

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	MADHVENDRA PRATAP SINGH		
Roll No./अनुक्रमांक	1910114953	Medium/माध्यम	English <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> हिंदी <input type="checkbox"/>
Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र	KAROL BAGH-1901	Date/दिनांक	16/8/2025

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

INDEX TABLE / अनुक्रमणिका			INSTRUCTION / अनुदेश	
Q. No. प्र.सं.	Max. Marks अधिकतम अंक	Marks Obtained प्राप्तांक	1. Please do furnish Name, Email, Roll No and Mobile in the answer sheet. कृपया उत्तर-पुस्तिका में नाम, ईमेल, रोल नंबर और मोबाइल नंबर भरें।	
1			2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI, all questions are compulsory. उत्तर पुस्तिका में अंग्रेजी/हिंदी में बीस प्रश्न दिए गए हैं सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।	
2			3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के लिए निर्धारित अंक उसके सामने अंकित किए गए हैं।	
3			4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. उत्तर प्रवेश पत्र में अधिकृत माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए, जो कि दिए गए स्थान में इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के कवर पर स्पष्ट रूप से लिखा जाना चाहिए।	
4			5. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum Answer Booklet must be clearly Struck off. प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, यदि निर्दिष्ट हो, का पालन किया जाए। प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़े गए किसी भी पृष्ठ या पृष्ठ के भाग को स्पष्ट रूप से काट दें।	
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			6:30PM	9:30 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 का 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	
			ECN CODE/ ईसीएन कोड :	Evaluation Date/ मूल्यांकन तिथि :
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Note: Students are expected to incorporate suggestions from the feedback provided in the answers. Discussion classes for the tests are also available online in your portal to aid in your preparation. Further, students are requested to see the good copies of the tests and learn from them. You can also discuss your copy with a Mentor and discover ways and means to improve your answers, or if you have any issues with this test / copy. Ask specific questions, to get specific answers.

EXAMINER'S REMARKS

CRITERIA FOR THE FEEDBACK SECTION AT THE END OF EACH QUESTION

1. **AWIS = Answered What is Asked.** This means whether you have addressed the core demand of the question or not. Addressing the core demand of the question gets you an objectively fair score. It is examiner's perception if you have understood the question and if you know the answer in the first place. Creative answer writing, sometimes missing the core demand, may fetch very high or very low scores, and exposes your answer to the subjectivity of the examiner.
2. **CD & VA = Content Density & Value Addition.** Examiner will evaluate the quality and quantity of your content in the answer. In the same word limit and space limit have you (a) written what is asked (b) gone beyond what is asked (c) enriched answers through combination of (but not all) suggestions, ideas, quotes, flowcharts, diagrams, facts and figures, data etc. This affects objective components of assessment.
3. **S & F = Structure & Flow =** Whether you have structured your answer properly or not. Whether the answer has been broken into parts and sub-parts and each part has been addressed appropriately or not. Whether the flow of the answer is maintained. Affects both subjective and objective components of assessment.
4. **P & R =** How your answer performs on the criteria of presentation, ease of read, clarity and apparent effort in writing the answer. This affects the subjective components of assessment.



Q.1) 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)

Preamble of Indian Constitution reflects the minds of framers of Constitution which was reflected in its 75 year journey.

Ideals of Preamble realised :-

1) Justice - Social, Economic, Political

→ 97 crore voters registered in 2024 LS elections

→ Gender Justice → Babita Puniya Case
→ 43.2% Panchayat functionaries are women

→ Rise in Per Capita Income

2) Liberty

→ SC expansion of preview of Art 21 after Maneka Gandhi case

(ex.) Right against adverse effects of climate change

3) Equality : Affirmative action via EWS (103rd amendment)

4) Democratic ideals → de-centralisation
→ subsidiarity

But not fulfilled ideals are: -

1) High inequality: 1% wealthiest own 23% income (Oxfam 2023)

2) Violence against Minorities, SCs, STs
(ex: Mob lynching (Dadri))

3) Women constitute 49% of population but contribute to only 18% output

4) Allegations against ECI: harms credibility

Thus ideals of Preamble needs to be fulfilled in spirit to transform into a society based upon substantive Justice, Liberty, Equality

Feedback

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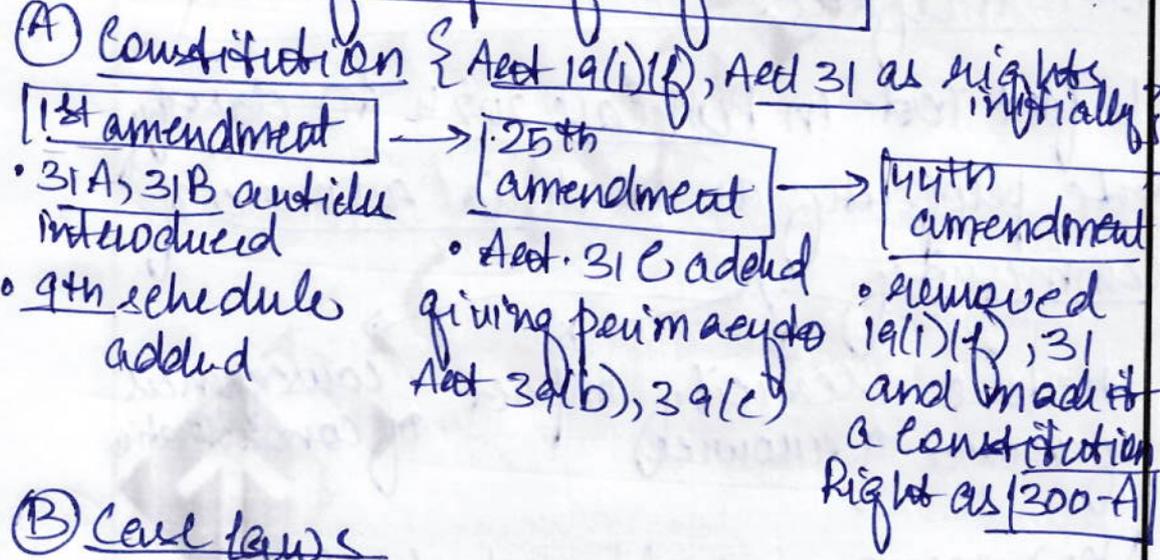


Q.2) The evolution of property rights in India reflects an intricate relationship that exists between individual rights and public welfare. Discuss this statement with the help of relevant constitutional provisions and case laws. (10 marks, 150 words)

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)

Recently SC in Property Owners Association (POA) Case 2024 laid down another milestone in evolution of Property Rights in India.

Evolution of Property Rights :-



(B) Case laws

- 1) Kamushwan Singh 1952 : laid down principles of compensation
- 2) Rengadh Reddy 1977 case : SC declared Private resources as "material resources of community"

3) KT Plantation Case 2011 : SC laid down principles of → Just Compensation
→ Public Purpose

4) Bajrang vs State of MP 2021 : SC emphasized on following Due Process of Law while acquiring property

Relationship of Individual rights and Public welfare

1) 4 fold Test in POA Case 2024 to classify private property as material resource of community

- ← nature of resource
- ↓ scarcity of resource
- impact
- consequences of concentration

2) New economic reality : post LPG reforms require balance.

Thus balance of individual right to property is necessary with welfare model of Governance for a Viksit Bharat.

Feedback

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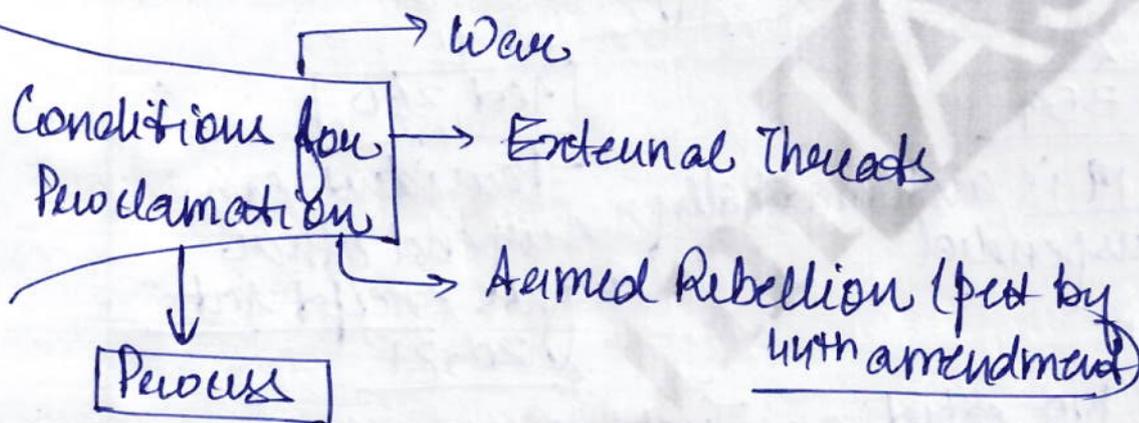
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TOTAL MARKS			



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)

National Emergency is proclaimed by President of India as per provisions under Art 352.



Written recommendation by cabinet to President → President agrees → has to be passed by both houses of Parliament within 1 month with 2/3rd majority

Consequences

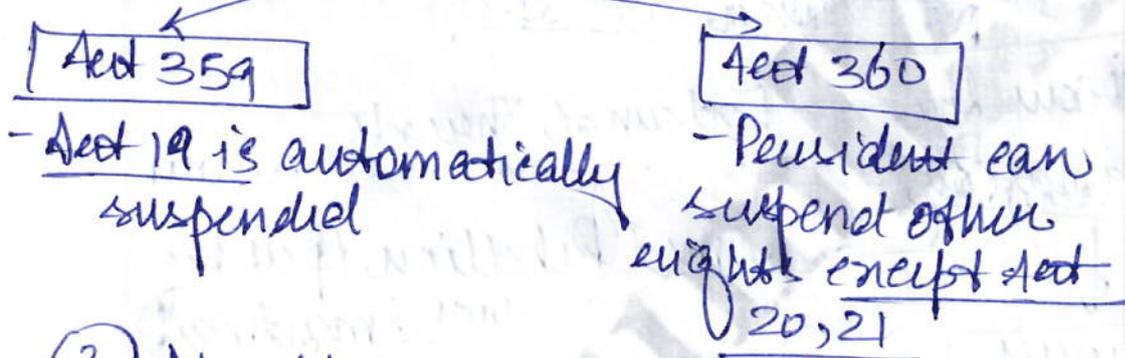
1) Federal consequences

↳ Unitary features take over

2) Parliament could frame laws under State list (Art 250)

- D) President can order executive action under any state + issue ordinances under List II
- C) Parliament can ~~transfer~~ extend its tenure (ex: 5th Lok Sabha)

② Fundamental Rights



③ No effect on Judiciary

Last time emergency was imposed in 1975 and continued till 1977 after which Morarji Desai became 1st Non-Congress PM of India.

~~20~~ 2025 marks 50 years of Emergency and a chance to reflect upon strong democratic ideals which act as base of our country.

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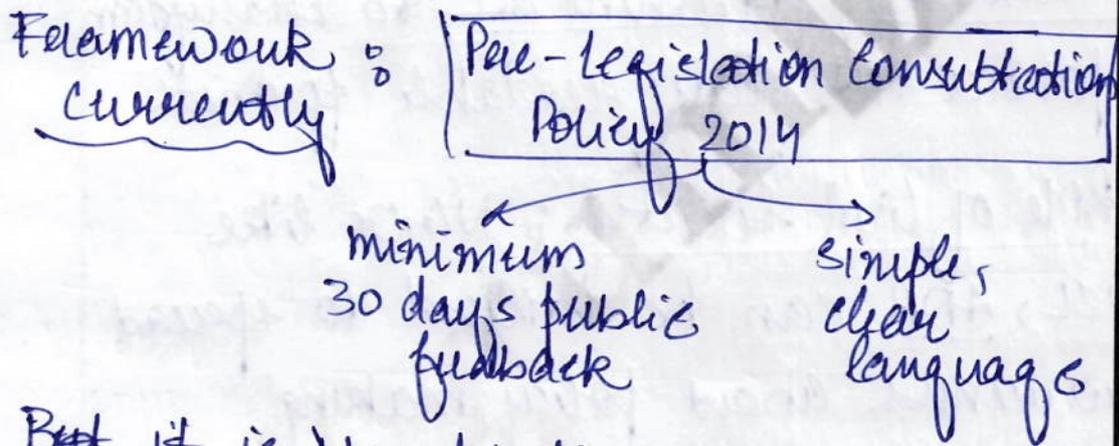
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TOTAL MARKS			



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)

Parliamentary supremacy will of the people and absence of citizen engagement makes law making process detached from local realities



But it is Non-binding.

It limits citizen engagement which has following implications :-

- 1) Detached from ground realities.
- 2) low transparency mechanisms.
- 3) Lack of awareness among public.

Measures to strengthen role of public consultation :-

- 1) Give statutory backing to 2014 policy → with min-30 days window
- 2) use of digital platforms like e-Samad; Bhashini AI to transform policies into easy readable formats
- 3) Role of civil society : NGOs like PVCC, ADR can be utilized to spread awareness about policy making
- 4) Role of Parliamentary Committee → to invite public, experts for views on bills (ex: ONOE Bill by JPC)
- 5) Proactive disclosure of intent to frame policy in public domain.

Thus increasing role of citizens in actively shaping the future of policymaking.

Feedback

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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)

15th Finance Commission (FC)
had tenure of 2020-25 and operated under provisions of Art. 280, 281 of Constitution.

Recommendations of 15th FC

- 1) Vertical devolution = 41% of divisible pool of Tax
- 2) 1% devolution to Defence Fund for CAPF, Armed Forces (Naivedyam Suraksha Kosh)
- 3) Revenue deficit grants of ₹ 2.6 Lakh crore to 17 states
- 4) Performance based grants to sectors (Healthcare, education, Agriculture etc.) to tune of ₹ 1.3 Lakh crore
- 5) Fund allocation to National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF)

6) established Millennium Cities Challenge Fund for sustainable urbanisation

7) GST rationalisation to 3 slabs.

Enabled states to improve fiscal conditions :-

1) Reduced Fiscal Deficit to 3% of GDP (RBI report 2023)

2) To compensate for reduction in vertical devolution by 1% → Revenue deficit grants.

3) Improved disaster response via SDRF contribution.

Challenges → 1) Horizontal inequality
(Bihar got ₹7 for ₹1 contributed while Maharashtra ₹0.08)

2) Rising Revenue deficit of wealthy states (13%)

16th FC has responsibility for equitable resource allocation and ensuring fiscal federalism.

Feedback

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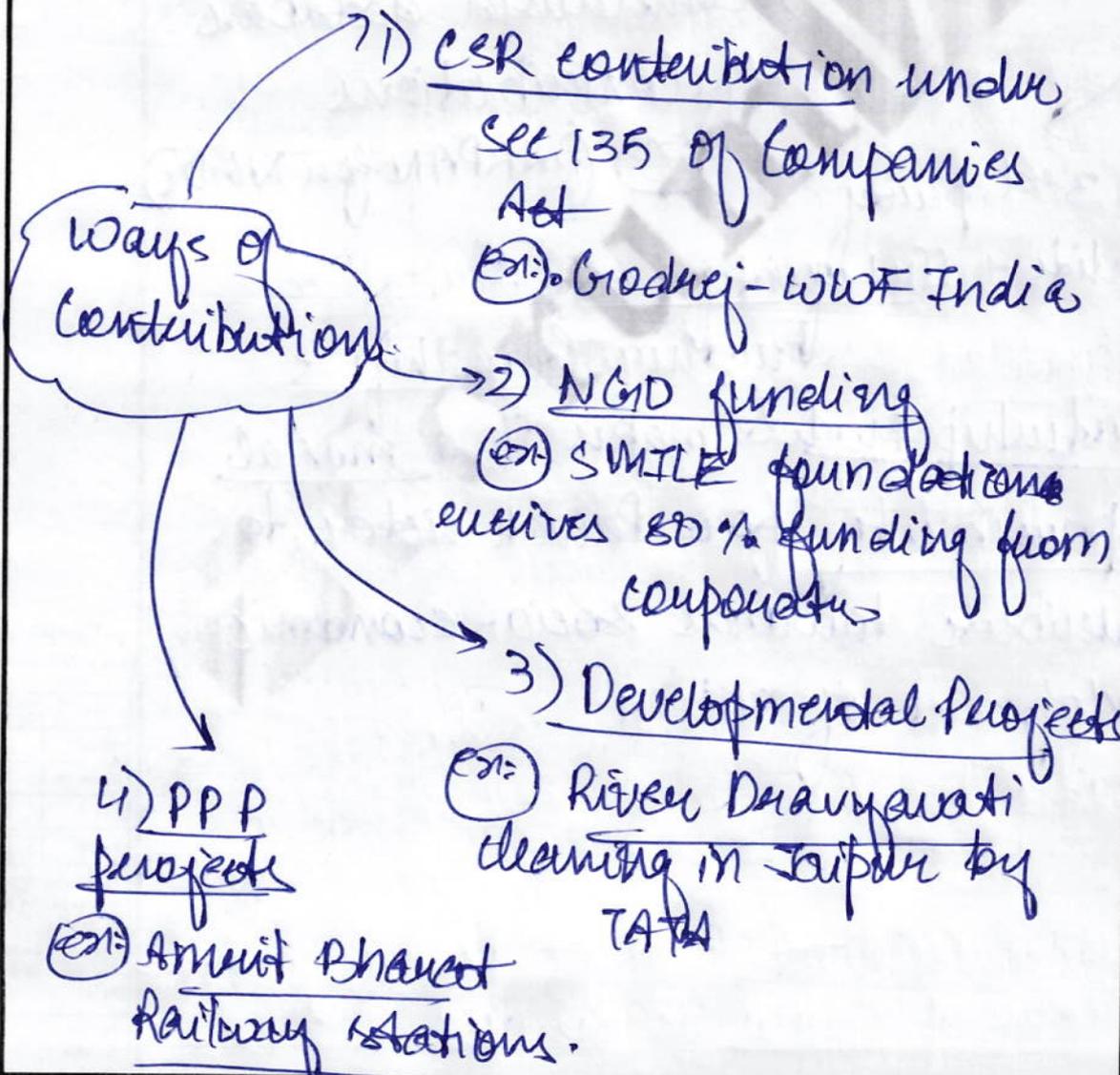
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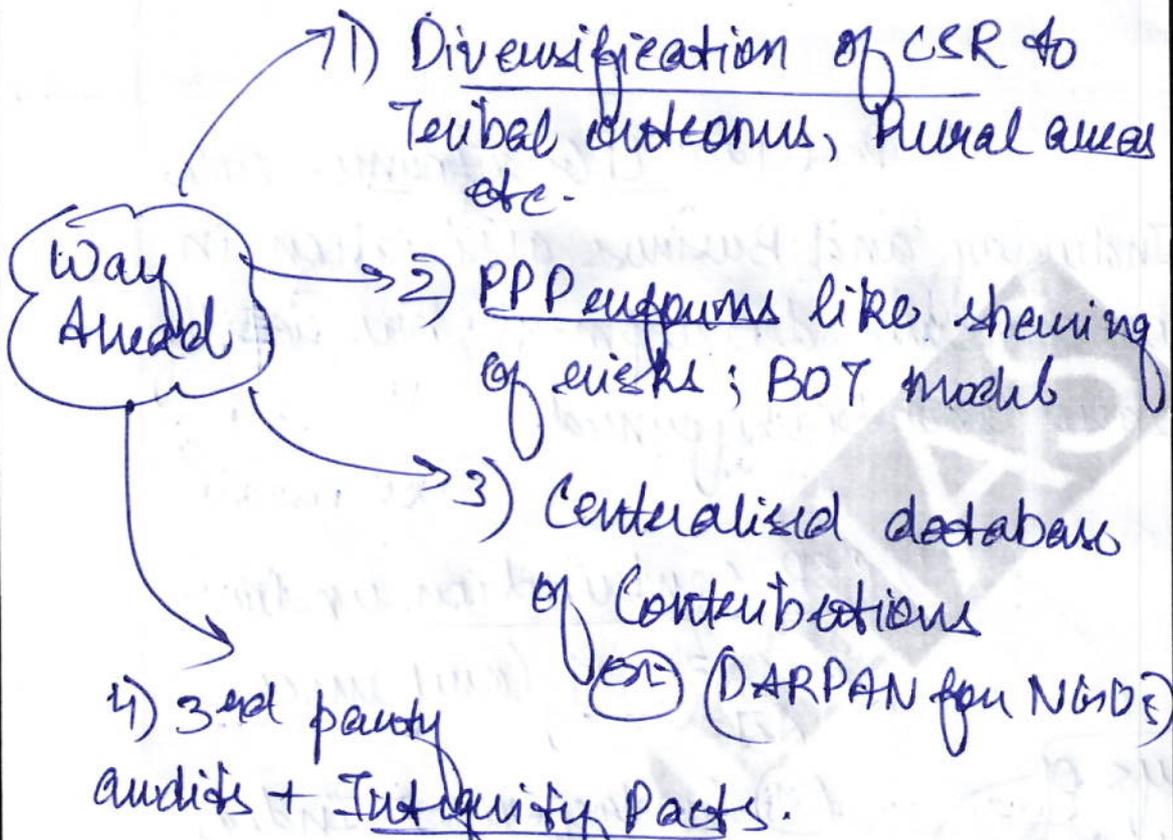


Q.6) In what ways do industry and business associations contribute to socio-economic development in the country? Explain with suitable examples. (10 marks, 150 words)

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

Post 1991 LPG reforms, role of Industry and Business association in socio-economic development has rapidly increased and transformed.





Future Gandhi's
Trustship model makes it a moral responsibility for Private sector to contribute towards socio-economic development of nation.

Feedback

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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)

As per MPI of UNDP in 2023, India has 12% of its population as Multidimensionally poor but WB report 2025 claims that people under extreme poverty are at 2-3% in India.

Current poverty estimation framework

- 1) National MPI by NITI Aayog
 - ↳ Health, Education, Standard of living as pillars of Multidimensional poverty.
 - ↳ Incidence x Intensity = Index
- 2) Tendulkar Committee methodology
- 3) NSO surveys like Household Consumption Expenditure survey (HIES)
- 4) Indirectly by PLFS.
- 5) SECC 2011 : for NFSA BPL population

Need for credible and updated framework

- 1) Multiplicity of surveys → lack coherence & duplication of efforts.
- 2) Hidden factors need to be measured.
 - Inequality (Gender)
 - Opportunity
 - Skills
- 3) Evidence based policy making → for NFSA, Ayushman Bharat Yojna
- 4) In alignment with International Standards → LOB poverty line
- 5) To measure outcomes of policy
(ex: MNREGS on poverty reduction)

"Visibility in data is the 1st step towards meaningful inclusion"
- K. Ashok Vardhan

Thus a credible, robust poverty estimation on lines of Census is the need of hour.

Feedback

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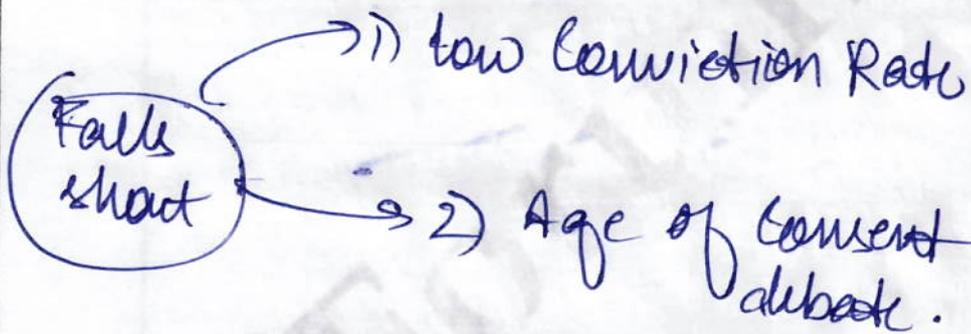
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Q.8) The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012 falls short of achieving its intended objectives. Comment. (10 marks, 150 words)

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)

POCSO Act 2012 was framed to protect children from sexual abuse in wake of increasing cases but its intended objectives remain to be fulfilled.



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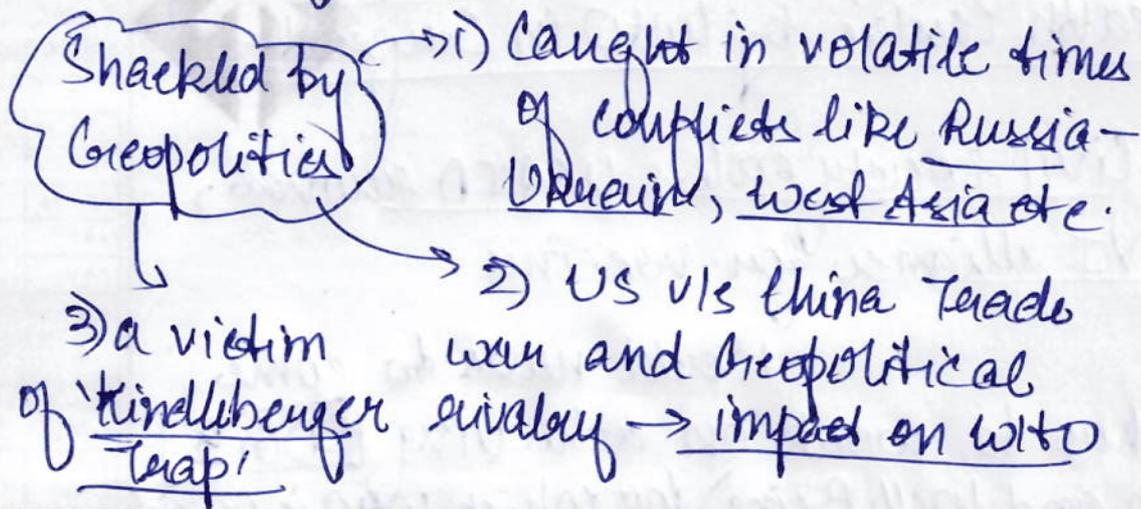
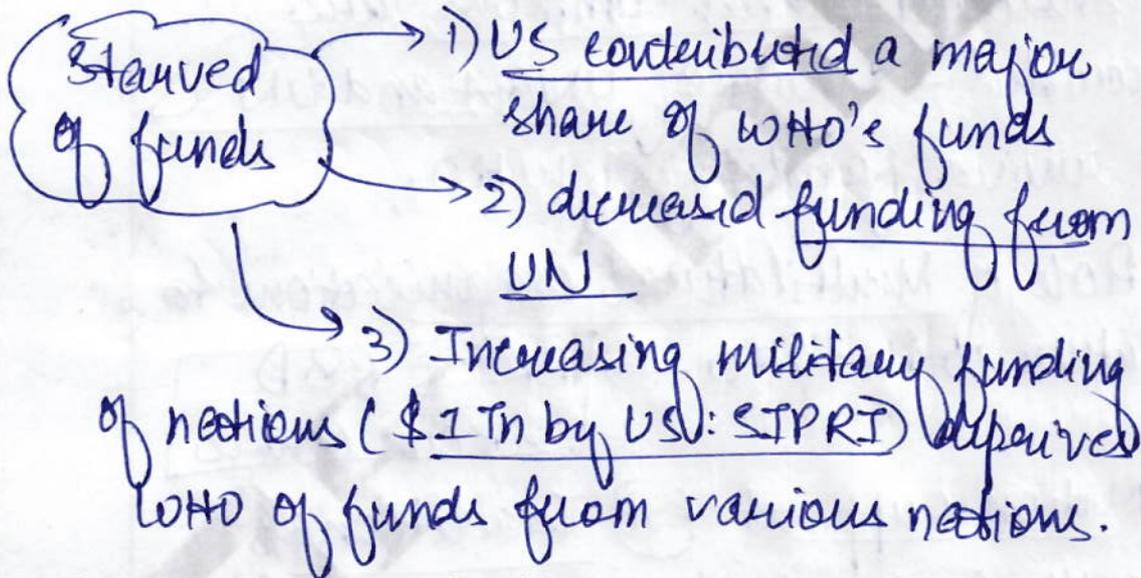
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Q.9) 'Starved of funds, shackled by geopolitics, WHO is facing a crisis of capacity and credibility.' Discuss the statement in the light of USA's withdrawal and its accusation of the health body of being 'biased towards China and mishandling the COVID-19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

US withdrew from the WHO citing biases towards China and mishandling of pandemic threatening the capability of WHO.



facing crisis of capability and credibility

→ mishandling of Covid-19 pandemic accusations

→ declining ground staff participation

Way Ahead

1) Ensuring Global Commons are provided → role of UNGA and UN SC to revive funding of WHO.

2) Role of Multilateral organizations to partner with WHO → **BRICS R&D Vaccine Centre**

3) Nation support (ex) Traditional Health Centre by WHO in Gujarat

4) Civil society role: USAID revival, MAVI alliance for vaccines.

World needs to come together to work on achieving **SDG 3** (Health and Well Being) for which WHO is crucial.

Feedback

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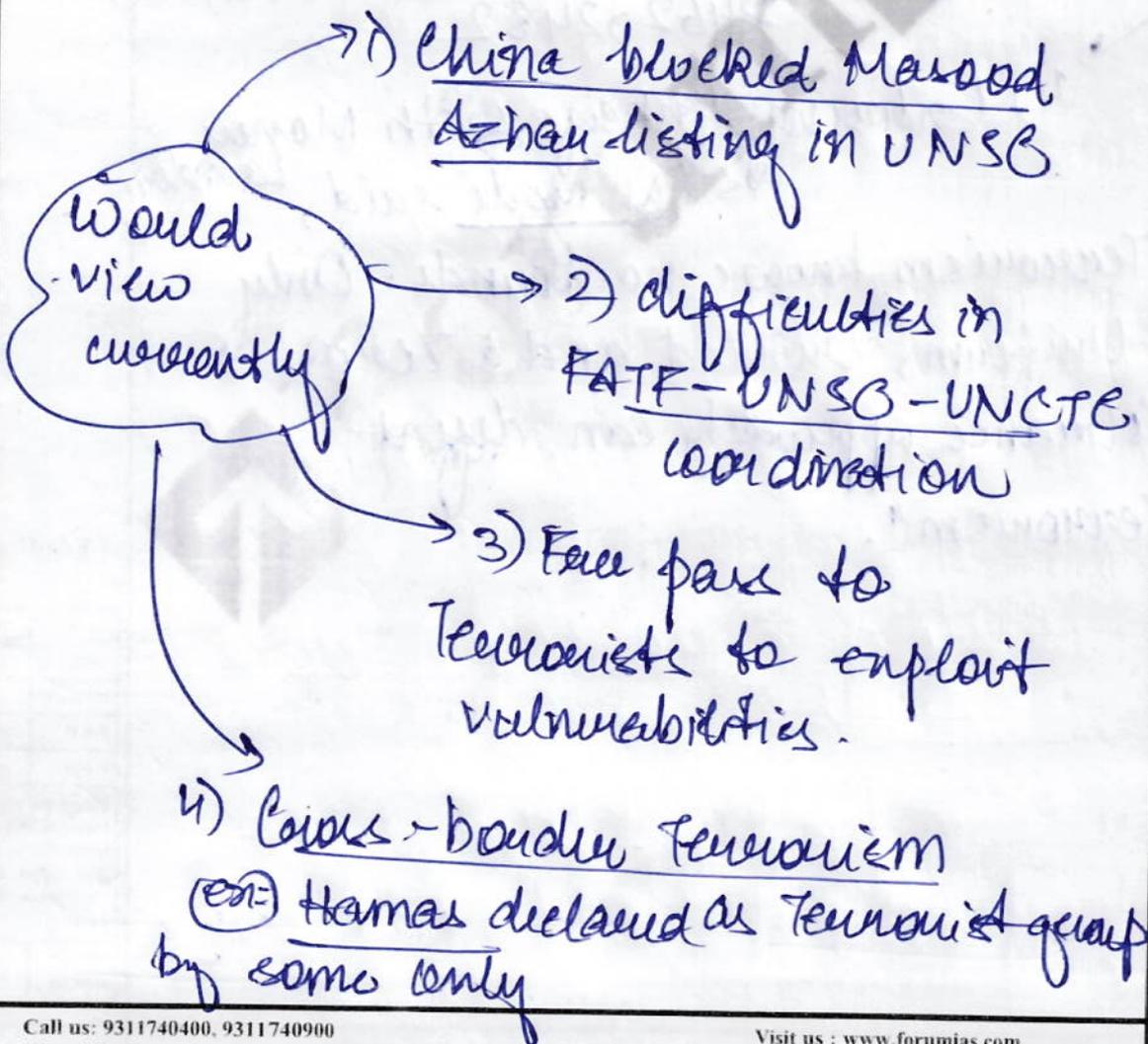
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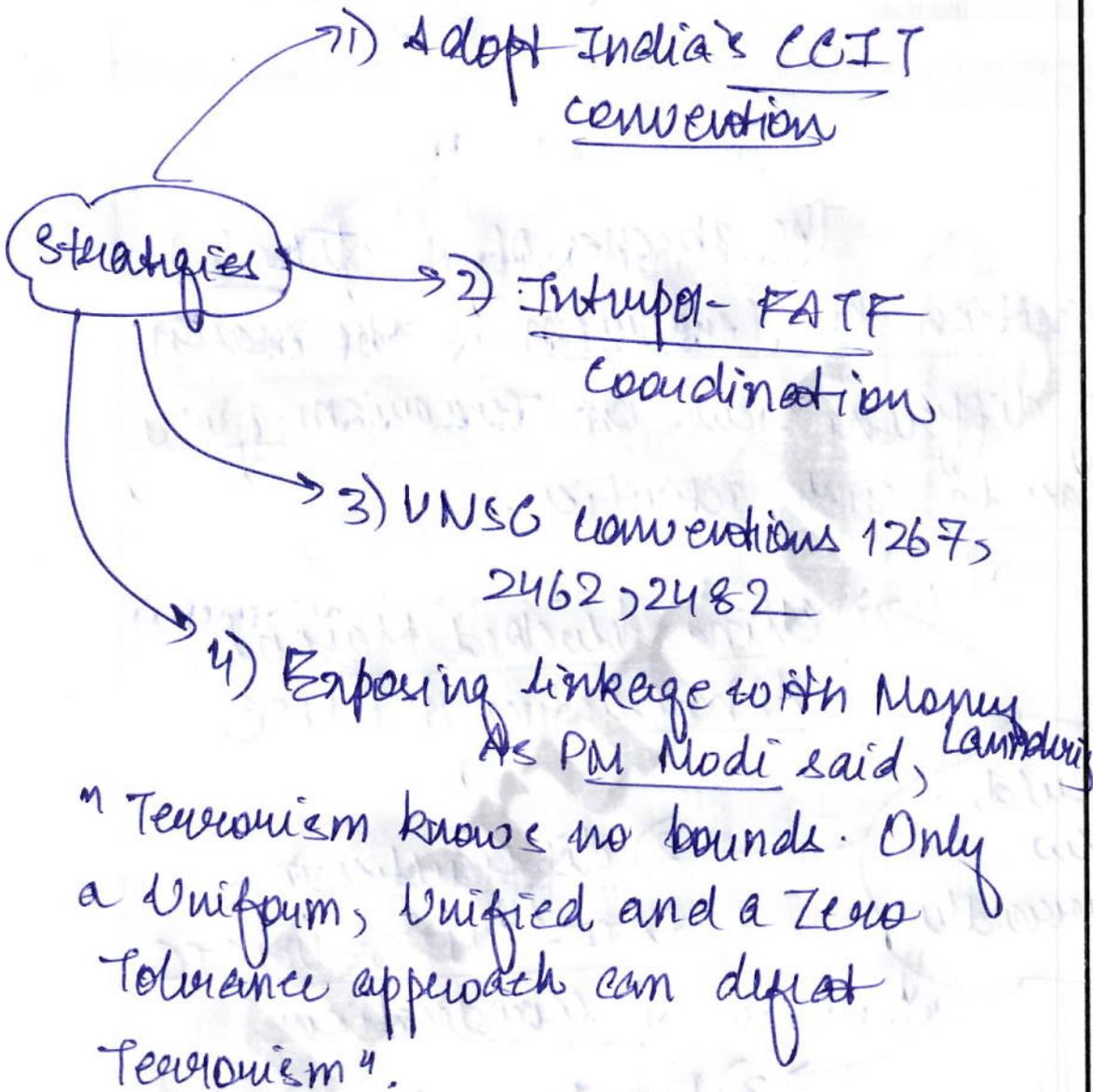


Q.10) The world continues to operate in a 'my terrorist' versus 'your terrorist' paradigm. Explain. What strategies would you suggest to develop a unified, comprehensive, and rules-based global approach to tackle the menace of terrorism? (10 marks, 150 words)

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 सुझाएंगे? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The absence of a global definition on Terrorism is the reason of differing views on Terrorism giving space to such activities.





Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			



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)

RPA 1951 provides a framework for conduct of elections which involves the registration of Political Parties.

Procedure under RPA 1951 for registration of Political Parties

1) Sec 29A

a) Written affidavit and declaration to ECI

b) Declaration of funds, members and office bearers

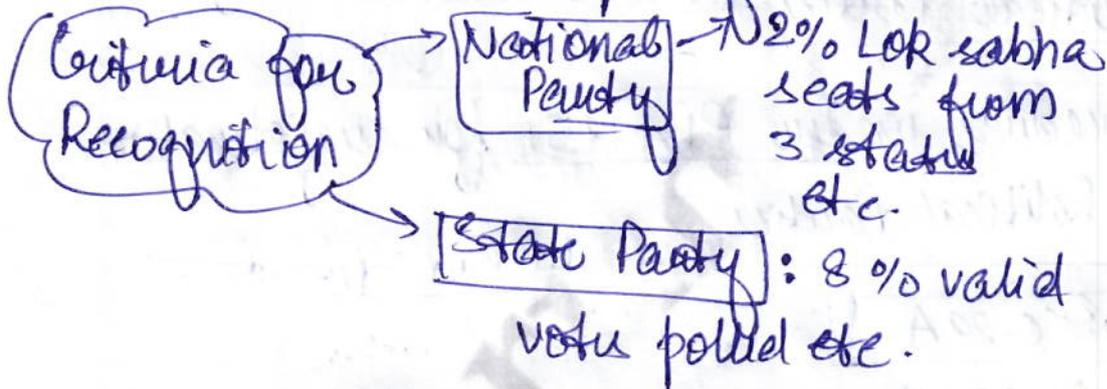
c) Resolution to abide by ideals of 'socialism' and 'secularism'

2) Penalties for non-disclosure, non-compliance.

3) Minimum criteria of no. of members, % of seats etc.

RUPPs :-

are political parties registered with ECI but not recognised as a National or state party.



Concerns with RUPPs

- 1) Act as shell companies to launder money
- 2) Misuse of Sec 12A, 80G of Income Tax Act
- 3) Source for large Political Parties to spread propoganda, block seats etc

4) Difficult to trace and identify origin

5) Makes logistical arrangements of EVMs cumbersome

ECI does not have the power to de-register a political party.

Way ahead :-

1) Power to ECI to de-register a political party (Dinsh Bhowami Committee)

2) AI based tools to monitor activities of inactive RUPPs.

3) Transparent Audit frameworks for Political Parties

4) Bringing Political Parties under RTI purview.

Thus ensuring sanctity of free and fair elections in Indian democracy.

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

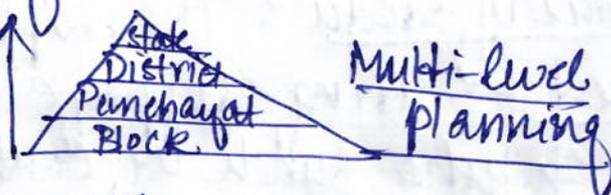
सहकारी और प्रतिस्पर्धी संघवाद को बढ़ावा देने में पिछले दशक में नीति आयोग की भूमिका का आकलन करें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Niti Aayog was established in 2015 replacing the erstwhile Planning Commission for an Indicative Model of Planning for a rising India.

Role of Niti Aayog in Cooperative Federalism promotion :-

- 1) Governance Council Meet of states, UTs, Centre → as a common platform to address grievances.
- 2) State representation : in formulation of policies (ex: Draft of Land Leasing Bill)
of state list
- 3) Recommendations to improve federal structure. (Niti Aayog @ 75)

4) Economic cooperation : via decentralised planning from local levels

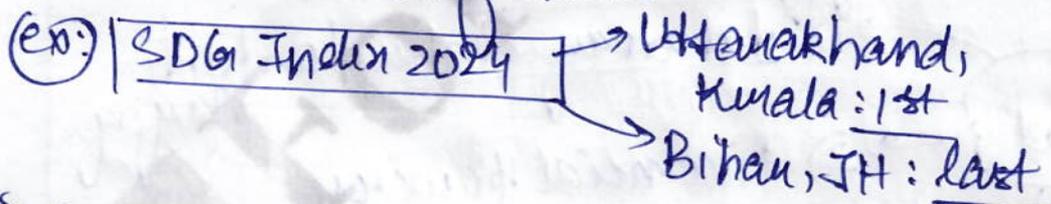


In promoting competitive federalism

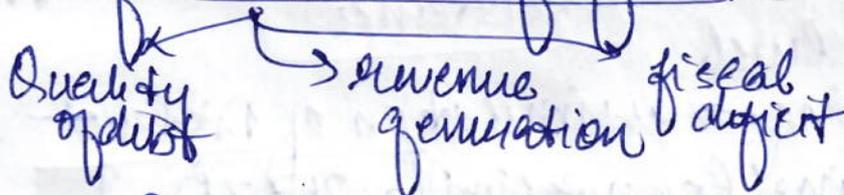
1) Aspirational Districts Program (ADP)

- ↳ KPI based performance of districts
- ↳ National dashboard

2) SDG Index : performance of states in actualising SDGs



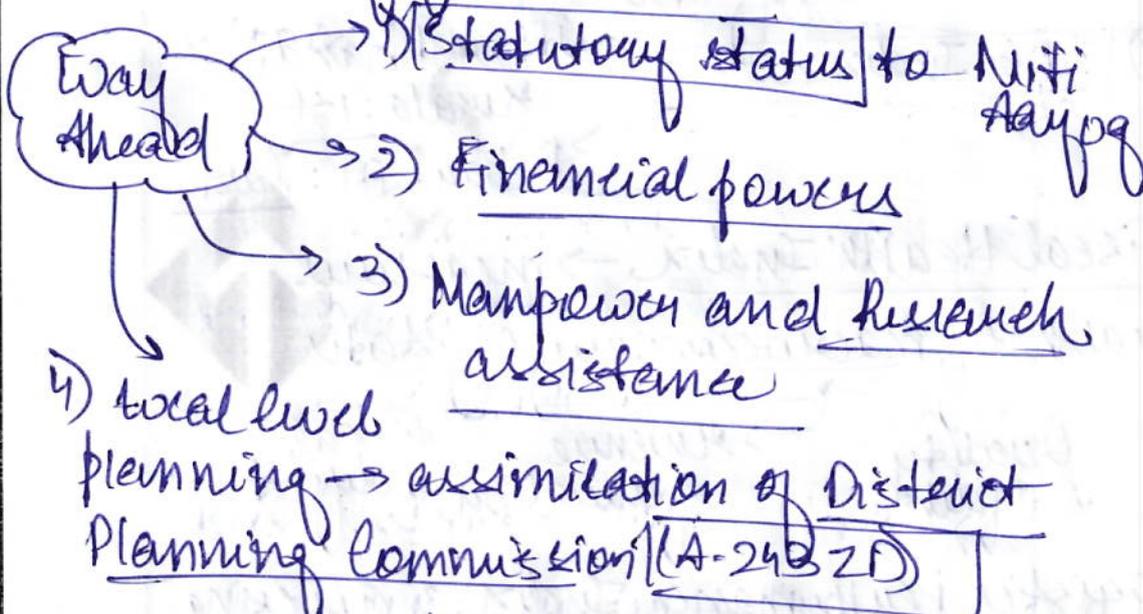
3) Fiscal Health Index → measures health of macroeconomy of states



4) Logistics Performance Index : assessing performance of logistics sector.

But certain lacunae remain

- 1) Convenances of states & TN skipped 10th CIE meet → citing stoppage of Samagra Shiksha funds by Centre.
- 2) Non-binding decisions → advisory role
- 3) No power to mobilise finances → unlike Planning Commission
- 4) Political commentary by members of Niti Aayog in past



Thus, Niti Aayog plays a crucial role in realising the vision of 'Team India'

Feedback

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

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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)

Article 93 of Indian Constitution provides for Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha and Article 182 for Deputy Speaker of Legislative Assembly.

Deputy Speaker's role goes beyond ceremonial significance

- 1) Act as Speaker in absence of Speaker
→ fills vacuum.
- 2) Is President of Parliamentary Committee of which named a member.
→ holds executive accountable
- 3) Space for opposition: By convention post of Deputy Speaker goes to the opposition Party member.

4) Institutional memory : since creation of post in 1921 after Montague-Chelmsford reforms

5) Precedent when motion of removal against speaker is pending.

But the post of Deputy Speaker was vacant in 17th Lok Sabha for the 1st time and in 18th LS too is vacant till now.

Implications of prolonged vacancy :-

1) Against Constitutional imperative
→ Art 93 says 'there shall be' Deputy speaker

2) violates Constitutional functionality

3) Rift between Ruling party and Opposition Parties.

4) Vacancy in case of absence of speaker makes providing imperative upon nominated members (Panel of chairpersons)

5) Creates a precedence for further sessions and state legislative Assemblies.

Thus election of post of Deputy speaker is imperative to uphold the spirit of Constitutional Morality and duty as per Constitutional imperatives.

Feedback

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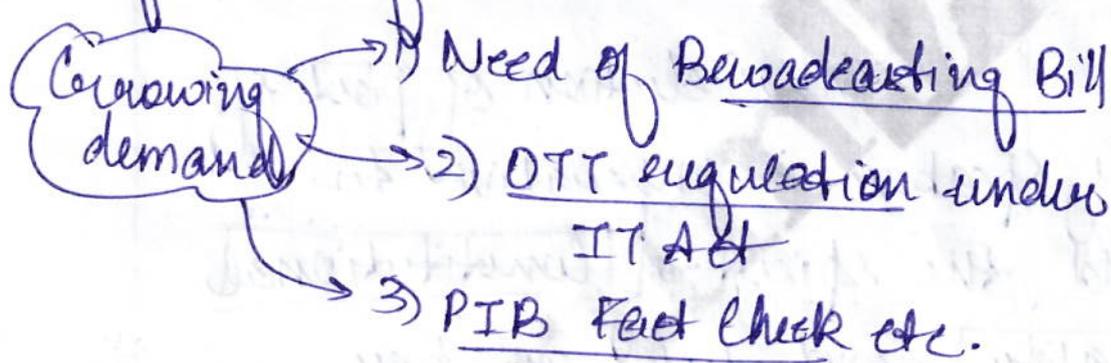
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TOTAL MARKS			



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 खतरा है? हाल के न्यायिक निर्णयों के आलोक में इसका परीक्षण कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Recent case of obscenity content by a YouTuber on a show raised the demands for stricter regulation of online content.



The growing demand is justified :-

1) Obscenity, Decency, Morality are grounds for Reasonable restrictions to Freedom of Speech and Expression (FOSE) under Article 19(2)

2) Poss threat to Children's educational outcomes

3) Hate Speech problem: SC in Amish Devgan Case 2020 directed govt. to regulate hate speech.

4) To protect National Sovereignty, Integrity etc. (ex: Ban on You Tube channels during Op. Sindoor)

5) Contempt of Court: to protect Judicial Independence (ex: Kunal Kumar Case)

Is not Justified:-

1) Creates a 'Chilling Effect' on artistic freedom and expression (Shreya Singhal Case)

2) SC in Manubhai Shah Case 1992 observed that FOSE has to evolve with technological changes.

3) 'Mere threat to public order is not a ground to restrict FOSE'
(Rangrajan v/s Jagjivan Ram 1989)

4) SC ordered to define what constitutes as obscenity and not depend on vague term. (Apoorva v/s INCTD 2024)

5) FOSE has an Instrumental value
 → leads to fulfillment of other rights
 (ex: RTI under A-19)

Way ahead :-

- 1) Self Regulation by OTT platforms
- 2) Additional ground of Hate speech under A-19(2) { LCI 267th report }
- 3) AI based monitoring (or) Kaustubh, Ola
- 4) 'Counter-speech measures' (Jonathan Steynhand)

FOSE is crucial as a natural right for dignity of individuals under a Transformative Constitution.

Feedback

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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)

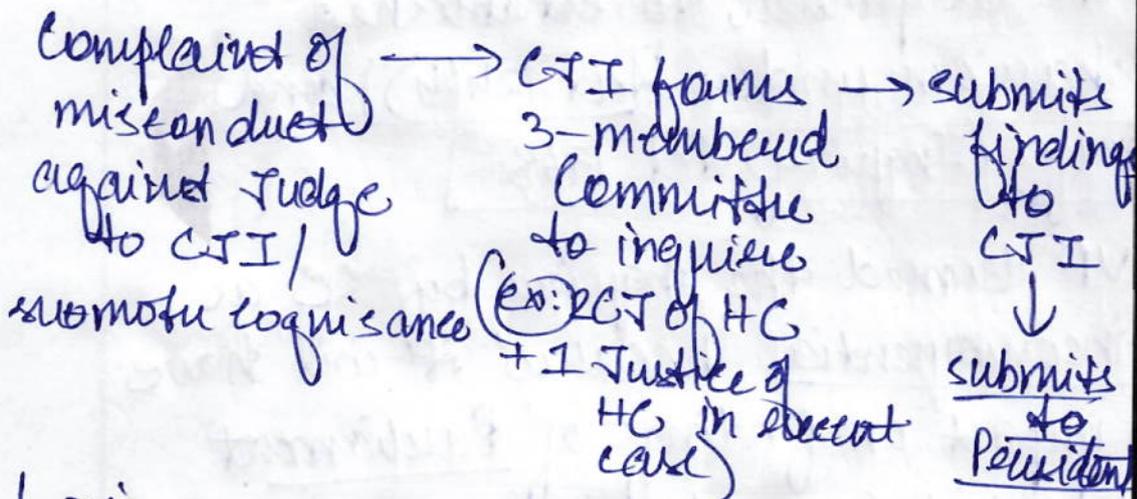
भारत में संवैधानिक न्यायालयों के न्यायाधीशों के विरुद्ध कदाचार के आरोपों की जांच के लिए सर्वोच्च न्यायालय द्वारा अपनाई गई 'आंतरिक प्रक्रिया' का आलोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Recent Cash findings in evidence of Delhi HC Judge Justice Yashwant Verma prompted SC to establish a mechanism to inquire via the 'in-house procedure'.

Evolution of 'in-house procedure'

- ↳ 1) V. Ramaswamy case 1993
- 2) Soumitra Datta case 2011

Mechanism



↳ is an extra-constitutional measure adopted by SC.

Benefits :-

- 1) Case inquired into by Judicial merit by 3 Judge panel.
- 2) Enhance accountability → direct approach to CJI.
- 3) Doesn't interfere into working of mechanism of Art 124(4).
- 4) Provide additional insights.

Cons :-

- 1) Acts as parallel to established mechanism under Art 124(4) and Judges (Inquiry) Act 1968
- 2) VP termed the inquiry by SC as 'inconsequential' because it will have no impact on findings of Parliament established Committee.

3) Crested Conflict of Interest → Judges inquiring on Judges

4) Against Principle of Separation of Powers.

5) Opaque Procedure with Judicial discussion.

Way Ahead

1) Creation of National Judicial Commission (NJC) to inquire into complaints against Judges.
(ex: NJC Bill 2022)

2) giving statutory status to Bangalore Principles of Judicial Conduct 2002.

3) Public disclosure of 'in-house procedural findings'.

As Fali S. Nauman remarked,

"Judicial Accountability is the hallmark of a well functioning democracy".

Feedback

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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)

Recently leader of Opposition has framed serious charges of voter malpractices on ECI which also renewed demand of Aadhaar - Voter ID linkage.

Election Laws (Amendment) Act 2021 previously provided for linkage of Aadhaar with Voter ID which was subdued due to controversies.

Arguments in favour :-

- 1) Avoids duplication of identities and voter cards.
- 2) Easy availability of Aadhaar cards
→ 142 crore issued
- 3) Ease for Migrant Workers to register.

ii) Centralised databases to ensure
accountability.

Arguments against

- 1) In K.S. Puttaswamy Case, SC termed
Right to Privacy under Art. 21.
→ Aadhar linkage could infringe
upon it.
- 2) Aadhar to be used only for welfare
schemes (SC order)
- 3) Potential of cyber crime and leakage
of data ex: (Frankland Aadhar
data loss 2017)
- 4) Exclusion errors in Aadhar
↳ [2-8%] due to iris scanning.
- 5) Fake Aadhar Cards generation.

6) Overlapping of roles between ECI and UPRAI.

Thus, Aadhar linkage should be kept voluntary to preserve privacy of individuals. At the same time Intensive Revision of Electoral Rolls by ECI as in Bihar could ensure non-duplication of voter IDs.

Feedback

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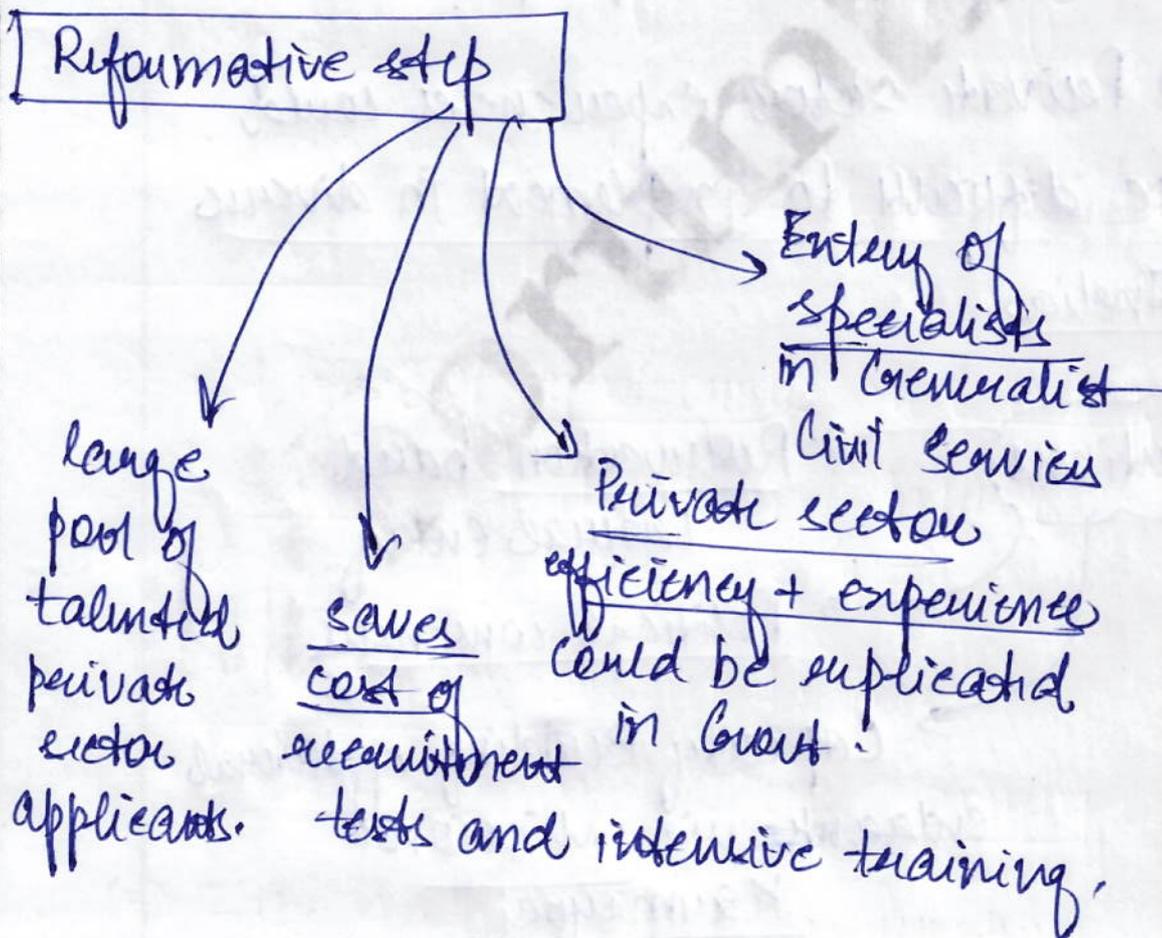
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TOTAL MARKS			



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)

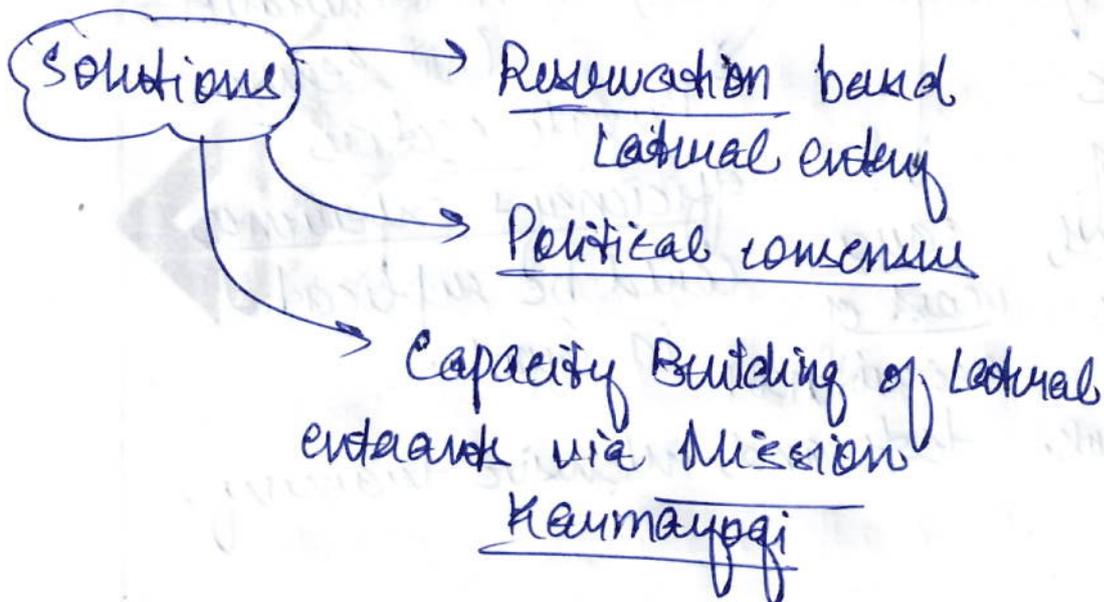
सिविल सेवाओं में पार्श्व प्रवेश (लेटरल एंट्री) को एक सुधारात्मक कदम के रूप में देखा जाता है, फिर भी यह आलोचना और विवाद को आकर्षित करता रहता है। चर्चा कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

The lateral entry notification by UPSC in 2024 for Joint Secretary positions was taken down for eruption of controversy.



But attracts controversy due to :-

- 1) A step to avoid Reservation
- 2) Bypasses established recruitment and promotion based process
- 3) Outsider-Insider perspective
- 4) Private sector experiences could be difficult to implement in diverse India



Civil services response is necessary for a dedicated class of public servants to achieve vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047 -

Feedback

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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)

In QS World Rankings 2023,
only 3 universities of India were placed
in top 200. This raised a demand of
objective, inclusive National ranking
frameworks.

Aim of Rankings :-

- 1) to instill sense of constructive competition among Institutions.
- 2) framework for recognition as Institutes of Eminence (IOE)
↳ 10 public and 10 private universities
- 3) To increase the global recognition
→ attract foreign students
- 4) To act as benchmark for other
institutions to follow.

But Concerns remain :-

- 1) Does not reflect the local realities of differing languages, region etc.
- 2) Rigid criteria → fails to inculcate ideals of Tribal education.
- 3) Captures only Academic Performance → vocational training, skilling, Industry - Academia linkage is left out.
- 4) Only 32% Indian Universities are accredited → does not cover all universities
- 5) Inherent problems of Pupil - Teachers Ratio, Gender Parity neglected in merit based criteria.

Measures needed :-

- 1) Rankings based on
 / linguistic diversities
 / regional disparities
 / local needs.
- 2) Integration of AI based tools to evaluate performance → real time updation
- 3) Vocational Training, Industry - Academia linkage as a criteria.
- 4) Research oriented rankings with global best practices.
- 5) Measure Gender outcomes, Tribal education.

Thus an inclusive ranking system could ensure accurate measurement of outcomes and propel to achieve 50% GER by 2035 (NEP 2020).

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			



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)

Arctic region is ~~more~~ crucial for Global Trade and Geopolitics due to several factors.

Factors for growing salience

1) Rapid warming of Arctic (at twice the global average) → opening up of sea routes → SLOCs

2) Blue Economy: discovery of Rare Earth Minerals crucial for semiconductors, EVs etc.

3) Global Trade routes → shortening time

4) Geo-strategic location → connects US, Russia, Europe.

5) Oil and Gas fields

Strategies for India

- 1) Increased engagement with Arctic Council and gaining a Permanent Seat.
- 2) Agreements with countries → Russia
- 3) Research expeditions
(ex: Himadri in Evalband)
- 4) Domestic Arctic Policy for coherent path and defined roles and responsibilities
- 5) Arctic monitoring using NISAR satellite.
- 6) Partnerships for Oil and Gas exploration

Thus Arctic region could serve as new geopolitical theatre of confrontation and India should aim to build its capability for strategic autonomy.

Feedback

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



Q.20) Bangladesh is a key pillar of India's Neighborhood First policy, but recent developments on both sides threaten to disrupt the 'Sonalī 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 खतरा है। विश्लेषण करें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Recent political upheaval in Bangladesh and fall of Sheikh Hasina Govt post students protest affects the bilateral relations of countries.

Bangladesh as key pillar of Neighbourhood First policy (NEP) 2014 :-

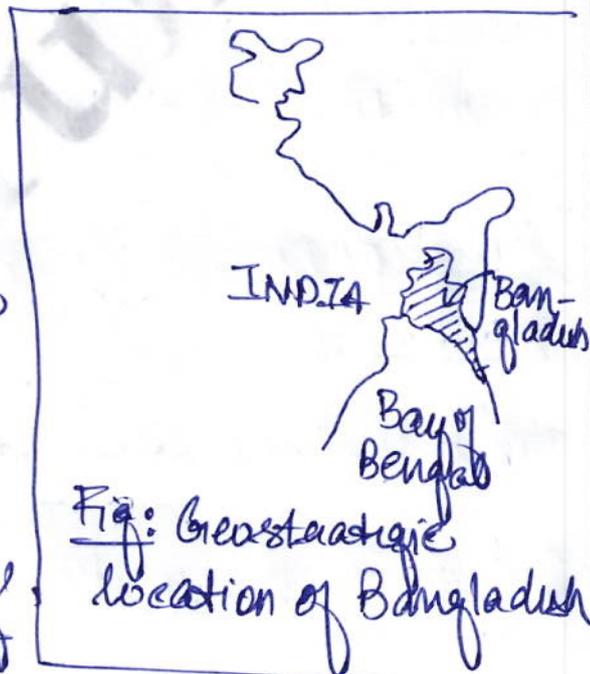
1) Connectivity and Integration

- Feni bridge
- Arhaura-Aqaulak Rail line

2) Diplomatic and Political proximity

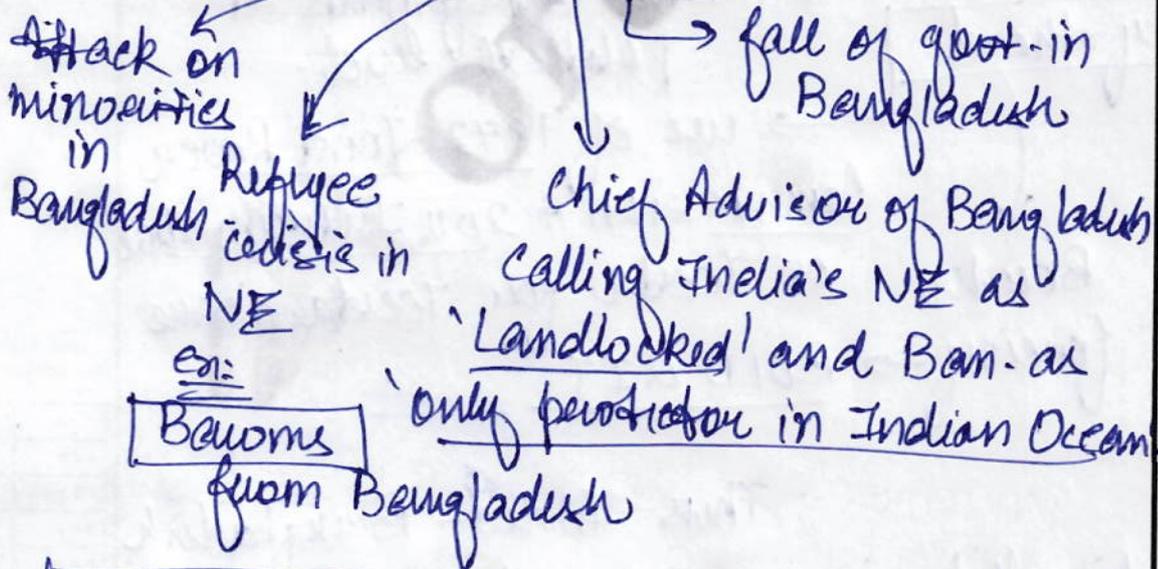
↳ 'Mango diplomacy' by India and Ban.

3) Energy security → Gas pipeline-



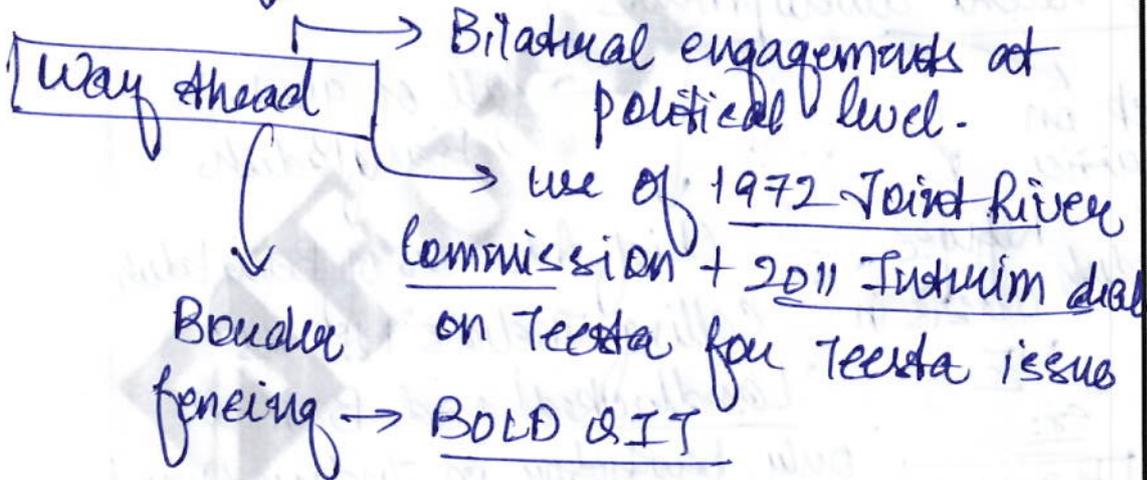
- 4) Economic Integration: \$14 Bn Bilateral Trade in 2024.
- 5) Partnership in Multilateral organisations
↳ SAARC, BIMSTEC
- 6) Security through shared collaboration
↳ NE insurgency actions
- 7) Water diplomacy: 1996 Ganga Treaty; 1972 River Commission.

But recent developments



These developments threaten 'Sonder's Adhyay' as :-

- 1) Disrupts trade: India closed port based trade for Bangladesh.
- 2) Chinese intrusion in Bangladesh via BRI projects.
- 3) Disrupts progress on Teesta River water issue.
- 4) Threatens India led regionalism in the region.



Thus India-Bangladesh relationship is crucial not just for South Asia but Indian Ocean and India's SAGAR vision.

Feedback

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Mentor Feedback Questions

- 1
- 2
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Test Goal

- 1
- 2
- 3

Outcomes

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Marking Scheme

Mark	Good	Average	Below average
10 Marker	3.75 - 5.0	3.0 - 3.5	< 3.0
15 Marker	5.75 - 7.0	4.0 - 5.5	< 4.0
20 Marker	7.75 - 10	6 - 7.5	< 6
	Key / Relevant Point		
	Vague / Irrelevant		

* Subject to change without prior notice.

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