

TEST CODE | 7 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 3

M.G.P 2024

Time Allowed: Three Hours

ForumIAS

Maximum Marks: 250

समय तीन घण्टे

अधिकतम अंक 250

## GENERAL STUDIES / सामान्य अध्ययन

Name Of Candidate  
परीक्षार्थी का नाम

Nivedita Chandra

Roll No./अनुक्रमांक

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Medium/माध्यम

English  हिंदी 

Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र

Online

Date/दिनांक

20. August. 2024

\*Center Code: For Online - 1900 / Delhi - Karol Bagh - 1901, G.D.N. - 1902, Mukherji Nagar - 1903 / Patna - Boring Rd. - 2001 / Hyderabad - Jawahar Nagar - 2101

## INDEX TABLE / अनुक्रमणिका

Q. No. प्र.सं.	Max. Marks अधिकतम अंक	Marks Obtained प्राप्त अंक
1		
2		
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20		
Total/कुल अंक	250	

## INSTRUCTION / अनुदेश

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।

2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH &amp; HINDI, all questions are compulsory.

उत्तर-पुस्तिका में अंग्रेजी/हिंदी में बीस प्रश्न दिए गए हैं, सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।

3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.

प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के लिए निर्धारित अंक उसके सामने उचित किए गए हैं।

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 प्रश्न पत्र में अधिकृत माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जो कि दिए गए स्थान में इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूआर) पुस्तिका के कवर पर स्पष्ट रूप से लिखा जाना चाहिए।

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 गए किसी भी पृष्ठ या पृष्ठ के भाग को स्पष्ट रूप से काट दें।

## For Student Only / केवल परीक्षार्थी प्रयोग हेतु

Examiner's Discretion/मूल्यांकन कर्ता का विवेक :

Start Time/प्रारंभ करने का समय :

12:00

End Time/समाप्त करने का समय :

3:00

Total Marks/कुल अंक :

Mode Of Examination/  
परीक्षा की विधि :Online/ऑनलाइन Offline/ऑफलाइन 

## For Office Use Only / केवल कार्यालय प्रयोग हेतु

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-आवर्ती विवेकात्मक प्रवृत्ति, आवेदन के आधार पर आपके द्वारा लिखे गए अक्षरों या चित्रों का प्रयोग, तथ्यों और आंकड़ों या अन्य किसी अन्य विषय वस्तु का उपयोग करने के लिए अंक-आवर्ती विवेक से अंकन के अंशों पर निर्भर करता है। (अंक सीमित नहीं) पर दिए गए अंक हैं।

ECN CODE/  
ईसीएन कोड :

EG/ईजी :

(1) (2) (3) (4) (5)

Evaluation Date/  
मूल्यांकन तिथि :

**Note:** Students are expected to incorporate suggestions from the feedback provided in the answers. Discussion classes and the tests are also available online in your portal to aid in your preparation. Further, students are requested to see the copies of the tests and learn from them. You can also discuss your copy with a Mentor and discover ways and means to improve your answers, or if you have any issues with this test / copy. Ask specific questions, to get specific answers.

## 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 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, 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 subjective components of assessment.

Q.1) As the soul of the Constitution, the preamble is not only a majestic expression of philosophy and principles but also declares the purpose of the constitution. Elaborate. (10 marks, 150 words)

संविधान की भाषा के रूप में प्रस्तावना न केवल दर्शन और सिद्धांतों की एक शानदार अभिव्यक्ति है, बल्कि संविधान के उद्देश्य की भी घोषणा करती है। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Nana Palkhivala regarded preamble as the 'identity card' of the constitution and in Keshavanand Bharali case it was declared as a part of the constitution.

Preamble as  
Soul of the Constitution

Majestic Expression of Philosophy

- 'We the people of India' shows State as trust and people as trustees.

(Popular sovereignty with people)

- freedom, liberty, faith, belief, thought expression & worship shows

India follows the Philosophy of 'Sarva Dharma Sambhar' and 'Swadharma'

(Law of our being)

Principles of the Constitution

→ principles of equality of status

& opportunity

↳ means to create Modern egalitarian society

over medieval

hierarchical society

→ justice → for humanly existence

Purpose of the constitution

→ To make India into sovereign socialist secular democratic Republic.

Sovereign: India bounded only by its own will

Socialist: Establish a 'Welfare state' against a 'political state' (Part IV of the Constitution)

Republic: Removing any set of privileges

→ Achieve Goals of

(i) Liberty → for maximum opportunity of excellence of citizens (Article 19, 21 etc)

(ii) Equality → believes in essential equal dignity

(iii) Fraternity → To make India into a plural, tolerant society (Art 514)

Hence, the Philosophy, purpose & principle of the preamble makes it a soul of the constitution which reflects the very essence of it as a revolutionary document

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AWIS	
CD & VA	
S & F	
P & R	
Please put marks in table.	
Here G is Average & Poor.	
TOTAL MARKS	

Q.2) Article 21 of the Constitution has been interpreted expansively to encompass various facets of personal freedom and dignity. Elucidate with the help of relevant case laws. (10 marks, 150 words)

संविधान के अनुच्छेद 21 का विवेक व्यापक स्वतंत्रता और गरिमा के विभिन्न पहलुओं को शामिल करने के लिए व्यापक रूप से किया गया है। प्रासंगिक केस लॉ की सहायता से स्पष्ट कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Article 21 of the Indian Constitution aims to protect life and liberty of both citizens & foreigners, thus making it an inalienable right.

Expansive interpretation of Article 21

① Inclusion of ~~basic~~ Due process of law & Principle of Natural justice in the famous Maneka Gandhi Case, 1978 thus overruling the A.K. Gopalan case (where stated liberty meant only bodily liberty).

② Expanded to include even the narrow socio-economic rights.

→ Right to Health under Article 12 in Bandhua Mukti Morcha case.

→ Right to Food in PUCF case

Ex) Right to protection against climate change (N. Lajpatha case)

③ Expanded to protect the personal sphere of the citizens.

Ex) Right to Privacy in Puttaswamy case.

④ Freedom of choice in life.

Ex) Free to choose a partner in the Hadiya case.

However some loopholes remain: -

① Right to marriage is not a fundamental right. (Supriyo case)

② No right to same sex marriage.

③ Right to Privacy often breached in the name of public interest.

The expansive jurisdiction in content of article 21 has made the constitution truly a transformative document.

Q.3) Explain how the Presidents of India and the USA differ in their election processes and the extent of their powers. (10 marks, 150 words)

भारत और अमेरिका के राष्ट्रपतियों की चुनाव प्रक्रिया और उनकी शक्तों की सीमा में किस प्रकार अंतर है, बताना। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The constitution of India calls for the post of President of India under Article 52. The process of election of President in India makes it a Republic.

Difference ~~is~~ between the Indian President and that of USA.

In terms of Process

India

U S A .

⇒ Indirect elections by an electoral college.

⇒ Indirect elections where people themselves elect electoral college.

⇒ Electoral college consists of both House of Parliament, State legislative assembly and Assemblies of Delhi, Puducherry.

⇒ Electoral college is elected on the basis of population of each of 50 states.

In terms of Power

India

USA

• In India a President is only a Constitutional Head (de jure)

(Shamsher Singh case)

• He is an apolitical person.

• Only appoints the Council of Ministers on Advice of Prime Minister

• Has discretionary power only e.g. in case of things being done

• The President is the Head of the Government as well as the State

• A political person

• Appoints the Cabinet on his own discretion

• Has real powers of blocking the legislative decisions through steps like funding ~~various~~ various steps

In a nutshell, the Indian President in contrast to the US President an ~~emergency~~ emergency light which turns on only when the normal power is off

Q.4) Critically examine the functioning of National Human Rights Commission of India (NHRC) as an apex institution entrusted with the protection of human rights in the country. (10 marks, 150 words)

देश में मानवाधिकारों के संरक्षण हेतु सर्वोच्च संस्था के रूप में भारत के राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग (NHRC) की कार्यप्रणाली का आलोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

## National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)

is a statutory body established through the Human Rights Act, 1993.

### Role of NHRC in protection of human rights

- ① Looks into the various safeguards available for protection of human rights.
- ② Regular visit to prisons to see the exercise of human rights (HR).
- ③ Calls for report for any police encounter and enquires it.  
 eg → NHRC scolded UP for increased no. of encounters.
- ④ suo moto cognisance of cases of HR. violations.  
 eg → Maharashtra Govt scolded for 16 migrants being run over by train.

- ⑤ Expanding beyond physical rights to provide socio economic rights  
 eg) Right of housing for tribal in Kalahandi Odisha

However there are challenges :-

- ① Powers of NHRC → only recommendatory in nature.  
 ↳ can't look into cases beyond 1 yr.  
 ↳ can't enquire in HR violation by armed forces
- ② Structure of NHRC → as per GANHRI report  
 it lacks Pluralism & dominated by bureaucracy.
- ③ Power under section 17 (in case of failure of state to protect HR) is seldom used.
- ④ Rising no of cases of HR violation  
 - ↑ 75% of prisoners are under trials (Prison statistics)  
 - ↑ crimes against vulnerable sections  
 eg) ↑ 13% against SCs (NCRB 2022)

Way forward — Adherence to Paris Principles — Pluralism & Non interference

- Constitutional status to NHRC.
- Separate police & infrastructure
- Independent funding mechanism

Q.5) The 106th Constitutional Amendment Act (Jai Shakti Vandan Act, 2023) is regarded as a landmark step towards women's empowerment and representation, making women-led development a tangible reality. How far do you think this will help in making the Indian political process more gender-inclusive? (10 marks, 150 words)

106वें संवैधानिक संशोधन अधिनियम (जारी शक्ति वंदन अधिनियम, 2023) को महिला सशक्तिकरण और प्रतिनिधित्व की दिशा में एक ऐतिहासिक कदम माना जाता है, जो महिलाओं के नेतृत्व वाले विकास को एक वास्तविकता बनाता है। आपका क्या लगता है कि इससे भारतीय राजनीतिक प्रक्रिया को लैंगिक रूप से समावेशी बनाने में कितनी मदद मिलेगी?

(10 अंक 150 शब्द)

106<sup>th</sup> constitutional Amendment Act of the constitution called for 1/3<sup>rd</sup> reservation of seats for women in Lok Sabha & State legislature assemblies and assemblies in Delhi, Puducherry & J&K.

Role in making Indian political process gender neutral

① ↑ Representation of women to 33% atleast  
 ↳ current representation is low  
 ↳ Lok Sabha = 13.5% [↳ Bangladesh = >30%]  
 ↳ State LA = ~10%

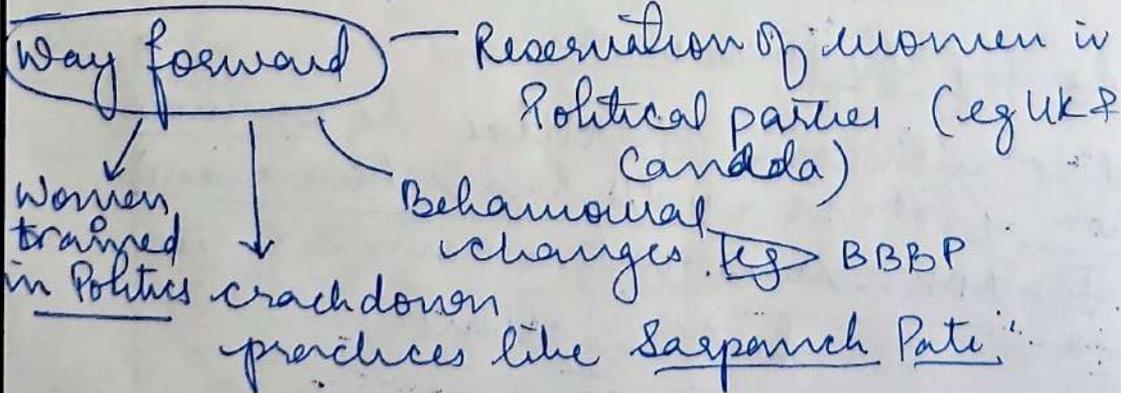
② Leadership role to women.

③ Dealing with issues of politics like criminalisation  
 (17<sup>th</sup> LS = 43% had criminal cases)  
 ↳ ADR shows that women are less involved in crime.

- ④ Help in carrying gender neutral/sensitive laws.
- ⑤ Reports show that women leadership is more sensitive towards gender issues  
 eg Shushma Bhada (Sarpanch in Haryana)  
 increased sex ratio, girl child education etc
- ⑥ Women empowerment eg Neeru Yadav of Lambi Ahir Panchayat promote sports among women

Challenges however remain:-

- ① Practices of Sarpanch Pati prevails despite reservation.
- ② Women in legislature can be reduced to proxies of parties.
- ③ Case Study of Pakistan → No improvement in condition of women despite reservation



AWIS
CD & VA
S & F
P & R
Please put marks in table.
Here G is Average & Poor.
TOTAL MARKS

Q.6) India's growing elderly population is faced with a multitude of challenges necessitating development of a comprehensive policy framework to manage this demographic transition. Analyse.

(10 marks, 150 words)

भारत की बढ़ती हुई वृद्ध आबादी को अनेक चुनौतियों का सामना करना पड़ रहा है, जिसके कारण इस जनसांख्यिकीय परिवर्तन को प्रबंधित करने के लिए एक व्यापक नीतिगत ढांचे का विकास आवश्यक हो गया है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

(10 marks, 150 words)

The elderly population which is 8.6% (2011 census) is about to reach 13% by 2026. (UNFP)

Challenges associated with growing elderly population

- ① High dependency rate = 67% dependent financially (Helpage India 2021 report)
- ② largely residing in rural India with less facilities (75% as per state of Elderly report)
- ③ feminisation of old age  $\rightarrow$  1060:1000 by 2026 (UNFPA)
- ④ Face issues of health
  - ① very less (<7%) covered under insurance
  - ② feeling of empty nest syndrome affecting mental health.

- ① cultural shock due to globalisation and disintegration of Joint family
- ② Lack of functional literacy & digital literacy makes it difficult to avail benefits  
 eg → Many can't read Jawane Praman Patra

Way forward → comprehensive policy framework to reap benefits of silver economy  
 eg → Bantoshini Mishra (Orissa) started catering business to employ 100 workers.  
 Impairing functional literacy  
 eg → PMGDISHA

→ Health care benefits at doorstep  
 eg → Malappuram Model of Palliative care.

→ Strengthening rights under Maintenance & Welfare of Parents & Elderly Act, 2007

→ Use of Technology → eg → ELPD in USA is AI robot to tackle loneliness.

The idea of ageless society in Japan also makes aging predictable. This model can be employed in India.

For UPSC
AWB
CD & V
S & F
P & R
Please print marks in table.
Here G & Average of Post
TOTAL MARKS

Q 7) Discuss the benefits and challenges associated with the entry and operation of foreign higher educational institutions for internationalization of Indian higher education, in the light of recently released UGC Guidelines regarding the same. (10 marks, 150 words)

भारतीय उच्च शिक्षा के अंतर्राष्ट्रीयकरण के लिए विदेशी उच्च शिक्षण संस्थानों के प्रवेश और संचालन से जुड़े लाभों और चुनौतियों पर हाल ही में जारी UGC दिशानिर्देशों के आलोक में चर्चा कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Recently UGC released guidelines related to FHEIs (foreign Higher Education Institutions in India).

### UGC guidelines

- All colleges in top 500 of QS ranking are allowed.
- Standard and recognition of the degrees same in India & the home country.
- FHEIs have freedom of setting fees
- freedom of recruiting lectures.
- GFT only outside the UGC guideline

Challenges associated with entry and operation of FHEIs

- ① FHEIs not covered in National Accreditation (NAAC) at par with indigenous HEIs.

- ② Foreign curriculum may lead to the erosion of Indian values.
- ③ High fees may lead to exclusion of vulnerable sections eg SCs, STs.
- ④ Dominance of English language will undermine vernacular language.
- ⑤ Repatriation of large profits.

Way forward → strengthening indigenous HEIs → eg of china model.

- Common accreditation of HEIs & FHEIs.
- Curriculum be regulated as per Indian needs.
- Scholarship programmes for the vulnerable.

While FHEIs are a step forward in curbing 'Brain Drain' (7 lac in 2022) and revolutionizing Indian Education paradigm they need to be adopted with caution.

Feed
(For Office)
#
AWIS
CD & VA
S & F
P & R
Please put marks in table.
Here Give Average & Poor.
TOTAL MARKS

Q.8) How far do you think that farmers association has been successful as a Pressure Group? (10 marks, 100 words)

कृषकों के संगठनों को एक दबाव समूह के रूप में कितना सफल मानते हैं? (10 अंकों, 100 शब्द)

Pressure groups are bodies which are aimed at protecting the interest of a particular group (eg lawyers) through methods of pressure like electioneering, protests etc.

Achievements of Farmer Associations

- ① Protecting the interest of vulnerable farmers  
 eg India didn't join RCEP because of protests by Bharatiya Niyog Sangh & BKU.
- ② As a check to government policies  
 eg 'Delhi chalo' movement by farmers forced Govt to roll back 3 Farm Bills.
- ③ Gives voice to the voiceless  
 eg Demands for MSP.

Feedback OFFICE use

#	Q	A
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& F		
& R		

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

TOTAL MARKS
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- ④ Protection against price fluctuations  
 Eg Govt invokes market-intervention schemes on demands by Shetkari Sanghatana etc.

## Challenges of Farmer Association

- ① Against Public Health → Eg Tobacco lobby for cultivation of tobacco.
- ② Against reforms → Eg Pressurised the govt to recall farm bills.
- ③ Miscreant activities in farm protests  
 Eg there was a suspicion of pro Khalistan groups involvement.
- ④ No considerable improvement in status of farmers  
 Eg HCES 2022 → MPCI fell below total expenditure  
 Eg 86% are marginal (Agriculture Survey 2018)

The PEs need to have a more comprehensive understanding & approach towards farmer rights

Q 9) The peaceful and co-operative relationship between India and Bhutan provides a unique model of bilateral ties in South Asia. Elucidate. (10 marks, 150 words)

भारत और भूटान के बीच शांतिपूर्ण और सहयोगात्मक संबंध दक्षिण एशिया में द्विपक्षीय संबंधों का एक अच्छा मॉडल प्रस्तुत करते हैं। स्पष्ट कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

India-Bhutan relationship was established through the India-Bhutan Friendship Act-1951.

Bilateral ties between India & Bhutan

- ① Trade: India is Bhutan's largest trading partner in S-Asia.  
 ↳ eg India exports onions, petroleum etc.
- ② Developmental initiative ⇒ eg BRO in Bhutan has undertaken 'Project Dantak'.
- ③ Cooperation in Emerging Technologies  
 ↳ eg ground based satellite station in Thimphu by India
- ④ Security of the Region ↳ operation All out against NSCN, ULFA etc.
- ⑤ Mutual coexistence & respect ↳ eg Bhutan not a part of BR1 etc.

There are however challenges:-

- ① Bhutan wants review of the Friendship treaty to give more freedom to Bhutan in Foreign Policy.
- ② Suspicion of close ties with China  
 eg) News of agreement on Territory swap near Doklam.  
 - Bhutan is playing pilot fish strategy.
- ③ Inclusive talks on BBIN connect -ivity.

The model however can serve as a role model for relationship in

S. Asia if following steps are taken:-

- ① Reviewing of Friendship treaty to accommodate demands of Bhutan.
- ② A bilateral agreement between India Bhutan & China regarding Doklam.
- ③ Greater developmental steps to take by India.

Q.10) While the Gulf region offers lucrative job opportunities, the Indian diaspora often finds itself grappling with severe challenges. Analyse (10 marks, 150 words)

खाती क्षेत्र में जहाँ आकर्षक रोजगार के अवसर उपलब्ध हैं, वहीं प्रवासी भारतीय अक्सर खुद को गंभीर चुनौतियों से जूझना पड़ता है। विश्लेषण कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The Indian Diaspora in Gulf region makes 8mn of total 18million Diaspora of India.

Opportunities offered by Gulf

- creation of job through high investment potential → Sovereign wealth funds.
- lot of unskilled jobs in Gulf.
- huge remittance to India → \$111 bn (30% by Gulf)
- lucrative businesses in India by Rich Diaspora → Duke Mall by Yusuf Ali

However there are various challenges-

- ① Mistreatment and violence due to extremism.

- ② non-commercial labour standards  
eg → Nitayat & kafala system.
- ③ Abandonment by contractors who recruit from India.
- ④ Radicalisation of young diaspora

### Way forward

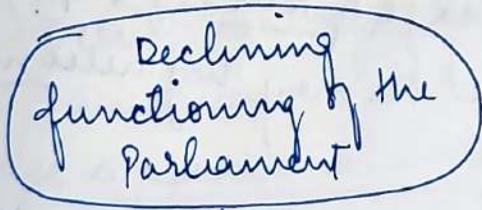
- ⇒ Standardisation of labour recruitment with defined rights of em. labour & obligation of employer
- ⇒ Resolution of issues related to kafala system.
- ⇒ Protection by consulates to the diaspora in Gulf

The diaspora form living bridge between India & the GCC countries hence they need to be protected

Q.11) Recent years have witnessed a concerning decline in Parliament's functioning, marked by frequent disruptions and reduced debate on critical national issues. Analyze the reasons for the decline in Parliament's functioning in the country and suggest remedial measures. (15 marks, 250 words)

दशक के वर्षों में संसद के कामकाज में विनाशक गिरावट देखी गई है। विचार करें कि कारण और महत्वपूर्ण राष्ट्रीय मुद्दों पर कम बहस शामिल है। देश में संसद के कामकाज में गिरावट के कारणों का विश्लेषण करें और उपयुक्त सुझाव दें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Article 79 establishes the Law making body of India i.e. the Parliament. It consists of Lok Sabha (Article 81), Rajya Sabha (Article 80) and the President (Art 53).



Disruptions

- 16% in 16<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha
- 36% in Rajya Sabha during same period.

Lack of Debate on National issues

- ↳ Walkouts in Rafal matter
- ↳ J&K Reorganisation Bill passed on the Day it was introduced in Parliament

## Reasons for Declining Parliament Functioning

### ① ~~Lok Sabha~~ Lok Sabha

- MPs absenteeism  $\Rightarrow$  only 79 MPs present in 17<sup>th</sup> LS compared. average of 81 in 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Politicised role of speaker due to absence of 'once a speaker always a speaker'!
- Absent passage of Bill  $\Rightarrow$  45/222 bills passed on day they were introduced

### ② Rajya Sabha

- Passage of Bill as a money bill  $\Rightarrow$  ADHAAR Act, Electoral Bonds.
- RS as parking lot of failed politicians

### ③ Parliamentary committees reduced to 'Notice Boards'

- only 16% bills in 17<sup>th</sup> LS sent.
- only 22% presence in committees
- Not co-terminus with the house  $\Rightarrow$  PAC for 1 yr

- ④ Role of money & muscle power
  - 43% criminals in 17th LS.
  - only 8% had property < 2 cr (PRS) scale.

⑤ Lack of training for MPs.

Way forward ⇒ Compulsory sending the bills to committees (NCRWC)

⇒ Bill to ↑ legislative productivity  
 (as introduced in 2017)  
 → compensate for disruptions  
 → minimum no. of sittings

⇒ 'once a speaker always a speaker'  
to depoliticize the post of speaker

⇒ legislature impact assessment

⇒ NCRWC ⇒ Expert support to MPs

↳ standing committee on Economy in house

Parliament represents the Temple of Indian democracy hence must be reformed.

**Feedback**

(For OFFICE use only)

#	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			

Q. 12) To what extent, in your opinion, has the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act been successful in laying a foundation for participatory and inclusive governance at the grassroot level? (15 marks, 250 words)

आपकी राय में, 73वां संवैधानिक संशोधन अधिनियम भारतीय स्तर पर सहभागी और समावेशी शासन की नींव रखने में किस हद तक सफल रहा है? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

73<sup>rd</sup> constitutional amendment act aimed at constitutionalising Panchayats in India introduced as per the recommendations of Balwant Rai Mehta committee.

73<sup>rd</sup> amendment is foundation of :-

① Participatory governance

(i) Strengthening of Gram Sabha through audit powers, planning etc.

(ii) Wide representations ⇒ Every person residing in Panchayat > 21 yrs of age

② Inclusive Governance

① Reservations for vulnerable sections eg  $\frac{1}{3}$ rd for women

(ii) Empowering women to be 'policy framers'

eg Neeru Yadav as 'Hockey wali' Sarpanch in Lambi Sheel Panchayat of Rajasthan.

(iii) Development model.

eg Chhavi Rajawat in Soda panchayat  
↑ administrative reforms and social  
economic status through access to  
Drinking water etc

### Challenges

① Not completely participatory ⇒ eg Gram Sabha remains the weakest structure with bogus meetings. (SARs)

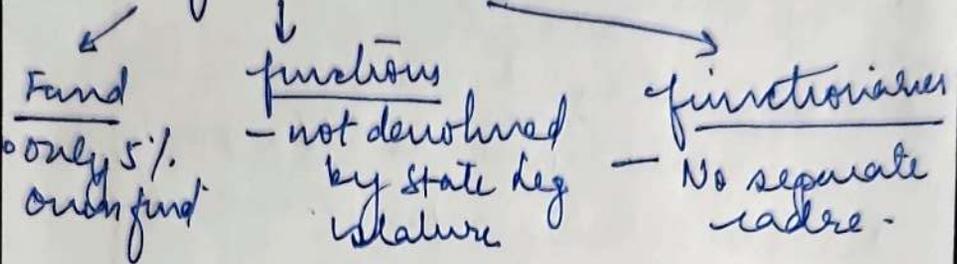
② Not inclusive → Practice of Sarpanch Pati

↓  
eg Sarit sarpanch made to ~~not~~ attend meetings in Tamil Nadu.  
eg In MP male members of woman Sarpanch ~~do~~ call

⑧ Faulty bottom up approach

↳ District planning committee headed by MP, in Chandigarh (December report 2015)

⑨ Lack of 3Fs (SARC)



Way forward

↳ Purcchi Commission

↳ National commission of local bodies

↳ State Legislative Councils be made representative of LBs

↳ Strengthening of Gram Sabha with mandate as in Pest, 1996

↳ Capacity Development ⇒ e-gram Survey

↳ ↑ Fund capability through Diversification

↳ Bearhatty Panchayat in TN produces 19 lac/year through wind & solar power.

PRIs are grasses without roots which need to be strengthened.

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Here G is Good Average and P Poor.	
TOTAL MARKS	

Q.13] Describe the various mechanisms available for the resolution of disputes concerning the use, distribution, or control of inter-state rivers. Also, state the reasons for their limited success.

(15 marks, 250 words)

अंतर राज्य नदियों के उपयोग, वितरण या नियंत्रण से संबंधित विवादों के समाधान के लिए उपलब्ध विभिन्न तरीकों का वर्णन करें। साथ ही, उनकी सीमित सफलता के कारण भी बताइयें।

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Interstate water disputes in India become a key issue in the cooperative model of federalism.

Mechanisms available for dispute Resolution

① Article 262 → Parliament to make laws for inter state water dispute resolution.

Article 263 → Supreme court excluded from such jurisdiction.

② River Water Boards Act 1956

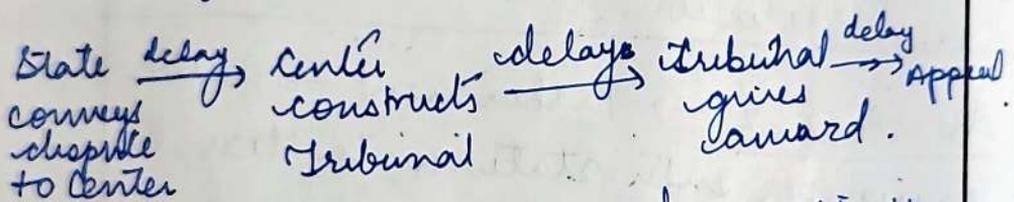
③ Inter state River Water Disputes Resolution Act 1956 by Parliament to make ~~High~~ Tribunals.

④ Article 243 ⇒ Inter state council for resolution of disputes through Dialogue.

⑤ Special leave petition  
Original jurisdiction of Supreme court  
 under Article 136.

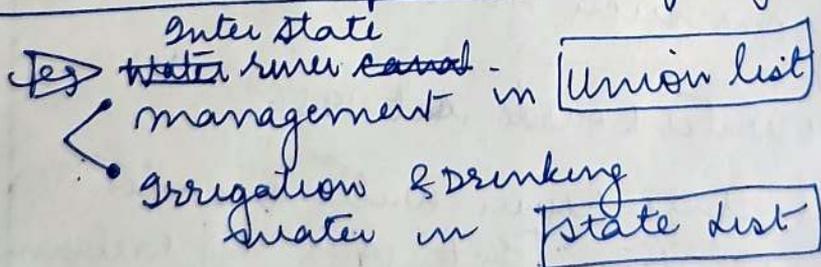
Reasons for limited success

- ① Party - Party dispute  
 eg Tamil Nadu issue mostly  
 poised for note bank.
- ② Delay at every level.



eg Godhara issue resolved after 11 yrs

③ Structural inadequacies Ambiguity



④ Operational ambiguity

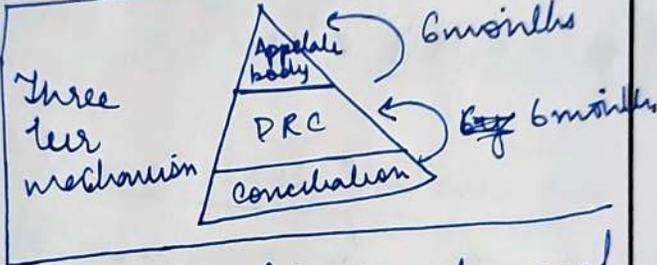
eg Award challenged through  
special leave petition (136)

⑥ historical geographical ambiguity  
 ↳ Historical boundaries under  
 many geographical boundaries

Way forward

⇒ DRCC (Dispute Resolution Commission) ~~act~~

Bill  
 for timely  
 resolution



⇒ Watershed approach which is demand driven over Arbitrative formulae

↳ Data based - microirrigation

⇒ Use of Technology - Rain water harvesting

Rivers are strings that connect communities, they should not be used to divide the Nation.  
 (Former PM Manmohan Singh)

**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.14) The Election Commission of India (ECI) stands as a sentinel of democracy, ensuring that the world's largest electoral exercise is conducted with integrity and efficiency. In light of the statement, discuss the role of ECI in conducting free and fair elections. Also, state the associated challenges and suggest remedial measures. (15 marks, 250 words)

भारत का चुनाव आयोग (ECI) लोकतंत्र के प्रहरी के रूप में खड़ा है, जो यह सुनिश्चित करता है कि दुनिया की सबसे बड़ी चुनावी प्रक्रिया ईमानदारी और दक्षता के साथ संचालित हो। कथन के आलोक में, स्वतंत्र और निष्पक्ष चुनाव कराने में ECI की भूमिका पर चर्चा की जाए। साथ ही, संबंधित चुनौतियों का उल्लेख करें और उपयुक्त उपाय सुझाएं। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Article 326 establishes Election Commission of India for conduct of free & fair elections in India.

The current 2024 general elections saw a ~~fast~~ change in electoral behaviour still the results were accepted by all without violence. As quote ECI, will & wisdom of people has prevailed where ballots are stronger than bullets.

Role of ECI in conducting free & fair elections

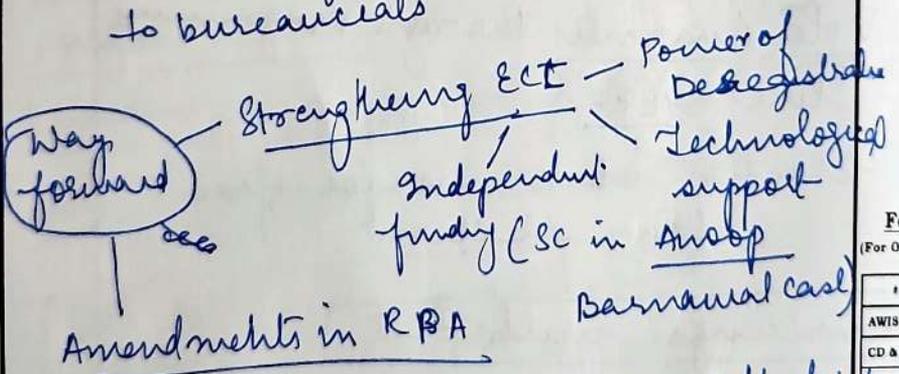
① election silence period enforced by ECI to prevent undue influence  
[Section 129 of RPA].

- ② Preparation of Electoral Roll to include citizens (universal Adult franchise)
- ③ Enforcement of MCC ⇒ No campaigning between the polls.
  - ⇒ No use of religion to call for vote  
(Section 123A)
  - ⇒ No political workers in polling stations
- ④ Use of EVMs and VVPATs universally for check bogus transparency.
- ⑤ C-pic to prevent bogus voting
- ⑥ Voter Awareness through programmes like SVEEP.
- ⑦ Election observers for free & fair election

### ↑ Challenges with ECI

- ① No independent funding mechanism as expenditure not charged on consolidated fund of India;

- ② No power to deregister political parties eg RUPP.
- ③ No comprehensive mechanism for monitoring of <sup>use of</sup> social media.
- ④ False Affidavits not furnishable
- ⑤ Disparity in protection of tenure of CEC & EC.
- ⑥ Recent EC Act ⇒ ignored the 'maximal model of collegium by SC' ⇒ removed judicial members  
 ⇒ ~~power~~ Eligibility criteria reduced to bureaucrats.



- Making bribery & False Affidavits ground for disqualification
- 'Paid News' as an offence

Feedback (For OFFICE)

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Please put tick marks in the table.  
Here G is Good Average and F Poor.

TOTAL MARKS	
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Q 16) While e-governance offers immense potential to revolutionize governance and service delivery, its successful implementation requires addressing multifaceted challenges. Discuss. (15 marks, 250 words)

अर्थ: ई-गवर्नंस और सेवा वितरण में क्रांतिकारी बदलाव लाने की अपार क्षमता प्रदान करता है। इसके अंगण कार्यान्वयन के लिए बहु-आयामी चुनौतियों का समाधान करना आवश्यक है। चर्चा कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

e-governance is the process of utilisation of resources of the government for service delivery through ICT Technology.

e-governance has potential to revolutionize governance & service delivery

① Reaching the last mile (Budget 2023) through doorstep delivery

eg → Driver's licence in Delhi

② Inclusive governance → eg e-shram portal for including informal workers

③ Efficient governance

eg → DBT saved 2.73 L cr of people's money (MoF)

- ④ Strengthening the Governance structure  
 Ex → digital suraj for PRIs.
- ⑤ Checking leakages  
 Ex → PDS system computerised
- ⑥ Agility in service delivery  
 Ex → instant cash transfer to migrants through ~~FDX~~ JAM banking & GKY.
- ⑦ One stop solution. Ex → UMANG Portal
- ⑧ Inter operable documents for various schemes Ex → DigiLocker.
- ⑨ Monitoring of progress of schemes  
 Ex → PRAJATI Portal.

Challenges

- ① Digital Divide —
  - Men → 49%
  - Women → 26% access to smartphones (Global Gender Gap)
  - Rural
  - Urban ⇒ 20% of the rural have smart phone access (Oxfam)

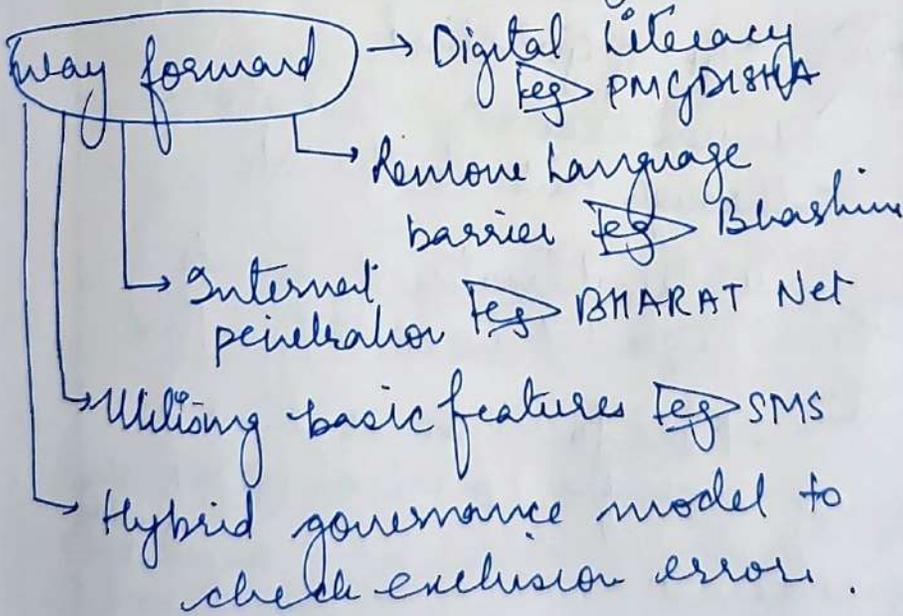
② Lack of Digital Literacy  
 Ex: > 85% of TD accounts are dormant

③ Issues of Primary breach  
 Ex: AIMS health data cyber attack

④ Exclusion Errors  
 Ex: Adhaar seeded Ration cards often not present as in Jharkhand

⑤ Lack of training to Govt. officials in Digital services

⑥ Internet not in local language



**Feedback**

(For OFFICE use only)

#	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			

Q.10) Assess the performance of various schemes and policies undertaken to improve the socio-economic conditions of vulnerable sections of society. What measures do you suggest to enhance their performance? (15 marks, 250 words)

समाज के कमजोर वर्गों की सामाजिक, आर्थिक स्थिति सुधारने के लिए शुरू की गई विभिन्न योजनाओं और नीतियों के प्रदर्शन का आकलन कीजिए। उनके प्रदर्शन को बेहतर बनाने के लिए आप क्या उपाय सुझाएंगे? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Indian constitution under Part IV  
 aims at creating India as a  
'welfare state' for 'socio-economic  
democracy/equality.

Various schemes for vulnerable sections

- ① Women
  - Nirbhaya Fund.
  - Beti Bachao Beti Padhao.
  - Sainthal scheme

(+ve) → ↑ GER of girl child  
 women security strengthened  
 through Pink booths etc

(-ve) → under utilisation of funds  
 eg → 70% in Nirbhaya Fund  
 More focus on routine  
~~infra~~ operation (eg Nirbhaya  
 fund aspect of fund)

↑ 13%  
 violence against  
 women. (NCRB 2022)

② Poor → MGNREGA  
 → Jansamman Yojana.  
 → PDS

(+ve) → NCAER ⇒ MGNREGA improved the status Dalits.

→ DBT transfer through JAM during COVID

(-ve) → MGNREGA ⇒ created only 50-2 days of work as against

mandated 100 days (Act)

→ PDS ⇒ 40% of food leakage.

③ New born & Mother → ICDS  
 → NFSA

(+ve) → IMR & MMR reduced to 35 & 97 respectively

→ TFR < 2.0.

(-ve) → Global Hunger Index 2023  
 (India's rank ↓ to 111)

→ NFHS 5 → Anemia in children = 57%

→ child mortality = 3.3%

→ child wastage = 19.3%

ICDS  
 → only 44% fund used (2018-19)

Way forward

- ① Full utilisation of funds  
 ↳ creating non lapseable funds.
- ② checking corruption through Digitalisation  
 ↳ Smart PDS.
- ③ Regular monitoring of schemes through PRAGATI portal etc
- ④ Social Audit institutionalised  
 ↳ Gram Sabha strengthened
- ⑤ No. of schemes audited not be limited to NFSA & MGNREGS.
- ⑥ Feedback based Governance.

Every '₹' saved is a '₹' invested in Development. An efficient, transparent governance can pave a way for Viksit Bharat 2047.

Feedback  
 For OFFICERS

#	①
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Please put the marks in the table.	
Here G is Good Average and P is Poor.	
TOTAL MARKS	

Q.17] What are the common challenges faced by NGOs when working with the government? How can these challenges be mitigated to ensure a productive partnership between NGOs and the government? (15 marks, 250 words)

सरकार के साथ काम करते समय एन जी ओ को किन-किन आम चुनौतियों का सामना करना पड़ता है? एन जी ओ और सरकार के बीच उत्पादक साझेदारी सुनिश्चित करने के लिए इन चुनौतियों को कैसे कम किया जा सकता है? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

NGOs are the 'third sector' bodies, a part of civil societies aiming at poverty eradication, better standards of life, community development etc.

### Common challenges faced by NGOs

#### ① Funding mechanism

↳ Foreign funding requires complex procedure.

↳ Very little own fund.

↳ Government funding to very few

NGOs

↳ also chances of getting independence compromised

↳ Stringent FCRA (Amendment) Act

& Rules

↳ Administrative expense

reduced from 50% to 20%.

eg → No concept of 'sub-lending'.

② Frequent' renewal of licenses

eg → iforest; onfarm etc.

③ untrained staff and huge vacancies in NGOs.

④ issues of transparency

eg → only 10% NGOs submit annual financial statement (CFT).

⑤ Trust deficit between government & NGOs

eg → IB report states 2-3% GDP lost due to protests etc to developmental projects.

⑥ issues of breach of sovereignty by misuse of foreign funds have made govt suspicious

eg → Proselyting activities by compassion International

Measures Required

- ① Soft Regulation of NGOs (Vijay Kelkar, Kumar Committee)
  - ↳ relaxing FCRA norms.
- ② collaboration for reaching the last mile
  - ↳ eg → Akshay Patil supported the Bhubaneswar model during covid.
- ③ Training of NGOs and professionals.
- ④ Accreditation norms be framed by NITI Aayog.

NGOs as philanthropic organisation have potential to revolutionize the governance paradigm in India. A healthy collaboration between citizens, private organisations, NGOs, Govt can help achieve SDG goals eg SDG1 (No poverty).

**Feedback**

(For OFFICE use only)

#	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.

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Q. 1A) "Poverty is a complex phenomenon that goes beyond material deprivation, necessitating comprehensive strategies that address the multifaceted nature of deprivation." Elaborate.

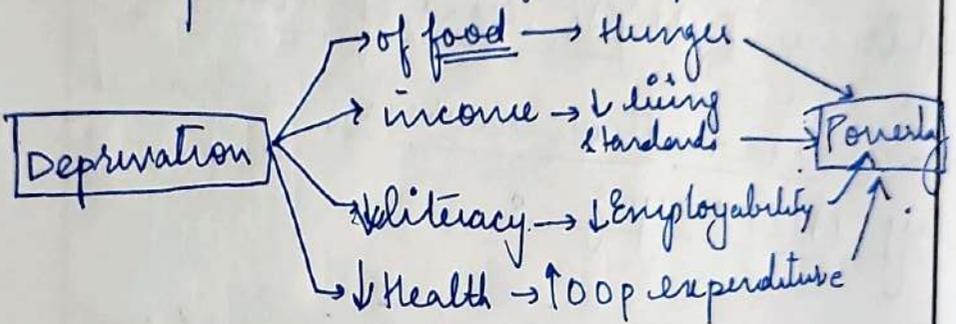
(15 marks, 250 words)

"निर्धनता एक जटिल घटना है जो भौतिक अभाव से भी अगे जाती है, जिसके लिए व्यापक रणनीतियों की आवश्यकता होती है जो अभाव की बहुमुखी प्रकृति को संबोधित करती हैं।" - सविस्तर वर्णन कीजिए।

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Poverty is not just absence of income but presence of deprivation  
— Smartgarden

Poverty as a complex phenomenon



Multifaceted nature Poverty

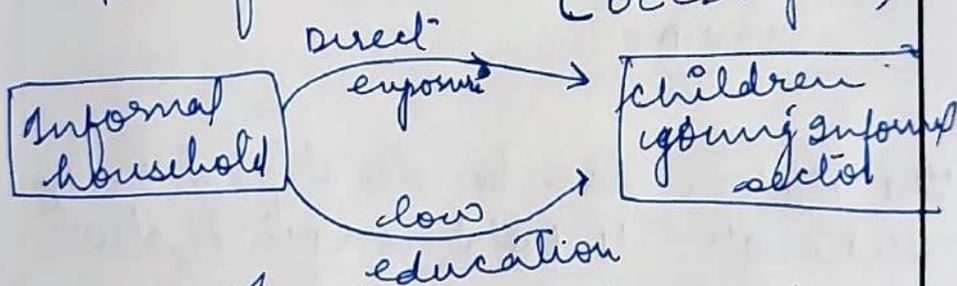
① About 15% of Indian population is multidimensionally poor  
(Niti Aayog)

↳ in terms of access to clean fuel, education, housing etc.

② Low access to quality healthcare leads to ~~reinfo~~ substandard physical health  $\Rightarrow$  53% women anaemic (NFHS 5)

③ Digital financial literacy & poverty  
 $\Rightarrow$  JDY included ~~re~~ led to formal financial inclusion but >80% accounts remain dormant (Global Gender report)

④ Intergenerational nature of poverty  
 $\Rightarrow$  Informalisation of work gets transferred to children (OECD Report)



⑤ Deprivation in terms of gender  
 $\Rightarrow$  time poverty due to unpaid care economy

way forward

- Holistic approach to frame policies.
- Buildup of capabilities (Sen's Idea) eg → 5% of Indian workforce is skilled
- Increased social sector spending
  - eg → Education = current 3% (required 6% of GDP as per NEP 2020)
- Ngo's to fill governance deficit
  - eg → Batra Prasanna Mess in U.P. during COVID.

The nation can be developed only through 4 fold capital development - Natural capital, natural capital, human capital & social capital (Joseph Stiglitz)

Feedback	
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Here G is Overall Average and P is Poor.	
TOTAL MARKS	

Q.19) The expansion of BRICS presents new prospects for the organization, but their realization depends on the member states' ability to address internal challenges and enhance cooperation. Elaborate. (15 marks, 250 words)

ब्रिक्स का विस्तार समर्थन के लिए नई सम्भावनाएं प्रस्तुत करता है, लेकिन उनकी प्रगति सदस्य देशों की आंतरिक चुनौतियों का समाधान करने और सहयोग बढ़ाने की क्षमता पर निर्भर करती है। संविस्तर विस्तार वर्णन कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

BRICs as an informal forum was coined by Jim O'Neil. It got formalised in Yekelmburg summit 2009

Recently at the ~~1st~~ Johannesburg summit of BRICS it was expanded to include new ~~as~~ member states like Iran, Saudi Arabia, Ethiopia, Egypt and UAE making it BRICS + 11.

Prospects by entry of new members:

- ① wide geographical representation  
 ↳ greater representation to Africa.
- ② BRICS as voice of global south
- ③ Capitalisation of NDB for New projects  
 ↳ sovereign wealth capital of UAE etc.

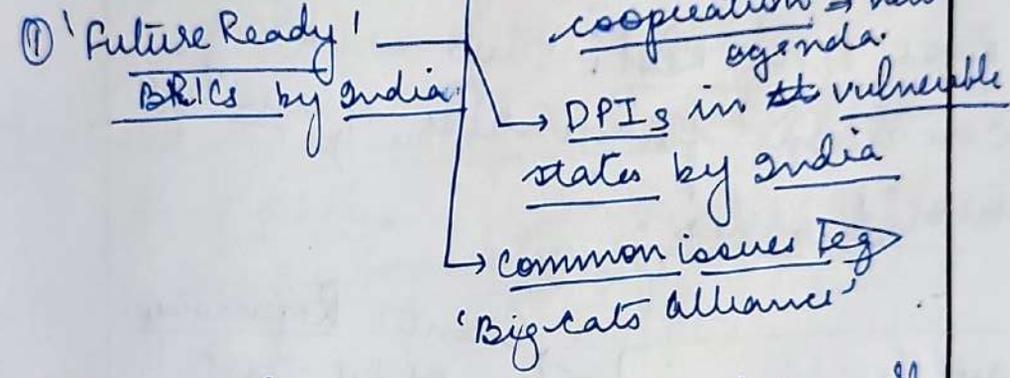
- ④ Economical help  $\Rightarrow$  now represents 30% of world GDP (in 2017).
- ⑤ Engagement with Growth Poles.
  - (i) Argentina  $\Rightarrow$  2nd largest economy of L. America
  - (ii) Egypt  $\Rightarrow$  controls communication of Red Sea through Suez.
- ⑥ India's engagement with countries to counter sinicization of BRICs.

### Challenges associated with BRICs+

- ① larger no. of conflicts among nations on geopolitical issues like Russia-Ukraine war.
- ② Oversized BRICs  $\Rightarrow$  larger no. of members may undermine coherence of group reduced to talking shop (C. Rajamohan).
- ③ Disparities in terms of economy.
- ④ Ideological mismatch  $\Rightarrow$  eg KSA is a monarch; India a democracy.

- ① Less <sup>Open</sup> Trade by BRICS (P B Mehta).
- ② Sinocization of BRICS + → new nexus between Russia - Iran - China.

Way forward



② Decreasing Trust deficit: through regular working groups on issues of climate change, common market etc

③ Trade in local currencies to increase trust and cooperation (→ Johannesburg summit)

BRICS + in 2024 should aim at Building partnerships, Regulating economies, Inspiring innovation, Creating opportunities and Sustainable Development.

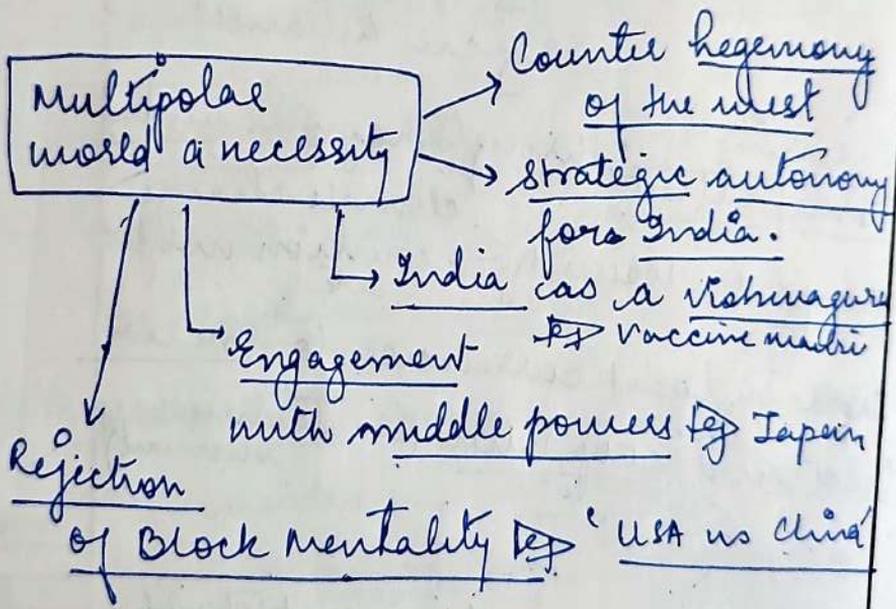
**Feedback**  
(For OFFICE use only)

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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 20) "A multipolar world order is not merely an option but a necessity". Elaborate. How can India leverage its position to strengthen multipolarity in the global arena? (15 marks, 250 words)

एक बहुध्रीयीय विश्व व्यवस्था केवल एक विकल्प नहीं बल्कि एक आवश्यकता है। विस्तार में वर्तनी कीजिए। वैश्विक क्षेत्र में बहुध्रीयीयता को मजबूत करने के लिए भारत अपनी स्थिति का लाभ कैसे उठा सकता है? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Post 2008 crisis the world has seen Rise Decline of the west and Rise of the Rest. Thus creating conditions for a rise of multipolar world order.



Steps to leverage its position by India for multipolarity

① India as a voice of the Global

South •

↳ India's call for vaccine waiver in WTO.

② A more inclusive World order through Reformed multilateralism

↳ inclusion of AU in G20.

③ India as a swing state and a leader swing states.

↳ Peer accommodation of India through QUAD, I2U2 etc.

④ Creation of a multipolar Asia for a multipolar world.

↳ Countering Rise of China through 'Necklace of Diamonds'.

⑤ 'Nested Partnerships' with middle powers

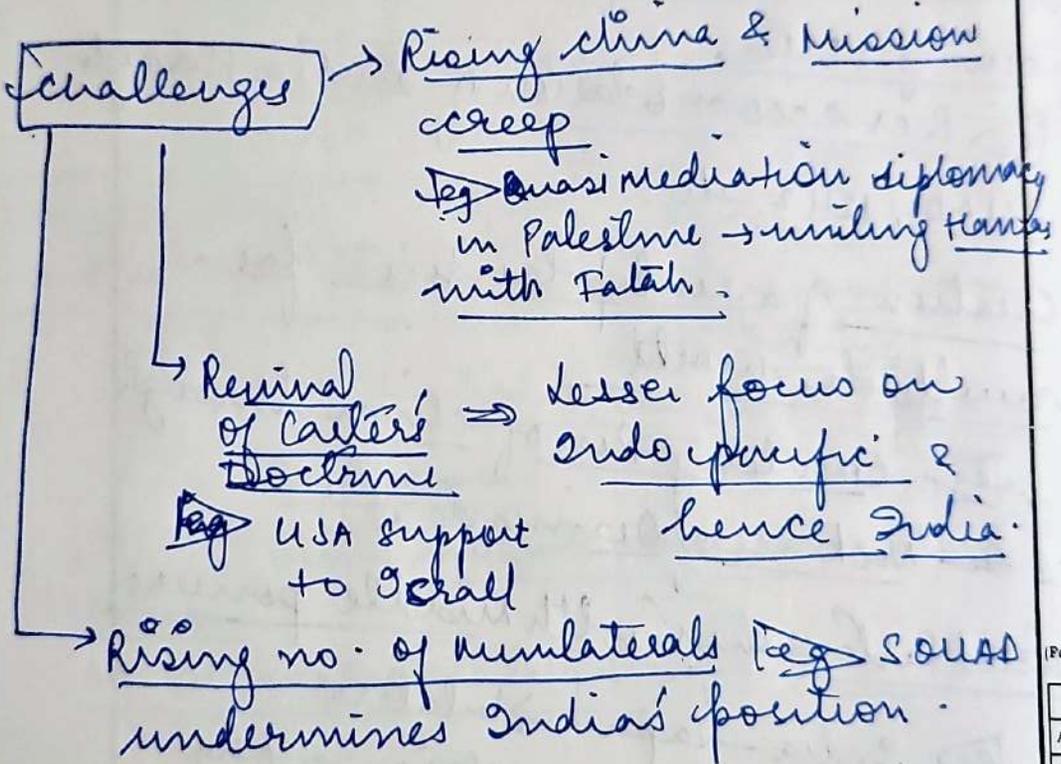
↳ India - Japan → bilateral

India - Japan - Africa → Asia Africa growth corridor

India - Australia - Japan → Supply chains Resilience Initiative

⑥ Delivering to the 'Common People'.  
 ↳ Op Ajay in Israel Hamas conflict  
 ↳ HADR ⇒ SOMMT ⇒ wheat to Afghan people.

⑦ Free and open Indo Pacific  
 ↳ Malbar exercise & SAGAR



For long India has been calling for a multipolar world. Now when it is here India must learn to deal with it (C. Rajmohan)

Feedback  
 For OFFICE use

AWIS	
CD & VA	
S & F	
P & R	
Please put tick marks in the table.	
Here G is Govt Average and P is Poor.	
TOTAL MARKS	

**Mentor Feedback Questions**

1 .....

2 .....

3 .....

4 .....

5 .....

**Test Goal**

1 .....

2 .....

3 .....

**Outcomes**

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**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
20 Marker	7.75 - 10	6 - 7.5	< 6
	Key / Relevant Point		
	Vague / Irrelevant		

\* Subject to change without prior notice.