



VISIONIAS
INSPIRING INNOVATION

ABHYAAS MAINS

सामान्य अध्ययन (प्रश्न पत्र-II)/GENERAL STUDIES (Paper-II) (2423)

निर्धारित समय: तीन घंटे
Time Allowed: Three Hours

अधिकतम अंक: 250
Maximum Marks: 250

सामान्य अनुदेश

इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यू.सी.ए.) पुस्तिका में 55+1 पृष्ठ हैं। प्रश्न-पत्र, क्यू.सी.ए. पुस्तिका के अंत में संलग्न है, जो अलग (वियोज्य) किया जा सकता है और उम्मीदवार परीक्षा के उपरांत अपने साथ ले जा सकते हैं।

रफ कार्य के लिए, इस पुस्तिका के अंत में खाली पृष्ठ दिया गया है।

पुस्तिका प्राप्त होने पर, कृपया यह जांच कर लें कि इस क्यू.सी.ए. पुस्तिका में कोई कमी न हो, फटा हुआ पृष्ठ न हो अथवा कोई पृष्ठ गायब न हो इत्यादि। यदि ऐसा हो, तो इसके बदले नई क्यू.सी.ए. पुस्तिका प्राप्त कर लें।

General Instructions

This Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet contains 55+1 pages. Question Paper in detachable form is available at the end of the QCA Booklet which can be taken away by the candidate after examination.

For rough work, blank page has been provided at the end of this Booklet.

On receipt of the Booklet, please check that this QCA Booklet does not have any shortcomings, torn or missing pages etc. If, so, get it replaced with a fresh QCA Booklet.

(उम्मीदवार द्वारा भरा जाएगा/To be filled by the Candidate)

पंजीकरण सं./Registration No. : 1217762

अभ्यर्थी का नाम/Name of Student : Animesh Pradhan

माध्यम: हिंदी/अंग्रेजी
Medium: Hindi/English

English

तारीख
Date

26/08/2023

सामान्य अध्ययन (प्रश्न पत्र-II) GENERAL STUDIES (Paper II)

केंद्र
Centre

Delhi - 03

निरीक्षक के हस्ताक्षर
Invigilator's Signature

Krishna,

महत्वपूर्ण अनुदेश		Important Instructions
उम्मीदवारों को नीचे उल्लिखित निर्देश सावधानी से पढ़ लेने चाहिए। किसी भी निर्देश का उल्लंघन करने पर उम्मीदवारों को मिलने वाले अंकों में कटौती, उम्मीदवारी रद्द या आयोग के परवर्ती परीक्षाओं के लिए वर्जित करने इत्यादि के रूप में दण्डित किया जा सकता है।		Candidates should read the undermentioned instructions carefully. Violation of any of the following instructions may entail penalty in the form of deduction of marks, cancellation of candidature, debarment from further Examination of the Commission etc.
1	(क) अपना पंजीकरण सं. एवं अन्य विवरण केवल प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका (क्यू.सी.ए.) में उम्मीदवार के लिए निर्धारित स्थान पर ही लिखें। (ख) इस पुस्तिका में अन्यत्र कहीं भी अपना नाम, पंजीकरण सं., मोबाइल नं., पता अथवा प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका (क्यू.सी.ए.) संख्या न लिखें जिससे आपकी पहचान का खुलासा हो।	(a) Write your Registration Number and other details only in the space provided in the Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet for candidates. (b) Do not disclose your identity in any manner such as, by writing your Name, Registration number, Mobile number, Address, Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet No. etc. elsewhere in the Booklet
2	अपनी प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में कहीं भी प्रश्नों के वास्तविक उत्तर के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें जैसे कि कोई कविता/दोहा, अभद्र या अपमानजनक अभिव्यक्ति इत्यादि और न ही कोई ऐसा चिन्ह/निशान बनाएं जिसका उत्तर से सम्बन्ध न हो।	Do not write in the QCA Booklet anything other than the actual answer such as couplet, obscene, abusive expression etc., nor put any sign/mark having no relevance to the answer.
3	परीक्षक को प्रत्यक्ष/अप्रत्यक्ष रूप से कोई भी प्रार्थना/धर्मकी भरी वातें न लिखें।	Do not make any direct/indirect appeal/threat to the examiner.
4	उत्तर अस्पष्ट अथवा गंदी लिखावट में न लिखें। इस प्रकार के उत्तर का मूल्यांकन नहीं भी किया जा सकता है।	Do not write answers in bad/illegible handwriting. Such answers may not be evaluated.
5	उत्तर स्पष्टीकरण में ही लिखें। उत्तर लिखने के लिए पेंसिल का उपयोग न करें, हालांकि आरेख, चित्र इत्यादि बनाने के लिए पेंसिल का उपयोग किया जा सकता है।	Write answers in ink only. Do not use pencil for writing the answers. However, pencil may be used for drawing diagrams, sketches, etc.
6	प्रवेश पत्र में उल्लेख किए गए माध्यम के अलावा अन्य किसी माध्यम में उत्तर न लिखें। अधिकृत और अनाधिकृत की मिली जुली भाषा का भी उपयोग न करें।	Do not write answers in medium other than the authorized medium in the Admission Certificate. Do not use mixed language either i.e. authorize and unauthorized media together for writing answers.
7	प्रश्नों के उत्तर ठीक उसके नीचे दिए गए निर्धारित स्थान पर ही लिखें। निर्धारित स्थान के अलावा किसी अन्य स्थान पर लिखे गए उत्तर का मूल्यांकन नहीं किया जाएगा।	Write answer at the specific space (right below the question) only. Answers written elsewhere at unspecified places in the booklet shall not be evaluated.
8	यदि आप अपने किसी उत्तर को रद्द करना चाहते हैं तो उसे पेन से काट दें तथा उस पर "रद्द" लिख दें, अन्यथा उसका मूल्यांकन किया जा सकता है।	If you wish to cancel any work, draw your pen through it and write "Cancelled" across it, otherwise it may be valued.

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परीक्षक के हस्ताक्षर
Signature of Examiner(s)

प्राप्तांक के विवरण (परीक्षक द्वारा भरा जाए) / Marks Details (To be filled by the Examiner(s))

प्रश्न सं. Q. No.	अंक Marks	प्रश्न सं. Q. No.	अंक Marks
1		11	
2		12	
3		13	
4		14	
5		15	
6		16	
7		17	
8		18	
9		19	
10		20	
उप-योग (A) Subtotal (A)		उप-योग (B) Subtotal (B)	
सकल योग (A+B) / GRAND TOTAL (A+B)			



सामान्य अध्ययन (प्रश्न पत्र-II)/GENERAL STUDIES (Paper-II) (2423)

निर्धारित समय: तीन घंटे

Time Allowed: Three Hours

अधिकतम अंक: 250

Maximum Marks: 250

प्रश्न-पत्र संबंधी विशेष अनुदेश

कृपया प्रश्नों के उत्तर देने से पूर्व निम्नलिखित प्रत्येक अनुदेश को ध्यानपूर्वक पढ़ें:

कुल बीस प्रश्न दिए गए हैं जो हिंदी और अंग्रेजी दोनों में छपे हैं।

सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।

प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के लिए नियत अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।

प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए, जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश-पत्र में किया गया है, और इस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यू.सी.ए.) पुस्तिका के मुख-पृष्ठ पर निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिखे गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।

प्रश्न संख्या 1 से 10 तक का उत्तर 150 शब्दों में तथा प्रश्न संख्या 11 से 20 तक का उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए।

प्रश्नों में इंगित शब्द सीमा को ध्यान में रखिए।

प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़े गए कोई पृष्ठ अथवा पृष्ठ भाग को पूर्णतः काट दीजिए।

QUESTION PAPER SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions.

There are TWENTY questions printed both in HINDI and in ENGLISH.

All questions are compulsory.

The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.

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. No marks will be given for answers written in a medium other than the authorized one.

Answers to Questions No. 1 to 10 should be in 150 words, whereas answers to Questions No. 11 to 20 should be in 250 words.

Keep the word limit indicated in the questions in mind.

Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Questions-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

1.

उपयुक्त उदाहरणों की सहायता से, चर्चा कीजिए कि पर्यावरणीय दबाव समूह भारत में पर्यावरण नीतियों के संबंध में सार्वजनिक भागीदारी और अनुक्रियाशीलता को कैसे बढ़ाते हैं। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

With suitable examples, discuss how environmental pressure groups enhance public participation and responsiveness with regard to environmental policies in India. (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों के
कोई छापें नहीं
लिखना चाहिए
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In Dehradun Quarrying Case and Vellore Community Welfare Case, judiciary has highlighted the 'Right to Environment' as an inevitable fundamental right where pressure groups play significant role in true realisation of the same.

Environmental pressure groups enhance public participation & responsiveness →

① Bombay Natural Historical Society (BNHS)

played significant contribution in policy making, influence government schemes

by popular public participation

(Ex Banning of Declofenac for Vulture)

② Maandeshi Foundation and Dhanti Bachao Sangathan spearheaded by

Medha Patkar has advocated for tribal and ecological rights as seen in Narmada Bachao Andolan.

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इस शिल्प में
नहीं लिखना
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- ③ Water Conservation by Jal Svalamban society in Rajasthan and Pani Panchayat groups & organised by civil societies in Maharashtra for water conservation.
- ④ Wetland Conservation by International pressure groups like Wetland International, collaboration in Amit Sarovar Bhavar scheme.
- ⑤ Popular agitations by pressure groups like Chilika Bachao Andolan by Banker Bihari Chaudhary, Appikko Movement in Karnataka etc.
- ⑥ Wildlife Trust of India, Elephant family and Birdlife International for creating awareness among public & influence public policy.

From Chipko Andolan to Aarey Forest, protection in Mumbai, pressure groups have emerged as ecological messiah to realise the goals enscribed in Article 48A and Article 51A(g).⁷

2.

हाल ही में, उच्चतम न्यायालय द्वारा सेक्स वर्क को एक 'पेशे' के रूप में स्वीकार किया जाना, भारत में सेक्स वर्कर्स के लिए बुनियादी अधिकार और समानता सुनिश्चित करने की दिशा में पहला कदम है। परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The recent acknowledgment of sex work as a 'profession' by the Supreme Court is merely the first step in ensuring basic rights and equality for sex workers in India. Examine. (Answer in 150 words)

10

उम्मीदवारों को
इस प्रश्ने में
नहीं लिखना
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Supreme Court in a progressive adjudication
noted that sex work is a 'profession' and
police cannot interfere in consensual
arrangements and cannot book under
criminal charges.

Acknowledgement by Supreme Court
is just the first step, other issues include →

① Harassment - physical, mental and sexual
due to exposure to police, pimps and
unregulated work places.

② Exposure to STDs and AIDS remain
high with low scope of health benefits

③ Issues of Inclusion - in terms of attaining
ration cards, Aadhar, passport,

bottlenecks in administrative processes remain & hinders their empowerment

उम्मीदवारों के
इस शीर्षक में
नहीं लिखा
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(1) **Trafficking** - Prostitute and sex workers are trafficked as sex slaves internationally, organ trade with ~60% in their teenage years.

(5) **Lack of sensitisation** by public and police or administrative offices to treat them with dignity.

Steps to empower sex workers → **Ujjwala scheme** for voluntary rehabilitation and health benefits → Education and vocational training especially for their children. → Reproductive rights and measures of birth control to be made accessible → International practices like Amsterdam's registration based sex hotels etc. shall regulate and protect them → Gender sensitisation & awareness for public

Hence, sex workers have all right to

3.

भारत में निःशुल्क कानूनी सहायता प्रदान करने और कानूनी जागरूकता फैलाने में जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरणों (DLSAs) द्वारा निभाई जाने वाली भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Discuss the role played by District Legal Services Authorities (DLSAs) in providing free legal aid and disseminating legal awareness in India. (Answer in 150 words)

10

उम्मीदवारों को
इह लेखिए में
नहीं लिखना
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As per the ideals of Article 39A that aims to provide free ~~and~~ legal aid to the vulnerable & needy, District legal services Authority have an instrumental role in achieving the same.

Role played by DLSAs →

① Bridge institutional gap - Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative - India spends only ₹ 0.75 / capita for legal awareness, DLSA can improve the status.

② Last mile delivery by improving access to justice mechanism for poor and the rural masses.

e.g. Nyay Bandhu Scheme

③ Ease down the burden of judiciary
burdened with > 4 crore of cases.

④ Promotes Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR)
mechanism - as envisioned by BN Srinivas
- na Committee for institutionalisation
of ADR mechanisms.

⑤ Collaboration with civil societies in
ensuring legal education dispersal,
generating awareness and identify loopholes.

⑥ Empowers the vulnerable section including
women, dalits, tribals, climate refugees,
victims of disaster with cost effective
justice dispersal.

Issues of infrastructure, lack of
women representation & awareness need

to be dealt to make DLSA the
flybearer of effective justice
delivery.

4.

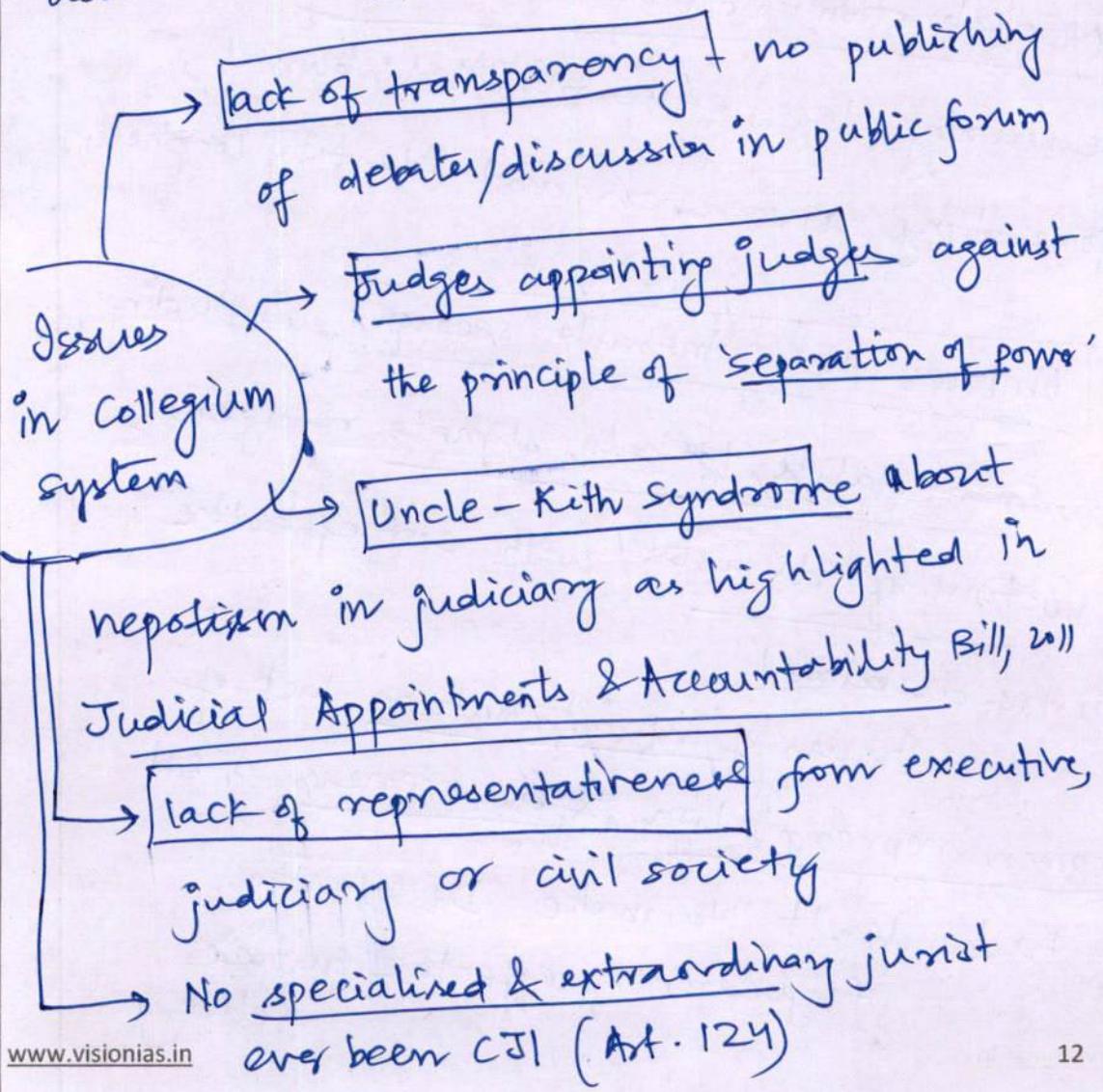
"कुछ लोगों के हाथों में शक्ति के संकेन्द्रण के कारण, कॉलेजियम प्रणाली अपनी ही सफलता का शिकार हो गई है, जिससे इसकी वैधता पर सवाल उठने लगे हैं।" टिप्पणी कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

"The collegium system has become a victim of its own success, with the concentration of power in the hands of a few, leading to questions about its legitimacy." Comment. (Answer in 150 words)

10

उम्मीदवारों को
इह संशिए में
नहीं लिखना
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The collegium system borne out of 3rd Judges Case centralises the power of appointment & transfers within Chief Justice & few senior judges without any accountability & transparency.



In lines with National Judicial Appointments Commission to improve representativeness of collegium

Reforms needed in collegium system

- Publishing the collegium debates online/in public forum
- Inputs from law ministry to be taken
- Objectivity in rule regarding transfers and promotions
- International best practices, ex in Japan, separate body for judicial appointments.

In PRL Ltd vs Mahanadi Coalfields limited case, Supreme Court highlighted that executive must pass the proposal of collegium in reasonable time → but judiciary must be more open and transparent in its approach.

As the third pillar of democracy, judiciary must thrive on principles of transparency & legitimacy unlike current collegium.

5. "सिविल सेवा सुधारों को वर्तमान दौर की चुनौतियों से निपटने के लिए भर्ती और मानकीकृत प्रशिक्षण से आगे बढ़ाया जाना अनिवार्य है।" विश्वेषण कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

"Civil services reforms must go beyond recruitment and standardised training to cope with the present day challenges." Analyse. (Answer in 150 words) 10

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इहाँ इंडिए में
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Considered as the 'steel frame' of the country by Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel, civil services form the backbone of smooth administrative functioning of the country.

Apart from recruitment & standardised training, reforms needed in civil services →

① Baswan Committee highlighted the need of lateral entry and domain expert in the civil services to tackle emerging challenges.

② 2nd ARC suggested for 360° review at intervals of 14 and 20 years of service to improve accountability.

③ Hota Committee suggested for specialisation of officers at Joint Secretary level to improve their domain aptitude.

④ Surendranath Committee reforms on cadre policy to reduce the politicisation of civil services & creation of civil service board to reduce political interference in appointments & transfers.

⑤ Parliamentary Standing Committee suggested inclusion of NRIS to make the services more streamlined & inclusive.

⑥ Reforms in Article 31 for immunity must be streamlined to increase accountability in the system.

⑦ National Commission on Working of Constitution - "some generalists must be specialised, some specialists must be generalised".

Hence, as Modiji calls them to be 'Karmayogi', civil services must not be rule based but role based.

6.

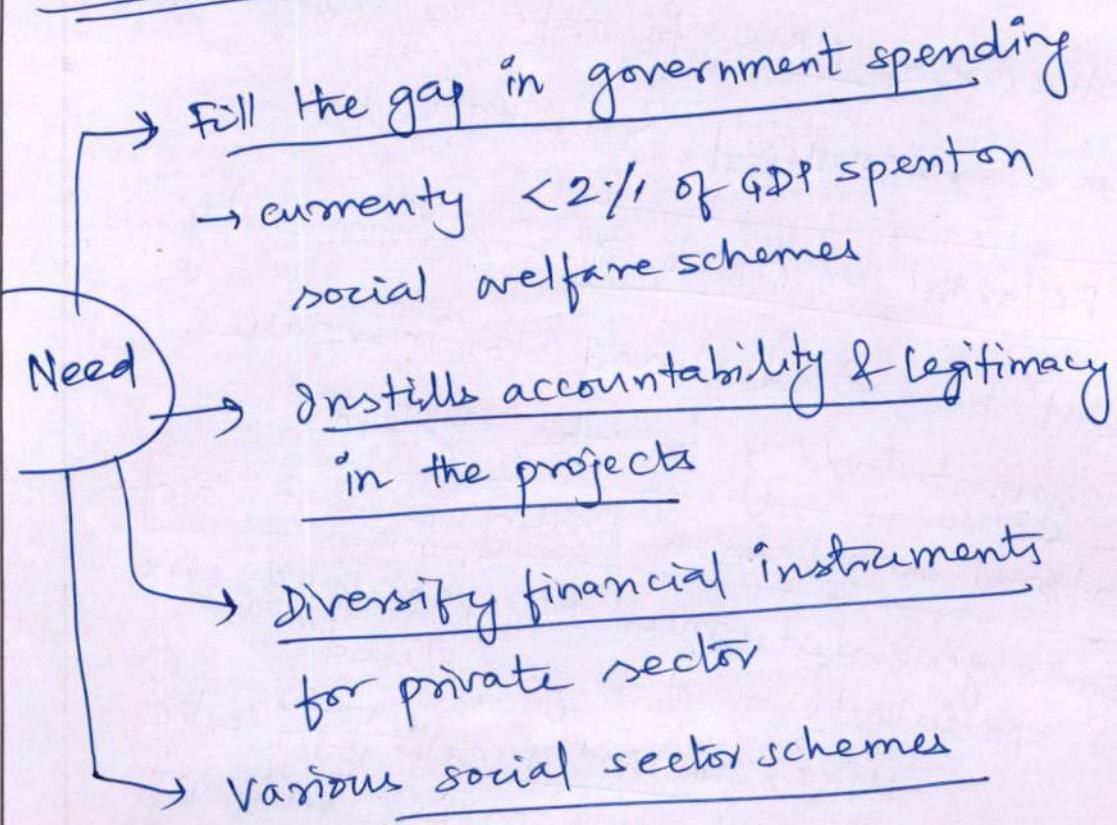
सामाजिक प्रभाव बॉन्ड्स जैसे परिणाम-आधारित वित्त मॉडल में वास्तविक रूप से परिवर्तन लाने और बड़े पैमाने पर सामाजिक-आर्थिक प्रभाव उत्पन्न करने की क्षमता विद्यमान है। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Outcome-based finance models such as social impact bonds have the potential to truly catalyse change and deliver socio-economic impact at scale. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words) 10

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Social Impact bonds refers to the financial instruments to raise money for social developmental goals which is linked to the outcomes of the project.

Need for outcome based finance models like Social Impact bonds



lose momentum after few years,

impact based bonds create accountability.

→ Options to Exit - outcome based bonds

have more options to exit the project if
the outcomes are not aligned to the prede
termined goals.

- lack of standard definition

Issues → low interest rate due to low
penetration

lack of deepening of social impact
bonds → low liquidity

No mechanism to judge the
social outcomes - subjective

Similar to 'greenwashing', such loopholes
can be played for crony capitalism

Against welfare based Keynesian model
of government - issues of inclusion if
private sector fuels social transformation.

Hence, Social Impact Bonds are
a welcoming step for social transformation
with right execution & monitoring.

7.

प्रत्येक वर्ष ग्रेजुएट होने वाली और कार्यक्षेत्र में प्रवेश करने वाली महिलाओं की संख्या के मध्य का व्यापक अंतराल एक गंभीर समस्या है जिसे हल किए जाने की आवश्यकता है। भारत के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The wide gap between the number of females graduating every year and those entering the workspace is an issue of paramount importance that needs to be addressed. Discuss in the context of India. (Answer in 150 words)

10

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With high gross enrolment ratio among women and low percentage in higher education, women account only 18% of labour wages with a meagre labour force participation of ~33%. (77% for men).

Mismatch in females graduating & entering workplace because →

① Social stigma - Notions of patriarchy and gender stereotypes hinder the participation of women in workplace.

② Issues in Workplace - Highlighted in Vishakha vs State of Rajasthan (1994), workplace harassment discourage women in office.

③ Expected social norms of 'Kukkadhu'

and 'Pativrata' leads to compromising of career for child birth and nurturing.

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④ Biological issues like pregnancy and menstruation hinders the participation of women.

⑤ Glass ceiling - only 11% women in board level position, women are discouraged from taking leadership position -

⑥ Pink collarisation - stereotype job roles like attendants, receptionist, women discouraged in STEM (only 18% representation)

- POSH guidelines, SHG Box & Nirbhaya Fund
- Code on Social Security allowing women to work at night
- Maternity leaves - 26 weeks
- Creche for inclusive workplace
- Private sector - Tomato menstrual leaves, IBM posts for career break women.

8.

भारत में सामाजिक-आर्थिक नियोजन के लिए एक अद्यतित और कार्यात्मक नागरिक पंजीकरण प्रणाली (CRS) अनिवार्य है। देश में CRS प्रणाली में सुधार हेतु केंद्र सरकार के हालिया कदम के आलोक में चर्चा की जाए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

An up to date and functional Civil Registration System (CRS) is essential to the socio-economic planning in India. Discuss in the light of the recent move of the Central government in revamping the CRS system in the country. (Answer in 150 words)

10

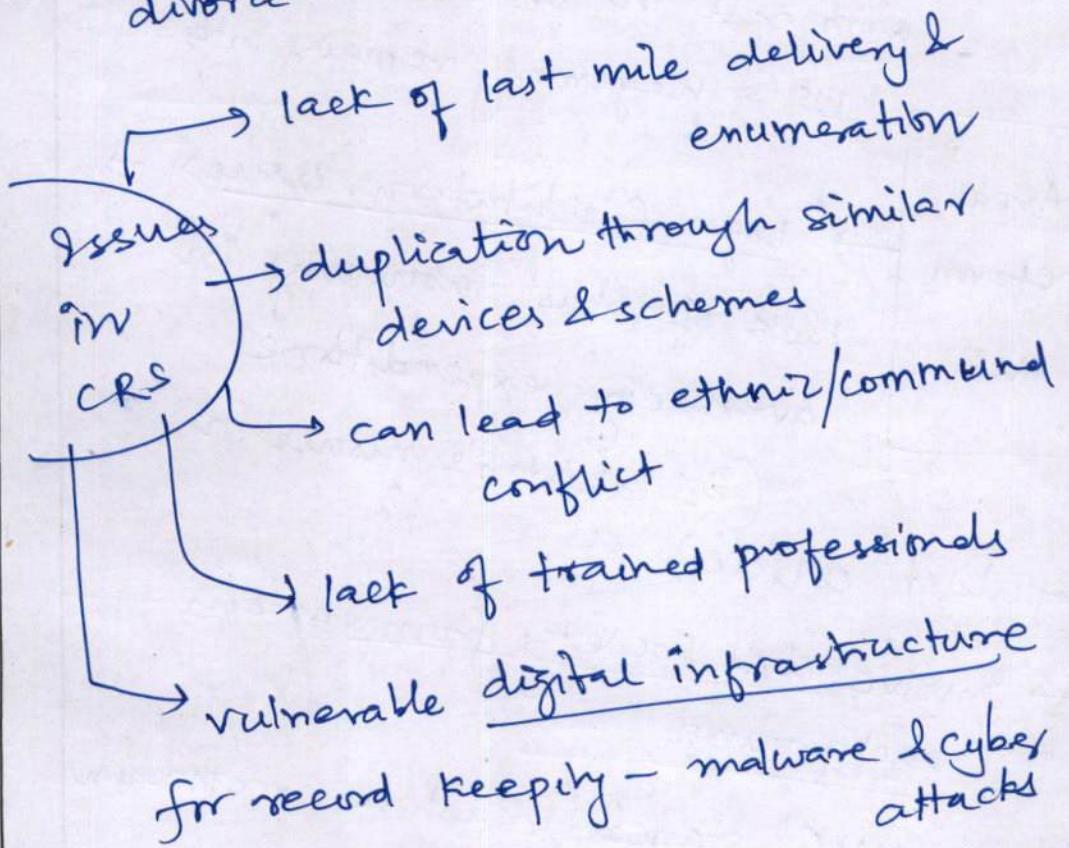
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India is all set to surpass China as the most populous country (UN population fund) and to manage civil, socioeconomic welfare schemes & ensure political sovereignty, India needs a civil Registration system.

In light of recent move to revamp CRS, need :-

- Interoperability of schemes like Aayushman Bharat, one Nation - one Ration
- Identification of right beneficiaries
- tackle with bogue applications & job cards as seen in MGNREGA
- political order in issuance of passport, Aadhar etc.

- Tackle issues of migration & fragmentation of social security benefit
- illegal migration issue & smuggling of through porous borders
- For administrative purposes → police background verification, marriage & divorce cases etc.



Hence, need of CRS is ~~quite~~ inevitable to realise the goals of good governance.

9.

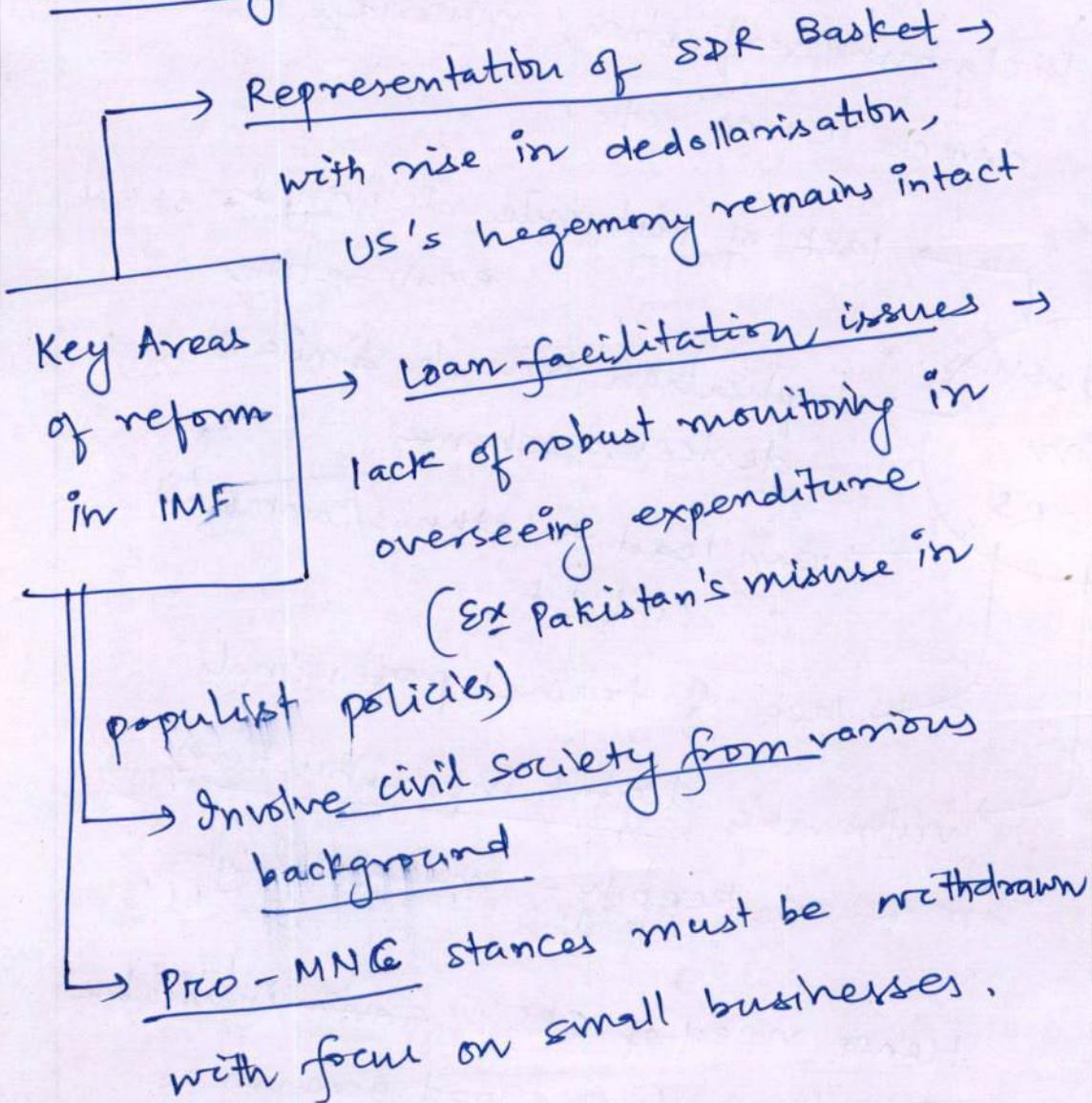
यदि अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मुद्रा कोष (IMF) को वर्तमान आर्थिक वास्तविकताओं के साथ समायोजित होना है तो इसमें सुधार के प्रमुख क्षेत्र कौन-से होंगे? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

What are the key areas of reform if the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has to align with the current economic realities? (Answer in 150 words)

10

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Originated as one of the Bretton Woods
organisation post World War-II, IMF
plays a crucial role in economic
stability and growth at world level.



- More representation to Global South with emerging economies having larger stake in global economy.
 - Reforms in accounting & audit mechanism to deal with complexities in international insolvency.
 - Emerging crimes like money laundering, counterfeiting etc. must be tackled.
 - Rise of Cryptocurrency and Digital assets, standardisation in policies.
 - Issues of Base Erosion & Profit Shifting and taxation rules in collaboration with WTO.
- Hence, IMF must mirror the multipolar world in the economic regime and must voice the opinions of various state holders to increase its legitimacy.

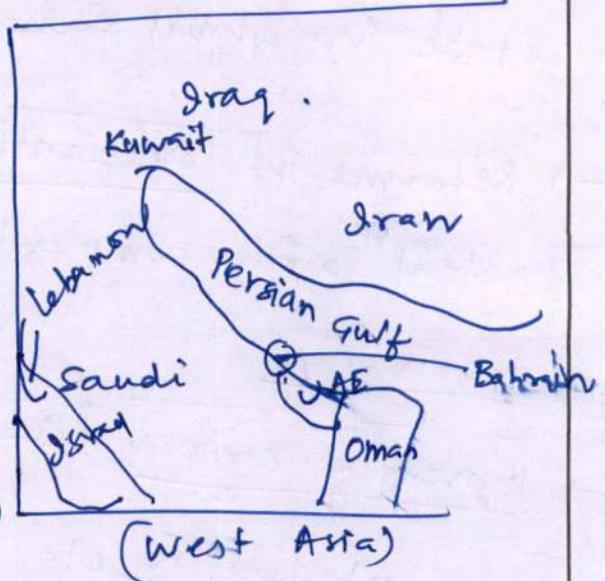
10.

हाल के वर्षों में, पश्चिम एशिया के साथ भारत के संबंध भू-राजनीति के दायरे से आगे निकलकर भू-अर्थशास्त्र के आयाम तक पहुंच गए हैं। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

In recent years, India's relationship with West Asia has evolved from the confines of geopolitics to expanse of geoeconomics. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words) 10

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India's relation with West Asia marks a shift in India's diplomacy with strengthening ties with



Islamic countries in various spheres along with unconventional partners like Israel.

Areas of Engagement →

① Economic - Countries like UAE &

Saudi Arabia as the 3rd & 4th largest trading partner.

→ Trade relations accounting for US \$180 Billion

→ Free Trade Agreements with UAE

→ 'Khaleiji Capitalism' being leveraged in India with West Asia as remunerative

export destination for pharma, automobile, semiconductor etc.

→ Indo-UAE deal of crude through Rupee

② Military - Participation in exercises like MILAN, Dugm Post in Oman, Barak Missiles from Israel.

③ Strategic alliances in the form of I2U2 (with Israel and UAE) to improve India's exposure.

④ Energy - 1/3rd of crude from west Asia, Qatar exports LNG etc.

⑤ Space - UAE's collaboration in Nayif-1, Red Planet Mission etc.

⑥ Remittances - Accounting for $\approx 50\%$ of US \$100 Billion remittances with employment opportunities

⑦ Agriculture - Israel collaboration in drip irrigation.

Issues → Sanitary & Phytosanitary trade blocks
→ 5% tariff in GATT
→ Israel-Palestine conflict
→ low people to people contact
→ minimal support in Kashmir issue (except Israel)

Hence with rise in multipolar world, India must diversify its strategic partnership, as seen in West Asia relations.

11.

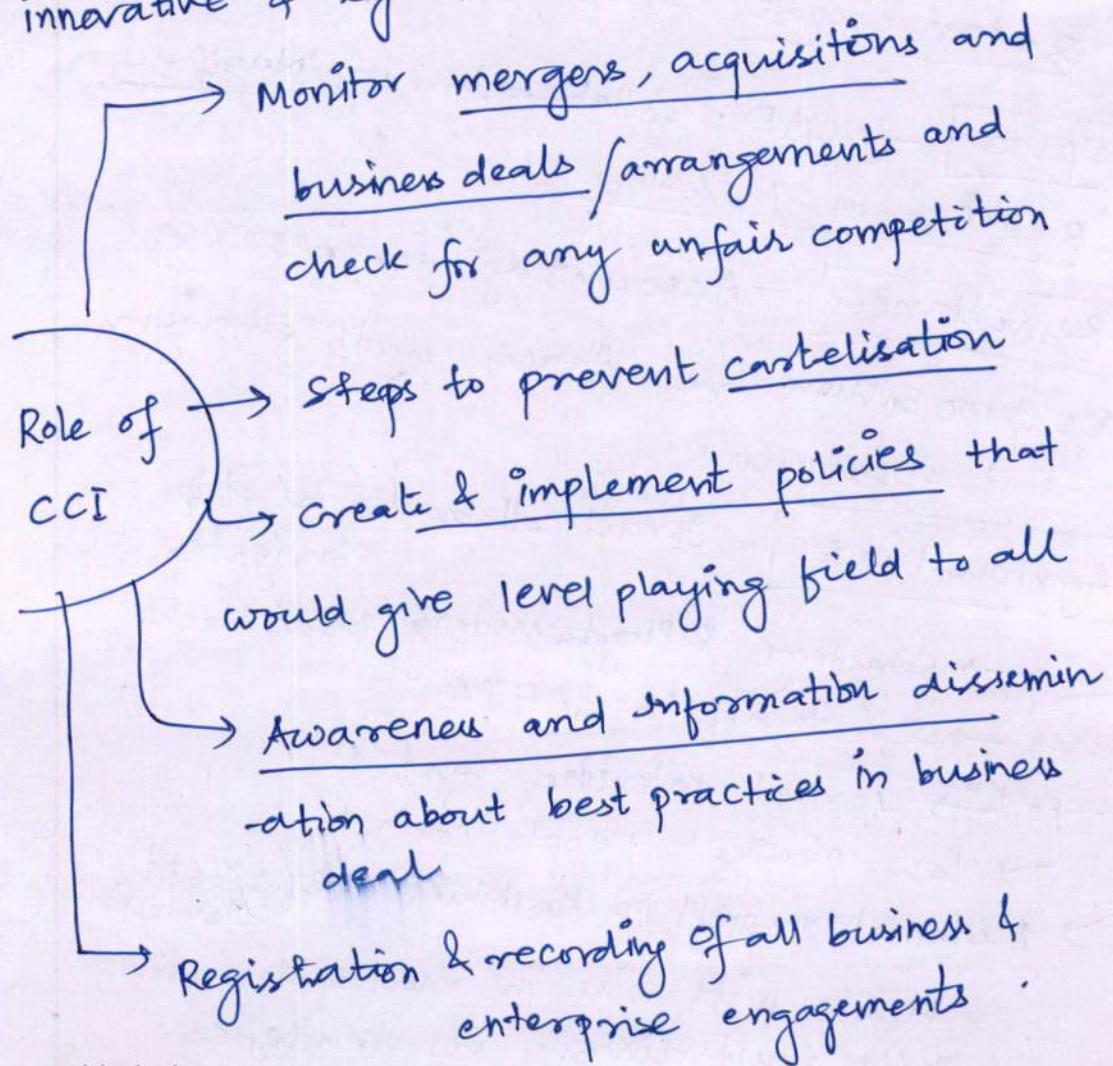
हितधारकों को नवाचार और प्रभावशीलता में वृद्धि हेतु प्रेरित करने के लिए स्वस्थ प्रतिस्पर्धात्मकता को बढ़ावा देने में भारतीय प्रतिस्पर्धा आयोग (CCI) की भूमिका महत्वपूर्ण है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The role of the Competition Commission of India (CCI) is significant in furthering healthy competitiveness aimed at inspiring stakeholders to innovate and augment effectiveness. Comment. (Answer in 250 words)

15

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As a statutory body established under competition Act, 2002, competition Commission of India (CCI) aims to create a level playing field for the businesses while creating an innovative & egalitarian ecosystem.



competition (Amendment) Act, 2021

empowers CCI to take robust steps to make inspiring policies to augment innovation & effectiveness →

ⓐ streamlining of registration & approvals by reducing the mandatory time for approval & improving ease of doing business.

ⓑ changes in penalty structure extracting penalty based on deal amount instead of overall revenue.

ⓒ Registration and exchange of information to be made mandatory to track records.

ⓓ Role in GST monitoring after expiry of GST monitoring networks in overseeing

the rationalisation of tax rates across enterprises

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Issues with CCI that needs to be addressed →

- ① lack of constitutional backing makes it toothless and less effective.
- ② Political interference in selection, appointment, transfer and job profile selection
- ③ lack of collaboration with civil society, pressure group, MSMEs etc.
- ④ lack of trained professional to understand the nitty gritty of professional, custom laws

Way forward → technical expertise in the body
→ more representative from various sections
→ Periodic review & audit
→ International collaboration with MNCs

Hence, democratic institutions like CCT ensure egalitarian order in economy as envisioned in SDG-8 for economic growth

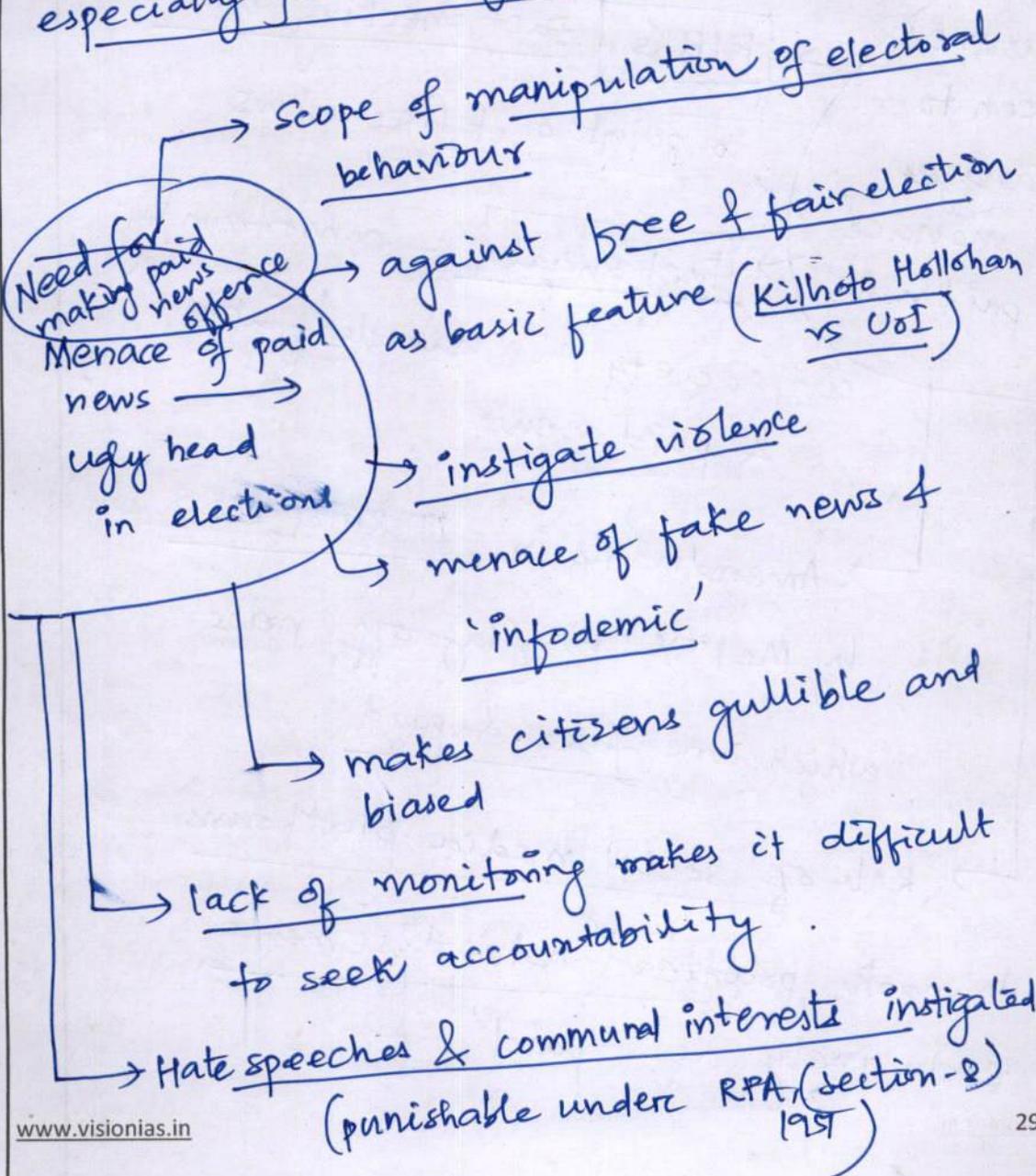
2.

"पेड न्यूज का खतरा अक्सर चुनावों के दौरान अपना भयावह रूप दिखाता है।" भारत में पेड न्यूज को एक चुनावी अपराध बनाने की आवश्यकता पर चर्चा की जिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

"The menace of paid news often rears its ugly head during elections." Discuss the need for making paid news an electoral offence in India. (Answer in 250 words) 15

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In Abhiram Singh vs Union of India, supreme court highlighted elections as the biggest secular & democratic event that cannot be jeopardised by any sectional interest, especially fuelled by paid news.



Dinesh Sinha committee guidelines on news on social media → role of intermediaries in recording political news & advertisements

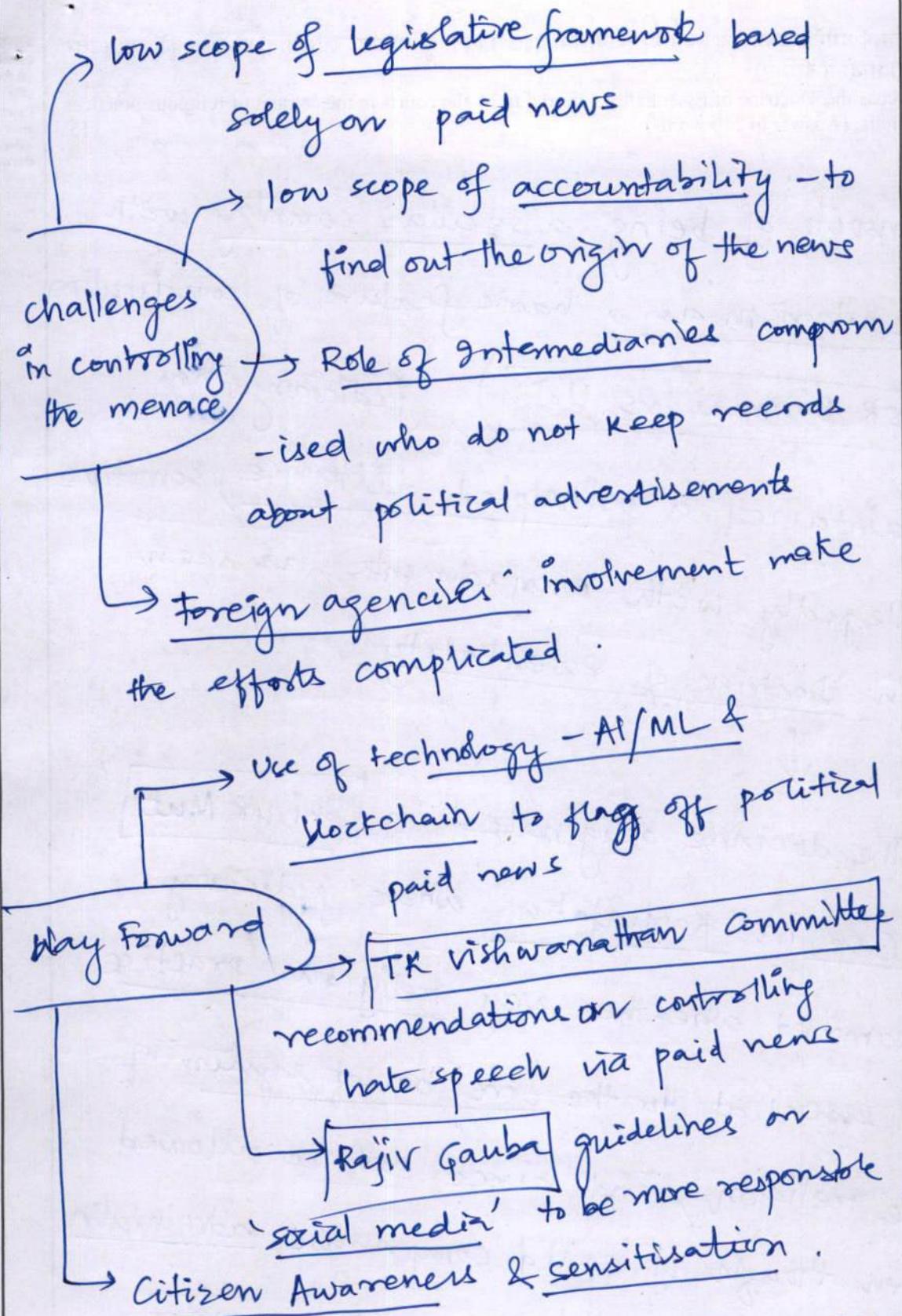
→ Common cause vs VoI - SC gave guidelines for judicious use of expenditure on government expenditure

Measures taken to manage the menace of paid news → PIB's Fact checking unit to point out fake news

→ 'Fact shaala' - consortium by civil society to handle fake & paid news

→ Amendments in IT Rules, 2023 by MeITY to flag off news which are fake & paid

→ Role of social media platforms to mark political advertisements exclusively as 'paid'.



Hence, democratic principles shall remain at threat with menace of paid news which needs to be tackled with legislative & administrative measures.

13.

भारत में धार्मिक प्रथाओं के संदर्भ में, न्यायालयों द्वारा उद्धृत 'अनिवार्यता के सिद्धांत' पर चर्चा की जिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Discuss the 'Doctrine of Essentiality' referred to by the courts in the context of religious practices in India. (Answer in 250 words) 15

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Inspite of being a secular country with secularism as a basic feature of constitution (SR Bommai vs UoI), judiciary has maintained a principled distance, sometimes allegedly with encroachments, as seen in 'Doctrine of essentiality'.



The doctrine originated in Shivamutt case in Karnataka where judiciary examined whether any religious practice is essential to the core belief system of the religion, and hence can be allowed even though it could compromise administrative & legislative egalitarian order.

Use of Doctrine of Essentiality →

① **Hijab Case** in Karnataka High Court that provided that 'hijab' is not essential to the religious beliefs of Islam.

② **Nikhil Soni vs State of Rajasthan** -

In the Jain practice of voluntary sacrifice of food/water - Supreme Court advocated it to be essential to the religion.

③ **Kirpan and Turban** for Sikhism has been deemed to be essential for the religion & hence allowed as a constitutional right.

→ Against constitutional fundamental right as enshrined in 'Right to Religion' (Article 25 - 28)

- Issues with such doctrine
 - Non uniformity in interpretation
 - Lack of objectivity & examination
 - Beliefs & their degree of essentiality

vary depending upon family culture,
places, intrasect etc.

- ↳ Judicial Overreach - judiciary encroaching upon the personal belief system
- ↳ Politicisation of religion leading to communal hatred and communalism.

Necessity of the doctrine

- Ensure personal liberty and principles of equality - Ex Shah Bano Case, Triple Talaq case etc.
- Administrative uniformity is desired
- to evade patriarchal bargain & internalised patriarchy

Way forward

- calculated approach with involving stakeholders
- Strive for 'Doctrine of Harmonious Construction'
- Ensure communal peace & fraternity.

Hence, although religion plays a significant part of culture, judiciary must adhere to core principles of constitution to set up justice.

प्रधान मंत्री की आर्थिक सलाहकार परिषद (EAC-PM) की हाल ही में जारी रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, भारत में सरकार के आकार को सीमित करने की तत्काल आवश्यकता है। क्या आप सहमत हैं? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

As per the recently released report of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM), there is an urgent need to limit the size of the government in India. Do you agree? (Answer in 250 words)

15

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The size of the government symbolises the extent of Council of Ministers and the incurred resources for the maintenance & administration of the government.

As per EAC-PM, size of government needs to be limited because —

a) Increase in Revenue expenditure due to salaries, pensions & allowances that lead to economic deficit.

b) Multiplicity of agencies leading to duplication of work, mismatch in goals and increased expenditure.

c) Non effectiveness in decision making due to multiple voices in state.

(d) State becoming a 'honest broker' which becomes risk averse, non-innovative & self pleasing to party ministers & alliances.

(e) Curbs the menace of defection where horse trading is done in the name of political power.

Although 91st Constitutional Amendment Act 2003 limited the size of Council of Ministers to maximum 15% of Lok Sabha, the size is burdensome.

But counter argument to the suggestion of EAC-PM stands valid :-

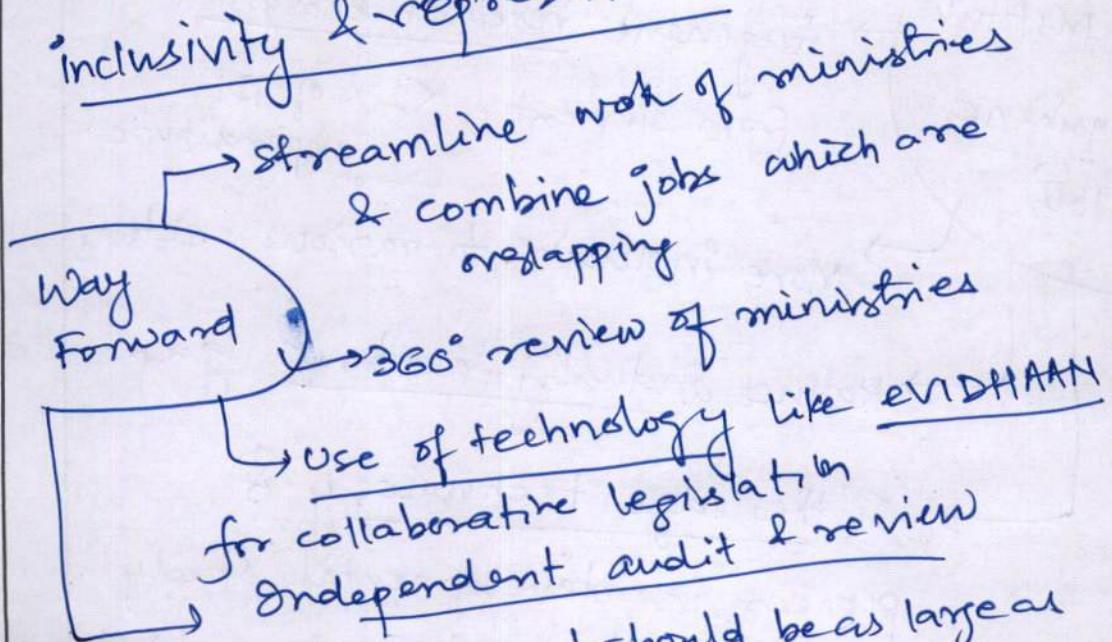
(1) New emerging disciplines like Renewable, emerging defence threats, cyberspace etc.

② Increased burden due to multiple portfolios
that decrease the effectiveness of individual
ministers.

③ Further inclusion of technocrats, domain
knowledge based representative will
make the governance for participatory.

④ Increase in foreign, public & civil society
participation requires more participatory
government.

⑤ Bigger government has scope for larger
inclusivity & representation



Hence, the government should be as large as
being representative enough to be
the forerunner of democracy.

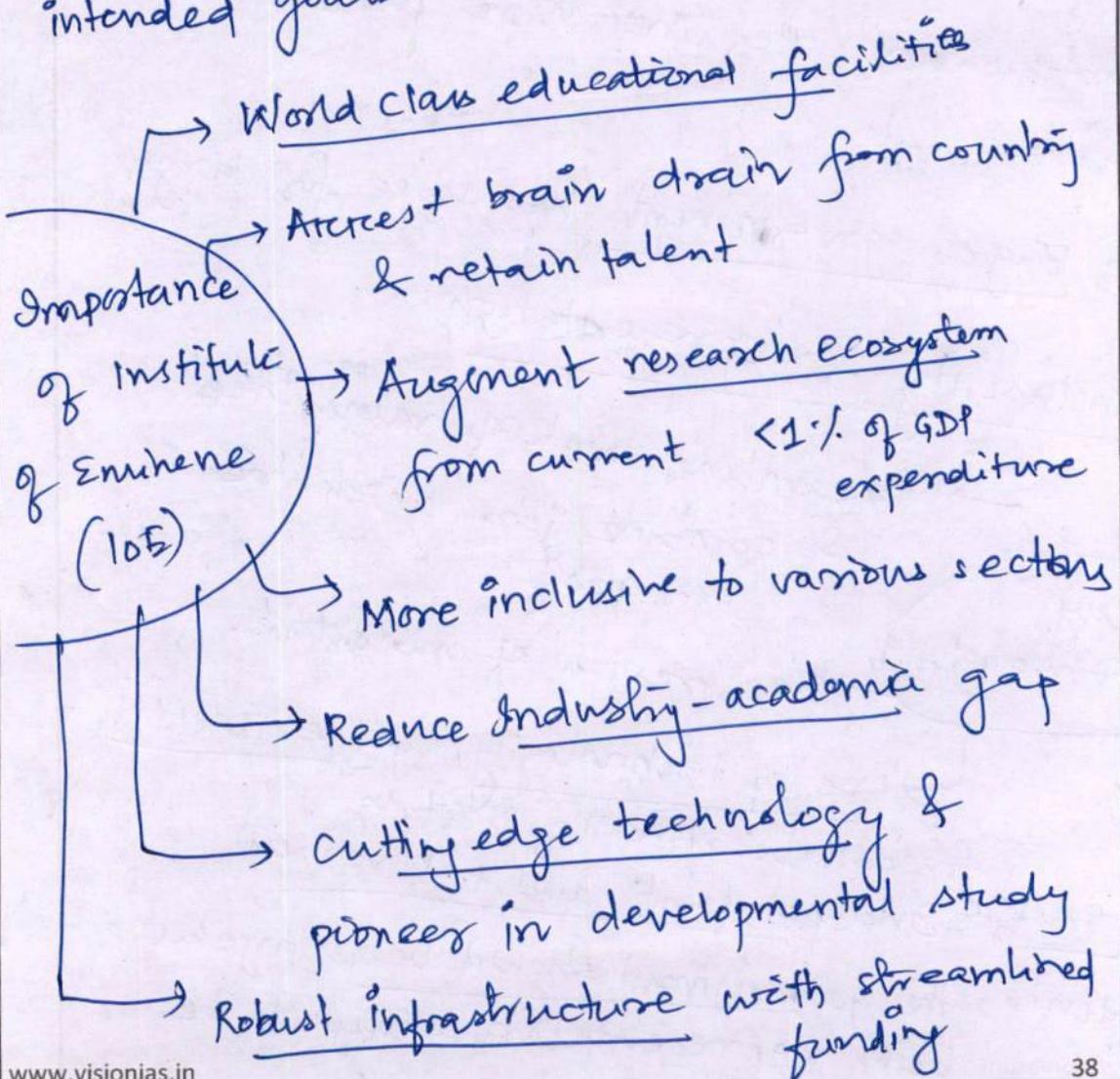
15.

इंस्टीट्यूशंस ऑफ एमिनेंस (IoE) योजना की कल्पना भारत में उच्चतर शिक्षा के 'विश्व स्तरीय' केंद्र विकसित करने के लिए की गई थी, लेकिन छह साल बाद भी, यह अभी तक गेम चेंजर नहीं बन पाई है। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

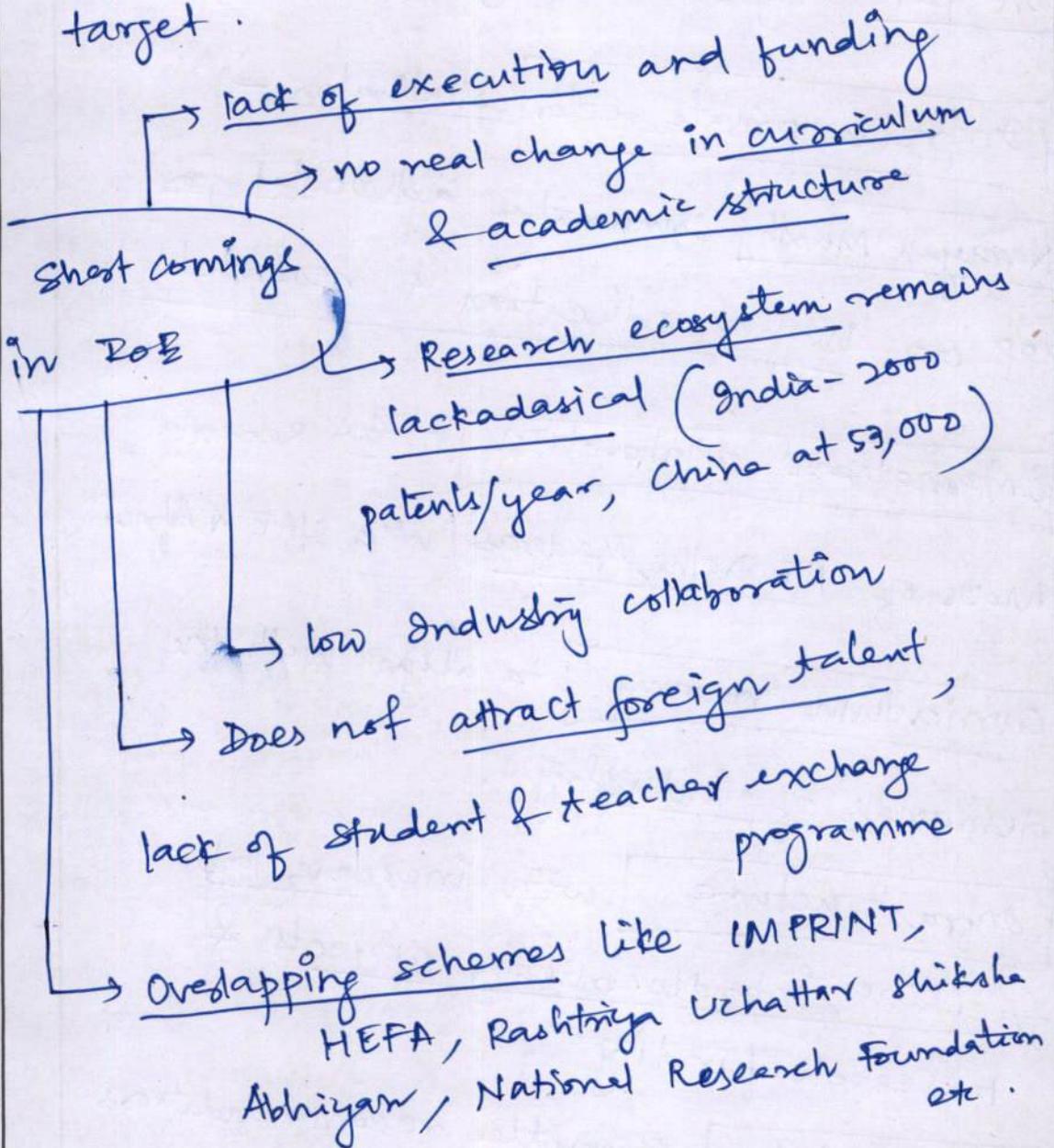
The Institutions of Eminence (IoE) scheme was conceived to develop 'world-class' centres of higher education in India but six years later, it is yet to become the game changer it was intended to be. Discuss. (Answer in 250 words) 15

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With enrolment ratio of ~27% in higher education and only 4 universities in Top 1000 QS Rankings, Institute of Eminence (IoE) has larger scope to achieve its intended goals.



With about 10 lakh Indians studying abroad and meagre 50,000 foreign students in India, IoE has failed to achieve its target.



Steps that need to be taken to realise the goals of IoE →

① Increase funding - TSR Subramaniam

Committee suggested for 4-6% expenditure
on GDP → focus on higher education

② Increase private sector collaboration -

Narayan Murthy Committee advocated for
PPP on higher education & research.

③ International collaboration - ex Recent

Mou's of IIT Delhi, Madras with UAE & Africa.

④ Curriculum revamp to align with the
demands of industry.

⑤ Infrastructure with increase lab
facilities, interdisciplinary projects &
research funding -

⑥ Anil Bordoloi Committee recommendations
to make education more inclusive.

Hence, India can use IoT as
its soft power to establish itself as Vishwaguru
while reaping benefits of
demographic dividend.

डिजिटल पब्लिक इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर (DPI) नवोन्मेषी और सुविधाजनक सार्वजनिक सेवाओं की अनुमति देता है, समावेशन या पहुंच संबंधी बाधाओं को दूर करने में मदद करता है तथा रियल-टाइम डेटा की मदद से पारदर्शिता और जवाबदेही बढ़ाता है। उदाहरण सहित चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) allows for innovative and convenient public services, help overcome inclusion or accessibility barriers, and increase transparency and accountability with real-time data. Discuss with examples. (Answer in 250 words)

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Digital Public Infrastructure refers to utilisation of digital and information-communication technologies for governance with a robust and fault proof structure & digital infrastructure.

Role of DPI in governance

① Innovative & Convenient public services → ex UPI
and other financial tools by fintech revolution helps in convenient usage ex Direct Benefit transfer with JAM trinity helped in saving ₹ 2.2 lakh crore in 8 years.

② Overcome Inclusion barriers → eVIN
and CowIN helped to ensure the success of

the biggest vaccination drive mitigating issues of inclusion

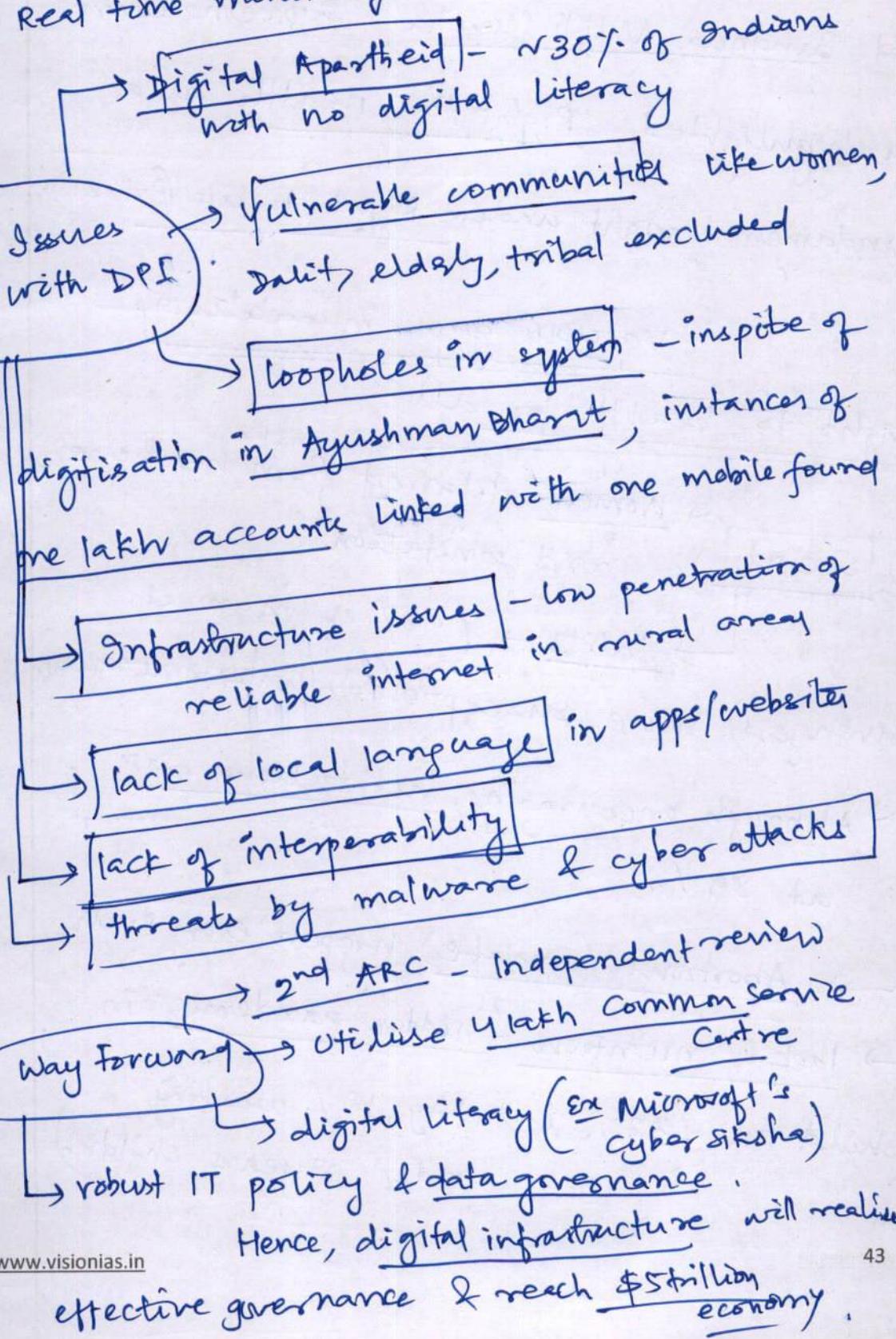
③ Improve accessibility - e-Paathshaala, e-sugam Pustakalaya helps Persons with disabilities - based on the 'Incheon strategy' for their welfare.

④ Increase transparency - Digital land Records (SVAMITVA) & Karnataka's Bhoomi helped in reducing litigation and improved transparency.

⑤ Increase accountability - e-Courts & National Judicial Grid and streamlining of judgements - use of DPI for accountability (Swagnil Tripathy vs UoI)

⑥ Real time data - CCTNs and Interoperable

Criminal Justice system & for disaster -
technology like early warning system &
Information Fusion centre relies on
real time monitoring.



17.

कानून के अलावा, भारत में 'सभी के लिए स्वास्थ्य के अधिकार' की पूर्ण प्राप्ति हेतु सामाजिक, वित्तीय और बुनियादी ढांचे की कमियों को दूर करने की आवश्यकता है। परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Besides legislation, the full realisation of the 'right to health for all' in India demands plugging of social, financial, and infrastructural gaps. Examine. (Answer in 250 words) 15

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In state of Punjab vs Mahinder Singh Chawla
and Bandhua Mukti Morcha, Supreme Court
has highlighted 'Right to Health' as a
fundamental right under Right to Life (Art. 21)
various gaps in realising
'right to health for all'

- ① Social
 - Women debarred from healthcare and sanitation
 - Dalits → (98% of manual scavengers) more susceptible to water-borne diseases
 - Although encouraging, institutional birth at 89%.
 - Abortions (unsafe) happen every 8 mins
 - Lack of nutrition - 'hidden pandemic' in children (33% stunting, 18% wasting under 5 years children)

(2) Financial

→ High out of pocket expenditure
(₹48%) → world average at
 $< 20\%$.

'Middle man trap' - in diseases like
cancer, TB (high expenditure) - middle man
not covered

→ low insurance penetration or 5%, mostly
for term insurance

Health expenditure is low at $\sim 1.5\%$ of GDP

(3) Infrastructural

→ lack of doctors - instead
of 1:1000 (WHO), India has 1:1655 doctors
per patient

→ Oversburdened government sector - 40% of
beds but 90% of patient load

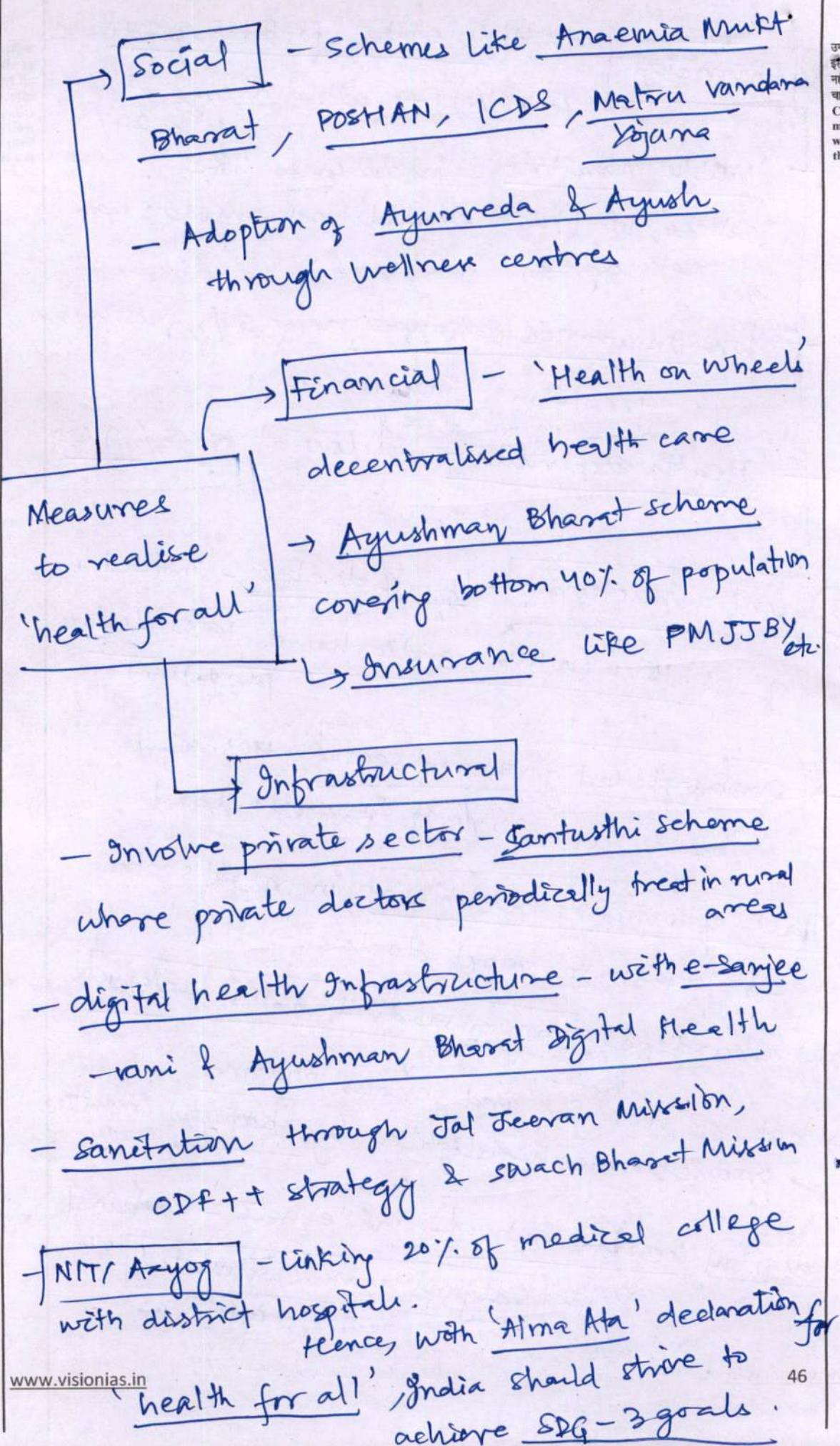
→ lack of primary health care in rural sector

→ urban to rural doctors $\rightarrow 4:1$

→ overburdened Anganwadi & ASHA workers

→ lack of API for indigenous pharma
production - highlighted by Katoch Committee

→ digital health network inadequate - explained
in Satyanarayan Committee report.

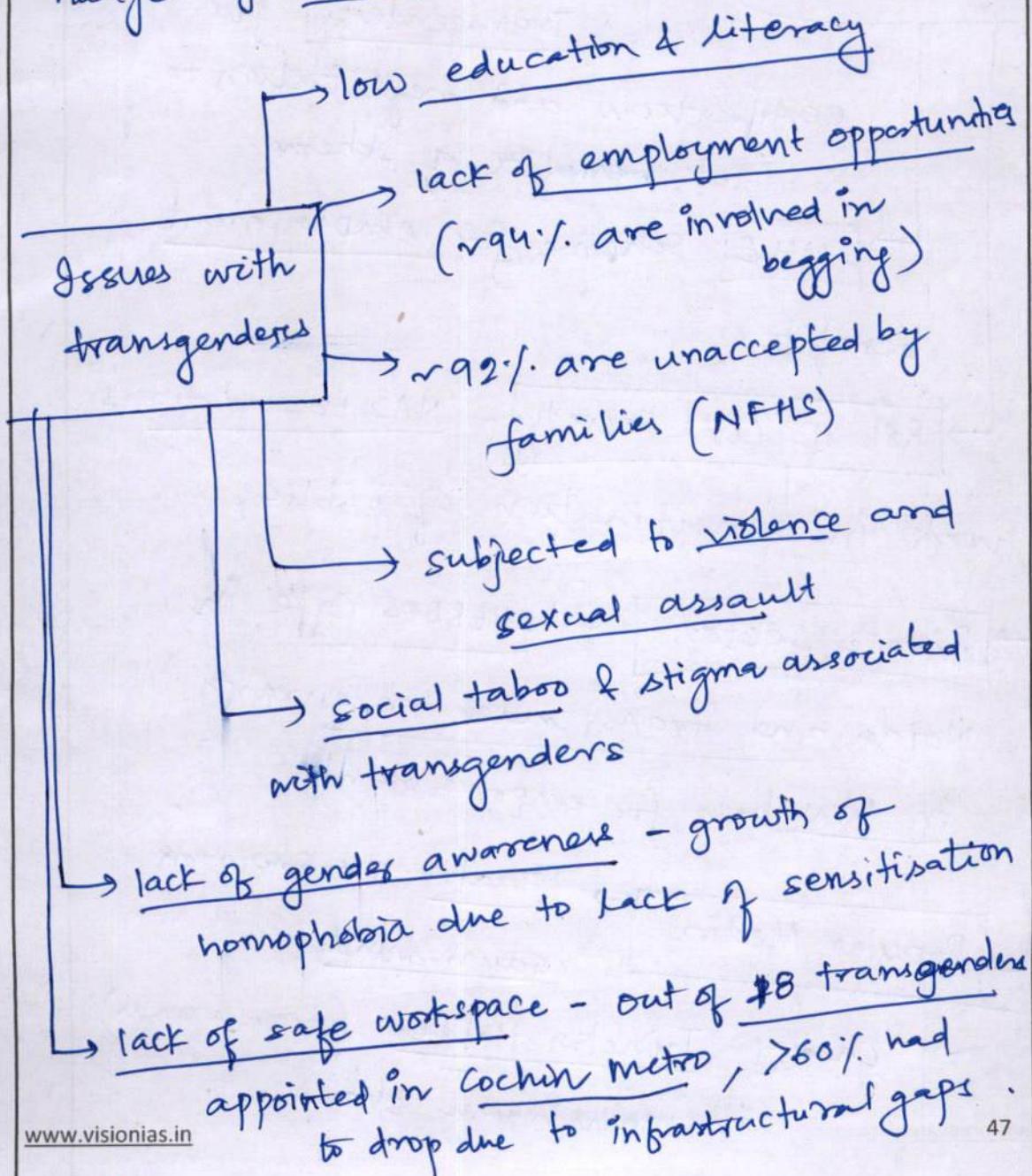


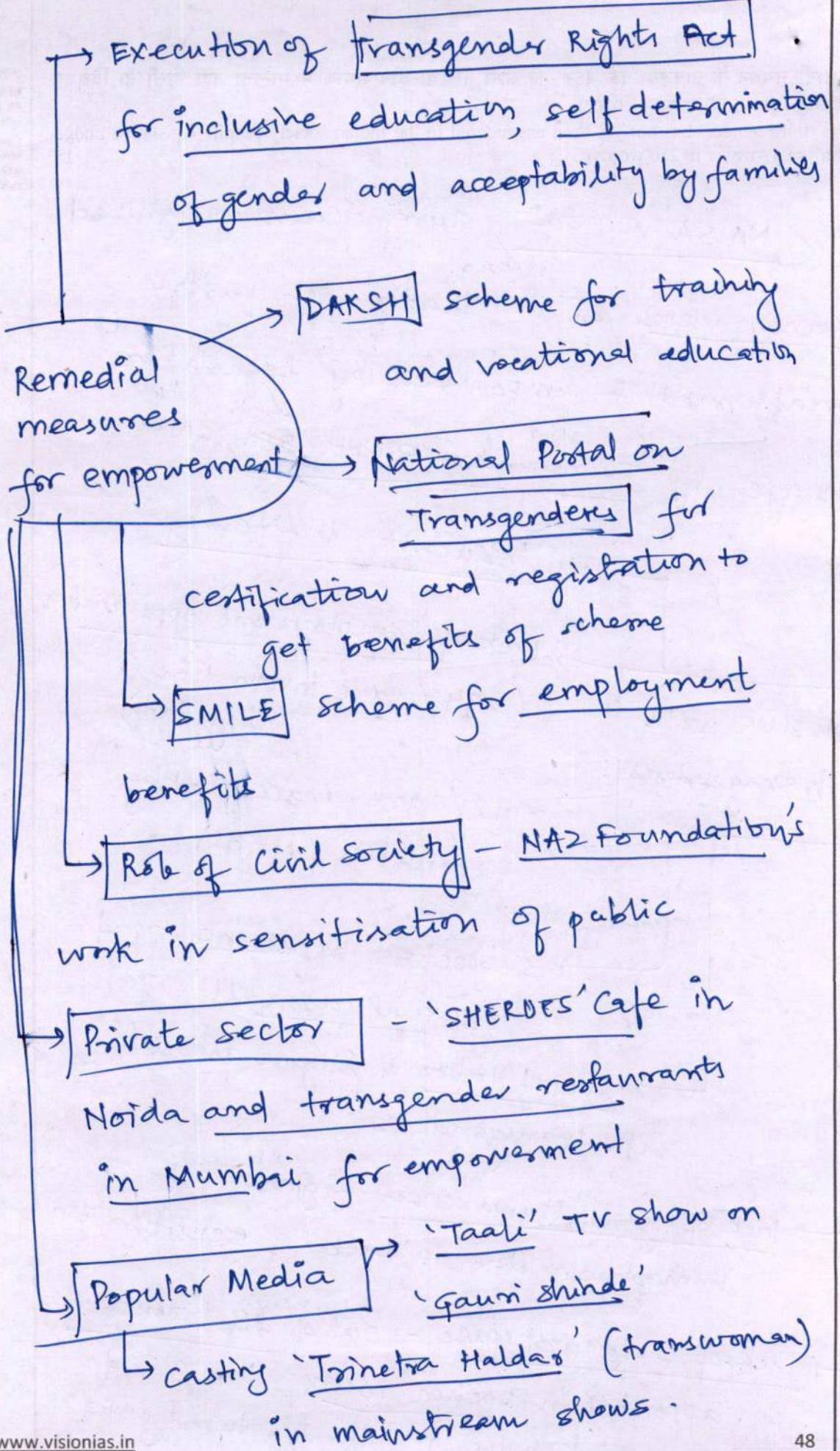
द्वितीय समर्थन के बावजूद 'थर्ड जेंडर' को अभी तक भारतीय समाज में मान्यता नहीं मिली है। विश्वेषण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

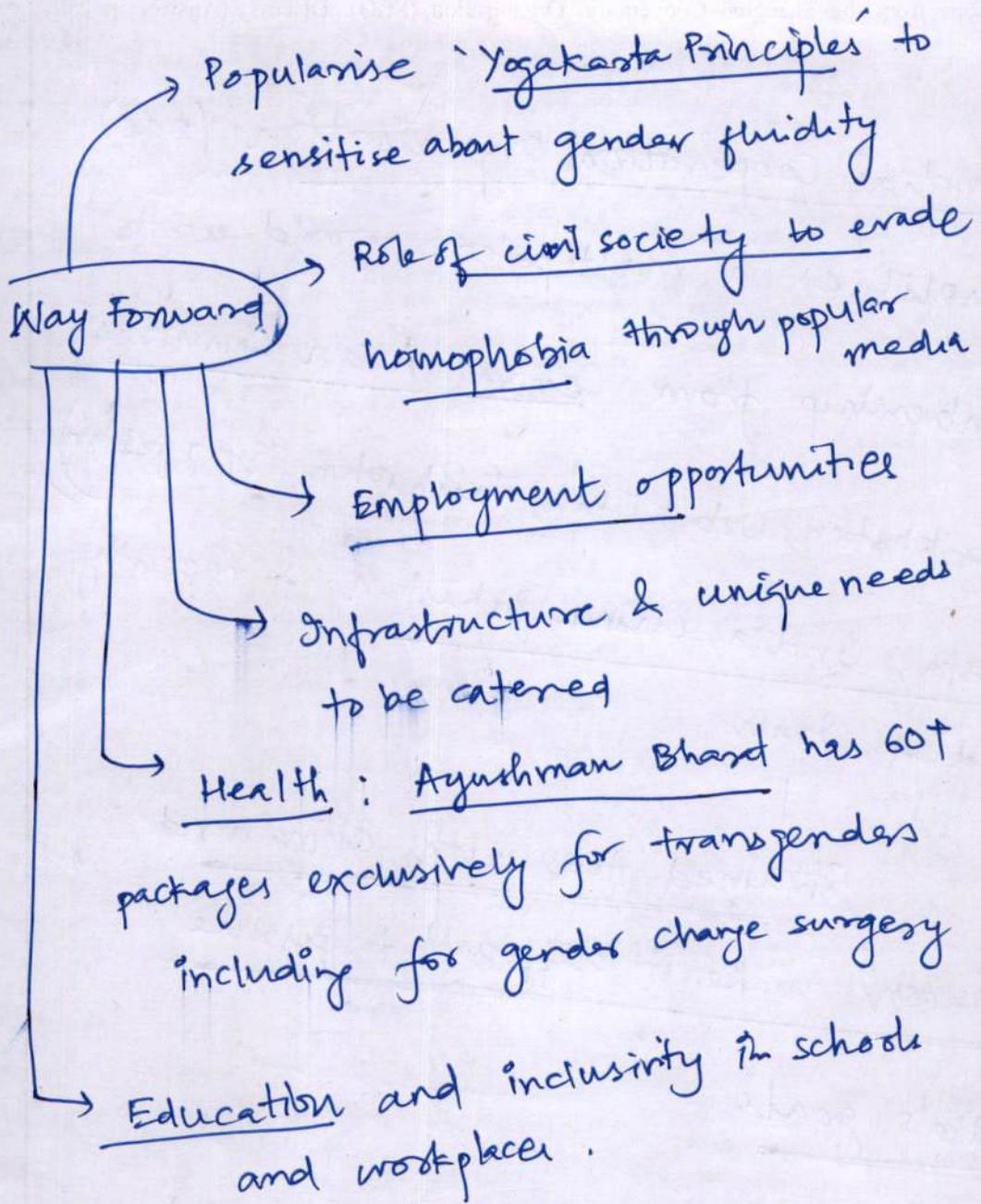
The 'third gender' has not yet been engendered in the Indian society despite legislative nudge. Analyse. (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को
इस प्रश्नपत्र में
नहीं लिखना
चाहिए
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In NALSA vs UOI, supreme court recognized transgenders as the third gender, further reaffirmed & empowered by legislative nudge by Transgender Rights Bill, 2019 Act.







Enumerating to ~4.8 lakh as per Census - 2011, transgenders are equally important and should be empowered as compared to other genders.

19.

अन्य कारकों के अलावा, चीन और पाकिस्तान के साथ तनावपूर्ण संबंधों ने भारत के लिए शंघाई सहयोग संगठन (SCO) से अपनी अपेक्षाओं को पूरा करना कठिन बना दिया है। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Among other factors, strained ties with China and Pakistan make it difficult for India to fulfill its expectations from the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO). Discuss. (Answer in 250 words)

15

उम्मीदवारों को
इस शीर्षक में
नहीं लिखना
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Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)

exemplifies a multipolar world with

membership from Central Asian countries

(Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan)

Russia, India, China, Pakistan & recently
added Iran.

strained ties with China and
Pakistan make it difficult to pursue

India's goals

① Chinese dominance in economy and
through its Belt and Road Initiative
with investments in Central Asia

2 CPEC with Pakistan, India has

lower economic exposure.

② Infrastructural bottleneck - Fulfillment

of Astana Agreement goals for larger
central Asian exposure marred due
to Pakistan, ex obstruction in TAPI,
INSTC and Chabahar Port development

③ Changing alliances - with growing inclinati-

-on of India towards US, Russia-China -
Pakistan axis getting stronger that
snubs India off.

④ Lack of shared military power due to

internal armed conflicts & transgressions
by Pakistan in LoC & Gilgit,
China in Arunachal and Kashmir

⑤ Lack of control on terror due to

state sponsorship of terror by Pakistan

and supported by China, seen in UNSC.
1267 Resolution.

⑥ low economic expansion due to territorial
proximity with Central Asia, blocking
by Pakistan & China and no scope for
free trade arrangements.

lack of

Future scope for India through SCO

→ leverage for cultural supremacy →
'Varanasi' selected as cultural capital

→ Against terrorism - RATS mechanism against terror attack

→ leverage Central Asian countries

for energy (Uzbekistan for Uranium),
TAPI, infrastructure & exports.

→ Counter Indo-US alliance with collaboration
with China & Russia - reduce hostility.

As Vijay Lakshmi Pandit says →
"sweat bleed more in peace to bleed less in war"
India leverages SCO to build a peaceful multipolar world envisioned in SDG 16 & 17.

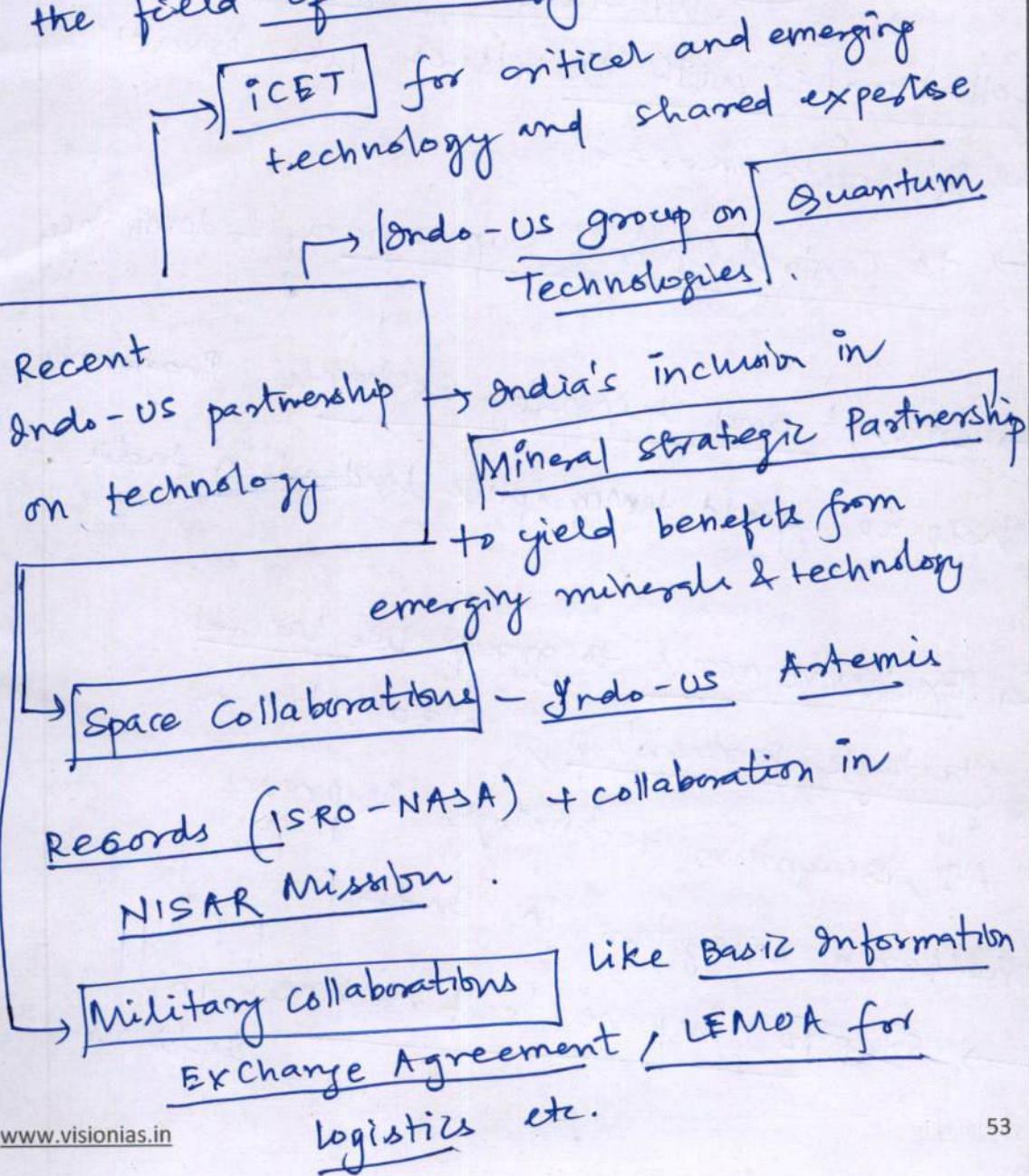
संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका और भारत के बीच महत्वपूर्ण एवं उभरती प्रौद्योगिकी (iCET) पर हाल ही में संपन्न पहल, प्रौद्योगिकी के क्षेत्र में इनकी साझेदारी में लंबे समय से प्रतीक्षित परिवर्तन का वादा करती है। परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The recently concluded initiative on Critical and Emerging Technology (iCET) between the United States and India promises a long overdue transformation of their partnership in the field of technology. Examine. (Answer in 250 words)

15

उम्मीदवारों को
इस खण्ड पर में
नहीं लिखना
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Indo-US relations have seen remarkable evolution from political and economic collaboration to widening the ambit of partnership in the field of technology.



- technology transfer helpful in space exploration, EVs, renewable technology
- Benefit due to such collaboration → India's allegiance to west gets stronger with technological collaborations
- Widens India's scope to collaborate with US allies like Israel & south Korea
- to control China's supremacy & dominance
- Student and University Exchange Programmes help to yield demographic dividend in India
- Exclusive access to groups like Mineral strategic partnership, collaboration on AI, Quantum technology improves research ecosystem in India
- Step to improve 'self-reliance' in India.

→ Indo-US conflict with respect to
IPR and patent regime.

- Concerns over such collaboration → Long gestation period of such arrangements
- Non equitable share in benefits
- Increase in US inclination makes India's borders vulnerable
- domestic industry takes hit

Way forward → Apart from technological collaboration,
cultural partnership to be levied, ex. Yoga, Ayurveda,

Vivekananda Chair in Chicago University,
Tamil Studies in Houston University

- Generalised system of Preferences can be looked to reinclude India
 - Streamlining IPR and patent issues
 - Industry & academia collaboration.
- Hence, India emerges as the fulcrum of geopolitics and technological collaboration on with US expands its hard & soft power.

SPACE FOR ROUGH WORK

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