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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1839)

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Medium Eng./Hindi	ENGLISH	Registration Number	996306
Center	DELHI	Date	10/9/22

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Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
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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. 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. An independent umbrella body that brings the various central investigative agencies under one roof holds the key to shoring up their credibility. Discuss. (150 words) 10

एक स्वतंत्र अम्ब्रेला निकाय जो विभिन्न केंद्रीय जांच एजेंसियों को एक छत के नीचे लाता हो, उनकी विश्वसनीयता को बढ़ाने की कुंजी है। विवेचना कीजिए।

Central investigative bodies like CBI, ED have faced many accusations such as political targeting etc. which calls for the need of an umbrella body.

Shore up their credibility:

- ① Accountability: An umbrella body will infuse accountability to these bodies
- ② Autonomy: Having an umbrella body will give ~~at~~ autonomy to the working of these bodies.
- ③ Professionalism: An umbrella body will induce professionalism in the ~~the~~ working of these bodies
- ④ Free from arbitrary appointments: These bodies will be free from heads being

appointed in an arbitrary and partial manner.

⑤ Coordination: Coordination between different bodies is impossible through having an umbrella body.

⑥ Free from political influence: Having an umbrella body will shield these bodies from political influence.

⑦ Realising objectives: Investigative bodies will truly work towards achieving their objectives instead of CBI handling many crime cases and delaying corruption cases.

⑧ Fair enquiry: Having an umbrella body will prompt these bodies have a fair and impartial enquiry.

Umbrella body will work well only if the body itself is free from political interference.

2. Discuss the significance of the Doctrines of Pith and Substance and Colourable Legislation with respect to Centre-state relations in India.

(150 words) 10

भारत में केंद्र-राज्य संबंधों के संदर्भ में तत्व एवं सार के सिद्धांत और छद्म (आभासी) विधायन के सिद्धांत के महत्व की विवेचना कीजिए।

These doctrines are used by the judicial bodies to study whether one authority is overruling or encroaching over powers of other authority.

Importance of doctrine of pith & Substance

It states that if a legislature inadvertently encroaches the powers of other without the objective of act being the encroachment then it won't, ipso facto, be called 'ultra vires'.

(i) This doctrine promotes co-operative federalism in an asymmetric state like India.

(ii) This doctrine offers for smooth passage of law without legal complexities getting in between.

(iii) This doctrine ^{allows} Parliament and State legislative freedom to enact certain legislations without creating any technical hurdles.

Importance of Colourable Legislations

It states that a legislature can't do indirectly what it can't do directly.

(i) This doctrine preserves the federal principle and empowers States from encroachment of Parliament.

(ii) It gives constitutionally granted federal autonomy to the states

(iii) It gives freedom to states to assert their autonomy in legislative work

The two ~~legislations~~ doctrines ensure that the federal mechanisms of India are running smooth.

3. Do you agree with the view that there should be simultaneous elections to the Lok Sabha and the State Legislative Assemblies in India? Discuss with suitable arguments. (150 words) 10

क्या आप इस विचार से सहमत हैं कि भारत में लोक सभा और राज्य विधान सभाओं के निर्वाचन एक साथ होने चाहिए? उपयुक्त तर्कों के साथ चर्चा कीजिए।

Simultaneous elections have been in news due to many voices supporting them to save time and money. I DON'T agree that India should have simultaneous elections.

Advantages of simultaneous election :

- ① Save money and time
- ② Governments are not bound by regular model code of conduct (MCC)
- ③ Ease pressure off Election Commission (EC) because rolls, nominations are done only once.

Disadvantages of simultaneous elections :

- ① State issues ignored : National issues might dominate state, regional issues leading to loss for regional parties
- ② Incompatible with Parliamentary form :

Parliamentary form of governments do not have fixed tenure and hence some governments might end before tenure.

③ Lack of clarity: There is no clarity on what happens when there is bye-election or hung assembly

④ Lack of Consensus: There is no consensus to bring a constitutional amendment to curtail or extend tenures of governments.

⑤ No regular accountability: Politicians will not be regularly held accountable making them lenient.

With the current political structure, it may not be pragmatic to have simultaneous elections. If we did, we need to ensure proper guidelines in case of hung assemblies or collapsed governments.

4. Discuss the need for codification of parliamentary privileges in India, in light of the uncertainty and ambiguity around them. (150 words) 10

भारत में संसदीय विशेषाधिकारों के बारे में अनिश्चितता और अस्पष्टता के आलोक में, उनके संहिताकरण की आवश्यकता पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Parliamentary privileges
are the privileges given to members
of parliament to protect legislative
freedom.

Need to codify :

① Prevent misuse : Parliamentary privileges
can be misused given their powerful
nature and hence must be codified.

Eg. An anchor was arrested for breach
of privilege because he criticised the CM

② Reduce arbitrariness : Reduce the vague
wording in the Constitution and
institute clear-cut robust principled
privileges.

③ Reduce discretion : By codifying,
the discretion given to speaker is

reduced, if not eliminated. This will ensure prevalence of rule of law.

④ Protect legislative freedom: Protect the freedom of speech, conduct of legislators from being looked for breach of privileges.

⑤ Ensure equal treatment: Codifying privileges will give equal treatment to all the legislators across the country both in Parliament and state legislatures.

⑥ Ensure proper enforcement: Codifying will ensure proper and just enforcement of parliamentary privileges.

Codifying any sort of privileges is essential to uphold rule of law in a democracy and reduce the discretion in decision-making.

5. While the Civil Services Board can be a step forward in making the Indian bureaucracy more effective, it has its own issues which need to be addressed. Analyse. (150 words) 10

हालांकि, सिविल सेवा बोर्ड भारतीय नौकरशाही को और अधिक प्रभावी बनाने की दिशा में एक अग्रणी कदम हो सकता है, लेकिन इसके अपने मुद्दे हैं जिन्हें हल करने की आवश्यकता है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Civil Services Board is the apex body of civil services (All India Services and Group 'A' Services) to take care of postings, transfers etc.

Making bureaucracy effective:

- ① Transparency: Civil Services Board (CSB) will ensure transparency in the decision making at the highest level
- ② Objectivity: CSB will ensure objective decision making in case of transfers, deputations etc.
- ③ Reward good officials: CSB will reward good officials due to role-based decision making
- ④ Less political interference: CSB will reduce the political interference in the affairs

of civil services thus making it impartial and honest.

Own issues :

- ① Collusive corruption : CSB will not be able to act freely when members itself engage in collusive corruption.
- ② Political influence : Even the highest body may not be immune from political influence reducing its independence.
- ③ Lack of autonomy : Autonomy of working of CSB is lacking resulting in mostly partial decision making.
- ④ Only a rubber stamp : Often CSB is accused to be a 'rubber stamp' of decisions already made.

CSB can be a powerful tool to reform bureaucracy only if it is independent in working.

6. Highlight the potential of India Digital Ecosystem Architecture (IndEA) 2.0 in transforming the ecosystem of service delivery in India. (150 words) 10
भारत में सेवा वितरण के पारितंत्र को रूपांतरित करने में इंडिया डिजिटल इकोसिस्टम आर्किटेक्चर (IndEA) 2.0 की क्षमता पर प्रकाश डालिए।

India Digital Ecosystem Architecture (IndEA) 2.0 aims to reform the service delivery in India with disruptive interventions.

Transform ecosystem of service delivery

- ① Transparency: IndEA 2.0 ensure transparent service delivery thus preventing any leakages.
- ② Open systems: IndEA 2.0 focuses on open systems to cater to needs of all persons.
- ③ Digital inclusion: It focuses on having thorough digital inclusivity in both urban and rural areas
- ④ Leverage disruptive technologies: IndEA 2.0 focuses on leveraging upon disruptive innovations like blockchain to provide

leak-proof service delivery.

Eg. Blockchain can be used to prevent leakages in PDS chain.

⑤ Last mile delivery: Digital technologies make it possible to have last mile delivery to remotest of places

⑥ Accountability: IndEA 2.0 has accountability as its main aim. With digital technologies it can focus on openness and question the official on service delivery.

⑦ Eliminate ^{ex}clusion errors: With right technologies exclusion error can be eliminated and everyone get the benefit.

IndEA 2.0 has the potential to be the game changer in the service delivery ecosystem by strengthening the governance principles.

7. What is Civil Registration System? Highlight its importance and discuss the measures taken by the government to bring about improvements in it.

(150 words) 10

नागरिक पंजीकरण प्रणाली क्या है? इसके महत्व पर प्रकाश डालिए और इसमें सुधार करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा किए गए उपायों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Civil Registration System

(CPS) is the system which registers the births and deaths of people in India.

Importance :

- ① Demographic data : CPS gives data of demography which helps in designing of relevant schemes.
- ② Regional targeting : CPS gives scope for find regions with high IMR, MMR and undertake region-specific initiatives.
- ③ Record of citizens : CPS can simplify the provision of birth certificates, death certificates and maintain fool-proof record of citizens.
- ④ Making compliance easier : Having CPS will

make compliance for hospitals and crematoriums easier.

Measures taken:

- (i) Entire CRS has been digitized. This ensures that records of citizens are maintained in tamper-proof manner.
- (ii) States like Kerala have reached 100% registration of citizen births and deaths.
- (iii) Government released guidelines on billing CRS to local bodies who carry out these activities.

CRS is an essential system to keep stock of nation's demography and track the births, deaths of citizens, region wise. This will give good data for policy interventions.

8. The Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and Their Rehabilitation Act, 2013, provides an effective mechanism for empowerment of the intended beneficiaries in the society. Critically discuss. (150 words) 10

हाथ से मैला उठाने वाले कर्मियों के नियोजन का प्रतिषेध एवं उनका पुनर्वास अधिनियम, 2013 समाज में इच्छित लाभार्थियों के सशक्तीकरण के लिए एक प्रभावी तंत्र प्रदान करता है। समालोचनात्मक चर्चा कीजिए।

Manual scavengers are those people who are, ~~de~~ facto, forced to undertake scavenging of cess pits, bathrooms etc. manually owing to their caste.

Effective mechanism :

- ① Prohibition: This act considers forcing manual scavenging a crime and atrocity against caste.
- ② Remuneration: Safai Karmacharis are provided remuneration in the period of their rehabilitation.
- ③ Alternative livelihood: Safai Karmacharis are provided means for alternate livelihood.

Launas in the Acts :

- ① No social change : These acts couldn't prevent the practice which is still continuing in rural areas.
- ② No rehabilitation effectively : Alternate livelihoods and rehabilitation are very ineffective leading to return of these people to manual scavenging.
- ③ Lack of sustainable skilling : These Acts fall short of imparting long-term, sustainable skilling in Safai Karmacharis.
- ④ Meagre monetary support : The monetary relief received is very less and doesn't allow for paradigm shift in their lives.
It is essential to take true rehabilitation in order to bring behavioural change in the society.

9. Discuss the reforms that must be undertaken to strengthen the World Trade Organisation in order to address the vulnerabilities in the present global trading system. (150 words) 10

वर्तमान वैश्विक व्यापार प्रणाली में विद्यमान कमियों को दूर करने के लिए विश्व व्यापार संगठन को सुदृढ़ करने हेतु उस पर किए जाने वाले सुधारों की विवेचना कीजिए।

World Trade Organisation

(WTO) is the body which seeks to liberalise world trade without affecting any section of countries.

Vulnerabilities in present system

Lack of consensus: There is lack of any consensus among developing and developed countries on how to proceed to liberalise trade.

② Temporary agreements: Agricultural agreement is currently temporary and ad hoc arrangement.

③ Ineffective meetings: Meetings of ministers have been ineffective and result in no forward solution.

④ Hegemony of developed countries: It is

visible during discussions on subsidies, especially in fishing, agriculture.

Reforms needed :

- ① Representative : WTO ~~should~~ should be made ~~more~~ much more representative than it currently is.
- ② Define developed countries : Instead of self identification, WTO must have clear definition of developed countries.
- ③ Regular discussions : Ministerial meetings must be regular with a clear agenda and goal.

WTO reforms are essential to realise the true potential of trade among countries. The reforms must be oriented towards the problems of developing and least developed countries.

10. State the significance of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). Also, discuss the need for a legally binding Marine Biodiversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) agreement.

(150 words) 10

संयुक्त राष्ट्र समुद्री कानून संधि (UNCLOS) के महत्व का उल्लेख कीजिए। साथ ही, कानूनी रूप से बाध्यकारी राष्ट्रीय अधिकार से परे क्षेत्रों की समुद्री जैव विविधता (BBNJ) समझौते की आवश्यकता पर चर्चा कीजिए।

UNCLOS provides international law over high seas and oceans thus instituting laws over lawless area.

Significance

- (i) UNCLOS gives objectivity to claims of boundaries of countries in oceans.
- (ii) UNCLOS gives zones where countries can enforce laws, exploit economic minerals etc.
- (iii) UNCLOS institutes international order on high seas to curb over-exploitation, disputes between countries.
- (iv) UNCLOS gives directions for sustainable economic exploitation of ocean floor.

Need for BBNT :

① Protect sensitive ecosystems: Sensitive ecosystems know no national boundaries. Hence, BBNT is needed to protect them.

② Preserve biodiversity at high seas:

Bottom trawling causes huge loss to biodiversity in high seas. BBNT are needed to preserve them.

③ Protect wealth of fish: Having BBNT will prevent illegal, unregulated fishing and will help restoration of ocean communities.

④ Prevent pollution: BBNT will prevent the international waters from getting polluted.

BBNT will induce international efforts in protecting marine diversity.

11. Critically assess the role played by the National Human Rights Commission as a watchdog of human rights violations in India. (250 words) 15

भारत में मानवाधिकारों के उल्लंघन के प्रहरी के रूप में राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग द्वारा निभाई गई भूमिका का समालोचनात्मक मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) is a statutory body that serves as watchdog to the human rights violations in the country.

Active role played by NHRC :

- (i) NHRC enjoys powers of civil court in order to probe violations of human rights.
- (ii) NHRC has been crucial in attending the situations of human rights violations quickly.
- (ii) NHRC can recommend compensation to be paid to the victim that is disbursed almost immediately.
- (iii) NHRC acts against human trafficking etc. by making recommendations.

to the government to fight these crimes in the society.

Ineffective role of NHRC

- ① Recommendatory body: NHRC is largely recommendatory body with no powers of enforcing its recommendations.
- ② Huge pendency: There is a large pendency of cases in NHRC that is making its work ineffective.
- ③ Lack of adequate staff: There is acute shortage of staff in NHRC when looked in the perspective of cases handled.
- ④ Lack of capacity: The staff capacity of NHRC is very low resulting in huge inefficiency in working of commission.
- ⑤ No regular meetings: Regular meetings have not been mandated resulting in

irregular meeting and working of the commission

⑥ lack of active mobilisation : Even in cases of obvious violations, the action has not been swift and effective.
Eg. NHRC action in Telangana alleged fake encounter case

⑦ lack of regular Parliamentary scrutiny :
There is a lack of ~~regular~~ regular Parliamentary discussions on NHRC reports which makes its actions unscrutinised.

It is necessary to bring reformed NHRC giving it constitutional status to realise the true objective of achieving human rights properly in India,

12. Discuss how the integration of information and communications technology (ICT) in the dispute resolution processes will help in overcoming the challenges associated with the functioning of courts and Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) forums. (250 words) 15

विवेचना कीजिए कि विवाद समाधान प्रक्रियाओं में सूचना और संचार प्रौद्योगिकी (ICT) का एकीकरण अदालतों एवं वैकल्पिक विवाद समाधान (ADR) मंचों के कामकाज से जुड़ी चुनौतियों का समाधान करने में किस प्रकार सहायता करेगा।

Use of ICT in dispute resolution is termed as Online Dispute Resolution (ODR) gaining importance especially after COVID-19 impact.

Challenges in courts and ADR:

- ① Lengthy procedures: Courts and ADR mechanisms have lengthy procedures delaying the verdict.
- ② Expensive affair: Physical infrastructure and meetings of courts, ADRs are an expensive affair for small players.
- ③ Lack of expertise: Often in ~~ADR~~^{ADR}, there is a lack of expert opinion and judgement in the verdict.

④ Inordinate delays : Delays due to physical meetings, deliberations, travel has resulted in prolonged ADR process especially in India

Integrating ICT will overcome challenges :

① Virtual meetings : Virtual proceedings will reduce travel time, meeting time reducing the delays.

② Cheaper option : Travel costs, physical meeting costs are eliminated making ODRs ~~also~~ cheaper

③ Infusion of expertise : As ODR is flexible, experts from other locations can be engaged leading expertise in decision making.

④ Accessibility : Smaller players from across the country can access ODR that

makes ODR accessible and reduces the pressure off Courts.

⑤ Efficiency: ODR is much more efficient than ADR as many physical delays are cut down resulting in disposal of more cases.

⑥ International footprint: ODR allows Indian arbitrators to have international connections and footprint.

⑦ Inclusive: ODR is an inclusive method of dispute resolution that can be used by even smaller players, women alike without any ordeal.

Promoting ODR is essential to relieve the pressure off courts and allow for ease of doing business in Indian economy.

13. Despite various provisions concerning disqualification of legislators under The Representation of The People Act, 1951, the issue of criminalization of politics is still unresolved to a large extent in India. Discuss.

(250 words) 15

लोक प्रतिनिधित्व अधिनियम, 1951 के तहत विधायकों की निरर्हता से संबंधित विभिन्न प्रावधानों के बावजूद, भारत में राजनीति के अपराधीकरण का मुद्दा अभी भी काफी हद तक अनसुलझा है। विवेचना कीजिए।

The Representation of People Act (RPA), 1951 contains elaborate provisions on disqualification of legislators. The structural problems of Indian polity have allowed criminalization of politics.

Provisions in RPA, 1951

- (i) Candidates and legislators who are convicted for sentence more than 2 years are disqualified for 6 years.
- (ii) Candidates asking votes in the name of religion, region, caste are disqualified from election.
- (iii) Candidates and legislators are not allowed to hold offices of profit after getting elected.

- (iv) Any wrong entry in the affidavit of candidate will lead to his disqualification.
- (v) Candidate with practices such as booth capture, fake voting etc. are disqualified from contesting.

Issue of criminalization still unresolved

- ① Politician-criminal nexus: Political parties, themselves, declare criminals as candidates due to the deep nexus.
- ② Money in elections: Due to huge over and under the table spending in elections, money is sourced from donations of criminals.
- ③ Corruption: Criminals and politicians undertake collusive corruption to meet self demands and election obligations resulting in criminalization.
- ④ Weak enforcement of laws: Politicians

prevent the bureaucracy from effectively enforcing the laws against criminals

⑤ Lack of political will : There is not a single party with the will to end criminalization of politics.

⑥ Legal delays : Court procedures are often delayed which delays or defers the disqualification of criminal legislators

⑦ Bureaucratic-politician nexus : Collusive corruption between these two leads to misgovernance which perpetuate criminalization of politics.

To remove criminal legislators, the 'political will' of political class must be mobilised. Else the situation will be in dire state.

14. It is time for reforms, which recognise that urban local bodies (ULBs) need permanent, buoyant revenue sources to match the growing demands of an increasing urban population. Discuss. (250 words) 15

यह सुधारों का समय है जो यह पहचान करता है कि शहरी स्थानीय निकायों (ULBs) को बढ़ती शहरी आबादी की बढ़ती मांगों को पूरा करने के लिए स्थायी, वृद्धिशील राजस्व स्रोतों की आवश्यकता है। विवेचना कीजिए।

ULBs have faced funds crunch which results in ad hoc and unplanned urbanisation.

Demands of increasing urban population:

- ① Build social infrastructure in cities like drains, roads.
- ② Undertake planned urbanisation and stop growth of unregulated sub-urbs.
- ③ ~~Provide~~ Provide basic facilities for the urban population.
- ④ Maintain disaster resilience by strengthening storm drains etc.
- ⑤ Prevent growth of slums and provide sustainable housing.

Time for reforms:

- ① State Finance Commissions (SFCs): They must be mandatorily instituted to have proper financial devolution.
- ② Devolution from states: It must not be devolved in packets but as one lump sum amount to allow autonomy.
- ③ Own resources: ULBs must make use of instruments like municipal bonds and other bonds to raise their resources.
- ④ Increase tax base: Entire tax base of taxes such as property tax must be taxed to realise revenue.
Eg. In Bengaluru, only 15% of tax base is taxed for property tax.
- ⑤ Monetise services: ULBs must monetise

services like water supply, waste collection in order to increase revenue.

⑥ Search for new sources: Taxes on hoardings, advertisements etc. must be levied to realise revenue.

⑦ Devolution from centre: Centre must not 'attach strings' to ULBs for its devolutions. Functional autonomy of ULBs must be preserved.

⑧ Pricing of infrastructure: Urban infrastructure must be truly priced and underpricing must be eliminated.

It is essential for ULBs to have their own funds in order to undertake sustainable, true urbanisation to meet the needs of growing population.

15. The role of the civil society organisations (CSOs) in India is changing in contemporary times and has become increasingly more complex. Discuss.

(250 words) 15

समकालीन समय में भारत में नागरिक समाज संगठनों (CSOs) की भूमिका बदल रही है और निरंतर अधिक जटिल होती जा रही है। चर्चा कीजिए।

CSOs have played a key role in Indian society right from our independence but today's CSOs are complex in their working.

Role becoming more complex:

① Professionalisation: CSOs have become professional in their working which lead to fundamental changes in working.

② Attitude towards government: CSOs have come to be working with the government increasingly. CSOs are now ^{more} ~~more~~ in co-ordination with the government than ever.

③ Changing nature of problems: CSOs are

now taking up obscure problems in the society ~~for~~ that require them to be ^{wear} ~~dear~~ many hats.

Eg. CSOs advocating for LGBTQ rights are trying to bring awareness, behavioural change and attitudinal change.

④ New problems emerging: CSOs are taking up novel problems like climate change which requires them to play role of pressure groups, tend to the victims of climate disasters etc.

⑤ Trans-national role: CSOs are getting more and more foreign funding. Some CSOs have multiple branches like NGOs thus making their role trans-national.

Eg. Amnesty International
Oxfam

- ⑥ Complexity of actions : The ~~interventions~~ interventions required in the society are getting increasingly complex resulting in formation of complex CSOs.
- ⑦ Novel methods of funding : With new methods of funding like Social Stock Exchange emerging, CSOs are becoming like corporates with specialised departments.
- ⑧ Moving away from problem-specific CSOs : CSOs are turning to be universal rather than forming against specific problems. This makes their organisation complex.

CSOs play an important role in the society. However, professionalisation must not be profit-motive which defeats the purpose of CSOs.

16. Though the Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) aims to address the inequity in development in India, there are a number of issues which plague the scheme. Discuss. (250 words) 15

हालांकि संसद सदस्य स्थानीय क्षेत्र विकास योजना (एमपीएलएडीएस) का उद्देश्य भारत में विकास में असमता से निपटना है, लेकिन ऐसे कई मुद्दे हैं जो इस योजना को प्रभावित करते हैं। विवेचना कीजिए।

MPLADS is a scheme where each Parliamentarian is given money to spend on projects in his/her constituency.

Address inequity in development:

① Freedom to choose issue: An MP can choose a issue in his constituency to spend MPLADS. This will give him/her scope to have equal development.

② Address areas of deficit development:

An MP can fund the areas of his constituency where he/she feels the government hasn't focussed enough.

③ Money to all MPs: By giving money to all MPs, ~~for~~ it is made sure that

even backward areas are covered without any discrimination.

Issues plague the scheme:

① Against division of power: Giving a legislator executive power will result in transgression of division of powers.

② Misuse of funds: The funds are often not used by MPs in a just manner to truly attain the objective.

Eg. Instead of capital, durable assets, temporary works are done.

③ Corruption: MPLADS is used to give the contracts to relatives, friends thus leading to corruption.

④ Inefficient spending: Most of MPLADS funds are spent very inefficiently leading to waste of public funds.

⑤ Lapse of funds : Since the funds get lapsed after financial year, much of funds return to government coffers unused.

⑥ Pending projects : A lot of the projects are pending due to slow disbursement of funds resulting in delays.

⑦ Lack of monitoring : There is no mechanism to efficiently monitor the execution and progress of this scheme.

As per 2nd ARC, it is advisable to stop the scheme of MPLADS. The structural and executional problems of this scheme lead to wastage of thousands of crores of public funds that can be put to better use.

17. Highlighting the factors responsible for the growth of EdTech sector in India in recent times, discuss its benefits. Also, state the concerns associated with it. (250 words) 15

हाल के दिनों में भारत में एडटेक क्षेत्र के विकास के लिए उत्तरदायी कारकों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, इसके लाभों पर चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, इससे जुड़ी चिंताओं का भी उल्लेख कीजिए।

EdTech (Education Technology) is the sector that uses technology like digital technology to impart education.

Eg. Byju's, ~~Unacademy~~ Unacademy etc.

Factors for growth of EdTech

- ① COVID-19: The closure of schools due to pandemic has led to boost to the growth of EdTech to provide education at homes.
- ② Internet footprint: With advent of 4G and spread of internet footprint, demand for EdTech also increased.
- ③ Digital Literacy: With the increase of digital literacy in both parents and children, EdTech demand increases.

④ Government support : Government supported EdTech in the recent times due to its benefits.

Eg. AP government move with Byjus to provide tabs to school students.

Benefits :

① Inclusive education : EdTech enables spread of education to rural, tribal areas thus making it inclusive.

② Quality of education : EdTech can ensure quality education is provided uniformly to all students.

③ Fill learning gap : EdTech ensures the gap between school learning and required learning is covered by providing additional information.

④ Productive use of gadgets : EdTech ensures that gadgets are used productively.

Concerns :

① False promises : Due to aggressive competition ~~make~~ many companies are making false promises.

Eg. White Hat Jr. teaching coding skills to 6 yrs and 7 yr old kids.

② Question over regulation : Education by EdTech companies is not regulated and quality is not monitored.

③ Education divide : It may create inequalities between students who can afford it and students who can't.

④ Propel addiction : EdTech increases screentime of children and may propel addiction of gadgets.

Unethical practices of EdTech can do more harm than good. It is essential to ensure quality practices in
EDTECH.

18. Bring out the role of Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) workers in delivering health services in rural India. Also, suggest the measures that can be taken to overcome the challenges faced by them. (250 words) 15

ग्रामीण भारत में स्वास्थ्य सेवाएं प्रदान करने में मान्यता प्राप्त सामाजिक स्वास्थ्य कार्यकर्ता (आशा) की भूमिका पर प्रकाश डालिए। साथ ही, उनके द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली चुनौतियों को दूर करने के उपाय भी सुझाइए।

ASHA works are the healthcare workers that act as first point of contact in rural areas.

Role of ASHA workers:

- ① First responder: ASHA workers are the first responders to healthcare issues in rural areas.
- ② Spread health literacy: ASHA workers spread health literacy in rural areas.
- ③ Ensure vaccinations: ASHA workers ensure that regular vaccinations are given to rural children.
- ④ Welfare of mother and child: ASHA workers ensure institutional deliveries and the

welfare of mother and child in deliveries

Challenges :

- ① Low honorarium : The monetary benefit to ASHA workers is very low to sustain their families.
- ② Lack of capacity : Skill level in ASHA is not upto the required level making their work inefficient.
- ③ Staffing concerns : Lack of adequate staff results in overburdening of one ASHA worker.
- ④ Lack of infrastructure : ASHA workers carry on with bare minimum infrastructure resulting in poor quality of healthcare provided.

Measures :

- ① Thorough skilling : ASHA workers must

be imparted skills to undertake healthcare activities.

② Use of technology : Using technological advancements like mobile applications, Internet of Things will ensure efficiency in working

③ Proper remuneration : ASHA workers must be given proper remuneration according to their services.

④ Adequate recruitment : Adequate staff must be recruited to relieve the pressure off rest of the workers

⑤ Infrastructure : ASHA workers should be given proper infrastructure to meet the demands of rural healthcare

ASHA workers are the backbone of rural healthcare. It is inherent that we skill them adequately.

19. Discuss the various concerns that have arisen for India after the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan. Also, suggest the measures that India should take in the given context. (250 words) 15

तालिबान द्वारा अफगानिस्तान पर अधिकार करने के बाद भारत के लिए उत्पन्न विभिन्न चिंताओं की विवेचना कीजिए। साथ ही, उन उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए जो इस संदर्भ में भारत द्वारा अपनाए जाने चाहिए।

Taliban have takeover
Kabul after the withdrawal of American
troops prompting concerns in South
Asia.

Concerns for India:

① Influence of Pakistan, China increases:

Taliban rules will be more inclined
to the influences of ISI and Beijing

② Erosion of our soft power: Indian
initiatives like Parliament, trade
corridor will take a hit

③ Harbour terrorism: Taliban rule can
harbour anti-India terrorist elements
that are detrimental to our national
security.

Es. Haqqani being made a part of Taliban government.

④ Violation of human rights: Human rights of minorities and Indian sympathizers can be violated by Taliban.

⑤ Erosion of democracy: Hard earned democratic advances in the past two decades are lost due to Taliban rule.

⑥ Geopolitical bin: India was put in a lose-lose geopolitical situation with the takeover of Taliban.

Measures needed:

① Ensure food security: Supply wheat to Afghans to make sure hunger deaths are not happening.

② Engage with international powers: Make sure that world powers refrain from

recognising the Taliban rule as legitimate.

③ Engage with Taliban: India must start minimal engagement with Taliban to protect its interests.

④ Visa to vulnerable: India must grant e-Visas to minorities, vulnerable people to ensure their safety.

⑤ Flag human rights violations: Human rights authorities of Taliban government must be flagged to prevent them.

⑥ Put pressure on Taliban: Put and maintain international pressure on Taliban to prevent ostracization of girls, women.

India needs to play a pro-active role in safeguarding its interests and protect national security.

20. Bangladesh is not only a key part of India's "Neighbourhood First policy" but also crucial for the "Act East policy". In this context, discuss the steps taken by the two countries to strengthen their relationship.

(250 words) 15

बांग्लादेश न केवल भारत की "नेबरहुड फर्स्ट पॉलिसी" का एक महत्वपूर्ण हिस्सा है, बल्कि "एक्ट ईस्ट पॉलिसी" के लिए भी अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण है। इस संदर्भ में, दोनों देशों द्वारा अपने संबंधों को मजबूत करने के लिए उठाए गए कदमों की विवेचना कीजिए।

India and Bangladesh
have enjoyed stable relationship since
the ascent of PM Shree Narendra Modi.

Steps to strengthen relationship * Neighbourhood First Policy

① OBIN connectivity network : This was done to enhance connectivity among the neighbourhood countries of Bhutan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal.

② Exchange of enclaves : In 2015, both the countries exchanged disputed enclaves and demarcated the border thoroughly.

③ Working group on water-sharing : Both sides formed working group on water sharing of Teesta river. Sharing formula

for other rivers is also finalized

④ Expulsion of insurgents: Sheikh Hasina unilaterally expelled insurgents using Bangladesh border

⑤ Maitri Setu: Bridge was constructed to improve trade relations and connectivity between the two countries

X Act East Policy:

① BIMSTEC: India and Bangladesh both are part of BIMSTEC which aims for a partnership between South Asia and ASEAN.

② Connectivity projects: India, Bangladesh, Myanmar have undertaken multi-modal connectivity projects using roads, Irawaddy river etc.

③ Support to North East: Bangladesh

provided port access to North East and both countries also opened border Haats in Tripura - Bangladesh border.

④ Highway projects : India, Myanmar, Thailand trilateral highway project also attracted interest from Bangladesh to enhance connectivity.

India and Bangladesh have had productive partnership in the last few years. If few issues like water sharing, smuggling across the border are resolved, India and Bangladesh can form productive partnership that stands as an example to the region.