TEST CODE	8	1	2	4	1	4		MGP 2025

Time Allowed : Three Hours
समय : तीन घंटे

ForumIAS

Maximum Marks : **250**
अधिकतम अंक : 250

GENERAL STUDIES / सामान्य अध्ययन

Name Of Candidate परीक्षार्थी का नाम	Harsh S		
Roll No./अनुक्रमांक		**Medium/**माध्यम	English [Y] हिंदी [ ]
Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र	Online	**Date/**दिनांक	2 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		
Q. No. प्र.सं.	Max. Marks अधिकतम अंक	Marks Obtained प्राप्तांक
1		
2		
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19		
20		
Total/कुल अंक	250	

Examiner's Discretion/मूल्यांकन कर्त्ता का विवेक :

Total Marks/कुल अंक :

*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 कर्त्ता का विवेक अंक, आपकी लिखावट, प्रस्तुति, आरेखों के उपयोग, फ़्लोचार्ट, 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।

INSTRUCTION / अनुदेश

1. Please do furnish Name, Email, Roll No and Mobile in the answer sheet.
कृपया उत्तर–पुस्तिका में नाम, ईमेल, रोल नंबर और मोबाइल नंबर भरें।

2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI, all questions are compulsory.
उत्तर पुस्तिका में अंग्रेजी / हिंदी में **बीस** प्रश्न दिए गए हैं, सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।

3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
प्रत्येक प्रश्न / भाग के लिए निर्धारित अंक उसके सामने अंकित किए गए हैं।

4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided.
उत्तर 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।

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।

For Student Only / केवल परीक्षार्थी प्रयोग हेतु

Start Time/प्रारंभ करने का समय :	**End Time/**समाप्त करने का समय :
3pm	6pm

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

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

Instructions: *All questions are compulsory. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. Quality of the answer is more important than the length of the answer.*

निर्देश : सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं। प्रत्येक प्रश्न द्वारा धारित अंकों को उसके सामने इंगित किया गया है। उत्तर की गुणवत्ता उत्तर की लंबाई की तुलना में अधिक महत्वपूर्ण है।

Q.1) To what extent, in your opinion, have the ideals of the Preamble been realised in the country's 75-year constitutional journey? **(10 marks, 150 words)**

आपकी राय में, देश की 75 साल की संवैधानिक यात्रा में प्रस्तावना के आदर्शों को किस हद तक साकार किया गया है?
(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Q.2) The evolution of property rights in India reflects an intricate relationship that exists between individual rights and public welfare. Discuss this statement with the help of relevant constitutional provisions and case laws. **(10 marks, 150 words)**

भारत में संपत्ति अधिकारों का विकास व्यक्तिगत अधिकारों और लोक कल्याण के बीच एक जटिल संबंध को दर्शाता है। प्रासंगिक संवैधानिक प्रावधानों और निर्णय-विधियों (केस लॉ) की सहायता से इस कथन पर चर्चा कीजिए।
(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Q.3) Under what conditions can the 'National' Emergency be proclaimed by the President of India? What are the consequences when such a proclamation remains in force? When was it last imposed in the country? **(10 marks, 150 words)**

भारत के राष्ट्रपति किन परिस्थितियों में 'राष्ट्रीय' आपातकाल की घोषणा कर सकते हैं? ऐसी घोषणा के प्रभावी रहने पर इसके क्या परिणाम होंगे? देश में यह आखिरी बार कब लगाया गया था?
(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Q.4) 'Lack of a binding framework for pre-legislative consultations in India limits citizen engagement in the lawmaking.' Propose measures to strengthen the role of public consultation in the legislative process. **(10 marks, 150 words)**

'भारत में विधान-पूर्व परामर्श के लिए बाध्यकारी ढाँचे का अभाव, विधि-निर्माण में नागरिकों की भागीदारी को सीमित करता है।' विधायी प्रक्रिया में सार्वजनिक परामर्श की भूमिका को सुदृढ़ करने के लिए उपाय प्रस्तुत कीजिए।
(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Q.5) 'The recommendations of the 15th Finance Commission have enabled the States to improve their fiscal conditions.' Comment. **(10 marks, 150 words)**

15वें वित्त आयोग की अनुशंसाओं से राज्यों को अपनी वित्तीय स्थिति सुधारने में मदद मिली है। टिप्पणी कीजिए।
(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Q.6) In what ways do industry and business associations contribute to socio-economic development in the country? Explain with suitable examples. **(10 marks, 150 words)**

उद्योग और व्यावसायिक संघ देश के सामाजिक-आर्थिक विकास में किस प्रकार योगदान देते हैं? उपयुक्त उदाहरणों सहित समझाइए।
(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Q.7) "India's poverty lies in the eyes of the beholder." In light of this statement, examine the need for a credible and periodically updated poverty estimation framework in the country.

(10 marks, 150 words)

"भारत की निर्धनता देखने वाले की आँखों में है।" इस कथन के आलोक में, देश में एक विश्वसनीय और समय-समय पर अद्यतन किए जाने वाले निर्धनता आकलन ढाँचे की आवश्यकता का परीक्षण कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Q.8) The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012 falls short of achieving its intended objectives. Comment. (10 marks, 150 words)

यौन अपराधों से बच्चों का संरक्षण (POCSO) अधिनियम, 2012 अपने इच्छित उद्देश्यों को प्राप्त करने में विफल रहा है। टिप्पणी करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Q.9) 'Starved of funds, shackled by geopolitics, WHO is facing a crisis of capacity and credibility.' Discuss the statement in the light of USA's withdrawal and its accusation of the health body of being 'biased towards China and mishandling the COVID-19 pandemic'. (10 marks, 150 words)

'धन की कमी से जूझ रहा और भूराजनीति से घिरा विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठन क्षमता और विश्वसनीयता के संकट का सामना कर रहा है।' अमेरिका के WHO से पीछे हटने और स्वास्थ्य संस्था पर 'चीन के प्रति पक्षपाती होने और कोविड-19 महामारी से ठीक से न निपटने' के आरोप के आलोक में इस कथन पर चर्चा कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Q.10) The world continues to operate in a 'my terrorist' versus 'your terrorist' paradigm. Explain. What strategies would you suggest to develop a unified, comprehensive, and rules-based global approach to tackle the menace of terrorism? (10 marks, 150 words)

दुनिया आज भी 'मेरा आतंकवादी' बनाम 'तुम्हारा आतंकवादी' के सिद्धांत पर चल रही है। स्पष्ट कीजिए। आतंकवाद के खतरे से निपटने के लिए एक एकीकृत, व्यापक और नियम-आधारित वैश्विक दृष्टिकोण विकसित करने हेतु आप कौन सी रणनीतियाँ सुझाएँगे? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Q.11) Briefly explain the procedure laid down in the Representation of the People Act (RPA), 1951 for the registration of political parties with the Election Commission of India (ECI). What are Registered Unrecognised Political Parties (RUPPs)? What concerns are associated with them? Does the ECI have powers to de-register a political party? (15 marks, 250 words)

भारत के निर्वाचन आयोग (ECI) में राजनीतिक दलों के पंजीकरण के लिए जनप्रतिनिधित्व अधिनियम (RPA), 1951 में निर्धारित प्रक्रिया का संक्षेप में वर्णन कीजिए। पंजीकृत गैर-मान्यता प्राप्त राजनीतिक दल (RUPP) क्या हैं? इनसे क्या चिंताएँ जुड़ी हैं? क्या निर्वाचन आयोग के पास किसी राजनीतिक दल का पंजीकरण रद्द करने का अधिकार है? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Q.12) Assess the role of NITI Aayog over the past decade in promoting cooperative and competitive federalism. (15 marks, 250 words)

सहकारी और प्रतिस्पर्धी संघवाद को बढ़ावा देने में पिछले दशक में नीति आयोग की भूमिका का आकलन करें।

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Q.13) 'The post of Deputy Speaker goes beyond ceremonial significance and is indispensable to Indian parliamentary democracy.' Discuss with relevant constitutional provisions and conventions. Also, examine the implications of the prolonged vacancy of the Deputy Speaker's post.

(15 marks, 250 words)

'उपसभापति का पद औपचारिक महत्व से कहीं बढ़कर है और भारतीय संसदीय लोकतंत्र के लिए अपरिहार्य है।' प्रासंगिक संवैधानिक प्रावधानों और परंपराओं के साथ इस पर चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, उपसभापति के पद के लंबे समय तक रिक्त रहने के निहितार्थों का भी परीक्षण कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Q.14) Is the growing demand for stricter regulation of online content justified, or does it pose a threat to the right to freedom of speech and expression? Examine in light of recent judicial pronouncements.

(15 marks, 250 words)

क्या ऑनलाइन सामग्री के सख्त नियमन की बढ़ती माँग उचित है, या यह अभिव्यक्ति की स्वतंत्रता के अधिकार के लिए ख़तरा है? हाल के न्यायिक निर्णयों के आलोक में इसका परीक्षण कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Q.15) Critically examine the 'in-house procedure' adopted by the Apex Court to inquire into allegations of misconduct against judges of constitutional courts in India. (15 marks, 250 words)

भारत में संवैधानिक न्यायालयों के न्यायाधीशों के विरुद्ध कदाचार के आरोपों की जांच के लिए सर्वोच्च न्यायालय द्वारा अपनाई गई 'आंतरिक प्रक्रिया' का आलोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Q.16) Recent controversies over alleged malpractices in the electoral rolls have renewed demands for the mandatory linkage of Aadhaar with Voter ID. What is your opinion? Give reasons in support of your answer. (15 marks, 250 words)

मतदाता सूची में कथित गड़बड़ियों को लेकर हाल ही में उठे विवादों ने आधार को मतदाता पहचान पत्र से अनिवार्य रूप से जोड़ने की माँग को फिर से बल दिया है। आपकी क्या राय है? अपने उत्तर के समर्थन में कारण बताएँ।

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Q.17) Lateral entry into civil services is seen as a reformative step, yet it continues to attract criticism and controversy. Discuss. (15 marks, 250 words)

सिविल सेवाओं में पार्श्व प्रवेश (लेटरल एंट्री) को एक सुधारात्मक कदम के रूप में देखा जाता है, फिर भी यह आलोचना और विवाद को आकर्षित करता रहता है। चर्चा कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Q.18) While rankings aim to benchmark the performance of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), concerns remain about whether current ranking frameworks reflect the broader goals of education. Suggest measures to make the ranking system more objective, inclusive, and aligned with educational and societal outcomes. (15 marks, 250 words)

हालाँकि रैंकिंग का उद्देश्य उच्च शिक्षा संस्थानों (HEI) के प्रदर्शन का मूल्यांकन करना है, फिर भी इस बात को लेकर चिंता बनी हुई है कि क्या वर्तमान रैंकिंग ढाँचे शिक्षा के व्यापक लक्ष्यों को प्रतिबिंबित करते हैं। रैंकिंग प्रणाली को अधिक वस्तुनिष्ठ, समावेशी और शैक्षिक एवं सामाजिक परिणामों के अनुरूप बनाने के उपाय सुझाएँ। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Q.19) Examine the factors behind the growing salience of the Arctic region in international politics. Discuss, in this context, strategies for India to recalibrate its Arctic engagement.

(15 marks, 250 words)

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय राजनीति में आर्कटिक क्षेत्र की बढ़ती प्रमुखता के पीछे के कारकों का परीक्षण कीजिए। इस संदर्भ में, आर्कटिक में भारत की भागीदारी को पुनः संतुलित करने की रणनीतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Q.20) Bangladesh is a key pillar of India's Neighborhood First policy, but recent developments on both sides threaten to disrupt the 'Sonali Adhyay' in bilateral relations. Analyze. (15 marks, 250 words)

बांग्लादेश भारत की "पड़ोसी प्रथम" नीति का एक प्रमुख स्तंभ है, लेकिन दोनों पक्षों के हालिया घटनाक्रमों से द्विपक्षीय संबंधों में 'सोनाली अध्याय' के टूटने का ख़तरा है। विश्लेषण करें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

(1)

India celebrates 'Azadi ka Maha Utsav' but we need to reflect if we got true independence or not.

India's progress in 75 years constitutional journey

(1) Economic equality : gini coefficient reduced to 0.2 [RBI]

(2) Women's equality : 33% reservation in Parliament : 42% female LFPR [PLFS]

(3) Secularist : Equal distance + principled distance followed.

(4) Democracy : ECI celebrated 18 lok sabha elections + 400+ State legislature elections

(5) Unity and Integrity : 'Ek Bharat Sreshta Bharat' Mission, unification by common laws, common institutions.

1

But also face challenges

1) Poverty - 11% multidimensional (NITI Aayog)

2) SC/ST discrimination
   Women's discrimination } Eg 98% dalit manual scavengers [EPW]

3) Religious Tensions : Waqf Bill protests
   : Accusations of saffronization

4) Democracy and Elections
   └ 48% criminalization [ADR]
   └ Recent Chandigarh Mayoral election fraud

5) Social Inequality + Economic inequality
   Eg Tribals - still displaced for projects

Way Forward

i) More representative government needed

ii) Inclusive growth model [NITI Aayog]

   Hence, India's road to Viksit Bharat @ 2047, needs preamble to be realized and add 'Pace to Progress'

2

Recent judgement by Supreme Court has reduced state's <u>powers</u> to exercise ~~dom~~ <u>doctrine</u> of eminent domain to possess private property

<u>Evolution of property rights</u>

i) <u>Constitutionally guaranteed</u> in Independence
   └ <u>Art 19</u>, <u>Art 31</u>.

ii) But questioned in Kesavananda Bharti <u>case</u>, 1973. → Supreme Court <u>ruled</u> in <u>favour</u> of state's power to acquire public property for public good-

iii) <u>44th CAA</u> → made right to property a constitutional right available to all
   └→ Added <u>Art 300A</u>, abolished <u>Art 31</u>.

iv) <u>Rein forced</u> in later cases.

  (Eg) <u>Sanjay Coke manufacturing case</u> accepted the doctrine of eminent domain.

<u>But changed now |</u>

i) State and private sector <u>both are equal parts</u> of India's progress now.

ii) Hence Supreme Court gave a <u>4-fold</u> test in <u>Association of Property owners Case - 2024</u>.

iii) The 4 fold criteria include the <u>necessity of acquisation</u>, the adverse impact of <u>private ownership</u> etc.

  Hence, the balance has been maintained between <u>individual rights</u> and <u>public welfare</u> by the judiciary.

4

Emergency powers have been called as the _safety valve_ of the constitution for their ability to handle grave incidents.

Main conditions for proclamation of Emergency

i) Internal _aggression_ → changed to 'armed _rebellion_' by |44th CAA|

ii) Times of _war_ and threat to National sovereignty. (Eg) Indo-Pak War.

iii) Must be on the _recommendation_ of the cabinet.

iv) Liable for _judicial review_

Consequences of emergency |

i) State _legislatures_ work under control of the Union

5

ii) fundamental rights are suspended.
    └ Movement restricted

iii) Judiciary — no impact

iv) State legislatures can be extended
    beyond the 5 year tenure

v) Military — gets powers to control borders
    and any aggression.

last imposed on:

i) only 3 emergencies till now
    └ Indo China War - 1962
    └ Indo Pak war - 1971
    └ Internal emergency - 1975

Way forward — Emergency must be last resort
and should be avoided for authoritarian
purposes [Justice Shah]

    Hence, with 50 years to last emergency,
let us take that as a learning lesson for
future

Pre-legislative consultation refer to gathering of public opinion before moving the parliament for enacting any law.

<u>lack of Binding framework for this</u>

i) <u>No mandate</u> to consult general public

ii) No <u>recall</u>, <u>initiative</u>, <u>referendum</u> used either.

<u>Measures to strengthen public consultation</u>

i) <u>Regular meetings</u> —

People ⊕ → <u>MP</u>
→ <u>MLA</u>
↓
<u>Mayor</u>

ii) <u>Indirect consultation</u>
Eg <u>NGOs</u>, <u>Civil society</u>

iii) Online audits - as in Mygov.in

iv) Leverage Gram Sabha for last mile connect.

v) On ground staff - ASHA, Anganwadi, Ward Members - can gather public opinion.

Challenges → i) Numerical/logistically mammoth task

→ ii) Representatives already chosen to voice people's view

iii) Will create conflicts. (Eg) Religious laws

Way Forward

i) Voluntary disclosure on Parliament' website.

ii) Leverage Parliamentary Committees [Art 105]

Hence, True people's rule in democracy must include people's checks for all laws wherever possible.

8

(5)

(15 FC) <u>15th finance commission</u> has used <u>new criteria</u> to bring devolution ratio to 41% for states.

Enabled states to improve fiscal condition

1) Reduced <u>fiscal deficit</u>

2) Reduced debt to GDP to 28% [RBI]

3) Reduced dependence on grants — 1.95 to 1.65 lakh crores.

4) Improved metrics

    ↳ <u>Mizoram</u> — Highest literacy.

    ↳ <u>Telangana</u> — surpassed national growth rate

    ↳ <u>Delhi, Goa</u> — per capita income more than double of national

3% → 2.6%

Target   Achieved

Fiscal deficit of states (RBI)

9
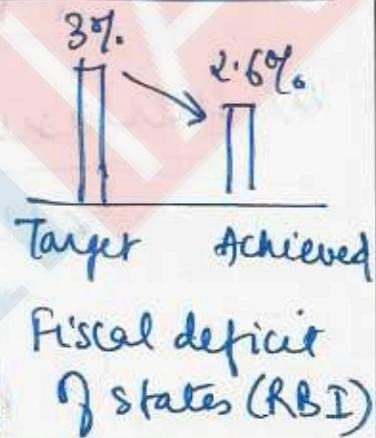
But still struggles continue

i) 'State Health' report (RBI) showed laggard states — Kerala, West Bengal.

ii) Contentions about the criteria of 15th FC itself
   └ South states 'penalized' for population control.

iii) Increasing expenses of states
   └ More centre sponsored schemes [75]
   └ Power sector in loss
   └ GST — delay in devolution [PAC report]

Way Forward —(i) 16th FC must have improved criteria
   (ii) Timely payments
   (iii) NITI Aayog to assist states in fiscal management.

Hence, India must ensure all states develop equally for 'Sabka Sath, Satka Vikas'.

10

(6)

Art. 19 gives Indians the right to form associations, which reflects their potential in democratic discourse

Contribution of Industry/ Business Association

i) SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

① Corporate Social Responsibility funds [CSR] - Eg Nanhi Kali by Mahindra companies Association

② Policy formulation. Eg E-choupal assists farmer welfare policies

③ Raising voices of minorities . Eg Indian language AI pushed by ASSOCHAM.

④ Research for social causes Eg Impact of online activities studied by NASSCOM

11

(ii) ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

① Higher bargaining power to the sector.
   (Eg) lobby of telecom companies for
   spectrum auction.

② Increase FDI and technology transfer. | ⊛ India hit $1 trillion FDI DPIIT

③ Upliftment of marginally poor also
   (Eg) DICCI merges social and economic cause

④ Training and skilling. (Eg) NSDC
   partners with Big-4 [IT giants]

Challenge	Solution
i) Elitist agenda.	i) Democratic Representation
ii) Nature not a priority.	ii) Special Climate change specific groups
iii) Nexus with politicians	iii) Impartiality by SEBI guidelines

Hence, associations will be critical to
act as people-government linkage for a
people proactive good governance.

12

Poverty is the <u>continuous deprivation</u> of basic resources that hamper one's <u>quality of life</u>, as per <u>IMF</u>

<u>But poverty estimation itself differs</u>

World Bank ← ↓ → Dandekar
$2.15/day   <u>Tendulkar</u>   <u>Committee</u>
         <u>Committee</u>   2100 calories
        <u>Rs. 27,32 per day</u>
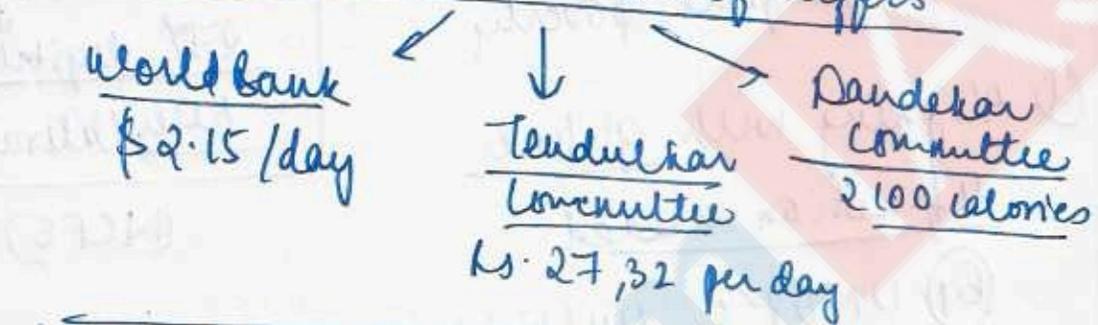
<u>Need for credible and updated poverty</u>
<u>estimation</u> |

① <u>Regional diversity</u>
   └ Price levels differ between states,
     cities, rural-urban areas
     └ Necessities and expenses differ also
     ⓔⓖ Gujarat - Vegetarian
     North East - Non vegetarian

② New forms of poverty
  └ Urban Poverty - relative poverty despite high income.

③ Poverty not just economical
  └ Educational poverty
  └ Digital poverty

  Ⓧ India - only 27% digitally 'rich'/literate
  (NCFE)

④ Aligning with global definition needed.
  Ⓔⓖ UNDP's multidimensional poverty-

⑤ fast pace of change
  └ Inflation - needs new poverty levels

Way forward → i) New poverty estimation committee needed
  └ ii) Include gender, age, digital, environmental poverty.
  iii) Keep changing base year regularly.

Hence, India's poverty eradication will begin with true estimation of the issue.

POCSO Act was enacted to ensure children are not exposed to evils of sexual and physical misconduct

Intended Objectives

i) Female Officer - for taking child's statement -

ii) Fast track courts

iii) Even possession of CSEAM (child sexual exploitation and abuse material) was criminal offence.

Achievements of POCSO

i) Increase in POCSO case filing
   └ up by 90%.

ii) 83% disposal rate [India child Protection Report].
   (ICPR)

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iii) Rise of PILS for children.
    (eg) Kailash Satyarthi.

But falls short |

i) Only ~15% get compensation [ICPR]

ii) fast track courts in less than 200 districts.

iii) 3.2 crore child labour including family labour [Kailash Satyarthi]

iv) Poor learning outcomes [ASER]

v) Girls and Dalits + Backward classes disproportionately hurt.
    ∟ almost 80% of child labour and trafficking

Way forward | → i) full district coverage of fast track courts
    ↳ ii) More strict imprisonment
    ↳ iii) Rehabilitation of victims

Hence, ORF says children of India will make 24% of incremental workforce in 2040s. their potential cannot be wasted by exploitation

WHO was started to fight global health emergencies. Its structure contains → i) World Health Assembly (WHA)

ii) Secretariat

iii) Executive Board
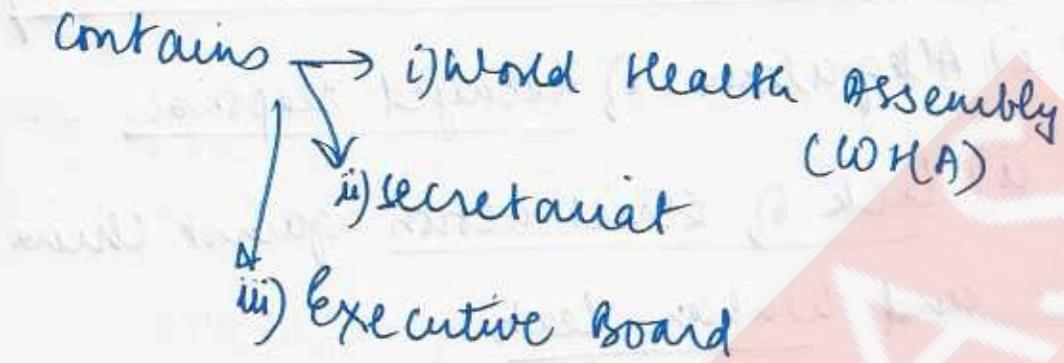
WHO: many crises

i) Starved of funds: USA's withdrawal.

ii) Geopolitics: USA v/s china

iii) Crisis of capacity and credibility
↳ run by volunteers

USA's withdrawal

i) USA was largest doner - upto 20% of WHO's $6.5 billion budget.

ii) Funded multiple projects of Africa,

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Asia - focusing on vaccines, water supply etc.

Accusations of bias in COVID-19 handling

i) Allegations of delayed response.

ii) Lack of strict action against China and Wuhan leak

iii) Against `proportional' systems such as IMF where biggest donor gets highest votes

Solutions for WHO

i) Reform its WHA and funding system
   └ currently 80% are voluntary donations
ii) Ensure systems for future COVID like crisis. Eg GHEC [Global Health Emergency Corps]

Hence, WHO must not be politicized as it is critical for reaching SDG-3 (Health).

Terrorism has a fluid definition which is not universally accepted.

My Terrorist → Kasab - terrorist for India
v/s   but martyr for Pakistan

Your Terrorist → also caused issues in extraditions under MLATs

Causes

i) Lack of unified definition
    Ⓔⓖ CC IT in UNSC by India was not accepted by all, despite efforts to curb terrorism

ii) Challenges cooperation with, threats due to sovereignty.
    Ⓔⓖ Cannot extradite if other country says she/he is terrorist.

Approach to tackle terrorism

i) Define terrorists unequivically
   (Eg) India's latest posture in
      Qingdao meeting refused
      vague terrorist definition.

ii) Coordination needed — Interpol +
                            Bharatpol

iii) Bilateral discussions — To ensure
     sovereignty of law of the land.

iv) Turn off support for terrorists
    ⌐ Terror financing
    ⌐ State actor support — (Eg) ISI.

v) Proportional judgement and punishment

   Hence, India can further her approach
   of 'zero tolerance' for terrorism on global
   stages to generate consensus.

26

RPA, 1950 and RPA, 1951 are the 'magna carta' of Indian democratic elections dealing with registration and disqualification of candidates and parties.

Procedure for registration of political parties

i) Governed by Election Commission [ECI]

ii) The party must be registered entity.

iii) Must fulfill ECI's criteria
    ↳ set no. of members
    ↳ have internal structure
        (leaders, workers etc.)

iv) They must fill the required forms

v) Generally, need support of registered voters for legitimacy.

vi) Must choose party symbol or assigned by ECI.

RUPPS

i) These are parties that have been registered, but (have not) received the critical mass of seats or votes.

    Eg Need 6% votes for National Party status

ii) They could also be a new party yet to fight any election

iii) They get fewer permissions
- less star campaigners
- Expenses of ~~star~~ campaigners must be disclosed.
- less choice among symbols.
- Need support of 10 voters for candidate filling nomination

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Concerns associated with ROPPs

i) Unverified history.
ii) High instance of criminal background
iii) Fiscal prudence: not yet established.
iv) May resort to pubic politics.
v) Create unnecessary voter confusion.
vi) May have to forefeit deposits if get less than 1/6 of votes

Powers to de-register

ECI |does not have| the power to deregister → hence leads to multiplicity of parties
→ major issue in de-criminali -zation

Hence, ECI must get a separate secretariat and powers to enforce regulations, including de-registration.

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NITI Aayog replaced planning Commission as the think tank of India.

Mandates of NITI Aayog

i) Competitive federalism

ii) Cooperative federalism.

iii) SDG Achievement

Role of NITI Aayog in promoting ~~cooperative~~ federalism : [Competitive]

i) It regularly publishes reports with rankings of states.
  (Eg) SDG Index

ii) It ensures fiscal prudence among the States. (Eg) Fiscal Health Index called out Kerala for fund mismanagement.

iii) Its inputs are used by union in deciding ~~its~~ centre sponsored schemes,

and central sector schemes

Role of NITI Aayog in cooperative federalism.

i) Cooperation by sharing best practices
Eg India @ 75 report.

ii) Cooperative schemes. Eg Aspirational Districts and Aspirational Blocks [ADP]

iii) Model Agricultural practices, Housing Suggestions given to states.
Eg GROW Report.

iv) Innovation is central to its cooperative agenda.
Eg Cooperation in Atal Innovation labs

But also plagued by challenges

i) Only a recommendatory body without executive power

ii) Does not have separate budget

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iii) Overbrdened and understaffed.

    Eg Amitabh Kant later made G20
      sherpa also

iv) Centre's imposition on states : challenges
    federalism .

v) Lack of major success except ADP .

Solutions

i) Allow NITI Aayog to penalize
    defaulters and any unruly actions
  against federalism.

ii) Separate Budget + Secretariat .

iii) More synthesis needed — NITI Aayog

Principal Scientific ——————⊕——— NGOs
Advisor, Economic   /
advisor   Industry
          and academia

Hence, NITI Aayog must not stay a
token of innovation and collaboration, but
must be the brain of the nation

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⑬

[DS] Deputy speaker acts as the interim speaker when the main speaker is absent. She enjoys <u>all powers of the speaker</u> in that instance.

DS goes beyond ceremonial significance and is <u>indispensable</u>

---

i) <u>Constitutional provision</u> for Deputy Speaker - instituted in [Art 93] itself.

ii) <u>Not secondary to speaker</u>
    └ <u>Equal powers</u> when acting as speaker
    └ <u>Normal MP</u> otherwise

iii) She can vote in 1st instance itself.

iv) <u>Gives voice to the opposition</u>
    └ DS from [opposition party] by [Convention]

v) All ~~power~~ <u>privileges</u> also provided
　└ Regular privileges [Art 105, 194]
　└ Speaker's privileges [Art 93, when
　　　acting as speaker]

vi) Becomes more critical in a <u>coalition</u>
　　<u>government</u> → active role of in debates
　　and discussions.

<u>Implications of prolonged vacancy</u>
---

i) It is a sign of <u>ruling party's dominance</u>
　　└ as <u>Speaker decides</u> election of
　　　　DS

ii) It effects the <u>constitutional morality</u>
　　of the parliament.
　　　└ Prevents <u>critique</u> of the government

iii) <u>Misuse</u> of <u>leader of opposition Act, 1977</u>
　　└ <u>10%</u> rule used to disallow opposition
　　　(Malvankar's rule)

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and its personnel [leader of opposition, Deputy speaker etc].

iii) Many committees lose ex-officio leader [headed by __DS__ by default].

    ↳ (Eg) Parliamentary standing committee

Needful Improvements

i) __Recognize__ opposition despite 10% rule

ii) __Set time line__ for DS election

iii) Ensure __healthy debates__

iv) Assign __set days__ for DS to head the ~~lok sabha.~~ ~~parliament~~ with __opposition__ leading the __agenda__.

Hence, Deputy speaker must become the instrument of ensuring __parliamentary discipline__ and __balance__.

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(14)

India has roughly <u>880 million</u> <u>internet users</u>, the 2nd largest global user base, as per <u>TRAI</u>.

Demand for stricter regulation

i) To prevent <u>radicalization</u> and <u>hate speech</u>, cautioned in [Amish Devgan] case.

ii) Uphold <u>national security</u> and <u>sovereignty</u>. (Eg) Control recruitment by terrorist groups.

iii) Ensure <u>privacy of people</u>, as per [Puttaswamy case].

iv) Protect <u>children</u> from harmful content. (Eg) Pornography.

v) Protect <u>women</u> from online trolling, ⟲

doxxing etc as per [Joseph Stine case].

vi) Also necessary for environmental protection - Chat GPT can be 10x harmful than a Google search - hence aligns with [M C Mehta case].

___

But regulation poses a threat to freedom of speech an expression

① Direct challenge to [Anuradha Bhasin Case] that provides Right to Internet.

② Similarly against [Faheema Shirin] case as online access part of right to life

③ No internet = less employment, that violates judgement under [Olga Tellis Case].

④ It challenges continuous access to

health care, provided in [Bandhua Mukti Morcha Case].

⑤ Also against right to education, as per [Unnikrishnan Case]. (Eg) Online education disruptions.

| Solutions |

① Restrictions must follow doctrine of proportionality

② Shut downs only as last resort.

③ Self regulation by platforms
└ Meta's Teen profiles.

④ Filters for explicit content
- # Ad, # Sponsored for influencers.

Hence, ~~India~~ we cannot smother innovation by restricting online access, as it has become indispensable.

(Access Now)

2023 2024
Internet Shutdown

32
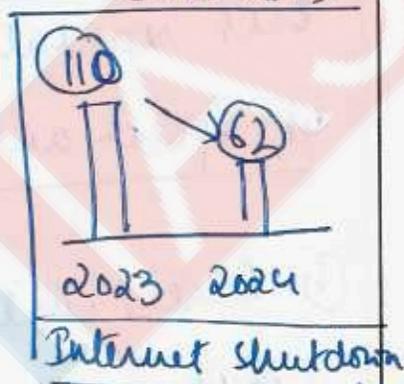
The Supreme Court [SC] has the power to conduct inquiries of misconduct, which is an extension of Art. 142 (plenary jurisdiction)

In-house procedures

(i) Benefits

a) fast process

b) SC aware of its own rules and conventions.

c) Ensures separation of powers [Art-50]

d) SC is the ultimate interpreter and guarantor protector of constitution and the laws.

e) Such independence upheld in NJAC case, (4th Judges Case).

1) Also part of <u>Basic Structure</u> [independence of judiciary]

[<u>Challenges</u>]

i) Allegations of <u>bias</u> and <u>favouritism</u>.

ii) SC does not follow <u>accountability</u> to others but keeps all others <u>accountable</u> to <u>itself</u>.

iii) Such behaviour also seen in other instances — i) <u>Contempt of Court</u> powers
ii) <u>Appointment collegium</u>

iv) Against <u>natural justice</u>
└ <u>cannot judge case of self</u>.
(Eg) ex CJI Gogoi allegedly mishandled sexual misconduct cases.

v) SC <u>lacks executive power, removal powers</u>. (Eg) Recent <u>Delhi High Court</u>

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Judge found with cash could not be <u>removed</u> until Parliament convenes

<u>[Way Forward]</u>

i) Supreme Court must allow <u>outside</u> <u>point of view</u>.

ii) <u>Collegium system</u> to adjudge internal Cases — instead of <u>CJI</u> [Chief Justice] directing the proceedings

iii) In democracy, public should be ultimate decision makers — also related to <u>judicial</u> <u>issues</u>.

Hence, need is to dilute SC's powers of <u>self</u>-guided procedures while also ensuring SC's <u>independence</u> and <u>integrity</u>.

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Malpractices were alleged such as the Delhi elections where parties questioned removal of supporters from the electoral roll.

Aadhaar linkage can be a solution to mitigate this

Benefits of Aadhaar linkage

i) Unique ness maintained - reduced redundancy and duplicacy.

ii) faster updation - using Aadhaar e-KYC.

iii) Automation - reduces manual errors.

iv) Reduces politicization

↳ Parties cannot use untrue documents to force removal by election commission [ECI]

But also creates challenges

i) <u>Data privacy issues</u>
  └ <u>leaked Aadhaar data in 2024</u>.

ii) <u>Fake Aadhaars</u> also seen
  └ <u>Multiple IDs for same person</u>

iii) Breaches <u>right of privacy</u> also
  └ <u>Forced linkages</u> may be used to
    <u>Coerce 100% coverage</u>

iv) <u>Digital Divide</u> creates issues.
  └ <u>Not all have linked Aadhaar</u>
  └ <u>Inclusion - Exclusion</u> error.

v) Does not solve problems of migrants
  and <u>digital nomads</u>.
  └ Still on old <u>electoral rolls of home town only</u>

<u>Solutions</u>

i) <u>Voluntary linkages</u> - option to <u>opt out</u>

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ii) <u>Awareness drives</u> by ECI

    └ <u>Urge people to update ~~their~~ their status</u>

iii) <u>For changes</u> : Need <u>minimum 2 people</u> to verify changes

iv) <u>Technology</u> → Encryption

    to ensure
    updated
    <u>voter sheets</u>   Blockchain [used in <u>West Virginia</u>]

        Online voting

v) <u>Political maturity</u>: Parties must not indulge in <u>lowly tactics</u>

    Hence, electoral integrity requires the holistic support of voters and parties alike to ensure '<u>One vote, One value</u>'

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(17)

Lateral Entry aims to recruit people from private sector at mid and high level in bureaucracy [generally at Joint Secretary]

Reformative step

Benefits
→ i) Private sector expertise
→ ii) Necessary for poly crisis (Eg) Digital, Defence field.
→ iii) Creates healthy competition
→ iv) Reduces bureaucratic inertia and cholestrol.
→ v) Recommended by Baswan Committee
→ vi) Ensures right-sizing.

(Eg) Only ~ 450 IAS at centre level

Criticisms {

i) **Dejection** of career bureaucrats

ii) Already enough **empanelled officers** - 18 per vacancy
[India Today]

iii) **Revolving** door policy
└ Short stints

iv) **Favouritism** in hiring

v) No **reservation** provided
(Eg) Recent UPSC advertisement had to be rolled back

vi) **Animosity** among bureaucrat and laterally hired

40
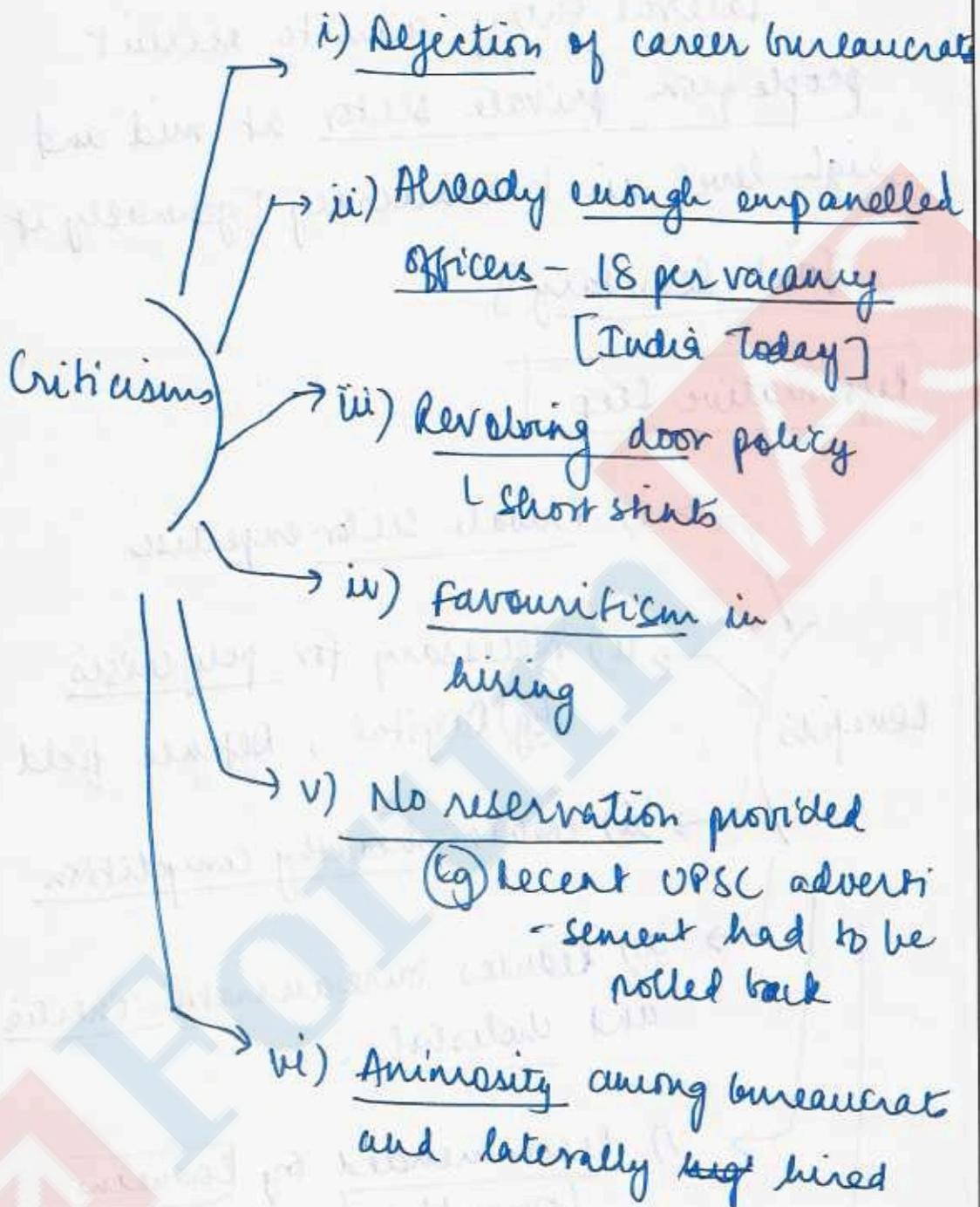
Way Forward

(A) Promote from within

  ↳ i) Leverage experience of <u>20+ years</u> of the Officers

  ↳ ii) Their <u>on-field insights</u> must be valuable for <u>policy making</u>.

  ↳ iii) Correct <u>incentives</u> and <u>appraisals</u> for ensuring <u>right match</u> for the role.

(B) Supplement + Complement from outside
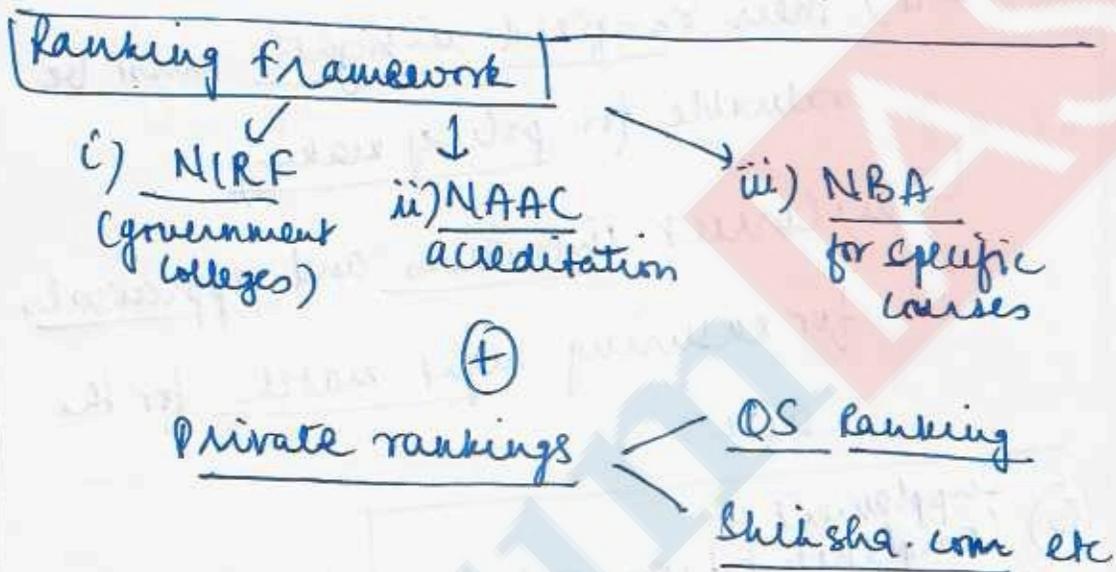
  ↳ i) <u>New areas</u>, novel areas can have <u>lateral expertise</u>. (Eg) AI/ML

  ↳ ii) <u>Thorough vetting</u> and <u>background clearance</u>.

Hence, the <u>iron frame</u> of democracy must prevent getting rusted by regular maintenance.

Rankings such as NIRF have been used to create competition among HEIs and increase overall quality of education.

| Ranking framework |

i) NIRF (government colleges)   ⬇ ii) NAAC accreditation   ➜ iii) NBA for specific courses

(+)

Private rankings < QS Ranking
                    Shiksha.com etc

CONCERNS of current ranking|

i) Do not reflect goals of education
    └ focus on| ➜ i') placements
            ➘ ii) scores/ percentages
        ⬇ Rote Learning rewarded.

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ii) Less focus on <u>life skills</u>, <u>vocational</u> <u>education</u>.

iii) '<u>One size fits all</u>' approach.

    Ⓔ Same method for Arts and Science colleges.

iv) '<u>Buying</u>' of <u>Ranking</u> : <u>Sponsored</u> colleges with <u>higher ranks</u>.

v) <u>Inflation of metrics</u>

    Ⓔ <u>1 cr + packages</u>

<u>Suggestive Measures</u> to make the ranking system more :

Ⓐ <u>Objective</u> → i) <u>Multiple tests</u> to ensure <u>validity</u> and <u>reliability</u> B results

    ii) <u>Machine based</u> : Test of students on online portal to judge outcomes.

    iii) <u>No money transactions</u> allowed

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(B) <u>Inclusive</u> → i) Increase coverage of <u>ITI</u>, private colleges, <u>unaffiliated colleges</u>

ii) Prevent <u>opting-out</u> of colleges.

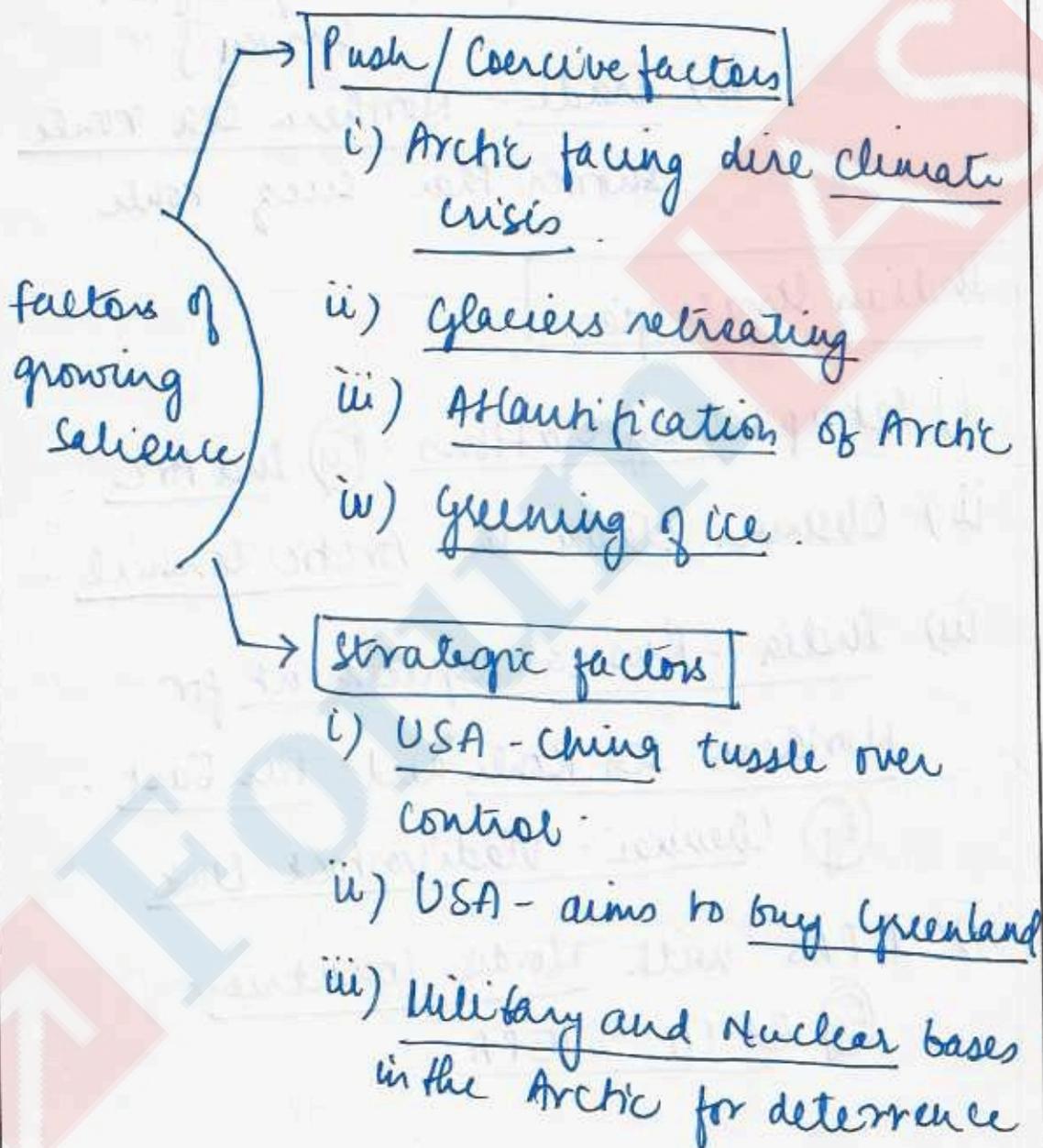iii) Customize <u>ranking methodology</u> based on pedagogy.

(C) <u>Educational outcomes</u> → i) <u>align</u> scoring parameters with the <u>New Education Policy</u>

ii) Industry opinion must be added.

iii) Check for <u>life skills</u> also. (Eg) Creativity

(D) <u>Societal outcome</u> → i) <u>Ethical parameters</u> needed

ii) <u>Inclusive research</u> (women, dalits)

iii) Alignment with <u>social demands</u> must be assessed also.

Hence, Ranking of colleges should create a '<u>democracy-centric</u>' education system

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Arctic Region generally refers to the area above the <u>0°C isotherm</u>, surrounding the <u>Arctic Ocean</u>.

→ | Push / Coercive factors |

i) Arctic facing dire <u>climate crisis</u>

ii) <u>Glaciers retreating</u>

iii) <u>Atlantification</u> of Arctic

iv) <u>Greening of ice</u>.

factors of growing salience }

→ | Strategic factors |

i) <u>USA</u> - <u>China</u> tussle over control.

ii) USA - aims to <u>buy Greenland</u>

iii) <u>Military and Nuclear bases</u> in the Arctic for deterrence

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factors of) → [Pull factors]
growing
salience

i) Mineral and Oil ~~wealth~~
        wealth.

13% oil + 30% natural
gas [US Geological
Survey]

ii) Trade - Northern sea route
shorter than Suez route

Indian Strategies]

i) Set up study stations. (eg) Ind Arc.

ii) Observer status in Arctic Council.

iii) India - Russia agreement for
Northern Sea Route and Far East.
(eg) Chennai - Vladivostock link.

iv) FTAs with Nordic countries.
(eg) EFTA - TEPA

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But not enough

(i) Still not able to access methane clath-rates.

(ii) Looming climate crises.

(iii) Not part of decision making body of Arctic Council.

Way Forward

i) More FTA, Bilateral Treaties.

ii) Continue climate change fight - UNFCCC

iii) Resource planning - Supply Chain Resilience

iv) Extend Deep Ocean Mission to Arctic

v) Leverage High seas Treaty of UNCLOS to get access.

Hence, Arctic region will become the key to new riches necessary for the multipolar tomorrow.

India celebrates <u>10 years</u> of the Neighbourhood first policy but it is marred by conflicts in <u>Bangladesh</u>, <u>Myanmar and others</u>

<u>Bangladesh - Key pillar</u>

i) Largest <u>border</u> - 4000 km.

ii) Largest <u>trading neighbour</u> - <u>$20 Billion trade</u>

iii) Cultural <u>Similarities</u> of <u>Bangladesh and west Bengal</u>.

iv) <u>Historical ties</u> - <u>Indian Army + Mukti Vahini</u>

v) <u>Projects</u> → <u>Chattogram + Mongla port</u>
   → <u>Yadda port</u> for electricity sharing.
   → <u>Agartala Akhaura rail link</u>

vi) <u>Border Exchange - 100th CAA</u>

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Recent disruptions

i) Sheikh Hasina (India's good partner) usurped.

ii) Anti India sentiment of the interim government.

iii) Religious persecution of Hindus.

iv) India retaliated → suspended

         a) Maitri Express

         b) stopped Transhipment access to Bangladesh

Other changes made

i) Tightened security along border
     ↳ BOLD-QIT, CIBMS (border management tools)

ii) Prevention of illegal trade
     ↳ double of legitimate trade

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iii) Integrated check posts at __Suttarkandi__
+ Ghajadonga __ar alert__

__Needful solutions__

i) __Discourse__ at __multiple levels__
    ⌐ Border DMs [Magistrates] to
       PMs [Prime Minister].

ii) Put behind old issues and move
__beyond 1971 war__.

iii) Leverage __Act East policy__ + __Gujral__
__Doctrine__ → magnanimity __towards neigh__
                       __- bours__.

iv) __Build back together__ - India can help in
elections, finance, education, techno
- logy. (Eg) __UPI__

Hence, India - Bangladesh must align the
goals of | __Viksit Bharat__ | and | __Smart Bangladesh__ | 50
        | __(at 2047)__ | | __(at 2041)__ |