

Time Allowed : Three Hours

ForumIAS

Maximum Marks : 250
अधिकतम अंक : 250

GENERAL STUDIES / सामान्य अध्ययन

Name Of Candidate परीक्षार्थी का नाम	Sakshee Mishra		
Roll No./अनुक्रमांक	1910112080	Medium/माध्यम	English <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> हिंदी <input type="checkbox"/>
Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र	1900	Date/दिनांक	28/7/25

*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			1. Please do furnish Name, Email, Roll No and Mobile in the answer sheet. कृपया उत्तर-पुस्तिका में नाम, ईमेल, रोल नंबर और मोबाइल नंबर भरें।	
2			2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI, all questions are compulsory. उत्तर पुस्तिका में अंग्रेजी/हिंदी में बीस प्रश्न दिए गए हैं, सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।	
3			3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के लिए निर्धारित अंक उसके सामने अंकित किए गए हैं।	
4			4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. उत्तर प्रवेश पत्र में अधिकृत माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए, जो कि दिए गए स्थान में इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के कवर पर स्पष्ट रूप से लिखा जाना चाहिए।	
5			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 Marks/कुल अंक :	Mode Of Examination/ परीक्षा की विधि :		Online/ऑनलाइन <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
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*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	
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Note: Students are advised to refer the 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

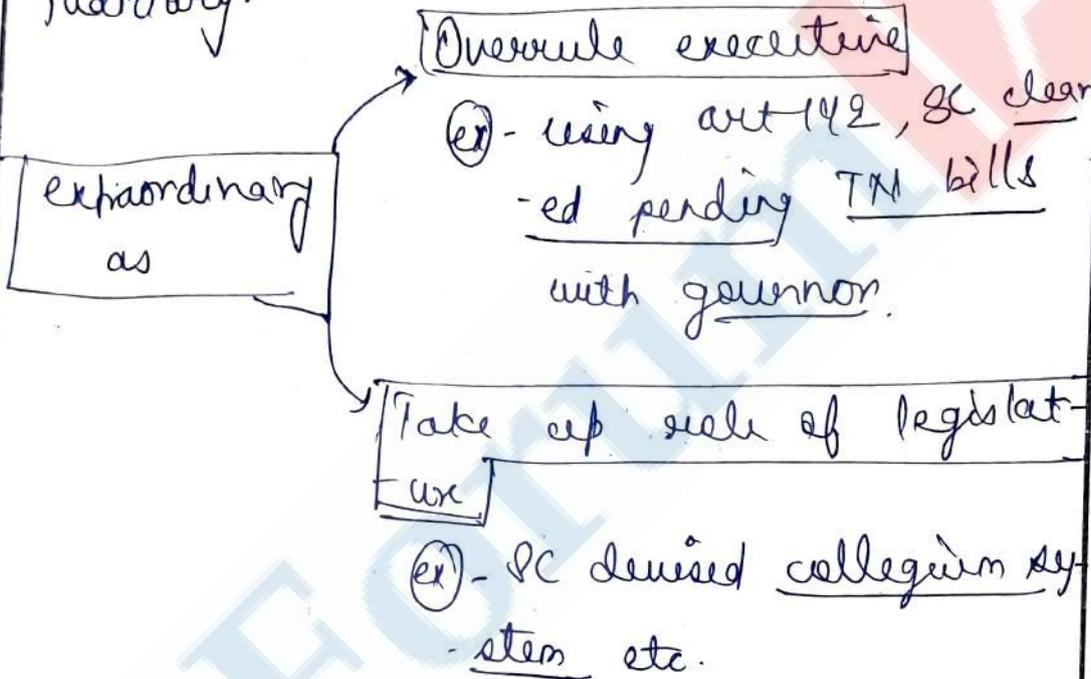
CRITERIA FOR THE FEEDBACK SECTION AT THE END OF EACH QUESTION

- 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 subjective components of assessment.

Q.1) "Extraordinary powers must be exercised with extraordinary care." Discuss in the context of Article 142 of the Indian Constitution. (10 marks, 150 words)

"असाधारण शक्तियों का प्रयोग असाधारण सावधानी से किया जाना चाहिए।" भारतीय संविधान के अनुच्छेद 142 के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Article 142 gives supreme court to take decisions for complete justice an extraordinary power in hand of judiciary.



Concerns from extraordinary power :-

- ① lack of accountability by judiciary
 - ex - SC freed the convicts of Rajiv Gandhi case using art 142

- ① Scope of misuse - to exercise control over executive & legislature.
- ② Violates 'separation of power' (art 50)

Requiring extraordinary care :-

- ① Provide opportunity to legislature to Act.
 (ex): In Sehrawat case (LGBTQ judgment - ex), left the issue on parliament.
- ② Understand fund, function, functionary constraint of executive.
 (ex): Devi Singh Covid-19.
- ③ Respect wisdom of other organs.
 (ex) In a case against DRC of Chhattisgarh upheld right of SLA to make laws.

Further → EJI can make rules on use of art 142.

Hence - only a balanced use of art 149 can allow 'Judicial activism' without overreach

Feedback

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Q.2) Why are State Legislative Assemblies involved in the election of the President but excluded from the process of impeachment? (10 marks, 150 words)

राज्य विधान सभाओं को राष्ट्रपति के चुनाव में शामिल किया जाता है, लेकिन महाभियोग की प्रक्रिया से बाहर क्यों रखा जाता है? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Under art 54 of constitution 'electd numbers' of state legislative assembly take part in election of president.

Involved in election because :-

- ①. President represents entire country and not just states centre.
(BR ambedkar)
- ②. Decisions of president influence state.
ex - president permission required to change area of state under art 3
- ③. presidence influences state's governance by → assenting to state bills reserved
→ appointing governors

But in impeachment (art 61) the members of State legislature are not as;

- ①. To make the process simpler to execute.
- ②. Removal of president not significantly affects states rights as he works on advice of CoM & his decision is valid even after removal.

Concerns
with
this

- ①. President may skew in favour of centre.
- ②. Inconsistency in approach of appointment & removal.

Thus, the office of president should be kept free of politicization to build trust between centre & the state.

Feedback

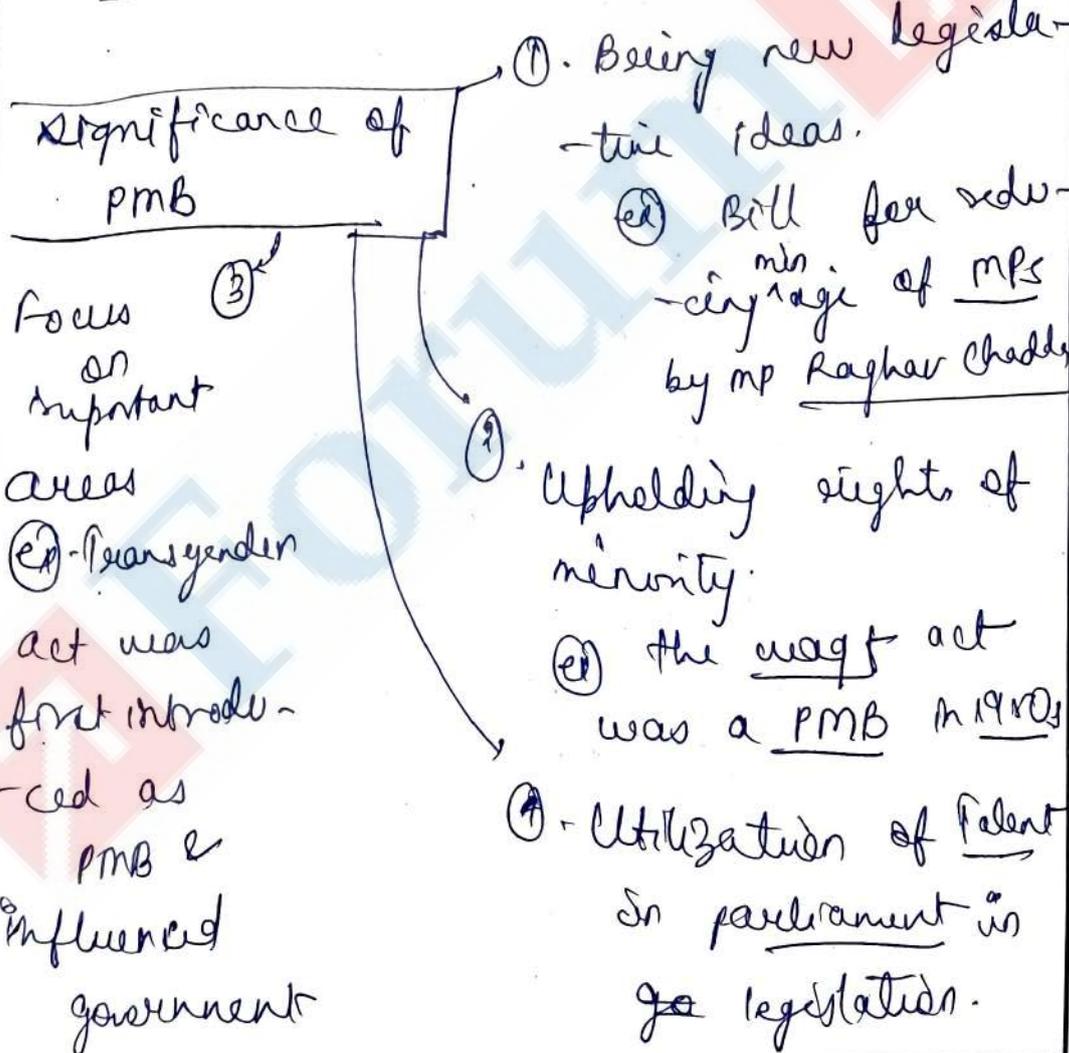
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Q.3) Private Member's Bills (PMBs) seldom become law in India, yet they are an important aspect of parliamentary democracy. Bring out their significance and suggest steps to strengthen the PMB process. (10 marks, 150 words)

भारत में निजी सदस्य विधेयक (PMBs) शायद ही कभी कानून बनते हैं, फिर भी वे संसदीय लोकतंत्र का एक महत्वपूर्ण पहलू हैं। उनके महत्व को उजागर करें और निजी सदस्य विधेयक प्रक्रिया को सशक्त करने के लिए उपाय सुझाएं। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

While 729 Private member bill were brought in 17th Lok Sabha only 2 were discussed, since 1970 no PMB has become an act.



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⑤. Increase importance of individual mp.

Measures needed to strengthen PMBs :-

①. Expert aid to private members for drafting like in UK, US etc.

②. Mandatory discussion of certain % of PMBs
ex - Weekly certain hours can be given.

③. Digitalization of process - for approval of bills for discussion.

Further → ① political will is needed to entertain PMBs

②. Better coordination between government & MPs can make PMB getting passed easy.

hence, by using PMB, we can use the complete potential of our parliament for Indian democracy.

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Q.4) Highlight the key points of convergence and divergence between the judicial systems of India and USA. (10 marks, 150 words)

भारत और अमेरिका की न्यायिक प्रणालियों के बीच अभिसरण और विचलन के प्रमुख बिंदुओं पर प्रकाश डालिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Both India and US have separate government with judiciary ensuring legal equality.

But there are differences :-

India	USA
<p>①. Integrated system of judiciary - handling both central & state laws.</p>	<p>①. Federal judiciary decides on federal cases & state judiciary on state cases.</p>
<p>②. Judiciary is not supreme and parliament can amend constitution without affecting basic structure.</p>	<p>②. Judicial supremacy :- the US Supreme court can take down any legislation.</p>

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③ Follows procedure established by law

③ Follows due process of law

④ Collegium system (in house) recommends names to president.

④ separate commission recommends names to president for appointment.

⑤ Focus on equity
ex- Upheld reservation (Indra Sawney)

⑤ Focus on equality
ex- nullified the race based reservations.

But they also converge

- ①. Judicial review
- ②. Interpreting constitution
- ③. Protector of fundamental rights.

Hence both the judiciaries have evolved to protect citizens rights against state actions.

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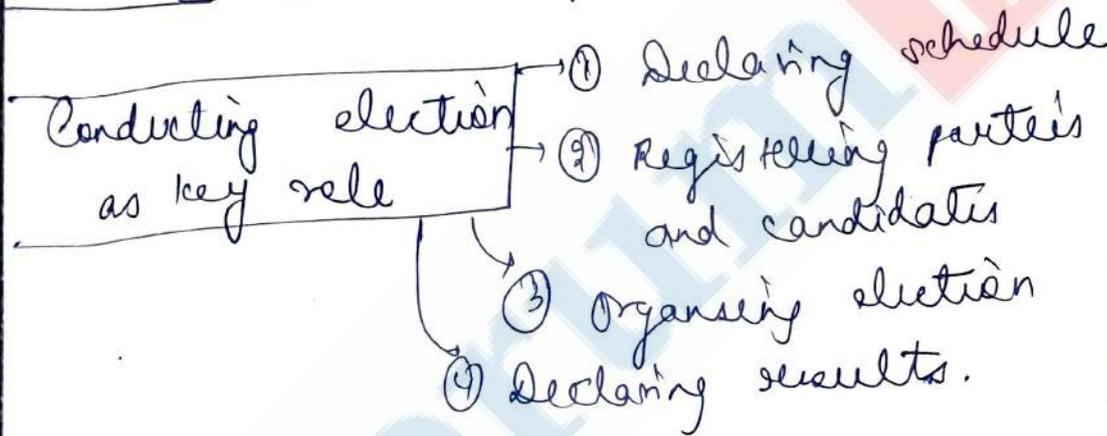
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Q.5) The role of Election Commission of India has evolved beyond conducting elections to becoming a guardian of electoral democracy. Critically evaluate. (10 marks, 150 words)

भारत के चुनाव आयोग की भूमिका चुनाव कराने से आगे बढ़कर चुनावी लोकतंत्र के संरक्षक बनने तक विकसित हो गई है। आलोचनात्मक मूल्यांकन करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Under art 324, Election Commi-
sion (ECI)
of India, supervises and conducts
elections to state assemblies, Lok Sabha,
President office & Rajya Sabha.



But over years it has evolved as guardian of electoral democracy

①. Free & fair election:-

↳ Model code of conduct basis
action by parties that are anti-
competition.

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① can't launch new development projects.

↳ Election observers - government officers who keep monitoring the farmers of process.

① check misuse of cash for voting etc.

② Generating voter awareness

↳ SWEEP - telling voters rights

③ Making election a festival

① pink booths for women voters, selfie corner at voting centres.

④ Ensuring Transparency ① EVM using VVPAT

⑤ Conducting election in difficult location

-on ①: In forests of bastar affected by taxalism.

Further, ECI should follow the

legacy of 'TM Nishan' for enhancing an image of 'impartiality'.

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Q.6) What is the rationale behind the 'three-language formula' in India's education policy? Also highlight the challenges associated with its adoption and implementation across the country. (10 marks, 150 words)

भारत की शिक्षा नीति में 'त्रि-भाषा सूत्र' के पीछे क्या तर्क है? देश भर में इसे अपनाने और लागू करने से जुड़ी चुनौतियों पर भी प्रकाश डालें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Three language formula requires the students to be taught at least three languages in schools under New education policy, 2020.

Rationale behind 3 language policy

①. Promote unity & integrity - as India is multilingualistic knowing one common Indian language helps in
→ migration (economic integration) for job
→ Inter regional social networking.

②. Reduces feeling of regionalism - which can also lead to separatist tendency.

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- ③. Enhances 'mental capability' of children
- by learning more languages.
- ④. Enhanced job opportunities in different regions.
ex - In Hindi belt for south India

Challenges in adoption & implementation

- ①. Feeling of 'cultural appropriation'
ex - T.N, CM accusing hindi imposition by 3 language.
- ②. Can increase study related burden for children.
- ③. Challenge of getting multilingual teachers to teach in 3 languages.

suggestion → ①. Alleviate fear of hindi imposition by clarifying NEP 20 provisions.

②. Make provision voluntary

Thus, multilingualism is not imposed by volunteered can → 'ek bhavet & reshtha bhavet'.

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Q.7) 'Emerging environmental concerns and evolving ecosystem perspectives demand a reimagined approach to rural water governance.' Discuss the key interventions needed to recalibrate rural water policies with special emphasis on the role of communities. (10 marks, 150 words)

'उभरती पर्यावरणीय चिंताएँ और विकसित होते पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र के परिप्रेक्ष्य ग्रामीण जल प्रशासन के लिए एक नए दृष्टिकोण की मांग करते हैं।' समुदायों की भूमिका पर विशेष बल देते हुए ग्रामीण जल नीतियों को पुनः संतुलित करने के लिए आवश्यक प्रमुख हस्तक्षेपों पर चर्चा करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

As per WRI, 52% of India faces water stress. With >70% population in rural areas it is important for rural governance.

Intervention needed for rural water governance

①. Watershed management - managing all biological & natural resource in a catchment area.

② - water bodies, humans, animals etc.

③. Mobilizing SHGs for execution of water policies like atol Bhujal Yojna

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(ex) Jal Sakhi (SHK) In MP.

3. Devolve power of water management to panchayats.

(ex) panchayats can plan water use, local canal projects etc.

4. Promote rainwater harvesting by traditional methods.

(ex): kul In HP, Tankas in Rajasthan etc

5. Promote water use efficiency in farms

(ex) subsidised drip irrigation system

6. Help volunteers with fund already working in this area.

(ex) Ralegaon siddhi village under Anna Hazare became water sufficient

hence, community awareness

and participation is key to effective water governance.

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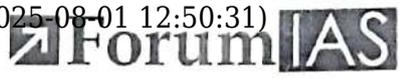
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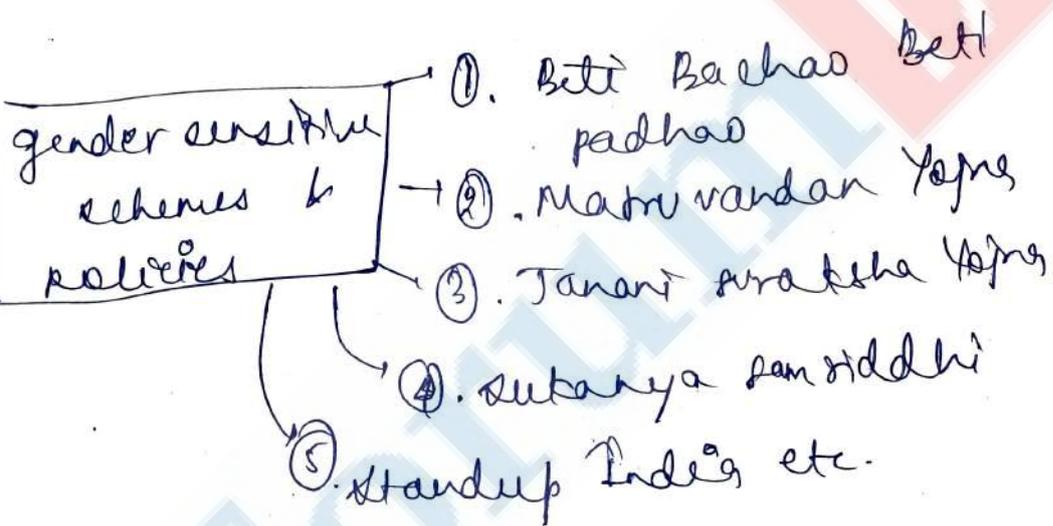
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Q.8) Identify and discuss the challenges hindering effective implementation of gender-sensitive policies and schemes in the country. (10 marks, 150 words)

देश में लैंगिक रूप से संवेदनशील नीतियों और योजनाओं के प्रभावी कार्यान्वयन में बाधा डालने वाली चुनौतियों की पहचान करें और उन पर चर्चा करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

women constitute 48% of India's population (2011 census) but get only 18% of income while men get 82% of income (as per Global Inequality Index)



Challenges hindering such efforts :-

1. Social:

- a) patriarchal mindset limiting opportunities for women
- b) Unequal educational opportunities.

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• nity & employment options.

②. Awareness - lack of information about government schemes with women.

(ex) - low enrollment in Tan Utkshan sarkhan.

③. Security challenge - molestation & harassment attempts keep women away from public space.

(ex) Rel Kar incident.

④. Ineffective fund utilization

(ex) Unused Nirbhaya fund.

⑤. Overlapping schemes reducing efficiency

(ex) - MVY, JSL, Mahu vandan, Tanani Suraksha have similar goal.

suggestion → ① social awareness on gender rights (via NGOs)

② Create safe spaces

There only women empowerment can help us become 'Vishat Bharat'!

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(ex) India has ~~set~~ India water Treaty on abeyance for using all India rivers & restricting supply to Pakistan.

4. Boosting Trade - via navigation on rivers

(ex) In NWL over Ganga, goods can be exported to Bangladesh.

5. Biodiversity conservation

(ex) Dolphins in Indo-Nepal Rivers

Challenges

1. Restriction on water supply by upper riparian state
(ex) China's Dam over Brahmaputra

2. Adversely not sharing data
(ex) China not sharing flood data

3. Tensions over water sharing
(ex) Tista issue

Use for terrorist infiltration

(ex) Creeks in Indo-Pak border

Thus, 'water diplomacy' becomes

a must for environmental, economic, energy security as well as peace and should be guided by 'panchsheel'

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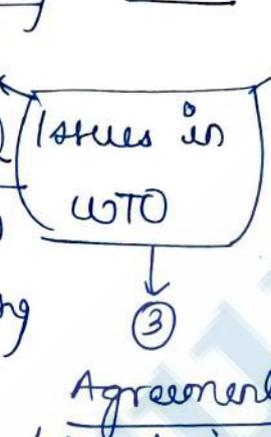
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Q.10) What are the key areas of reform if the World Trade Organization (WTO) has to remain relevant in the present context of rising protectionism and trade wars? (10 marks, 150 words)

यदि विश्व व्यापार संगठन (WTO) को बढ़ते संरक्षणवाद और व्यापार युद्धों के वर्तमान संदर्भ में प्रासंगिक बने रहना है तो सुधार के प्रमुख क्षेत्र क्या हैं? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The recent 'unilateral tariffs' by USA with 'most favoured nations' violating WTO agreement, raises need for strengthening WTO.

US led: its appellate Tribunal is disfunctional as US not appointing members



①. No independent funding source - depends on member's contribution
②. Agreement on agriculture

Thus, following reforms are needed

①. Diversify sources of funding - to avoid reliance on few nations.

(ex) - UNESCO diversified & now depends on US for only 8% of fund.

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- 2. Bring a working appellate tribunal - with provision preventing mono influ- -ence of few nations.
 - (a) currently Tribunal dysfunctional.
- 3. Provide equal voting rights to mem- -bers on key issues.
- 4. Transparency in operation to regain + trust of developing world.
- 5. Permanent solution to government stock holding rather than peace clause.
- 6. Merger of overlapping departments.
- 7. Binding agreements with security deposits in case of violation to be

frozen.

TRIPS

WTO's relevance

→ Agreement on agriculture
 → Most favoured nations

These reform will make

'WTO' - enabler of Trade led development

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Q.11) The basic structure doctrine acts as a constitutional compass in balancing Parliament's legislative authority and constitutional supremacy. Comment. (15 marks, 250 words)

आधारभूत संरचना सिद्धांत संसद की विधायी शक्ति और संवैधानिक सर्वोच्चता के बीच संतुलन बनाने में एक संवैधानिक निर्देशक के रूप में कार्य करता है। टिप्पणी करें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Basic structure (BS) doctrine was invented by supreme court in Keshwananda Bharti case (1976). It means those provisions which can't be touched under art 368 (amending powers) of parliament.

Balancing parliament's authority and constitutional supremacy

1. Empowering parliament to bring amendments violating fundamental rights (art 14-32) without touching BS.

ex - 44th amendment removed right to property (art 31) from part III.

2. Preventing changes to core features of constitution :-

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- ①. Power of Judiciary to review
executive & legislative actions
(Indira Nehru case)
- ②. Preserving democratic & republican
nature (Keshwananda case)
- ③. Upholding equality (art 14) from
abrogation (Indira swaney case)
- ④. Ensuring free & fair elections
(Kulddeep Nayar, Indira Nehru case)
- ⑤. Balancing DPSPs & fundamental
rights (Minerva mills case)
- ⑥. Upholding secularism (Keshwananda
case)
- ③. Limiting the power of parliament des-
pite 24th amendment;
 - ex. In Minerva mill case (1980), SC
declared limited amending power

of parliament as part of BS.

④ - Enabling social welfare legislation.

① - In Keshwananda case - 'Welfare state' as part of BS, held where A39(b) & (c) come out (14) goes out.

Concerns over BS :-

①. Arbitrarily decided - on case to case basis.

②. No definition of BS.

③. Can help in judicial overreach.

① - 99th amendment (NTA) voided

Suggestions

①. Codification of BS by Supreme Court.

②. Clear definition of basic structure

Thus, Basic structure has helped the state balance fundamental rights of people (by courts) and rights of society (by parliament).

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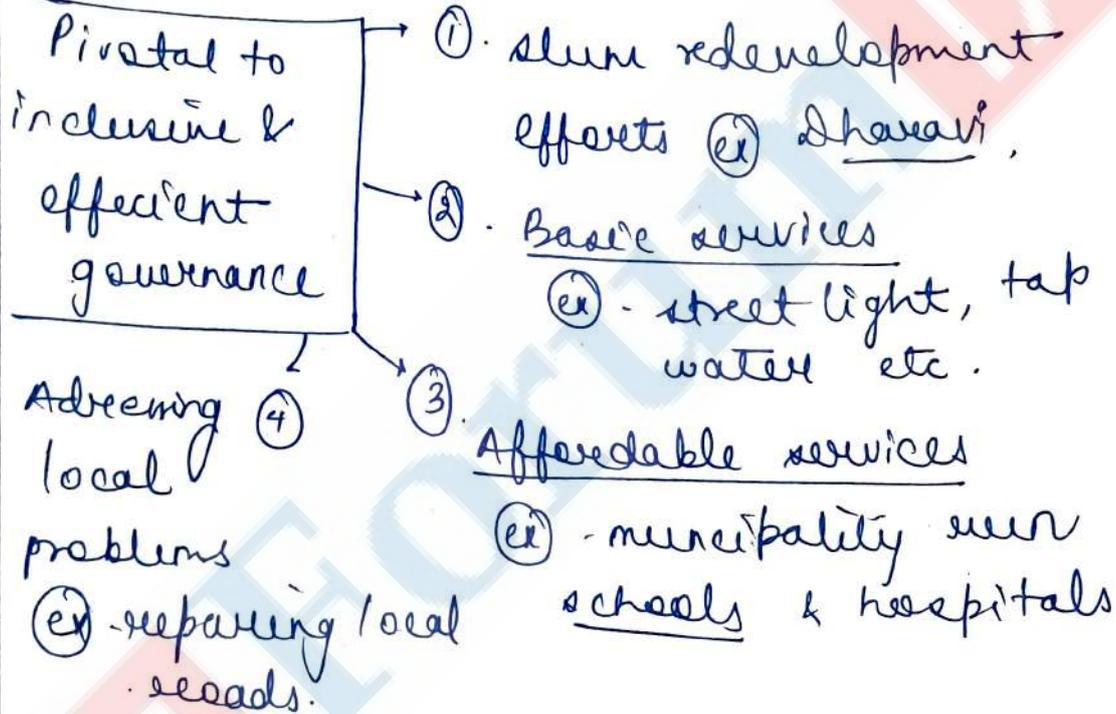
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Q.12) Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) are pivotal to inclusive and efficient urban governance, yet they remain fiscally constrained and institutionally weak. Analyze. (15 marks, 250 words)

शहरी स्थानीय निकाय (ULBs) समावेशी और कुशल शहरी शासन के लिए महत्वपूर्ण हैं, फिर भी वे वित्तीय रूप से सीमित और संस्थागत रूप से कमजोर बने हुए हैं। विश्लेषण करें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

By 2050, 50% of Indians will live in cities as per world Bank. Aact 243P to 243Z4 (part 9A) provide for city's governance, by Urban local bodies



But, they face financial constraints and institutional weakness :-

Financial

- ①. Dependence on Centre & state for funds (ex) - 80% fund from centre & 15% from states (RBI)
- ②. Lack of capacity to generate an own source.
(ex) Taxation powers not developed (only 5% from own sources (RBI))
- ③. Not getting fair distribution.
(ex) Delay in state FC constitution.

Institutional

- ①. Lack of own staff
(ex) municipal staff under district administration
- ②. Lack of Infrastructure
(ex) - Computers, own office etc lacking.
- ③. functions taken up by parastatal bodies
(ex) - Drinking water supply by PSUs.

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Q.13) of the ment "न्याय और न्यायि

4. functions not devolved.

(ex) Education & health still with states in >20 states.

Impact of financial & Institutional issues

Basic services ³ denied - health & education at local level

Dissatisfied ⁴ citizens. (ex) - low voting

1. Undelivered services. (ex) - Roads not repaired

2. Representatives lack autonomy (ex) - no fund in hand

1. Urban ministry must incentivise fund devolution by states

2. State devolution index be publicised

3. Disband parastatal bodies

suggestion

Devolve ⁴ f taxation power

more ⁵ discretionary grants by Centre.

Thus strengthening ULB is key to SDG goals & Viksit Bharat @ 2047.

Case study
1) West Bengal - health services via local bodies
2) Kerala - devolving more funds for ULB led education

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Q.13) "The judiciary has functioned as an institutional corrective, redefining and refining the contours of the Governor's office to prevent its misuse and uphold constitutional principles." Discuss this statement with the help of relevant case laws. (15 marks, 250 words)

"न्यायपालिका ने एक संस्थागत सुधारक के रूप में कार्य किया है तथा राज्यपाल के कार्यालय की रूपरेखा को पुनः परिभाषित और परिष्कृत किया है ताकि इसका दुरुपयोग रोका जा सके और संवैधानिक सिद्धांतों को कायम रखा जा सके।" प्रासंगिक न्याय विधियों (केस लॉ) की मदद से इस कथन पर चर्चा करें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Governor is the head of each state appointed by the president under art 153 for a five year term and assisted by state council of ministers (art 163)

Judiciary correcting & redefining contours of governor's offices :-

①. Limiting power to dismiss governm-
ent under art 356 & 368

(e.g.) In SR Bommai case said if state COM has majority can't dismiss.

②. Preventing political misuse by central
government

(e.g.) In Janmohan Prasad case said act as per advice of state COM.

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③. Preventing misuse of art 200 for
delaying amt.

(ex) In state of Punjab case said,
mandatorily return if withholding
amt to house.

④. Setting time line to act

(ex): In state of Tamil Nadu set
limit of 3 months to act on
state's bill for governor.

⑤. Allowing states to approach courts
under art 131.

(ex) In state of TN case 2024, SC held
state can approach SC against
actions of governor.

However, these judgements have also
raised concerns;

①. In state of TN case, the SC itself assented to 11 bills withheld by governor.

②. In state of TN case, SC set guidelines for time to be taken without consultation with executive.

suggestions to make governor's office more effective :-

①. Governor should be outsider to state and not in active politics (penchi comm.)

②. Impeachment provision for governor (penchi comm)

③. President to consult state government on governor appointment (sarkaria comm)

④. In COA timeline of 6 months for governor to act (penchi comm).

Thus, by making governor's office more effective (cooperative federalism is possible).

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Q.14) How is the 'vertical' and 'horizontal' devolution of taxes to the states decided? Highlighting the concerns raised by some states regarding the devolution of taxes, suggest corrective measures. (15 marks, 250 words)

राज्यों को करों का 'ऊर्ध्वाधर' और 'क्षैतिज' हस्तांतरण कैसे तय किया जाता है? करों के हस्तांतरण के संबंध में कुछ राज्यों द्वारा उठाई गई चिंताओं पर प्रकाश डालते हुए सुधारात्मक उपाय सुझाएँ। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

The devolution of taxes to states by centre is based on provision in art 269, 275, 270, 280 etc.

Vertical & horizontal devolution:-

①. Finance Commission (art 280): it recommends the distribution of divisible pool of taxes between centre & state & between states.

criteria → income distance
→ area
→ population
→ forest cover
→ tax reform

②. GST Council (269 A): It decides the distribution of GST between centre and state & between states.

Concerns raised by certain states :-

①. On direct tax distribution

→ Greater allocation to under perfor-
-ming states due to 'income gap
criteria'.

(ex): More money to 'Bihar', Tharukh
-and and less to T.N and Kerala.

②. → levying of southern states dis-
-tributed to northern states due to
'population' criteria.

(ex) - south has only 19% of popula-
-tion

②. On indirect tax or GST distribution :-

→ loss for manufacturing states due
to tax at point of sale

→ Delay in giving GST compensa-
-tion to states.

→ Greater devolution to move popu-
- less states.

Q.15)
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India?
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Measures suggested :-

- ①. Enhance discretionary grant to states (art 275) which lose tax to poorer states under FE & GST council.
- ②. Change devolution criteria can give more weightage to population control and employment.
- ③. Enhance participation of states in GST council for dialogue & understand-ing.
- ④. Timely devolution of entitled money Kerala complained delay. Hence, by financial cooperation we can pursue 'Bhartiya model of Development'.

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Q.15) What steps are required for the constitutionalization of a Commission? Do you think granting constitutional status to the Central Information Commission (CIC) would strengthen the RTI regime in India? Give reasons.

(15 marks, 250 words)

किसी आयोग के संवैधानिककरण के लिए क्या कदम उठाने की आवश्यकता है? क्या आपको लगता है कि केंद्रीय सूचना आयोग (CIC) को संवैधानिक दर्जा देने से भारत में RTI व्यवस्था मजबूत होगी? कारण बताइए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Constitutionalization of Commission

means giving it constitutional status.

steps Required → Bringing constitutional amendment bill.

getting it passed in both the houses by 2/3rd present & a majority of total membership

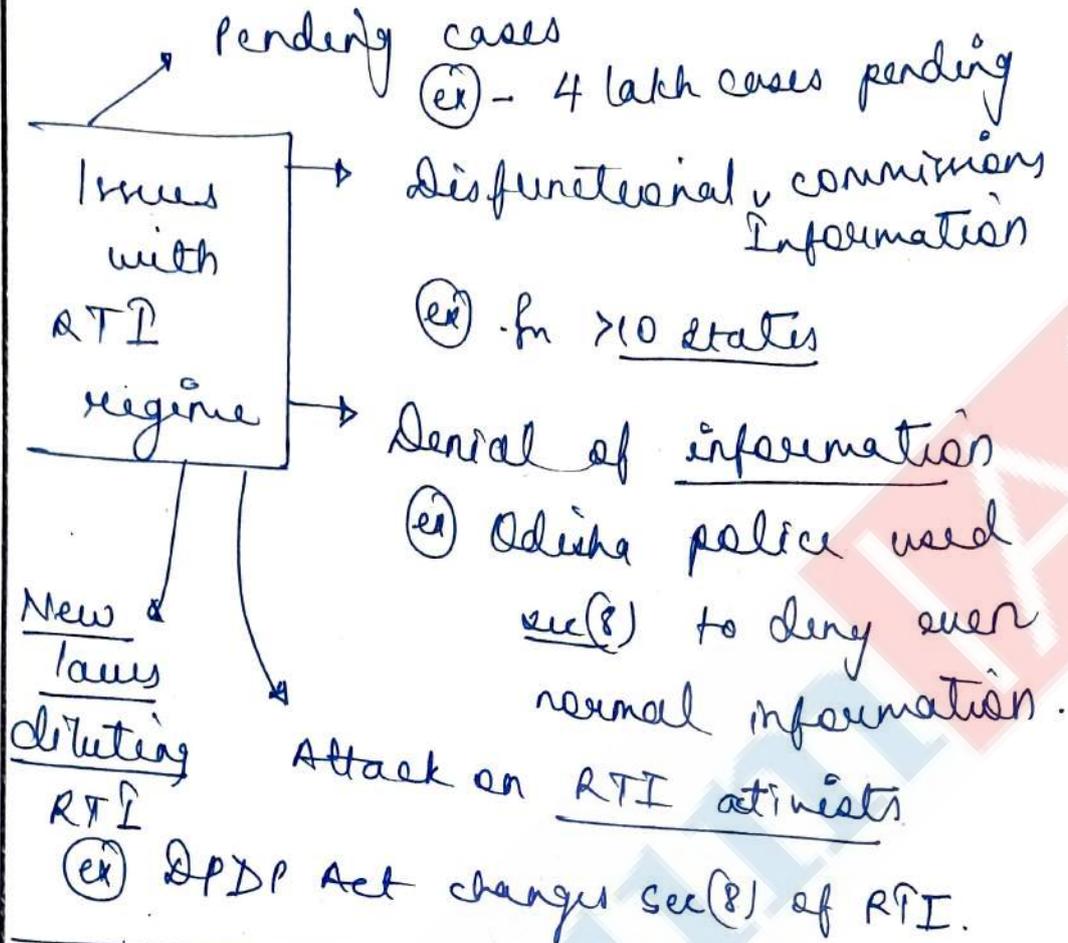
@ - 103rd constitutional amendment gave constitutional status to National Commission for Backward classes.

Central Information Commission

It is a statutory body under RTI Act of 2005.

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Constitutionalization of CIC can solve these as

①. Independence to CIC to act free from executive's dictat.

(ex): Own employees like UPSC.

②. Give RTI the status of a constitu-
-tional right

③. Make it difficult to delete RTI requiring constitutional changes.

④. Enhance power of CIC to suo moto act to protect RTI activists.

⑤. Enhance weight of CIC's decisions to government & bureaucrats.

But, Constitutionalization in itself not sufficient as:-

①. Vacancies in NCSC & NCST impacting functioning, same can be with CIC.

②. May not get power to force other organizations to act.

(ex) - SC has held NCSC can order departments.

Thus, 'Political will' and 'public awareness' are 'key' to make the RTI regime & CIC effective.

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Q.16) Even as India experiences consistent economic growth and has achieved self-sufficiency in food production, hunger and food insecurity remain pressing concerns. Examine the factors responsible for this paradox and suggest steps to improve the situation. (15 marks, 250 words)

भारत में भले ही लगातार आर्थिक संवृद्धि हो रही है और खाद्य उत्पादन में आत्मनिर्भरता हासिल हो गई है, लेकिन भूख और खाद्य असुरक्षा अभी भी गंभीर चिंता का विषय बनी हुई है। इस विरोधाभास के लिए उत्तरदायी कारकों का परीक्षण करें और स्थिति को सुधारने के लिए कदम सुझाएँ। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

While India grows at 6.4% (fastest major economy) and 2nd largest food producer globally, still, ranks 103/127 in Global Hunger Index, 2024.

Factor responsible for this paradox

①. Food system biased in favour of cereals like wheat & rice which lack nutrition.

②. Public distribution system inefficient

→ Under inclusion - as per centre, 100+ more people can be added.

→ Rice & wheat based PDS, lacking pulses, millets etc.

→ leakage in PDS (ex) 36% wastage.

③. Changing food practices - with urban lifestyle.

(ex) - nutrition less packaged food dem-
- and over food grain.

④. Lack of public awareness on healthy diet

(ex) - low market demand for millet

⑤. Undernourished mothers - leading to stunted (31%) , wasted (18%) children

(ex) 57% women are anemic (NFHS-5)

Steps to improve this situation

①. Use mid-day meal to give nutri-
-ous food.

(ex) - Biscuits (millet) in Chhattisgarh,
Eggs in Uttar Bengal etc.

- ②. Enhance reach of POSHAN 2.0
- ③. Change PDS composition, include millets like jowar, Bajra etc.
- ④. Incentivise farmers to grow millet - fruits etc.
- ⑤. Public awareness campaigns
 - (i) - eat right by FRASAI.
- ⑥. Promote Breast feeding for children
 - (a) - Mother's ultimate affection.

Steps Taken → promotion of millet by more MSP
 some states provide pulses in PDS
POSHAN 2.0

Thus only a nourished population can help us achieve SDG 1 & SDG 2 as well as Demographic dividend

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Q.17) The Union Government has recently announced that caste enumeration will be part of the upcoming census. Examine the opportunities and challenges associated with conducting a nationwide 'caste census'. Also, propose a framework for its seamless and effective conduct.

(15 marks, 250 words)

केंद्र सरकार ने हाल ही में घोषणा की है कि जाति गणना आगामी जनगणना का हिस्सा होगी। राष्ट्रव्यापी 'जाति जनगणना' आयोजित करने से जुड़े अवसरों और चुनौतियों का परीक्षण करें। साथ ही, इसके निर्बाध और प्रभावी संचालन के लिए एक रूपरेखा को प्रस्तुत करें।

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Caste census means counting the number of people from different castes. It was last conducted in 1931, will be part of census 2027.

Opportunities from caste census :-

①. Identify the social-economic condition of people caste-wise to understand extent of caste based discrimination or deprivation.

② Gauge the effectiveness of 75 years of affirmative action on lower castes

③ Reservation in job & education

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③. Help in subcategorization of reservation benefits.

(ex) Rohini commission found 90% of benefits cornered by certain OBC castes.

④. Provide data to civil society to plan for aid to vulnerable groups.

⑤. More targeted policies by government (ex) for most backward.

⑥. situation of caste among non hindu groups (ex) muslim & christian.

Challenges are also there :-

①. Enhance politicization of caste identity (ex) political parties may mobilize larger groups.

②. Threat to rights of minority

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case groups.

(ex): Demand for reservation in proportion to population.

(3). Can enhance 'caste consciousness' in society dividing people.

(ex) In 2011 census only 5% intercaste marriages.

suggestion to make process seamless

(1). Digitalization of process allowing self enumeration.

(2). Use of NCOs to supplement government's workforce.

(3). Create a list of 'gate's' for clarity to enumeration officers.

Ultimately, the focus of India's state should be on 'capability approach' as advocated by Amartya Sen for inclusive development.

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Q.18) "AI integration in governance is no longer a choice but a necessity." In light of this statement, discuss how AI can enhance education and healthcare governance. (15 marks, 250 words)

"शासन में AI का एकीकरण अब एक विकल्प नहीं बल्कि एक आवश्यकता है।" इस कथन के आलोक में, चर्चा करें कि AI किस प्रकार शिक्षा और स्वास्थ्य सेवा शासन को बढ़ा सकता है। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Artificial Intelligence is becoming a 'common technology' enhancing its presence in all areas of life.

Role of AI in :-

Education governance :-

- ①. Analysis - the data from schools on student performance can be analyzed with AI tools.
- ②. Monitoring - AI cameras can be used for monitoring of teachers performance.
- ③. service delivery - AI can make education interesting - giving better clarity.

- (a) - IRIS (an AI teacher in Kerala)
- (4) In connecting academia and Industry
- using AI tools.

Healthcare governance :-

- (1) Providing distance - healthcare.
 - (a) - Doctors conducted operation over video call using AI recently.
- (2) In cheaper diagnostic facility
 - (a) - In primary healthcare centres.
- (3) In spreading health awareness for preventive care.
 - (a) AI generated content & videos.
- (4) In skilling of doctors & nurses
using AI tools.
- (5) patient record management.

However, there are concerns :-

- ①. Data privacy - if AI collected data leaks
 - ①. AIIMS delhi data breach.
- ②. Loss of human intelligence due to over-reliance on AI by students & doctors (Yuval Harari)
- ③. Hallucination in AI tools-giving wrong information.
- ④. source bias in AI tools - against dalits & people of colour & women due to input.

suggestion

- ① Use of AI only for aid and not dependence
- ② light touch regulation for data privacy
- ③ Boost AI tools development. with 1.4 bn people AI can enhance reach of services like health & education for SDG 3 and SDG 4.

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Q.19) Providing a brief overview of the aims and objectives of BIMSTEC, explain its significance for India. (15 marks, 250 words)

बिम्स्टेक के लक्ष्यों और उद्देश्यों का संक्षिप्त अवलोकन प्रस्तुत करते हुए भारत के लिए इसके महत्व की व्याख्या कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

BIMSTEC was founded in 1997 as a grouping of India, Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Bangladesh & Malaysia in Bay of Bengal region.



Aims & Objectives of BIMSTEC

- ①. Trade cooperation between members (ex) - greater tariff relief etc.
- ②. Enhance collaborative efforts (ex) - India - Thailand - Myanmar road etc.
- ③. Global voice of south & south-south cooperation.
- ④. Ensure security of Bay of Bengal region.
- ⑤. Enhance people to people ties.

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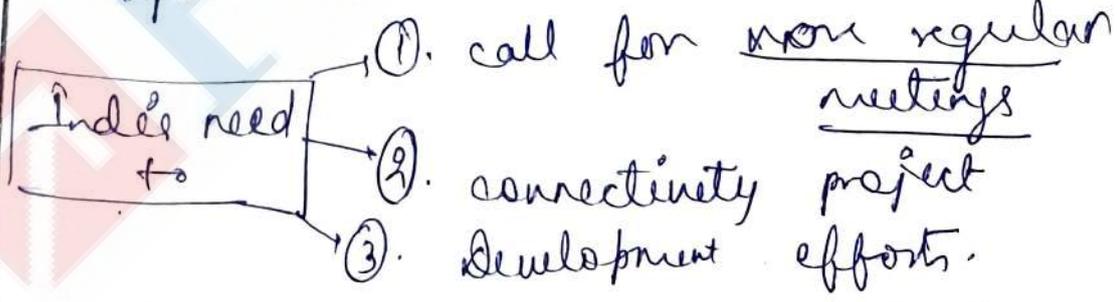
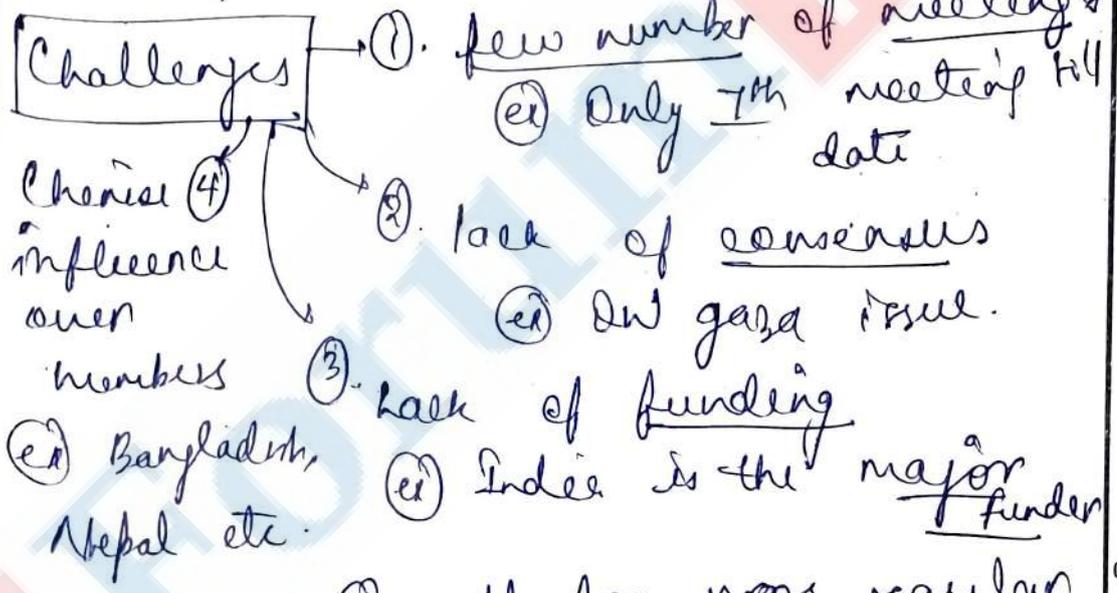
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Significance for India :-

- ① **Leadership** - absence of China/USA provides leadership to India.
- ② **Trade** - provides forum for negoti-ating regional trade deal.
- ③ **Consensus building on global issues**
 - (a) In 7th summit, PM raised issue of terrorism.
- ④ **Security** - with India's role as net security provider in BoB region.
- ⑤ **Connectivity** with south east ASEAN
 - (a) BBIN, India - Myanmar - Thailand calls bilateral.
- ⑥ **Technology collaboration** - India offered to share its DPI & UPI

experience with BIMSTEC.

- ① Disaster relief cooperation
 - (a) India's operation Bramha in myanmar.
- ② Common voice in global forums
 - (a) can build consensus for UNSC reform.



Thus BIMSTEC can become example of 'Vandeva Kutumbakam'

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	
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Q.20) India's approach to its relationship with China has evolved into what can be best described as 'competitive coexistence'. Discuss in light of recent developments. What should be the broad contours of India's future China policy? (15 marks, 250 words)

चीन के साथ अपने संबंधों के प्रति भारत का दृष्टिकोण 'प्रतिस्पर्धी सह-अस्तित्व' के रूप में विकसित हुआ है। हाल के घटनाक्रमों के आलोक में चर्चा करें। भारत की भविष्य की चीन नीति की व्यापक रूपरेखा क्या होनी चाहिए? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Starting from Hindi-Chini bhai-bhai to call for elephant-Drageon Tango, Indo-China relation has evolved with time.



Competitive coexistence
of India & China

Comparable
situation

- ①. Population (> 1.2 bn) each
- ②. Aspiration for global leadership.
- ③. Status - fastest developing economies.

①. Economic: India is 4th and China 3rd largest economy.

↳ Manufacturing

→ India 2nd & China 1st in smartphone manufacturing

↳ Agriculture

→ India 2nd & China 1st largest food grain producer

Write anything in this Area / इस स्थान पर कुछ न लिखें

(Don't Write anything in this Area / इस स्थान पर कुछ न लिखें)

② Regional leadership

→ Developmental

(ex) China's project in Pakistan (Quada) & India's in Nepal (Dams) etc & India's in Sri Lanka (4 bn \$ support), Maldives (male project etc)

→ Diplomacy

→ India led BIMSTEC and SAARC
→ China led SCO

③ Military

→ India enhancing defense production capacity while China major exporter

China's army 3rd & India's 4th most powerful (Crestle hold)

④ Space

→ manned mission - Tiangong (China) & Gaganyaan (India)

⑤ Environmental justice

→ India - International solar alliance
→ China - methane pledge.

Contour of India's future china policy

①. Deterrence - against 'salami slicing' and expansionism.

(a) - icecaps, weapons, border infra
etc.

②. Economic Diversification - currently India has trade deficit of ₹80bn with China.

③. Dialogue - To overcome differences
(a) - FM's outreach at SCO summit

④. People to people connect to create good will (use soft power)
(a) Bharatnatyam / Ramayan in China.

⑤. Cautious approach - towards China's friendliness as they use cognitive deception

Thus, India needs to 'manage' China as S. Jaishankar says in 'the India way'.

Feedback

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