

Time Allowed : Three Hours
समय : तीन घंटेMaximum Marks : 250
अधिकतम अंक : 250

GENERAL STUDIES / सामान्य अध्ययन

Name Of Candidate परीक्षार्थी का नाम	ANUSHA		
Roll No./अनुक्रमांक	1910129319	Medium/माध्यम	English <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> हिंदी <input type="checkbox"/>
Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र	1900	Date/दिनांक	19/07/23

*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 :
Total Marks/कुल अंक :			Mode Of Examination/ परीक्षा की विधि :	Online/ऑनलाइन <input 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 आये 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 :	Evaluation Date/ मूल्यांकन तिथि :
			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

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.

203543-612202-1910129319 (2023-07-22 10:11:05) Q.1) To what extent, if you wish, have Self-Help Groups (SHGs) in India enabled women led development at the grassroots level? (10 marks, 150 words)

आपकी राय में, भारत में स्वयं सहायता समूहों (SHGs) ने जमीनी स्तर पर महिलाओं के नेतृत्व वाले विकास को किस हद तक सक्षम बनाया है? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Self-help Groups (SHGs) are informal associations of people who come together to find ways to improve their living conditions.

1. Enabling women-led development =

1. Financial empowerment -

Women become financially independent, raising their self-esteem.

2. Poverty alleviation: Contributes to family's income.

3. Upward mobility =

Woman earns

Provides educational opportunities to daughter, son

↑
Scope for remunerative employment.

↓
Daughter gets good facilities

Fig: Virtuous cycle

4. Political empowerment: Gives women a greater say in political decisions affecting them.

5. Improved social status due to leadership skills inculcated in women.

Case study : Women's SHG in Himachal Pradesh making decorative stems out of pinus. They feel satisfied about ensuring better education for children.

II Limitations :

1. Inadequate credit supply to SHGs.
2. Lack of sufficient training; knowledge on packaging, marketing.
3. Use of obsolete techniques.
4. Instability : Women often leave the group after marriage and shifting to husband's residence.

Greater assistance to SHGs and collaboration with private sector could leverage them for ensuring SDG 5 - Gender Equality.

Feedback

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

TOTAL MARKS	
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Q.2) Narrow understanding of disability has marginalised people suffering from mental disorders. Elucidate. (10 marks, 150 words)

दिव्यांगता की संकीर्ण समझ ने मानसिक विकारों से पीड़ित लोगों को हाशिए पर डाल दिया है। स्पष्ट कीजिए।

(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

An Indigo Airlines manager refusing to let a teenager with mental disability board a flight, shows the callousness towards individuals thus affected.

I Narrow understanding of disability:

1. Physical disability easily understood because it can be seen externally
eg. if someone is wheelchair-bound or uses crutches.
2. Mental disorders feared and not understood because we fear what we cannot see.
3. Mental illnesses such as schizophrenia, bipolar disorder misunderstood because of lack of information in mainstream media.
4. Anything different from the 'normal' scares us.

II Marginalised such persons:

1. Stigma: Such individuals often called 'mad', 'cray', 'mental' which affects their self-esteem.
2. Institutions such as schools, colleges not adequately equipped to teach students suffering from these.
3. Healthcare professionals themselves suffer from bias and prejudice.
4. Shortage of doctors, psychologists, psychiatrists to treat such illnesses.
5. Discrimination in employment - Reluctance of employers to hire individuals with mental disorders even if qualified for the job.

A comprehensive roadmap for addressing these injustices, coupled with sensitivity and empathy, can ensure the Right to Life with Dignity for those with mental disorders.

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.3) Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) addresses the need for interoperability in health services through a unified health interface. Elaborate its significance in digitising the health care ecosystem. (10 marks, 150 words)

आयुष्मान भारत डिजिटल मिशन (ABDM) एक एकीकृत स्वास्थ्य इंटरफेस के माध्यम से स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं में अंतर-संचालन की आवश्यकता को संबोधित करता है। स्वास्थ्य देखभाल पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र को डिजिटाइज़ करने में इसके महत्व को स्पष्ट कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) aims to provide digital health IDs for all Indian citizens for better quality healthcare.

I Significance:

① Interoperability in health services:

1. Health ID to contain details of every test, diagnosis, doctor's visit, medicine prescribed.

2. Healthcare Facilities and Professionals' Registry : i. Easy access to a repository of information on various medical professionals

ii. Records of all the health facilities of the country.

② Security of health records of citizens in electronic form

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- ③ Integration within the digital health ecosystem - thus it will help vulnerable sections such as migrant workers.
- ④ ease of doing business for doctors, healthcare providers and hospitals.
- ⑤ Equitable access to quality healthcare.
- ⑥ Will enhance ease of living.
- ⑦ Aid policymakers in designing effective policies for better healthcare.

II Concerns :

- 1. Vulnerability of sensitive medical records to data theft
- 2. Issue of data security and privacy
- 3. Misuse of data

Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission safeguards citizens' right to ^{life} health (Article 21) fulfilling government's mandate under Directive Principles.

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS

Q.4) Asses the relevance of lateral entry in civil services in making the governance structure more effective, efficient, and people oriented. (10 marks, 150 words)

शासन संरचना को अधिक प्रभावी, कुशल और जनोन्मुख बनाने में सिविल सेवाओं में लेटरल एंट्री की प्रासंगिकता का आकलन कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Lateral entry refers to individuals from the private sector being inducted into the civil service in certain joint-secretary level positions.

1 Relevance of lateral entry :

1. Inculcating good management practices from the private sector.
2. Changing the work culture by introducing economy and efficiency.
3. Specialized knowledge, expertise and domain knowledge of lateral entrants can meet complex administrative challenges.
4. Participatory governance : Importance of multiple stakeholders including the private sector, government, NGOs.

5. Emphasis on performance will reduce complacency.
6. Bridging the gap in ~~var~~ positions of IAS officers.

II Limitations :

1. Private sector entrants are not acquainted with functioning of the government.
2. Lack the rich experience of IAS officers from their field postings.
3. Potential conflict of interest given their private sector interests.
4. Differences with colleagues; turf wars
5. Motiv of public service may be missing

2nd ARC recommendations on transparency and accountability in lateral entry selection process, must be heeded.

Feedback

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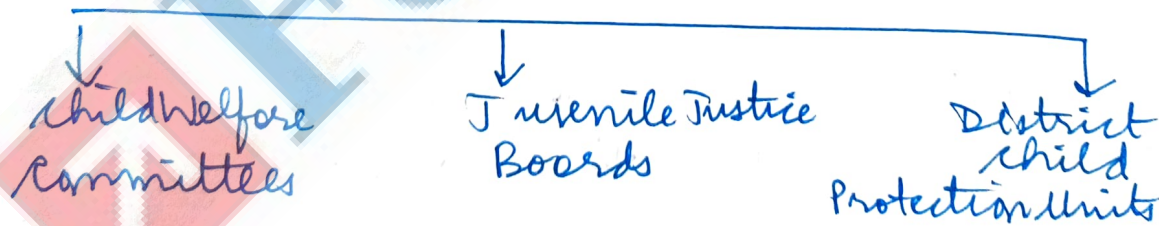
Q.5) Objectives of a welfare government remains incomplete without a progressive ecosystem for the children's development. Discuss with special emphasis to recently passed Juvenile Justice Amendment Act, 2021. (10 marks, 150 words)

एक कल्याणकारी सरकार का उद्देश्य बच्चों के विकास के लिए एक प्रगतिशील पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र के बिना अधूरा रहता है। हाल ही में पारित किशोर न्याय संशोधन अधिनियम, 2021 पर विशेष जोर देते हुए चर्चा कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The Juvenile Justice Amendment Act, 2021 is a step towards ensuring opportunities for the full development of children's potential.

1 Provisions:

1. Trials of juveniles aged 16-18 years, as adults, ~~for~~ for heinous crimes.
2. Universally accessible adoption law.
3. District Magistrates ^(DMs) can issue adoption orders under the JJ Act.
4. DMs to monitor functioning of



5. Speedy trials and enhanced protection of children at the district level.

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6. Greater oversight and monitoring of child care institutions (CCIs) :
Most of the CCIs were keeping children in unsanitary conditions.

7. Simplifying the adoption process.

II Concerns :

1. Several crimes made non-cognisable -
children often cannot tell their parents about crimes such as rape, sexual abuse.

Low awareness of parents from impoverished backgrounds is another hurdle.

2. Vesting of authority in DM raises concerns about adequate monitoring.

The JJ Act, 2021 is a welcome step towards India fulfilling its obligations under Convention on Rights of the child.

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS

Q.6) Decriminalization of homosexuality by the SC in Navtej Singh Jauhar case remains a task half done, specially without the socio-political sensitisation about the issues faced by LGBTQIA+ community. Elaborate in light of ongoing debates on same sex marriage. (10 marks, 150 words)

नवतेज सिंह जौहर मामले में सुप्रीम कोर्ट द्वारा समलैंगिकता को अपराध की श्रेणी से बाहर करना अभी भी आधा अधूरा काम है, खासकर LGBTQIA+ समुदाय के सामने आने वाले मुद्दों के बारे में सामाजिक-राजनीतिक संवेदनशीलता के बिना। समलैंगिक विवाह पर चल रही बहस के आलोक में सविस्तार पूर्वक वर्णन कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Debates on same sex marriage and celebration of June as 'Pride Month' highlight plight of the LGBTQIA+ community.

I Issues faced by LGBTQIA+

1. Discrimination: Advocate Saurabh Kirpal was not selected for appointment to the Delhi High Court because of the law Ministry's objection to his sexual orientation.
2. Poverty: Transgender individuals faced into ~~poor~~ begging, sex work.
3. Crimes: Victims of hate crimes, bullying, abuse.
4. Mental health issues - Due to stigma and abuse at the hands of others.

I debate around same-sex marriage =

① Arguments in favour =

1. Right to Marry a partner of one's choice is a fundamental right.
2. Denial of right to marry denies them surrogacy and adoption rights.
3. Right to human dignity as underlined in Nortej Singh Johar.
4. Supreme Court says that gender is not absolute.

② Arguments against -

1. Religious scriptures state that marriage is between a man and woman.
2. Special Marriage Act, 1954 does not extend to same-sex marriages.
3. Right to privacy not absolute.

A rethink on same sex marriages, considering changing gender norms, and involving prominent LGBTQIA+ individuals eg. Vikram Seth, will pave the way for equal rights of the community.

Feedback

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Q.7) India's "balancing act" in the ongoing Ukraine crisis is borne out of mature strategic thinking rather than mere necessities. Explain. (10 marks, 150 words)

मौजूदा यूक्रेन संकट में भारत का 'संतुलनकारी व्यवहार' केवल आवश्यकताओं के बजाय परिपक्व रणनीतिक सोच से पैदा हुआ है। व्याख्या कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

India's balancing act, neither overtly condemning nor fully endorsing Russia's actions in Ukraine reflect alignment with its own strategic objectives.

Mature thinking:

1. India recognises the importance of peace and has called for dialogue and discussion.
2. It has called upon all stakeholders to peacefully resolve the issue through negotiations.
3. India has not condemned Russia because of historical proximity towards Russia. Further, Russian aid can help counter pressure by the US, another ally of India.

4. Balancing ties with the US is also crucial, hence India has not endorsed Russia's actions.

5. Energy security a major consideration;
Russia is one of India's major suppliers of crude oil; hence any wrong step could jeopardise the Indian economy.

6. India's interests in Europe too could be compromised by approval of Russian actions.

Thus, India's careful approach in the Ukraine crisis is influenced by its policy of strategic autonomy and its desire for world peace as epitomised by 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam'.

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS	
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Q.8) What do you understand by Non-Aligned-Movement (NAM)? Is India's foreign policy still guided by the principles of non-Alignment? Justify. (10 marks, 150 words)

गुटनिरपेक्ष आंदोलन (NAM) से आप क्या समझते हैं? क्या भारत की विदेश नीति अभी भी गुटनिरपेक्षता के सिद्धांतों द्वारा निर्देशित है? औचित्य सिद्ध कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) was established in Belgrade in 1961 to provide a platform for developing nations that were not aligned either for or against any major power bloc.

I NAM:

1. Emerged to protect the hard-won independence of nascent Asian and African states .eg. India, Indonesia, Egypt, Ghana,

2. Principles -

i. Respecting sovereignty and integrity of all nations.

ii. Recognising equality of all nations and of all races.

iii. Abstention from internal interference in internal affairs of nations.

iv. Commitment to human rights and justice.

II Is India still Non-Aligned?

① Not strictly Non-Aligned:-

1. India is close to both, Russia and US.
2. Part of several strategic groupings
eg → ASEAN, SCO, BRICS, IPEF.
3. Strategic interests are important
eg → dependence on US for machinery, semiconductors.
4. Ideas of socialism, state control not as relevant today.

② Still guided by principles:-

1. India aims to strengthen partnerships in a multipolar world.
2. Respects other nations' territorial integrity and sovereignty.
3. Highlights issues faced by the Global South eg → climate justice.
4. Respect for peace and human rights.

Thus, India remains guided by principles of NAM, in its quest to secure a rules-based international order.

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Q.9) Built upon common democratic values and shared vision of strategic autonomy, India-France bilateral ties exude a promise of stability, growth, and security in a time of geo-political flux and uncertainty. Do you agree? Substantiate your answer. (10 marks, 150 words)

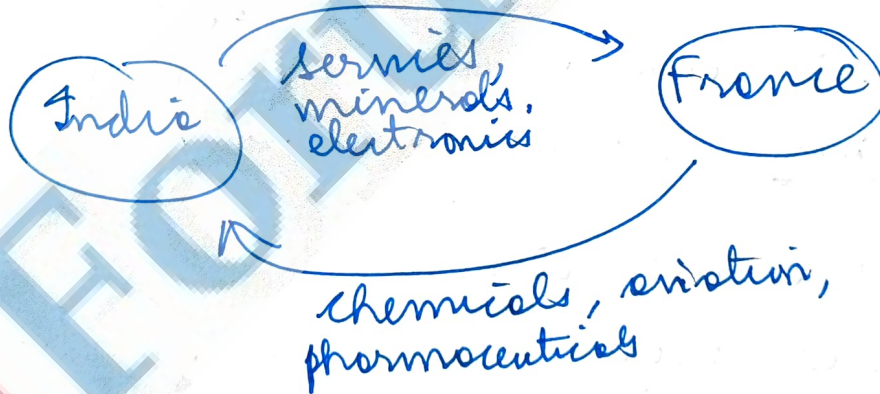
सामान्य लोकतांत्रिक मूल्यों और रणनीतिक स्वायत्तता के साझा दृष्टिकोण पर आधारित, भारत-फ्रांस द्विपक्षीय संबंध भू-राजनीतिक प्रवाह और अनिश्चितता के समय में स्थिरता, विकास और सुरक्षा का वादा करते हैं। क्या आप सहमत हैं? अपने उत्तर की पुष्टि कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

India and France share a close and cordial relationship founded on values of liberty, equality and fraternity.

India-France Bilateral Ties -

① Stability and Growth :

1. Economic cooperation : Bilateral trade crossed \$12 billion in 2022-23.



2. Civil nuclear cooperation :

Jaitapur Nuclear Power Plant being constructed with French assistance.

② Security
3.1. Defence cooperation:

- Exercise Garuda, Shakti; Varuna between services
- Purchase of Rafale aircraft by India
- Scorpene submarines built by France

2. Dialogue for:
1. Counter Terrorism.
 2. Information sharing on maritime terrorism.

③ Collaboration on green energy esp. International Solar Alliance; Blue Economy and coastal resilience.

④ Cultural cooperation:

'Namaste France' and 'Bonjour India' festivals to promote an understanding of their cultures.

Thus, India and France must build on their already vibrant relationship to ensure a fair and just international order.

Feedback

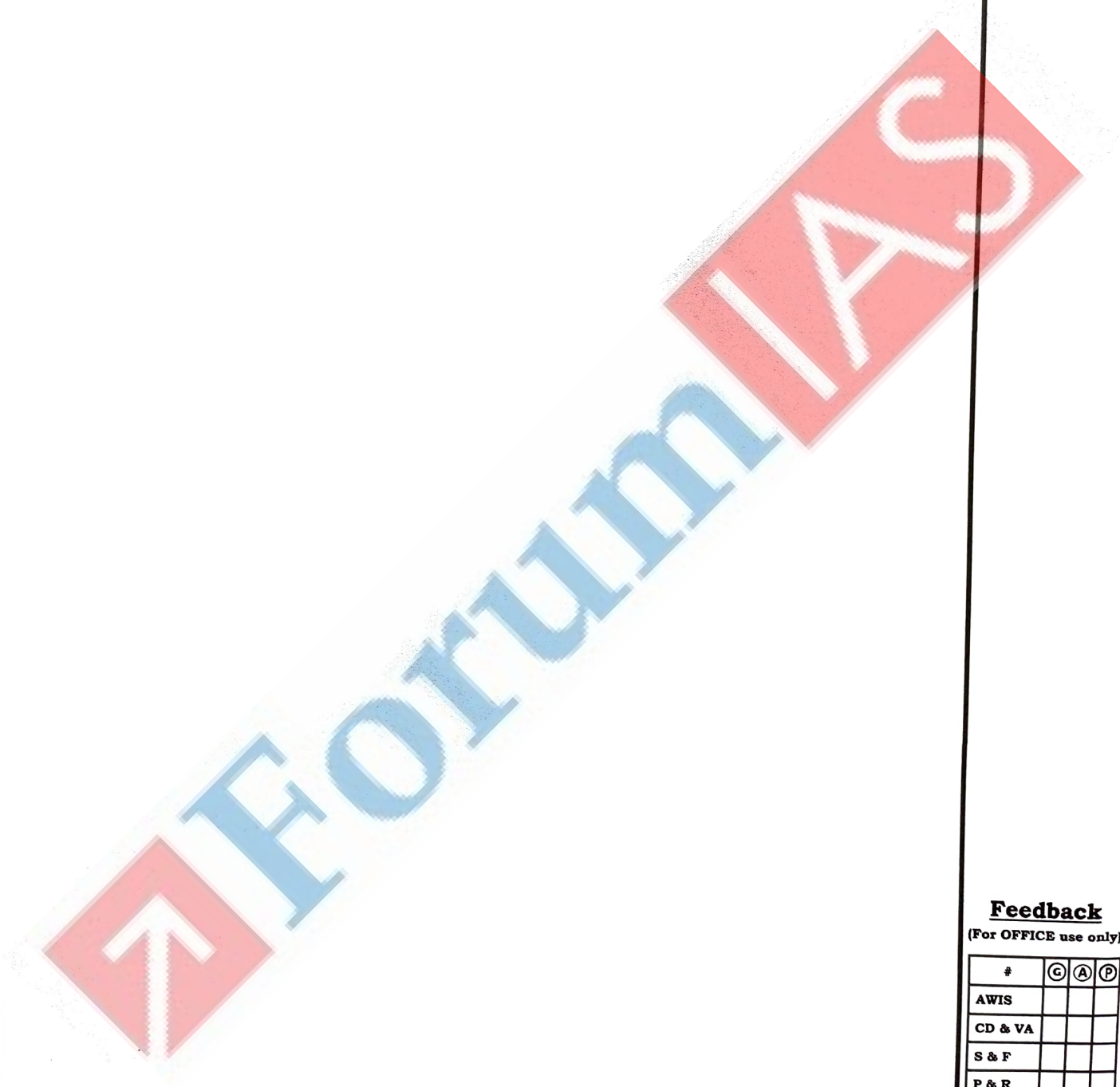
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TOTAL MARKS			



Q.10) As an important attribute of soft power, "Knowledge diplomacy" has the potential to further various objectives of foreign policy. Explain. (10 marks, 150 words)

सॉफ्ट पावर के एक महत्वपूर्ण गुण के रूप में, 'नॉलेज डिप्लोमेसी' में विदेश नीति के विभिन्न उद्देश्यों को आगे बढ़ाने की क्षमता है। व्याख्या कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)



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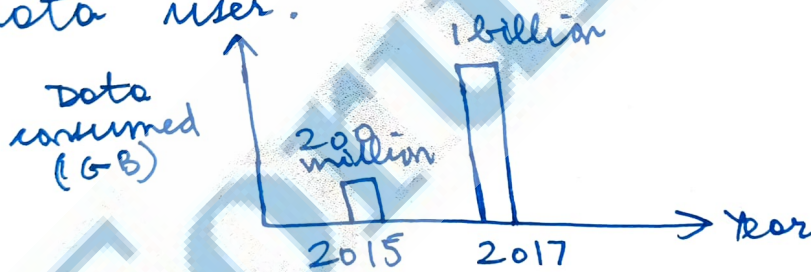
Q.11) The profound impact of the data revolution and widespread smartphone usage has necessitated the use of digital tools in welfare programmes. Discuss. (15 marks, 250 words)

डेटा क्रांति और व्यापक स्मार्टफोन उपयोग के गहरे प्रभाव ने कल्याण कार्यक्रमों में डिजिटल उपकरणों के उपयोग को आवश्यक बना दिया है। चर्चा कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

India has over 1.2 billion smartphone users (Ministry of Information and Broadcasting). This calls for digital tools to enhance wellbeing of citizens.

I Data Revolution in India :

1. Dramatic fall in data prices after launch of Reliance Jio.
2. India became the top mobile data user.



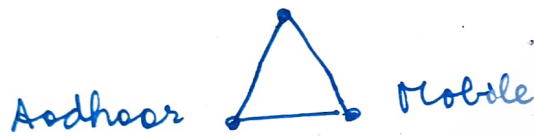
3. Increasing internet access and penetration.
4. Usage of internet for → education
→ entertainment
→ Agriculture.
→ Financial services

II Digital tools in welfare programmes:

1. Crucial for identifying beneficiaries for various welfare schemes.

eg. for Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT),
Public Distribution System (PDS).

2. Financial inclusion: eg. JAM Trinity.
Jan Dhan



3. Seamless delivery of services
eg. timely release of wages to MGNREGA workers.
4. Optimal use of resources.
5. Better infrastructure planning
6. Increased flexibility of service use.
7. Greater participation of citizens.
8. Enhanced transparency
eg. e-courts project giving information on status of cases.
9. Greater efficiency in administration

10. Facilitates information sharing between agencies.
11. Reduced transaction costs.
12. Avoids duplication by eliminating fake beneficiaries.

III Applications :

1. Agriculture : MKisan App for delivering important information to farmers.

2. Education : SWAYAM portal for Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs).

3. Small Business :

Teesa Handicrafts in Nagpur uses Whatsapp for Business App to empower local artisans.

Thus, technology can be a force multiplier to fulfill India's role of a welfare state.

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			



Q.12) The critical reason for poor public health indicators in India goes beyond recognition of right to health as fundamental right. Do you think that a statutory framework alone can ameliorate the situation? (15 marks, 250 words)

भारत में खराब सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य संकेतकों का महत्वपूर्ण कारण स्वास्थ्य के अधिकार को मौलिक अधिकार के रूप में मान्यता न देना है। क्या आपको लगता है कि केवल वैधानिक ढाँचा ही स्थिति को सुधार सकता है? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

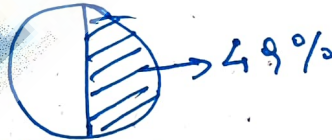
National Family Health Survey -5 (NFHS-5)
highlights increasing malnutrition (35%)
and prevalence of anaemia.

I Reasons for poor health indicators

i. Right to health not a fundamental right; Inherent to Article 21 -
Right to life with dignity.

Yet:

i. out of pocket expenditure (OOPE)
remains high.



☑ OOPE as a Percentage of total health expenditure.

ii. Basic health services denied to people.

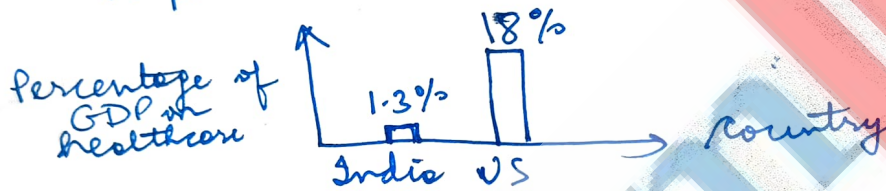
iii. No compulsion for governments to take action

Other reasons include:

1. Limited healthcare infrastructure and personnel
 eg. ~~80%~~ of community health centres (CHCs) have an 80% shortfall of specialist doctors.

2. Inadequate funding:

Expenditure on public health very low.



3. Crumbling infrastructure -
 Government hospitals lack certain diagnostic equipment.

4. Private presence → lack of transparency
 → Unethical practices
 → Expensive procedures

5. Poor insurance penetration

6. Low awareness about basic healthcare practices eg. drinking boiled water, importance of sanitation.

II Statutory framework alone:

Importance of a framework:-

1. Will make it legally binding for governments to prioritize healthcare services.
2. Will improve quality of service in public hospitals.
3. Will make doctors accountable.

III Not sufficient:

Other measures needed-

1. Enhanced public expenditure on healthcare.
2. Filling vacancies in doctors' and nurses' positions.
3. Awareness campaigns eg. for immunisation, healthcare.
4. Emphasise institutional deliveries
eg. through PM Matru Vandana Yojana.
5. Changing cultural norms
eg. Women eat last, eat least.

Therefore, a comprehensive strategy will ensure SDG-3 - Good Health and wellbeing.

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS

Q.13) Reforming the education infrastructure through digital interventions is a progressive step, but it has its limitations too. Comment. (15 marks, 250 words)

डिजिटल हस्तक्षेप के माध्यम से शिक्षा के बुनियादी ढांचे में सुधार एक प्रगतिशील कदम है, लेकिन इसकी अपनी सीमाएँ भी हैं। टिप्पणी कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Launch of DIKSHA (Digital Infrastructure for Knowledge Sharing) reflects the importance of digital interventions in education sector.

1. Progressive step:

1. Enhancing access to education

eg. online education in geographically remote locations.

2. Customised learning: Can help people learn at their own pace without restraints.

eg. for older adults too.

3. Access to new resources

eg. NPTEL by IIT professors helps simplify concepts of Engineering subjects.

4. Flexible learning: People can watch classes at their convenience.

5. Teachers can reach a larger number of pupils.

6. Better communication :

Previously shy or hesitant students may feel more confident to ask questions in online classes.

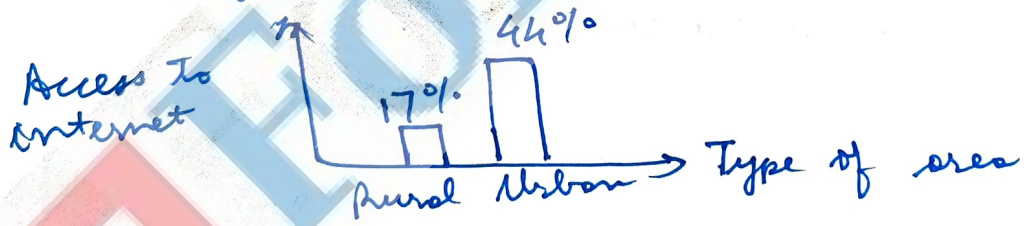
7. New digital tools :

eg. specialised software to check progress made by English language learners

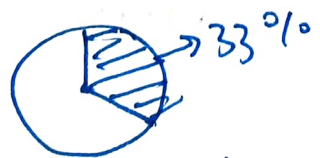
8. Can motivate teachers to perform better.

II Limitations :

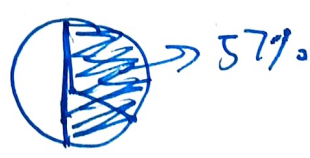
1. Digital divide :



Gender divide in digital access:



Percentage of females with internet access



Percentage of males accessing internet

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2. Poor data connectivity in rural areas.
3. Face-to-face interaction and socialisation are crucial, but absent in online education.
4. Analytical and critical thinking skills underdeveloped.
5. Peer learning, debates and discussion affected.
6. Issue of bullying and trolling of teachers in online classes.
7. Low digital literacy in India
8. Teachers not adequately equipped.

Way forward →

1. Blending traditional and digital education
2. Training and sensitizing students and teachers
3. Enhancing internet access
eg. BharatNet project.

Thus, the advantages of digital education must be leveraged to harness our demographic dividend, transforming India to a knowledge economy.

Feedback

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Q.14) The unique attributes and strengths of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and the government make them complimentary to one another in the governance and developmental process. Comment. Evaluate the need for effective and progressive regulation of the NGOs. (15 marks, 250 words)

गैर-सरकारी संगठनों (NGOs) और सरकार की अनुठी विशेषताओं और शक्तियां उन्हें शासन और विकास प्रक्रिया में एक दूसरे की पूरक बनाती है। टिप्पणी करें। गैर सरकारी संगठनों के प्रभावी और प्रगतिशील विनियमन की आवश्यकता का मूल्यांकन कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) are ^{private} organizations pursuing activities to relieve suffering, promote interests of the poor (World Bank).

I Unique strengths :

① of NGOs :

1. Promote interests of the underprivileged.
2. Building community awareness and participation.
3. Can understand the pulse of the people.
4. Cater to areas/segments of society not adequately served by government.
5. Ensure accountability of government by exerting pressure.
6. Policy monitoring - CAG's report takes cognizance of social audits by NGOs.

7. Highlighting important social problems and issues.

eg. Crafts Council of India through its seri shop 'Kamala' highlight loss of weaving skills.

II Attributes of government:

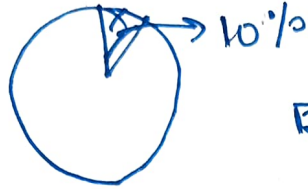
1. Authority to enforce legislation and executive orders.
2. Financial resources to implement policies for citizens.
3. Trust of citizens in government.
4. Ability to connect different government departments, NGOs and private sector for a cause.

III Need for regulation of NGOs:

1. Lack of transparency in utilisation of funds.
2. Many NGOs acting as a cover for nefarious purposes.

3. Mushrooming of NGOs without adequate safeguards.

4. Lack of accountability.



Percentage of NGOs filing annual financial statements

source: CBI records.

5. Foreign funding: Allegations of foreign-funded NGOs trying to stall development projects.

6. Money laundering by unscrupulous NGOs.

Way forward: 1. Regulatory mechanism

2. Government must frame guidelines for accreditation.

3. Regulation of NGOs by one Ministry

5. Vijay Kumar Committee recommendations on

NGOs must be implemented for their smooth functioning, realising Gandhian Sarvodaya.

Feedback

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Q.15) How far have Forest Rights Act, 2006 and PESA Act, 1996 been successful in attaining their desired objectives? What needs to be done to improve their implementation on ground?

(15 marks, 250 words)

वन अधिकार अधिनियम, 2006 और पेसा अधिनियम, 1996 अपने वांछित उद्देश्यों को प्राप्त करने में कहीं तक सफल रहे हैं? जमीनी स्तर पर उनके कार्यान्वयन में सुधार के लिए क्या करने की आवश्यकता है? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Forest Rights Act (FRA), 2006 and PESA, 1996 aim to ameliorate the condition of tribal India by securing various rights to them.

I Attainment of objectives :

① FRA, 2006 :

1. Democratized forest governance by recognising individual and community forest rights, empowering 200 million forest dwellers.

2. Right to collect Minor Forest Produce (MFP) has safeguarded tribals' livelihood.

[eg.] Sol, mahua collected in Bastar, Chhattisgarh.

3. Authority of Gram Sabha upheld :

[eg.] in 2013, Gram Sabha decided on Vedanta's bauxite mining project in Niyamgiri, Odisha.

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4. Gives tribal population a say in policies affecting them

[eg.] in Korba - villagers protested the creation of an artificial pond by the Forest Department.

[Issues]: 1. Frequent violations of the Act
2. Misuse of provisions by an insensitive forest bureaucracy.

3. High rates of rejection of claims.
[eg.] in Chhattisgarh, 50% of individual claims denied.

4. Diluting Gram Sabha powers.

II PESA, 1996:

[Achievements]: 1. Devolution of power to Gram Sabha.

2. Independent tiers of local government.

3. Preserving tribal culture and way of life.

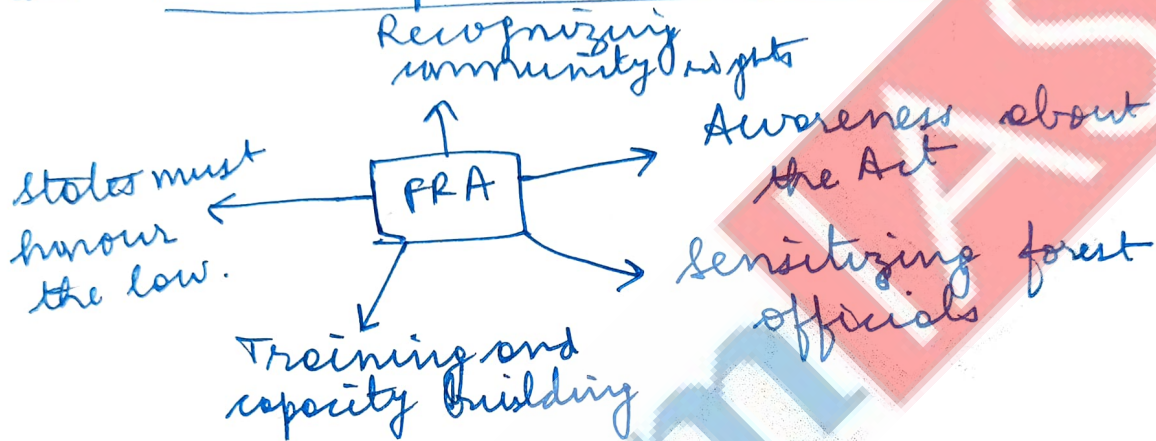
[Challenges] 1. Rules not formulated.



→ 40%
☐ Percentage of states not formulating rules.

2. Violation of self-governance aspect of law.
3. Powers and functions of Gram Sabha left to the discretion of state legislatures.

II Measures for better implementation:



- [PESA]** :
1. Empower Gram Sabha.
 2. Time-bound implementation of the Act.
 3. Resolve conflicts between Gram Sabhas and Panchayats.

PESA and FRA if implemented properly can undo injustice to tribal communities and fulfill state's commitment under Directive Principles.

Feedback

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Q.16) Enduring effects of the COVID-19 pandemic have exacerbated existing issues of poverty and hunger. Explain. (15 marks, 250 words)

COVID-19 महामारी के स्थायी प्रभावों ने गरीबी और भूख के मौजूदा मुद्दों को बढ़ा दिया है। व्याख्या कीजिए।
(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

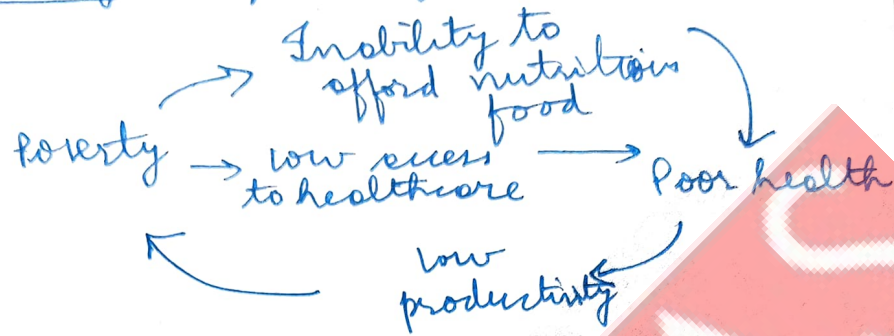
World Bank says that Indians make up 30% of those pushed into poverty by the COVID-19 pandemic.

2 Exacerbated Poverty:

1. Ended a streak of declining poverty.
2. slow recovery in sectors such as construction - migrant workers left in the lurch.
3. large number of layoffs in private sector firms, private schools.
4. In the initial lockdown, people did household chores themselves. Hence women employed as maids lost their jobs.
5. ^{many} small ~~size~~ units esp. MSMEs had to shut down, hence people lost their jobs.
6. Men workers lost income, hence were pushed into poverty.

II Impact on Hunger :

1. Vicious cycle of hunger and poverty.



2. Lack of access to fruits, vegetables, milk essential for good health.

3. Children lost out on Mid-Day Meals due to prolonged closure of schools.

4. Only cereals being consumed, hence absence of a balanced diet.

5. The Russia-Ukraine War has further disrupted supply of grains, and increased cost of food items.

6. Soaring prices of vegetables recently are adding to citizens' woes.

III Measures needed.

1. Social security measures eg. NREGA for rural employment; PDS; Pradhan Mantri Kisan Kalyan Anna Yojana.
2. Strengthening supply chains to lower cost of food items
 eg. improved cold storage facilities; transport connectivity.
3. Climate-resilient agriculture through Organic Farming, agroforestry.
4. Exploring use of GM crops as a nutritious alternative.
5. Quality education and skill development to make youth employable.
6. Capacity-building and training of government personnel.

A multi-pronged approach will help fulfill SDG 2 - Zero Hunger and SDG 10 - Reduced Inequalities.

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS



Q.17) Instability in its neighbourhood combined with displacement and humanitarian crisis don't augur well for India's interest in the region. Elucidate. (15 marks, 250 words)

विस्थापन और मानवीय संकट के साथ इसके पड़ोस में अस्थिरता इस क्षेत्र में भारत के हित के लिए शुभ संकेत नहीं है। स्पष्ट कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Political instability in Pakistan, economic crisis in Sri Lanka, humanitarian crisis in Myanmar, and China's growing assertiveness are an ominous warning for India's interests in South Asia.

2 challenges to India's interests:

1. Pakistan: → i. Political turmoil
→ ii. Economic crisis
→ iii. sponsoring terrorism against India.

2. Sri Lanka: Alarming economic crisis; growing proximity towards China eg. collaboration on Hambantota port.

Balance of Payments crisis has forced the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to intervene.

3. Nepal :- i. Resents India's interference in its domestic issues.

ii. Dispute over certain areas eg. Kalapani



iii. Decline in foreign reserves due to crippling impact of COVID-19 on the tourism sector.

4. Bangladesh :-

i. Teesta river dispute.

ii. Conflict regarding killing of Hindu bloggers in Bangladesh.

5. Myanmar :- → i. Civilian unrest against military junta

→ ii. Weakened public health systems

→ iii. Rohingya issue - Refugees fleeing to India for asylum.

6. Afghanistan :- Takeover by the Taliban does not bode well for citizens' rights, especially women's education and employment.

II What India can do :

1. Extend financial assistance as it has to Sri Lanka.
2. Humanitarian aid eg. India helped Pakistan during floods there.
3. Counter Chinese neo-colonialism through hard and soft measures.
4. Collaboration on infrastructure projects eg. hydroelectric projects in Nepal.
5. Emerge moral authority in Myanmar, Afghanistan; advocate peace and democracy.
6. Enhance people-to-people ties.
7. Respect other nations' sovereignty.

India must treat the present crisis as an opportunity to create mutually beneficial, people-oriented frameworks for stability and prosperity.

Feedback

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Q.18) The new cold war between the USA and China may have the effect of casting a long shadow on India's strategic interests from Pacific to Atlantic. Evaluate. (15 marks, 250 words)

संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका और चीन के बीच नए शीत युद्ध का प्रभाव प्रशांत से अटलांटिक तक भारत के रणनीतिक हितों पर लंबी छाया डालने का हो सकता है। मूल्यांकन कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

The new cold war between USA and China on semiconductors and other issues will influence India's strategic interests.

I New cold War :

1. Military competition : China is expanding its nuclear arsenal.
2. Growing economic dominance of China - 2nd only to the US
3. China emerging as the global manufacturing hub.
4. Trade and tariff wars.

II Impact on India's interests :

1. Threatens QUAD grouping in the Indo-Pacific.
2. May affect India's relationship with Russia; Indian proximity

to US may affect historical affinity for Soviet Russia.

3. China is a direct territorial and political threat, being India's neighbour; Military balance tilting in ~~Ind~~ China's favour with each year.

4. India will be compelled to comply with US, because it has no other options.

5. Affecting Indian borders: Chinese friendship with Pakistan will undermine India's national security.

6. Impact on Indian interests in Europe: Chinese footprint expanding rapidly in Europe too.

7. Protection by US not readily available or even reliable.

8. Threatens India's ambitions in Africa - Chinese businesses already dominant there.

III Measures needed:-

1. Strengthen multilateral initiatives
eg. AUAD, IPEF.
2. Negotiations with china for border
security.
3. Continuous communication with
china through Shanghai Cooperation
Organisation, BRICS.
4. Enhance deterrence in traditional
and emerging military domains.
5. Shift to a highly sophisticated
military.

India must make strategic adjustments
to the new reality, while
preventing conflict and war.

Feedback

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Q.19) For creation of a stable, peaceful and prosperous multipolar order, UN Security Council (UNSC) reforms are an urgent imperative. Examine the statement and present a case for India's permanent membership in UNSC. (15 marks, 250 words)

एक स्थिर, शांतिपूर्ण और समृद्ध बहुध्रुवीय व्यवस्था के निर्माण के लिए, संयुक्त राष्ट्र सुरक्षा परिषद (यूएनएससी) के सुधार तत्काल अनिवार्य हैं। बयान की जांच करें और यूएनएससी में भारत की स्थायी सदस्यता के लिए एक मामला प्रस्तुत कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

The UN Security Council (UNSC) is the principal organ of international peacekeeping and conflict resolution.

I Need for reforms:

1. Inadequate representation:
 - i. Africa with 54 countries, is not represented at all.
 - ii. low representation of Asia.
 - iii. India, Germany, Brazil despite growing importance, are missing.

2. Abuse of veto power:

The five permanent members misuse veto power to prevent changes

eg. China vetoes UNSC resolution for declaring ^{individual} terrorists
eg. Abdur Rahman Makki, head of Lashkar e Taiba.

3. Geopolitical rivalry among permanent members - US, Russia, China on Taiwan issue, Russia-Ukraine war.
4. Lack of transparency in functioning.
5. Dealing with new threats
 - changing modes of terrorism
 - Protectionism
 - climate change

II Case for India's membership:

1. Will ensure greater Asian representation.
2. Will help adapt to changing geopolitical realities.
3. India having upheld democratic values, ~~with~~ its message of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, can bring about changes in the UNSC.
4. India's membership of various

groupings - BRICS, SCO, QUAD, IPEF -
gives a unique insight into aspirations
of other countries.

5. Will give India a more greater
say in global affairs.
6. Highlighting issues faced by the
global south; fostering south-south
cooperation.
7. India has a rich legacy of
contributing troops to UN peacekeeping
missions.

Thus UNSC reforms will make it
more representative and inclusive in
accordance with changing global
realities.

Feedback

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Q.20) Presidency of G20 is but a reflection of India's quest for a more just and polycentric world order, where the voice of the global south is mainstreamed not muzzled. Elucidate.

(15 marks, 250 words)

G20 की अध्यक्षता एक अधिक न्यायपूर्ण और बहुकेंद्रित विश्व व्यवस्था के लिए भारत की खोज का प्रतिबिंब है, जहाँ विश्वव्यापी दक्षिण की आवाज को मुख्यधारा में रखा जाए, दबाया न जाए। स्पष्ट कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

India's historic G20 Presidency is a unique opportunity to further inclusive growth, green development, and progress on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

I quest for a polycentric world:

1. Highlighting the challenges faced by emerging nations, in Asia and Africa.
2. Fostering South-South cooperation.
3. Climate justice - Emphasizing the responsibility of developed nations towards emerging nations.

eg) \$100 billion in climate finance was promised, but has not yet been paid to developing countries.

4. Risks of climate change particularly to Small Island Developing States (SIDS)

may be highlighted.

5. Strengthening multilateral institutions eg. United Nations, WHO, WTO by initiating dialogue and discussion.

6. Inclusive and resilient growth :-

- Integrating MSMEs into global trade
- Promoting labour rights
- Addressing gender pay gap
- Building inclusive agricultural value chains.

7. Accelerating progress on SDGs by mitigating the impact of COVID-19 on lives and livelihoods.

8. Green Growth :- India's Mission LPE offers a sustainable model of consumption and production by encouraging behavioural change.

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9. Technological Transformation -

- i. Human-centric approach to technology
- ii. Greater-knowledge-sharing in areas such as digital public infrastructure, financial inclusion, and tech-enabled development.

10. More just, equitable and representative multilateral institutions.

India with the G-20 theme of "One Earth, One Family, One Future" will strive for a more peaceful, multipolar world with peace and prosperity for all.

Feedback

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CD & VA			
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

Mentor Feedback Questions

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

Test Goal

- 1
- 2
- 3

Outcomes

-
-
-
-

Marking Scheme

Mark	Good	Average	Below average
10 Marker	3.75 – 5.0	3.0 – 3.5	< 3.0
15 Marker	5.75 – 7.0	4.0 – 5.5	< 4.0
✓✓	Key / Relevant Point		
✗	Vague / Irrelevant		

* Subject to change without prior notice.