्ट्रीय हित को आगे बढ़ाने में मदद मिल सकती है? चर्चा करें।

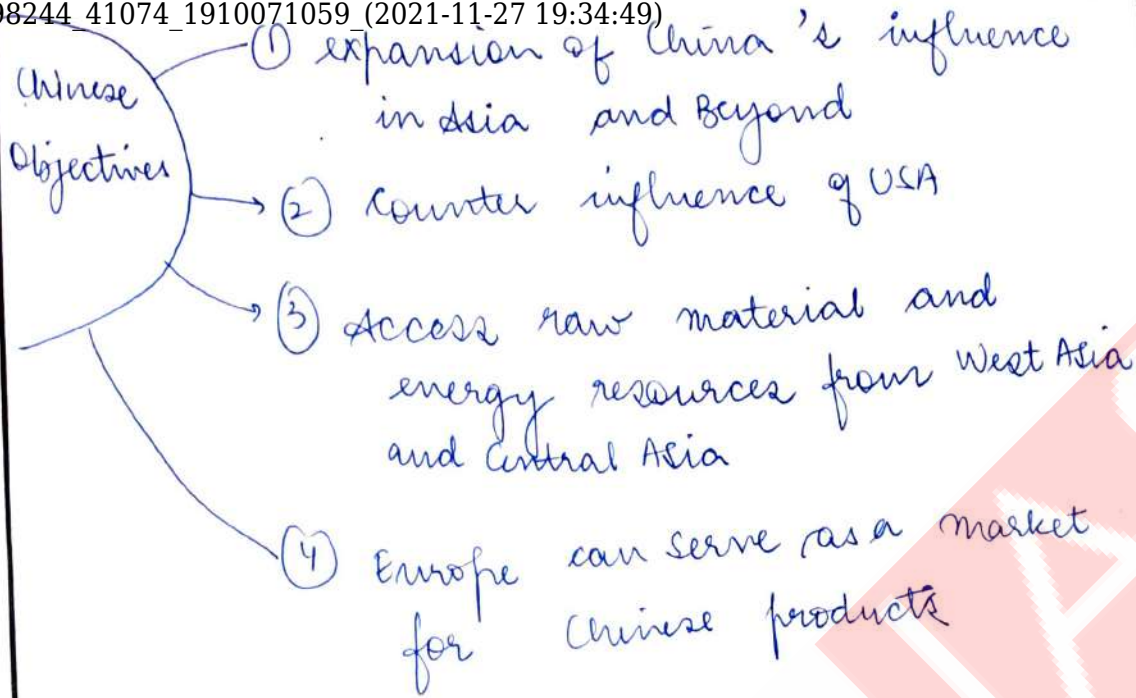
(अंक 15, शब्द 250)

The Build Back Better World (B3W) is a G7 initiative, as an alternate to China's Belt and Road Initiative.



China's Belt and Road initiative is its aim of reviving the ancient Silk Road.

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(B3W)
 The Build Back Better World has emerged as a counter to China's debt trap model.

Objectives of B3W → infrastructure development in global South.

Issues in Belt and Road Initiative

How B3W is an alternate to it

1. Top down unilateral model
2. Non transparent in funding

1. Multistakeholder model and consultative
2. Transparent

3. ~~eco~~ environmentally ~~unsustainable~~ | 3. environmentally sustainable

India's Interests

1. India is against OBOR because of issues of breach of territorial sovereignty, opaque funding and regional disbalance of power.

2. Joining B3W can be of India's interest as it is a collaboration of like minded democracies and will help exert India's influence in the region.

India believes in a rules based, consensus oriented, strategic autonomy. Joining B3W can help India achieve it.

X ————— X

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Structure/ Presentation
Question Interpretation
Content
Value Addition
Total

Q.20) The year 1991 marked a watershed moment not only for economy but also for India's foreign policy. Discuss the evolution of India's foreign policy since 1991 highlighting the factors for the changes henceforth. (15 marks, 250 words)

वर्ष 1991 न केवल अर्थव्यवस्था के लिए बल्कि भारत की विदेश नीति के लिए भी एक महत्वपूर्ण क्षण के रूप में अंकित है। 1991 के बाद से भारत की विदेश नीति के उद्भव की चर्चा कीजिए और इसके बाद के परिवर्तनों के लिए जिम्मेदार कारकों पर प्रकाश डालिए। (अंक 15, शब्द 250)

India's foreign policy is based on its enduring national interest - protecting its sovereignty as well as well being of its citizens.

The year 1991 saw Indian foreign policy evolve from hitherto non alignment to a more forward oriented policy.

Evolution of foreign Policy since 1991	Factors responsible
<p><u>Phase I</u> Safeguarding strategic autonomy (1991-1999)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - end of cold war - liberalisation of economy - Kargil war with Pakistan - Pokhman II test
<p><u>Phase II</u> Balancing power (2000-2013)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rise of China - India - USA civil nuclear Deal - BRICS

Phase III

Energetic
Diplomacy
(2014 to present)

- India's proactiveness in field of climate [COP26] and energy [International Solar Alliance]
- China's One Belt One Road Initiative → to counter this India is engaging with BIMSTEC, BBIN network,
- China's aggressiveness in Indian Ocean Region
↓
India engaging in Blue Dot Network, Build Back Better World.
- foreign policy initiatives
↓
neighbour first policy, Act East policy, Think West policy

Broad Changes in Foreign Policy of India (as per S. Jaishankar)

- 1) Outreach to Diaspora (Pravasi Bharat Divas)
- 2) Offensive Defensive policy (eg- Surgical strikes; hot pursuits)
- 3) More emphasis on Soft power (Vaccine Maitri, International Yoga Day)
- 4) Space diplomacy (NISAR mission) and Climate Diplomacy

International Relation is an exercise of both forging convergence and managing divergence. India's foreign policy is a reflection of this.



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Structure/ Presentation
Question Interpretation
Content
Value Addition
Total