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FIAS – MGP 2023 – GS PAPER 2_FLT #6

Time Allowed : Three Hours समय तीन घंटे	ForumIAS	Maximum Marks : 250 अधिकतम अंक : 250
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GENERAL STUDIES / सामान्य अध्ययन

Name Of Candidate परीक्षार्थी का नाम	ISHWARI DEKA		
Roll No./अनुक्रमांक	1910103244	Medium/माध्यम	English <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> हिंदी <input type="checkbox"/>
Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र		Date/दिनांक	6/09/2023

*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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			11:00 am	2:40 pm
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 आयी के आधार पर (लेकिन इन्हीं तक सीमित नहीं) पर दिए गए अंक हैं।			For Office Use Only / केवल कार्यालय प्रयोग हेतु	
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Note: You can discuss your evaluated copy with the Mentor. Raise a ticket from your portal to schedule a 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.

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 वर्चा कीजिए और भारत में प्रेस की स्वतंत्रता को प्रभावित करने वाले मुद्दों का विश्लेषण कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Ans: The "Fourth Estate" which refers to the different kinds of media - print, digital media, news broadcasting and, newly, social media upholds democratic values through reportage, discussion and debate.

Freedom of the press is a fundamental right under Article 19 (Freedom to speech and expression)

Upholding democratic values:

- ⊙ Transparency in election reporting ensuring free and fair elections → gap reports from remote poll booths, exit polls, opinion polls.
- ⊙ Holding executive and legislature accountable - broadcasting of parliamentary debates
- ⊙ Judicial Accountability → live streaming

① Generating awareness in the participants of a democracy
 { removing social stigmas
 discussion and debate
 bringing crimes to light

Issues affecting press freedom in India:

① Censorship under defamation, sedition and contempt of court laws → inhibits fearless reporting.

② Threat to outspoken and honest journalists → the Gauri Lankesh case.

③ Proliferation of fake news, misinformation and disinformation → strengthens post-truth issues.

④ Sensationalisation ~~use~~ of news under 24/7 news cycle → profit motive not public welfare.

An honest, transparent and outspoken media, free from political bias is the vehicle for ensuring a healthy democracy.

Feedback
 (For OFFICE use)

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Here G is Good, Average and P is Poor.		
TOTAL MARKS		

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)

Ans: India was one of the first decolonized nations to boast of universal adult suffrage and has since independence relied on free and fair elections for a thriving representative, parliamentary democracy.

Electoral process as an inclusive process:

- ① Universal adult suffrage.
- ② Names of ^{all} citizens free from caste, sex, gender to be included in electoral rolls.
- ③ Polling booths to be set up in the remotest of areas.
- ④ By-elections held in case process is interfered with.
- ⑤ SC/ST reservation in Lok Sabha seats.

Electoral process as exclusionary - with special emphasis on women:

- ① The Women Reservation Bill seeking 33% reservation of seats pending in parliament.
- ② Women constitute half the population but hold less than 20% seats → share has been decreasing in recent times.
- ③ Social stigma attached to women joining politics → usually only women from political lineage participate.
- ④ Women participation in the process (total number of votes polled) is dismal → illiteracy and lack of political awareness.

Thus our electoral process will be truly inclusive if it incorporates women equally. The exercises in local body elections can be taken as a yardstick to achieve the same.

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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)

Ans: Death penalty has been a much debated topic with the legislature, judiciary and public opinion highly polarized on the issue.

Article 21 (Right to life and liberty) includes puts to question if the state has the authority to deprive an individual of his life.

In this context, arguments in favour are:

① Acts as a deterrent to crimes of heinous nature especially those against women and children.

② Preserves the citizens' trust in judiciary and law and order.

③ Effective instrument of state control.

Arguments against death penalty -

- ① Increasing shift from retributive to reformative justice → most mature democracies of the world like Australia, Canada, New Zealand have abolished it.
- ② Does not act as an effective deterrent because impact does not trickle down.
- ③ Against Article 21 (Right to life)
- ④ In presence of other measures like prisons and life imprisonment, one questions its efficacy.
- ⑤ Often granted under mounting political pressure → eg Ajmal Kasab, Afzal Guru.

Thus death penalty must be rethought under an ethical, moral and political perspective balancing both its benefits and disadvantages

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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 संभावित प्रभाव का भी वर्णन कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Ans: The Inter-State River Water Disputes Act 1956, was constituted to provide for easy and expeditious settlement of disputes related to cross-border rivers.

Effectiveness of the act in resolution of river-water disputes:

- ① Reduces pending litigations in Courts.
- ② Technical aspects of the disputes calls for expertise and resources which courts lack.
- ③ Tribunals with representatives from competing states set up to voice their opinions.
- ④ Promotes cooperative federalism through equitable distribution of water resources.

Impact of delays in resolution of water disputes :

- ① Often complex nature of the disputes, as well as, appeal mechanisms delay the settlement of disputes → time limit and consensus building must be promoted.
- ② Issue gets politicized → eg - Mullaperiyar Dam issue between Kerala and Tamil Nadu.
- ③ Downstream states may be deprived → water essential for irrigation and household use.
- ④ Repair and reconstruction of dams may be delayed → natural hazard risk.

Thus, issues must be settled through consensus in a seamless manner under the River Disputes Act 1956.

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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)

Ans: The cooperative model of development has tremendous potential to boost rural growth and double farmers' income.

Elements of cooperative model

- Ministry of Cooperation
- Primary Agricultural Credit Societies
- Multi-State Cooperatives
- Urban Cooperative Banks.

Cooperatives as engine of rural growth:

- Through pooling of income and resources
 - > increases farm productivity
 - > increases access to easy credit
 - > reduces impact of external shocks
 - > farm machinery and labour sharing increases production
 - > reduces disguised unemployment

① Increasing market linkages.

- > connects farmers to markets
- > helps transport goods to markets
- > reduces influence of middlemen
- > gets correct price for products

② Best practices

- > The Amul movement in Gujarat
 - white revolution
- > The Kanyaka model in Assam
 - Dairy, horticulture, animal husbandry pooled in.

③ Increases participation of women → rural female participation > urban participation.

Thus, cooperatives through equal vote share and consensus building presents an inclusive model of growth to boost rural economy.

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Here G is Good Average and P is Poor.	
TOTAL MARKS	

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)

Ans: There are 75 Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) in our country who are one of the most vulnerable, marginalised and deprived sections.

PM PVTG Development Mission

- ① Ultimate test of good governance → last mile delivery of services
- ↳ Inclusion in JAM trinity
- ↳ Remote health delivery and vaccinations.
- ↳ Responsive and sensitive governance
- ② Closeness to people → implementation of PESA Act
- ↳ Gram sabhas included in decision making

② Responsive to aspirations → Kavaraja model
 Residential schools
 ↳ ↑ educational outcomes

↳ ↑ Public infrastructure
 PM Gram Sadak Yojana.

↳ Career guidance to students →
 diversion from radicalisation

④ Inclusiveness → livelihood opportunities
 ↳ MFP collection and sale
 ↳ inclusion in mainstream societies while maintaining tribal character.

The tribes are the original inhabitants of the land and must be protected at any cost.

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)

Ans: Collaboration between state and civil society organizations help in addressing poverty and malnutrition the following ways —

① Identifying correct beneficiaries for PDS and DBTs.

② Trickle down of DBTs and subsidies to the poor by making them aware of the existence of such benefits.

③ Skilling of labour → increasing livelihood opportunities.

- ④ Conducting surveys by CSOs which help in government policy making.
- ⑤ CSOs can carry the grievances of specific sections to government → eg if school is not conducting mid-day meals properly:
- ⑥ ICDS and POSHAN Abhiyaan benefits like fortified food and vitamins can be carried by CSOs to women and children.

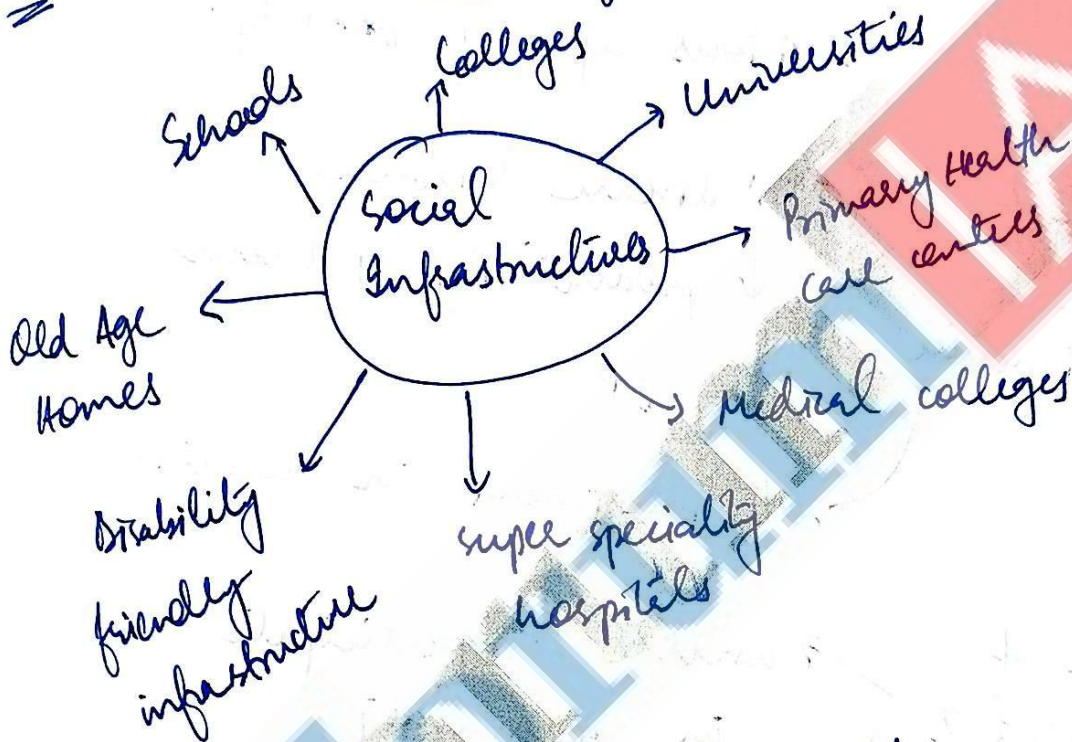
Thus, collaboration between both can help tackling twin problems of poverty and malnutrition.

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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)

Ans: Robust social infrastructure includes:



Absence of social infrastructures as hindrance:

- > impedes inclusive development.
- > hinders human capital formation
- > some examples include -

① Lack of educational infrastructure

- ↑ school dropouts
- ↓ GER in higher education
- ↓ livelihood opportunities
- vicious cycle of poverty.

② Lack of health infrastructure

- ↑ disease burden
- ↓ productivity of labour
- ↓ GDP
- ↓ investment in health.

③ Lack of disability & elder care infrastructure

- unable to participate in community
- converted to burden rather than productive assets.

Thus, social infrastructure must be given precedence in a welfare state ~~but~~ helping India achieve a developed status by 2047.

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)

Ans: A changing paradigm towards dialogue and diplomacy in West Asia has been initiated by the recent Saudi Arabia - Iran deal mediated by China.

Benefits for India include :-

- ① Stability in the region conducive for -> conducting trade (and imports)
- > safety of diaspora (about 8 million)
- > protection of sea lanes of communication (Red Sea lanes)
- > increased negotiations (eg - CEPA between India & UAE)

Inimical actors may reverse the gains:

① De-Americanisation → Sino-Centricism
Undue influence of China who has brokered the deal.

② Other regional disputes eg. the Sudan crisis may have spillover effect.

③ Thus, India needs to establish effective chains of diplomacy and communication to ~~reverse the gains~~ ensure it reaps the due benefits from this shift to peace and stability.

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)

Ans: Indus Water Treaty 1960 has been one of the most successful examples of river water sharing.

Water diplomacy's potential to redefine regional cooperation in South Asia:

- ① All nations in South Asia have inter cross-border rivers -
- > Ghagghra and Gandak → Nepal ↔ India
 - > Brahmaputra and → Bangladesh ↔ India
 - Rushiyare
 - > Pakistan Indus and Sutlej → Pakistan ↔ India

Water diplomacy can lead to →

- > water transport facilitating cheap trade
- > hydroelectric projects - power supply
- > irrigation sharing.

Indus Water Treaty 1960 mandates

the western tributaries of Indus like
 Helmand and Chenab will be for
 Pakistan use and eastern like Sutlej
 and Beas for India.

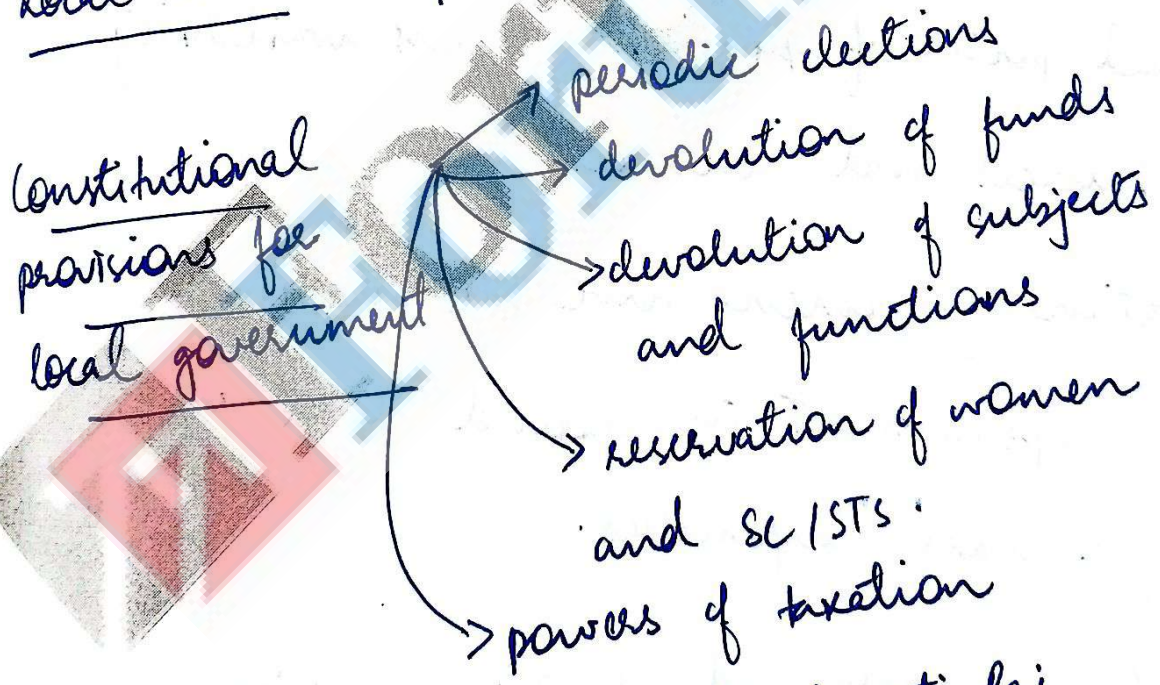
Accordingly countries have constructed
 hydro-power projects in their respective
 spheres and avoided conflict through
internal dispute settlement and a neutral
observer - the World Bank.

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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)

Ans: The constitutional backing to institutions of local governance was provided by the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendment Acts which provided for setting up of Panchayati Raj Institutions and Urban Local Bodies respectively.



State is mandated to set up Panchayati Raj Institutions through Directive Principles of State Policy.

The idea of decentralization has remained hostage to several structural bottlenecks:

- ① Structure of institutions not uniform across states.
- ② Limited powers of policy formulation and implementation → eclipsed by state government.
- ③ Devolution of grants as mandated by finance commission not followed through.
- ④ Limited power of taxation → less availability of finances and resources.
- ⑤ Reservation of women have not led to actual empowerment in ground level → proxies of male sarpanches.
- ⑥ Lack of awareness and decision making renders gram sabhas a toothless body.

Real decentralization will only be effective when:

- ① local bodies are financially empowered to make policies and implement them in the grassroots level.
- ② State and Central governments consult with them for making localised target specific policies
- ③ Include more subjects in the 11th Schedule.
- ④ Implement PESA Act in tribal areas.

Thus, Gandhiji's "Raameeja" will only be materialized in letter and spirit if constitutional provisions are followed by actual policies on ground.

Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

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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.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। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)
मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

Ans: Independent judiciary, as envisaged by the constitution, mandates the setting up of a mechanism which ensures checks and balances on the executive and legislature through separation of power.

Bedrock for a thriving polity:

- ① Judicial review of legislations and executive decisions.
- ② Upholding basic structure so that fundamental characteristics of polity cannot be altered.
- ③ Establishing rule of law by checking arbitrariness.

- ① Ensuring transparency through live streaming.
- ② Collegium system of appointing judges - keeps judiciary away from ~~big~~ interference.
- ③ Upholding fundamental rights through writ jurisdiction.

Executive encroachment eroding its credibility and efficacy :

- ① Presidential approval necessary for appointment through collegium system through "consultation" with CJI.
- ② Secretarial and administrative staff of Judiciary under executive → may lead to delay, corruption and misinterpretation of files.

⊙ Inadequate reporting or collection of evidence → affects credibility of cases.

⊙ Judicial activism often interfered with executive policy implementation.

Thus, a clear separation of powers is not maintained ^{rigidly} and each organ interferes with functions of the other.

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 एजेंसियों, 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)

Ans: Enforcement Directorate is the domestic law enforcement agency addressing economic crimes. It is given teeth by two acts

- Prevention of money laundering Act
 - Foreign exchange Management Act.
 - Fugitive Economic offenders Act.
- It operates under the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance.

Effectiveness of ED as a watchdog against impropriety and the corrupt:

- Checks → money laundering
- round tripping
- Hawala scams
- Shell companies

① Proliferation of black money creates a parallel economy.

② Powers of raids and arrests.

Pandering to vested interests

Media and activists have proclaimed that the government in power uses ED's overarching powers to target dissenters or the opposition. This creates an atmosphere of fear and panic — recent death of victim under custody.

The central government also charged with using ED to target opposition ruled states for eg The Partha Chatterjee case, West Bengal.

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All these may reduce the credibility of ED in checking economic crimes.

Reforms in mechanism :

- ① more autonomy to take decisions
- ② free from interference of legislators → provide security of tenure.

For eg: Recent ~~extension~~ annual extensions to S.K. Mishra → makes the director come under influence of legislature.

Thus, the ED must be protected as an independent body if economic crimes, which cost the taxpayers' money and are a huge burden to the economy must be brought under check.

Feedback
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TOTAL MARKS			

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)

Ans: National Commission of Women is a statutory body set up to safeguard the rights of women and children. It works in collaboration with the Ministry of Women and children, Ministry of Social Empowerment among many others.

Role of NCW in safeguarding women's rights:

- ① Watchdog of the safety and well being of women
 - institutional deliveries
 - adequate nutrition
 - educational outcomes.

① Brings to light cases of sexual abuse and physical molestation including acid attacks → generates more awareness among the public.

② Other issues

- Dowry prohibition
- marital rape
- gender pay gap
- declining participation of women in workforce
- social taboos and stigmas.

Limitations of NCR:

- ① Informal organisational structure.
 - ② No clear criteria for appointment.
 - ③ Subject to political interference.
 - ④ Controversial comments by members
- eg: In the Guwahati molestation case.

- ⊙ no say over policy making.
- ⊙ inadequate financial resources.
- ⊙ indoctrinated patriarchal views.
- ⊙ no security of tenure or constitutional safeguards.

Thus, the inclusion of National Commission of women as a constitutional body giving it adequate financial and decision making powers is the need of the hour.

Feedb

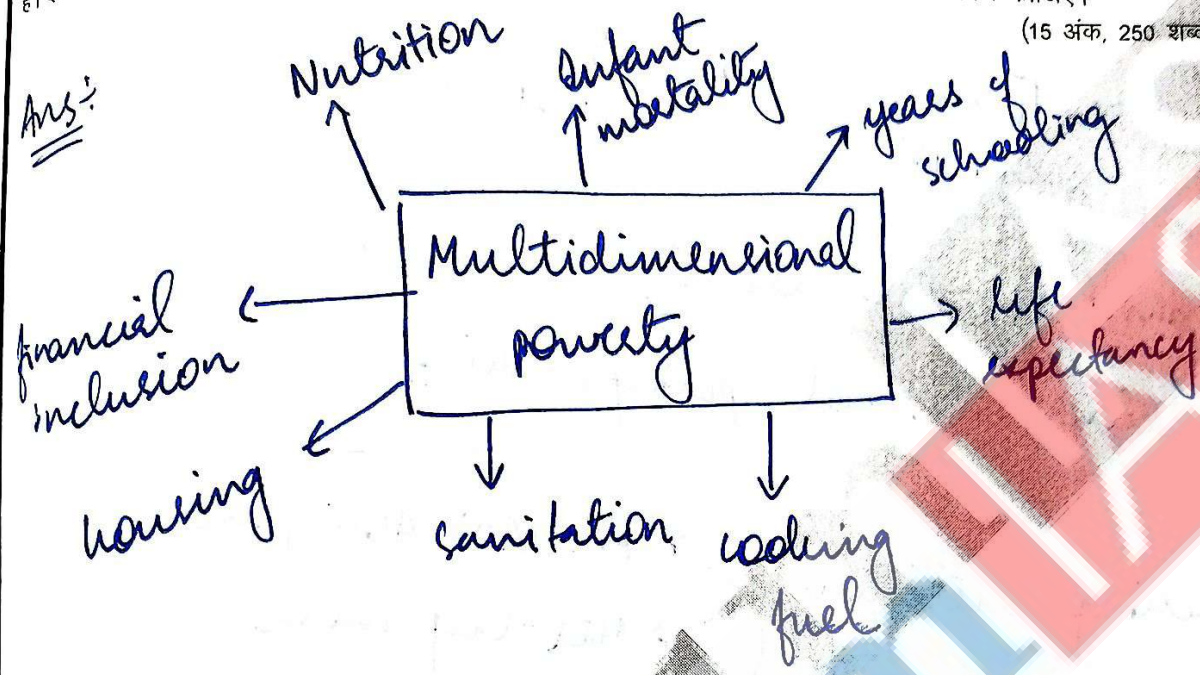
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Q.15) Understanding the extent, source, and complexity of deprivations among the multidimensionally poor contributes to more informed policymaking. In this context, analyze the latest National Multidimensional Poverty Index Report by NITI Aayog. (15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

बहुआयामी गरीबी 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)

Ans:



Multidimensional poverty marks a shift away from meaning poverty in traditional per capita standards and GDP (solely economic criteria) to other areas which contribute to holistic development.

The National MDP Report by Niti Aayog:

India has put the highest number of

people out of poverty in the last few years to the tune of approximately 10% (~ 25 crore (2014-15) $\rightarrow \sim 15$ cr (2021))

Understanding the extent, source and complications informed policy making

- ① Addressing nutrition concerns

 - \rightarrow POSHAN Abhiyan
 - \rightarrow Mid-day meal scheme
 - \rightarrow PDS
 - \rightarrow folic acid tablets to pregnant women.
- ② Improving educational outcomes

 - \rightarrow free schooling - uniform, books, tuition fees -
 - \rightarrow addressing school vocational education - Beti Bachoo Beti Padhao
 - \rightarrow infrastructure \rightarrow PM SARI.

(Don't Write anything in this Area / इस स्थान पर कुछ न लिखें)

- ① Safe cooking fuel → PAHAL Scheme
→ Ujjwala Scheme.
- ② Sanitation → Swacchh Bharat Abhiyaan
→ ODF free villages
→ behavioural or nudge component of change.
- ③ Financial inclusion → JAM trinity
→ UPI digital payment ecosystem
→ Direct Benefit transfers.
- ④ Housing → PM-Awas Yojana.
→ Affordable Housing Scheme.

Thus, India has managed to address multiple issues of multidimensional poverty through wide-ranging schemes which has improved its outcomes.

Feedback

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

TOTAL MARKS	
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Q.16) Though lifeblood 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)

Ans: Political parties are the lifeblood of representative democracy because —

- ① Ensure diverse representation and plurality of thought.
- ② Arena of formulating the ideology operating the nation.
- ③ Grassroots level of operation → proxy to issues of common people.
- ④ Encourage culture of discussion, debate and dissent.
- ⑤ Formal organisational structure unlike civil society or pressure groups.

Challenges of political parties :-

- ① Excessive centralisation → ignoring regional concerns over national interests.
- ② Party whip → discourages inter-party debate and dissent.
- ③ Defection → encourages party hopping for political and material gain.
- ④ Minimization of politics and crony capitalism.
- ⑤ Nepotism and dynastic politics.
→ reduces voice of meritocracy.
- ⑥ Vote bank or communal politics → privileges a single issue over others.

Limited role in democratization of society:

- ① Internal party structure mirrored in ground realities → regional disparity in development.
- ② Cultural hegemony of a particular ideology at the cost of others → hampers diversity.
- ③ Multiparty system effectively replaced by biparty system at central level.
- ④ True representation not done in effect.

Thus, political parties must reform themselves internally to bring about widespread democratization in society.

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TOTAL MARKS	

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)

Ans: India is on the verge of a severe water crisis with more than 500 water stressed districts and blocks in the country.

In such a scenario, Jal Jeevan Mission becomes important as it ensures:

- ① safe drinking water services
- Reduces ~~cheap~~ commercialisation of water as commodity.
 - equitable distribution among rich and poor.
 - Reduces burden of vector borne diseases like dysentery, cholera and typhoid.

② Multifarious benefits cutting across generations :

① Benefit to woman → burden of procuring water.

For eg: women in water stressed district of Bahrne walk 17 km/day on average to procure water.

Improvement in → health, educational outcomes of children, other livelihood opportunities.

② Essential commodity

↓
can focus on other aspects of life.

→ easy availability

↓
hygiene and sanitation

→ saving of time

↓
improved productivity

Challenges in ensuring mission's success:

- ① Should not be a uniform policy across states → availability of water differs greatly in Rajasthan and Assam.
- ② In states of easy availability focus on storage and purification.
- ③ Infrastructure but no pipelines supplying water → establish networks.
- ④ Provisions of transferring water from surplus to deficit states.
- ⑤ Stealing and destruction of taps major issue. In the context of states like Goa, Haryana and UT of Andaman and Nicobar achieving "Har Ghar Jal", Jal Jeevan Mission must be refined even further.

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			



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)

Ans: Legislation like SC and ST (Prevention of Atrocities Act) 1989 provides a legal mandate for the prevention of crimes against the vulnerable communities.

Any person insulting the dignity of these individuals in public spaces — hurling verbal insults or physical ~~abuse~~ abuse is brought to book under it.

However, the efficacy of the law in 'letter and spirit' is affected without intense sensitization of people:

① Sensitization of public functionaries important because

- > they implement the law
- > they are the first contact of people to the state - especially the police
- > underreporting because of police desensitization.
- > unbiased investigation
- > objective analysis of cases.
- > empathy and compassion towards victims → assault on dignity.

② Sensitization of civil society important:

- > behavioural change on ground
- > intervention and real time reporting and eye witness reports.

- > improve conditions in the long run
- > accessibility of public spaces improved

Measures for sensitization:

- > Awareness generation from school level itself - "catch them young"
- > Inculcating scientific temperament
 - no rational justification of caste.
- > Working in local bodies (Gram Sabhas) and NGOs.
- > Awareness through public Ads and entertainment.

Thus for true effectiveness of legislations they must be accepted and internalized by the people in spirit.

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TOTAL MARKS	

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)

Ans: India and Africa ties are a beacon of inclusive, sustainable and equitable world because -

① India - 18% of world population
Africa - 17% of world population

Despite this, widespread poverty and disparity compared to developed nations.

→ Giving voice to issues of global south.

② Africa trying to shed its image as the "dark continent" and moving towards peace, progress and democracy

→ India seen as the harbinger of peace and democracy can help in this regard.

③ New "scramble for Africa" as developed countries and China (debt trap diplomacy) are aiming to gain leverage over resources including critical minerals (lithium and cobalt) and rare earths.

→ India must interfere to ensure sustainable use of resources.

④ Inclusive development → vaccine waiver initiated by India and South Africa, both members of BRICS.

→ Humanitarian aid to crisis regions of Sudan and Ethiopia

→ Development infrastructure — schools, colleges, hospitals :

- ⑤ India has opened about 18 new embassies in Africa.
- ⑥ India's pharmaceutical exports →
cheap generic medicines → health security.
- ⑦ Environmental relations → Project Cheetah (Namibia and South Africa) → largest intercontinental mission to rejuvenate grassland ecosystems.
- ⑧ India and Japan's investments in the African Growth Corridor.

Thus, Africa is the continent of the next century and growing collaborations between both will be mutually beneficial.

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 द्वीप 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)

Ans: The Forum for Indo-Pacific Islands Cooperation (FIPIC) summit concluded recently brought into focus the Indo-Pacific as a theatre of opportunity for India.

① ASEAN Centrality

- Look East Policy
- Act East Policy
- ASEAN free from China's sphere of influence
- Free trade agreements with ASEAN.

② Rules-based order

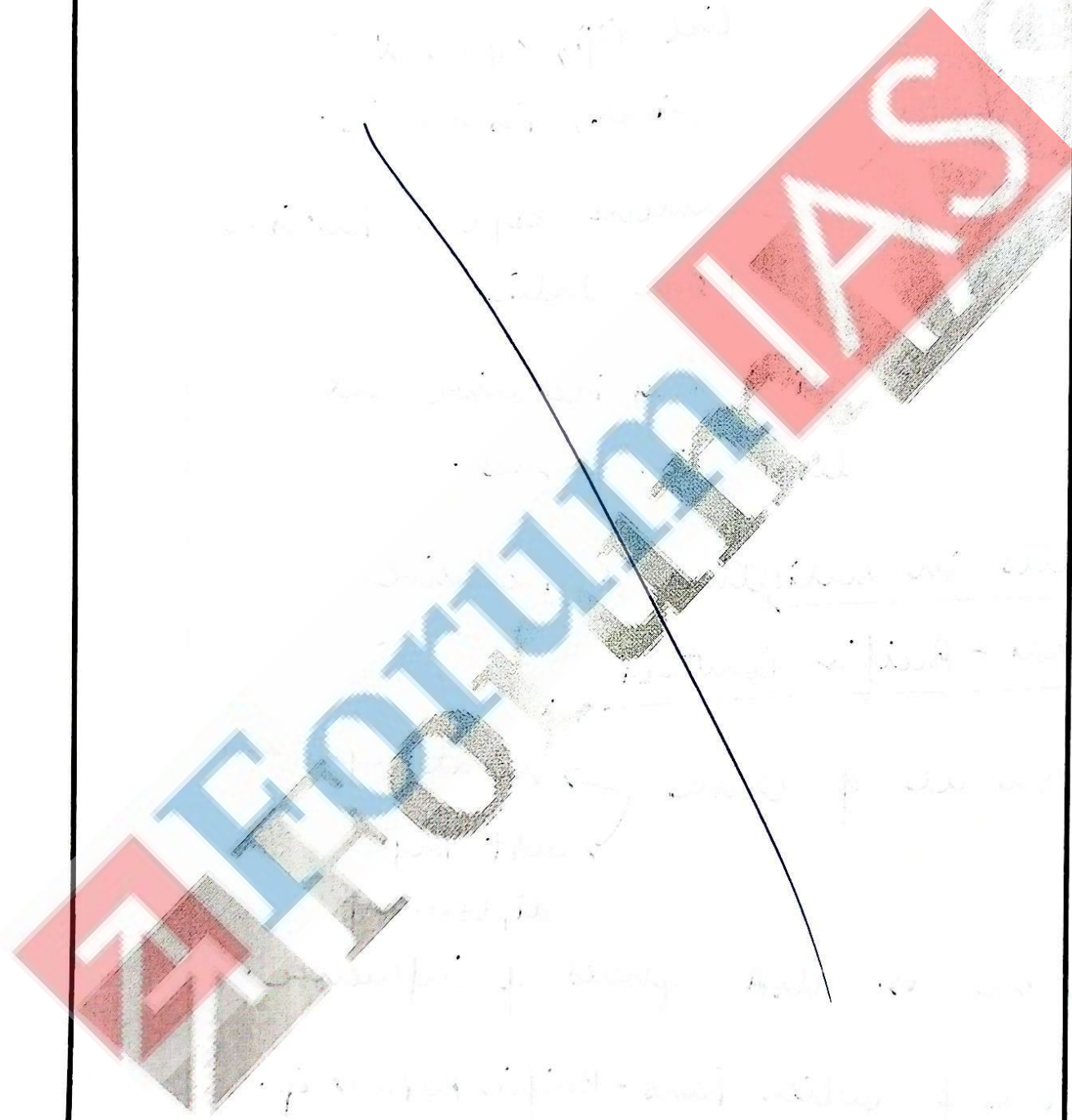
- To counter Chinese hegemony and naval aggression.
- Free and open Indo-Pacific.

- ① Development partnership, → Increased trade and investment with islands like Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Tasmania.
- enormous scope of tourism from India
- Building ~~is~~ inclusive and democratic regimes.

Hurdles in realization of inclusive Indo-Pacific construct

- ① Influence of China → naval supremacy
→ debt trap
diplomacy
- ② Chinese vs. USA spheres of influence.
- ③ Failure of earlier Trans-Pacific Partnership.
- Thus, India has taken the first step but lot remains to be done in Indo-Pacific sphere.

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Mentor Feedback Questions

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- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

Test Goal

- 1
- 2
- 3

Outcomes

- 1
- 2
- 3

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.