



TEST CODE 7 1 2 2 3 8

MGP 2024

Time Allowed : Three Hours
समय : तीन घंटे

ForumIAS

Maximum Marks : 250
अधिकतम अंक : 250

GENERAL STUDIES / सामान्य अध्ययन

Name Of Candidate परीक्षार्थी का नाम	Snehith Chakka		
Roll No./अनुक्रमांक	1910127837	Medium/माध्यम	English <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> हिंदी <input type="checkbox"/>
Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र		Date/दिनांक	14-07-2024

*Center Code : For Online - 1900 / Delhi : Karol bagh - 1901, ORN - 1902, Mukharji Nagar - 1903 / Patna : Boring Rd. - 2001 / Hyderabad : Jawahar Nagar - 2101

INDEX TABLE / अनुक्रमणिका			INSTRUCTION / अनुदेश	
Q. No. प्र.सं.	Max. Marks अधिकतम अंक	Marks Obtained प्राप्तांक	1. Please do furnish Name, Email, Roll No and Mobile in the answer sheet. कृपया उत्तर-पुस्तिका में नाम, ईमेल, रोल नंबर और मोबाइल नंबर भरें।	
1			2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI, all questions are compulsory. उत्तर पुस्तिका में अंग्रेजी/हिंदी में बीस प्रश्न दिए गए हैं, सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।	
2			3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के लिए निर्धारित अंक उसके सामने अंकित किए गए हैं।	
3			4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. उत्तर प्रवेश पत्र में अधिकृत माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए, जो कि दिए गए स्थान में इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के कवर पर स्पष्ट रूप से लिखा जाना चाहिए।	
4			5. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum Answer Booklet must be clearly Struck off. प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, यदि निर्दिष्ट हो, का पालन किया जाए। प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़े गये किसी भी पृष्ठ या पृष्ठ के भाग को स्पष्ट रूप से काट दें।	
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Examiner's Discretion/मूल्यांकन कर्ता का विवेक :			Start Time/प्रारंभ करने का समय : 10:00 AM	End Time/समाप्त करने का समय : 1:00 PM
Total Marks/कुल अंक :			Mode Of Examination/ परीक्षा की विधि :	Online/ऑनलाइन <input type="checkbox"/> Offline/ऑफलाइन <input checked="" 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 :	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 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

PROHIBITED

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) Societal apathy towards mental health issues has resulted in the marginalization of individuals dealing with mental disorders. Elaborate and suggest measures to bring mental health concerns from the periphery into the mainstream. (10 marks, 150 words)

मानसिक स्वास्थ्य के मुद्दों के प्रति सामाजिक उदासीनता के परिणामस्वरूप मानसिक विकारों से जूझ रहे व्यक्तियों को हाशिए पर रखा गया है। मानसिक स्वास्थ्य संबंधी चिंताओं को परिरेखा से मुख्यधारा में लाने के उपायों को विस्तार से बताएं और सुझाव दीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

India have the highest number of people suffering from mental health issues

(1 in 7 people suffer - lancent study)

Societal apathy - marginalization

- ① Social stigma associated with the problem had led to many people not acknowledging the problem
- ② Limited awareness about problem led to rise in discrimination
- ③ Lack of adequate number of health professionals to deal with mental health patients
- ④ Mental health problem is not seen as a problem but rather a passing phase

Measures to mainstream mental health issues

- ① Social sensitization about mental health issues from young age
 - (Ex) Mental health in Curriculum
- ② Training AASHA & ANMs workers in spreading message about mental health problems
- ③ Mass media campaigns and use social media platform for sensitization
- ④ Upgrading Primary health centers so that they can deal with mental health issues
- ⑤ Helplines can be made available
 - Ex: Kiron helpline by MOSJE

Apart from Technocratic and executive solutions, we need a greater social will to bring desired change

Feedback

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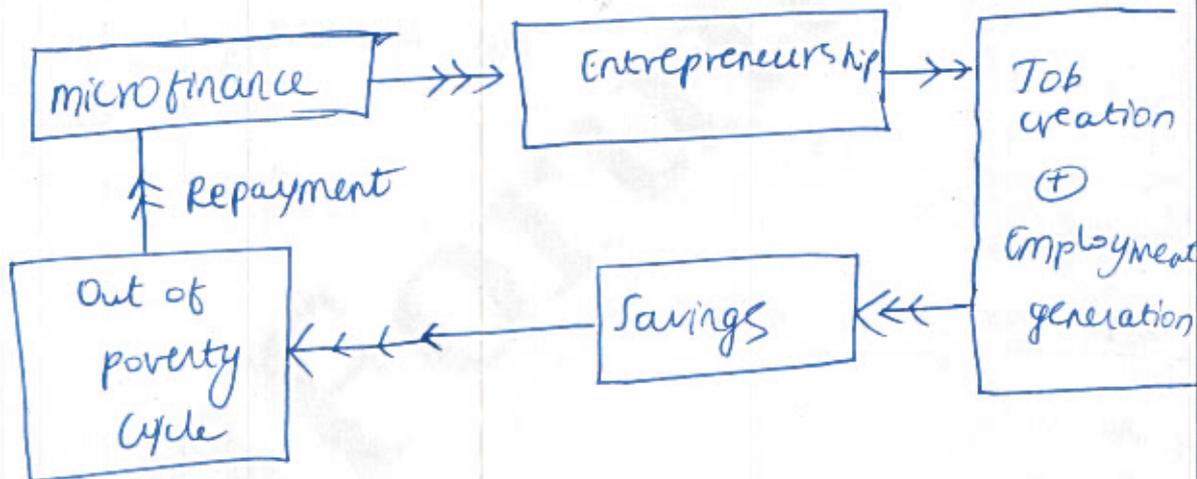
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Please put tick marks in the above table. Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.			
TOTAL MARKS			

Q.2) Critically assess the role of microfinance in satisfactorily addressing the interconnected challenges of poverty and unemployment. (10 marks, 150 words)

गरीबी और बेरोजगारी की परस्पर जुड़ी चुनौतियों को संतोषजनक ढंग से संबोधित करने में माइक्रोफाइनेंस की भूमिका का आलोचनात्मक आकलन कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Microfinance tools are the emerging ways of finance where small amounts are given as loans, generally not backed by collateral.

Microfinance addressing poverty + unemployment



Microfinance tools are used to bring vulnerable sections from out of poverty

(iv) SHG - Bank linkage program

PM Swanidhi - street vendors credit boost operation.

Challenges to microfinance

- ① Identification of beneficiary is difficult as many do not have required documents
- ② Delay in financing due to Red-tapism
- ③ Lack of collateral - in many cases finance is turning into Non-Performing asset for banks
 \uparrow NPAs increase = \downarrow decrease in their interest for microfinance
- ④ Self employment - in many cases finance is not used for self employment but for consumption expenditure.

In order to address these challenges having Bank Saurthi model and banks giving small EMIs can help boost the success of microfinance.

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.3) Though grand in their intent, the legislative measures for protection of vulnerable populations have become handicapped due to implementational bottlenecks. Comment, with special reference to SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989. (10 marks, 150 words)

यद्यपि उनके इरादे महान हैं, लेकिन संवेदनशील आबादी की सुरक्षा के लिए विधायी उपाय कार्यान्वयन संबंधी बाधाओं के कारण अपंग हो गए हैं। SC/ST (अत्याचार निवारण) अधिनियम, 1989 के विशेष संदर्भ में टिप्पणी कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Indian government via many legislations implement Constitutional protection to vulnerable sections

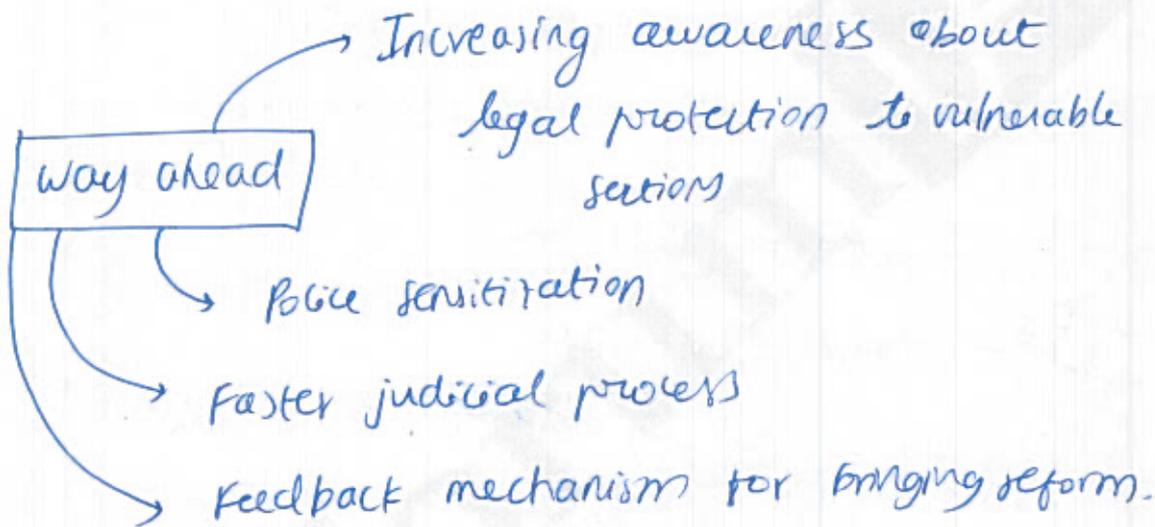
Ex SC/ST Act - implementing Article 17 banning untouchability.

Intent → act as a deterrent
 → penish any violation
 → Rights based approach to development of vulnerable sections
 Ex Maternity relief act

Bottle necks

① Implicit barriers still present even after legislation (Ex) Private sector discrimination in recruitment of SC, ST

- ① Ineffective implementation on ground due to lack of sensitisation of bureaucracy
- ③ Misuse of the act had led to increase in suspicion even on genuine cases.
- ④ Judicial delays



Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS	
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Q.4) What are the reasons behind the limited success of the co-operative movement? How can co-operatives be made more effective in fostering rural development? (10 marks, 150 words)

सहकारी आंदोलन की सीमित सफलता के क्या कारण हैं? ग्रामीण विकास को बढ़ावा देने में सहकारी समितियों को और अधिक प्रभावी कैसे बनाया जा सकता है (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The 97th Constitutional amendment

act had given constitutional status to cooperatives and their management, keeping in mind the potential the cooperative movement in bringing change

(Ex) AMUL movement

Reasons for limited success

- ① Politicization of large cooperatives - where key appointments are based on political interests
- ② Limited social capital - people in many places are unwilling to work together due to socio-economic differences (class, caste)
- ③ Bureaucratization of the cooperatives had led to hampering of democratic functioning of the bodies

- ④ Non transparent functioning - not submitting audit reports, non-regular board meetings etc
- ⑤ Regional imbalances - limited existence in North East India.

Measures needed

- ① Government push towards forming cooperatives
 - (Ex) Creation of Ministry of Cooperation
- ② focus on Farmer producer organisations (FPOs)
 - (Ex) SFAC (Small Farmer agribusiness consortium) can help in forming FPOs
- ③ Business-cooperative linkages can be enhanced by building a common platform
- ④ Cooperative formation based on people belonging to similar economic strata.

Sahakaar (Cooperatives) movement can lead to Viksit Bharat in its true sense.

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.5) Leveraging real-time data in policymaking has become indispensable for achieving good governance. In this context, analyse the role of e-governance in enhancing the effectiveness of developmental policies. (10 marks, 150 words)

सुशासन के लिए नीति निर्माण में रियल टाइम डाटा का लाभ उठाना अपरिहार्य हो गया है। इस संदर्भ में, विकास तामक नीतियों की प्रभावशीलता को बढ़ाने में ई-गवर्नेंस की भूमिका का विश्लेषण कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

With the digital revolution it had become possible to view real time data on any policy like - spending, reach etc

eGovernance role in enhancing effectiveness

- ① Plugging leakages of the service delivery
 - (Ex) DBT led to savings of more than ₹60000cr
- ② Real time data can help
 - a) changing course of policy / scheme based on the performance
 - b) financial propriety can be upheld - as every rupee spent can be tracked
- ③ Ease of service delivery
 - (Ex) PM KISAN amount directly in accounts of farmers

- ④ Reduce bureaucratic delays
- ④ Digital land records had led to ease of land acquisition.

Challenges To eGovernance

- ① Legitimacy of real time data - in many cases real time data may not match with real data
- ② Data in unusable form in many places due to lack of standardization of data keeping
- ③ Digital divide - panchayats and government offices are universally covered with internet
- ④ Limited capacity of bureaucracy to use eGovernance Tools

Using advanced Tools like

Big data Analytics, AI and ML can boost the effectiveness of eGovernance along with reducing digital divide.

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.6) In civil services, what should matter are - capabilities, merit and talent. In this context, examine the relevance of lateral entry in civil services in face of various apprehensions. (10 marks, 150 words)

सिविल सेवाओं में, जो मायने रखते हैं, वे हैं - क्षमताएं, योग्यता और प्रतिभा। इस संदर्भ में, विभिन्न आशंकाओं के मद्देनजर सिविल सेवाओं में लेटरल एंट्री की प्रासंगिकता का परीक्षण कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Lateral entry is the phenomenon where government recruits civil servants at the intermediate level from private sector or other organs based on their expertise

Lateral entry was recommended by and endorsed by NITI Aayog.

Need for lateral entry

- ① Bring in expertise, merit and global best talent into civil services
- ② Positive externality for civil servants to boost their expertise where they are generally not specialists
- ③ Best practices from private organisations can be replicated in government
- ④ 21st century problems need more expert views

rather than a generalist, bureaucratic approach

Apprehensions towards lateral entry

- ① Limited representation - as there is no reservation for SC, ST, OBC and EWS groups.
merit and talent cannot replace representation
- ② Apprehension of politicization - which may lead to revolving door entry of civil servants
- ③ Work culture differences among government and private organisations may hamper their working
- ④ Opposition from existing civil servants body as their role may be reduced.

lateral entry is needed as recommended by Baswan committee but it must be done without hampering integrity of our steel frame

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.7) India must exercise stabilizing influence in its difficult neighborhood to effectively safeguard national interest. Comment. (10 marks, 150 words)

भारत को राष्ट्रीय हितों की प्रभावी ढंग से रक्षा करने के लिए अपने दुःसाध्य पड़ोस में स्थिर प्रभाव का प्रयोग करना चाहिए। टिप्पणी कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

India has always its neighbourhood as can be seen in the decade of India's neighbourhood first policy and recent meeting of neighbours to PM's swearing in ceremony.

Need for stabilizing influence

- ① Unstability in neighbourhood may impact India directly (Ex) Migration from Myanmar after Junta rule
- ② Access to China - China can take advantage of instability in the neighbourhood (Ex) China dealing with Nepal even during the turbulent times
- ③ Counter anti-India forces (Ex) India out campaigns in Maldives & Bangladesh whenever there is any internal instability.

④ check non state actors and non traditional threats in the neighbourhood

⑥x Taliban taking over Afghanistan had renewed terror interest in Jammu & Kashmir

Aid diplomacy and India as 1st responder in case of any crisis

⑥x India's help during Sri Lanka Crisis

Ways to exercise stabilizing influence

Developmental partnerships in the neighbourhood

⑥x Salma Dam in Afghanistan

Solve unresolved disputes ⊕ integrate the region for trade

India need to adhere to Qujral doctrine where it must follow principle of non reciprocity towards its neighbours.

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.8) ASEAN serves the twin purpose of developing India's Northeast and augmenting the country's reach in the Southeast Asian region. Comment. (10 marks, 150 words)

ASEAN भारत के पूर्वोत्तर को विकसित करने और दक्षिण पूर्व एशियाई क्षेत्र में देश की पहुंच बढ़ाने के दोहरे उद्देश्य को पूरा करता है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

India's Act East policy plays an important role our engagement towards ASEAN and other East Asian nations.

Developing North East

ASEAN engagement is crucial for the complete development of North East because

- ① Enhance connectivity and boost integration of landlocked region with other nations
 - (Ex) India - Myanmar - Thailand trilateral Highway
- ② Solving Myanmar issue as instability in Myanmar is fueling tensions in North East and hence hampering peace & development
 - (Ex) India's support to ASEAN 5 point consensus to solve Myanmar crisis

Augmenting India's reach Southeast Asia

① India-ASEAN FTA and talks to upgrade the FTA to boost India's engagement with South East Asian nations

② ASEAN platform to boost defence ties and cultural ties

(Ex) Huge Indian diaspora in Singapore, Malaysia
 Defence → India exporting Brahmos missile to Philippines

③ Counter balance China in South East Asian region as there is mounting tensions in South China sea

Enhancing thrust of Act East policy can boost India's reach towards the East Asia.

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.9) The realization of a successful Asian century is premised upon stable India-China relations. Comment. (10 marks, 150 words)

एक सफल एशियाई सदी की प्राप्ति स्थिर भारत-चीन संबंधों पर आधारित है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

21st century is called an Asian century because of growing nations in Asia and large demographic dividend.

For the success of this century, two major nations India and China need to come together because →

- ① India and China will be 3rd and 2nd largest global economies & drive global growth
- ② Technology domination as China & India are growing rapidly technologically
 - (Ex) Huawei - 5G network
 - India - Digital public infrastructure (UPI)
- ③ Transition from developing nations status to developed nation by mid century

However → India-China disputes may hamper realisation of this success because



→ Border disputes may start a large scale war that set both nations back by a couple of decades

→ Nuclear war can lead to global annihilation

→ Military buildup may sideline finances to defence and take away developmental finance

India-China need to observe that their both destinies are linked together and need to work together for Asian century.

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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.10) Do you think NATO as a system of US-led collective security for Europe is relevant in an increasingly multipolar world? Justify your answer. (10 marks, 150 words)

क्या आपको लगता है कि यूरोप के लिए अमेरिकी नेतृत्व वाली सामूहिक सुरक्षा प्रणाली के रूप में नाटो तेजी से बढ़ती बहु-ध्रुवीय दुनिया में प्रासंगिक है? आपने उत्तर का औचित्य सिद्ध कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

NATO is a coldwar era organisation that contains countries from North America and Europe. Attack on any member is considered as an attack on all the members.

Recent NATO members → Finland & Sweden.

Relevance for NATO collective security for Europe

- ① Deterrent for Russia in attacking on NATO Europe member
- ② NATO as an alternate bloc emerging as a counter to Russia - China axis
- ③ NATO nations under US nuclear shield can prevent any large scale war in the future

Challenges present

- ① USA threatening to cut funds to NATO
- ② European nations not able to raise defence spending
- ③ Large scale military buildup in Europe can intumescence as a threat to Russia and trigger war.

NATO's relevance is rising in this multipolar world where every nation want to secure their own interest.

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.11) Increased penetration of mobile network, internet infrastructure, and smart phones have made m-governance the pivot of the welfare programmes of the government, but it poses challenges of exclusion. Discuss. (15 marks, 250 words)

मोबाइल नेटवर्क, इंटरनेट के बुनियादी ढांचे और स्मार्ट फोन की बढ़ती पैठ ने एम-गवर्नेंस को सरकार के कल्याणकारी कार्यक्रमों की धुरी बना दिया है, लेकिन यह बहिष्करण की चुनौतियों का सामना करता है। चर्चा कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

The convergent forces of digital revolution, globalization and government efforts in digital infrastructure had led to an increased penetration of mobiles

There are currently more than 759 million internet users according to internet and mobile association of India

m-Governance - pivot of welfare programs

m Governance is the delivery of government services using internet on the mobile phones or other services.

- ① Ease of access to government services from smart phone (Ex) Digilocker for certificates
- ② Direct benefit Transfer for beneficiary became seamless (Ex) Jan Dhan - Aadhar - Mobile (JAM) trinity

- ③ Beneficiary identification and reach had become easy and seamless
 (Ex) Registration for welfare schemes on mobile
- ④ Critical services in far away areas can be delivered
 (Ex) Telemedicine services - Digi Doctor
- ⑤ Savings for government and enhanced efficiency due to exclusion of middle person and plugging loop holes (Ex) DBT saved more than 60,000 cr ₹
- ⑥ Other pivotal role - enhancing transparency & accountability of the welfare schemes
 (Ex) Audit reports accessible online

Challenges of exclusion

- ① Rural-Urban divide in internet usage and penetration (Ex) lack of awareness about e-governance
- ② Inclusion-Exclusion errors due to lack of knowledge of beneficiaries

(Ex) MNREGA workers not receiving wages

③ Women exclusion due to their non participation in eGovernance - lack access to smartphones
- NFITS 5 data says around 1/3rd women only used internet in their lifetime

④ Exclusion due to lack of internet access in hinterlands
(Ex) Tribal areas

Way ahead

① Universal internet access at cheap rate - can
(use universal service obligation fund) (Ex) Bharat net

② Digital literacy and awareness - PM Digital Sakshar abhiyaan

③ Focus on women and vulnerable sections for digital capacity building

Universal access to m-governance and e-governance can be a step towards good-governance

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) The distinct characteristics of the Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and the government create a unique symbiosis in improving the governance and developmental process in the country. Discuss.

(15 marks, 250 words)

सिविल सोसायटी संगठनों (CSOs) और सरकार की विशिष्ट विशेषताएं देश में शासन और विकास प्रक्रिया को बेहतर बनाने में एक अद्वितीय सह - अस्तित्व बनाती हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Civil Society organisations (CSOs) are non-governmental, non-profit organisations that work for common good (Eg) NGOs, Trusts etc

Distinct characteristics

Government	CSOs
① Large welfare of society is aim	① Have specific goal & target group
② Have national wide presence through bureaucracy	② Have generally strong grass root presence
③ Policy making as per the people's wishes	③ Work in accordance to people's problems
④ Funding from budget but face constraints in spending	④ Funding via donations and grant
⑤ Accountable to people	⑤ Work for people but may not be accountable

Symbiosis in improving governance and development process

- ① CSOs can aid in universal coverage of government schemes (Ex) Akshayapatra - delivering mid-day meals
- ② Voice concerns of people based on actual on-ground problems and not based on any reports
- ③ Welfare of vulnerable people that are often not get enough attention from government
(Ex) Helpage India - taking care of old aged
- ④ Enhancing transparency & accountability in governance thus improving governance structure
(Ex) RTI activists unearthing 2G scam
Adarsh Society scam
- ⑤ Feedback to governance can be obtained from CSOs (Ex) Centre for science & environment reports on environment governance
- ⑥ Advocating good governance initiatives and participating in them as a crucial

stakeholder (Ex) CSOs participating in social audit

Despite their symbiosis, there are some

challenges present →

① Parochial interests of CSOs in some cases and involvement in antinational activities

(Ex) Grey zone warfare

IB report - illegal protests leading to 1.2% GDP loss

② Lack of accountability & transparency in working and do not involve experts in most cases while advocating new policies

③ Policy short-circuiting by big pressure groups can lead to negative consequences

(Ex) Business groups advocating anti-labor laws

Enlightened collaboration that

focuses on ironing out the differences is the need of hour

Saarkar - Samaj collaboration (government and CSO) can lead to Samridhhi (growth)

Feedback

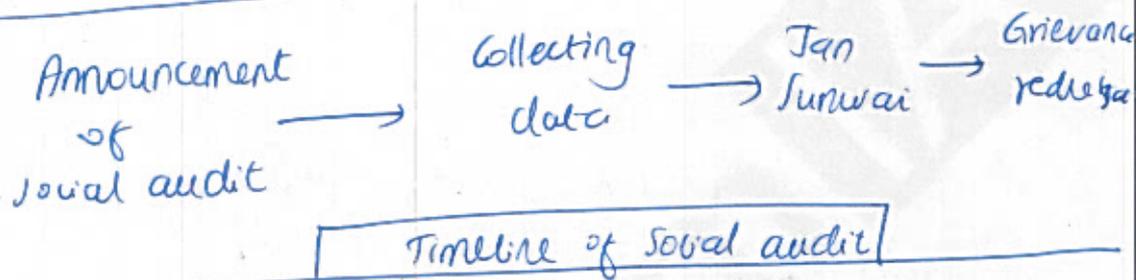
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Q.13) Critically examine the utility of the social audit framework in bringing the governance process closer to the people. (15 marks, 250 words)

शासन प्रक्रिया को लोगों के करीब लाने में सोशल ऑडिट ढांचे की उपयोगिता का आलोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Social audit is the process of checking the accountability and outcomes of a scheme by the beneficiaries themselves



Utility of Social audit framework

- ① Participatory governance will be ensured as the people are directly involved in governance/audit
- ② Rise awareness about the government initiatives about the vulnerable
- ③ Accountability of the government machinery to the beneficiaries

④ Put people at the centre of governance
as people will transform from passive-participants in governance to active seekers

⑤ Ensure good governance is ensured

(Ex) Upholding Rule of law, Transparency

Challenges present

Social audit while having many benefits it also have certain challenges

① Lack of social capital among people - class, caste and gender divide among Grama Sabha

② Bureaucratization of process had taken away the participatory & democratic approach

③ Nexus between bureaucrats - panchayat officials had led to ineffective outcomes

④ No proper institutionalized structure to take up social audit

- ① Limited awareness about the process, procedure and purpose of the social audit among beneficiaries

Measures for improving audit mechanism

- ① Institutionalization of process
 Andhra Pradesh model - Society for Social audit (SSAAT) - accountability & transparency
- ② Legal backing at national level while ensuring autonomy of Grama Sabha (Ex) Meghalaya Law
- ③ Generating awareness (Ex) 0.5% Funds for MNREGA used for social audit
- ④ Preventing nexus among bureaucracies & panchayat members by involving Juries and Civil Society members

Social audit can become an extraordinary tool by the above reforms and usher on new era of transparent governance

Feedback

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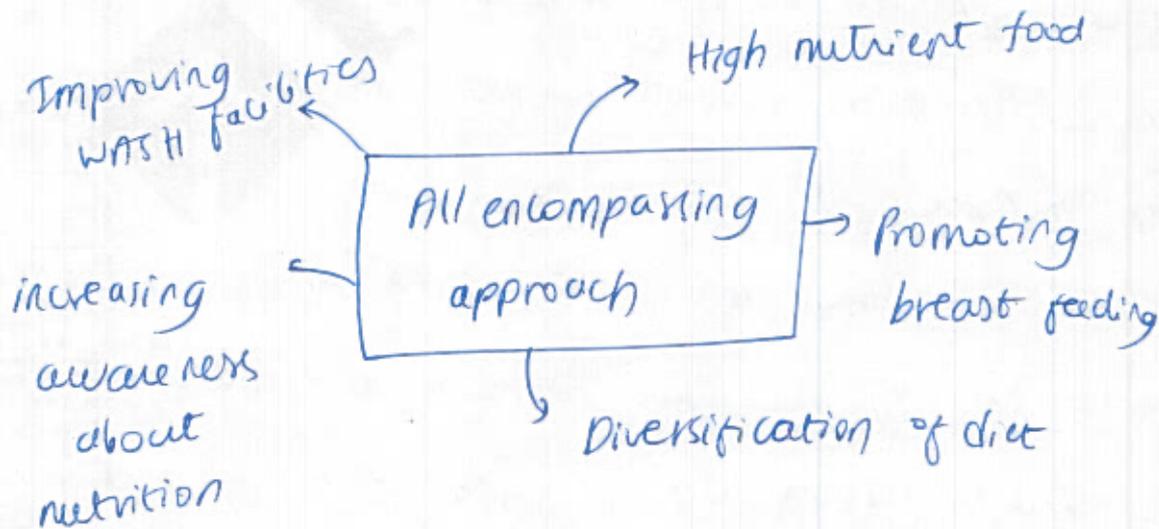
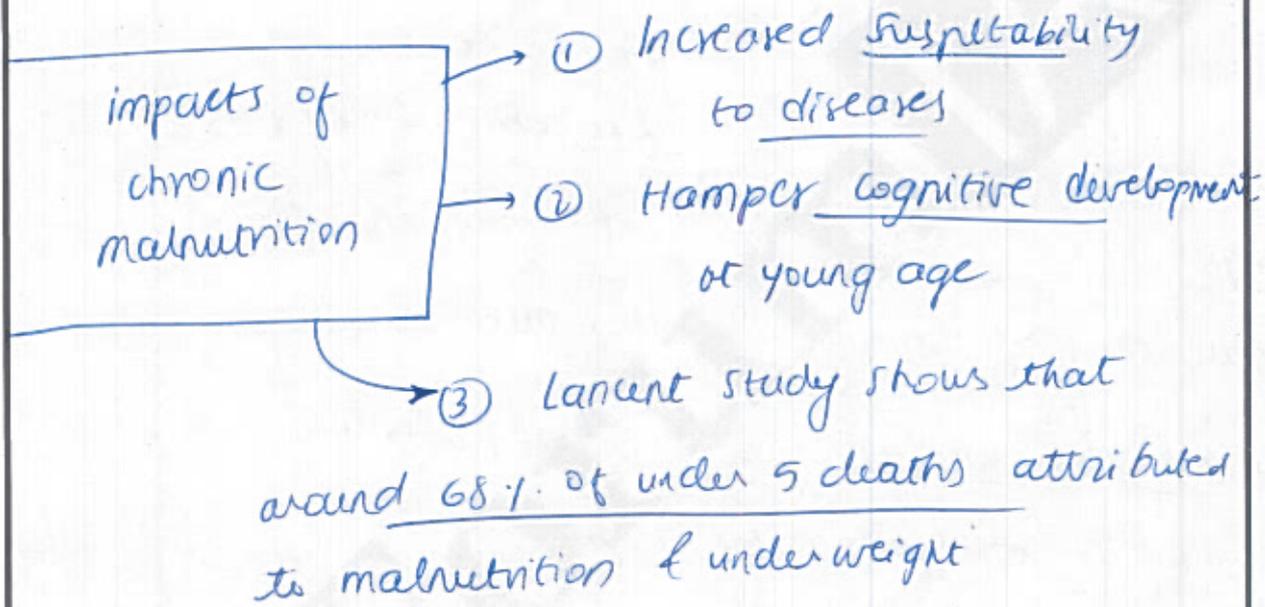
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Q.14) Eradication of chronic malnutrition calls for an all-encompassing approach. In this context, throw light on the importance of nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive approaches for achieving the goal of Zero Hunger. (15 marks, 250 words)

दीर्घकालिक कुपोषण के उन्मूलन के लिए एक सर्वव्यापी दृष्टिकोण की आवश्यकता है। इस संदर्भ में, शून्य भूख (जीरो हंगर) के लक्ष्य को प्राप्त करने के लिए पोषण-विशिष्ट और पोषण-सुग्राही दृष्टिकोण के महत्व पर प्रकाश डालिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Malnutrition is the problem wherein all the necessary nutrients are not taken through the diet.

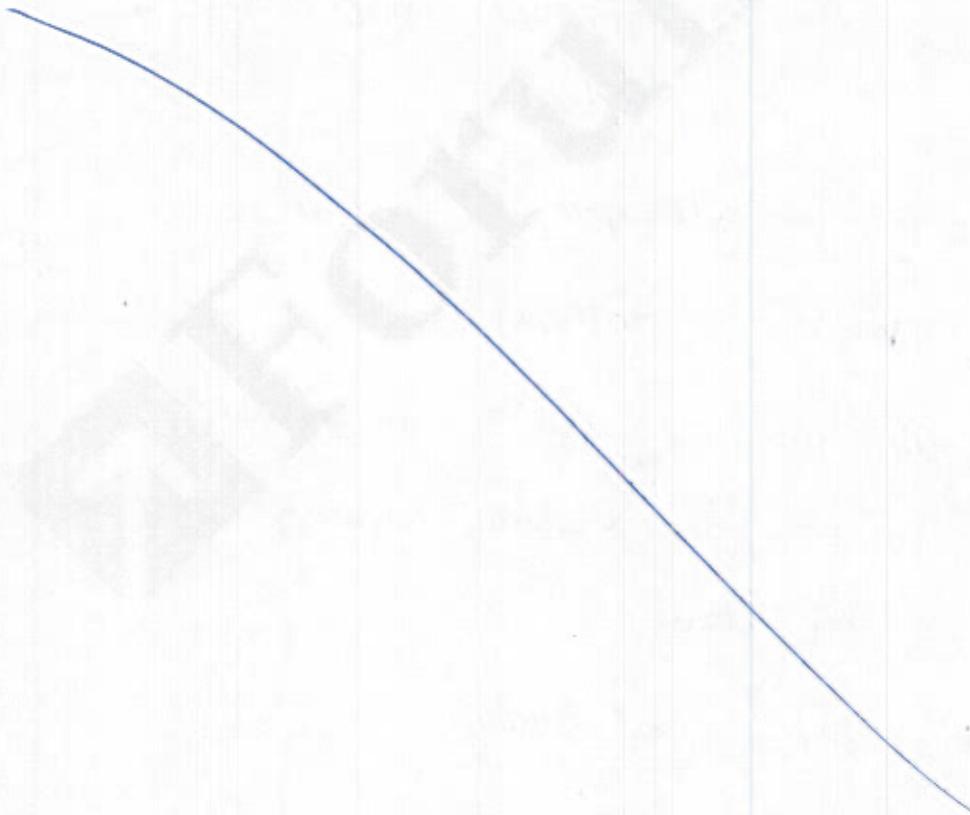


Importance of nutrition specific
nutrition sensitive approaches

- ① Overall addressing of nutritional insecurity
- ② Targeted approach
 - (Ex) universal iodification of salt to address iodine deficiency
- ③ Food fortification based on nutritional needs Ex Adding vitamins artificially in PDS products
- ④ No one size fits all approach that can address grass root problems
 - Ex: milk and egg for school children
 - Iron tablets for anaemic women and girl child
- ⑤ Can bring behavioural change
 - Specific approaches can nudge change in behavior regarding diet

Government via its Poshan Abhiyaan Poshan Gyan, mid day meal schemes, ICDS program etc is having targeted nutritional approach.

This need to be agumented by involving civil society and people's true participation



Feedback

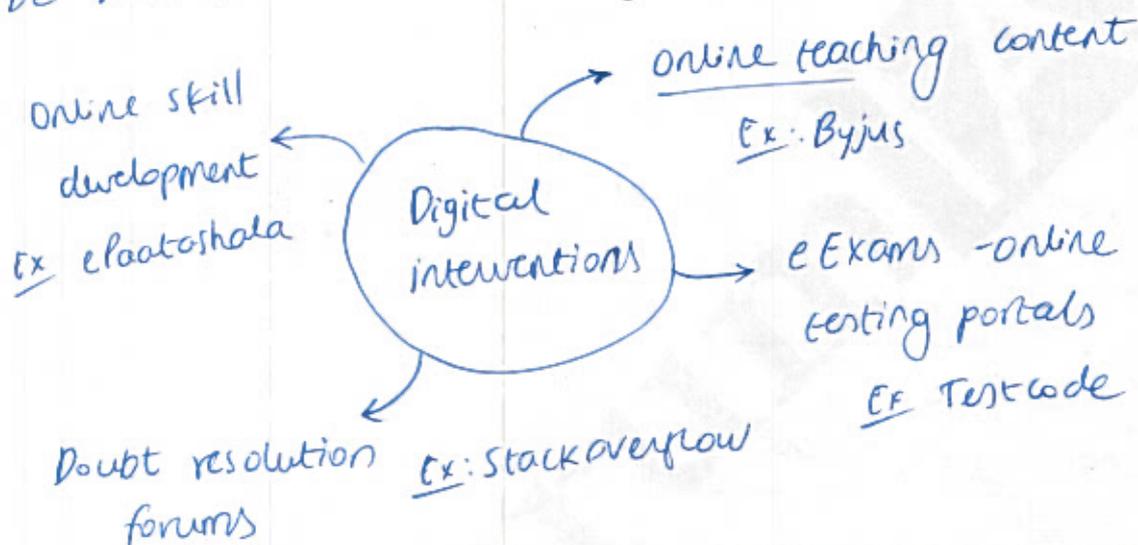
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Q.15) Evaluate the efficacy of digital interventions in transforming the educational infrastructure of the country. (15 marks, 250 words)

देश के शैक्षिक बुनियादी ढांचे को बदलने में डिजिटल हस्तक्षेप की प्रभावकारिता का मूल्यांकन कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Digital education has emerged as a new frontier of education and the rise can be seen from the onset of the pandemic.



Positive changes due to digital interventions

- ① Increased learning outcomes due to interactive and immersive learning
- ② Tablet content to school children in Andhra led to better performance
- ③ Availability, Accessibility and Affordability of education is enhanced especially

in places where poor education infrastructure is present (Ex) Swayam MOOC platform

③ Upgrading classrooms using digital boards and Computers in colleges had led to better student retention

④ Upgraded Curriculum and better teachers access that is aligned with industry demand

(Ex) edX courses from MIT professors

challenges present

① Limited spending capability - India currently spending 3% on education (3% of GDP) - Higher investment in education - 6% of GDP needed for comprehensive digital revolution

② No universal access to internet & smart phones

(Ex) Girl children denied smart phones
- Digital apartheid

- ③ limited government capability in upgrading digital infrastructure
- ④ limited focus on emerging technologies like ChatGPT, AI and IoT.

Measures needed

- ① Public private partnership to leverage the advanced technology and boost funding
- ② Teacher training to enhance their capability
- ③ Peer learning should be encouraged even when digital interventions take over
- ④ Access to digital solutions must be of low cost and without barriers

Digital interventions are not panacea for poor educational infrastructure. But they can be a step ahead to boost our educational sector.

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			



Q.16) The role of the civil service is not limited to the mere welfare of the people but extends to the realm of upholding the spirit of the constitution. Elaborate. (15 marks, 250 words)

सिविल सेवा की भूमिका केवल लोगों के कल्याण तक ही सीमित नहीं है बल्कि संविधान की भावना को बनाए रखने के दायरे तक फैली हुई है। विस्तार से बताएं। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Civil services being the steel frame of the country and permenant executive, are the defenders of the mandate of the Constitution

Civil Services - welfare of people

- ① Implementation of welfare schemes on the ground level by civil servants
- ② Policy formulation by civil servants for the greater good of society
- ③ Key pillar in providing good governance
 - ④ Timely delivery of services
- ④ Feedback loop - Civil servants collect the on ground feedback & challenges of any scheme and use them to improve the government policies & welfare schemes.

⑤ Continuity - Civil services act as a continuous body that delivers welfare in this ever changing government regime.

Civil Service - Upholding spirit of Constitution

① Safeguarding integrity, sovereignty and unity of our nation Ex: Police

② Democracy - civil servants ensure that the India stands on democratic pillars and safeguard electoral integrity

(Ex) ECI penalising violation of MCC (moral code)

Disqualification of candidates for criminal offences

③ Rule of law and Equality is ensured across the domains of administration

(Ex) Police action against discrimination / violence against vulnerable (SC, ST, women)

(4) Act as a deterrent against anti-national forces that want to subvert the constitution

(Ex) Counter Maoism, Naxalism and separatist movements.

Civil services are crucial cog in the wheels that carry our constitution. To safeguard civil services we need broad based reforms that include - denouncing politicization, upholding integrity, neutrality and anonymity

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.17) India has a pride of place among the comity of nations with strong credentials in the arena of soft power. Identifying the key attributes of India's soft power, assess the extent to which it has been leveraged in India's foreign policy matrix. (15 marks, 250 words)

सॉफ्ट पावर के क्षेत्र में मजबूत साख वाले देशों के समूह में भारत का गौरवपूर्ण स्थान है। भारत की सॉफ्ट पावर की प्रमुख विशेषताओं की पहचान करते हुए, यह आकलन कीजिए कि भारत की विदेश नीति निर्माण में इसका किस हद तक लाभ उठाया गया है। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Soft power is the concept where one nation influence decisions of other nations without using hard power like military and by using cultural, people to people linkages

This concept was popularized by Joseph Nye in recent decades.

Key attributes of India's soft power

- ① Indian culture that had its influence on globe
 - (Ex) Buddhism - East Asia, South East Asia
 - ISKON - Russia, Europe
 - Yoga - rising prominence
- ② Indian diaspora - largest in the world are India's huge soft power in many nations
 - Ex: West Asia (UAE)

- ③ Indian pop culture - like Indian movies, music and dance that are spreading via OTT and social media
- (Ex) RRR movie winning Oscars.
- ④ Indian traditional systems like Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani etc are seen as a complement to western medicine
- (Ex) Recent-use of Ashwagandha became prominent
- Leveraging soft power in India's foreign policy
- ① In negotiating bilateral deals with nations
- (Ex) Track-II diplomacy played crucial role in India-USA civil nuclear deal
- ② Indian principles resonating global forums
- (Ex) Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam as a guiding force for recent G20 summit
- ③ Enhancing FDI from western nations and companies (Ex) Disney investing in Bollywood

- ④ Promoting People to people ties
 Ex Food - Fashion - Film Collaboration between Europe & India.

Challenges

- ① Limited applicability of soft power doctrine and need economic and military power in modern world
- ② Domination by other nations
 (Ex) KPOP and Korean movies astonishing rise
- ③ Stereotyping Indian culture & Indian people on social media had led to erosion of our soft power
- ④ Lack of an all-Indian view of soft power due to wide cultural differences among different states

Soft power as a tool can be used to augment ties but in the end India needs to grow economically, technologically & militarily to ~~leverage~~ get a seat on global high table

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.18) BRICS can serve as a platform for shaping a post-Western global order, but the potential of the grouping is held back by internal contradictions. Examine. (15 marks, 250 words)

ब्रिक्स उत्तर-पश्चिमी वैश्विक व्यवस्था को आकार देने के लिए एक मंच के रूप में काम कर सकता है, लेकिन समूह की क्षमता आंतरिक विरोधाभासों के कारण बाधित है। परीक्षण कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

BRICS as a platform is extending with 5 new members joined in 2024 (Saudi Arabia, UAE, Iran, Egypt and Ethiopia) and many more nations willing to join.

Platform for shaping post-West global order

- ① Shaping post-West economic global order
 - a) New development Bank (NDB) and Contingency Reserve arrangement (CRA) can emerge as a alternative to Britton Woods twins (World Bank & IMF)
 - b) BRICS common currency (in discussion) currently can accelerate the de-dollarisation
 - c) Alternate bloc in a world becoming increasingly NATOised (new members in NATO - Sweden, Finland)

- ② Leadership to Global South and post the views of global South nations on multilateral platforms
- ③ Reforming multilateral institutions in the post-West global order (Ex) Drive UNSC reforms
- ④ Can advocate for emerging nations on the issues of trade (at WTO), climate change (Common But Differentiated responsibilities)
- ⑤ Pole in multipolar world - BRICS can become a crucial pole because - BRICS represent more than 40% global population ⊕ 27-28% Global GDP

Internal Contradictions

While BRICS's astonishing rise is seen in recent years, the internal contradictions can be challenging

- ① Internal conflicts among members
(Ex) India - China border dispute

② Varying forms of government

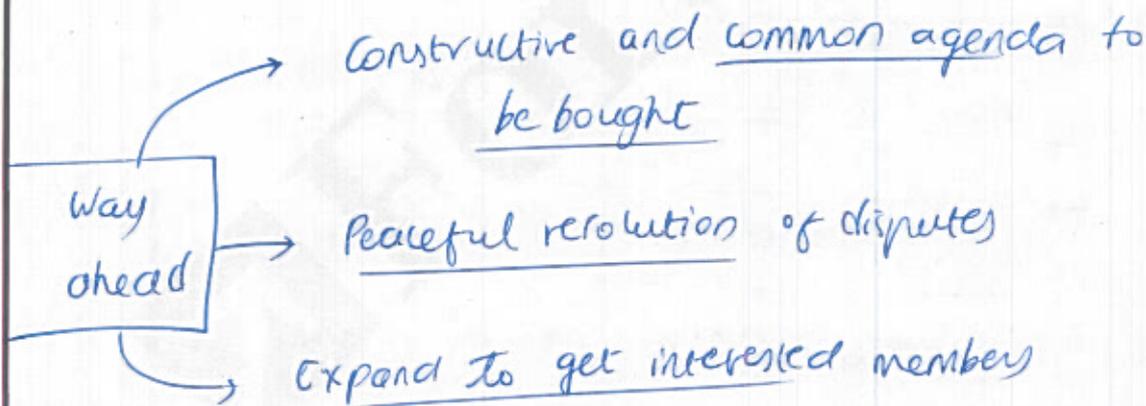
(Ex) India - vibrant democracy
China, Russia - autocratic tendencies

③ Economic model contradictions

(Ex) Brazil - capitalist model
China - state led India - mixed model

④ Anti-west narrative Vs non alignment

- Russia and China are driving anti-west narrative in BRICS but India is engaging with west (QUAD, I2U2 etc)



BRICS + platforms should not become anti-west but can become non-west and lead Global South

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.19) Enumerate the factors that make Indo-Pacific a theatre of opportunity for India. What are the impediments in reaping the geo-strategic potential of the Indo-Pacific? (15 marks, 250 words)

उन कारकों की गणना कीजिए जो हिन्द-प्रशांत को भारत के लिए अवसर का मंच बनाते हैं। हिंद-प्रशांत की भू-रणनीतिक क्षमता का लाभ उठाने में क्या बाधाएं हैं? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Indo-Pacific is the new theatre of action in the world where global powers, regional and extra regional powers are interested.

Opportunity for India

① Geo political opportunity

- a) Counter China on global level
- b) Enforcing rules based global order
- c) Engaging with many pacific island nations
 - (Ex) Recent India - Pacific Island nations Conference.

② Geo economic opportunity

- a) crucial part of global supply chain
- b) safeguarding SLOCs and net security provider Ex SAGAR

- c) Blue economy interests - large scope for
mining deep sea for poly metallic nodules
- fishing potential is high

③ Other factors :

- a) India's rise as leader to global South
b) Reform multilateralism - need for support of
Indo-Pacific nations
c) Security - counter non traditional threats
in the region like Piracy, terror

Impediments

- ① India's focus on Indian ocean and limited
reach in the Pacific
② Non commitmental engagement
India not completely joined 4 frameworks
under IPEF - Trade component not joined by
India.

③ India need support on its border at land to secure its interest against china and not on Pacific ocean

④ India's interest in securing Persian gulf due its oil imports

Multilateral engagement - QUAD, IPEF



Boost bilateral and diplomatic engagement with small nations.

Feedback

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Q.20) The latent potential of the India-EU strategic partnership is deterred due to a slew of factors. Elaborate. (15 marks, 250 words)

भारत-यूरोपीय संघ रणनीतिक साझेदारी की छिपी हुई क्षमता कई कारकों के कारण बाधित हुई है। विस्तार से बताएं। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

India - EU are natural partners due to shared values of democracy, Human rights and pluralistic societies.

① Cooperation to boost military capabilities

(Ex) Indian navy submarine deals - Spain and Germany are competing

② Upholding rules based global order

Potential of India-EU strategic partnership

③ Collaboration in Indo-Pacific where EU is increasingly taking interest

④ Reforming global institutions

⑤ Collaboration & convergence in other strategic spaces like Space (ISRO + ~~ISRO~~ ESA)

nuclear energy (ITER - fusion power)

Despite such huge potential there

is a deterrent.

Deterrent due to slew of factors

- ① EU's involvement and comments on India's internal matters (Ex) Tamru & Kashmir issue
- ② Limited economic collaboration due to non-finalisation of BITA (Bilateral investment & trade agreement)
- Enhanced economic collaboration can lead to greater strategic partnership
- ③ EU's economic integration and coupling with China - now it is hard to pivot away from China
- ④ Diplomatic divergence - While EU is taking Ukraine's ~~side~~ side in the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict, India had not taken any stand
- ⑤ EU is also ambivalent about India's relation with Russia

(Ex) Criticising buying Russian oil.

Way ahead

- ① Finalising EU-India BITA
- ② Boosting collaboration on
 - a) Space
 - b) Climate change transition
 - c) Critical technologies
 - d) Military technologies like fighter planes and submarines
- ③ Convergence over Indo-Pacific and joint action in the region (Ex) Military exercises in Indo Pacific

India-EU can lead by an example that by solving divergences, realised potential can bring global good.

Feedback
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Mentor Feedback Questions

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5

Test Goal

1

2

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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		

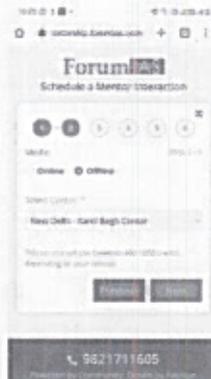
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