



TEST CODE 8 1 2 4 2 6

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	NISHCHAL JAIN		
Roll No./अनुक्रमांक	1910104202	Medium/माध्यम	English <input type="checkbox"/> हिंदी <input type="checkbox"/>
Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र		Date/दिनांक	09.08.2025

\*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 <b>TWENTY</b> 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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Total/कुल अंक	250			
Examiner's Discretion/मूल्यांकन कर्ता का विवेक :			Start Time/प्रारंभ करने का समय :	End Time/समाप्त करने का समय :
			02:30PM	05:30 PM
Total Marks/कुल अंक :			Mode Of Examination/ परीक्षा की विधि :	Online/ऑनलाइन <input type="checkbox"/> Offline/ऑफलाइन <input type="checkbox"/>
*Examiner's Discretion is the marks awarded at the discretion of the examiner based on your overall impression, on the basis of (but not limited to) your handwriting, presentation, use of diagrams, flowcharts, facts and figures or absolutely anything that he/she liked in your copy. मूल्यांकन कर्ता का विवेक अंक, आपकी लिखावट, प्रस्तुति, आरेखों के उपयोग, फ्लोचार्ट, तथ्यों और आंकड़ों या समग्र रूप किसी अन्य विषय वस्तु, जो मूल्यांकन कर्ता को आपकी कॉपी में पसंद आयी के आधार पर (लेकिन 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 :
			① ② ③ ④ ⑤	

**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.

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## EXAMINER'S REMARKS

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### CRITERIA FOR THE FEEDBACK SECTION AT THE END OF EACH QUESTION

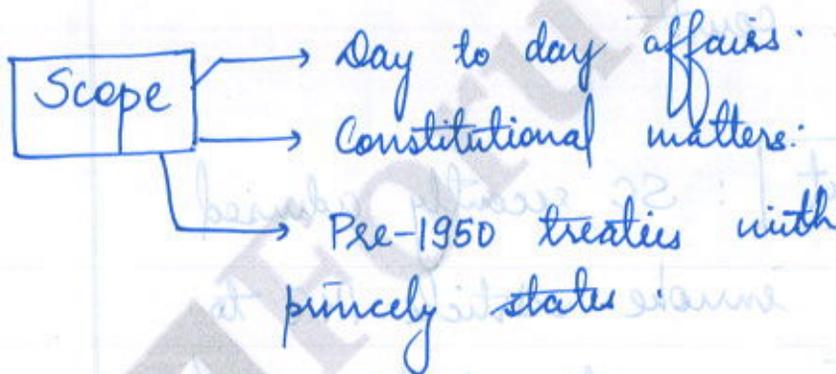
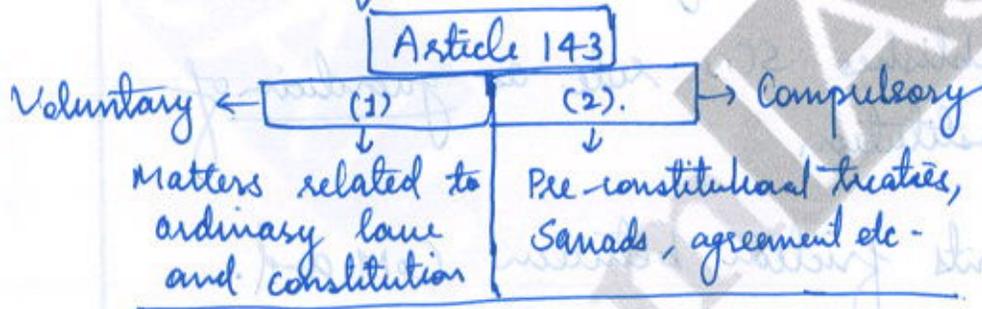
1. **AWIS = Answered What is Asked.** This means whether you have addressed the core demand of the question or not. Addressing the core demand of the question gets you an objectively fair score. It is examiner's perception if you have understood the question and if you know the answer in the first place.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



Q.1) Examine the scope and significance of the Supreme Court's advisory jurisdiction under Article 143 of the Constitution. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

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

Article 143 provides for advisory jurisdiction whereby President seeks advise of the SC.



Significance

1) Aiding President in determining constitutional questions.

eg 143 used during drafting of simultaneous election bills.

- 2) Harmony between executive and judiciary.
- 3) Consensus based policy making wherein judiciary is also on board  
[eg] advise for tribunals
- 4) Establishes SC's role as guardian of constitution
- 5) Limits friction between COM and supreme court

**Recent context** : SC recently advised president to invoke article 143 to take decision regarding bill reserved for President (R.N. Ravi Case).

**Way ahead** → Judicial restraint  
→ Discretion of president to seek advise

### Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

#	G	A	P
AWIS			
CD & VA			
S & F			
P & R			
Please put tick marks in the above table.			
Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.			
TOTAL MARKS			

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

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

Article 82 and 171 of the constitution provides for delimitation of constituencies of Parliament and legislatures after every census. However it has been frozen for 1971 census. (42<sup>nd</sup>, 84<sup>th</sup> CAA)

### Delimitation

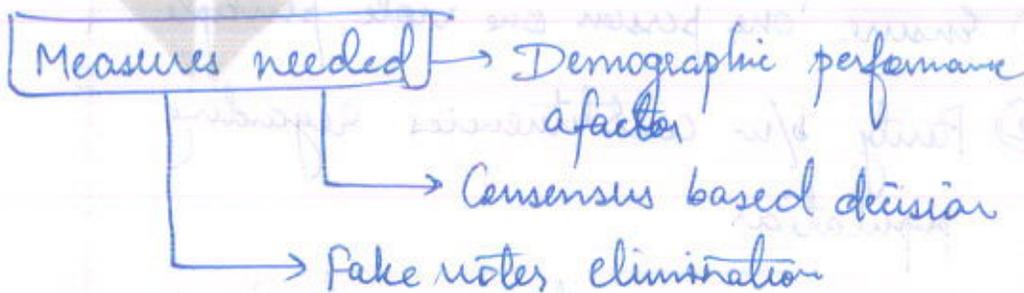
Territorial readjustment of the constituencies is called delimitation.

### Importance

- ① Ensure 'one person one vote' principle
- ② Parity b/w constituencies regarding population
- ③ Enforces 'one vote, one value'.
- ④ Right to equality (Article 14)

## Challenges associated with delimitation exercise

- 1) Southern states concerns - Penalty to enforcing population control measures
- 2) Incentivising population explosion
- 3) Regionalism sentiment getting strong  
eg TN CM statement.
- 4) Creating north-south divide.
- 5) Tackling migration question
- 6) Fake voters making this exercise skewed.



Delimitation should be undertaken to ensure smooth functioning of electoral democracy

### Feedback

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#	G	A	P
AWIS			
CD & VA			
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Please put tick marks in the above table.			
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TOTAL MARKS			

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

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

Asymmetric federalism refers to differentiating various constituent units of federation based on their present condition.

Asymmetric federalism helping India to accommodate diverse needs.

1) Affirmative actions for certain states.

eg) Centrally sponsored schemes (90:10) for Himalayan states.

2) Special Provision in constitution to preserve local culture.

eg) Part XXI having provision for Nagaland.

3) Checking feeling of relative deprivation through preactive measures.

eg Ministry of North-East Region.

4) Development of connectivity and infrastructure

eg Special Package for Bihar.

5) Protection to linguistic minorities (Article 350B).

eg Protecting interest of Tulu speakers.

6) Giving employment to local residents to ensure equity.

eg Parliament's power under Article 16(4).

Concerns	Way ahead
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- States demanding equality</li> <li>- More steps needed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Consensus based decision</li> <li>- sunset clause for help.</li> </ul>

**Feedback**

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TOTAL MARKS			



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

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

'Socialist' and 'Secular' words were added in the constitution through 42<sup>nd</sup> Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976.

Embodying specific meanings in Indian context

## (I) SOCIALIST

1) Gandhian socialism : referring to upliftment of vulnerable sections of society.

2) Checking concentration of wealth. (Article 39(b))

3) Welfareism for poor.

[eg] PM - Awas Yojana.

4) Empowering vulnerable. [eg] Stand up India

- 5) To minimise the inequalities (Article 38)
- 6) Gram Samaj. (Article 40).
- 7) Education for all (Article 21A)

(II) **SECULAR**

- 1) Positive notion of secularism : Not complete separation of state and religion.
- 2) Samadharma Samabhare : against laicite principle of France.
- 3) Principled distance with religions -  
 [eg] Haj Subsidy.
- 4) Organising religious fair [eg] Kumbh mela
- 5) Reformist approach [eg] Sabarimala judgement

Hence we have truly realised this dream.

**Feedback**

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TOTAL MARKS			

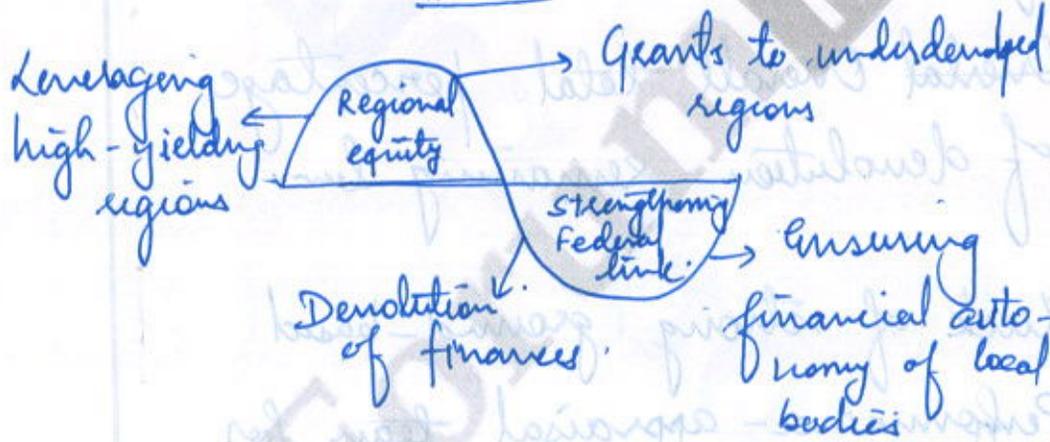


Q.5) The role of State Finance Commissions in building regional equity and strengthening the federal link has largely been underutilized. Discuss. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

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

73<sup>rd</sup> constitutional amendment act provided for constitution of state Finance Commission to determine the financial devolution to local bodies.

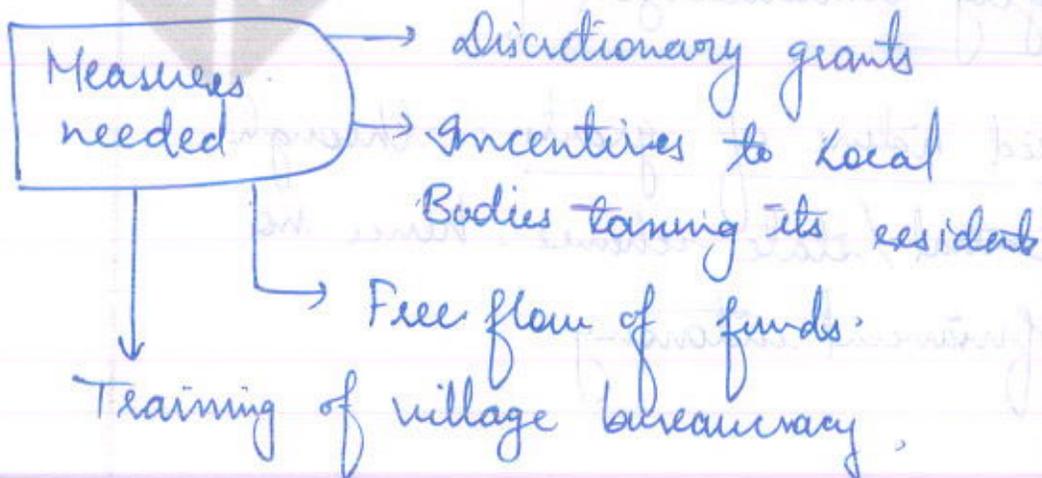
Role in



Largely underutilized

1) Tied nature of grants: through central/state schemes. hence no financial autonomy.

- 2) Lack of performance based grants.
- 3) Inability to nudge Panchayats to impose taxes.
- 4) No independent monitoring mechanism to ensure acceptance of recommendations.
- 5) Overall total percentage of devolution remaining low.
- 6) Lack of strong ground-based Performance-appraisal team for Panchayats.



**Feedback**

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TOTAL MARKS			



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

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

National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) is a statutory body accorded with the responsibility of monitoring cases of child rights abuse.

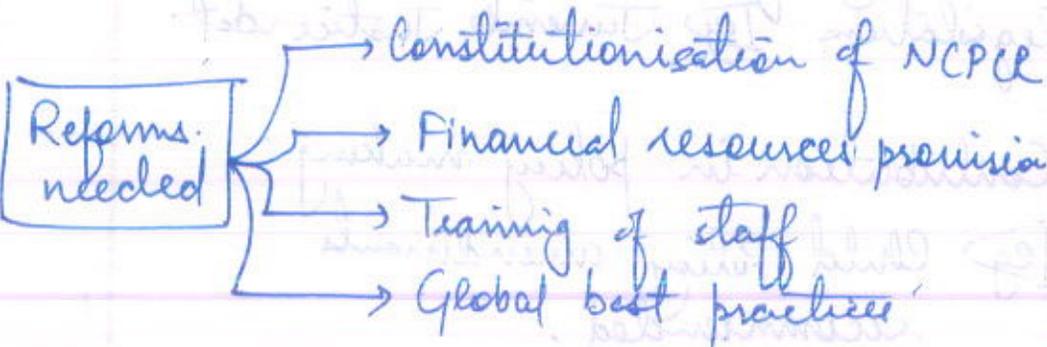
NCPCR being successful in protecting/promoting child rights

- 1) Investigation in child sexual abuse cases. eg Muzapparfal shelter home cases.
- 2) Advocacy for child-sensitive legislation eg Juvenile Justice Act.
- 3) Contribution in policy making. eg Child Policy amendments recommended.

- 4) Raising child labour issue  
 [eg] Cracker factories in Simkasi
- 5) Working in tandem with child rights NGOs.  
 [eg] Bachpan Bachao Andolan by Kailash Satyarthi.

Homeer shortcomings are

- 1) Politicisation of child issues  
 [eg] Hathras rape case.
- 2). Lack of trained staff.
- 3) Lack of financial autonomy.
- 4). Report not submitted annually.



**Feedback**

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TOTAL MARKS			



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

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

New Education Policy 2020 was based on the report of K. Kasturisangan committee which recommended significant overhauling of education system.

Salient features of NEP 2020.

- ① Following 5+3+3+4 mechanism for years of schooling.
- ② Provisions regarding medium of instruction (detail in 2<sup>nd</sup> part).
- ③. experiential learning rather than rote learning model.
- ④ Including vocational training at school level.

- ⑤ Multi-disciplinary courses at graduation level  
eg Maths with History
- ⑥ Academic Bank of Credits (ABC)
- ⑦ Teacher's training for better pedagogy
- ⑧ Use of ICT and digital mediums

### About medium of instruction

- 1) Primary level: Child should be taught in vernacular medium with three language formula.
  - 2) Later he/she could be taught in vernacular/Hindi/English language.
- NEP 20 has potential to transform Indian education system

**Feedback**

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TOTAL MARKS			

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

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

Recent R.G. Kar medical college case has brought legal framework for women in limelight

Legal frameworks to ensure women's safety in India.

- 1) Vishakha Guidelines in Bhanwari Devi case for ~~work~~ workplace safety
- 2) Based on above, POSH (Prevention of Sexual Harassment) act was enacted.
- 3) Domestic Violence act, 2005
- 4) Dowry (Prohibition) act → to ban the evil practice of dowry.

- 5) Ban female foeticide / infanticide under provisions of BNS.
- 6) Separate chapters for women under BNS, 2023.
- 7) PCPNDT act → no diagnosis of foetus sex not allowed.
- 8) Fast track courts.
- 9) Nirbhaya Fund.

## Further steps needed for safety/well being

- 1) Martial arts training to women.
- 2) ensure functioning of existing framework  
↳ ICC under PoSH not established
- 3) Gender-sensitive curriculum.
- 4) Good-tench Bad tench training of women.  
50% of population, if remains safe, can make 200% contribution.

### Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			

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

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

Multipolar world order refers to having various power centres in geopolitics which often conduct show of strength.

Not an option but necessity

1) To prevent arbitrary action by any individual.

eg) Trump tariffs.

2) Shielding the world from trade war b/w 2 countries eg) US China.

3) Democratisation of voices at multilateral fora.

eg) African Union inducted in G20.

4). Ensuring representation of all in decision making process

eg) UNGA.

5). Equitable responsibility of all

eg) Climate Negotiations

6) Prevent hegemony of few.

eg) China's debt trap diplomacy

India leveraging position to strengthen multipolarity

1) Being voice of global South

2) Largest population: Biggest market for companies

3) Using multilaterals eg) Quad.

4) Regional power first

eg) Neighbourhood first policy

**Feedback**

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TOTAL MARKS			

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

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

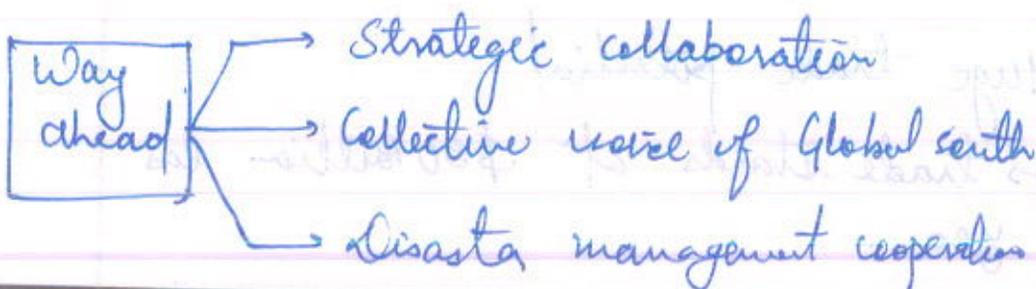
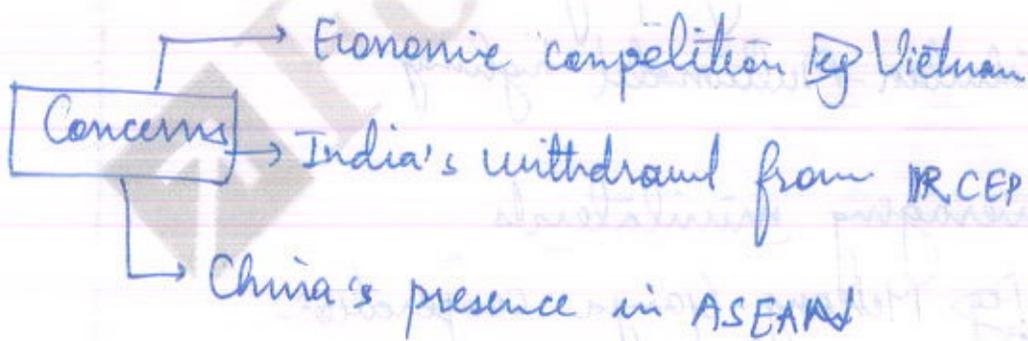
(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Bangkok declaration of 1967 has laid the grounds for ASEAN (a grouping in South-East Asia).

Cornerstone of India's Act East Policy + Indo-Pacific vision

- 1) Development of North-Eastern India.  
 Reg Connectivity projects like Kaladan-Multimodal highway
- 2) Leveraging multilaterals  
 Reg Mekong-Ganga cooperation
- 3) Huge trade potential  
 ↳ trade stands at \$90 Billion per year.

- 4) Increasing Indian influence in geopolitics of the region.  
eg) Asia Pacific Economic cooperation
- 5) Bridge to far East Pacific.  
eg) East Asia summit
- 6) Counterbalancing China in Pacific  
eg) ties with Philippines with rule based order in Indo-Pacific
- 7) Defence exercises and purchases.  
eg) Brahmas to Vietnam



**Feedback**

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TOTAL MARKS			

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

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

Local Self-governments are brought by 73<sup>rd</sup> and 74<sup>th</sup> CAA of the constitution based on Gadgil report.

Various administrative challenges faced by local self governments

- 1) Power effectively under DC's control.  
↳ have to go to collector's office to get work done.
- 2) Personnel system : Most states follow unified personnel system hence limited responsibility of personnel.

3) Parastatal bodies: Functions of local self government completed by these bodies

[eg] Various Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs),

4) Financial dependence on states  
↳ hampers financial autonomy

5). Lack of proper social audit  
↳ leading to rampant corruption.

### Measures needed

- 1) Devolution of power/subjects  
↳ Expanding 11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> schedule
- 2). Ensuring limited interference by bureaucracy → powers should be enjoyed by elected representatives

3). Complete control of functions to be given to the local self governance institutions **eg** Road construction

4) Encouraging them to impose taxes.

5) Independence to choose their own staff.

6) Rewarding innovation by excellent Panchayats/municipalities

7). Third party audit mechanism by state government to ensure transparency / accountability

8) Representatives of LSG should be in State Finance Commission.

Thus we can realise Gandhi's dream of Gram Swaraj.

### Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

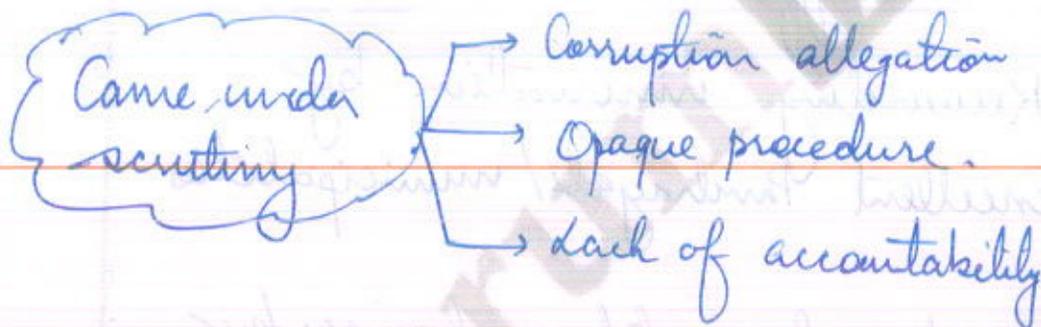
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Please put tick marks in the above table. Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.			
TOTAL MARKS			



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

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

Recent case of Justice Yashwant Verma of Delhi HC has ignited this issue once more.



National Judicial appointments Commission (NJAC) was brought via 99th constitutional amendment act for selection of judges for appointment in SC and HC. However it was struck down by SC under NJAC case (2014)

Features of NJAC

- 3 member from govt.
- 3 from Judiciary.
- 5-1 majority needed.

NJAC-like body can make appointments

**(I) TRANSPARENT**

- 1) As elected government have to release the lists and minutes of meeting
- 2) Merit-based criteria could be ensured
- 3) Uncle-judge syndrome could be checked.

**(II) BROAD-BASED**

- 1) Affirmative action agenda of state can ensure representation of underrepresented section

- 2) Consensus based decision making (as per spirit of Article 124)
- 3) More candidates could be considered.

**(III) ACCOUNTABLE**

- 1) Govt. has to face election every 5 years -
- 2) Both organs of govt. can counter each other's vested interests

**Concerns regarding NJAC**

- a) against judicial independence (NJAC case) which is part of basic structure
- b) against separation of powers

Thus a "taking-all-along" approach can help to improve tarnished image of judiciary

**Feedback**

(For OFFICE use only)

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

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

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

Article 72 of the constitution of India provides for Pardoning power to the president of India.

Difference in clemency power.

India	USA
1) Not a discretionary power (On the advise of COM : <u>Mam Ram case</u> )	1) Discretionary power of US president
2) Have various options like pardon, commute, respite, etc. etc	2) Can pardon the offence conviction eg Hunter Biden Case
3) Judicial review not allowed unless there is grave injustice	3) Judiciary review is strictly not allowed.

India

USA

4) Can Pardon death penalty under state law as well

4) Can't pardon offence conviction under state law

5) Coinciding power with the governor

5) No coincidence with the state governor.

Vesting of clemency power in executive

Necessary

- 1) To correct the wrong committed by the highest court inadvertently.
- 2) To look beyond the merits of the case
- 3) Respecting public sentiments in

the case which may help avoiding law and order situation

eg Rajiv Gandhi murder case

4). ensure checks and balance in democratic organs.

**However concerns are:**

1) Overriding safeguard of constitution i.e. Judiciary

2) Misuse of power by government for political interest

eg Rajasthan governor pardoning MLA.

3). against doctrine of separation of power.

Thus, this power should be used sparingly so as not to harm the dignity of Judiciary

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

(15 Marks, 250 Words)

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

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Section 123 of the Representation of People Act, 1951 provides for the corrupt practices.

Corrupt practices are.

- 1) Misuse of office i.e. use of ~~pubs~~ govt. resources.
- 2) Use of government officials for campaigning. (Raj Narain case)
- 3) Promoting enmity / hatred in the name of religion etc. (Abhiram Singh case)
- 4) Supporting or conducting social evils such as Sati.

- 5) Having office of profit while contesting election.
  - 6) Having the post of officers under any corporation in which govt. has 25% or more stake.
  - 7) Breaching the expenditure limits.
  - 8) Booth Capturing
- ~~Challenges in curbing such~~
- 9) Use of money/muscle power in election.

### Challenges in curbing such malpractices

- 1) Criminalisation of politics: 46% MPs of 15th LS faces serious criminal charges.
- 2) Modern methods of malpractices  
↳ Social media campaign with fake news

- 3) Corporate influence in elections  
 eg Opaque electoral funding through electoral bonds -
- 4) Non-tracable financing of elections  
 eg Use of cryptocurrency.

**Remedial measures needed**

- 1) Strict enforcement of Model Code of Conduct
- 2) Empowering Independent Election Observers, expenditure observers.
- 3) Public disclosure of criminal antecedents of candidates.
- 4) State funding of election
- 5) Social media regulation

Thus we can root out 4 M's in election  
 → Money Power, Muscle power, MCC Violations and Misinformation.

**Feedback**

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TOTAL MARKS			



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

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

Article 80 of the  
Constitution provides for Rajya Sabha  
in which Vice-President of India acts  
as the Chairman.

Role of Vice-President as the chairman  
of Rajya Sabha

- 1) Maintain discipline and decorum in the house.
- 2) Final interpreter of the constitution within the house.
- 3) Head of various committees of the house  
↳ Business Advisory Committee
- 4) Enforcing rules in Rajya Sabha for discussion / deliberation

- 5) Equitable allotment of time to all the sections/of parties in Rajya Sabha.
- 6) Giving oath to the newly elected/nominated members of house
- 7) Taking disciplinary action to ensure smooth functioning  
 [eg] 23 opposition MPs suspended last year.
- 8). Appointing chairman of RS committees

**Concerns are.**

- allegation of party bias.
- Public scolding of MPs.
- Public statement against opposition

Procedure for removal.

- ① Certain members of the house have to give written notice.
- ② Dep. Chairman of RS to preside over the proceedings.
- ③ RS chairman will be given 14 days notice.
- ④ He has right to speak during removal motion.
- ⑤ Motion will be put for voting
  - ↳ RC Chairman can't vote
  - ↳ Need effective majority (majority of all the then' members).
- ⑥ Motion transferred to other house i.e. LS (where it has to be passed by simple majority).
- ⑦ Thus President can remove V.P.

**Feedback**

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



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

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

Universal Basic Income  
refers to giving a minimum basic  
amount to every family/ individual  
to ensure decent standard of living.

UBI - viable solution to eradicate  
extreme poverty

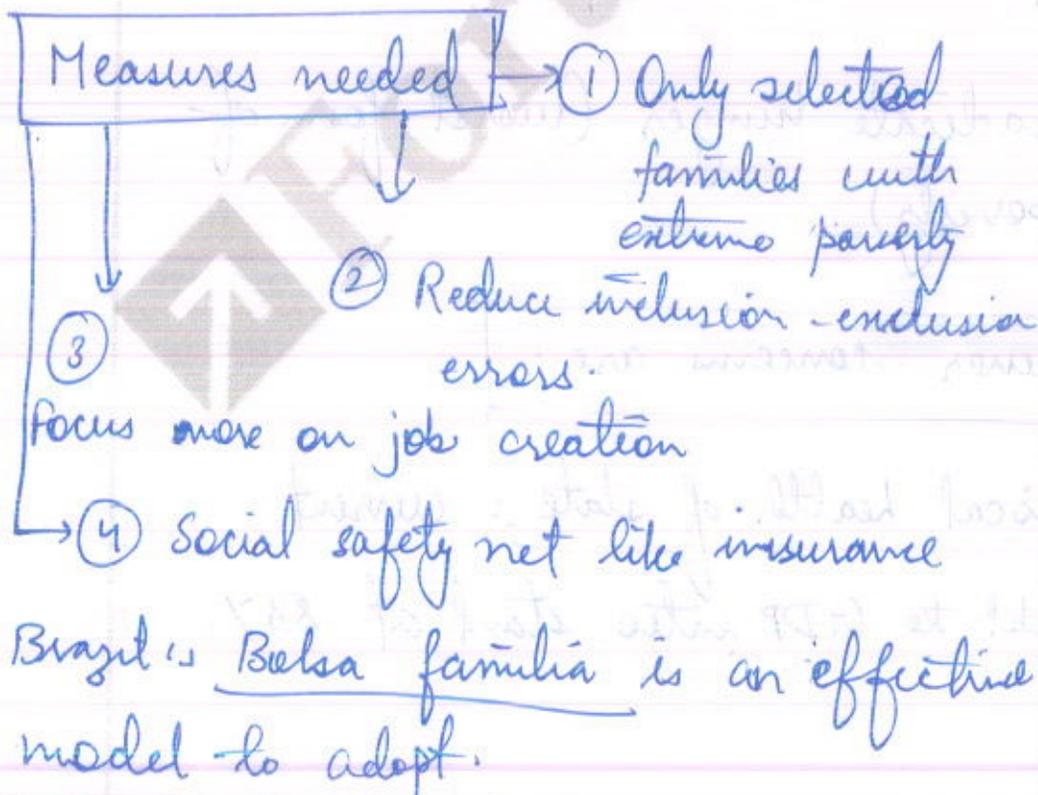
- 1) Bringing people out of poverty  
by ensuring min. expenditure.  
↳ brought 24.8 crore out of  
poverty in 10 years (NITI) through  
welfare measures.
- 2) Ensuring high non-food expenditure  
share → ↑ as per Household  
Expenditure Survey.

- 3) Investment in basic amenities.  
eg) Quality education and healthcare facilities.
- 4) Ensuring quality human capital  
is may increase productivity and  
thus more remuneration.
- 5) Ignite the flame of entrepreneurial  
spirit. eg) Startup India scheme.
- 6) Eradicate hunger (worst form of  
poverty).

However concerns are:

- 1) Fiscal health of state: current  
debt to GDP ratios stand at 83%.

- 2) Not sustainable solution → it can't be a long-term measure.
- 3) Reducing incentive to work.  
 eg) Unemployment allowance.
- 4) Aid to even prosperous families could lead to unwanted burden.
- 5) Corruption concerns in bureaucratic setup.



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

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

Malnutrition refers to lack of access to nutritious food due to various factors. It has also been referred as 'hidden hunger'.

Statistics

1) Stunting : 35%	2) Wasting : 19%
3) Underweight : 17%	4) Anaemic women : 57%

Key determinants of malnutrition among under-five in country

- 1) Poverty : hinders access to good food  
↳ 11.28% poor in India (NITI's MDPI).
- 2) Efficacy of Public Distribution system (PDS)

- ↳ Poor quality cereals leading to more malnourishment.
- 3) Mid-day-Meal and Anganwadi centres : responsibility to provide food to children.
- 4) Nutritional awareness : Less focus on vitamins for children by parents.
- 5) Rice-wheat pattern of agriculturists - making children protein deficient as they don't take pulses.
- 6) Poor water quality.

Role in addressing this issue

(I) Nutrition-specific

1) Intake of essential vitamins  
 (eg) Food fortification.

2) Ensuring macro- and micro-nutrients in the body

eg Zn added in rice

3) Role of GM modified crops for nutritional intake

eg GM-mung

(II) Nutrition-sensitive

1) Checking obesity in children.  
(another form of malnutrition)

2) Preventing excessive consumption of certain nutrients

3) Customised nutrient food for particular age group.

This intervention will surely help us to achieve SDG-2 (Zero hunger), by 2030.

**Feedback**

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



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

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

Artificial Intelligence  
mimics human like intelligence  
For that to work, it needs data  
to simulate our actions which  
is also essential for corrective  
learning.

Need for data governance which is

## (I) TRANSPARENT

- 1) Prevent individual profiling by agencies eg Cambridge analytica case.
- 2). Ensure privacy of the user.  
eg DPDP act

3) Prevent cyberfrauds / crimes using data  
eg Digital arrest cases.

4). Preserving banking details.

5) Ensure free and fair elections in  
the country.

## (II) ACCOUNTABLE

1) Responsibility of social media  
intermediaries.

↳ Nodal officer under DPDP act.

2) Action against fake news / morphed  
photos.

3) Transparent contract to be signed  
with private agencies.

4). Data localisation

5) Cybersecurity professions.

Steps taken by government

- 1) Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2024 → provides comprehensive data protection.
- 2) End-to-end encryption made mandatory for various platforms.
- 3) CERT-In : to track cases of cybercrimes and take action.
- 4) Global alliance on data safety at Hanoi.
- 5) Cyber Surakhata Kendras by the government.
- 6) Data regulation under IT rules, 2021  
Data may be new oil, but without governance, it may turn into fire hazard.

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

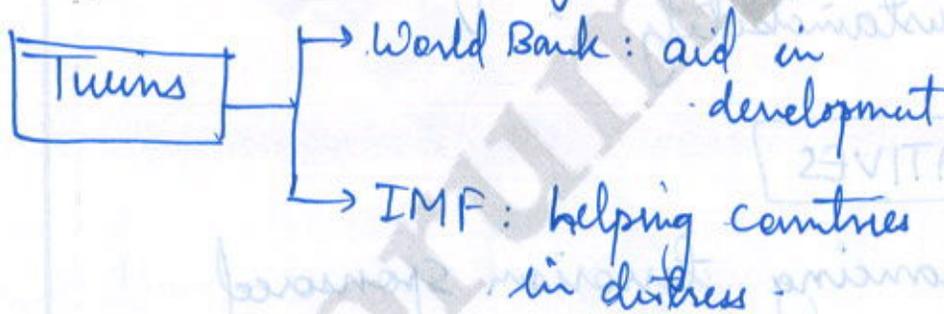
(15 marks, 250 words)

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

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

## IMF and World Bank

are referred as Bretton Woods Twins  
They were established to cater to the financial needs of countries



## Role of IMF in addressing debt-distress in Global South

### POSITIVE

1) Helping countries to come out of distress

eg loan to Sri Lanka in 2022

2) ~~can~~ Nudging economic reforms in  
the countries

[eg] India in 1991

3) Fiscal health indicators monitoring  
by IMF.

4) Releasing indices for debt  
sustainability.

### NEGATIVES

1) Financing terrorism sponsored  
states [eg] Pakistan

2) Repetatively funding Pakistan's  
distressed economy

3) Opaque governance process of  
IMF.

India using post G20- presidency momentum as:

- 1) Consensus based decision making
- 2) Use of groupings like G77 for more reforms.
- 3) Compliance norms for repetitive loan seekers.
- 4) Push for white paper on debt-trap diplomacy of countries  
eg China's BRI.
- 5) Blacklisting of countries in FATF Grey and Black list

### Feedback

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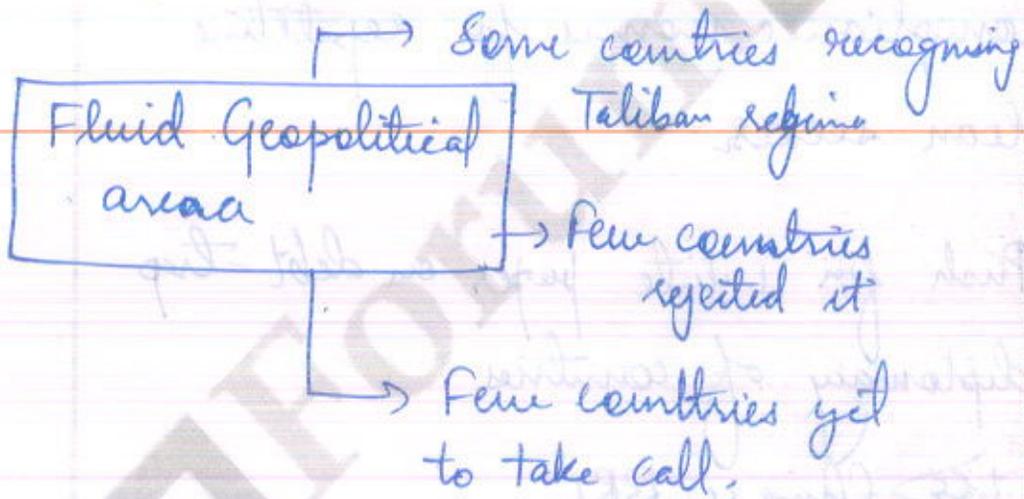
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Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.			
TOTAL MARKS			



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

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

Realpolitik demands pragmatic approach by any sovereign nation to enforce its national security agenda and interests.



Engagement without formal endorsement is a pragmatic middle path

- 1) Prioritising nation's interest first  
eg. Talks with Taliban in Saudi

- 2) Securing Indian investments in Afghanistan  
 (eg) Salma Dam.
- 3) Check against Pakistan's regime  
 (eg) Taliban - Pak tension at Duand line.
- 4) Creating more allies in tough times  
 (eg) Afghanistan debunking Pak's claim of missile hitting Kabul during Op-Sindoor.
- 5) Geopolitical positioning: India as consensus builder.
- 6) Strategic location needs to be harnessed. → Near Iran.
- 7) India's status as regional power.

However concerns are:

- 1) Taliban's poor human rights record → against Indian belief system  
 [eg] Shooting down journalists
- 2) Curbing women's rights  
 [eg] Ban on education
- 3) Un-democratic credentials  
 ↳ against Indian constitutional ethos
- 4) Rising Chinese influence in Afghan regime

However India is well within its rights to engage with any country which could bring us any benefit.

**Feedback**

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

### Mentor Feedback Questions

- 1 .....
- 2 .....
- 3 .....
- 4 .....
- 5 .....

#### Test Goal

- 1 .....
- 2 .....
- 3 .....

#### Outcomes

- 1 .....
- 2 .....
- 3 .....

### 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
	<b>Key / Relevant Point</b>		
	<b>Vague / Irrelevant</b>		

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