

Time Allowed : Three Hours
समय : तीन घंटे

Forum IAS

Maximum Marks : 250
अधिकतम अंक : 250

GENERAL STUDIES / सामान्य अध्ययन

Name Of Candidate परीक्षार्थी का नाम	Harishivulu Alore		
Roll No./अनुक्रमांक	1910095488	Medium/माध्यम	English <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> हिंदी <input type="checkbox"/>
Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र		Date/दिनांक	9 Aug 2025

*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 :			For Student Only / केवल परीक्षार्थी प्रयोग हेतु	
			Start Time/प्रारंभ करने का समय :	End Time/समाप्त करने का समय :
			2:30 pm	5:30 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 इन्हें तक सीमित नहीं) पर दिए गए अंक हैं।			For Office Use Only / केवल कार्यालय प्रयोग हेतु	
			ECN CODE/ ईसीएन कोड :	Evaluation Date/ मूल्यांकन तिथि :
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Note: Students are expected to incorporate suggestions from the feedback provided in the answers. Discussion classes for the tests are also available online in your portal to aid in your preparation. Further, students are requested to see the good 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 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) Examine the scope and significance of the Supreme Court's advisory jurisdiction under Article 143 of the Constitution. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

संविधान के अनुच्छेद 143 के तहत सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के परामर्शदात्री क्षेत्राधिकार के दायरे और महत्व का परीक्षण करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Art 143 provides for advisory jurisdiction of Supreme Court.

Scope

- ① Allows for the President to consult the Supreme Court in 2 circumstances:—
 - a) Question of pre-constitutional law or treaty
 - b) Q. substantial question of law or constitutionality.
- ② In case of pre-constitutional law, SC must provide its advise, while in 2nd case, it may refuse.
- ③ The advise is NOT binding upon the President.

Significance

- ① Ensures constitutionalism in the decisions of the President.
- ② Acts as a mechanism of debate and discussion \Rightarrow recent advice regarding scope of Art 142.
- ③ Ensures expert and legal knowledge in legislative processes.
- ④ Promotes rule of law in decision making.
- ⑤ Prevents confusion and conflict \Rightarrow federal conflict.
- ⑥ Ensures alignment between domestic law and international agreements.

Art 143 thus acts as an instrument of interdependence as well as that of checks & balance.

Feedback

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Please put tick marks in the above table.

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

TOTAL MARKS	
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Q.2) What is delimitation, and why is it important? What challenges are associated with the delimitation exercise in India? (10 marks, 150 words)

परिसीमन से क्या तात्पर्य है और यह क्यों महत्वपूर्ण है? भारत में परिसीमन प्रक्रिया से जुड़ी चुनौतियों की विवेचना कीजिए? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Art 84 of Indian Constitution provides for the power and the process of delimitation in India.

Delimitation refers to mapping of legislative constituencies based upon latest population and demographic data for the elections.

Importance

- ① Upholds the principles of universal Adult Franchise Art 326 and the 1 Person, 1 Vote, 1 Value principles.
- ② Upholds the sanctity of representative democracy
- ③ Helps accommodate for changes in demography

and population \Rightarrow migration, new voters etc

④ Federal polity too requires periodic delimitation \Rightarrow Rajya Sabha seats.

Challenges

- ① Regionalism and aspect of Northern ^(us) Southern states.
- ② Vote Bank politics as ~~so~~ population control is seen as being punished.
- ③ Federalism in strict sense not upheld.
 \Rightarrow asymmetric representation of states in Rajya Sabha
- ④ Issue of imposition of Hindi etc.

Delimitation Commission must address the concerns of demographic imbalance through its terms of reference.

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.3) How has asymmetric federalism helped India accommodate its diverse regional needs? Discuss with suitable examples. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

असममित संघवाद ने भारत को अपनी विविध क्षेत्रीय आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करने में किस प्रकार मदद की है? उपयुक्त उदाहरणों के साथ चर्चा कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

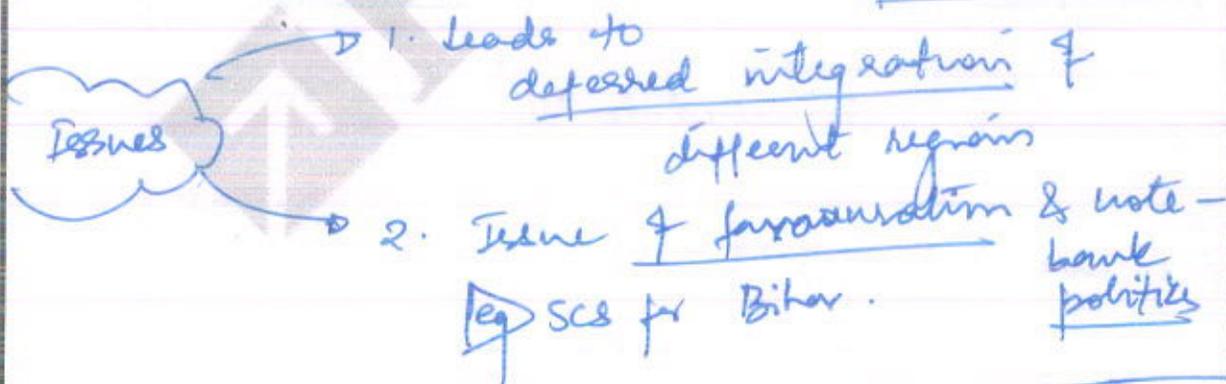
Asymmetric federalism is a type of federal structure that in which each federal unit is not treated as an equal.

Asymmetric federalism has helped accommodate India's regional diversity.

- ① Art 371A-G helps address the lack of proper integration of the North-Eastern states.
- ② Schedule V and Schedule VI along with Art 244(1) & 244(2) helps balance tribal autonomy with economic development.
- ③ Special Category Status (SCS) helps address.

the developmental deficiencies of backward states \Rightarrow निम्नोद्योग तंत्रिका

- ① Union Territories provides for central control over smaller federal units.
- ② Different financial needs are addressed through Art 279 and Art 282 \rightarrow Demand Grants.
- ③ Rajya Sabha itself provides for asymmetric representation to different states.
- ④ Zonal councils help deal with region-specific issues.



Asymmetric federalism should be implemented objectively and uniformly.

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS

Q.4) Explain how the terms 'socialist' and 'secular' in the Preamble embody specific meanings in the Indian context. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

स्पष्ट कीजिए कि प्रस्तावना में 'समाजवादी' और 'पंथनिरपेक्ष' शब्द भारतीय संदर्भ में किस प्रकार विशिष्ट अर्थ रखते हैं। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

42nd Amendment Act added the terms of 'socialist' and 'secular' in Preamble of Indian Constitution.

how they embody specific meaning in Indian context

Socialist

① Refers to Fabian socialism i.e. social welfare as state responsibility rather than redistribution of wealth.

② Art 39 - calls of members to reduce inequality

③ Art 43A - provides for representation of workers in management of industries.

④ Art 29A provides for Right to Education while Common Clause Case provides for Right to health as fundamental rights.



① Principle of principled distance is followed

eg: Doctrine of ERP allows for state intervention.

② No official state religion.

③ Prevents discrimination based on religion through Art 14 & 15.

④ Freedom of religion on individual level Art 25 and community-based — Art 26-28.

⑤ Cultural rights of religious community such as language or educational rights are provided for — Art 29-30.

S R Bommai case has held 'socialist' & 'secular' as part of 'Basic Structure'.

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS	
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Q.5) The role of State Finance Commissions in building regional equity and strengthening the federal link has largely been underutilized. Discuss. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

क्षेत्रीय समानता के निर्माण और संघीय संबंध को मजबूत करने में राज्य वित्त आयोगों की भूमिका का व्यापक स्तर पर अल्प उपयोग किया गया है। चर्चा करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

15th Finance Commission recently recom-
-mended stricter implementation & format
of State Finance Commission (SFC).

Role in building regional equity

- ① Suggests measures to augment regional growth.
- ② Regional-specific economic planning
- ③ Helps in widening tax and fiscal base.

Role in strengthening federal link

- ① Helps reduce dependence on central funds
 - augmenting own-source revenue
 - 31% of state finances through centre.

② Augmentation of funds, finance and functionaries of 3rd tier of govt. (3Ts)

has been largely underutilized

- ① Irregular formation i.e. only 9 states have formed 6th SFC (15th FCI report).
- ② Absence of criteria or qualification for appointments.
- ③ vague and broad terms of references.
- ④ Absence of independent cadre and secretariat.
- ⑤ Report and recommendations of SFCs are non-binding.

As recommended by 15th FCI, certain grants from central transfer must be tied to formulation of SFC.

Feedback

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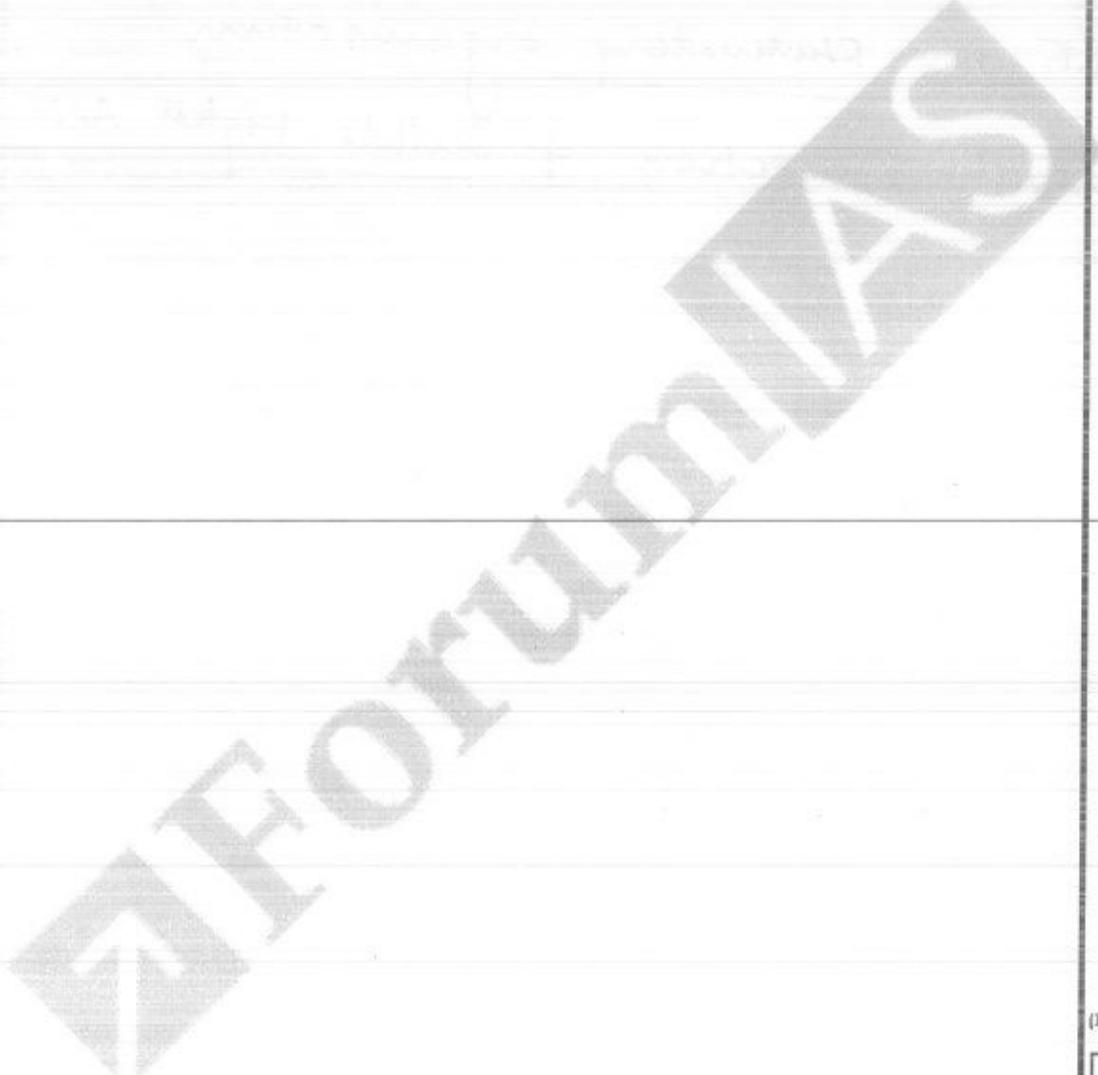
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TOTAL MARKS	
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Q.6) How far do you think has the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) been successful in protecting and promoting child rights in India? (10 Marks, 150 Words)

आपके अनुसार राष्ट्रीय बाल अधिकार संरक्षण आयोग (NCPCR) भारत में बाल अधिकारों के संरक्षण और संवर्धन में कितना सफल रहा है? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

National Commission for Protection of Child
Rights is statutory organisation
under Protection of Childs Rights Act.



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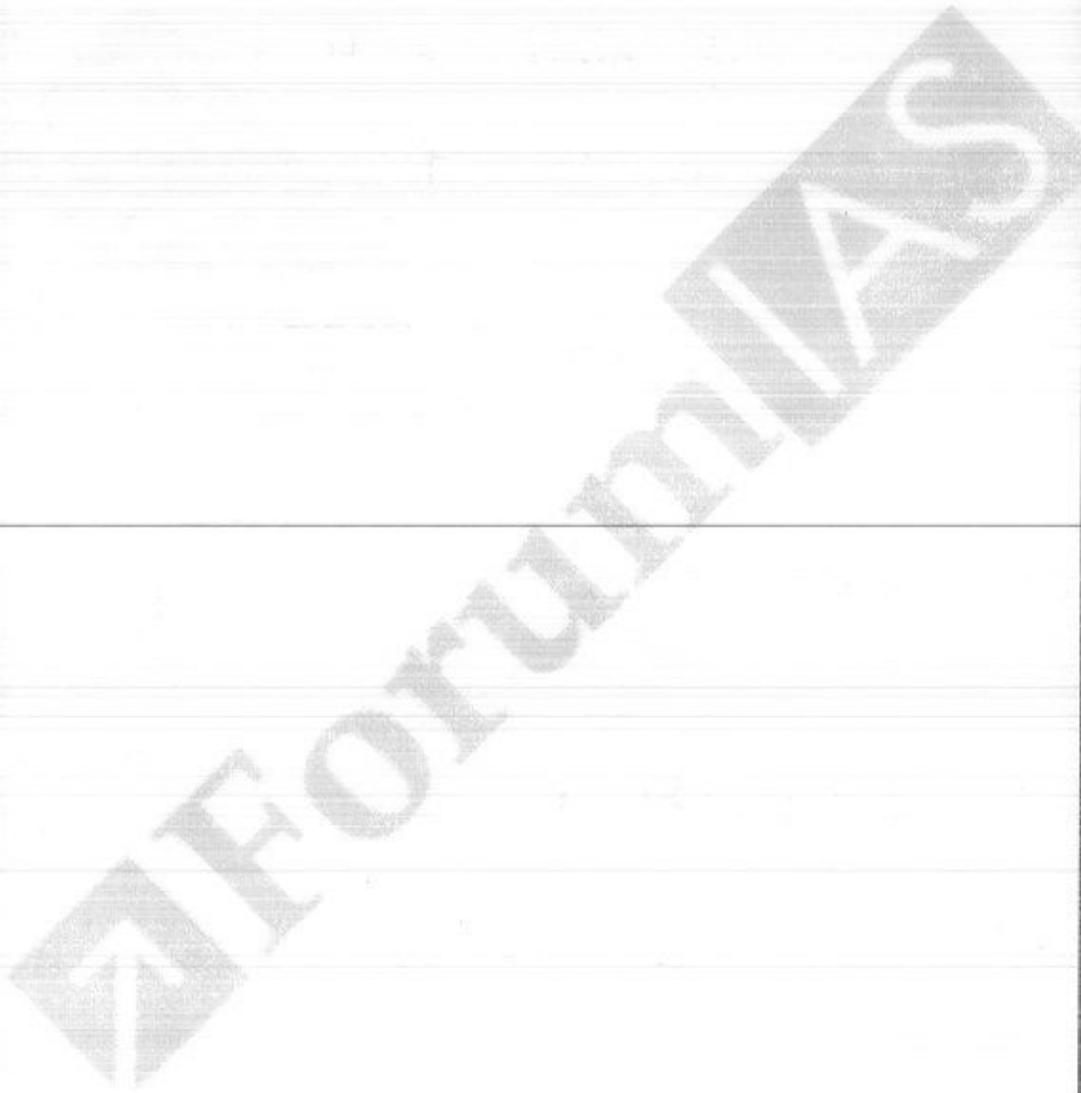
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Q.7) Outline the salient features of New Education Policy (NEP) 2020 related to school education. What does it state about the medium of instruction in schools? (10 Marks, 150 Words)

विद्यालयी शिक्षा से संबंधित नई शिक्षा नीति (NEP) 2020 की मुख्य विशेषताओं को रेखांकित करें। यह विद्यालयों में शिक्षा के माध्यम के बारे में क्या उद्धृत करती है? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

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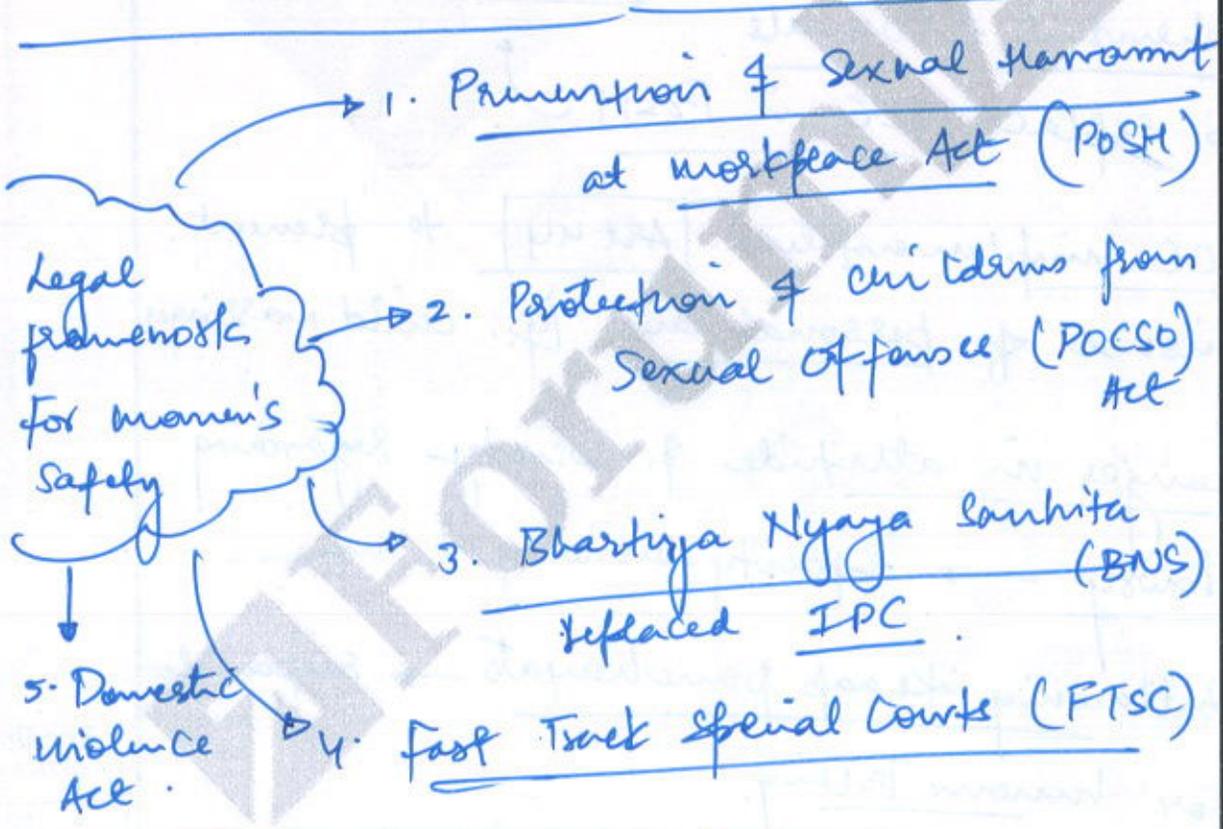
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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.8) Throw light on the legal frameworks that are in place to ensure women's safety in India. What further steps are needed to enhance their safety and well-being? (10 Marks, 150 Words)

भारत में महिलाओं की सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करने के लिए मौजूद विधिक ढाँचों पर प्रकाश डालें। उनकी सुरक्षा और कल्याण को बढ़ाने के लिए और क्या कदम उठाने की आवश्यकता है? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

India security was placed 131st in
Global Gender Gap Index with poor
 performance in women safety.



Further steps needed for enhancing safety

- ① Gender sensitization among police and judiciary (eg) 25% reservation in police

as per Pan Bajput Committee

- ② Gender-sensitive urban planning (eg: well-lit urban public transportation)
- ③ Expand PolH to informal sector
(eg: domestic help ^{must} ~~and~~ be included)
↳ Verma Committee
- ④ Independent tribunals to replace ICC in PolH
- ⑤ UCC implementation Art 44 to prevent misuse of personal law (eg: child marriages)
- ⑥ Changes in attitude of society regarding dowry → capacity building of women.
- ⑦ Outlawing Khap panchayats → responsible for honour killing.
- ⑧ Increase women representation in higher judiciary → only 11% as per India Justice Report

Only through 'gender safety' that India achieve its goal of 'inclusive growth'.

Feedback

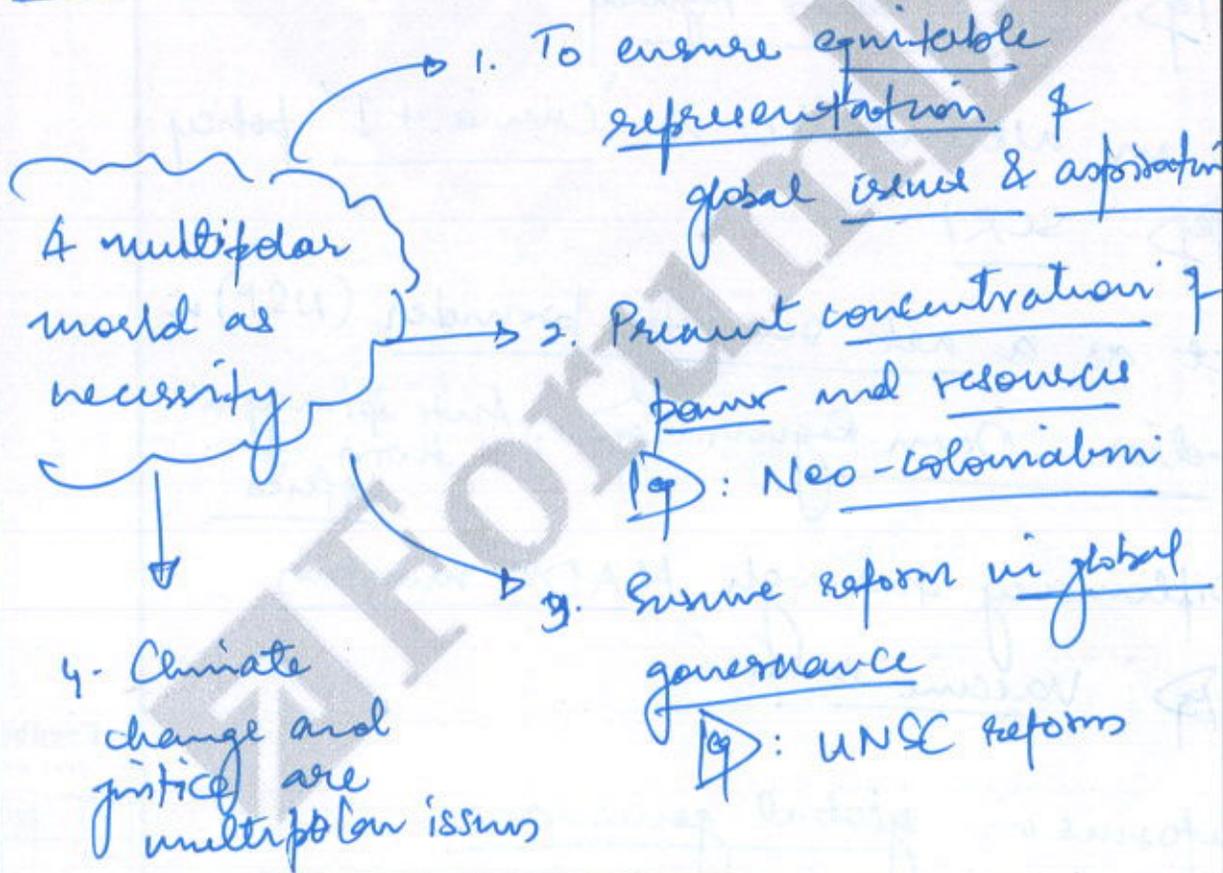
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Q.9) "A multipolar world order is not merely an option but a necessity". Elaborate. How can India leverage its position to strengthen multipolarity in the global arena? (10 marks, 150 words)

"एक बहुध्रुवीय विश्व व्यवस्था केवल एक विकल्प नहीं बल्कि एक आवश्यकता है। विस्तार से चर्चा कीजिए। वैश्विक क्षेत्र में बहुध्रुवीयता को मजबूत करने के लिए भारत अपनी स्थिति का लाभ कैसे उठा सकता है? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The recent rise of China and its clashes with India and USA has reignited the debate of multipolarity



How India can leverage its position

① Act as a representative of global south

- ① Voices of Global South Summit
- ② Promote alternative mode of development
 ↳ Asia-Africa growth corridor against China's BRI
- ③ Promote renewable energy centrality
 ↳ Int'l Solar Agency
- ④ As an alternative in 'China + 1' policy
 ↳ SCR1
- ⑤ Act as a net security provider (NSP) in Indian Ocean Region
 ↳ Anti piracy in Horn of Africa
- ⑥ Diplomacy through HADR missions
 ↳ Vaccine matters
- ⑦ Reforms in global governance
 ↳ 9-4 Permanent seat in UNSC

Indian aspiration of regional leader and global player can only be fulfilled through multipolarity.

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Q.10) "ASEAN is the cornerstone of India's Act East Policy and its Indo-Pacific vision." Elucidate. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

"आसियान भारत की एक ईस्ट नीति और उसके हिंद-प्रशांत दृष्टिकोण की आधारशिला है।" स्पष्ट करें।

(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

ASEAN is a multilateral organisation consisting of 10 countries of South-East Asia

ASEAN countries

- Philippines
- Indonesia
- Brunei
- Singapore
- Malaysia
- Thailand
- Myanmar
- Laos
- Cambodia
- Vietnam

Cornerstone of India's Act East Policy

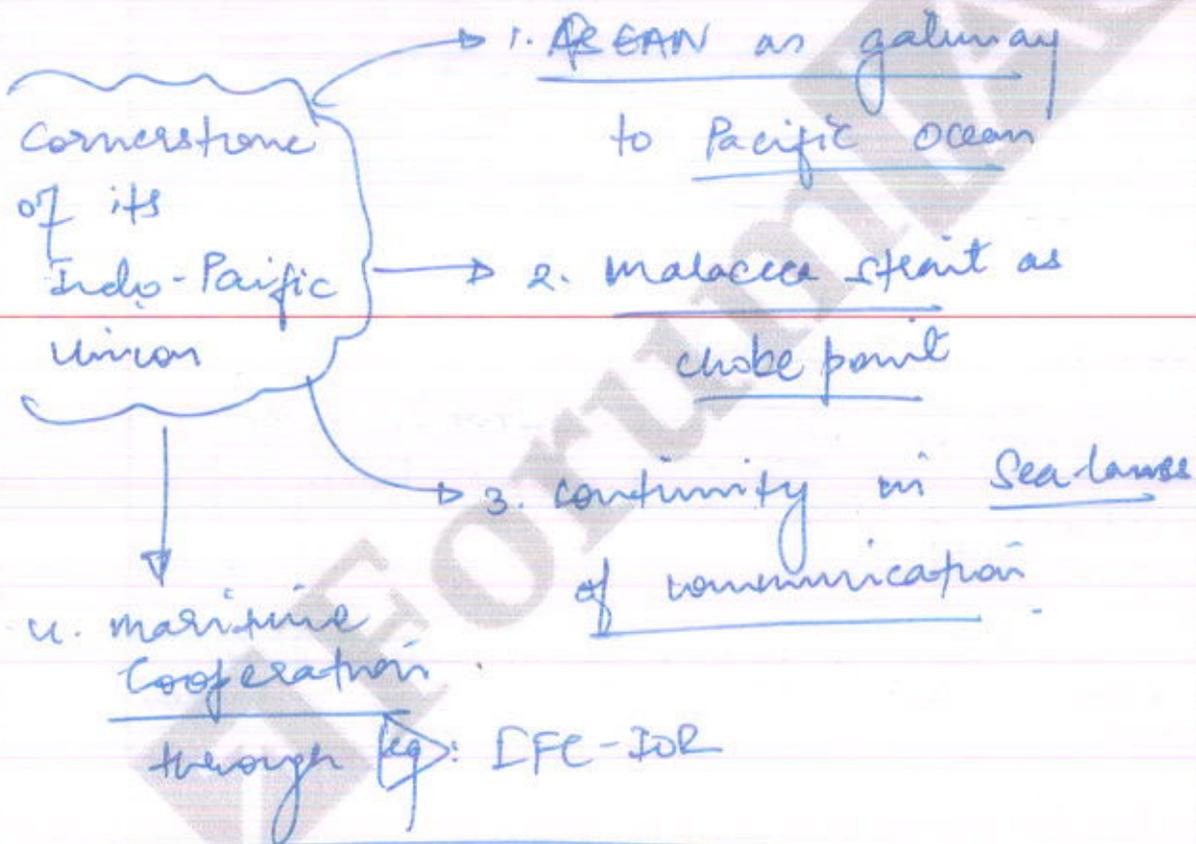
- ① Trade : India has trade worth \$ 70 billion with ASEAN countries
eg : India - ASEAN FTA.
- ② Cooperation through multilateral orgs
eg : India is member of EA Summit
- ③ Connectivity projects of India's worth

-east to ASEAN countries

eg: IMT Trilateral highway.

④ Cultural contiguity with ASEAN countries

eg: Buddhist, Naga people.



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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.11) Discuss the various administrative challenges faced by local self-governments (LSGs). What measures do you suggest for devolving administrative powers to LSGs, enabling them to function as institutions of genuine self-governance? (15 marks, 250 words)

स्थानीय स्वशासन (LSGs) के सामने आने वाली विभिन्न प्रशासनिक चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए। स्थानीय स्वशासन को प्रशासनिक शक्तियाँ सौंपने के लिए आप क्या उपाय सुझाते हैं, जिससे वे वास्तविक स्वशासन की संस्थाओं के रूप में कार्य कर सकें? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

73rd and 74th Amendment Act provides for local self governance (LSGs) at rural and urban level in India.

various administrative challenges faced by the LSGs

① Lack of devolution of functions under Xth Schedule.

② Absence of own source of revenue.

↳ PRIs → only 5%.

ULBs → around 41 to 43%.

③ Dominance of caste-based politics in rural areas.

- ④ Clash between mayor and municipal commissioners.
- ⑤ Inadequate functioning of DPCs and WPCs
 - 1. Irregular meetings
 - 2. Corruption
 - 3. Bureaucratization
- ⑥ Absence of uniform accounting and auditing mechanism.
- ⑦ Low digitisation ⇒ Absence of digital land records.
- ⑧ False empowerment ⇒ Panchayat-Pati.
- ⑨ Absence of legislative backing to taxation powers.
- ⑩ Irregular setting up of state finance commissions ⇒ Only 9 states formed 6th SFC.
- ⑪

Measures to devolve powers to LSCs

- ① Digitalise backing to powers (eg: taxation) (Mam - Shankar Aiyer Centre).
- ② Digitisation and rationalisation of records (eg: CPGRAMS or Bhamini project of Karnataka).
- ③ Uniformity in accounting and auditing. (eg: KILTA project in Kerala).
- ④ Empowerment of women panchayat members (eg: Panchayat se parliament 2.0).
- ⑤ Augmenting own sources of revenue (eg: GIS mapping).
- ⑥ Follow 15th FCI recommendations for formation of SFC.
- ⑦ Mayor-in-council system to prevent our bureaucratisation.

Local Self Governance through above reforms can act as agency of inclusive government (SDG-8).

Feedback

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

Q.12) In light of recent developments, the Collegium system and the Supreme Court's decision to strike down the National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC) Act, 2014 have once again come under scrutiny. Do you think that a NJAC-like body can make judicial appointments more transparent, broad-based, and accountable? Justify your answer. (15 marks, 250 words)

हाल के घटनाक्रमों के मद्देनजर, कॉलेजियम प्रणाली और राष्ट्रीय न्यायिक नियुक्ति आयोग (NJAC) अधिनियम, 2014 को रद्द करने का सर्वोच्च न्यायालय का फैसला एक बार फिर जांच के दायरे में आ गया है। क्या आपको लगता है कि NJAC जैसा कोई निकाय न्यायिक नियुक्तियों को अधिक पारदर्शी, व्यापक और जवाबदेह बना सकता है? अपने उत्तर का औचित्य सिद्ध कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Recent case of corruption against Delhi HC judge along with debate over internal mechanisms of accountability has brought NJAC issue to the forefront.

NJAC Act, 2014

- ① Provided for a 5-member Commission with representation to both government and the judiciary for appointment of SC & HC judges.
- ② was struck down as unconstitutional as it violates Art 50 - separation of power and Art 124.

NJAC - make judicial appointments more transparent, broad-based & accountable

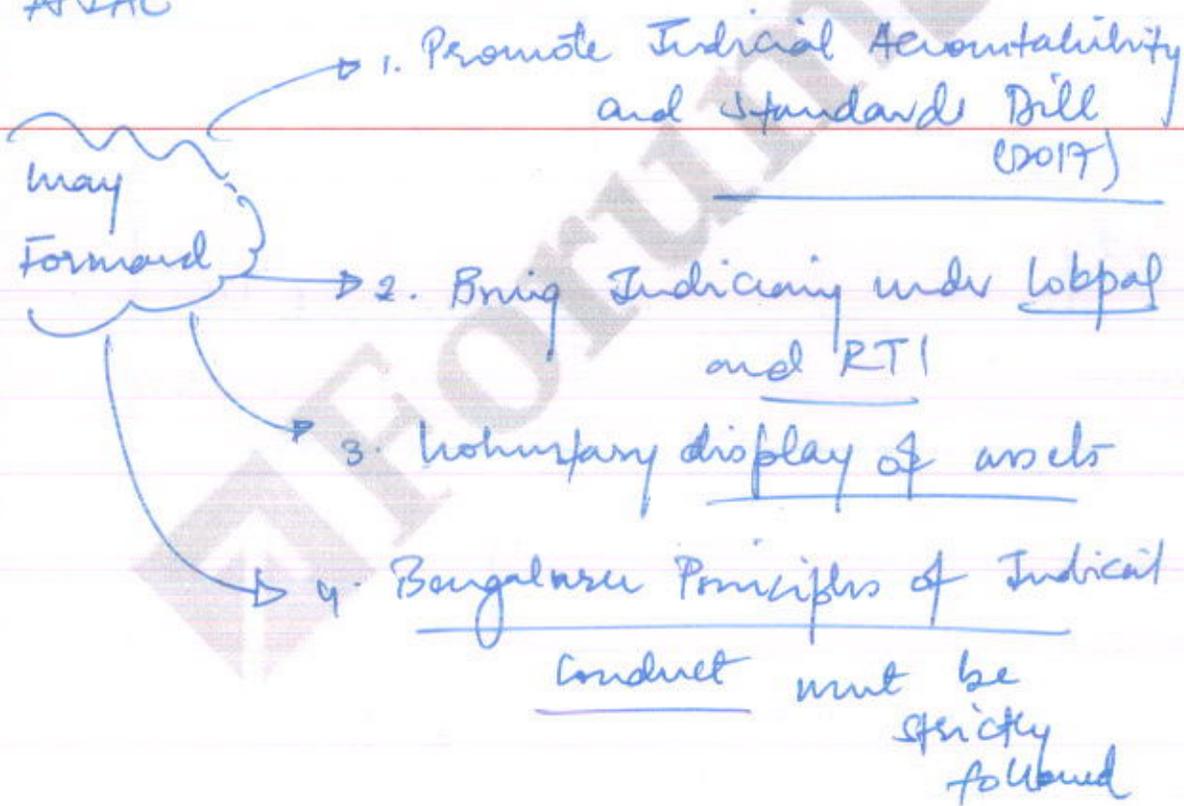
- ① External control over appointment process
- ② Appointment process will be open to debate and discussion \Rightarrow reasons of rejection in minutes of the meeting
- ③ under consultation in judiciary & hence judiciary as representation of society.
- ④ Global best practices \Rightarrow UK and US have executive say in judicial appointments.

However, certain lacunae

- ① Politicisation of appointment process
- ② Violates Art 124 and Art 50 - separation of power:

- ③ Dilution of principles of checks & balances
- ④ NJAC does not guarantee transparency
- ⑤ Political favouritism will lead to weakening of judicial review

NJAC



Feedback

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

Q.13) Differentiate between the clemency powers of the Presidents of India and the USA. Also, critically examine the vesting of clemency power in the executive. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

भारत और अमेरिका के राष्ट्रपतियों की क्षमादान शक्तियों के बीच अंतर बताइए। साथ ही, कार्यपालिका में क्षमादान शक्ति के निहित होने की आलोचनात्मक जांच कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Art 72 provides for pardoning power of the President of India.

The President of USA too has such powers

Difference

	Indian	USA
① Scope	Provides for <u>pardon</u> , <u>reprieve</u> , <u>remission</u> etc	<u>only pardoning power</u>
② Laws	Can pardon under <u>central</u> and <u>state laws</u>	Can <u>only pardon</u> against <u>death sentences</u> under <u>central / federal law</u>
③ Military Court	No <u>jurisdiction</u> over <u>military court</u>	Can <u>pardon military court</u> as well!

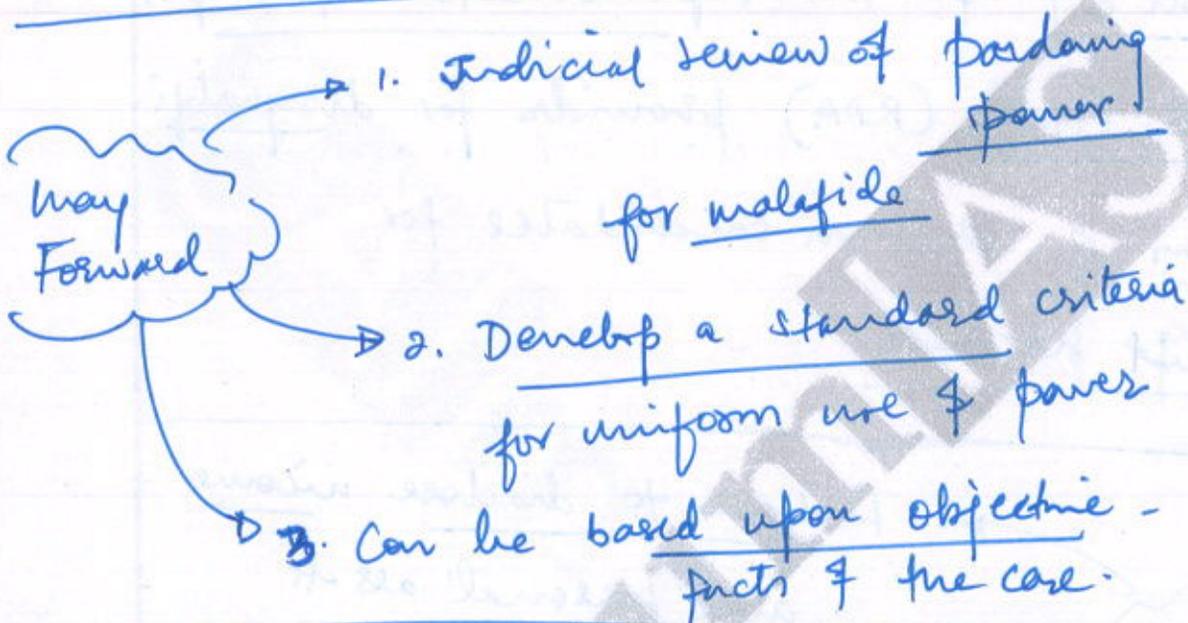
Vesting of clemency powers in executive

- ① Violation of principle of separation of powers — Art 50
- ② Undermines judicial process and rule of law.
- ③ may lead to political pardons
 ↳: recent pardons in USA
- ④ Can lead to politicisation of power
 ↳: malafide.
- ⑤ Lack of uniformity in its usage
 ↳: no standard criteria.

However, there are certain benefits

- ① Prevents failure of judicial process
 ↳: disproportionate punishment.
- ② Reformatory justice rather than punitive one.

③ President as 'Head of the State' can exercise such powers in extra-ordinary situations.



Clemency powers maintain an aspect of 'humanism' to judicial process & punishment.

Feedback

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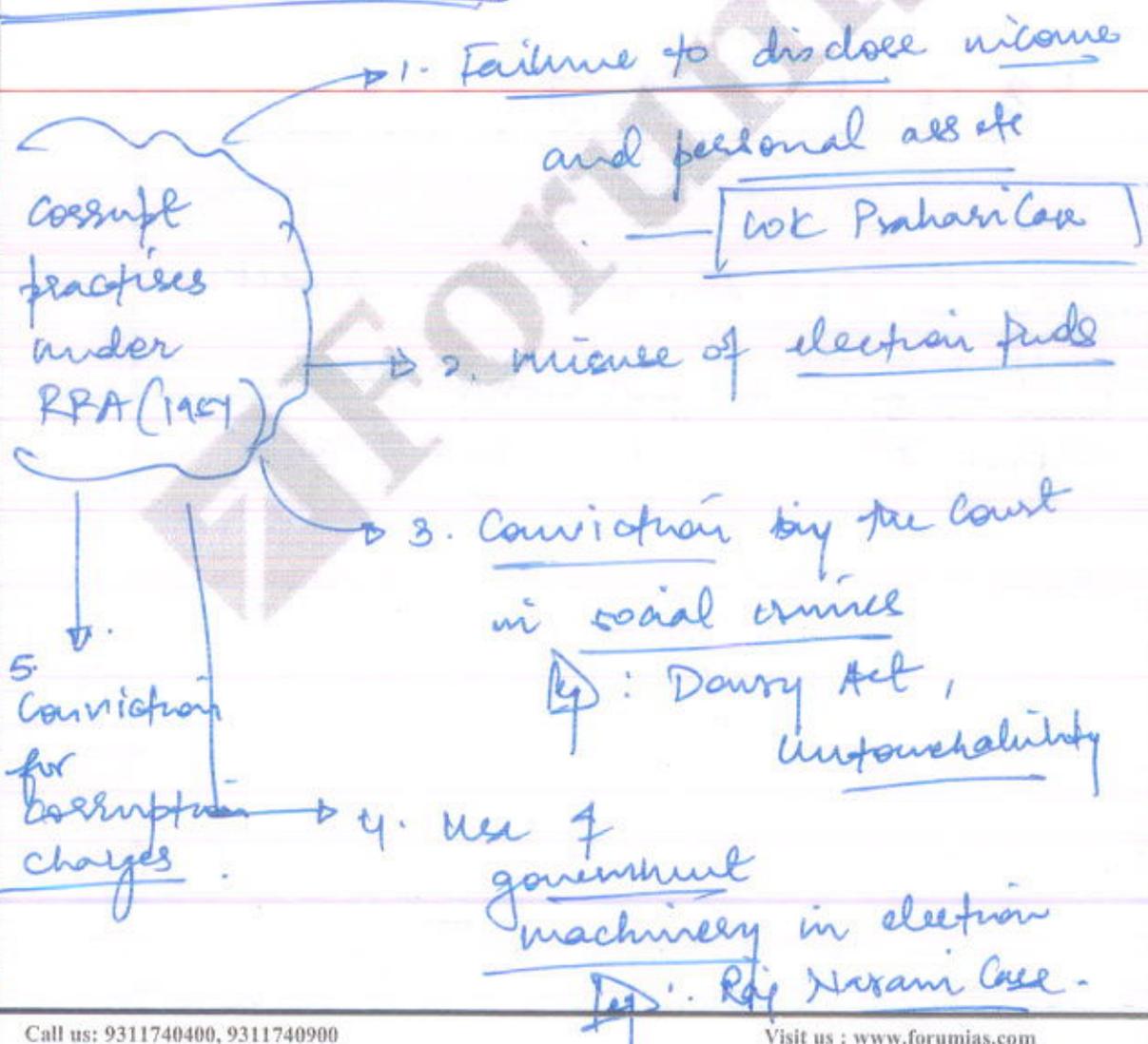
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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.14) What constitutes corrupt practices under the Representation of the People Act, 1951? Also, discuss the challenges in curbing such malpractices and suggest remedial measures.

(15 Marks, 250 Words)

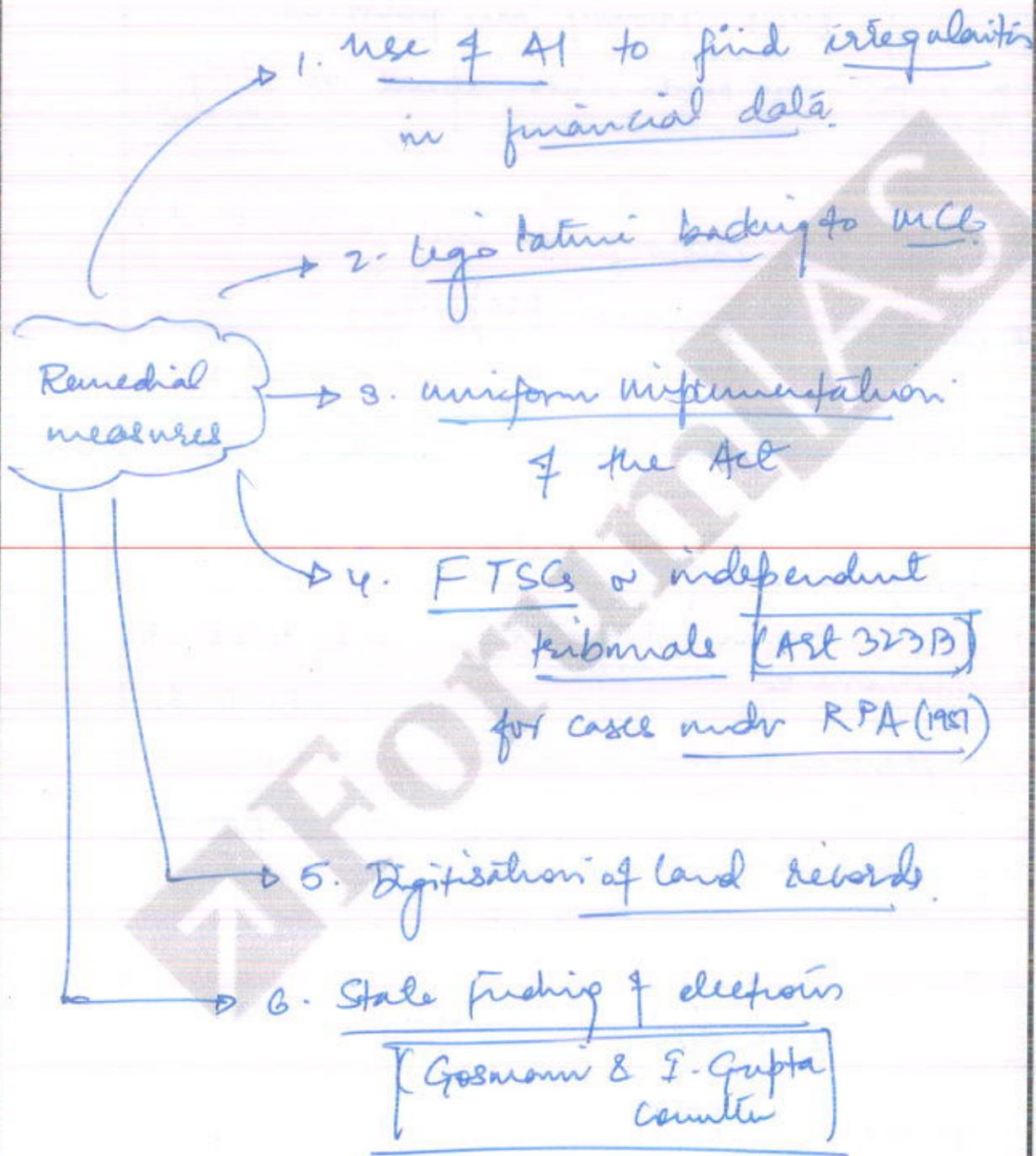
जनप्रतिनिधित्व अधिनियम, 1951 के तहत भ्रष्ट आचरण क्या है? साथ ही, ऐसे कुप्रथाओं को रोकने में आने वाली चुनौतियों पर चर्चा करें और उपचारात्मक उपाय सुझाएँ। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Section 8 of the Representation of Peoples Act (1951) (RPA) provides for disqualification of election candidates for corrupt practices.



Challenges in curbing such practices

- ① Use of black money in politics.
 Ex: Rs 1.35 lakh crore spent in 2014
LS elecⁿ
- ② Benami transactions to circumvent the disclosure of personal property.
- ③ Judicial delays (Ex: 4.68 crore cases pending)
 and hence delays in disqualification.
- ④ Limitations of an expenditure (Rs 90 lakh for LS election) only refers to party funds.
- ⑤ ECI does not have power to implement Model Code of Conduct.
- ⑥ Convictions under social crimes are difficult to prove.
- ⑦ Election trusts and bonds → opacity in election funding.



[Justice Verma Committee] states that criminalisation of politics has undermined representative democracy in India.

Feedback
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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.15) Discuss the role of the Vice-President as the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha. Also describe the procedure for his/her removal from office. (15 marks, 250 words)

राज्य सभा के सभापति के रूप में उपराष्ट्रपति की भूमिका पर चर्चा करें। साथ ही, उनके पद से हटाए जाने की प्रक्रिया का भी वर्णन करें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Recently, Indian Vice-President Dr. Dhankar resigned from his post.

Role of VP as chairman of RS

- ① Presides over the sessions of the Rajya Sabha (RS)
- ② has powers to summon, prorogue and adjourn the RS.
- ③ Decides upon the business of the day of the RS.
- ④ ~~Reserve~~ Nominates the RS members as part of parliamentary committees.
- ⑤ Is the final interpreter of the Constitution and Rules of RS in the house.

- ⑥ Upholds the rules of procedure of the RS.
- ⑦ Ensures that parliamentary privileges are upheld in the house.
- ⑧ Can suspend the members for violation of etiquette.
- ⑨ Has power to accept or reject certain motions.
eg. Removal of judges under Judge Inquiry Act.
- ⑩ Can refer the bills for consultation of parliamentary committees. eg: DRSCs.
- ⑪ Power to vote in case of a tie.
Process for his/her removal
- ① No grounds mentioned in the constitution of India.
- ② Motion for his removal must be signed

by 1/4th members of the house.

③ The motion requires special majority of the house (2/3rd of present and voting) for the removal.

④ The vice-president cannot vote upon the motion of his removal.

⑤ On other hand, he can resign to the President of India.

The office of the Vice-President and forms the link between legislature and executive in India.

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.16) "Universal Basic Income (UBI) is a viable solution to eradicate extreme poverty in India." Critically discuss the statement. (15 marks, 250 words)

"भारत में अत्यधिक निर्धनता को मिटाने के लिए सार्वभौमिक बुनियादी आय (UBI) एक व्यवहार्य समाधान है।" इस कथन का आलोचनात्मक वर्णन करें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Universal Basic Income (UBI) refers to provision of a fixed amount by the government to all of its citizens on periodic basis.

Viable solution to eradicate poverty

- ① Fulfills constitutional mandate of social welfare [Art 51].
- ② Provides access to basic necessities due to minimum income availability.
- ③ Ensures nutrition and shelter as mentioned in [Art 39].
- ④ Ensures lack of exclusion and inclusion error due to universal nature.
- ⑤ No guarantee over kind of expenditure.

LACUNAE

- ① will lead to inflation and hence pricing out of poorer sections.
- ② Only ensures affordability and not availability and accessibility.
- ③ Fails to address multidimensional aspects of poverty
 - ↳ nutrition
 - ↳ sanitation
 - ↳ health etc.
- ④ Huge burden of govt - exchequer.
- ⑤ Promotes unwillingness to work among the poor.
- ⑥ often leads to alcoholism, drug addiction etc.
- ⑦ long-term sustainability of policy has been questioned.
- ⑧ Fails to address unemployment and underemployment issue.

Way Forward

- ① capability development approach through education and skilling → PMKVY.
 - ② universal healthcare coverage
→ PM-JAY.
 - ③ Remove inclusion and exclusion error
in NFSA → Shanta-Kumar committee
 - ④ Nutrition issue can be dealt with fortification, diet diversification → Zinc fortification
 - ⑤ labour-intensive industrial employment → Textile
- Universal Basic Income can be used as stop-gap mechanism until institutional infrastructural and personal capability is developed.

Feedback

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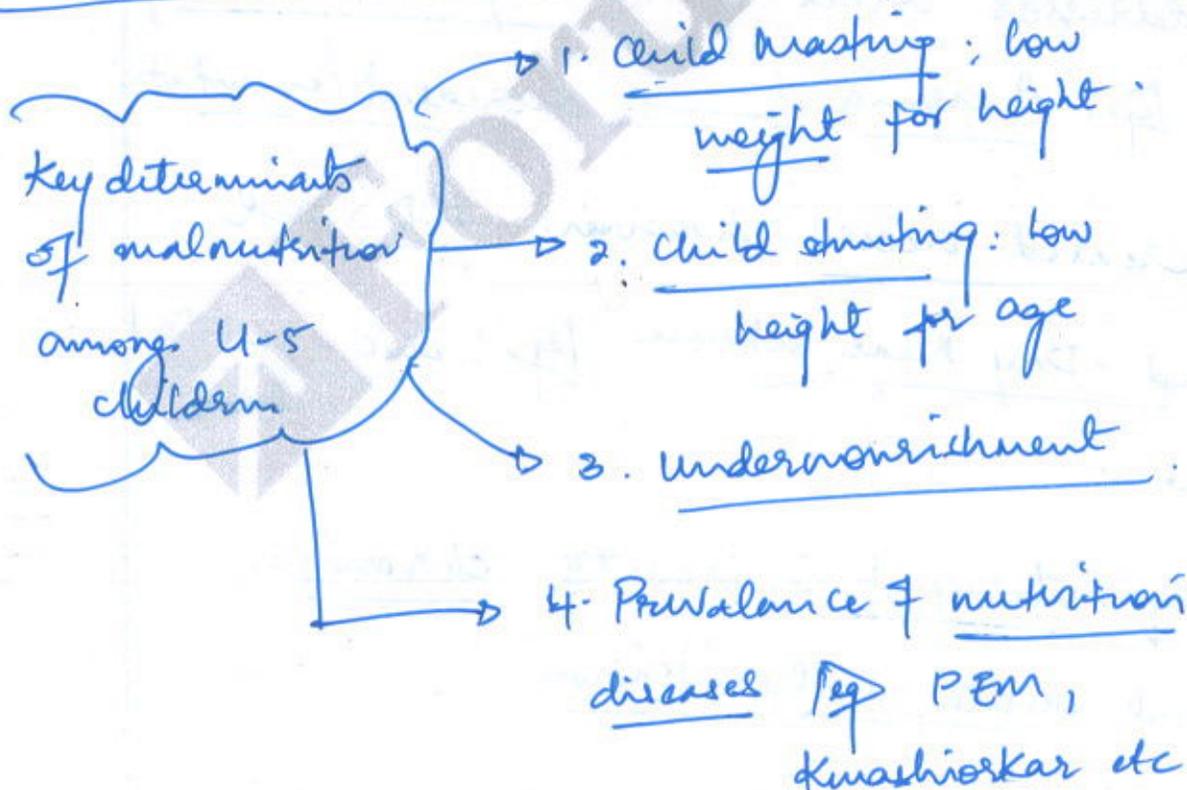
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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.17) What are the key determinants of malnutrition among under-five children in the country? Also, elaborate on the role of nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions in addressing this issue. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

देश में पांच वर्ष से कम आयु के बच्चों में कुपोषण के मुख्य निर्धारक क्या हैं? साथ ही, इस मुद्दे को संबोधित करने में पोषण-विशिष्ट और पोषण-संवेदनशील हस्तक्षेपों की भूमिका पर विस्तार से चर्चा करें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Recent NFHS-5 survey provided a comprehensive survey of Nutrition in India.

Global Hunger Index (GHI) ranked India 105th in its 2023-24 report.



Role of nutrition-sensitive and nutrition-specific interventions

- ① Addressed the changing demands of nutrition among children as per age-group.
- ② Can target ^{specific} vitamin or mineral deficiency
 eg: Vit-D tablets.
- ③ Addresses issue of developmental challenges
 eg: Anaemia → decreased cognitive
- ④ Increased access through ICDS and Mid-Day meal scheme eg: Zinc-fortified rice.
- ⑤ Early intervention prevents chronic and acute malnutrition.
- ⑥ Reduce the vulnerability to specific

die cases \rightarrow Calamity deficiency \rightarrow osteoporosis in later life.

⑦ Preventive care and hence relative lower burden on govt.

⑧ Addresses region specific demands of malnutrition \rightarrow western Maharashtra lacks fluoride in water \rightarrow intervention.

SDG-2 of zero hunger must ensure that it also addresses the issues of malnutrition through POSHAN 2.0, NFA (2013), ICDS etc.

Feedback

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

Q.18) "Data is the raw material of Artificial Intelligence." In this context, discuss the need for transparent and accountable data governance frameworks in India. What steps has the government taken in this regard? (15 marks, 250 words)

"डेटा आर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस की आधारभूत सामग्री है।" इस संदर्भ में, भारत में पारदर्शी और जवाबदेह डेटा गवर्नेंस ढाँचे की आवश्यकता पर चर्चा करें। सरकार ने इस संबंध में क्या कदम उठाए हैं? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Data is the 'new oil' and AI is the 'new engine' that will drive global development for coming decades.

Need for transparent and accountable data governance frameworks

- ① To prevent any biases in databases and hence in AI algorithms.
 ↳ racist drawings by Chat-GPT.
- ② Ensure equitable benefit distribution
- ③ Permanent violation of Right to Privacy of an individual [Art 21]
- ④ Citizen-centricity in usage of AI in

governance

↳ prevent use for surveillance.

⑤ Ensuring regional and cultural sensitivities are reflected in AI models.

↳ Chat GPT cannot differentiate between Some Indian dialects.

⑥ Steps taken by govt in this regard

① Digital Privacy and Data Protection Act (DPDP) → aims to fulfill Puttaswamy judgment through localisation of data.

② Prior Informed Consent (PIC) in IT Rules to ensure data usage is consent based.

③ India AI Mission to promote Indian databases through digitisation.

- ④ Right to Privacy under Art 21 provides constitutional backing to the laws.
- ⑤ 'Tokenisation' to ensure financial privacy is maintained.
- ⑥ RTI framework ensures accountability in data-governance.

11th report of 2nd ARC calls for implementation of e-governance. We must ensure this e-gov is transparent & accountable as stated by UN principles of good governance.

Feedback

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Please put tick marks in the above table.			
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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.19) Critically examine the role of International Monetary Fund (IMF) in addressing debt distress in the Global South. How can India use its post-G20 presidency momentum to push IMF reforms?

(15 marks, 250 words)

वैश्विक दक्षिण में ऋण संकट से निपटने में अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मुद्रा कोष (IMF) की भूमिका का आलोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए। भारत G20 की अध्यक्षता के बाद अपनी प्रस्थिति का उपयोग IMF सुधारों को आगे बढ़ाने के लिए कैसे कर सकता है?

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

IMF is one of the intergovernmental organisations formed through Washington Consensus that deals with Balance of Payment Issues of nations.

Role of IMF in addressing debt distress in the Global South

- ① Provision of monetary relief to foreign issues
- ② Promote fiscal prudence and best practices eg: decreased spending on subsidies
- ③ Tool against economic and socio-political turmoil eg: Greek debt & crisis.

Criticism

- ① Acts as a tool of neo-colonialism as countries are forced to liberalise.
- ② loss of state sovereignty.
- ③ Failure to implement fiscal reforms
 eg: Pakistan has been repeated offender.
- ④ Concentration of power among some members eg: USA.
- ⑤ Top-down approach in decision making.
- ⑥ Cuts social expenditure eg: subsidies, health coverage etc.

How India can push IMF-reforms

- ① Advocate for global south demands and issues. eg: VoQS Summit

- ② Inclusion of global south in decision making → i.e. democratisation of IMF
- ③ Provide alternate avenues of funding
 ↳ bilateral currency swaps to Sri Lanka
 (\$400 million)
- ④ Promote UPI-based digital public infrastructure (DPI) as fiscal reforms.
- ⑤ Increase awareness regarding procedures and issues ↳ recent effort regarding Pakistan diving of Inidoor.

India can play role of 'balancing wheel' of geo-economics through IMF reforms.

Feedback

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

Q.20) "In a fluid geopolitical arena, engagement without formal endorsement is a pragmatic middle path." Do you agree? Explain in the context of India's current approach towards the Taliban regime in Afghanistan. (15 marks, 250 words)

"एक अस्थिर भू-राजनीतिक क्षेत्र में, औपचारिक समर्थन के बिना जुड़ाव एक व्यावहारिक मध्यम मार्ग है।" क्या आप सहमत हैं? अफ़गानिस्तान में तालिबान शासन के प्रति भारत के वर्तमान दृष्टिकोण के संदर्भ में व्याख्या करें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

India recently reopened its embassy in Kabul post Taliban takeover in 2020.

Fluid geopolitical arena

- ① Changing power struggle with rise of China.
- ② Era of destabilisation and war.
 (eg): Russia - Ukraine war.
- ③ Paralysis of global governance.
 (eg): UN.
- ④ Changing alignments and alliances.
 (eg): Abraham accords.

(PTO)

Engagement without formal endorsement
as pragmatic middle path

① Strategic autonomy can be maintained without endorsement.

② helps ensure centrality of national strategic interests \Rightarrow Cross border terror and drug trafficking through golden crescent

③ Prevents big brother syndrome
 \Rightarrow moral lecturing to Taliban avoided

④ Provides room for manoeuvrability
 \Rightarrow in case of Russia - Iran - China axis strengthening

⑤ It helps counter Chinese hegemony
 \Rightarrow 25 yr partnership between Afghanistan & China.

- ⑥ Promote Indian economic growth and energy security → Connectivity through TAPI pipeline
- ⑦ Reverse Indian investment → Sahya Dam.
- ⑧ Soft-power diplomacy → long term sustainability
→ Afghanistan cricket team.

India - Afghanistan relations should focus on commonalities of economic interdependence and national security.

Feedback

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

Mentor Feedback Questions

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Test Goal

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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.

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- ◆ Seeking disciplined preparation

Augmented Test Series (ATS)

Total 10 Tests (4 Sectional & 6 Full Length Tests) → **One to One Mentorship with Faculty** → Test Discussion, Model Answers & Copy Evaluation

YOU SHOULD JOIN THE COURSE IF YOU

- ◆ Want to attempt UPSC- level, full-length papers under the time limit
- ◆ Have completed the syllabus
- ◆ Want 300+ answers, fine-tuned speed, structure & value-addition

Faculty Recommends

For starters

- Write small, learn fast (O-AWFG) → then go full-scale (ATS)

Already confident with Optional basics and PYQs?

- You may enrol directly in ATS and jump straight into UPSC-level full-length mocks.

OPTIONAL SUBJECTS

PSIR

SOCIOLOGY

ANTHROPOLOGY

PUB AD

हिंदी साहित्य

O-AWFG (Batch-5)

11 AUGUST

ATS (Batch-5)

17 AUGUST