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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1510)

Name of Candidate	SAKSHAM GOEL		
Medium Eng./Hindi	ENGLISH	Registration Number	694168
Center	ONLINE (DEHI/ ORN)	Date	18-11-2021

INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTIONS
Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained	
1	10		1. 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)। 2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं। 3. All questions are compulsory. सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं। 4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं। 5. 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। 6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए। 7. 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।
2	10		
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20	15		
Total Marks Obtained:			
Remarks:			

16-B, 2nd Floor, Above National Trust Building, Bada Bazar Marg, Old Rajinder Nagar, Delhi-110060

Plot No. 857, 1st Floor, Banda Bahadur Marg (Opp Punjab & Sindh Bank), Dr. Mukherjee Nagar
Delhi- 110009

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.

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कृपया इस स्थान में प्रश्न संख्या के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें।

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(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

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1. Highlight the role played by the MPLAD Scheme in creating community assets based on local needs. Also, critically evaluate the recent move to suspend it. (10, 150)

After two years of suspension, MPLADS has been revived albeit with a reduced allotted amount of ₹ 2 crore from ₹ 5 crore.

Under MPLADS, all MPs (both Houses including nominated/elected) get to "recommend" developmental/infrastructural works to district authorities worth a maximum of ₹ 2 crore.

Other features of MPLADS

- Emphasis on durable community assets based on locally felt needs as assessed by the MPs working on ground and knowing the need better
- 15% cost for SCs, 7.5% for ST
- Can be merged with MGNREGA, Khebs Indhi

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No doubt, various durable assets like school infrastructures have come up and MGNREGA strengthened but criticisms of MPLADS are on following grounds:-

- ① Against Separation of Power
- ② Constitution does not confer powers to spend money on an individual legislator
- ③ NCRWC 2000 as well as 2nd ARC recommended discontinuation of the scheme
- ④ Weak monitoring
- ⑤ Concerns about patronage, financial mis-management and nepotism
- ⑥ Haphazard spending and under-utilisation

Given this, MPLADS needs to be re-visited and fine-tuned for the need of reconciling separation of powers with the "principle of subsidiarity."

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2. Adequately empowering the third tier of Indian federal structure is key to strengthen federalism in India. Analyse (10)

As an empirical principle, federalism is used to describe the structural and institutional arrangement of power distribution among a multiplicity of responsible political bodies at national, sub-national and local levels.

With the enactment of the 73rd and 74th Amendments, Panchayati Raj and Urban Local Self Government was constitutionally established based on the "federal principle of subsidiarity"

Politically, it became a process of democratic seed-drilling in Indian soil, making an average citizen conscious of his rights from the state.

Administratively, it bridged the gulf between the bureaucratic elite and leadership which was more young, modern and progressive

But there have been problems, more relating to the political will to decentralise

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Achievements	Concerns and Challenges
① Realise Article 40 ② direct democracy ③ Gandhian Gram Swarajya. ④ Inclusive ⑤ Principle of Subsidiarity ⑥ Social Auditing	① State discretion on finance and decentralisation ② No independent SETC ③ Representation may not mean Participation ④ Idea of "Pradhan-pati" ⑤ "Decentralisation of Corruption" ⑥ No Attached Bureaucracy

According to Mani Shankar Aiyar Committee, a ~~bad~~ Bad Panchayati Raj is worse than no Panchayati Raj

The need of the hour is active mapping ~~these~~ and clear identification of competencies, authorities and accountabilitys coupled with financial incentivisation (15th Finance Commission) and better social auditing.

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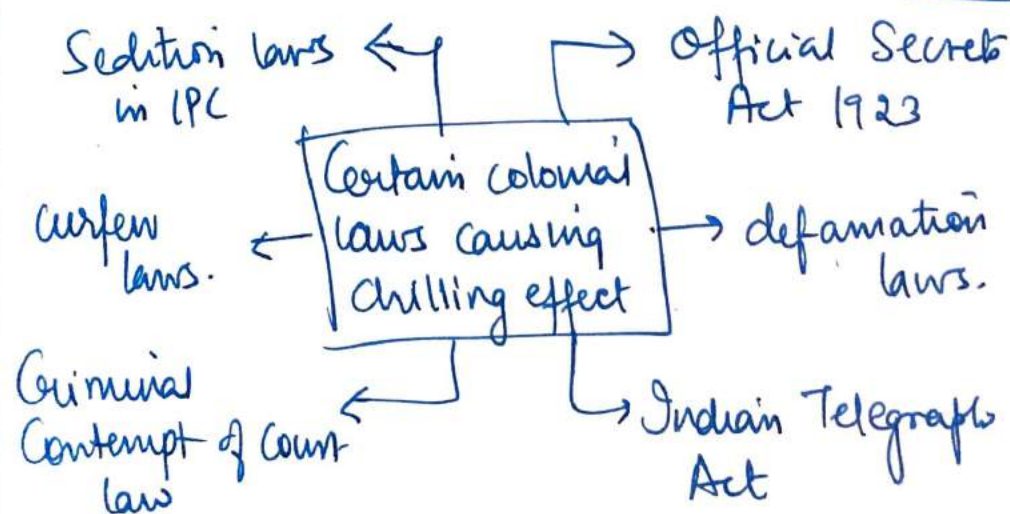
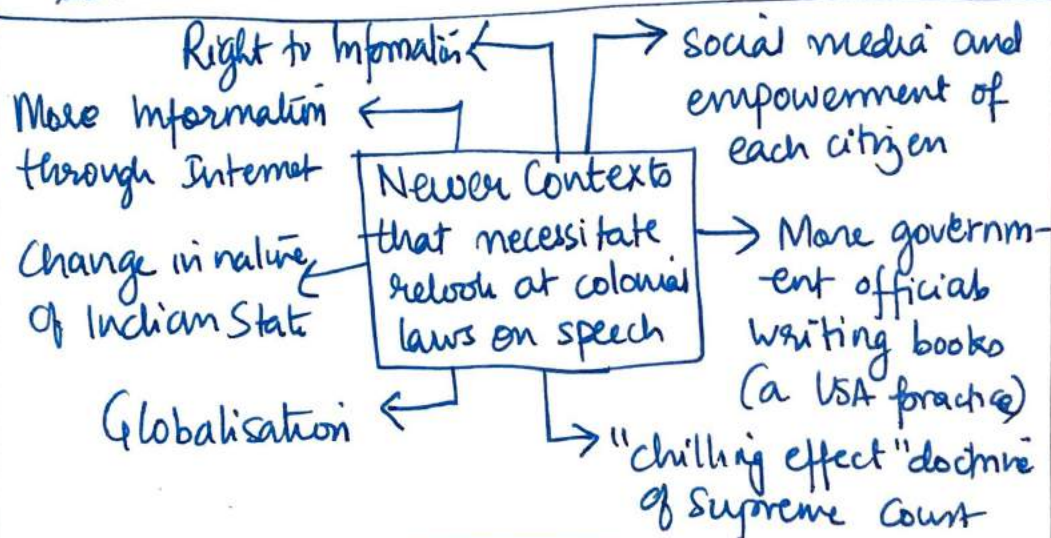
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3. To safeguard and uphold the freedom of speech and expression in India, it is imperative to adequately reform colonial laws that curtail free speech. Discuss. (10)

With Independence, the fundamental nature of the Indian state transformed from a police state to an instrument of "social revolution" (Sunil Khilnani).



The definition of "free expression" has also expanded . eg. to include

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the free expression of Sexual preference (the LGBTQ+ issue) and Victorian morality does not sit well with it.

The sedition law ~~was~~ was in fact enacted to imprison Tilak.

The criminal contempt of court has been removed from the UK practice itself and has off late come under popular scrutiny.

For the full realisation of capabilities of the self (Amartya Sen) and engage habitually in participative democracy through a free flow of ideas and osmosis of opinions, it is time that these colonial laws be repealed and come to terms with Article 19 of our Indian Constitution.

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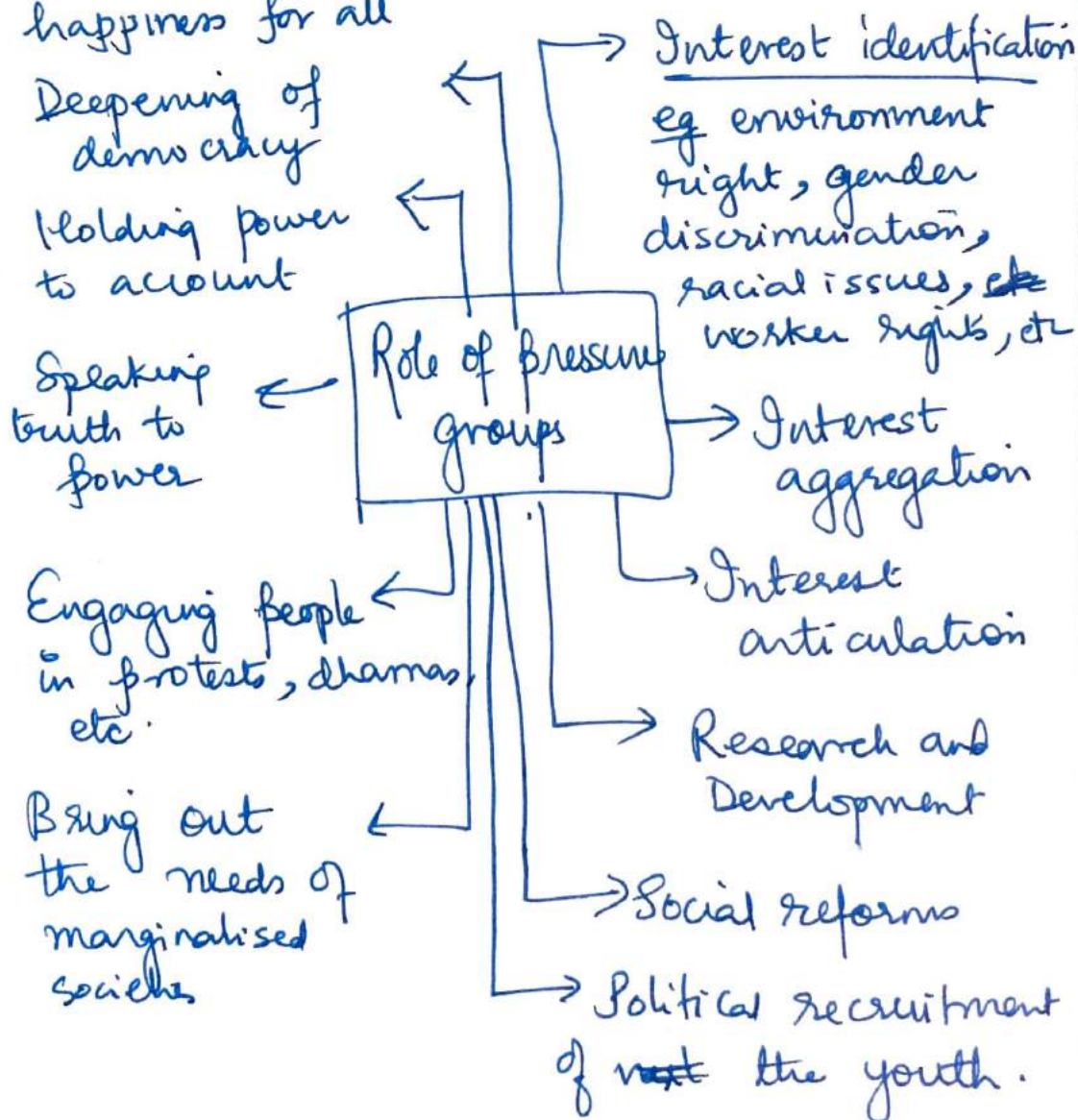
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4. Highlight the role of pressure groups in a democratic country. Also, differentiate between pressure groups in India and developed countries

Pressure groups, according to pluralist democratic theorists like Robert Dahl, are interest groups operating in a "polyarchy" which is like a market place of interests where various ^{liberal} compromises lead to maximum happiness for all.



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Pressure groups in India

- ① Race issues ~~is~~ not at the forefront
Caste- and ethnic- issue dominate
- ② Environmental issues focus on rehab and resettlement issues
- ③ More "road-centric"
eg dharmas, etc
[the limited success of #MeToo Movement]
- ④ Lot of constructive works like poverty alleviation, food distribution

Pressure groups in developed world

- Race issues like "Black lives Matter" dominate
- ② Environment issues focus on larger Climate Change
- ③ More dominated by internet (eg #MeToo, etc) i.e. more "global"
- ④ More focus on the "pressure"

- ⑤ Pressure groups play a significant part in bridging the gulf between the institutions of state and the objects of state (citizens). ~~and~~ and thereby become the "lynchpin of democracy".



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5. The idea that Public Intent Data can play a transformative role in the public sector is not bereft with challenges.
(10)
Discuss.

The recently published World Bank's World Development Report highlight the idea that Public Intent Data (P.I.D.) can play a transformative role in the public sector.

P.I.D. is data collected with the intent of serving public (public policy).

eg Administrative - Birth, marriage, death

Sample Survey

Citizen generated and machine generated

Geospatial data

Targetted delivery

(eliminate exclusion / inclusion error)

Advantages

Better service delivery

Better emergency response

Hold government

accountable and empower individual.

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Challenges and Concerns

- Unsafe use of data
- Difficulty in using data
- Inadequate coverage of data
- Poor data quality
- Lack of financing ~~→ government~~
- Lack of technical capacity
- Deficiency in data demand.

The government needs to work on 2 fronts - firstly, have ~~better~~ high quality high frequency reliable data; secondly, plug-in avenues of data misuse and respect privacy by following the principles of data minimisation, purpose limitation, transparency and accountability.

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6. Enumerating the key objectives of the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act, discuss why the recent amendments in the act are seen as a matter of great concern for the development sector in India. (10)

The recent ~~FCRA~~ FCRA Amendments 2020^{and} cancellation of various licenses has brought FCRA to the limelight. According to FCRA dashboard, annual inflow of foreign contributions doubled between 2018 and 2019.

Basic Objectives of FCRA

- To regulate foreign funding of voluntary organisations
- Ensure foreign contributions^{are} used for the stated purposes:-
 - For social, educational, religious and economic and cultural purposes
 - Filing income/annual returns, on lines of IT Act.

FCRA Amendment 2020

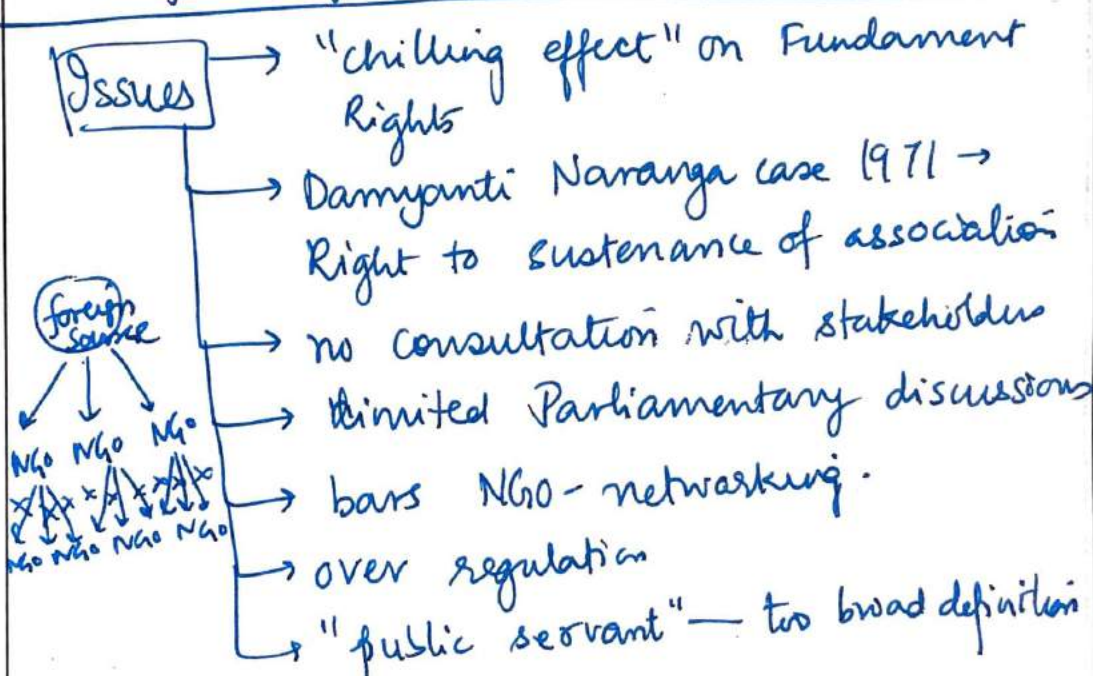
	Original Act	Amendment
Who can't accept	among others - government servants	"public servant"
Transfer of foreign contribution	Can't transfer only to registered persons	Can't transfer at all

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write on this
margin

Original Act	Amendment
renewal every 6 mths	possible Enquiry
maximum 50% for administrative purpose	maximum 20%
no provision for surrender of certificate	new provision



India boasts of Vasudhaiva
Kutumbhambh and must, in pursuit
of a free and open society with
seamless osmosis of ideas, not shy
away from pro-active role by its
civil society.

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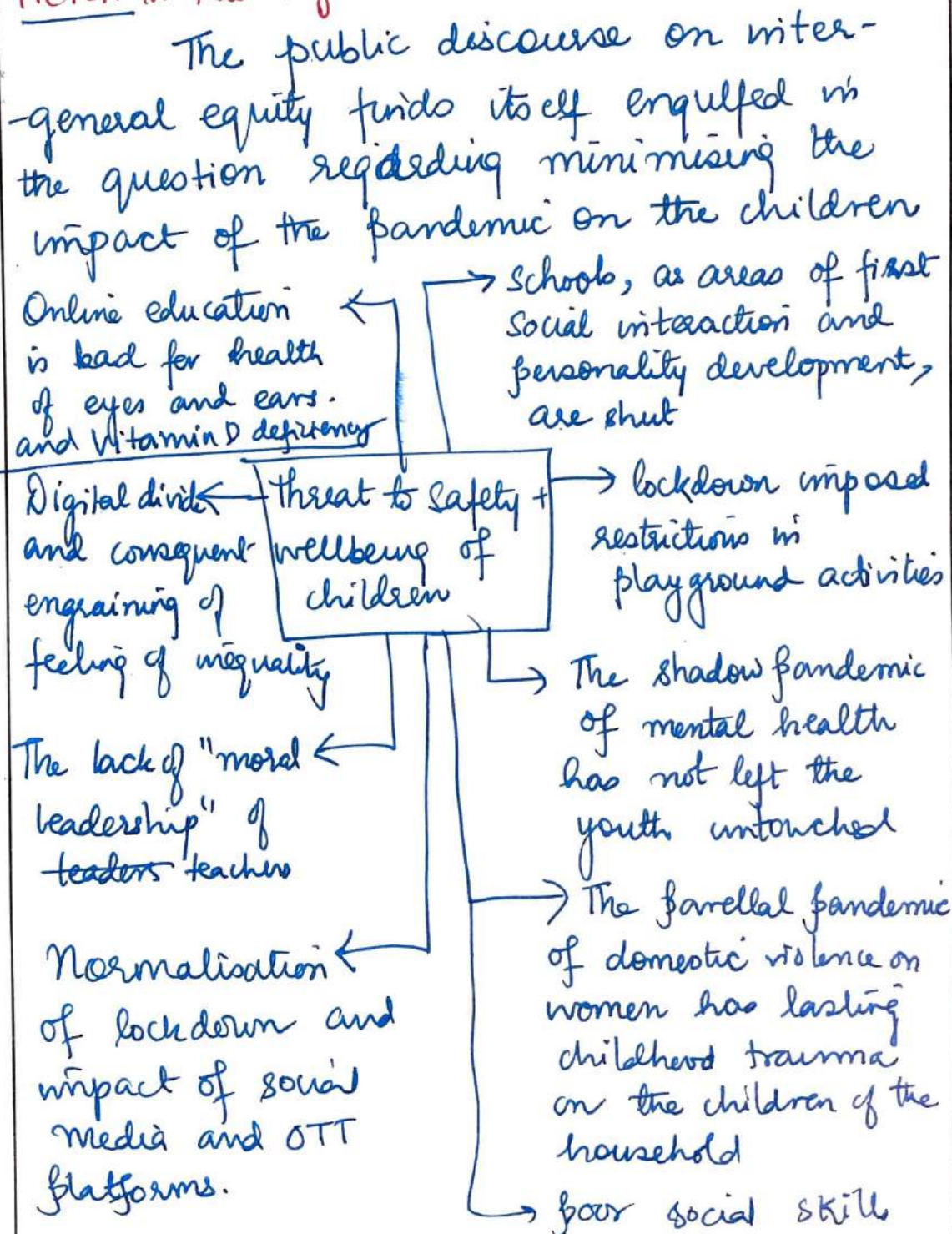
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7. The current COVID-19 pandemic has posed a serious threat to the safety and well being of children all over the world. Discuss - Also, provide an account of measures taken by the NCPCR in this regard (10)



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"A ~~Most~~ pandemic of disease, illiteracy and extreme poverty is following on the heels of this coronavirus pandemic and it is hitting children the hardest"
- Nicholus Kristof
(New York Times 2020)

NCPER is engaged in assisting the government, schools and parents in terms of coping with digital technology, prescribing maximum "online-hours", and assessing/giving policy inputs to the government like health conditions.

It is the formative years where the maximum development of an individual take place and must therefore find primary national attention during the times of COVID.

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8. Various challenges need to be addressed in order to successfully eradicate the menace of bonded labour in India. Discuss (10)

Human dignity is central to the ideal state envisaged by the founding fathers of the Indian Constitution.

This was materialised in the Preamble, the Directive Principles of State Policy and the Fundamental Right abolishing begar and bonded labour.

Various challenges though continue to haunt that ideal:-

① Social

- (a) Lack of stigma ~~ago~~ against the practices like "devdari", "begar", etc
- (b) The medieval legacy of "Zamindari mentality"
- (c) Caste-dynamics playing legitimising role in practices like manual scavenging, etc.

② Economic

- a) The poverty of historically ~~socio~~

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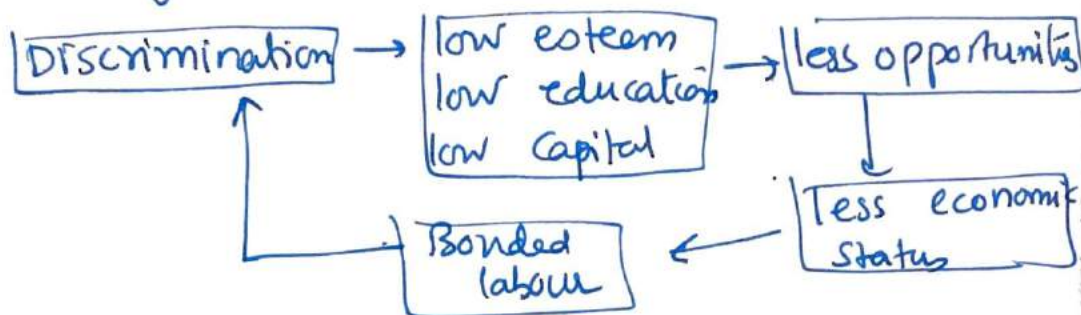
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discriminated people creates vicious cycle



(b) The practice of exorbitant and extractive lending leading to perpetual servitude and bonded labour

③ Political — lack of political will to invest in upliftment of the sections leading to disenfranchisement of the section of electorate

Bonded labour is a legacy issue, moral issue, constitutional issue and a human rights issue which needs to be dealt with and ended with a heavy hand of the state, supported by the civil society.

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9. In the background of the recent military coup in Myanmar, discuss why stable Myanmar is important for India (10)

In February 2020, the Tatmadaw (Myanmar's army) staged coup d'état in Myanmar ending the unsustainable compromise between Tatmadaw and Aung San Suu Kyi's NLD Party

Importance of Myanmar for India

- Immediate neighbour
- Gateway to South East India (Act East Policy)
"It is a strategic bridgehead for India's Act East and potentially Indo-Pacific policies" — Gautam Mukhopadhyay (former Amb. to Myanmar)
- Curbing insurgency in North East
- Member of ASEAN
- Kaladan project

According to Prof Happyman Jacob, the February ~~de~~ has undone the comfortable space Delhi's Myanmar policy occupied for close to a decade.

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Concerns for India of the instability)

- difficult to openly support military regime → anti-democratic
- could fuel North-Eastern insurgencies
- could affect action and intelligence between the two armed forces.
- The balancing act between Bangladesh and Myanmar over Rohingya issue has been fundamentally altered

The need of the hour is to engage with all actors, including the Tatmadaw, and hedging the bets for the larger interests of India in the Indo-Pacific.

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10. In the case of Maldives, it's not the size ~~of~~ but location that makes it strategically significant. Explain in context of India's neighbourhood first approach (10)

The recent Maldives "India-First Policy" perfectly complements India's "Neighbourhood First Policy". and becomes increasingly important as China's String of Pearls is sought to be countered by the "necklace of diamonds"

Strategic Importance of Maldives

- ① Potential to allow 1/3rd of India's naval presence
- ② Hub of communication sea lanes (SoleCs) — 97% of India's inter-national trade by volume passes through the region.
- ③ India wants to be net security provider in the region
- ④ The role of Maldives in countering China's BRI ~~and~~ ^{with} "fear of necklace" for a free, open and

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Rules-based order in the Indian Ocean - eg. Diego Garcia for the USA.

⑤ Near India's West coast and cultural-geographical proximity to Lakshadweep

⑥ Indian diaspora presence in Maldives.

Maldives is a strategically located critical partners with a huge potential in India to contribute to India's foreign policy due to inherent convergences in the two national interests.

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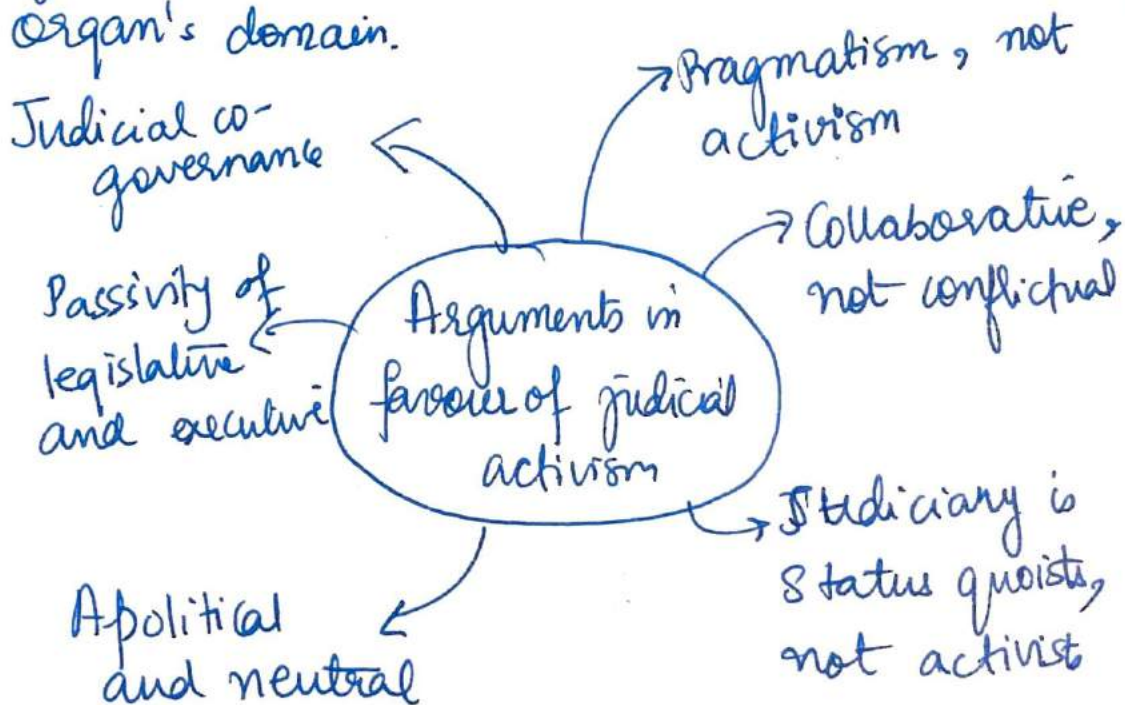
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11. While the judiciary should not be silent spectator when Constitutional rights of citizens are infringed by executive policies, it must also not assume the role of the executive or pass policy prescriptions. Do you agree? Justify your stand using logical arguments. (15)

"Indian judiciary is imperium in imperio"

— George Gadboise

Being a natural corollary of the wave of PILs filed by public-spirited people, the idea of Judicial activism refers to the practical manifestation of the adjudications on PILs i.e. Courts stepping out of conventionally defined functional domain to intervene in other organ's domain.

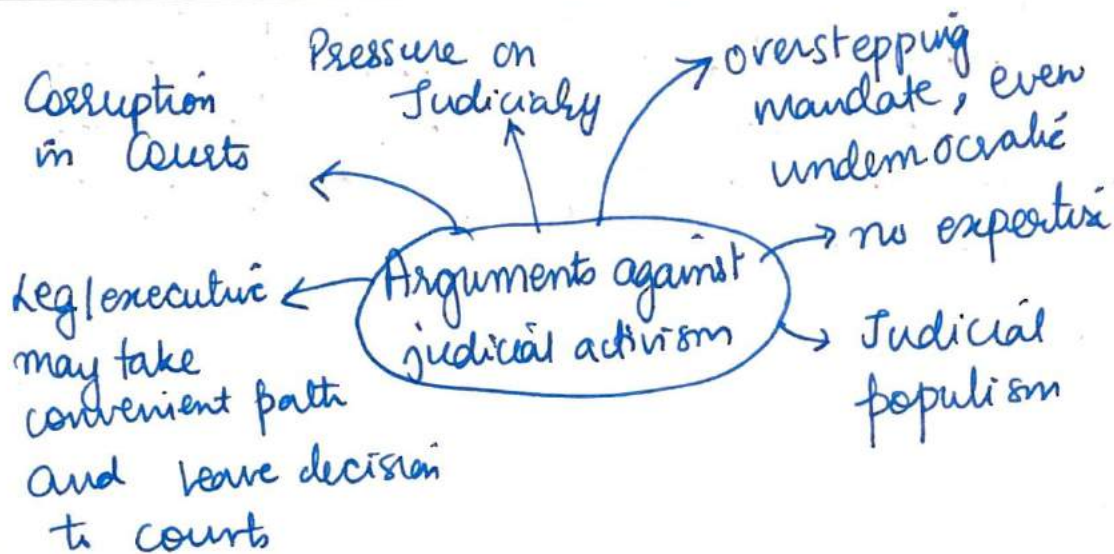


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Nehru envisaged the judiciary not as a passive institution but an active participant in India's social revolution. The Indian Courts illustrate scholarly characterisations of this century and are best placed ^{as tools to} realise the aspirations of Indians.

Judicial interventions thus become critical as instruments of co-governance — to complement and not substitute — for overall good governance.

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12. "Effective legislatures are measured by their outcomes and not by their output". Analyse the functioning of the Indian Parliament in this context (15)

In a plural society like India, the Parliament is expected to be the liberal platform or a market where the various interests compete and collaborate for a consensual compromise in the larger national interest

Take the example of the UK Parliament during the Brexit debate and the role of Speaker John Bercow. Although the debates were messy, two Prime Ministers bowed out to the majority and the outcome was a "great liberal compromise"

The founding fathers of Indian Constitution imagined a robust parliament that would scrutinise and hold government to account through mechanisms like multiple readings of law, scrutiny of Parliamentary

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Committees, bicameral legislatures and so on.

But with the anti-defection laws being almost universally applied, policy politics taking a back-seat behind identity politics, frequent disruptions in both Houses, declining quality of debate in Rajya Sabha, personality-cult of politicians leading to "street light-folk elections" and overall polarisation, we see not only a lack of debate, but also lack of Parliamentary scrutiny in terms of Committee stages being skipped and resolutions passed in haste.

The Parliament must not be seen as a "notice board" whose "notices" would eventually be turned in the Supreme Court.

The following suggestions could help the situation:-

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- ① Limit the application of anti-defection law to money Bills and no-confidence motions
- ② Re-establish "democratic conventions" where ^{possible} necessary and codify them when necessary
- ③ De-criminalise politics by re-visiting recommendations of Vohra Committee
- ④ Re-imagine Rajya Sabha to its old glory of house of the elders and chamber of sober discussions

It is which all three engines of our democracy function at full efficiency that the ~~out~~ aspirations and goals of its citizenry is actually realised

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17 Fiscal federalism in India has evolved with time. Discuss in light of the developments in recent years (15)

The idea of fiscal federalism has evolved in the backdrop of a country moving from one concerned about its territorial Balkanisation to one operating on the principle of subsidiarity. Let's consider the following topics/themes:-

① The Finance Commission

Over the years, the devolution of resources from the divisible pool has increased and stands at 41%. There are also devolutions to local governments.

② NITI Aayog

The replacement of Planning Commission with the NITI Aayog, based on cooperative federalism and considering states as fiscal-partners was also a welcome step

③ GST Council

The establishment of GST regime and its Council — the first truly

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federal-fiscal-body with the states and centres holding a veto against each other (effectively) further strengthened fiscal consolidation with fiscal federalism

The recent issue with GST compensation cess was, however, unfortunate but found a relatively amicable solution.

④ Cesses

The latest CAG audit report on government accounts notes that Government of India withheld over ₹1 lakh crore in cesses in 2018-19. GST cess was "short credited" to its reserve fund (₹47,000 cr over 2 years).

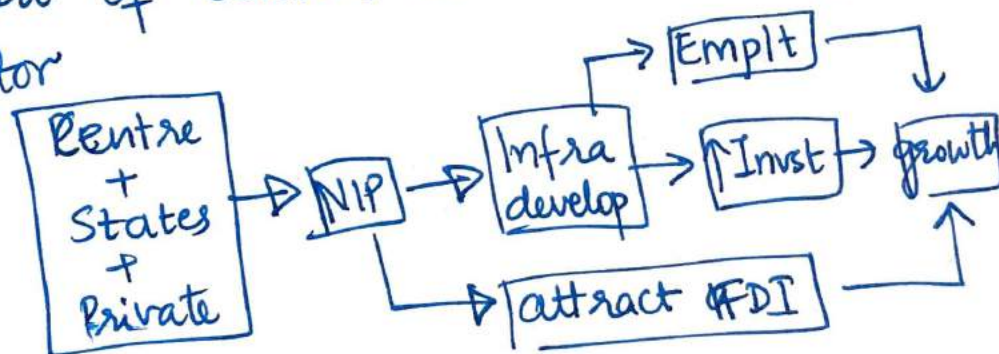
It also notes that Government's tax kitty from cess has risen from 6.88% (2012) to 11.88% (2018) - impacting fiscal federalism.

⑤ Atma Nirbhar Bharat

It is worth noting the "incentives-approach" adopted by Centre for making states adopt reforms in sectors like DISCOM, energy, etc.

⑥ The National Infrastructure Pipeline

NIP is envisaged as a joint effort of Centre, states and the private sector



Thus, fiscal federalism has continued to evolve and stand today at a precipice given the need of cooperative and competitive federalism to emerge collectively from the current economic crisis.

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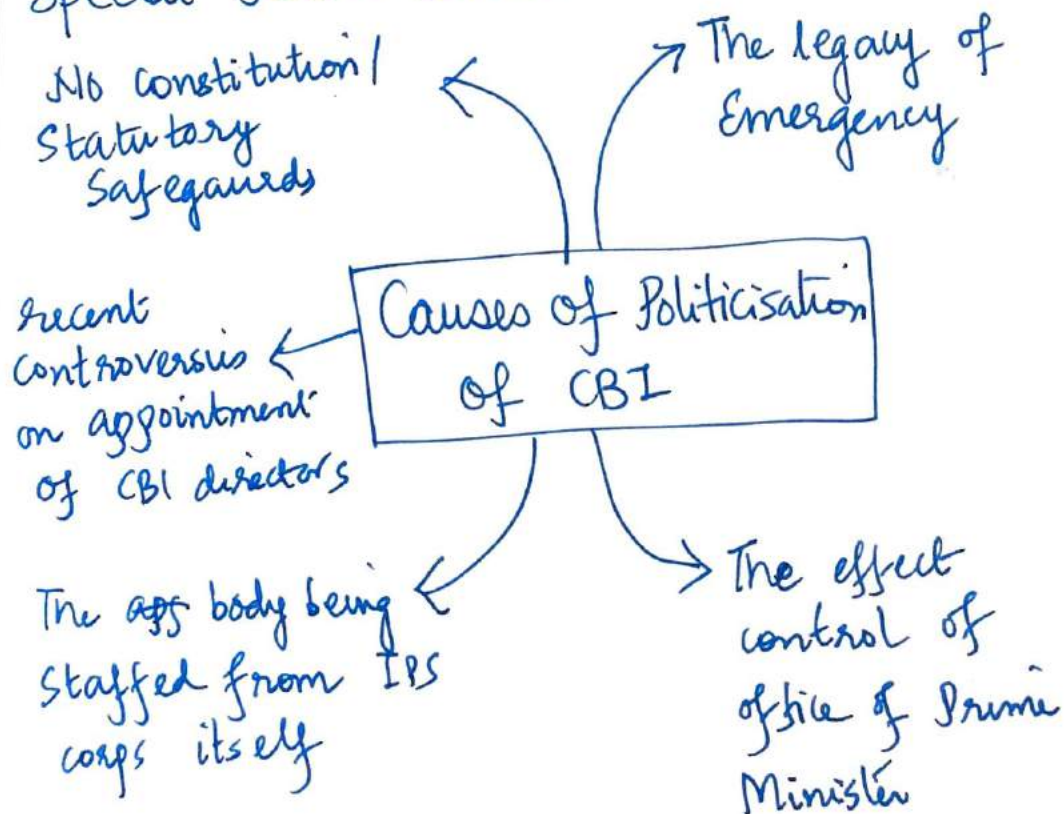
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14. The CBI is often cited as an example of the rising politicisation of public institutions. In this context, identify the issues associated with the CBI's functioning. What steps can be taken to address these issues. (15)

"CBI and IB became instruments of the government to target opposition leaders" — Kuldip Nayar
"The Emergency Retold"

Unlike the NIA, which is a statutory federal body, CBI is governed by Delhi Special Police Establishment Act.



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Consequences of and Issues

- Weaponising the agency to keep the heat up on Opposition-led ^{state} governments as well as opposition leaders
eg the Hawala / Jam Bros case in 1990s
- The idea of "caged parrot" (SC), especially as anti-corruption watchdog
i.e. preliminary enquiry, FIRs, chargesheets being filed and dropped in a questionable pattern
- Overall public confidence in system of justice and institutions of governance
- the "4C problem" (Economic Survey 2017-18) of leading to policy paralysis.
- The politicisation of "general consent clause" eg. recently in Maharashtra

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CBI still remains an organisation of high credibility. Even today, when questions are raised on investigations, CBI is called for. Ensuring opposition participation in appointments is a good step. Further, the role of Civil Services Board and UPSC can be explored.

Finally, the CBI must have a statutory backing for ensuring independent and credible functioning.

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15. The principal constraint for India is trying to find solutions to 21st century problems using 19th century government structures. Discuss. (15)

"The flowers on officer's table is replaced by computers — but still not used, just like the flowers"
— PM Modi (2015)

21st Century problems like ~~the~~ climate change, globalisation - dilemma, etc. have become critical especially as the colonial structures remain legacy issues

① Human rights with respect to Police

Colonial state was a police state focussed on law and order and maintenance of colonialism. Custodial killings, torture, encounter killings are legacy issues that impinge on India's records on human rights. The recent film "Jai Bhim" is a good manifestation of it.

② Civil Services ~~are~~ — although they remain the backbone of Indian bureaucracy, Amitabh Kant calls

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for complementary lateral entry and revolving door policy for experts also to step in and solve more nuanced issues of economy, trade etc.

③ Climate Change

Coal-obsession, and fossil-obsession are major hindrances.

④ Technology, Geo-spatial data, Space

Survey of India was not transparent of its maps to safeguard colonial advantage. Till recently, the policy continued even for ~~spa~~ geo-spatial data — hindering necessary innovation and growth. The recent measures are laudable.

⑤ Victorian Morality on issues like suicide, privacy, gender discrimination, LGBTQIA+ rights and so on, also have no place in

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21st Century India

- ⑥ Land-record keeping is another major area where modernisation is the need of the hour, as pointed out by NK Singh in his recent auto-biography (2020)
- ⑦ The expanding frontiers of global politics implies multi-dimensional scope of MEA. The formation of NEST is a welcome step.

Overall, with the change of nature of state, the newer challenges like climate change, change in value systems like human rights and the coming of disruptive technology, an overhaul of governance structure is the need of the hour

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16. How far has the governance in India achieved the twin objective of transparency and accountability? (15)

Credibility of any democratic Governance structure stands on the twin pillars of transparency and accountability and India has come a long way in realising the two-

Measures to ensure transparency and Accountability

- Right to Information and recent inclusion of office of CJI as "public authority"
- Lokpal and Lokayukta
- Judicial Activism and expansion of Article 21; concept of PU, s
- Use of technology
 - "Honouring the taxpayer"
 - JAM trinity to plug-in leakages and prevent corruption

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- 73rd and 74th Amendments to ensure grassroots democracy
- filing of affidavits by candidates seeking elections
- A robust media and civil society
- Recent "Right to Recall" at grassroots level

Criticisms over transparency and accountability in India

- opacity of functioning of the collegium
- Poor performance and declining standard of debates in Parliament; Parliament being reduced to "notice board"
- Recent Amendments to RTI Act, allegedly compromising independence
- Shady and violent grassroots elections
- Wrong information in affidavits of candidates

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- RTI itself has issues like broad exceptions, lack of ~~pro~~ suo-moto disclosures
- Allegedly "chilling effect" on civil society by legislations like FCRA (Amendment) Act, Contempt of Court Law, Section 69A, etc.

Transparency and accountability need to be balanced with pragmatic and efficient governance. RTI need to be incrementally strengthened and provided adequate infrastructure

For a democracy to prosper, and public institutions to command popular confidence, ~~transparent~~ credibility through transparency and accountability is the only way to go.

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17. Identify the barriers that exist in the enjoyment of reproductive health rights by women in India. Also highlight the interventions that have been adopted to remove these barriers. (15)

The ~~Maternal~~ Mortality Rate (MMR) in India in 2016-18 stood at a dismal 113 (Source: SRS, PIB).

Barriers to enjoyment of reproductive health rights

(A) Educational : There have been demands from civil society, including Nobel Laureate Abhijit Banerjee, to introduce sex education in the curriculum

(B) ~~Ed~~ Economic :- The pre- and post-natal care costs, ~~the~~ are exorbitant (where government schemes have been helpful).

Although denial of such rights is prevalent in poor classes eg teenage pregnancy is higher among the poor in India.

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(C) Social :

- (i) The practice of contraceptives is not prevalent
- (ii) The idea of "missing daughters" (Sen) and 'son meta - reference' (Arjun Subramanian) has effect on mother's health too
- (iii) Idea of children as "blessings"
- (iv) Traditional medicines, instead of modern medications for mothers.

What has been done?

- POSHAN Abhiyan has a good 3-year programme focussing on holistic approach to child nutrition and maternal-care
- The extension of maternal leave with pay to ~~180 days~~^{24 weeks} is another step in the right direction
- The various Central and State

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governments providing subsidised/free provisions to lactating mothers is also laudable

→ Economic Survey 2020-21 notes the rise in hospital/clinic-deliveries as a consequence of PM Ayushman Bharat

What further can be done?

→ Contemplate 'sex education' and awareness related to reproductive health rights in school curricula

→ Awareness campaigns, especially with respect to contraceptives — Bangladesh being a successful case in point

As COVID-pandemic-induced lockdown came with its economic crisis, the parallel pandemic of domestic violence and marital rape has further re-newed interest in this policy issue.

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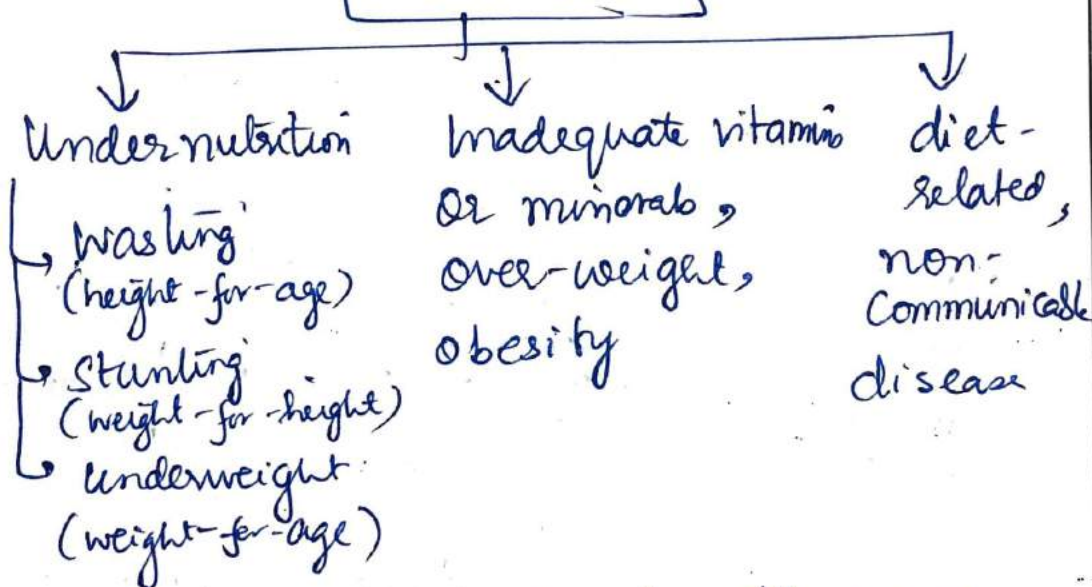
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18. India continues to face the problem of hunger despite adequate food stocks and statutory laws that ensure food security. Discuss and provide solutions to deal with this problem. (15)

India has various laws like National Food Security Act, Essential Commodities Act, etc, but continues to face multiple issues on the health front.

Malnutrition



In the past decade, there was under-nutrition. With increasing income, India faces double burden of under- and over-nutrition.

The recent NFHS-5 report

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finds:-

- (a) 4 key metrics of nutrition are declining compared to 2015-16
- (b) 36% underweight children
- (c) Gujarat, Maharashtra, West Bengal have increased proportion of anemic and wasted children compared to 2005-6

Effect on physical, mental, cognitive, etc health

Issues

Stagnation, means long term causes (as height can't change in short-term)

would have further problematised during COVID-19 times

83.9% children don't meet WHO-defined minimum dietary requirements

NITI-Aayog's Review Report on Nutrition Mission

- step up POSHAN Abhiyaan and graduate to POSHAN-plus Strategy
- Focus on complementary feeding
- water, sanitation, soap, hygiene, etc

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What further can be done

- Increase budget for Mid Day Meal, ICDS, POSHAN
- Additional funds for vulnerable communities, tribal, migrants
- Maternity entitlements
- Develop interlinkages between agriculture and nutrition eg food fortification

Health and nutrition are key to full realisation of self, for active participation in the society and for holistic development as encapsulated in Amartya Sen's Capacity approach to development.

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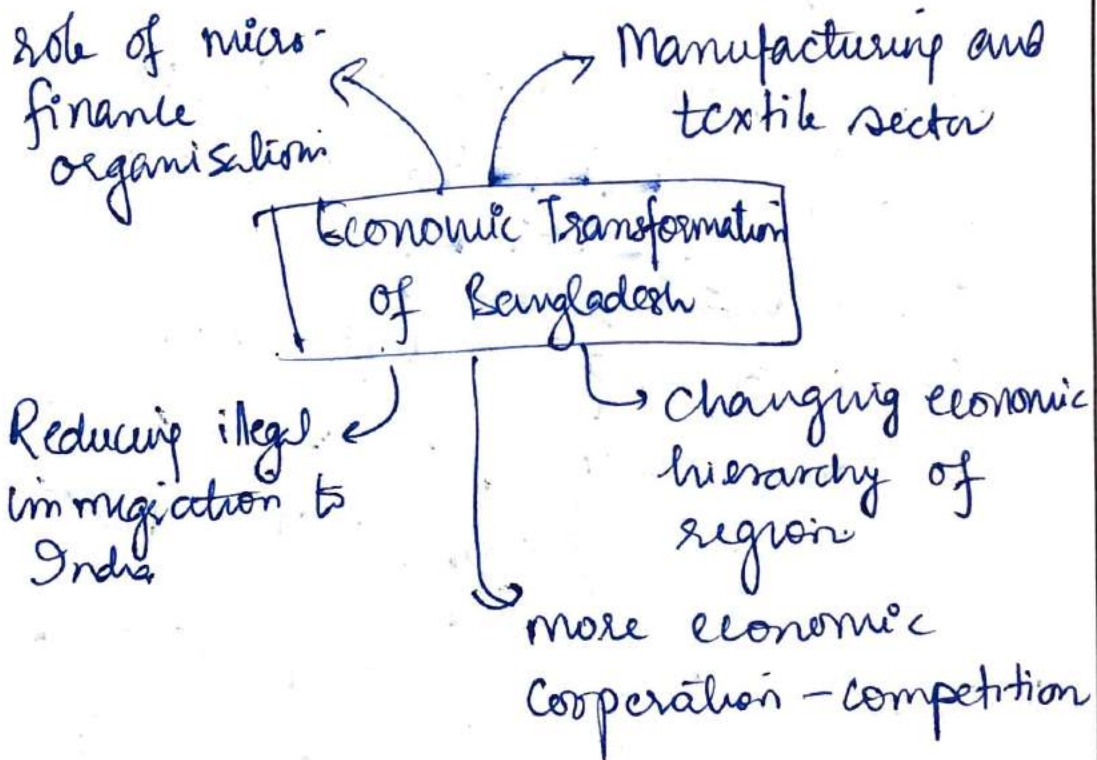
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19. The economic rise of Bangladesh is an opportunity for India and hope for South Asia. Examine (15)

"India desires a peaceful and stable environment for its development. A nation's destiny is linked to its neighbours"

— PM at UNGA, 2014



C. Raja Mohan enumerates 5 implications of the rise of Bangladesh:-

① Rapid and sustained economic growth as Bangladesh has begun to alter the world's map of the

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कृपया इस स्थान में प्रश्न संख्या के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें।

UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.
Content of the Question is more important than length.
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए।
Candidates must not write on this margin

Subcontinent, and the image has moved beyond India and Pakistan only

② Changing economic weights of Pakistan in South Asia

③ Bangladesh growth can accelerate regional integration in Eastern Subcontinent

Delhi can, given that SAARC is in coma, usefully focus on promoting regionalism through BBIN-BIMSTEC

④ This success is drawing attention from a range of countries in East Asia, including China, Japan, South Korea and Singapore

⑤ Useful for India to accelerate development of Eastern and

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North-Eastern states - connectivity between West Bengal, North East and Bangladesh will be in the interest of all

Bangladesh story is an inspiring story of an economic transformation which Indian policy-makers too can learn a lot from

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20. Outcome of the Afghan peace process may have serious implications for the wider region. Discuss. (15)

"In the Doha Agreement, US negotiated the terms of its surrender, and that Taliban Commitments were made with prior knowledge that the US would not have the power to enforce them"
— Ryan Crocker (Washington Post)

Significance of Afghanistan

- geostrategic location of Afghanistan
- Part of Golden Crescent of drug
- "New great game" and Afghanistan's rich resource
- China and Pakistan factor

Regional Implications

- ① Afghanistan turning into epicentre of terror again
"Afghanistan's future cannot be its past" — EAM Jaishankar

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- ② Effect on neighbour Iran and concerns regarding Hazara Shraw.
- ③ Humintarian crisis in Afgh-
-anistan leading to migrant
crisis.
- ④ Spill over effects on Pakistan.
"Afgh and Pakistan are co-joined
twins, with intertwined destinies"
— Jayant Prasad
(former Ambassador to Afgh)
- ⑤ Room for China to manoeuvre through
Pakistan :- China, though against
terrorism, separatism and extremism,
in principle defers to Pakistan's
policy in dealing with Afghanistan
(Harsh Pant)
- ⑥ Effect on India's developmental
project, policy of supporting "Affran-
led, -owned, and -controlled process"

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It also creates a dilemma as to how to tackle Afghanistan

"Engagement does not mean endorsement" — Vivek Katiya

Perhaps, the most important and long-lasting impact is the un-democratisation of Afghan polity and the effective termination of human rights of Afghan people, especially Afghan women.