

TEST CODE 6 1 2 3 0 2

FIAS – MGP 2023 – GS PAPER 2_FLT #6

Time Allowed : Three Hours
समय : तीन घंटे

ForumIAS

Maximum Marks : 250
अधिकतम अंक : 250

GENERAL STUDIES / सामान्य अध्ययन

Name Of Candidate परीक्षार्थी का नाम	AAYUSHI BANCAL		
Roll No./अनुक्रमांक	1910129312	Medium/माध्यम	English <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> हिंदी <input type="checkbox"/>
Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र	Online	Date/दिनांक	26/08/23

*Center Code : For Online - 1900 / Delhi : Karol bagh - 1901, ORN - 1902, Mukharji Nagar - 1903 / Patna : Boring Rd. - 2001 / Hyderabad : Jawahar Nagar - 2101

INDEX TABLE / अनुक्रमणिका			INSTRUCTION / अनुदेश		
Q. No. प्र.सं.	Max. Marks अधिकतम अंक	Marks Obtained प्राप्तांक	1. Please do furnish Name, Email, Roll No and Mobile in the answer sheet. कृपया उत्तर-पुस्तिका में नाम, ईमेल, रोल नंबर और मोबाइल नंबर भरें।		
1			2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI, all questions are compulsory. उत्तर पुस्तिका में अंग्रेजी/हिंदी में बीस प्रश्न दिए गए हैं, सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।		
2			3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के लिए निर्धारित अंक उसके सामने अंकित किए गए हैं।		
3			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. उत्तर प्रवेश पत्र में अधिकृत माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए, जो कि दिए गए स्थान में इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के कवर पर स्पष्ट रूप से लिखा जाना चाहिए।		
4			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. प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, यदि निर्दिष्ट हो, का पालन किया जाए। प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़े गये किसी भी पृष्ठ या पृष्ठ के भाग को स्पष्ट रूप से काट दें।		
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Examiner's Discretion/मूल्यांकन कर्ता का विवेक :			Start Time/प्रारंभ करने का समय :	End Time/समाप्त करने का समय :	
			6 pm	9 pm	
Total Marks/कुल अंक :			Mode Of Examination/ परीक्षा की विधि :	Online/ऑनलाइन <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Offline/ऑफलाइन <input type="checkbox"/>	
*Examiner's Discretion is the marks awarded at the discretion of the examiner 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. मूल्यांकन कर्ता का विवेक अंक आपकी लिखावट, प्रस्तुति, आरेखों के उपयोग, फ्लोचार्ट, तथ्यों और आंकड़ों या समग्र रूप किसी अन्य विषय वस्तु, जो मूल्यांकन कर्ता को आपकी कॉपी में पसंद आयी के आधार पर (लेकिन इन्हीं तक सीमित नहीं) पर दिए गए अंक हैं।			For Office Use Only / केवल कार्यालय प्रयोग हेतु		
			ECN CODE/ ईसीएन कोड :	EG/ईजी :	Evaluation Date/ मूल्यांकन तिथि :
			① ② ③ ④ ⑤	① ② ③ ④ ⑤	

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.

EXAMINER'S REMARKS

ForumIAS

CRITERIA FOR THE FEEDBACK SECTION AT THE END OF EACH QUESTION

1. **AWIS = Answered What is Asked.** This means whether you have addressed the core demand of the question or not. Addressing the core demand of the question gets you an objectively fair score. It is examiner's perception if you have understood the question and if you know the answer in the first place. Creative answer writing, sometimes missing the core demand, may fetch very high or very low scores, and exposes your answer to the subjectivity of the examiner.
2. **CD & VA = Content Density & Value Addition** Examiner will evaluate the quality and quantity of your content in the answer. In the same word limit and space limit have you (a) written what is asked (b) gone beyond what is asked (c) enriched answers through combination of (but not all!) suggestions, ideas, quotes, flowcharts, diagrams, facts and figures, data etc. This affects objective components of assessment.
3. **S & F = Structure & Flow** = Whether you have structured your answer properly or not. Whether the answer has been broken into parts and sub-parts and each part has been addressed appropriately or not. Whether the flow of the answer is maintained. Affects both subjective and objective components of assessment.
4. **P & R** = How your answer performs on the criteria of **presentation, ease of read, clarity and apparent effort** in writing the answer. This affects the subjective components of assessment.

Q.1) Discuss the role of the 'Fourth Estate' in upholding democratic values and analyse the issues affecting press freedom in India. (10 marks, 150 words)

लोकतांत्रिक मूल्यों को बनाए रखने में 'चौथे स्तंभ' की भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए और भारत में प्रेस की स्वतंत्रता को प्रभावित करने वाले मुद्दों का विश्लेषण कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

'Fourth Estate' is the 'fourth pillar' of democracy i.e. media & press. So, its freedom becomes sine qua non for democracy.

Role of Fourth Estate in upholding democratic values

Positive role

Negative role

① Upholds freedom of speech, expression, dissent (Article 19(1)(a))

① Sensationalisation, leads to side-lining democratic agenda

② Voice to marginalised (eg. Hathras rape case coverage)

② Crony capitalism, hijack by corporates

③ Checks & balances on executive & legislature (eg. covering bureaucratic failures)

③ Biased, paid, fake news

④ TRP manipulation against fair competition

Issues affecting press freedom

- ① Threat to life of journalists who cover sensitive issues (e.g. gangsters organised crime)
- ② Media-corporate nexus leading to selective coverage.
- ③

Forum IAS

Feedback

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#	G	A	P
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CD & VA			
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Please put tick marks in the above table.

Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.

TOTAL MARKS	
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Q.2) The electoral process, though inclusionary in theory, has been pointed out for exclusionary tendencies in practice. Analyse, with special emphasis on role of women in India's representative electoral system. (10 marks, 150 words)

चुनावी प्रक्रिया, यद्यपि सिद्धांत रूप में समावेशी है, व्यवहार में बहिष्करणीय प्रवृत्तियों की ओर इंगित किया गया है। भारत की प्रतिनिधिक चुनावी प्रणाली में महिलाओं की भूमिका पर विशेष जोर देते हुए विश्लेषण कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Electoral process involves nomination, preparation of electoral rolls, voting, ~~count~~ counting of votes & declaration of result. [Art 324 - Election Commission controls electoral process]

Inclusionary in theory

- ① Art 325, 326 for universal franchise (removal of no one in electoral rolls on basis of caste, sex, language, sex) & universal adult franchise respectively
- ② Public offices open for all (base subject to qualification & disqualification)
- ③ Special initiatives → ~~at~~ Postal voting, (service voters), integration of Aadhar

④ Role of women: 73rd & 74th Constitutional amendment → 33% reservation for women in local bodies.

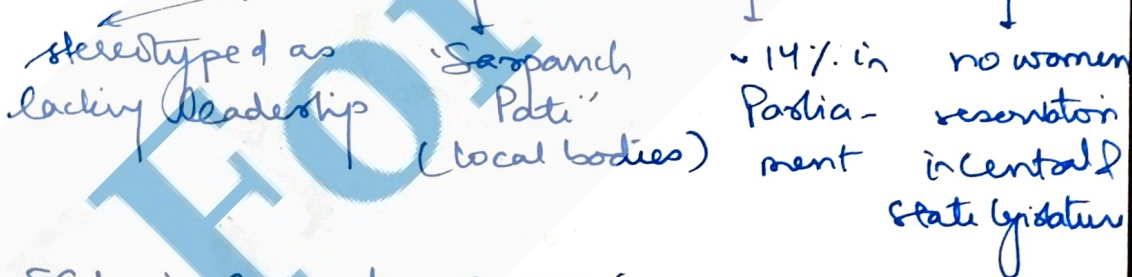
Exclusionary in practice

① Money, muscle power candidates higher chances to win (ADR) → excludes a level playing field due to FPTP.

② Migrants → unable to vote in their constituency.

③ High urban voter apathy (ECI in Himachal, Gujarat elections)

④ Role of women [exclusionary]



ECI implements SUEEP (voter awareness),

NCW → 'She is a Changemaker' (women leadership & Parliamentary Standing Committee recommends women capacity building to make elections truly inclusive.

Feedback
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Please put tick marks in the above table. Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.			
TOTAL MARKS			

Q.3) Human dignity, stemming from right to life, does not end with death penalty. In this context, throw light on various controversies surrounding capital punishment in the country. (10 marks, 150 words)

जीवन के अधिकार से उपजी मानवीय गरिमा, मृत्युदंड से समाप्त नहीं होती है। इस संदर्भ में, देश में मृत्युदंड से जुड़े विभिन्न विवादों पर प्रकाश डालिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Capital punishment is a legal way of taking life of a criminal. It has been ~~argued~~ debated whether it infringes right to life (Article 21)

Capital punishment → ^{not.} against right to life & dignity

- ① Retribution & proportional punishment for heinous crimes in 'sarest of sar' cases (Bachan Singh case)
- ② Act as a strong deterrence against crimes like sapring miror.
- ③ Justice to victims who suffered heavy losses ~~trauma~~ (Tej → Nisbhaya case)
- ④ Restores faith in criminal justice system of society.

Capital punishment - against right to life & dignity

- ① Against law of modern societies based on restitution & rehabilitation.
- ② Understanding aggravating & mitigating factors behind crime \Rightarrow social failure
(eg \rightarrow childhood trauma may turn into criminal)
- ③ No conclusive evidence to prove its a strong deterrence.
- ④ UNGA recommends taking it away.

Way forward

- ① Ensure fair trial, analysis of all mitigating circumstances for holistic case (SC)
 - ② Case to case basis followed on 'sarest of sare' doctrine.
 - ③ Timely disposal of mercy petitions (Article 72, 161)
- Capital punishment, must be awarded only after in depth analysis of all sides.

Feedback

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Please put tick marks in the above table. Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.			
TOTAL MARKS			

Q.4) Assess the effectiveness of Inter-State River Water Disputes Act, 1956 in resolution of river-water disputes. Also describe the potential impact of delays in resolution of water disputes.

(10 marks, 150 words)

नदी-जल विवादों के समाधान में अंतर-राज्यीय नदी जल विवाद अधिनियम, 1956 की प्रभावशीलता का आकलन कीजिए। जल विवादों के समाधान में विलम्ब के सभावित प्रभाव का भी वर्णन कीजिए।

(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Article 262 enables Parliament to resolve inter-state water disputes, excluding court jurisdiction. It has enacted Inter-State River Water Disputes Act, 1956.

Effectiveness of Act in resolution of disputes

effective

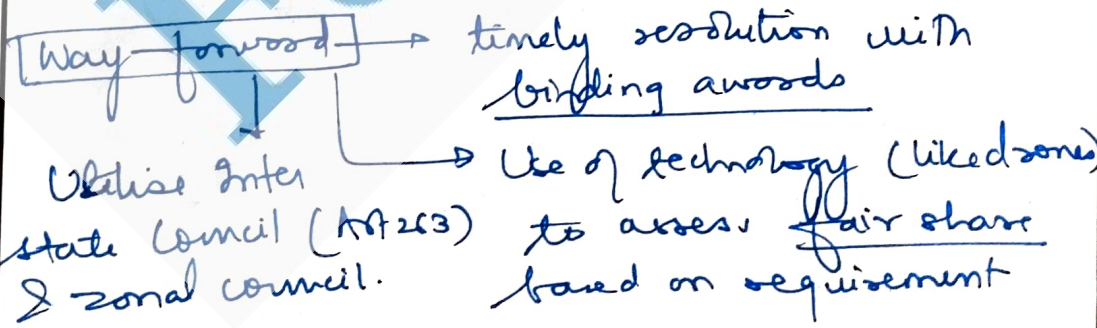
Not effective

- ① Resolved many disputes, without court's interference.
- ② Encourages cooperative federations by representation to States' voice.

- ① Setting up of multiple tribunals (eg Kaveri dispute between TN & Karnataka)
- ② Non-acceptance of tribunal awards
- ③ Continued litigation in courts.

Impact of delays in resolution of water disputes

- ① Crisis for public :- limited availability for drinking water, irrigation etc
- ② Halted development : Can't build dams, hydro power infrastructure etc (eg Mekedatu)
- ③ Threat to cooperative federalism as disputes spill over to other areas between states.
- ④ Lack of cooperation during floods etc (eg → Haryana-Delhi during Yamuna floods 2023)



Inter state water disputes must be swiftly resolved for long term public welfare.

Feedback
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#	G	A	P
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Please put tick marks in the above table.
Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.

TOTAL MARKS	
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Q.5 Discuss the significance of the cooperative model of development in addressing the issues of rural growth. (10 marks, 150 words)

ग्रामीण विकास के मुद्दों के समाधान में विकास के सहकारी मॉडल के महत्व पर चर्चा कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Cooperative model of development implies creation of cooperatives → voluntary organisations, pooling resources of members for achieving benefits to all.

Significance of cooperative model of development → rural growth

- ① Enhanced bargaining power for marginalised (eg Amul model in Anand, Gujarat)
- ② Quality inputs at low cost (eg IFFCO for fertilisers)
- ③ Social capital; democratic rights to all members - voice to vulnerable
- ④ Higher returns, market access, economics of scale ⇒ higher profit

⑤ Rural industrialisation due to ancillary industries (e.g Cold chain, food processing etc)

Challenges of Cooperative model

① Autonomy (lack) → Operational → appointments removal etc of Board.
 financial → lack access to capital markets

② Disparity → Maharashtra, Gujarat successful over Eastern & North East.

③ Competition from companies.

④ Political interference, indebted, lack professionalism (irregular elections)

Govt has created new Ministry of Cooperation
57th Constitutional Amendment Act, Election Authority for multi state cooperative societies
 farmer, autonomy, access to secondary capital markets, expansion in North East is required for 'Sahkar se Samridhi'

Feedback

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Please put tick marks in the above table.
 Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.

TOTAL MARKS	
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Q.6) In order to pass the ultimate test of good governance, welfare state should be close to the people, responsive to their aspirations, and inclusive in its approach. Discuss with special reference to PM PVTG Development Mission. (10 marks, 150 words)

सुशासन मौलिक परीक्षा पास करने के लिए, कल्याणकारी राज्य को लोगों के करीब होना चाहिए, उनकी आकांक्षाओं के प्रति उत्तरदायी होना चाहिए और अपने दृष्टिकोण में समावेशी होना चाहिए। PM PVTG विकास मिशन के विशेष संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Good governance is based on participation, inclusiveness, equity, efficiency, rule of law, transparency & accountability (UNDP)

Good governance → Welfare State

a) Close to people

① Reaching the last mile for effective delivery.

② PM PVTG → for most vulnerable tribes

↳ saturation of services like health, edu → services close to ppl.

b) Responsive to aspirations

① Timely redressal of grievances.

- ② Including participation, demand & needs based programmes.
- ③ PM-PVTG → controlled integration with development agenda

C) Inclusive

- ① support all vulnerable sections
- ② PM-PVTG → includes most under-developed tribes
 - 'primitive' agriculture
 - low literacy
 - declining / stagnant population

PM-PVTG Development Mission must be implemented in close collaboration with tribals, preserving their local culture, access to basic services & inclusive growth.

Feedback

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Please put tick marks in the above table.
Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.

TOTAL MARKS

Q.7) To what extent collaboration between the state and civil society organizations (CSOs) help in addressing poverty and malnutrition in the country? (10 marks, 150 words)

राज्य और नागरिक समाज संगठनों (सीएसओ) के बीच सहयोग किस हद तक देश में गरीबी और कुपोषण को दूर करने में मदद करता है? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

CSOs are non-kin, non-state, non-market organisations in society.

Collaboration between State & CSOs → address poverty & malnutrition

① CSOs → reach last mile where State's reach is less.

② Complement State's role in providing services. → e.g. → community kitchens during Covid

③ Identification of under-served & un-served areas by CSOs.

④ Engage in job creation → e.g. SEWA
↓
later SHG Bank linkage program by State

Collaboration - doesn't address poverty & malnutrition

① Lack of clearly defined roles & responsibilities in the poverty/alleviate nutrition schemes

② Overlap of state, NAO, etc lead to
 → duplication
 → leaving out certain areas

③ Lack of resources with CSOs
 eg → during Covid fund crunch

Way forward

① Clear guidelines on responsibilities of CSOs (National Policy on Voluntary Organisations)

② Utilise NAO Daapen (Noli Aayog) to collaborate.

③ CSOs & State together can realise the welfare agenda & fulfillment of Sustainable Development Goals 1 & 2.

Feedback

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Please put tick marks in the above table.

Here G is Good, A is Average and F is Fair.

TOTAL MARKS	
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Q.8) Absence of a robust social infrastructure in the country may become one of the most significant challenges in achieving a developed status by 2047. Discuss. (10 marks, 150 words)

देश में एक मजबूत सामाजिक बुनियादी ढांचे की अनुपस्थिति 2047 तक विकसित स्थिति प्राप्त करने में सबसे महत्वपूर्ण चुनौतियों में से एक बन सकती है। चर्चा कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Social infrastructure refers to infrastructure meant for bringing social change, ensuring health, education & overall citizens well being.

Absence of social infrastructure challenges to achieve developed status

① Demographic dividend becomes liability with adequate human capital development

health
(hospitals etc)
~ 1.5% of GDP

education
(schools etc)
~ 3% of GDP

skills
(centers)
~ 1% formally skilled.

② Inequality & lack of inclusive growth.

③ Poor development of vulnerable sections → SC, ST, women, poor without social infra.

④ Way forward

① Health → ~2.5% of GDP
(NHP, 2017)

② Education → 6% of GDP
→ implementation of NEP, 2020

Social infrastructure with health, skills, inclusion, education is necessary for robust equitable growth & development:

Feedback

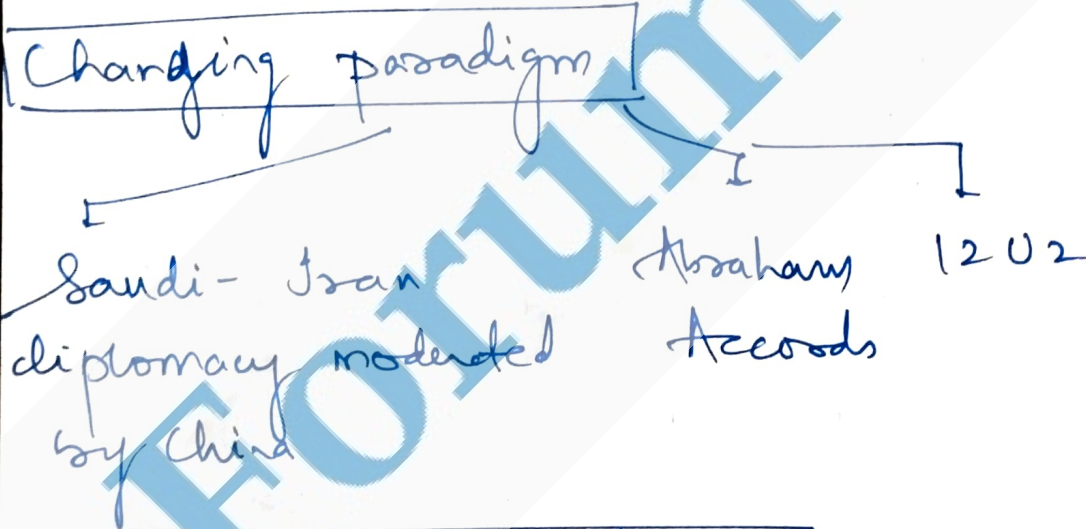
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Please put tick marks in the above table. Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.			
TOTAL MARKS			

Q.9) Though the changing paradigm towards dialogue and diplomacy in West Asia augurs well for India's interests in this otherwise restive region, presence of inimical actors may reverse the gains. Explain. (10 marks, 150 words)

हालांकि पश्चिम एशिया में संवाद एवं कूटनीति के प्रति बदलते प्रतिमान इस अशांत क्षेत्र में भारत के हितों के लिए अच्छा संकेत है, लेकिन प्रतिकूल तत्वों की उपस्थिति लाभ को उलट सकती है। व्याख्या कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

West Asia is composed of 3 pillars of Israel, GCC (Gulf Arab States) & Iran. India must balance all 3.



Augurs well for India

① Peace → secured imports of oil (~70% imports from West Asia in energy)

② Security of diaspora interests & migrants.

③ Healthy remittances for economy (≈ 100 billion \$ in 2022)

④ Better trade relationship (Saudi Vision 2030 for diversification of economy)

Principial actors — may reverse

① China's presence (Saudi - Iran)

② Israel may not like Saudi-Iran closeness

③ Chances of violence & civil wars

India must pursue active diplomacy, people to people, FTA (UAE) for its extended neighbourhood.

Feedback

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S & F			
P & R			
Please put tick marks in the above table. Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.			
TOTAL MARKS			

Q.10) Water diplomacy can redefine the contours of regional cooperation in South Asia. Discuss with special reference to Indus water treaty 1960. (10 marks, 150 words)

जल कूटनीति दक्षिण एशिया में क्षेत्रीय सहयोग की रूपरेखा को फिर से परिभाषित कर सकती है। सिंधु जल संधि 1960 के विशेष संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Water diplomacy refers to discussions, agreements & foreign policy around water, rivers, dams etc.

Regional cooperation in S. Asia

- ① Flood control cooperation (eg Kosi) with Nepal
- ② Hydropower generation (eg with Bhutan, Nepal)
- ③ River dispute resolution (eg Teesta - Bangladesh)
- ④ Data & hydrological analysis sharing -

Indus Water Treaty, 1960

① Between India & Pakistan → rights of rivers usage of Indus & its 5 tributaries.

Regional cooperation:

② Utilisation of Permanent Indus Water Commission

③ Time tested treaty with no provision for unilateral exit.

Challenges → Pakistan's objection to India's hydro projects
 → water disputes in the region
 → lack of inclusion of climate change.

Feedback

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Please put tick marks in the above table. Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.			
TOTAL MARKS			

Q.11) Despite constitutional backing to the institutions of local governance, the idea of decentralisation has remained hostage to several structural bottlenecks. Elucidate.

(15 marks, 250 words)

स्थानीय शासन संस्थानों को संवैधानिक समर्थन के बावजूद, विकेंद्रीकरण का विचार कई संरचनात्मक बाधाओं का बंधक बना हुआ है। स्पष्ट कीजिए।

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments have introduced Part IX, Part IX-A and 11th & 12th schedules for local rural & urban governance respectively, as per spirit of Article 40.

Constitutional backing

- ① Mandatory regular elections → State Election Commission
- ② Constitution of Gram Sabha (rural)
- ③ Reservation for SC, ST & women (members & chairpersons at all levels)
- ④ State Finance Commission to advise State Govt on funds devolution
- ⑤ 29 items (11th Sch) (rural), 18 items (12th Sch) (urban) to be transferred to local govt

as per state's discretion.

- ⑥ Engaged to play significant role in Economic planning & social justice plans.

Structural bottlenecks in decentralisation

① Rural decentralisation:-

- ① Funds: Poor devolution, performance linked (15th Finance Commission) can reduce mobilisation & low revenue generation capacity.

② Functions: Disparity in States

Kerala (29 transferred)

low in Punjab, Jharkhand.

③ Functionaries

- Sarpanch Pati (women)
- lack accountability & audits
- poor capacity & training.

- ② Urban decentralisation
- ① Funds → low property tax (RBI)
 → cases of corruption
 → low user charges
 → high spending in Covid (RBI)
- ② Functions → low devolution
 → multiple bodies (e.g. Delhi) DDA, MCD
- ③ Function axis → power to bureaucrats (CEO) over Mayor
 → each expertise for fast paced urbanisation

Way forward

- ① 2nd ARC recommends ensuring no overlap of functions.
- ② Allocating share of stamp duty & GST
- ③ Mandatory local plans → District Planning Committee
 → Panchayat Plans
- ④ Action taken report on SFC (time bound)
 former, capacity building, CAG supervised audit can uphold the principle of subsidiarity & citizen centricity.

Feedback

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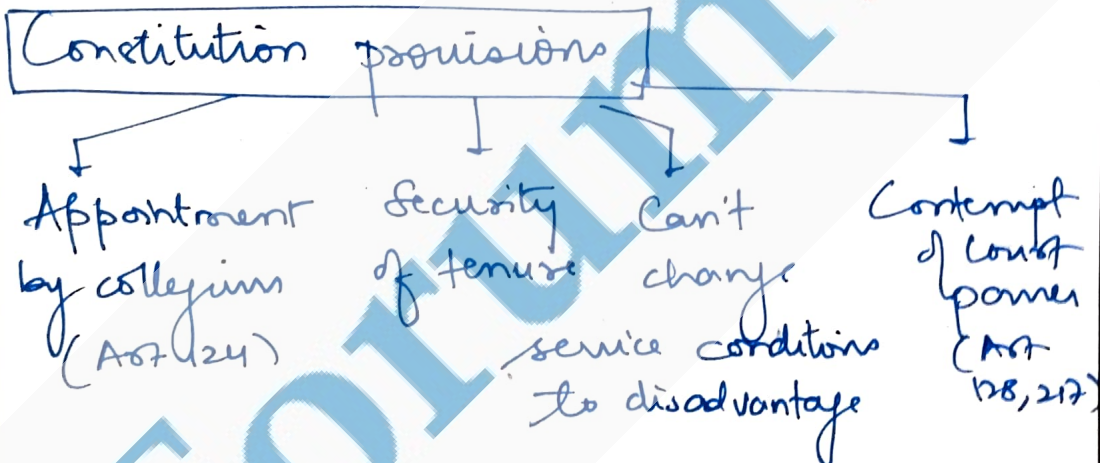
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Q.12) Independent judiciary, as envisaged by the constitution, provides the bedrock for a thriving polity; however, executive encroachment may erode its credibility and affect its efficacy. Evaluate.
(15 marks, 250 words)

स्वतंत्र न्यायपालिका, जैसा कि संविधान द्वारा परिकल्पित है, एक समृद्ध राजनीति के लिए आधार प्रदान करती है, हालाँकि, कार्यकारी अतिक्रमण इसकी विश्वसनीयता को कम कर सकता है और इसकी प्रभावकारिता को प्रभावित कर सकता है।
मूल्यांकन कीजिए।
(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Principle of checks & balances, impartial dispute resolution requires independent judiciary.



Bedrock for thriving polity

- ① Upholder of fundamental rights, when encroached by state → Article 32, 226
- ② Original jurisdiction of Supreme Court on federal disputes (Art 131)

③ Highest court of appeal (SC).
of special Leave Petition (Art 136)

④ Interpreter of Constitution (basic
structure - Keshwananda Bharati case)

Executive encroachment → erodes
credibility & efficacy

① Appointment → Possibility of opportunistic
appointments
(against credibility)

② Dissuades judiciary from giving
judgements without fear & favour

③ Justice must also be seen to be
done → need independence.

④ SC in Fourth Judges Case, 2015
held NJAC (judicial appointments)
affects independence → basic structure.

However, limited executive role is required :-

- ① Principle of checks & balances for all organs.
- ② Allegations of opacity, lack of diversity in collegium appointments.
- ③ To check high pendency of cases (~5 crore) & fill timely vacancies.
- ④ To ensure judicial activism doesn't turn to judicial overreach (eg. Subhash Kashinath Mahajan case)

Way forward → Collegium :- panel of judges from executive's side for collegium

Independence → US model → approved by senate of appointments

of judiciary must be upheld in letter & spirit, in quo non for constitutional supremacy.

Feedback

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Q.13) Executive agencies, working as the watchdog against impropriety, are vital to act against the corrupt; however, pandering to vested interests may have the effect of turning the idea of rule of law on its head. Comment, with special reference to controversies associated with the Enforcement Directorate (ED). (15 marks, 250 words)

अनौचित्य के विरुद्ध प्रहरी के रूप में कार्य करने वाली कार्यकारी एजेंसियाँ, भ्रष्टों के खिलाफ कार्रवाई करने के लिए महत्वपूर्ण हैं, हालाँकि, निहित स्वार्थों को बढ़ावा देने से कानून के शासन के विचार को उल्टा करने जैसा असर हो सकता है। प्रवर्तन निदेशालय (ईडी) से जुड़े विवादों के विशेष संदर्भ में टिप्पणी कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Executive agencies have been formed to ensure prohibition of corruption and anti-social activities. However, their role has been surrounded with controversies.

Executive agencies vital watchdog against impropriety

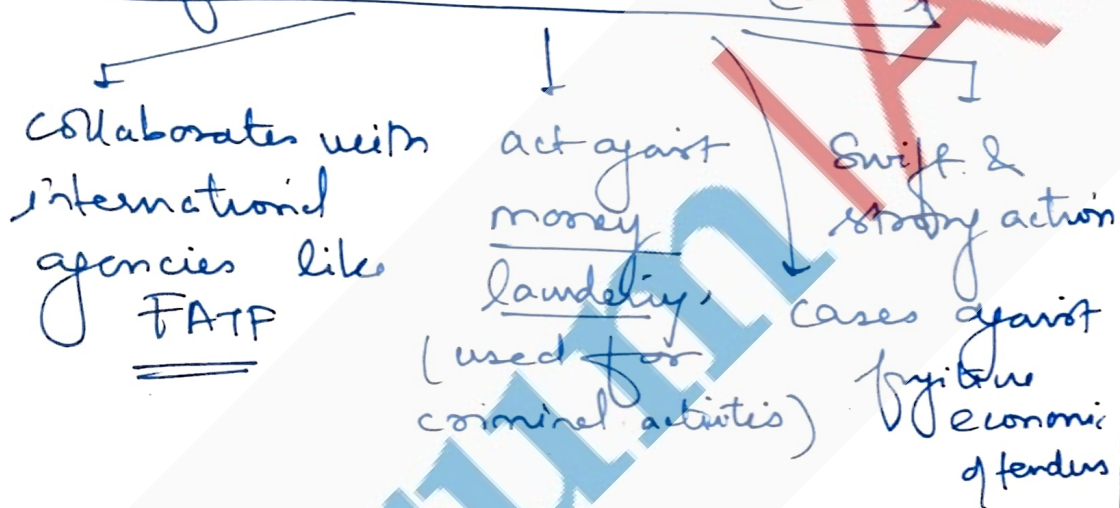
① Implement Acts like Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, Anti-Money Laundering Act & so on.

② Swift action → investigation, property attachment, prosecution.

③ Handle serious & sensitive cases of vital & strategic importance. (e.g. CBI handling Manipur violence cases)

- ④ Strong action deters criminals.
- ⑤ High value (money) cases of fugitive economic offenders handled.

⑥ Enforcement Directorate (ED)



Rule of law - turning on its head

- ① Allegations of acting on behalf of ruling regime.
- ② Curbing opposition voices & dissent by disproportionate action, as alleged by opposition leaders in Supreme Court.

③ Perceived as lacking independence. SC called CBI - 'caged parrot'

④ ED perceived as biased because
 ← major action against opposition
 → challenges around appointment & extensions to ED Director

Way forward

- ① Judicial oversight to ensure effective independence & rule of law.
- ② Strong action against corrupt, irrespective of background.
- ③ Transparent appointments to strengthen trust in agencies.

Executive agencies must not only be effective & impartial but also seen to be so for public trust.

Feedback

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Q.14) Critically analyse the role of National Commission for Women (NCW) in wake of its mandate to safeguard women's rights and uphold their socio-economic wellbeing. (15 marks, 250 words)

महिलाओं के अधिकारों की रक्षा और उनकी सामाजिक-आर्थिक भलाई को बनाए रखने के लिए राष्ट्रीय महिला आयोग (एनसीडब्ल्यू) की भूमिका का आलोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

National Commission for Women is a statutory body for under NCW Act

Role of NCW → upheld

- ① Monitor that safeguards for women, laws, schemes are upheld & implemented effectively. (eg) Mission Shakti)
- ② Investigates cases of violation of women's rights (eg) → Manipur: violence against women cases)
- ③ Maintains accountability of public officials in upholding women's rights. (eg) → response from police officials sought in delaying FIRs)
- ④ Suggests policy initiatives & changes to Centre & State Govts.

⑤ Initiates campaigns for women empowerment (eg) 'She is a Changemaker' for women leadership)

⑥ Assists in rehabilitation & reintegration in society of victims. (eg) sex workers)

Role of NCW → challenges

① Lack of constitutional standing, dilutes its role (NCSC, NCST, NCBE - constitutional bodies)

② Its directions are not binding.

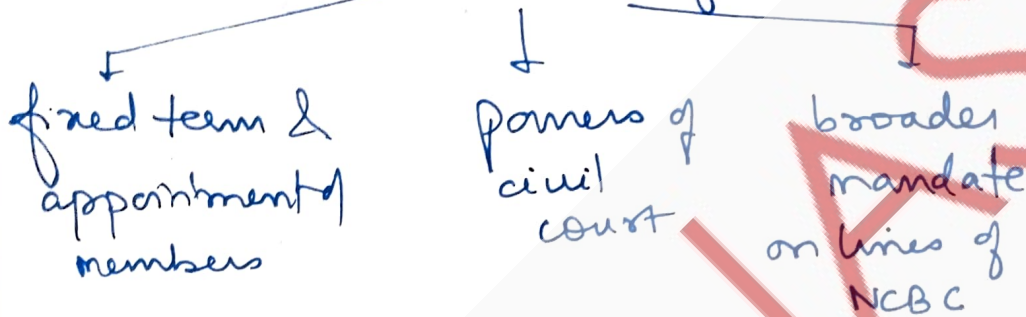
③ Post facto investigation in most cases instead of active prevention

④ Lacks power to punish or award relief to victims.

⑤ Delayed intervention → challenges its efficacy.

Way forward

① Constitutionalization of the Commission



② Compulsory presentation ^{to} of action taken report on NCW recommendations with reasons for non-acceptance, in Parliament.

③ Mandatory recommendation of NCW in women related policy matters.

NCW can become an effective tool for prevention, prohibition & redressal of crimes against women along with women led development, if provided adequate powers to discharge its role.

Feedback

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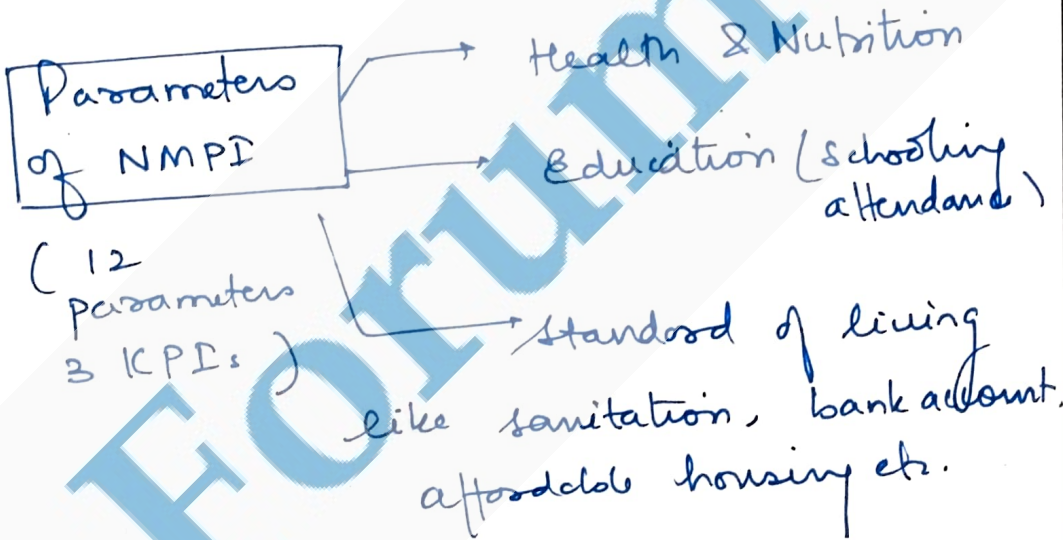
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TOTAL MARKS

Q.15) Understanding the extent, source, and complexity of deprivations among the multidimensionally poor contributes to more informed policymaking. In this context, analyze the latest National Multidimensional Poverty Index Report by NITI Aayog. (15 marks, 250 words)

बहुआयामी गरीबों के बीच वंचितों की सीमा, स्रोत और जटिलता को समझना अधिक सूचित नीति निर्माण में योगदान देता है। इस संदर्भ में, नीति आयोग द्वारा नवीनतम राष्ट्रीय बहुआयामी गरीबी सूचकांक रिपोर्ट का विश्लेषण कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Latest National Multidimensional Poverty Index (NMPI) report by Niti Aayog is based on UNDP & Oxford's Global MPI, which is comprehensive.



Latest NMPI report analysis

① Extent of deprivations



Q.16) Though lifblood of a representative democracy, political parties are beset with challenges of their own, limiting their larger role in democratization of the society. (15 marks, 250 words)

हालांकि एक प्रतिनिधिक लोकतंत्र की जीवनरेखा, राजनीतिक दल अपनी स्वयं की चुनौतियों से घिरे हुए हैं, जिससे समाज के लोकतंत्रीकरण में उनकी बड़ी भूमिका सीमित हो गई है। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Political parties are organisations who promote candidates, contest elections to gain power & form policies.

Lifblood of representative democracy

- ① Voters vote based on party manifesto, outlining its ideology & agenda.
- ② Provide stable govt by ~~winning~~ winning majority or via coalitions.
- ③ Act as a conduit for pressure groups, and link between citizens & govt
- ④ Become grounds for political

recruitment of leaders

⑤ Articulate broader agenda of different sections → as First past the post system requires support of multiple sections

⑥ Ensure political participation of public → rallies, speeches etc. → widening ~~scope~~ scope of democracy.
↳ simple symbols, speeches allow participation of non-literate, vulnerable population

Challenges of political parties

① Lack internal democracy → beset with nepotism, dynastic politics etc.

② Use money, muscle → criminalisation of politics → ~43% MPs in Lok Sabha have ~~can~~ case against them (ADR)

- ③ Large number of registered but not recognised parties \Rightarrow use it to evade taxes
- ④ Opaque functioning \rightarrow against being considered under RTI (CIC ruling)
- ⑤ Lack representation to women (~14% in Parliament)

Way forward

- ① Mandates for internal democracy like UK \rightarrow separate electoral body in Conservative Party.
- ② ECI \rightarrow power to de-register parties
- ③ Transparency in electoral funding \rightarrow possible partial state funds to curb criminalisation.

Political parties ensure higher voter participation & provide coherent policies, making their role significant.

Feedback

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Q.17) Safely managed drinking water services, as desired by Jal Jeevan Mission, are designated to give multifarious benefits cutting across generations. Discuss. Also, elaborate upon the challenges in ensuring the mission's success. (15 marks, 250 words)

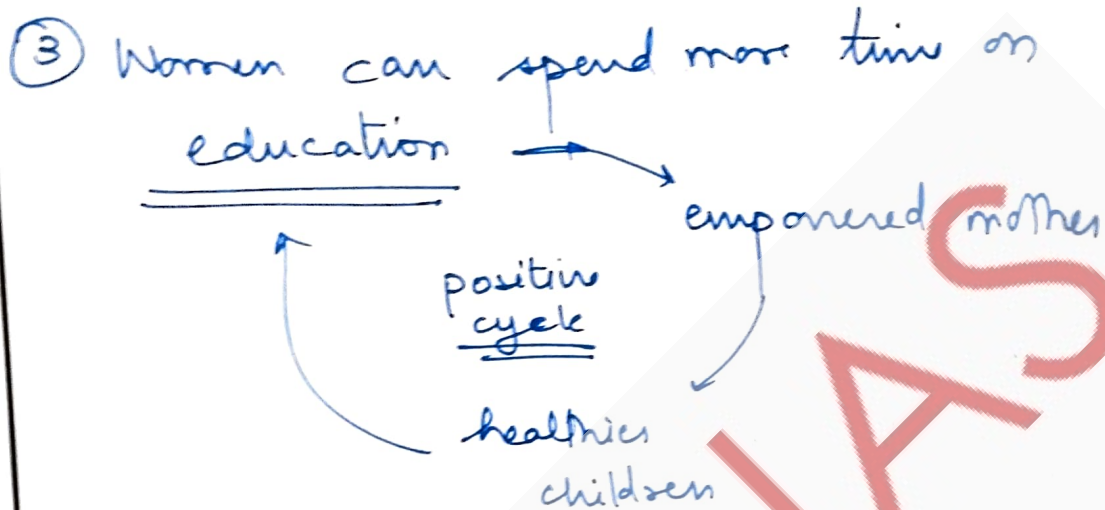
जल जीवन मिशन की इच्छानुसार सुरक्षित रूप से प्रबंधित पेयजल सेवाएं, पीढ़ियों तक विविध लाभ देने के लिए नामित की गई हैं। चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, मिशन की सफलता सुनिश्चित करने में आने वाली चुनौतियों के बारे में भी विस्तार से बताएं। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) mandates providing functional household tap connections to all rural households with minimum 55l of potable water per capita, per day.

JJM → multifarious benefits across generation

① Health :- Curbs water borne diseases like typhoid - diarrhoea ⇒ ensures health of children, maternal health.

② Women empowerment :- involved in fetching → JJM saves time & health effort
→ time used for productive activities → increasing female LFPR



④ Higher nutrition security → reducing stunting (~35%), undernourishment (~85%), & wasting (~17%) ⇒ better sanitation & hygiene

Challenges in ensuring mission's success

① Delay in timely implementation & fund utilization (Covid-19)

② Higher cost in infrastructure (steel, cement, etc) post supply chain challenges after Russia-Ukraine conflict

- ③ Ensuring quality of potable water.
- ④ Water scarcity in many regions can hamper water access.
- ⑤ Lack of community participation → ~~to~~ less resource utilisation

Way forward

- ① Mapping of water-stressed regions → watershed approach instead of groundwater
- ② Quality testing in all regions.
- ③ Timely release of funds & periodic monitoring.
- ④ Involve women in deciding locations & designing local level scheme.

JJM if implemented fully can realise the dream of 'Kor Yojan Nal se Jal' & fulfill SDG-6.

Feedback

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Q.18 Legislation like Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe (Prevention of Atrocities) Act 1989 remains mere legal documents without intense sensitization of public functionaries and the civil society. Discuss. (15 marks, 250 words)

अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जनजाति (अत्याचार निवारण) अधिनियम, 1989 जैसे कानून सार्वजनिक पदाधिकारियों और नागरिक समाज की गहन संवेदनशीलता के बिना केवल कानूनी दस्तावेज बनकर रह गए हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।
(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

SC and ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 has been enacted to curb atrocities & punish perpetrators committing crime against vulnerable sections. However, their implementation is debatable.

Provisions → Cognizable, non-bailable offence
no anticipatory bail
public servant can be arrested

Remains mere legal documents → without sensitization :-

① Public functionaries

① Delay in registering cases & filing FIR.

② Lack of active support to victims

③ Cases of atrocities by public functionaries themselves against SC, ST
 ↳ custodial rapes, deaths
 ↳ casteist slurs

④ b) Civil society

① SC, ST lack awareness of their rights especially the ~~most~~ poorest of poor

② Lack of reach of NAOs in remote areas

③ Perpetrators ⇒ are not deterred due to holding power in local politics / money power.

However, the Act has also been effective :-

① Mobilisation by Dalit social movements on the basis of Act.

② Strong penal provisions act as a deterrent →

③ Better reporting due to increased awareness & media reporting

Way forward

① Periodic sensitization training of public officials on the Act

- active outreach & support to SC, ST
- sensitivity in dealing with cases ~~of~~ related to women

② Engaging with NGOs for creating/ designing IEC campaigns.

③ Workshops/ seminars in remote areas

SC, ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act is a major tool for achieving social justice & true realization of rights of vulnerable sections. It must be implemented in letter & spirit.

Feedback

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Q.19) Harbinger of global rebalancing, India-Africa ties are a beacon of inclusive, sustainable, and equitable world. Explain.
(15 marks, 250 words)

वैश्विक पुनर्संतुलन के अग्रदूत, भारत-अफ्रीका संबंध समावेशी, टिकाऊ और न्यायसंगत दुनिया का एक प्रतीक हैं। व्याख्या कीजिए।
(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

India - Africa share close, historical, cultural relationship from Non-Alignment Movement to present emerging role of global south.

India - Africa ties → Inclusive world

① Both aim for more representative multilateral institutions

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    graph TD
      A[more representative multilateral institutions] --> B[UNSC]
      A --> C[IMF]
      A --> D[WB]
      A --> E[WTO]
    
```

② India has proposed inclusion of African Union in G20.

③ Better role in decision making of global south →

④ India & South Africa under BRICS
are providing for voice for emerging
economies (New Development Bank,
Contingency Reserve
Arrangement
etc.)

India - Africa ties → Sustainable world

① India Africa together press for
climate finance at UNFCCC COPs,
from developed nations.

② They vouch for Common but
Differential Responsibilities & Respective
Capabilities (CBDR/RC) principle
for greater responsibility of North world
in controlling climate change.

India - Africa ties - equitable world

- ① Issues of global south raised like food security, fertilisers etc at global forums
- ② Together - India & South Africa → WTO vaccines waiver proposal for equitable vaccine distribution
- ③ Focus on connectivity → Asia Africa Growth Corridor for equitable growth
- ④ India's development assistance → non conditional & based on local capabilities

Way forward

- ① More people to people ties in education, health etc.
- ② Better trade relationship → closer low as compared to China.
- ③ Inclusion of S-Africa in Quad

India - Africa ties are heralding a new multipolar world order.

Feedback

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Q.20) How do ASEAN centrality, rules-based order, and development partnership with Pacific Island states make Indo-Pacific a theatre of opportunity for India? What are the hurdles in realisation of an inclusive Indo-Pacific construct? (15 marks, 250 words)

प्रशांत दीप देशों के साथ आसियान केंद्रीयता, नियम-आधारित व्यवस्था और विकास साझेदारी हिंद-प्रशांत को भारत के लिए अवसर का मंच कैसे बनाती है? एक समावेशी हिंद-प्रशांत निर्माण की प्राप्ति में क्या बाधाएं हैं? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Indo-pacific is a geo-political construct consisting of region from African east coast to American West coast.

Indo-pacific: a theatre of opportunity

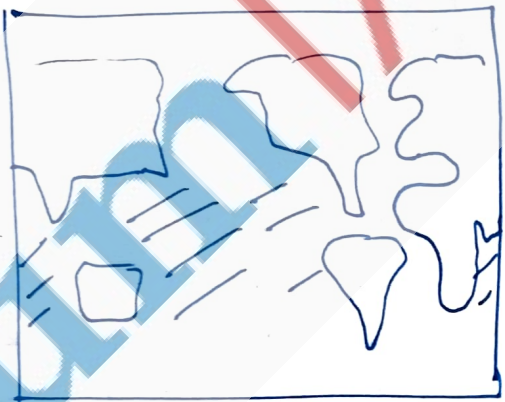


Fig. Indo Pacific

a) ASEAN centrality

1) Act East policy based on commerce, culture & connectivity.

2) Development of North East - key to Indo-Myanmar-Thailand trilateral corridor

3) Better trade with ASEAN

b) Rules based order

1) Freedom of navigation as important

Sea Lanes of Communication (SLOC) in Indo Pacific.

② Ensure ~~freedom~~ import security, fisheries & aquaculture, sea based trade (79% of volume in sea)

③ Control unilateral aggressions by China → eg in South China Sea & Dash line.

④ Partnership with Pacific Island States

① Better connectivity, trade & resource → (hydrocarbons) potential.

② FIPIIC for multilateral engagement
→ support of these states on forums like UNSC, WTO etc.

③ Control military expansion of China in maritime domain (eg Solomon Islands - China partnership)

Hurdles in realisation of inclusive Indo Pacific construct

- ① China, Russia against the concept → they argue for 'Asia Pacific'.
- ② Differing definitions for US, Australia, China, Pacific islands, ASEAN etc.
- ③ Balancing maritime with continental & US (Quad) with China (BRICS, SCO)
- ④ Presence of IOU fishing, piracy, drugs smuggling etc.

Way forward

- ① Maintaining strategic autonomy & realising SAGAR vision.
- ② HAADR assistance to littoral states.
- ③ Acting as net security provider in the region, to secure free-open-inclusive Indo Pacific.

Feedback

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