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MGP 2025

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	ANKITA PATIL		
Roll No./अनुक्रमांक		Medium/माध्यम	English <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> हिंदी <input type="checkbox"/>
Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र		Date/दिनांक	15/7/25

*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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			10:00 am	1:00 pm	
Total Marks/कुल अंक :			Mode Of Examination/ परीक्षा की विधि :	Online/ऑनलाइन <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Offline/ऑफलाइन <input type="checkbox"/>
*Examiner's Discretion is the marks awarded at the discretion of the examiner based on your overall impression, on the basis of (but not limited to) your handwriting, presentation, use of diagrams, flowcharts, facts and figures or absolutely anything that he/she liked in your copy. मूल्यांकन कर्ता का विवेक अंक, आपकी लिखावट, प्रस्तुति, आरेखों के उपयोग, फ्लोचार्ट, तथ्यों और आंकड़ों या समग्र रूप किसी अन्य विषय वस्तु, जो मूल्यांकन कर्ता को आपकी कॉपी में पसंद आयी के आधार पर (लेकिन इन्हीं तक सीमित नहीं) पर दिए गए अंक हैं।			For Office Use Only / केवल कार्यालय प्रयोग हेतु		
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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) The contributions of the "founding mothers" of the Indian Republic are often under-acknowledged, yet they are crucial to understanding the evolution of gender-sensitive constitutional jurisprudence.

Elaborate

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

भारतीय गणराज्य की "संस्थापक माताओं" के योगदान को अक्सर कम आंका जाता है, फिर भी वे लैंगिक रूप से संवेदनशील संवैधानिक विधिशास्त्र के विकास को समझने के लिए महत्वपूर्ण हैं। सविस्तर वर्णन कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The Constituent Assembly comprised of a set of visionary founding mothers like Rajkumari Amrit Kaur that laid foundation for gender equality in the ultimate goal of social justice under Article 38.

Under-acknowledged founding mothers

(1) Prominence of reverence for founding fathers and Drafting Committee members like Dr. Ambedkar.

(2) Importance bestowed to various important resolutions passed by other constituent assembly members.

(Eg.) - Objectives Resolution passed by Nehru that formed the basis for the Preamble of the Constitution.

Founding mothers → crucial for gender-sensitive constitutional jurisprudence

(I) Fundamental rights

- (1) Crucial in envisioning right to equality beyond gender discrimination. [Article 15, 16]
- (2) The meaning of 'liberty' was expanded through a gender sensitive outlook.

(II) DPSP

- (1) Crucial in formation of the socialist principles → elimination of inequality. [Article 38]
- (2) Provisions for conducive working conditions for women, senior citizens. [Article 41, 43]

(III) Vision of Constitution

- (1) Included a diverse perspective in the drafting process.
- (2) Crucial for formation of a "Constitutional for all"
- (3) Advocated for 'voting rights for women' under adult suffrage.

The founding mothers laid a foundation for a Bharat Republic based on principles of → liberty, equality, fraternity, unity

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) 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)

The Article 1 of the Constitution describes the Indian federal structure as a 'Union of states'. It is being called as a quasi-federal structure by 'Ivor Jennings'



Fig: Indicators of asymmetric federalism in India

Asymmetric federalism accommodating regional needs

(I) Constitutional provisions

(1) The 5th, 6th Schedule enables the autonomous governing of tribal areas and meeting their specific needs.

(2) Special provisions for different states maintains the diversity, cultural norms, of the regions.

(Eq.) - Article 371, 371G → For NE Indian states.

(3) Maintenance of national security, integration in sensitive areas

(Eq.) - Article 370 → Jammu Kashmir.

(II) Legislative measures

(1) Specific laws assist in catering to regional issues (Eq.) - AFSPA for tackling 'disturbed areas', insurgency

(2) Fiscal federalism is maintained by giving states autonomy to levy taxes.

(3) 7th schedule → State list subject laws (Eq.) - Agricultural laws.

(III) Competitive federalism

(1) It assists in meeting regional development goals

(Eq.) - Swatcha Bharat Sarveksha, NITI Aayog's SDG India Index, etc

(2) Para diplomacy of states → Vibrant Gujarat.

Asymmetric federalism leads to challenges of regionalism, secessionist movements.

Sarkaria Commission's recommendation are crucial for cooperative federalism and 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat'

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.3) The collegium system of judicial appointments remains the best mechanism to safeguard the judiciary's independence. Critically examine. (10 marks, 150 words)

न्यायिक नियुक्तियों की कॉलेजियम प्रणाली न्यायपालिका की स्वतंत्रता की रक्षा के लिए सबसे अच्छा तंत्र बनी हुई है। आलोचनात्मक परीक्षण करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The Article 124 and 213 of the constitution provide for judicial appointments by the President in consultation with senior judges. (Collegium system)

Collegium system for Judicial appointments

(I) Merits

(1) It preserves the independence of the judiciary maintaining the doctrine of separation of powers.

(2) It provides for a system of effective justice ~~service~~ delivery by maintaining autonomy from executive.

(3) Reduces the influence of legislative or executive that might influence the judgements. Maintains impartiality.

(4) Prevents creation of a nexus among the executive, legislative, judiciary in judicial appointments.

(5) Mandates plurality of opinion in the form of collegium. [Third Judges Case, 1998]

(II) Challenges

- (1) Presence of opacity and lack of transparency in the constitution of the collegium.
- (2) Prevalence of corruption, nepotism among the collegium appointment translating into higher judicial appointment.
- (3) Form of judicial overreach in interpretation of the term 'consultation' in [Article 124, 213]
- (4) Delay in appointment of judges
↳ vacancy in SC, HC judges leading to increase in pendency of cases

Best Practises → UK has a National Judicial Appointments Commission that is constituted periodically.

Judicial appointments need to be reformed, reoriented, restructured to maintain the sanctity of judiciary as the interpreter of constitution, guardian of citizens rights

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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 'धर्मनिरपेक्ष' शब्द भारतीय संदर्भ में किस प्रकार विशिष्ट अर्थ रखते हैं। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The terms 'socialist' and 'secular' were added by the 42nd constitutional amendment in the Preamble.

Specific meanings of the terms

(I) Socialist

- (1) The term socialist in Indian context refers to a 'mixed economic' structure in India.
- (2) The public and the private sector co-exist side by side.
- (3) It is different than the Marxian communism that implies abolition of private property and control of state over means of production.
- (4) In the [GB Pant case], the SC noted Indian socialism aims to eliminate inequality of opportunity, disease, income. [Article 38]
- (5) [Nakara case] noted Indian socialism is a blend of Marxian and Gandhian principles.

leaning heavily towards Gandhian socialism

(II) Secular

(1) The term secular in the Preamble refers to a positive concept of secularism

(2) It is different than western concept of complete separation of state and religion. (French tradition)

(3) It is based on the doctrine of the state being equally close to all religions.

(Article 25-28)

(4) The Indian secularism provides opportunity for freedom of religion for all.

It however protects the liberty of the individuals as well based on harm principle
(Shirur Mutt case) → doctrine of essentiality.

The terms secular, socialist are an indicator of the vision of founding fathers of the constitution. Hence, Preamble is rightly called the "Identity card of the constitution"

→ Granville Austin

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)

The State Finance Commission
is setup by the Governor in every
5 years or early as he deems necessary
(Article 243)

Composition
of State
Finance
Commission

⇒ 1 chairman (+)
4 members.
(Eligible for reappointment)

Role of State Finance Commission

(I) Achievements

- (1) Instrumental in maintenance of fiscal federalism with respect to the state.
- (2) Augmentation of funds for the consolidated fund of the states.
- (3) Recommends for the distribution of funds for the consolidation of the

local government bodies.

(I) Underutilised role

- (1) Advisory nature of the body is not binding in nature.
- (2) Delay in dissemination of funds from the central government.
- (3) Lack of expertise to identify the specific requirements of the state.
- (4) Long periods in constitution of the commission.
 - ↳ Irregularity, inconsistency in the constitution of commission.
- (5) Irregularity in the suggested measures.
 - ↳ Dependence on the allocations from the union Finance Commission.
- (6) Inadequacy in funds allocated to LSGs.

The way ^{forward} for state finance commission is in the regularisation of its meeting, capacity building through inclusive of diverse experts in the committee. This will ensure the effective churning of wheel of ~~state~~ fiscal federalism.

Feedback

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

TOTAL MARKS	
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Q.6) "Right to vote is fundamental to democracy, and depriving undertrial prisoners of this right while allowing contesting elections reflects a flawed legal framework." Comment. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

"मतदान का अधिकार लोकतंत्र के लिए मौलिक है, और विचाराधीन कैदियों को चुनाव लड़ने की अनुमति देते हुए उन्हें इस अधिकार से वंचित करना एक दोषपूर्ण कानूनी ढांचे को दर्शाता है।" टिप्पणी करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The right to vote is envisaged under the universal adult suffrage grant to citizens above and of the age of 18 years.

Actualisation of a democratic polity

Right to vote being fundamental to democracy

Ensures doctrine of popular sovereignty

Ensures participative democracy.

↳ Enables participation in the electoral process

Deprivation of right to vote to prisoners

(I) Issues

- (1) Denial of right to vote and encroachment on right to equality (Article 14)
- (2) Impedes participation in the electoral process and right to elect one's political

representative .

(3) Right to contest elections of undertrial

manifests inconsistency .

↳ Irregularity in curbing
criminal criminalisation of politics .

(4) ~~Reflects~~ Degrades the ~~had~~ quality of
electoral candidates in election

↳ Restrictions on citizens to exercise
their vote .

(5) Reduces the voter turnout in the process.

(I) Way Forward

(1) Implementation of suggestions under the
Lily Thomas Case regarding contesting
elections by under trials .

(2) Vohra Commission suggestions for curbing
criminalisation of politics .

(3) Postal ballot extended to prisoners under trials
during elections .

Right to vote is a fundamental
cog of the democracy that is crucial

for the maintainance of equality in a

government of the people, for the people, by the people

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Poor.

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MARKS

Q.7) In what ways can community-based interventions improve access to preventive and promotive healthcare services in the country? (10 Marks, 150 Words)

किस प्रकार समुदाय-आधारित हस्तक्षेप से देश में निवारक और प्रोत्साहनकारी स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं तक पहुंच में सुधार हो सकता है? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Healthcare services are crucial for the inclusive, sustainable development of citizens as envisaged by national health policy, 2017 => "Universal health program"

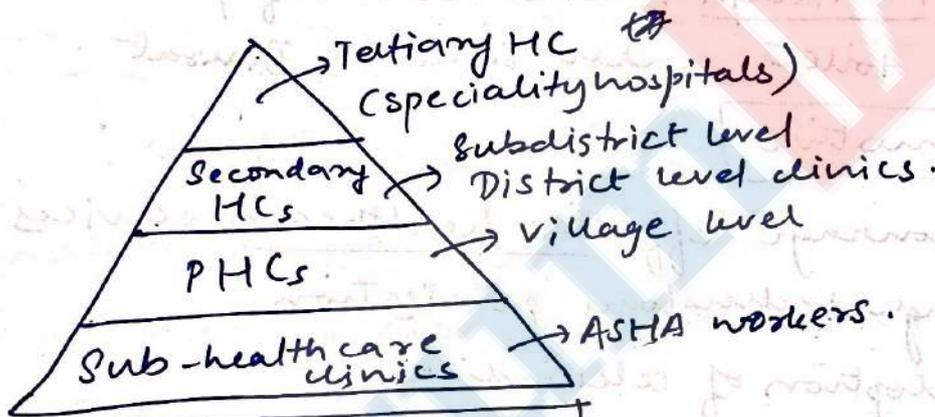


Fig:- Healthcare structure

Role of community-based intervention in healthcare services

(I) Preventive

(1) Community based awareness generation programs.

(Eg) Role of ASHA workers in education regarding reproductive health

(2) Improving nutritional levels of

population.

(Eg.) Anganwadis in tackling hunger, malnutrition through Midday Meal Scheme.

(3) Implementation of national policies at grassroot levels.

(Eg.) MNREGA ⇒ construction of public toilets under Swaccha Bharat.

(I) Promotive

(1) Encourage effective healthcare services through technology penetration

(Eg.) Adoption of telemedicine

(2) Implementation of national immunisation program.

(Eg.) Vaccines during COVID, polio vaccine campaign.

(3) Provide collective demand for improvement of healthcare services.

(4) Implementation of health insurance
↳ Reduce out of pocket expenditure → currently around 60%.

SDG 3 Good health and well being will be achieved through community based intervention making health, affordable, accessible, available.

Q.8) The increasing elderly population in India faces numerous challenges, highlighting the need for a comprehensive policy framework to manage this demographic transition. Analyse.

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

भारत में बढ़ती हुई वृद्ध आबादी कई चुनौतियों का सामना कर रही है, जिससे इस जनसांख्यिकीय परिवर्तन को प्रबंधित करने के लिए एक व्यापक नीति ढांचे की आवश्यकता पर प्रकाश डाला गया है। विश्लेषण करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The elderly population in India is increasing indicating a demographic transition in the country.

Importance of elderly population to the country

- (1) Formation of social capital for development
- (2) Crucial source of experience for human development.
- (3) Component of dependent population
↳ Amounts to the responsibility of the working age population.
- (4) Necessary for establishing the goal of social justice under the welfare state. [Article 38]

Need for comprehensive policy framework

- (1) Economic dependence of elderly on family.
- (2) Lack of social security, health insurance support for medical needs.
- (3) Dependence on care economy for support regarding medical needs.
- (4) High out of pocket expenditure makes healthcare unaffordable for elderly.
- (5) Increased instances of mental health degradation, depression, homelessness.

Government Measures

- Atal Pension Scheme
- Rashtriya ~~Vojana~~ Vayashree Vojana
- ↳ SAMPANIN Program
- ↳ SACRED Portal

Way Forward

- Increasing budget allocation for healthcare.
- ↳ National Elderly Citizens Policy
- ↳ Social security measures
 - ↳ old age homes
 - ↳ Recreational clubs
 - ↳ Health insurance
 - ↳ Pensions.

The "concept of time bank" practised in Sweden can be a practise that can be useful for integration of silver economy with the demographic dividend

Feedback
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Q.9) Discuss the role of the International Atomic Energy Association (IAEA) towards promoting safe and peaceful use of nuclear technologies in the world. (10 marks, 150 words)

विश्व में परमाणु प्रौद्योगिकियों के सुरक्षित और शांतिपूर्ण उपयोग को बढ़ावा देने में अंतर्राष्ट्रीय परमाणु ऊर्जा संघ (IAEA) की भूमिका पर चर्चा करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The International Atomic Energy Association (IAEA) is a universal intergovernmental agency that oversees the transfer of nuclear technology. It is an autonomous agency of the UN.

Role of IAEA

- (1) Safe and responsible transfer of nuclear technology
- (2) Monitoring the implementation of essential safeguards in the use of nuclear technology.
- (3) Restricting use of nuclear technology for development of weapons of mass destruction
 - ↳ Imposition of adequate sanctions on nations.

(4) Promotes multilateral cooperation in the field of nuclear energy transfer.

↳ Technology sharing

↳ Information dissemination -

Limitations of IAEA

(1) Highly contentious field of nuclear technology

↳ Dominance of major global powers

(2) Lack of binding nature of the IAEA safeguards → cannot ban, restrict nation actions.

(3) Inconsistency in information sharing, transparency by nations.

(4) Lack of expertise impeding the operational value of the association.

To maintain a peace and prosperity in the 21st century consolidation, reform of the IAEA is need of the hour for safe, responsible use of nuclear technology

Q.10) The rapidly escalating tensions between Israel and Iran in West Asia can have significant economic and geopolitical repercussions for India. Explain with suitable examples. (10 marks, 150 words)

पश्चिम एशिया में इजरायल और ईरान के बीच तेजी से बढ़ते तनाव का भारत पर महत्वपूर्ण आर्थिक और भू-राजनीतिक प्रभाव पड़ सकता है। उपयुक्त उदाहरणों के साथ स्पष्ट कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The escalation between Iran and Israel have been caused due to the non-state actors Hamas, Hezbollah. The situation has emerged due to reciprocative actions.

Impact on India's interests

(I) Economic

- (1) Conflict situation has led to volatility and escalation in prices of oil.
- (2) Lead to imported inflation in India
- (3) Increase in domestic inflation and depreciation of the rupee.
- (4) Threat of increase in fiscal deficit of the country.
- (5) Degradation of macro-economic indicators

(II) Geopolitical

- (1) It leads to threat to energy security
- (2) Impact on existing investments in the countries.
(Eq.) Chabahar port in Iran
- (3) Impact on individual bilateral ties with the conflicting countries
- (4) Maintenance of a tight rope walking act.
↳ Difficult to maintain strategic autonomy
- (5) Leveraging situation for India's adversaries
(Eq.) - China, Turkey → aligning with Iran, Israel.
- (6) Instability in regional connectivity projects.
(Eq.) - INSTC, IMEC
↳ maritime security is horn of Africa.

The way forward for India is in the QUJRAL doctrine and shift towards maintaining strategic autonomy through 'issue-based alignment'

Feedback

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

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Q.11) Simultaneous elections are advocated as a step towards reforming the electoral process and streamlining governance; however, their broader implications for democracy and federalism remain contentious. Discuss. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

चुनावी प्रक्रिया में सुधार और शासन को सुव्यवस्थित करने की दिशा में एक साथ चुनाव कराने की वकालत की जाती है; हालाँकि, लोकतंत्र और संघवाद के लिए इसके व्यापक निहितार्थ विवादास्पद बने हुए हैं। चर्चा करें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

The simultaneous elections are envisaged under the 'One Nation One election' program for the state and union government.

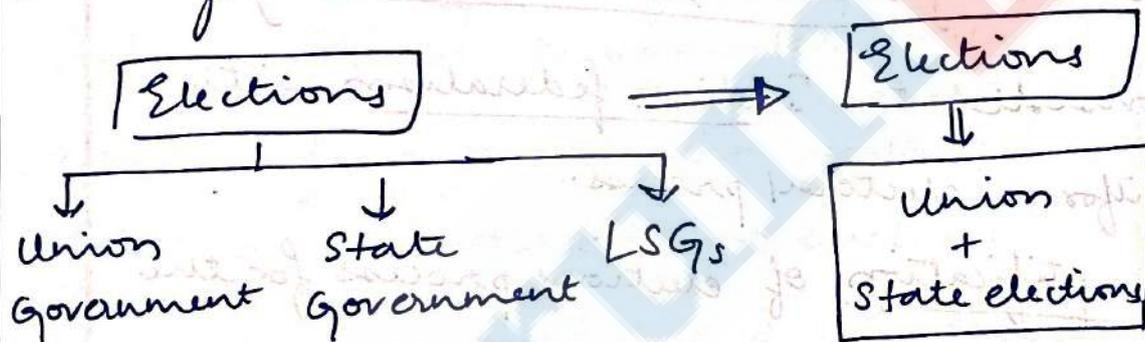


Fig: Vision of One Nation One Election

Simultaneous Elections' Impact on electoral process

(I) Potential benefits

(1) lead to curbing overwhelming expenditure on multiple election.

↳ Fiscal prudence through electoral reforms

- (2) Time and cost overruns in year long elections will be cut.
- (3) Save saving administrative workforce from continuous preoccupation in elections.
- (4) Focus on policy framework, increased focus on governance, service delivery
- (5) Consolidates Indian federalism with uniform electoral process.
- (6) Simplification of elections process for the citizens.
- (7) Development of common manifesto with a national vision.

(II) Challenges faced

- (1) Subversion of regional interests impacting state interests
- (2) Dominance of national political parties camouflaging the local parties.

- (3) Potential federal conflicts due to overshadowing local interests
↳ Potential regional demands creating conflicts, tensions.
- (4) Undermining democratic process and electoral accountability
- (5) Reduction in representation of the State issues in Parliamentary debates
- (6) Potential for authoritarian unitary structure through common elections.
- (7) Diversion from the goal of decentralisation of democracy
Top down model than bottom-up approach.

The Ram Nath Kovind Committee's

need to be implemented with the aim of cooperative, consensus oriented, collaborative democratic process for simultaneous elections.

Feedback

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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.12) Bring out the rationale behind the introduction and implementation of the three new criminal laws. Highlighting key features of the laws, state the associated concerns. (15 marks, 250 words)

तीन नए आपराधिक कानूनों के परिचय और कार्यान्वयन के पीछे के तर्क को उजागर करें। कानूनों की प्रमुख विशेषताओं पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, संबंधित चिंताओं को बताएं। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita,
Bharatiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita,
Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam are the
three new laws introduced in the criminal
law system.

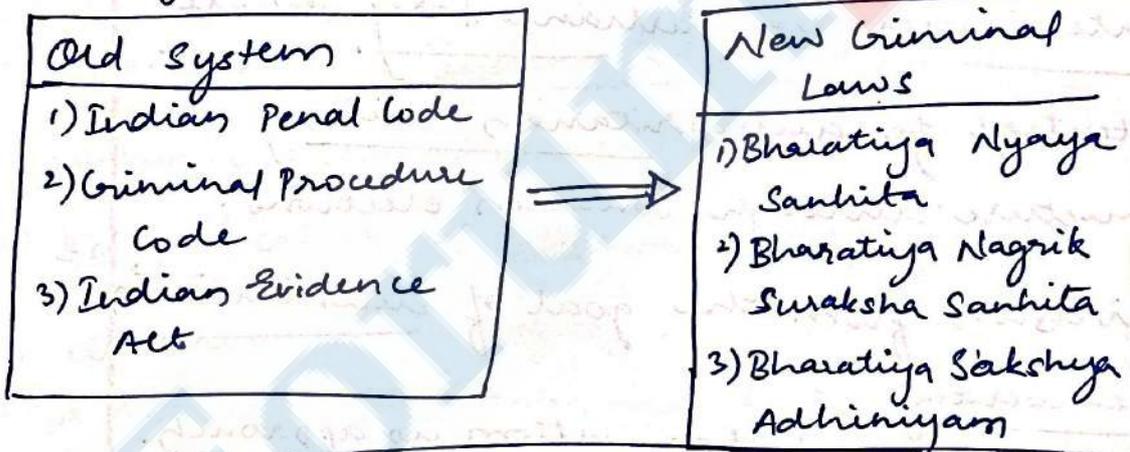


Fig: Transformation of criminal justice system

Rationale behind 3 new laws

- (1) Reorientation of criminal justice system reflecting needs of the Indian polity today.
- (2) Elimination of the colonial impact in

the criminal justice system:

- (2) Restructuring of punishment mechanisms
to also eliminate ambiguity
- (3) Protection of right to equality (Article 14)
and effective justice delivery through
codification of penalisation for offenses.

Key features of the laws

- (1) Introduced codification of punishments
for certain offenses.
(Eg:) Sedition as a crime has been redefined
- (2) Introduced definition of serious crimes
(Eg:) Definition of terrorism, serious organised
crimes, etc
- (3) Introduction of an aspect of attitudinal
change in punishment, societal benefit.
(Eg:) Community service introduced for petty
crimes.
- (4) Digitisation of evidence process and
investigation as well.

- (5) Compulsion on recording of victim statements post crimes like rape.
- (6) Provision for gender-neutral crimes and penalisation. Addition of transgenders in categories of genders

Concerns associated with laws

- (1) Overlap with previous criminal justice laws leads to replication of laws.
- (2) Prominence of ~~codification~~ codification in Hindi creates interpretation challenges.
- (3) Time limit on police chargesheet filing (90 days) impacts the rights of accused. Article 21
- (4) Penalisation of sexual relations in personal spaces creates challenges for consensual relations.
- (5) Gender-specific laws for rape impedes on right to equality before law. Article 14.

Reforms in line with Prakash Singh Case also need to be inculcated for Police reforms to uphold the supremacy of the Bharatiya Nyaya Shastra.

Feedback

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Q.13) Examine the role of the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) in ensuring corporate governance and addressing insolvency issues in India. (15 marks, 250 words)

भारत में कॉर्पोरेट प्रशासन सुनिश्चित करने और दिवालियापन मुद्दों को हल करने में राष्ट्रीय कंपनी कानून न्यायाधिकरण (एनसीएलटी) की भूमिका का परीक्षण कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) adjudicates disputes under the Companies Act drawing powers from Article 323 B of Part XIV of the constitution.



Role of National Company Law Tribunal

(I) Corporate Governance

(1) It provides an alternate dispute resolution mechanism among corporates.

(2) It assists in curbing monopolisation of market. Establishing a free, competitive, open market.

(3) Mandates adherances to principles of corporate governance based on

- Transparency
- Regular Audit mechanisms
- Accountability through grievance redressals.
- Ethical market practises, business plans.

(4) It enables dispute resolution, adherence to the provision of Companies registration rules.

(D) Insolvency Issues

(1) Smooth execution of the Insolvency Bankruptcy codes

(2) Executive of the comprehensive insolvency procedure and facilitating companies for suo-motu filing for bankruptcy.

- (3) Adjudicatory authority for debt recovery ~~and~~ of companies.
- (4) Effectiveness in functioning of Asset management companies is monitored.
- (5) Reduction in NPAs of bank due to faster, prompt corrective action.
 ↳ Inexpensive, expeditious, summary remedy of disputes.

Challenges to NCLT	Way forward
(1) Delay in dispute resolution. (2) Lack of expertise in the tribunal benches. (3) High vacancies in the tribunal, leading to pendency of cases.	(1) Autonomous body for appointments to tribunal (2) Autonomy to tribunals in capacity building and training personnel. (3) Independent investigation agency for support.

The National Company Law Tribunal is a testament to the effective, efficient, economic judicial dispute resolution that's necessary for the dream of Viksit Bharat by 2047.

Feedback
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Q.14) 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)

The clemency power to the Indian President is bestowed under Article 72 of the constitution.

Clemency Powers of the Presidents

Indian President	American President
(1) Powers extend to offences against union, death sentence against union and state laws.	(1) Powers extend to offences only against the union laws and not the federal law.
(2) Judicial review extends only to the arbitrariness of the President's decision and malafide.	(2) Judicial review has a wider connotation based on the doctrine of judicial supremacy.
(3) The judiciary is not mandated to codify guidelines for President	(3) Judicial guidelines do not are not restricted to guide the

to exercise his
power. President
exercises independence
under Article 72.

~~Bas~~

President's conduct

Clemency power with the executive

(I) Benefits

(1) Establishes the principle of checks and balances among the executive, judiciary.

(2) Provides for remedial of judicial errors, pardoning of sentences that the President considers unduly harsh.

(3) It embodies the principle that "justice hurried is justice buried".

↳ Provides for appeal against judicial sentences that the accused considers unduly hard.

(4) Provides for re-interpretation of gathered evidence in a new light.

(II) Concerns

(1) Threatens the principle of separation of powers and independence of judiciary.

(2) Potential for misuse by ardent criminals.

(Eg.) Petitions for pardoning in the Nirbhaya case

(3) Accused centric provision, subversion of victim centricism. Article 14

(4) Delay in decision by President amounts to mental torture of criminals
↳ Threat to right to life Article 21

(5) Justice process delayed

↳ "Justice delayed is justice denied"

The Shatrughna Chauhan case

Suggestions of 14 days prior notice before execution of death penalty is a golden mean in case of pardoning powers. They maintain a unique mixture of accountability through checks and balances.

Feedback

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

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Q.15) "Rape is a rape; it cannot be condoned on the basis of the marital relationship between the victim and the accused." In light of the statement, throw light on the ongoing debate regarding the criminalization of marital rape.

(15 marks, 250 words)

"बलात्कार तो बलात्कार है; पीड़िता और आरोपी के बीच वैवाहिक संबंध के आधार पर इसे माफ नहीं किया जा सकता।" कथन के आलोक में, वैवाहिक बलात्कार के अपराधीकरण के बारे में चल रही बहस पर प्रकाश डालिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Rape is one of the top four crimes against women in India.

(NCRB Report). Among the registered cases, more 30% of the accused are known relatives of the victims.

Marital rape as well precipitates to the concept of consent even under the institution of marriage. Lack of consent even in marriage might amount to violation of freedom of choice [Article 21] and equality [Article 14].

Criminalisation of marital rape

(I) Arguments in support

(1) Establishes the equality before law, equal protection of law. [Article 14]

↳ Rape victims are situated similarly

irrespective of relations with the accused.

(2) Protection of right to life and personal liberty. | Article 21 |

(3) Provides legal protection to women's dignity beyond domestic violence in personal life.

(4) Exclusion from penalisation leads to perpetuation of loop holes in the law.

(5) leads to silent acceptance of exploitation by the victims.

(D) Arguments against

(1) Potential of misuse and exploitation of legal safeguards against innocents.

(2) Codification of consent in personal space is difficult -

(3) Provisions for conditions that amount to marital rape are ambiguous

↳ Difficulty in deciding on the

criteria defining marital rape.

- (4) Complication in the investigation of the crime.
- (5) Reluctance amongst victims to report crime against marital partners.
- (6) Difficulty in handling of gender sensitive issues that are extremely personal.
- (7) Penalisation of consensual relations.

Way Forward

- (1) Exclusive jurisdiction to family courts regarding matters of marital rape.
 - (2) Maintenance of right to privacy during trial of cases.
 - (3) Legal safeguards regarding filing of cases by victim.
 - (4) Codification of important criteria for crime, and SOP for investigation.
- Criminalisation of marital rape is a need hour just like the abolition of Triple Talakh was. A proactive approach to achieve gender equality is necessary.

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.16 Discuss the role played by the Swachh Bharat Mission over the past decade in bringing a positive change in life of women, children and marginalized communities. (15 marks, 250 words)

पिछले दशक में महिलाओं, बच्चों और हाशिए पर स्थित समुदायों के जीवन में सकारात्मक बदलाव लाने में स्वच्छ भारत मिशन द्वारा निभाई गई भूमिका पर चर्चा करें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

The Swachha Bharat Mission
being a flagship program of government transformed the definition of sanitation and eventually led to upliftment of the vulnerables like women, children, etc.

Features of
Swaccha
Bharat
Mission

- Elimination of open defecation practises.
- Reduction of littering, maintainance of sanitation, public health.
- Environmental preservation through Namami Gange Program.
- Construction of public toilets
- Provisions for basic service delivery.
- Swaccha Bharat Sarvekshan Program.

Swaccha Bharat led to a paradigm shift in sanitation, public health via an attitudinal change at the grassroots level.

Role played by Swachha Bharat Mission

(I) Women

- (1) Protection of right to life and personal dignity of women Article 21
 - ↳ Elimination of open defecation.
 - (2) Eliminated the vulnerability of women to crimes like ~~sex~~ rapes, eve-teasing, harassment due to open defecation.
 - (3) Upheld the fundamental duty to treat women with dignity Article 51(A)
 - (4) Prevention of various disease spread
 - (5) Attitudinal change → breaking patriarchal bias against women
- "Pehle Shauchalay Fir dwalaya"

(II) Children

- (1) Maintenance of public health standards
- (2) Curb on spread of diseases to maintain health standards of children
- (3) Construction of separate toilets in schools

led to adequate infrastructure in schools.
 ↳ No hindrance in quality of education.
 ↳ Reduction in school dropout rates.
 (4) Provisions for clean drinking water for children.

(II) Marginalised community

(1) Construction of basic public infrastructure
 (2) A bottom-up approach of the mission ensured an inclusive service delivery.

(3) Protection of right to life [Article 21] of cleaners

↳ Dignity to lower castes assigned roles of cleaning sewers.

(4) Established standards of social justice embodied under [Article 38]

(5) Resource utilisation, environmental preservation protecting tribal rights.

There have been inconsistency in implementation of policies. A comprehensive, collaborative, citizen centric effort is further

needed for a Swachh Kupashan Mukta Swaccha Bharat, Surakshit Bharat.

Feedback

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Q.17) How do Centrally Sponsored Schemes differ from Central Sector Schemes? Highlighting the concerns raised by some states regarding Centrally Sponsored Schemes, suggest remedial measures.
(15 marks, 250 words)

केंद्र प्रायोजित योजनाएं केंद्रीय क्षेत्र की योजनाओं से किस प्रकार भिन्न हैं? केंद्र प्रायोजित योजनाओं के संबंध में कुछ राज्यों द्वारा उठाई गई चिंताओं पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, सुधारात्मक उपाय सुझाएँ। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

The various schemes under Central and state governments are enacted in accordance of distribution of subjects under 7th Schedule of the constitution.



Centrally sponsored Scheme	Central Sector Scheme
(1) This scheme is partially funded by the Central government in <u>collaboration with the states</u> .	(1) This scheme falls with the subjects under the <u>union list</u> (original jurisdiction) under the <u>7th schedule of the constitution</u> or concurrent subjects.

(2) The central sponsors scheme in a fixed ratio

(Eg:) 50:50, 70:30, etc

(3) Dissemination of grants-in-aid by the centre for execution of the scheme.

(2) Fully funded by the central government.

(3) National policies form the umbrella framework for the central sector schemes.

(Eg:) PM-Ayushman Bharat Scheme.

Concerns regarding Centrally Sponsored Schemes

(I) Federal issues

(1) Encroachment in the legislative jurisdiction of states

(2) Threat to the cooperative federalism due to dominance of central government.

↳ Extrapolation of central powers on state subjects. (Eg:) Farms Laws

(3) Subversion of specific demands of the states.

(4) Reduction in autonomy of states in the execution of schemes.

(1) Fiscal issues

(1) Overdependence on the central funds compromises effectiveness.

(2) Delay in grants-in-aid by centre to support scheme.

(3) Paucity of funds for efficient execution.

(4) Restrictions on capacity of states to suo-motu raise funds.



Competitive federalism to encourage good governance

↳ Setting Special Purpose Vehicles for capacity building of states.

The ethos of competitive, cooperative federalism is imperative to actualise the goal of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas".

Feedback

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

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Q.18) The Doctrine of Democratic Governance makes it necessary that the public perception of the integrity and commitment of civil servants becomes absolutely positive. Discuss (15 marks, 250 words)

लोकतांत्रिक शासन का सिद्धांत यह आवश्यक बनाता है कि सिविल सेवकों की ईमानदारी और प्रतिबद्धता के बारे में जनता की धारणा पूरी तरह सकारात्मक हो। चर्चा करें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

The doctrine of democratic governance aims for a citizen-centric, participative, consensus oriented governance model.

Civil servants form cornerstone of governance and public perception regarding them is essential to be positive.

Necessity of Doctrine of Democratic Governance for public perception of civil servants

(I) Maintaining standards of integrity

(1) Democratic functioning of civil servants prioritised social justice and inclusive development.

(2) Establishes standards of good governance in policy design and implementation.

(Eg):- Effective implementation of social audit.

(3) It ensures the protection of the rights of the marginalised.

(Eg.) Daliya Talao initiative against manual scavenging practises.

(1) Commitment to public services

(1) Ensures achieving the aim of the 'Sevottam Model'

(2) Establishes regional inclusive development based on the consensus oriented model.

(3) Dedication to ~~dev~~ improvement of human development indicators

(Eg.) Tackling malnutrition, hunger through effective implementation of PDS system.

(4) Leads to ~~inter~~ collaborative government to ~~execute~~ by collaboration with local bodies.

(5) Create public trust regarding executive leading to participative governance.

Impact of positive public perception on governance

- (1) Effective policy implementation at the grassroot level.
- (2) Jan Andolan leading to Jan Kalyan ensuring efficiency, effectiveness
- (3) Citizen-centric policy framework
- (4) Bottom-up model of functioning
↳ Assists civil servants in better policy targetting.

The public perception needs to be positive regarding the "steel framework" - civil servants of the country. This will enable the Karmayogis to ~~enable~~ ^{function} as "agents of change" under the formula of "Reform → Perform → Transform" as suggested by Honourable Prime Minister

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Q.19) While BRICS and Quad may have different priorities, both have their salience in advancing India's strategic interests. Elaborate. (15 marks, 250 words)

"हालांकि ब्रिक्स और क्वाड की प्राथमिकताएं अलग-अलग हो सकती हैं, लेकिन भारत के रणनीतिक हितों को आगे बढ़ाने में दोनों की अपनी-अपनी महत्ता है।" सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

The BRICS and QUAD both represent multilateral global arrangement in the 21st century geopolitical scenario.

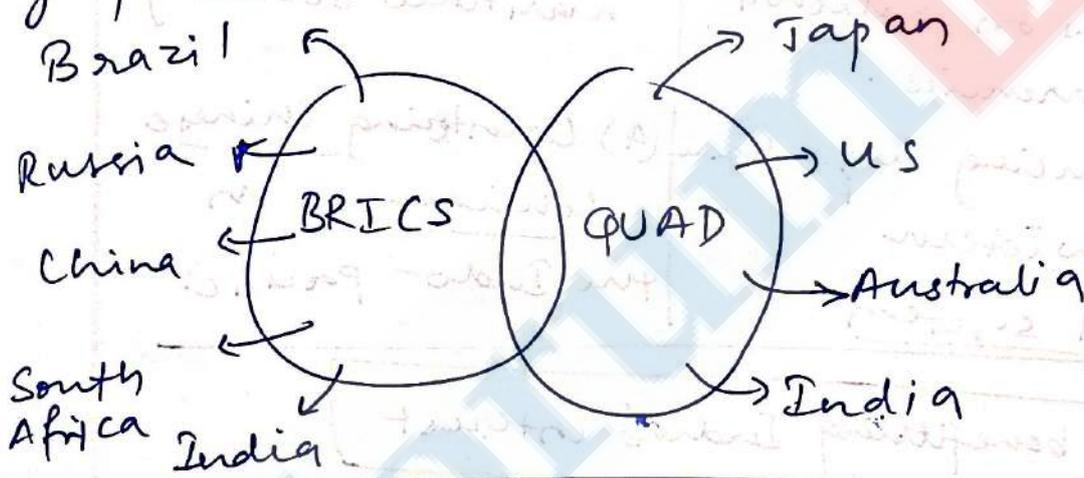


Fig: Members of BRICS, QUAD

BRICS	QUAD
(1) Multilateral agency focused on trade, investment and <u>economic cooperation</u> .	(1) Quadrilateral <u>Security dialogue</u> among member countries.

(2) Focused on consolidation of global supply chains.

(3) South-South cooperation and focus on national currencies.

(4) Reducing dependence on western SWIFT system

(2) focus on a peaceful and free, Indo-Pacific region

(3) Military exercises to maintain maritime security.

(4) Countering Chinese dominance in the Indo-Pacific.

Both benefitting India's interest

(2) Geopolitical

(1) Strategic partnerships with countries

↳ South-South cooperation → BRICS

↳ Indo-Pacific cooperation → QUAD

(2) Achieves national goal of maritime security, regional connectivity

(Eg.) Malabar Exercise → QUAD

INSTC → BRICS.

(3) Crucial for implementing the "Necklace of Diamond"

(I) Geo-economic

- (1) Promotion of national currency
 - ↳ De-dollarisation
 - ↳ Reducing dependency on the dollar

(2) Economic partnership with countries in global supply chain (China + 1 Strategy)

(3) Market consolidation, technology transfer.

(II) Geostrategic

(1) Maintenance of peace in Bay of Bengal, Indo-Pacific.

(2) Crucial for India's emergence as a global superpower

(3) Maintenance of strategic autonomy

BRICS, QUAD are an evidence of the current multipolar world where India can emerge as a "Global leader"

Feedback

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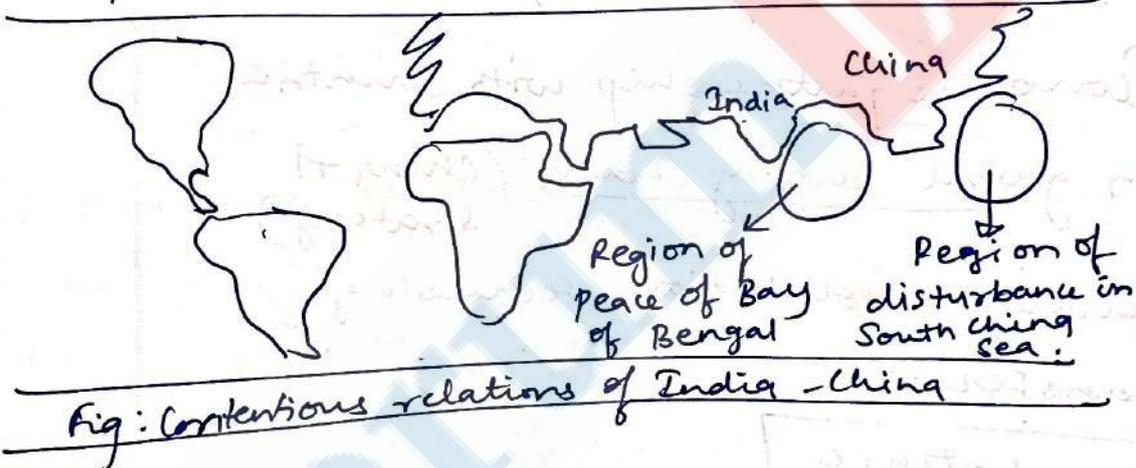
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Q.20) "The strategic competition between India and China is determining India's foreign policy towards its South Asian neighbors." Comment. (15 marks, 250 words)

"भारत और चीन के बीच रणनीतिक प्रतिस्पर्धा दक्षिण एशियाई पड़ोसियों के प्रति भारत की विदेश नीति को निर्धारित कर रही है।" टिप्पणी कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

India and China are emerging as two dominant Asian powers in the global geo-politics. Their relations impact the regional stability too.



India's foreign policy in South Asia affected by China

(I) Bilateral relations

(1) India's neighbourhood relations

impacted by China's debt trap policy

(eg.) Relations with Sri Lanka, leanings of ^{Nepal} ~~China~~ towards China.

(I) Internal security challenges due
to insurgency.

(Eg:-) Fending of Rohingya issue in
Myanmar.

(II) Regional issues

(1) Strategic decisions based on countering
Chinese policy

(Eg:-) Strings of pearls of
China → Necklace of
diamonds of India

BRI Initiative → IMEC

(2) The regional groupings are affected
by Chinese hegemony in South Asia

(Eg:-) BIMSTEC functioning

(III) Development projects

(1) Infrastructure projects designed
to counter Chinese influence

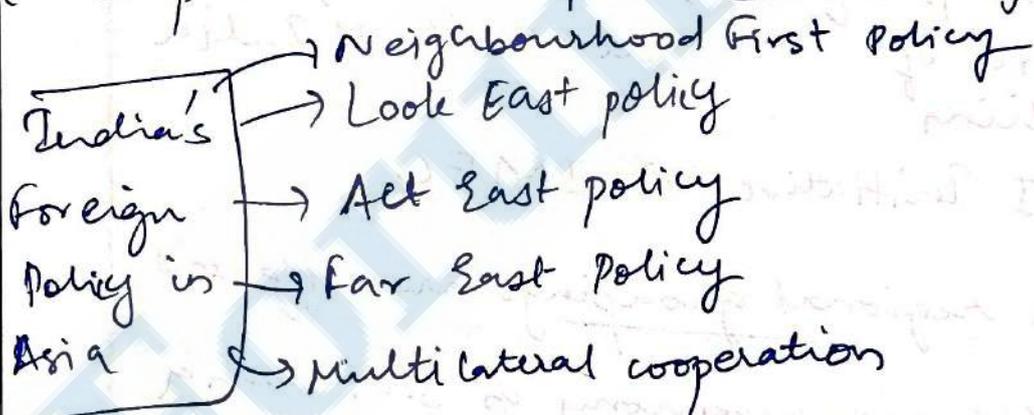
(Eg:-) BBIAI, IMT-Kaladan
project.

(2) Impetus to ~~look~~ Collaboration with Far East countries.

(3) Cultural ties to increase soft power of India.

(Eg.) Japan's collaboration to promote Buddhism

(4) Implementation of China's Strategy.



in SCO, BIMSTEC, BRICS, ADB, etc.

India - China relation is going to potentially shape the global geo-politics. Their foreign policy needs to be based on Cooperation, collaboration, coordination at regional, global, bilateral level.

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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.