



TEST CODE 8 1 2 5 5 2

MGP 2025

Time Allowed : Three Hours
समय : तीन घंटे

Forum IAS

Maximum Marks : 250
अधिकतम अंक : 250

GENERAL STUDIES / सामान्य अध्ययन

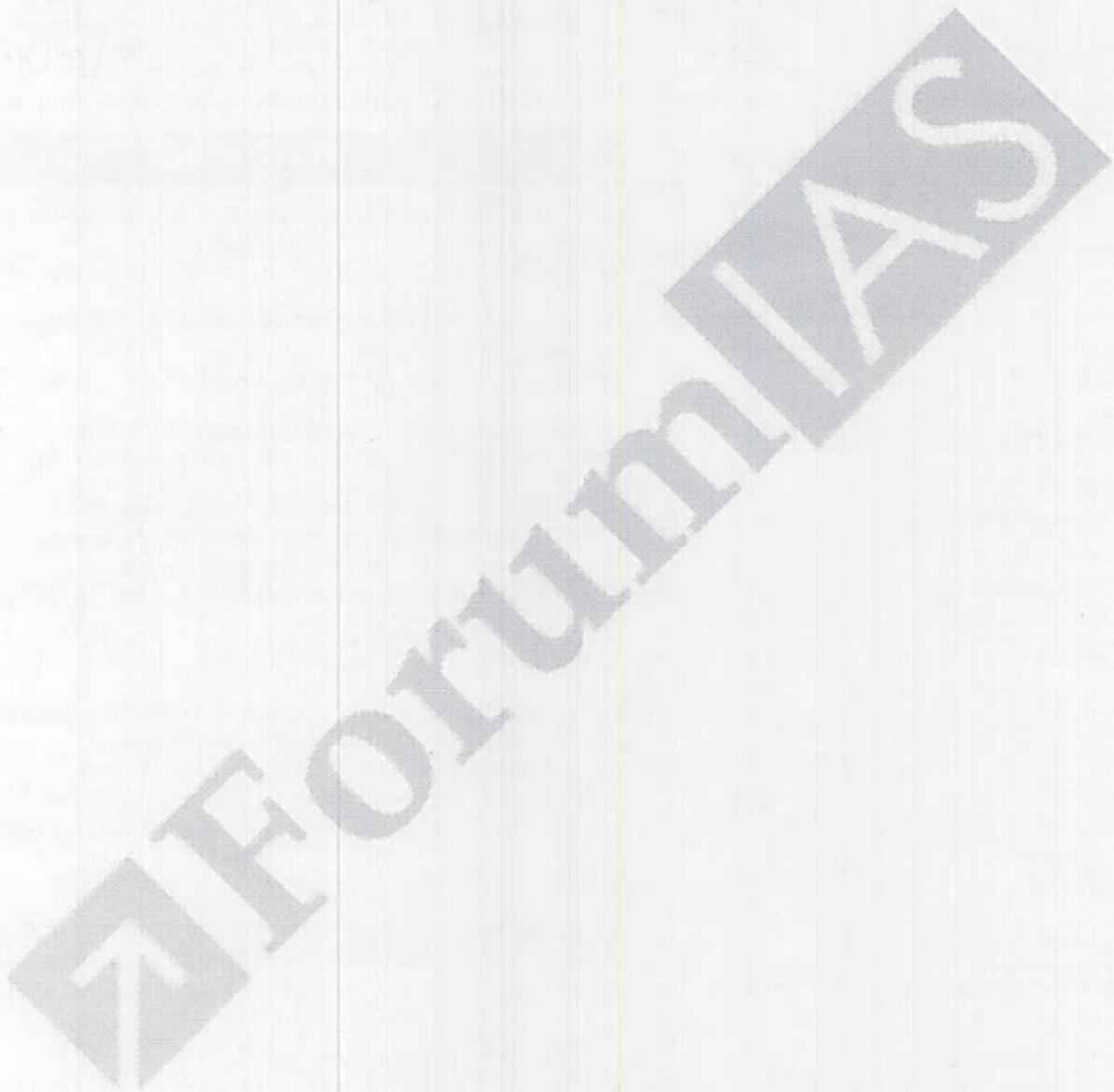
Name Of Candidate परीक्षार्थी का नाम	Jitendra	Medium/माध्यम	English <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> हिंदी <input type="checkbox"/>
Roll No./अनुक्रमांक	1910047578	Date/दिनांक	29/06/25
Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र	1900		

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

INDEX TABLE / अनुक्रमणिका			INSTRUCTION / अनुदेश	
Q. No. प्र.सं.	Max. Marks अधिकतम अंक	Marks Obtained प्राप्तांक	1. Please do furnish Name, Email, Roll No and Mobile in the answer sheet. कृपया उत्तर-पुस्तिका में नाम, ईमेल, रोल नंबर और मोबाइल नंबर भरें।	
1			2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI, all questions are compulsory. उत्तर पुस्तिका में अंग्रेजी/हिंदी में बीस प्रश्न दिए गए हैं, सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।	
2			3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के लिए निर्धारित अंक उसके सामने अंकित किए गए हैं।	
3			4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. उत्तर प्रवेश पत्र में अधिकृत माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए, जो कि दिए गए स्थान में इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के कवर पर स्पष्ट रूप से लिखा जाना चाहिए।	
4			5. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum Answer Booklet must be clearly Struck off. प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, यदि निर्दिष्ट हो, का पालन किया जाए। प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़े गये किसी भी पृष्ठ या पृष्ठ के भाग को स्पष्ट रूप से काट दें।	
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Total/कुल अंक	250		For Student Only / केवल परीक्षार्थी प्रयोग हेतु	
Examiner's Discretion/मूल्यांकन कर्ता का विवेक :			Start Time/प्रारंभ करने का समय : 9	End Time/समाप्त करने का समय : 12:30
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 आदी के आधार पर (लेकिन इन्हें तक सीमित नहीं) पर दिए गए अंक हैं।			For Office Use Only / केवल कार्यालय प्रयोग हेतु	
			ECN CODE/ ईसीएन कोड :	EG/ईजी : ① ② ③ ④ ⑤
				Evaluation Date/ मूल्यांकन तिथि :

Note: Students are expected to incorporate suggestions from the feedback provided in the answers. Discussion classes for the tests are also available online in your portal to aid in your preparation. Further, students are requested to see the good copies of the tests and learn from them. You can also discuss your copy with a Mentor and discover ways and means to improve your answers, or if you have any issues with this test / copy. Ask specific questions, to get specific answers.

EXAMINER'S REMARKS



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) "Besides being a moral imperative of a Welfare State, primary health structure is a necessary precondition for sustainable development." Analyse. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

"एक कल्याणकारी राज्य की नैतिक अनिवार्यता होने के अलावा, प्राथमिक स्वास्थ्य संरचना धारणीय विकास के लिए एक आवश्यक पूर्व शर्त है।" विश्लेषण कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The term socialism in the preamble, aims to create a welfare state, which strives to address health challenges thus establish healthier society

→ Primary health structure as moral imperative

- Healthy lifestyle ensures human dignity.
- It secures protection of life and thus ~~so~~ individuals can enjoy other rights
- Primary health ensures overall development of individuals ultimately developing society.

→ Primary health structure is a necessary precondition for sustainable development due to following reasons

- ① Healthy body and mind can contribute better towards realising SDGs, among which health is one of the SDG2.
- ② Primary health structure can contribute better towards preventive healthcare

thus reducing disease turning into severe illness.

- ③ It can contribute to reduce out of pocket expenditure (66-1), which can be used for other goals (education, lifestyle).
- ④ Other goals including poverty are dependent on health of an individual, if primary healthcare is well equipped, other SDGs can be achieved.
- ⑤ It will have effect on environmental justice, as it will ensure individual's capacity to build resilience against climate change.

However challenges remains

- ↳ Lack of infrastructure in primary healthcare
- ↳ Low doctor to patient ratio (L100 Ratio)
- ↳ Hesitancy to western based medicine.

With increasing investment in primary healthcare and pushing doctors to serve remote areas, primary healthcare structure can contribute to realise the goals of SDGs.

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) To what extent, in your opinion, will the 106th Constitutional Amendment Act help in increasing women's representation and empowerment in the Indian political process? (10 marks, 150 words)

आपकी राय में, 106वां संविधान संशोधन अधिनियम भारतीय राजनीतिक प्रक्रिया में महिलाओं के प्रतिनिधित्व और सशक्तिकरण को बढ़ाने में किस हद तक मदद करेगा? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

106th Constitutional Amendment Act reserved seats for women in Parliament and state legislatures, which will increase their participation as well as representation (Ward Shakti Vanthar Adhinyam).

→ Success of 106th Constitutional Amendment Act

- ① It will ensure their equal representation vis-a-vis men, thus ensuring gender parity in legislative bodies.
- ② Traditional patriarchal society, which was barrier for women's political participation, will be overcome by compulsory reservation.
- ③ It will strive to give equal opportunities in terms of elections, thus empowering them.
- ④ Increased representation will ensure well deliberated gender sensitive policies.

⇒ However there are challenges in it

① The Act will be implemented by post next census and delimitation, as of now 2021 census data has not been published.

② There is no reservation in state legislative councils, which will again act as barrier of expert women to enter politics by nomination.

③ Lack of access to resources, decision making autonomy, no political knowledge etc, which are the result of patriarchal society acts as barrier for their equal participation.

However, with dismantling traditional society's notion are effective implementation of the Act, will truly ensure their participation as well as empowerment.

Feedback

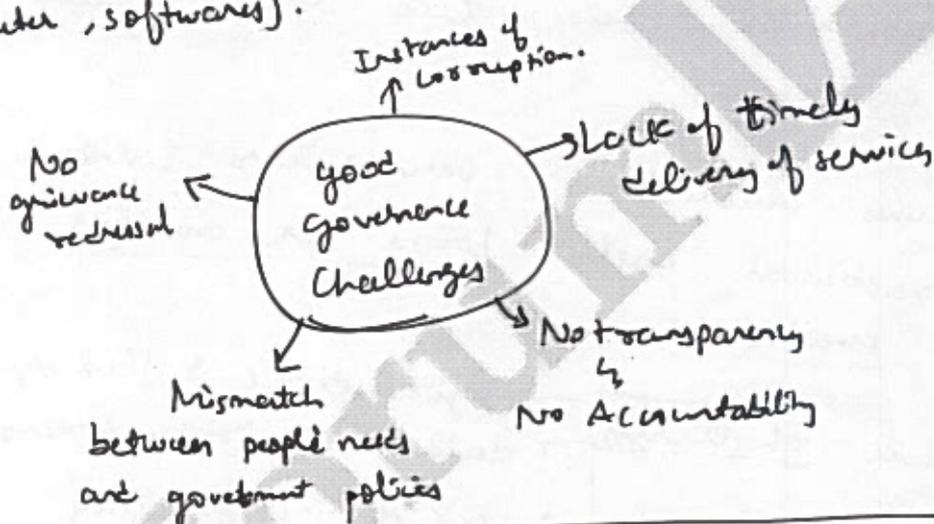
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Please put tick marks in the above table. Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.			
TOTAL MARKS			

Q.3) The promotion of e-governance is critical for the realization of good governance in the country. Elucidate. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

देश में सुशासन की प्राप्ति के लिए ई-गवर्नेंस को बढ़ावा देना महत्वपूर्ण है। स्पष्ट कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

E-governance as defined by World Bank, delivering services and relations between government citizen, government-business with the help of technology (internet, mobile, computer, softwares).



→ Promotion of e-governance is critical for realisation of good governance due to following reasons

- ① E-governance increases accessibility of services till last mile.
Example: E-Kranti - multiple services can be accessed on single platform.

② E-governance check timely delivery of services with time stamps and regular monitoring of services on portal.

③ Better grievance redressal mechanism
Ex: Mycro.in, CPGRAMS.

④ Increases participation of citizens in governance, thus lead to responsive governance.

⑤ Services available in vernaculars, unlike traditional english forms for availing services.

However challenges → Digital divide & illiteracy
→ data theft, privacy concerns
→ Lack of infrastructure (internet, electricity, devices)

needs to be addressed through effective capacity building and investing in infrastructure to utilise potential of e-governance to realise good governance.

Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

#	G	A	P
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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.4) Bring out the potential opportunities of telemedicine in India. Also, elaborate on the challenges in this regard. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

भारत में टेलीमेडिसिन के संभावित अवसरों का वर्णन कीजिए। साथ ही, इस संबंध में चुनौतियों पर भी विस्तार से चर्चा कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Telemedicine is can be understood as ~~the~~ accessing healthcare services ~~be~~ through digital mediums. Example can be e-Sanjeevani.

→ Potential opportunities of telemedicine in India

- ① Address low doctor to patient ratio, where very low presence of doctors can be mitigated with the use of telemedicine tools.
- ② Telemedicine has potential to reach remotest location and last mile, thus increasing accessibility of healthcare.
- ③ Role of telemedicine becomes of paramount importance during situations like Pandemic (Covid), or conflict at border (operation Indoor), where healthcare facilities can be accessed at doorsteps.

- ④ Official telemedicine can curb social-media led health experts, which misguide masses with ineffective medicines and increases financial burden.

→ Challenges in this regard

- ① Digital divide where urban and rural are divided on the lines of Internet penetration as well as access to telecom device

- ② Digital illiteracy among masses.

- ③ Cyber frauds, data theft and privacy concerns of healthcare data, which individuals want to be protected.

- ④ Hesitation among masses for acceptance of such emerging technology for accessing healthcare.

However with capacity building and strong data laws, while sensitising masses about its potential benefits, telemedicine ~~can~~ realise the goal of universalisation of healthcare.

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

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

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

Presently old age contributes around 16.1% of population, which will spike around 2041, when demographic dividend will fall. (Census 2011).

→ Challenges faced by elderly population

- ① Lack of access to care economy and linked healthcare facilities.
- ② Mental stress, loneliness, Memory loss and other psychological issues.
- ③ Rising nuclear families and increasing trend of old age families, burden falls on volunteer Nuclear state for welfare.
- ④ Access to old age health challenges like hearing aids, knee transplants, cataract surgeries, mobility etc. requires these facilities at mass scale.

⇒ Need for comprehensive policy to manage this demographic transition

- ① Comprehensive policy ~~to~~ of Healthcare to all elderly, will ensure their right to health (Art 21) and ~~also~~ increasing accessibility to healthcare.
- ② Investing in care economy as well as health infrastructure to fill the ~~best~~ structural gaps.
- ③ Volunteer associations to focus on old age care and building solidarity for better facilities for elderly population.
- ④ Development of healthcare facilities and care economy will reduce dependence on families (high out of pocket expenditure).

Thus comprehensive policy to manage challenges of ~~the~~ increasing old age population will ensure right to dignified life and thus inclusive growth.

Feedback:
(For OFFICE use only)

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

Q.6) "What was hailed as sunshine legislation, has been overshadowed by dark clouds". Critically examine the statement in the context of implementation of Right to information Act in almost two decades, since its enactment. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

"जिसे उज्वल कानून के रूप में सराहा गया था, उस पर काले बादल छा गए हैं।" सूचना के अधिकार अधिनियम के लागू होने के लगभग दो दशकों के बाद इसके कार्यान्वयन के संदर्भ में इस कथन की आलोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए।

(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Right to Information Act was passed in 2005, giving info information rights explicitly thus ensuring individual liberties.

→ RTI as successful sunshine legislation

- ① It has improved governance while holding government offices accountable.
- ② Uncovering scams (Commonwealth) thus build public opinion against corruption.
- ③ It has led to increased access to information thus better transparency and quality service delivery, improving overall governance.
- ④ It has increased people's participation thus ensuring civic republicanism and participatory democracy.

→ RTI overshadowed by clouds

① Use of secret clause to restrict access to information, undermines its efficacy in letter & spirit.

② Not keeping political parties & Judiciary under "public authorities" perpetuates corruption.

③ Lack of timely information disclosure, lack of staff at CIC and EIC make the implementation difficult.

With reducing use of secret and privacy clause under RTI and bringing all bodies under public authority will lead to efficient implementation of the RTI, which is in-que-ran for an open & democratic society.

Feedback :

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

Q.7) The objective of foreign policy is not only to build cordial international relations, but also to ensure national security and help citizens in pursuit of their aspirations. Discuss in context of India.

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

विदेश नीति का उद्देश्य न केवल सौहार्दपूर्ण अंतर्राष्ट्रीय संबंधों का निर्माण करना है, बल्कि राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करना और नागरिकों को उनकी आकांक्षाओं के अनुसरण में मदद करना भी है। भारत के संदर्भ में विवेचना कीजिए।

(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Foreign policy is securing the country's interest and managing the divergences while leveraging the convergences -
राज्य सुरक्षा

⇒ Objective of foreign policy

↳ build bilateral relations

↳ secure country's geo-political, geo-economic as well as strategic security.

⇒ Foreign policy to ensure national security

① Foreign policy aims to build allies and global opinion against aggressor

countries

Ex: Pakistan terrorism

② It aims to showcase country's defence capabilities to deter the aggressor

Ex: Participation in military exercise at global level
Malabar exercise.

Foreign policy helping citizens in pursuing their interests

- ① It build people to people ties, to leverage diaspora potential.
- ② It secures interests of diaspora in other countries
Ex: labour and remittance rights in African countries.
- ③ It aid professionals to move in countries under service agreements of FTA.

This foreign policy is a broader stance which holistically secures Nations interest as well as individuals ~~interest~~ interests.

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.8) Elaborate on the reasons for growing importance of Africa in India's foreign policy framework. Also, underline the contemporary areas of their bilateral engagement. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

भारत की विदेश नीति के ढांचे में अफ्रीका के बढ़ते महत्व के कारणों पर विस्तार से चर्चा करें। साथ ही, अपने द्विपक्षीय जुड़ाव के निवर्तमान क्षेत्रों को भी रेखांकित करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

India-Africa ties are rooted in historical and cultural relationships (Gandhi-Mandela).

Reasons for growing importance of Africa in India's Foreign policy

- ① India emerging as voice of global south (soft power)
- ② India stand for global justice
ex India advocated membership of African union in G20.
- ③ Africa will emerge as \$3 trillion economy by 2030 (WS), to leverage its market and demand.

Contemporary areas of cooperation

- ① India needs resources and minerals, while Africa can provide, while taking advantage of India's DPI.

- ② Africa serves as potential market for Indian exports, while India is a hub for African students and health tourism.
- ③ Both can voice ~~against~~ for global reforms in multilateral bodies (UNSC, WTO) etc.

Thus India and Africa have shared convergences and shared interests which underscores their rising engagement.

Feedback

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#	G	A	P
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Please put tick marks in the above table.

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TOTAL MARKS	
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Q.9) Immediate neighbours are "the first circle of priority" in India's relation with the world. In this context, highlight the salient features of 'Neighbourhood First' policy. Also, mention the associated challenges. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

विश्व के साथ भारत के संबंधों में निकटतम पड़ोसी "प्राथमिकता का पहला चक्र" हैं। इस संदर्भ में, 'पड़ोसी पहले' नीति की मुख्य विशेषताओं पर प्रकाश डालें। साथ ही, इससे जुड़ी चुनौतियों का भी उल्लेख करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Rajiv Sikri in his works, called neighbours as the first circle of priority, highlighting their role in country's security and prosperity.

⇒ Salient features of Neighbourhood first policy

- ① Non interference in country's internal matters.
- ② Respecting sovereignty of country
- ③ Mutual coexistence, while dialogue and mediation as tools for communication.

⇒ Associated challenges

- ① Neighbourhood countries view India as big brother, due to its economic & geographic might.

② Countries like China, tries to influence neighbour with debt trap diplomacy, welfarist tactics, BRI etc, which impacts India's bilateral ties with respective country.

③ Internal conflicts like Pakistan's economic recession, coup in Myanmar, - right wing stance of Nepal, create diplomatic challenges for India to engage with them.

However with transactional based approach, multi engagement with all, India can secure its neighbourhood strategically based on peace, goodwill and mutual assistance.

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS

Q.10) Indo-US relations are more robust than ever, but the deepening of the relationship is not without challenges. Analyse. (10 marks, 150 words)

भारत-अमेरिका संबंध पहले से कहीं अधिक मजबूत हैं, लेकिन संबंधों का सशक्त होना चुनौतियों से रहित नहीं है। विश्लेषण करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

India-US relations have reached a significant level after India signed all 4 defence agreements with USA (COMCASA, USOMIA, LAPARTS+ etc).

⇒ Indo-US relationship is more robust than ever

- ① USA call for peace and against terrorism, highlights increasing stand for India.
- ② USA view India as net security provider in region against China.
- ③ Deepen defence engagements and equipments procurement, showcase mutual trust and confidence.

⇒ Challenges in bilateral ties

- ① India's abstention in UN proposals against Russia, favour Israel, raises questions suspicious against India.

- ② India's tariffs against US imports are against USA's interest and shows non-reciprocity, whereas India stand for securing domestic economy.
- ③ India's partnership in BRICS, SCO was seen by ~~the~~ USA as moral weakness.

However, India is exercising its strategic autonomy, and building cordial relations require engagement at all levels (Track 1, 1.5, 2) based on dialogue and mediation.

Feedback

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

Q.11) "Digital interventions can significantly bridge the learning gaps and improve outcomes in the educational system of the country, but it comes with its own set of challenges". Comment.

(15 Marks, 250 Words)

"डिजिटल हस्तक्षेप शिक्षा एवं अधिगम से संबंधित अंतराल को महत्वपूर्ण रूप से कम कर सकते हैं और किसी देश की शैक्षिक प्रणाली में परिणामों में सुधार भी कर सकते हैं, लेकिन वे अपनी चुनौतियों के साथ आते हैं।" टिप्पणी कीजिए।

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

New Educational policy 2020,
envisaged use of digital tools to increase
quality of education in school, universities, and
has potential to bridge learning gaps.

→ Digital interventions can bridge learning gaps and improve outcomes in education in following ways:

- ① Digital tools increases accessibility of education reaching till last mile.
Ex: swayam portal for learning.
- ② Personalised learning can be ensured using digital tools for better equipping individuals with knowledge.
- ③ Track of education parameters of individuals, schools, regions, will ensure better framework for education analysis.
(statistical analysis).

Distracting ~~cause~~ leads to inefficient utilisation of digital medium.

Way forward

- ① Strong data laws
- ② Innovative mechanism like weekly 2 day class and remaining online can ensure personality development.
- ③ Investment in infrastructure for better realising the potential of educational tools.

Thus with capacity building and other such measures, digital interventions have the potential to bridge learning gaps and improve outcomes in the education system.

Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

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

Q.12) The various developmental initiatives by the government have fallen short of achieving their intended objectives. Is it a design issue or an implementation bottleneck? Suggest measures to improve the effectiveness of developmental schemes. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

सरकार द्वारा शुरू की गई विभिन्न विकासात्मक पहलें अपने इच्छित उद्देश्यों को प्राप्त करने में विफल रही हैं। क्या इसमें योजना निर्माण एक मुद्दा है अथवा कार्यान्वयन संबंधित बाधाएँ हैं? विकासात्मक योजनाओं की प्रभावशीलता में सुधार के लिए उपाय सुझाएँ। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Considering welfarism role of government (social justice), it launches various developmental initiatives to create egalitarian society.

⇒ Various developmental initiatives have fallen short of achieving their intended objectives

- ① PM Saubhagya yojna didn't lead to electrification for all as its intended goals.
- ② Despite calling Swachh Bharat campaign a success, instances of open defecation are visible.
- ③ PM Aam Aadmi yojna, has not resulted into roads linking remotest villages.
- ④ Inclusion, exclusion errors in govt insurance schemes (PMFBY), (Ayushman Bharat) etc.

⇒ Issues in design

- ① Lack of statistical analysis of ground data

leads to developmental initiative which
addresses half of the grievances.

- ② Lack of adaptability of the scheme
according to the societal context reduces
its efficacy.
- ③ Inter minister coordination is minimal, which
restricts outcome of scheme. For instance under
PM Uras Sadak Yojna road constructed but
under Bharatnet, optical fibres to be established
underground; ~~which~~

→ Implementation bottlenecks

- ① Lack of proactiveness by implementing
bureaucracy leading to lethargic
implementation.
 - ② Inclusion and exclusion errors at
administrative level.
- Measures to improve effectiveness of
developmental schemes
- ① Interoperability among ministry & agency
Ex: PM cati shakti master plan.

- ② Use of digital tools, statistical tools to minimise exclusion and inclusion errors.
- ③ social audits to check corruption and efficient implementation of developmental initiative.
- ④ Agile approach to develop schemes, which has scope of improvement according to requirements of time.
- ⑤ Realistic ~~develop~~ ^{untap} potential of civil society to for implementation & design and increase participation of masses.

Developmental initiatives are a necessity in country like India, where poverty and socio-eco disparities exist, to ensure welfare for all and inclusive growth.

Feedback:

(For OFFICE use only)

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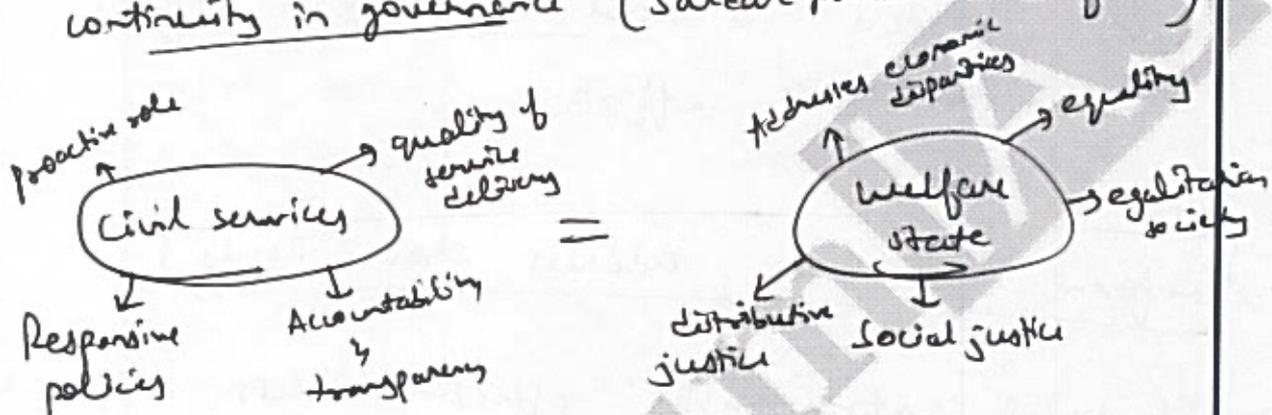
Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.

TOTAL MARKS

Q.13) An archaic and obsolete edifice of civil services does not augur well for a welfare state. Examine the various issues surrounding the civil services in the country. What suggestions would you make for their reform? (15 Marks, 250 Words)

सिविल सेवाओं की पुरानी और अप्रचलित संरचना कल्याणकारी राज्य के लिए शुभ संकेत नहीं है। देश में सिविल सेवाओं से जुड़े विभिन्न मुद्दों का परीक्षण कीजिए। आप उनके सुधार के लिए क्या सुझाव देंगे? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Civil services part of government which frame policies, implement them and bring continuity in governance (sardar patel - steel frame).



⇒ Archaic and obsolete civil services faces following issues in country

① Rigidity and no flexibility at times create challenges to mould rules according to societal context.

② Generic domain of civil services is challenge where domain expertise is required.

Ex: Chairman of IAFRO becoming chairman of NIAAD

③ Lack of compassion and sympathy, leads to inefficient policy outcomes for welfare state.

④ Rigid attitudes, biasness, caste domination etc hinders a social justice and distributive justice efforts.

⇒ Reforms needed to address above issues

① Lateral entry with effective checks and balances can be explored to address gaps in bureaucracy vacancies.

② Capacity building and sensitisation of civil services on the lines of multiculturalism & pluralism.

③ Effective mid-career training and reforming code of conduct for civil services according to the present demand of time ;

For example: Penetration of digital tools, Rising old age, LGBT+ etc.

(4) Include reports of MoC committee, Appleby reports, SC judgements in ZSR subcommittee for better Civil service reforms.

Thus overhauling the present obsolete civil services will lead to better governance and inclusive growth thus creating ideal society (Rajnirya-kanchiji).

Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

#	G	A	P
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Please put tick marks in the above table.

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

TOTAL MARKS	
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Q.14) What do you understand by hidden hunger? Identifying the causes, suggest measures to address the challenge of hidden hunger in the country. (15 Marks, 250 words)

आप प्रच्छन्न भूख (Hidden Hunger) से क्या समझते हैं? इसके कारणों की पहचान करते हुए, देश में प्रच्छन्न भूख (Hidden Hunger) की चुनौती से निपटने के उपाय सुझाएँ। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Hidden hunger can be understood as lack of micronutrients or oversupply of macronutrients leading to micronutrient deficiency or obesity impacting physical growth and other health challenges (obesity) etc.

⇒ Causes of hidden hunger

① Lack of breastfeeding for infants, is the major challenge.

② Poverty and increasing hunger
↳ According to NEFTI Survey MPI 2023, around 25% population faces ext. deprivation.

↳ India rank in Global Hunger Index 104, 2023

③ Emergence of fast food oversupply of sodiums, unsaturated carbon fats, high sugar etc.

② Reduce dependence on traditional foods
(millets, rice, wheat) etc.

⇒ Challenges of hidden hunger

① Health related challenges - Non-
communicable diseases - heart risk, diabetes.

② Lack of physical growth contributing
reduced hours of healthy life.

③ Lead to poverty and hunger,
due to non-performance economically.

⇒ Measures to address challenges of
hidden hunger

① Improve breast feeding, sensitisation
of masses about it, supplying micronutrients
to less weight infants.

② Fortification of foods and supply
through PDS (Fortified rice) etc.

③ Eat right Campaigns (FSSAI) and
awareness generation among communities.

④ Increase awareness for employment generation and increasing income to address hunger

⑤ Empowerment of women by
 ↳ decision making autonomy
 ↳ economic participation
 which will impact health outcome of children as well as family members.

Hidden hunger is a challenge to a country like India, where millions face the brunt of this issue, effective policy changes and sensitisation is the need ~~for~~ of how to meet SDG - zero hunger & poverty.

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.15) "The fight against poverty is at the core of the Sustainable Development Goals". In this context, highlight the interlinkages between poverty alleviation and various SDGs. Also, assess the effectiveness of the measures taken by the government for achieving the same. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

"निर्धनता के खिलाफ लड़ाई सतत विकास लक्ष्यों के मूल में है"। इस संदर्भ में, निर्धनता उन्मूलन और विभिन्न सतत विकास लक्ष्यों के बीच अंतर्संबंधों पर प्रकाश डालिए। साथ ही, इसे प्राप्त करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए उपायों की प्रभावशीलता का आकलन कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Amartya Sen in his book, "Development as Freedom" highlighted the link between capability approach to tackle poverty thereby attaining SDGs, which shows the essential link between them.

→ Interlinkages between poverty alleviation and various SDGs.

- ① Poverty means ~~lack~~ lack of basic necessities highlights its link with education, housing, which are SDGs.
- ② Poverty alleviation will ensure effective housing which is one of the SDGs.
- ③ It will give healthier lifestyle thus ensuring health security.
- ④ It will address the issue of hunger — SDG2 — zero hunger.

⑤ People out of poverty can better contribute towards environmental sustainability.

⇒ Success of govt measures in poverty alleviation

- ① From 2014 to 2021, ~~corona~~ poverty reduced from 21.1 to 16.1 according to Niti Aayog data (2023).
- ② Increased participation of poor in economy Ex: MGNREGS
- ③ Housing facilities increased Ex: PM Awas yojna.
- ④ Addressing environmental concerns through PM KUSUM, PM cylinder scheme.

⇒ Ineffectiveness of government measures

- ① Instances of inclusion and exclusion errors renders scheme inefficient
- ② Schemes are not fool proof. For

instance MGNREGS expected to give 100 days of employment but gave coverage of 58 days employment (official data of QAL).
(QAL).

③ Misuse of authority, corruption, bribery etc are other reasons.

With effective social audits, participation of civil society and capacity building (skilling) of initiatives, poverty alleviation can be achieved with high success rate thus contributing to SDGs and inclusive growth.

Feedback

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

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

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

Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) was launched

in 2014, as a campaign to improve hygiene, sanitation and cleanliness among masses and in physical, public spaces.

⇒ Role played by SBM in bringing positive change in life of women, children & marginalized

① Women

- ① Increased access to toilets secured privacy concerns.
- ② Rising awareness about sanitation (pads) secured hygienic life.
- ③ Ensured life of dignity (Article 21)

⇒ Children

- ① Improved child infant mortality rate, with improved hygiene & sanitation awareness.
- ② Reduce losses of infections, diarrhoea, cholera etc.

→ Marginalised communities

- (1) Increased awareness about purity & impurity dismantled caste hierarchies and acceptance of lower castes in mainstream society.
- (2) Rising Public toilets post swachh shakti mission increased access as well as use of toilet, which ensured their right to hygienic life.

→ However challenges still remain

- (1) Despite calling open defecation free, instances of open defecation are visible.
- (2) Lack of management of grey water which was one of the goal of swachh shakti.
- (3) Despite constructing toilets, people are not using it, due to traditional cultural beliefs.
- (4) Awareness drives under mission are just for social media portrayal.

Where leaders come with broom to clean public spaces.

Way forward

- ① Behavioural changes (nudge approach)
- ② Incentivising based on use of toilet or open defecation free status.
- ③ Managing technicalities → grey water and black water, drainage equipments etc.

Thus Swachh Bharat mission has the potential to address hygiene and sanitation issues thus reducing anti-microbial resistance in country contributing to overall health of nation.

Feedback:

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Please put tick marks in the above table.			
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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.17) "Non-alignment remains a guiding principle, yet the national foreign policy also reflects traits that contrast with it". Elaborate. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

"यद्यपि गुटनिरपेक्षता एक मार्गदर्शक सिद्धांत बनी हुई है, फिर भी राष्ट्रीय विदेश नीति इसके विपरीत गुणों को भी प्रतिबिंबित करती है"। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Non alignment was the signature

movement of India which gave option to countries to being neutral rather than siding any country during cold war (USA & USSR).

⇒ Non alignment remains a guiding principle

① At various platforms India highlighted its ~~the~~ stand of non alignment.
Ex: Russia-Ukraine war; India stayed neutral, while voting for peace.

② India's foreign policy calls for its non-alignment explicitly.
Ex: India abstained from voting in UN, on Israel-Palestine conflict.

⇒ Traits of foreign policy which contrast with Non-alignment are as follows

① India signing all four defence agreements with USA (COMCASA, CAATSA etc)

highlights its tilted approach towards USA.

② Participation in QUAD against China, shows India's aligning stance at geopolitical level.

③ India voicing against west dominated institutions (WTO, UNFCCC) which questions its neutral stance.

⇒ However contrasting points are not because of ~~the~~ strict alignment rather strategic policy driven by country's interest

① S. Jaishankar in his book "The India Way" highlighted India's transactional based approach (issue based), where India collaborate and cooperate with countries based on mutual interests.

② Rejiv Sikri in his book, "Strategic Conundrums" have mentioned how, India exercised strategic autonomy, while making deal with USA (defense) and Russia (S400 missile), which

shows India independent approach.

- 3) India's foreign policy is driven by its interests, which strive for navigating in ~~multipolar~~ multipolar geopolitics rather than alignment with any country.

Thus Non alignment remains a guiding principle, while contrasting traits are according to the ~~interest~~ strategic interest of countries, which highlights India's rich foreign policy stance.

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) The shifting geopolitical dynamics cast a shadow on the India-Russia relationship, but it remains resilient, rooted in trust and shared interests. Examine. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

बदलती भू-राजनीतिक गतिशीलता भारत-रूस संबंधों को नकारात्मक रूप से प्रभावित करती है, लेकिन यह विश्वास और साझा हितों पर आधारित होकर लचीला बना हुआ है। परीक्षण कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

India - Russia relations are rooted in history with ancient cultural ties and friendship treaty (1971) ~~with~~ having goals of shared prosperity and common goods.

→ Shifting geopolitical dynamics cast shadow on India-Russia relationship in following ways

- ① Increasing ties of India with USA (signing all 4 defence agreements), to counter Chinese influence ~~year~~ leads to trust deficit between India-Russia.
- ② India abstaining from voting in UN, in Russia-Ukraine conflicts, questions India's relation with Russia.
- ③ India's neutral ~~stance~~ stance in Russia's needy times, make Russia suspicious about India.
- ④ India being member of QUAD as well as SCO, BRICS raises question to its moral stance.



However the India-Russia relationship remain resilient, rooted in trust and shared interests.

- ① While Russia-Ukraine conflict ongoing, India procured 500 missiles from ~~the~~ Russia, which shows its increased defence engagement and trust.
- ② When world put sanctions on Russia, India strike deal with Russia for oil procurement, based on bilateral currency settlement, which questions dollar hegemony as well as India-Russia flourishing ~~the~~ energy security.
- ③ India's investment to develop Russia's far east, as well as Russia investment in India's nuclear development, showcases the bilateral relation rooted in trust & shared interest.
- ④ While India abstains from voting, but it strictly stands for non-interference in state's sovereignty,

indirectly undermining NATO's expansionist policy.

Thus shifting geopolitical dynamics ~~might~~ might have cast shadow on India-Russia relationship, but the relationship is rooted in deep trust, shared prosperity and resilient in its approach.

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) SCO is seen as a major coordinating and balancing force in the region; however, its position is increasingly challenged by internal contradictions and divergences. In this context, critically evaluate the relevance of SCO in advancing India's interests. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

SCO को क्षेत्र में एक प्रमुख समन्वयकारी और संतुलनकारी शक्ति के रूप में देखा जाता है; हालाँकि, आंतरिक विरोधाभासों और मतभेदों के कारण इसकी स्थिति लगातार चुनौतीपूर्ण होती जा रही है। इस संदर्भ में, भारत के हितों को आगे बढ़ाने में SCO की प्रासंगिकता का आलोचनात्मक मूल्यांकन कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Shanghai Cooperation Organisation with membership of more than 15 countries having combined GDP over 30%, acts as a major balancing force in the region, where ~~with~~ world's 3 major poles situated (Russia, China, India).

⇒ Position of SCO being challenged by internal contradictions and divergences

① India - China, India - Pakistan Bilateral Conflicts become challenge to arrive at common consensus. For instance China didn't support India's initiative of DFI, while India didn't support BRI at SCO Platform.

② Different economic growth models, China - market capitalism, India - Mixed liberal economy, Middle East - constitutional controlled economy, hampers coordination at economic front.

③ Interests of member countries vary:

India - balancing China

China - drive for domination

Russia - managing rising multipolarity

Pakistan - assertion towards India

⇒ Relevance of SCO in advancing India's interests

① Act as platform for building communication during stagnation of talks between countries (China, Pakistan)

② While global opinion is against India-Russia bilateral ties, SCO serve as builder of trust with deliberation at common front.

③ India can strategically balance China, and criticise Pakistan (terrorism) at global forum and build opinion against their assertion

④ Will serve India's interest of geoeconomics, energy security, mineral security (Central Asia) etc.

⇒ Challenges for India in SCO

- ① Managing partnership and navigating through SCO dynamics will be a ^{diplomatic} challenge for India. Ex: Saudi Arab and Iran both members of SCO.
- ② Potential nexus being build by Pakistan and China against India to build narrative at SCO platform.

However, India's stance for multipolarity and engaging countries with strategic autonomy, will give India advantage to leverage the platform of SCO to secure its national interest.
 - (Rajamohan) -

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) Explain the factors that make Indo-Pacific a region of significance for India. What are the impediments in reaping the geo-strategic potential of the Indo-Pacific? (15 Marks, 250 Words)

उन कारकों की व्याख्या कीजिए जो भारत-प्रशांत क्षेत्र को भारत के लिए महत्वपूर्ण क्षेत्र बनाते हैं। भारत-प्रशांत क्षेत्र की भू-रणनीतिक क्षमता का लाभ उठाने में क्या अवरोध हैं? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Indo-pacific is the region ^{embracing} ^{global politics} Indian ocean and Pacific ocean, where ^{countries} attention have shifted from erstwhile ^{Atlantic} to Indo Pacific as highlighted by C. Rajamohan in his book "Sagarmanthan".

⇒ Factors that make Indo-Pacific a region of significance for India

① Indo Pacific lies at the confluence of major trade routes where India can have strategic presence.
(Rajiv Sikri - Arts of Growth).

② Indo Pacific combined represents more than 50% of Global GDP and world's 70% oil passes through it, where India can take advantage geo-economically.

③ India can showcase its diplomatic ideals of preserving global peace,

open trade routes, thus building India's soft power and global influence.

- ④ Rising China's influence in the region (BRI, acquiring defense ports) make the region strategically important for India to balance it.

⇒ Impediments in reaping the geo-strategic potential of the Indo Pacific

- ① Presence of Pakistan and China, challenges India's stance in the region.
- ② Issues like piracy, disasters create diplomatic questions against India as "net security provider" in the region
- ③ Globally it is held that, "India promises, China-delivers", in context of cancelling Sri Lanka port, defense deal, public opinion against India in acquiring airport in
- ④ China's assertive policy, string of pearls against India, BRI, debt trap

Diplomacy etc create geo-political challenge for India.

However efficiently dealing with countries diplomatically, strengthening BRIC, WADR operations, India can create its soft power while leveraging the potential to Indo-Pacific geo-strategically.

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			

Mentor Feedback Questions

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

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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