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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 871)

Name of Candidate	SAMEERA.S		
Medium Eng./Hindi	ENGLISH	Registration Number	165062
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INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	12.5	
2	12.5	
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5	12.5	
6	12.5	
7	12.5	
8	12.5	
9	12.5	
10	12.5	
11	12.5	
12	12.5	
13	12.5	
14	12.5	
15	12.5	
16	12.5	
17	12.5	
18	12.5	
19	12.5	
20	12.5	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

- Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
- There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI
इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
- All questions are compulsory.
सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
- The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
- 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 medium other than the authorized one.
प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
- Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
- Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Alignment Competence
2. Context Competence
3. Content Competence
4. Language Competence
5. Introduction Competence
6. Structure - Presentation Competence
7. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

Answer all the questions in NOT MORE THAN 200 WORDS each. Content of the answers is more important than its length. All questions carry equal marks.

12.5X20=250

1. Criticism about the judiciary should be welcomed, so long as criticisms do not hamper the "administration of justice". In this context discuss whether the power of contempt of court given to the higher judiciary limits the freedom granted by Article 19(1)(a) and whether these two can be reconciled.

जब तक आलोचनाएं "न्याय के प्रशासन" में बाधा न डालें, न्यायपालिका के संबंध में आलोचनाओं का स्वागत किया जाना चाहिए। इस संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए कि क्या उच्चतर न्यायपालिका को दी गई न्यायालय की अवमानना की शक्ति अनुच्छेद 19 (1) (a) द्वारा प्रदत्त स्वतंत्रता को सीमित करती है और क्या इन दोनों में सामंजस्य हो सकता है?

The tug of fight between freedom of expression and contempt of court is not a new one. Time to time, this has been emerged in news and recently when Mumbai HC punished Arundhati Ray for criminal contempt of court.

Art 129 and 215 provides SC and HCs with powers of civil and criminal contempt of court punishments.

There are reasonable restrictions

listed in Art 19(2) on the freedom of expressions. which makes it is a fundamental right that is not absolute. The idea behind contempt of court rests in this ~~is~~ restriction.

→ It is always argued that using the criminal contempt indiscriminately (as in the case of Arundhati Roy) ~~for~~ will have a chilling effect on freedom of expression.

→ Judicial supremacy must be open to constitutive criticisms.

→ Judiciary is here to empower the citizens ~~th~~ and helps them from excess of legislature and executive. But the contempt act militate against the people.

→ It results to view the judiciary in an insurance position rather than an empowering institution.

The pro-arguments for 19(1)(a) should not make the contempt of court act's absolute repeal. Infact both can coexist as the Supreme Court pointed out that the shoulder of the court is broad enough to contain the judicial criticism.

→ There should be clear guidelines and mandate given to people about what exactly makes a contempt of court.

→ Judiciary should resort to the move only when it seriously hampers the administration of justice.

→ It could even emulate the practice outside, like in UK, where the act exists but since 1880, judiciary has not resort to it.

2. Special rights are not privileges but they are granted to make it possible for minorities to preserve their identity, culture and traditions. Elaborate in the context of India with examples.

विशिष्ट अधिकार विशेषाधिकार नहीं हैं, बल्कि अल्पसंख्यकों के लिए अपनी पहचान, संस्कृति और परंपराओं के संरक्षण को संभव बनाने के लिए इन्हें प्रदान किया गया है। उदाहरण सहित भारत के संदर्भ में सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए।

Special rights are needed in a society which is unequal and have cultural diversities where tendency to rule over minority ~~addresses~~ are present. India since its independence has deliberately made rules and acts to protect the less privileged ^{people} and minority communities with vigour.

Minorities in India are protected through constitutional mandate. Though minority is a term not defined in constitution, commissions on minority and different court rulings extensively defined who constitute ^a minority community.

Article 29 and 30 are especially designed for minority's cultural and educational rights. Though SC has ruled Article 29 is available to majority also, it extensively protects the minority's language, script and culture. Article 30 provides them with special provisions in setting educational institutions.

→ India has a separate ministry for minority which time to time come up with schemes exclusively for minority like Nai Manzil, USTTAD etc

→ MHRD provides special provisions for education of minority students through scholarships and interest free loans to study abroad.

→ Many of the minority community comes under OBC (Muslims, Latin Christians etc) and ~~have~~ ~~sp~~ can avail the provisions of OBC category given in article 16.

→ The tribals. are given special provision to preserve their traditions and cultures through schedule 5 and 6 and provided with autonomous district council and article 371.

→ All the linguistic minority is entitled to develop their language and culture and the schedule 8 is a proof to it.

Thus there are many special rights are given to minority in India for their free and fair living. These moves only makes India a truly diverse country which respects every community's ~~Aspirations~~ ambitions and aspirations.

3. A clear delineation of functions of local governments vis-à-vis State Governments will only strengthen the principle of subsidiarity. In this context, discuss the challenges and the reforms required for effective democratic decentralization in India.

राज्य सरकारों के साथ-साथ स्थानीय सरकारों के कार्यों के स्पष्ट आरेखण (निरूपण) से केवल अनुषंगिकता का सिद्धांत पुष्ट होगा। इस संदर्भ में, भारत में प्रभावी लोकतांत्रिक विकेंद्रीकरण के लिए आवश्यक सुधारों और चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

73rd and 74th the amendment of Indian constitution was revolutionary in the sense that, it made India a fully decentralised society. But whether we actually reaped the fruits on the ground needs discussions.

The challenges in fully adhering to principle of subsidiarity include.

1) Reluctance of state governments to hand over the functions enumerated in schedule 11 and 12.

2) Though local governments are empowered to collect tax, most of the time they are not allowed to.

3) Unfunded distribution fund from states.

4) states tendency to see local bodies as subsidiary institutions.

5) The reforms needed are

1) Though there exists clear delineation of functions, the implementation of it needed to be strengthened. And for that strong ~~politic~~ political will and backing of judiciary is needed.

2) There should be clear mandate for states to distribute fund to local bodies

3) States should not interfere in the planning at the local level.

4) To improve citizen participation,

awareness programs should be conducted -

It is always agreed that resource mobilisation and first hands approach rests better with local bodies.

∴ it is important to provide them with ample space to exercise the constitutional mandates and to make the society truly inclusive.

4. Despite being a welcome step, Inter-State Water Disputes (Amendment) Bill, 2017 fails to resolve the issue of overlapping of jurisdiction between the legislature and judiciary. Analyse.

स्वागत योग्य कदम होने के बावजूद, अंतरराज्यीय जल विवाद (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2017 विधायिका और न्यायपालिका के बीच क्षेत्राधिकार के परस्पर अतिव्यापन का मुद्दा सुलझाने में विफल रहा है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Inter state water dispute is a contentious issue in India since independence. According to article 262 parliament is empowered to constitute tribunals to adjudicate the issue but have constantly fails in mandate. In this background centre has come up with a new bill to resolve the issue but is also runs to failing in addressing the judiciary-legislature jurisdiction overlap.

— In the recent convey water dispute, SC has ordered the parliament to constitute the Convey water Management Board. Parliament refute back by saying

its a judicial overstep.

→ In Mullaperiyar dam issue too, sc is continuously giving instructions sidelining the scope of legislators in the issue.

It is important to keep in mind that there exists a separation of judiciary and legislature powers.

Stepping in ^{as a} ~~to the~~ legislative court will only undermine the court's stature.

~~Though the parties could go to sc challenging the tribunals order~~

It is important to respect the instructions of tribunals' set up by parliament and taking its order as final and binding instead of challenging it in courts.

5. Critically discuss the major reforms introduced in the area of electoral funding in Union Budget 2017. Do you think that state funding of elections is a viable idea to check misuse of money power in politics?

2017 के केंद्रीय बजट में चुनावी वित्तपोषण को लेकर प्रस्तुत किए गए प्रमुख सुधारों पर आलोचनात्मक चर्चा कीजिए। क्या आप मानते हैं कि राजनीति में धनबल का दुरुपयोग रोकने के लिए चुनावों का राज्य द्वारा वित्त पोषण एक व्यावहारिक विचार है?

Union Budget 2017 has provided with a lot of electoral reforms.

The major reforms were

→ introduction of electoral bonds - though the intent was good, the anonymity factor in the bonds will only make the corruption more intense -

→ scaling of anonymous donation at Rs 9000/- instead of 2000/- - This though may help to curb the black money and ~~bribe~~ and corruption, it is still possible with donations below 2000/-.

→ scaling on the cash transfer and emphasizing on cheques or online transaction to improve transparency.

Though the electoral reforms are the need of the hour, it is important to think of - the streamlining of funding options to parties.

- state fundings is been routinely said to be implemented in India as it will address the corruption and black money better. But there are downfalls too such as,

→ political parties are not public entities to be funded by tax money.

→ there is still no guarantee that corporates and people will not fund the parties - making way for black money and corruption

→ may result in proliferation of sham parties just to avail the state funds.

So the advice for state funding too is not waterproof as evident from the countries practices the state funded elections. Hence it is important to ~~reform~~ reform the existing provisions in election to curb the malpractices and also could think of the viability of partial state funding.

6. The provision of 33% reservation of seats for women in urban local body elections in Nagaland has been in news for various reasons in recent times. Discuss the underlying issues in light of the constitutional provisions at stake and the social realities of the state.

हाल ही में नागालैंड में शहरी स्थानीय निकाय के चुनावों में महिलाओं के लिए 33% सीटों के आरक्षण का प्रावधान विभिन्न कारणों से सुर्खियों में रहा है। इस सन्दर्भ में राज्य की सामाजिक वास्तविकताओं तथा दाँव पर लगे संवैधानिक प्रावधानों के आलोक में अंतर्निहित मुद्दों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

According to 73rd and 74th constitutional amendment local bodies are compulsory ordered to provide 33% reservation of seats for women. But ~~the~~ its enactment has to be revoked in Nagaland recently and to cancel the entire ULB elections.

The argument of Nagaland's section of people who stood against the reservation was that the ~~the~~ clause undermines the culture and tradition of Nagal people. Also the clause is against the protection to culture granted in article 371.

Naga's culture, they argued that is ~~not~~ in favour of giving women ~~executive~~ executive roles.

While analysing the issue more closely it can be seen the misogynist tendencies among the people who oppose the move is ⁱⁿ name of cult culture. It could also read as a power struggle to part power for women which is compulsory in the mandate.

The move undermines the constitutional provisions given in article 14. It also militates against the gender just society.

The argument based on article 371 seems to be flawed as it totally discards the rights of Naga women. Since it is against ~~and~~ fundamental

right, much like personal laws are
tested under the ambit of equality,
cultural laws should also be tested
and verified on the same ground.

7. Enumerate the guidelines for police reforms as laid down by the Supreme Court in Prakash Singh case in 2006. In this regard, critically discuss the issues in their implementation by the States.

2006 में प्रकाश सिंह मामले में पुलिस सुधारों पर सर्वोच्च न्यायालय द्वारा यथा निर्धारित दिशा-निर्देशों को सूचीबद्ध कीजिए। इस संबंध में, राज्यों द्वारा उनके कार्यान्वयन में निहित मुद्दों पर आलोचनात्मक चर्चा कीजिए।

Police force is one of the the institutional mechanism which supports the societal system as a steel body. Hence the reforms in Police system needs serious attention.

Supreme Court in 2006 has enumerated some guidelines for police reforms such as

→ Constitution of Security Committee in every states with CM as the head and DGP as the ex-officio secretary

→ Tenure of DGP in every state should be at least 2 years.

→ DSP posts should not be removed at the whims and fancies of politicians.

It is been understood that most of the states have failed to constitute the committee. SC directed.

Even the states which have constituted it are not adhered to the mandate of it and removal of DSP before his tenure end is rampant.

The ²⁰¹⁷ case of former DSP against Kerala state is just one example.

Adherence to police reforms ordered by SC is essential for the smooth functioning of the systems. Along with the guidelines continuous trainings, infrastructural

upgradation, more personnels and
better incentive packages are needed
for the comprehensive overhaul of
police force.

8. While the Competition Commission of India and sector-specific regulators are required to complement each other, overlapping jurisdiction has resulted in regulatory parallelism amongst them. Comment.

जहां भारतीय प्रतिस्पर्धा आयोग और क्षेत्र-विशिष्ट नियामकों को एक-दूसरे का पूरक बनने की आवश्यकता है, वहीं परस्पर अतिव्यापी अधिकार क्षेत्र का परिणाम उनके बीच नियामकीय समानांतरता के रूप में सामने आया है। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

9. There is both spatial and economic inequality with regards to access to healthcare services in India. Elaborate. How does the New Health Policy attempts to address these issues?

भारत में स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं तक पहुँच के संबंध में स्थानिक और आर्थिक दोनों असमानताएं विद्यमान हैं। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए। नई स्वास्थ्य नीति कैसे इन समस्याओं का समाधान करने का प्रयास करती है?

Healthcare service remains a very contentious issue in India owing to ~~the~~ unequal distribution of resources, inequality among people and spatial differences.

* Spatial Inequality -

→ There is a tendency towards proliferating healthcare facilities in urban areas especially private care. Though ~~govt~~ government care is available, its services are in abysmal condition owing to apathy, lack of doctors and infrastructure, etc.

Ex: Infant deaths in Gorbakhpur hospital in 2017.

→ Difficulty in reaching the tribal hamlets make them to stay out of the formal health systems. This is evident from rampant malnutrition among tribal children
Ex. Jang tribes in Odisha.

* Economic inequality

→ India being an unequalitarian society, inequality among people is a common cause for not ~~of~~ able to afford healthcare.

→ Increasing inequality (Oxfam Report 2016) and poverty - are major causes of people being out of the social security net provided by the healthcare. Add on to it lack of education makes the poor to know little about government initiatives for them.

The New Health Policy tries to address these issues by

→ increasing the fund allocation for health services (2.5% of GDP)

→ starting more PHCs in regionally deprived areas.

→ More recruitment and training programs for ASHA workers.

→ Including geriatric clinics in hospitals for better treatment of old people -

→ Continuing the RSBY programs along with better implementation of policy measures will to some extent address the lacunae created by inequality and thereby making the healthcare service more accessible, affordable and equitable.

10. Census 2011 observed that there has been a significant increase in urban homeless households in the period between 2001 and 2011. What are homeless households? Highlighting the challenges faced by them, discuss the causes for increase in such households. Suggest various measures to rehabilitate these households.

2011 की जनगणना के अनुसार वर्ष 2001 से 2011 की अवधि में शहरी बेघर परिवारों की संख्या में सार्थक वृद्धि हुई है। बेघर परिवार से क्या तात्पर्य है? उनके द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली चुनौतियों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, ऐसे परिवारों की संख्या में होने वाली वृद्धि के कारणों की चर्चा कीजिए। इन परिवारों के पुनर्वास हेतु विभिन्न उपाय सुझाएँ।

Homeless households are families which do not have a proper place or shelter to live - They may be living in temporary shelters like the ones made of tarpolins or in big sewage pipes placed in urban localities - Most of the slum dwellers come under the homeless households.

The challenges faced by them

→ under the constant threat of eviction from authority

→ they will be more susceptible

to diseases

→ live in a poor conditions
and have no hygiene or sanitation

→ issues of waste management

→ Health and education of members
will be in severe conditions.

The measures

→ Need policies to rehabilitate
them.

Ex: Housing for All is a policy in
the right direction

→ It is important to rope them
in the drinking water, sanitation and
health drive

→ need to provide with education

→ It is important to recognize
them as the part of urban life

and need to provide security in
adverse conditions

PURA, Housing Minors, Alloting
~~places to~~ land to landless through
better land reforms are needs
of the hour and should be implemented
in the right way.

11. Recent judgment of the Supreme Court, amending the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 has invoked varied responses. Highlighting the amendment, critically examine its likely impact on application of the law.

घरेलू हिंसा से महिलाओं का संरक्षण अधिनियम, 2005 में संशोधन हेतु सुप्रीम कोर्ट के हालिया निर्णय से विभिन्न प्रकार की प्रतिक्रियाएँ सामने आई हैं। उक्त संशोधन पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, इस कानून के अनुप्रयोग पर इसके संभावित प्रभावों का आलोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए।

Domestic Violence Act 2005

~~that~~ has been lauded as a very good policy initiative for a gender just society. Recently the SC has amended the act twice

1) Asked the police not to arrest the accused at the very time of complaint filing as it is a non-bailable offence.

2) Made the act gender-neutral by including women and minor along with males in the people who resort to violence against women.

→ The first amendment was based on the argument that there is a misuse of the act. But it is not backed by any data. In fact, in about 94% of DVA cases, conviction rates is < 14%.

→ Second argument is that women are abused ~~to~~ not only by male members but by women and minors also. This argument may make ~~false~~ misuse of the act by letting the real culprit escape the law.

Along with amendments, we also directed to constitute district level committees to hear the disputes. This would help in

reconciliation in a speedy manner and reduce the backlog of cases in courts. But appointing anyone interested in the case as a member may militate against the actual purpose of the move in a patriarchal society.

Hence it is important to understand that the misuse of the Act like any acts is miniscule compared to actual occurrence of incidents and so it would not be in the real interest of women if such arguments are used to water down the ~~act~~ strong act.

12. Examine the steps taken by the government over the years to ensure a secure and exploitation-free childhood for its citizens. Further analyse how the recent ratification of the two key ILO conventions will help India's fight against child labour.

विगत वर्षों के दौरान अपने नागरिकों के लिए सुरक्षित एवं शोषण मुक्त बचपन सुनिश्चित करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए कदमों का परीक्षण कीजिए। पुनश्च, विश्लेषण कीजिए कि हाल ही में अनुसमर्थित किए गए दो प्रमुख ILO अभिसमयों से बाल श्रम के विरुद्ध भारत की लड़ाई में कैसे सहायता मिलेगी।

Right from the independence days, government is keen to ensure a secure and safe childhood for the Indian children. The measures include

- Article 24 ~~ban~~ on child labour.
- RTE Act and Article 21A.
- child's better living and education mandates listed fundamental duties and Directive Principles of State Policies.
- Child Labour Prohibition Act.
- Better rehabilitation and fund allocation for the children who are rescued.
- Different separate ministry for

women and children

The recent ratification of ~~the~~ ILO conventions by India ensures the

→ ban of child labour in the hazardous industries and ensures better living conditions for the children.

→ This will ensure children are enrolled for education since child labour is a stringently punishable act.

→ ~~the~~ Ratification makes India more accountable in the international arena and hence assure more monitoring of the situation on ground.

→ Thus the ratification of conventions and the new Child Labour Act of 2016 are the steps in right direction to ensure a child his/her childhood

- in its own spirit. The move
- must rope in with India's SDG goals
 - and other ~~such~~ initiatives of better education and ~~bet~~ health provisions
 - to the children.

13. According to the World Bank, while digital technologies have spread rapidly in much of the world, resulting digital dividends have lagged behind. Analyse in the context of India.

विश्व बैंक के अनुसार, जहां डिजिटल प्रौद्योगिकियों का पूरे विश्व में द्रुत गति से प्रसार हुआ है, वहीं परिणामी डिजिटल लाभांश पीछे रह गया है। भारत के संदर्भ में विश्लेषण कीजिए।

The recently published World Bank Report has lauded the digital initiatives taken by India but cautioned on the lack of analogue components.

→ India is the second largest country in terms of social media use and the mobile penetration in the country is ~~a~~ fast happening. But there are a few issues creating digital dividends reaching the citizens.

1) G2P transactions are not yet used to the maximum. Though IAM facility is a revolutionary step, it is

still lagging to reach the optimum.

2) Issues of security - the compromise of ATM cards of SBI recently showed the loopholes of digital infrastructure

3) Privacy concerns - there is no data protection and enforcement law making citizen prey to identity theft, espionage

4) Cyber security system need to be strengthened more. CERT-In, CERT-Fin etc are laudable initiatives

5) Connecting the geography better
Ex: Inclusion of A&N, tribal hamlets

6) Spread of education is limited

Hence, to reap the gains accrued through digital penetration, we need to establish a robust cyber

and digital policy and platform
which will make the growth inclusive
and sustainable.

14. "Our country suffers from an excess of old and unnecessary laws which obstruct people and businesses". In light of the observation elucidate how outdated and impractical laws bring inefficiency in governance. How far is the repealing and consolidation of statutes a solution to the problem at hand?

"हमारा देश पुराने और अनावश्यक कानूनों की बहुलता से ग्रस्त है जो जनता और व्यापारों के लिए बाधक हैं। इस टिप्पणी के आलोक में स्पष्ट कीजिए कि किस प्रकार अप्रचलित और अव्यवहारिक कानून शासन में अक्षमता लाते हैं। ऐसे कानूनों का निरसन और समेकन कहां तक इस विद्यमान समस्या का समाधान है?

India, still holds to its colonial legacy through various laws and statutes which are in dire need of modernisation like IPC 1860. Though we did repealed or modified many much need to do.

Outdated and impractical laws bring inefficiency in governance as.

→ it may not be suitable for the modern times.

Ex: Prevention of Cruelty Act 1960 has a penal provision of fine of just Rs 50/-

still

→ it may contradict with other laws.

Ex: (1) POCSO Act and IPC 375 about age of marital rape.

Age

→ To address this issues, repealing and consolidating are used by government as in the case of Merchant Shipping Bill 2016. But

at the long run it is needed to understand that repealing or consolidating laws one by one will not result in desired results instead it will be more time ~~cost~~ and cost consuming impeding the growth of the people and business

So the end of the hour is
~~modernisation of the ends~~ the
identification of laws which need to
be repealed or modernised and
modernising them at one go by
constituting a panel of legal experts
and then recommending it to
the legislature for further discussion
and debates :

15. Due to increasing consumption and changing consumption patterns, water scarcity is an emerging threat in India and thus it becomes imperative to treat water as a commodity and privatize it. Critically evaluate.

बढ़ते उपभोग और उपभोग के पैटर्न में परिवर्तन के कारण, जलाभाव भारत में एक उभरता हुआ खतरा है और इस प्रकार यह अनिवार्य हो जाता है कि जल के साथ एक वस्तु के रूप में व्यवहार किया जाए और इसका निजीकरण किया जाए। आलोचनात्मक मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

Water scarcity is the one of the major visible symptoms we are witnessing due to climate change ~~and~~ as well as due to mismanagement. It is evident from the inter-state and inter-national water disputes.

It is being argued that to address the issue, water has to be treated as a commodity and privatize it. But these arguments need more clarity because.

→ commodification essentially makes water a profit driven entity which may exclude the poor's access.

→ Water in India is indeed owned by private individual as it is their right to have access to water in their land. Hence what is needed now is the understanding that water as a public property and a common resource.

→ Instead of making it a commodity, government must ensure the better conservation practices are followed by citizens and should take initiatives such as Mayhapolima (Kerala) to conserve ~~monsoon~~ rain water.

→ Indiscriminate drilling of tube wells should be controlled and there need proper monitoring of groundwater.

Making water as a privately owned profitable/priceable commodity will only militate against the poor in the country making their rightful share of water inaccessible and unaffordable.

The need of the hour is better water planning and conservation policies ~~which~~ as formed through stakeholder discussions including the public and technical expert. It is important to have a participatory approach to solve the issue as it

16. Given the mandate of the Organisation and its composition, too much should not be read into India becoming a full time member of SCO. Critically comment.

SCO के अधिदेश और इसकी संरचना को देखते हुए, भारत के SCO के पूर्णकालिक सदस्य बनने का बहुत ज्यादा अर्थ नहीं निकालना चाहिए। आलोचनात्मक टिप्पणी कीजिए।

India in 2017 formally became a permanent member of SCO. It is been seen as a big move as it brings most of the strong nations in the global south together. But India need to be secured in this membership given the SCO's mandate and composition

→ SCO is an organisation which has security, economic cooperation in its mandate. It is been loosely seen as a counter to NATO. As India being a country which ~~may not be~~ ~~having~~ has a long tradition of non-partisanship, this angle need to be seen seriously.

→ Giving membership to Pakistan along with India shows a subtle tendency of hyphenation -

→ Presence of Pakistan and China may block India's ambitions to play a big role in the organisations.

→ India's growing alliance with US and major defence partner status and SCO membership may pose difficulty in balancing the both.

→ SCO does have a dominance of Russia-China and the resurgence of ties are evident in recent years making India a with a little role in organisations.

∴ it is important for India to not to give too much weight to SCO. The platform could also

be used as a push for ~~BRT~~ B&RT
initiative of China. ~~Given these,~~
But India's participation is important
as it is a major South Asian power
and without which the Asian features
of SCO may not be fulfilled. :

17. India needs to utilize its technological capacity based diplomacy to strengthen relationships with the neighbours. Discuss. Also examine the significance of South Asia satellite to enhance regional cooperation.

अपने पड़ोसियों के साथ संबंधों को मजबूत बनाने के लिए भारत को अपनी प्रौद्योगिकी क्षमता आधारित कूटनीति का उपयोग करने की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही क्षेत्रीय सहयोग बढ़ाने में दक्षिण एशिया उपग्रह (साउथ एशिया सैटेलाइट) के महत्व का भी परीक्षण कीजिए।

Among South Asian nations, India is the leading country in terms of economy and technological feasibility and viability. Hence it has ample scope in adapting that leading edge to cement the cooperation

→ India is keen to adopt technology based diplomacy by providing training to neighbours in cyber security initiatives, intelligence sharing methods etc.

→ India's space missions of ISRO like NAVIC is providing

services to its neighbours regarding the position, precision etc which is very useful for South Asian countries -

→ ISRO being a member of International Space Charter for disaster management is helping to monitor and disseminate better information to other countries.

→ The recent addition to this services are the South Asian Satellite initiative of India. This is widely congratulated as a better step towards unifying the South Asia though isolated Pakistan is a challenge. This helps to establish

India's genuine interest in the
co-operation of South Asian countries
and re-establishing the Global South.

The series of satellite include
resource mapping, better communicat-
ion and weather forecasting. Being

the highest ~~spender~~ contributor to
the program, ^{without any binding,} India is showing the
way for others that ^{how} better economic
growth and technological innovations
can be used for ~~the stability~~ ensuring
the stability of the region.

18. Though both India and Bangladesh have been able to resolve various pending bilateral issues, solution to the Teesta Water dispute remains illusive. Discuss.

यद्यपि भारत और बांग्लादेश विभिन्न लंबित द्विपक्षीय मुद्दों का समाधान करने में सफल रहे हैं, फिर भी तीस्ता जल विवाद का समाधान भ्रामक बना हुआ है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Right from the shared history and colonial past, India and Bangladesh share a lot in common geographically too. Rivers are one among such things.

Though we have better co-operation in various fields, Teesta River sharing remains a difficult one for long. There were many initiatives taken to resolve the issue like joint mechanisms to discuss a feasible plan. The involvement of two countries plus West Bengal make it more

elusive.

When Bangladesh looks for 30:50 sharing, West Bengal asks for a 55:45 sharing formula. Since the issue also involves a lot of political ramifications, for Awami League and West Bengal government, it a technical solution like 25% downstream water flow to Bangladesh and another 25% during the summer time is not yet ~~to be~~ ~~discussed~~ talked.

There could also few other solutions which can be discussed without hampering the sentiments of both countries like,

— building a large reservoir to store monsoon water

- incorporating an independent party much like World Bank in the case of Indus Water Treaty.

So it is not really right to say that solution is illusive but need a political will from all the stakeholders involved and India should show a better co-operative federalistic character which suits its regionalistic ~~less~~ ambitions in South Asia.

19. Discuss the important provisions and significance of the recent proposal by India for Trade Facilitation in Services (TFS) Agreement under WTO.

विश्व व्यापार संगठन (WTO) के अंतर्गत ट्रेड फैसिलिटेशन इन सर्विसेज (TFS) (सेवा में व्यापार सुविधा) समझौते के लिए भारत के हालिया प्रस्ताव के महत्वपूर्ण प्रावधानों और महत्व पर चर्चा कीजिए।

India being an emerging economy is slowly gaining ground in multilateral agencies like WTO, which is often criticized for lack of democratic character.

India is constantly standing for better TFS under WTO as it has signed TFA in goods in 2016.

India, being a country driven more by its service sector, TFS would be a boost to its growth prospects.

→ India wants more access to countries by facilitating all the four modes of service and especially

mode 4 which let the free
movements of natural persons.

→ For this it is proposing
to have ease in visa regimes of
countries which are more keen in
protectionism in the name of
terrorism and 'outsiders' stealing
jobs'.

→ India also puts its stand on
the argument that globalisation will
benefit in its full extent only if
the service sectors are put open and
the move will complement better
goods trade.

The developed block, led by US
which are more keen on trade
market for its goods are constantly

blocking India's move. But with
like minded countries like China,
India is pushing forward the TFS
cause representing the South-South
block in WTO

20. BIMSTEC has the potential to become a distinctive link between South and Southeast Asia. Elaborate. Also discuss the factors hindering the potential of BIMSTEC over the years. Highlight the key initiatives in recent times and further measures required to make the grouping more effective.

BIMSTEC (बिम्स्टेक) में दक्षिण और दक्षिण-पूर्व एशिया के बीच एक विशिष्ट कड़ी बनने की क्षमता है। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए। साथ ही, पिछले कुछ वर्षों के दौरान BIMSTEC के सामर्थ्य (क्षमता) में बाधक बनने वाले कारकों पर भी चर्चा कीजिए। इस समूह को अधिक प्रभावी बनाने के लिए हाल के दिनों में की गई प्रमुख पहलों एवं और आवश्यक उपायों पर प्रकाश डालिए।

BIMSTEC is one of the major initiatives to improve the links between south and South East Asia in recent times. This grouping reinforces the multipolar world order.

→ Instead of having ASEAN + or ASEA + country summit, BIMSTEC provides with a common platform for major economies in the Indian Ocean and Pacific ocean areas and a part of Pacific areas

→ BIMSTEC ~~amb~~ exemplifies the South-South cooperation and

many countries having shared history makes it an even more culturally unified initiative.

→ It is a best to have more ~~intra~~ intra trade among member countries

The factors hindering the potential
are

1) Difference in governmental structures - democracy to autocracy -

2) Not many countries having strong economies and so deficit issue may arise for strong countries

3) Being members in different other groupings which have contradicting features.

Ex: Proposed TPP, APEC, BRICS etc.

Even though there are challenges,

BIMSTEC has emerged as a platform for cooperation on

- security sharing
- economical advancement
- institutional building
- ~~cap~~ maritime security
- stand together against terrorism etc

Further measures required includes

- annual summits among member countries -
- institutionalising dialogues
- improving strategic partnerships
- more trade in goods and services