



VISIONIAS
INSPIRING INNOVATION
ABHYAAS MAINS

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

निर्धारित समय: तीन घंटे

Time Allowed: Three Hours

अधिकतम अंक: 250

Maximum Marks: 250

सामान्य अनुदेश

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

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

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

General Instructions

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

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

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

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

पंजीकरण सं./Registration No. : 1019222

अभ्यर्थी का नाम/Name of Student : GOURAV UPPAL

माध्यम: हिंदी/अंग्रेजी
Medium: Hindi/English

ENGLISH

तारीख
Date

26/08/2023

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

केंद्र
Centre

LUDHIANA

निरीक्षक के हस्ताक्षर
Invigilator's Signature

[Signature]
26/8/23

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

कार्यालय के प्रयोग हेतु For Official Use	कार्यालय के प्रयोग हेतु For Official Use
परीक्षक के हस्ताक्षर Signature of Examiner(s)	

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

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



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Time Allowed: **Three Hours**

अधिकतम अंक: 250

Maximum Marks: 250

प्रश्न-पत्र संबंधी विशेष अनुदेश

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

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

सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।

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

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

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

प्रश्नों में इंगित शब्द सीमा को ध्यान में रखिए।

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

QUESTION PAPER SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

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

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

All questions are compulsory.

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

Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in a medium other than the authorized one.

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

Keep the word limit indicated in the questions in mind.

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

EVALUATION INDICATORS

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

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

1.

उपयुक्त उदाहरणों की सहायता से, चर्चा कीजिए कि पर्यावरणीय दबाव समूह भारत में पर्यावरण नीतियों के संबंध में सार्वजनिक भागीदारी और अनुक्रियाशीलता को कैसे बढ़ाते हैं। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)
With suitable examples, discuss how environmental pressure groups enhance public participation and responsiveness with regard to environmental policies in India. (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस कश्चि में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Environment pressure groups refer to the group of individuals, organisations who come together to raise the concerns of environmental degradation and call for protection of environment.

(eg) Various informal pressure groups formed to raise immediate concerns for developmental projects such as Narmada Bachao Andolan

Environment pressure groups → Enhanced public participation

1) They play a key role in making people aware of the various adverse environmental impacts of certain policies. (eg) Aarey Bachao Committees

2) They carry out protests, marches, providing platform for people to raise concerns.

(eg) Narmada Bachao Andolan.

- 3) They invoke cultural practices that bring various people (eg) Chipko Andolan, Appiko Andolan
- 4) They carry out petitions in courts, thereby mobilising public opinion, participation (eg) PILs against mining projects by NHOS.

Environment pressure groups → Responsiveness

- 1) They ensure action for the protection of environment
(eg) Matheran textile project cancelled in Punjab as large-scale deforestation had to be carried out.
- 2) The petitions lead to invoking of various principles such as "Polluter pays", 'Public Usability' etc

Issues → Misuse to stall development (ZB report)
→ Not representative of all people's demands.

Environment pressure groups play a key role in
ensuring policies to realise Right to Environment
(Article 21)

2.

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

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

10

उम्मीदवारों को
इस क्षण में
नहीं लिखना
चाहिए
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Recently, the supreme court has in a judgement recognised the right of 'sex workers' and acknowledged 'sex work' as a profession.

Significance

- 1.) Ensuring basic rights of access to public service delivery
- 2.) Ensuring dignity of individuals by recognition as profession (Article 21)
- 3.) Recognition of fundamental right to pursue professions [Article 19(1)(g)]
- 4.) Ensuring equality in the letter and spirit as it will prevent perpetual discrimination.
- 5.) Recognition of basic human rights principles (UNHCR)

However, this is only a first step in the

Progressive Realisation of rights.

उम्मीदवारों को
इस कक्ष में
नहीं लिखना
बाहिर
Candidates
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this margin

More efforts needed

- 1.) Ensuring effective implementation of laws that accrue to workers
- 2.) Role of administration in providing various IDs, access to schemes etc
- 3.) Action against any form of discrimination.
- 4.) Access to basic facilities such as education, health (insurance) etc
- 5.) Extension of social security measures by the state.

The recognition of 'sex work' as profession
upholds the ~~equality~~ Right to life and
Personal Liberty.

3.

भारत में निःशुल्क कानूनी सहायता प्रदान करने और कानूनी जागरूकता फैलाने में जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरणों (DLSAs) द्वारा निभाई जाने वाली भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)
Discuss the role played by District Legal Services Authorities (DLSAs) in providing free legal aid and disseminating legal awareness in India. (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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National Legal Services Authorities Act
establishes a 3-tier structure of National, state and District Level Authorities. to ensure the principles enshrined in Article 39A of the constitution

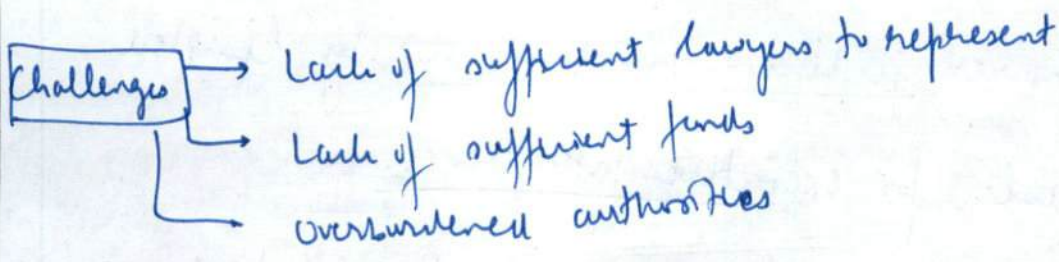
Role played by District Legal Services Authority (DLSAs)

I. Providing free legal aid

- 1.) Provision of pro bono legal services.
- 2.) Providing legal advice, representation to poor and marginalised who cannot afford legal aid
- 3.) Coordinate with police and other authorities to provide free legal aid to prevent lapse of justice
- 4.) Organising awareness campaigns in prisons.

II. Disseminating legal awareness

- 1.) They carry out campaigns to dispel any mis-conceptions about criminal justice system
- 2.) They inform the people of their rights that are provided by constitution and various laws
(eg) Article 20
- 3.) They carry out Lok Adalats ~~out~~ to ensure speedy justice and knowledge of ADR's
- 4.) They organise camps at the grassroot level such as villages to ~~create~~ give legal knowledge



The DLSDs ~~can~~ play a crucial role in protecting rights of people and should be strengthened further.

4.

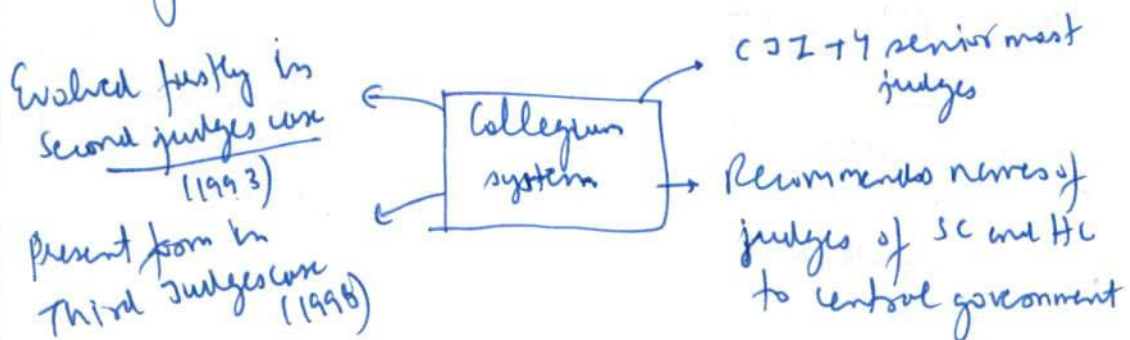
"कुछ लोगों के हाथों में शक्ति के संकेंद्रण के कारण, कॉलेजियम प्रणाली अपनी ही सफलता का शिकार हो गई है, जिससे इसकी वैधता पर सवाल उठने लगे हैं।" टिप्पणी कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

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

10

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

The collegium system refers to the system evolved through a series of judgements where a body is established to appoint judges.



Significance^{sources} of collegium system

- 1) Ensures judicial independence by limited role for executive interference.
- 2) Ensures upholding of constitutional ideals.
- 3) Representation of various views with the expanded collegium in 1998.
- 4) Role for executive as Memorandum of Procedure

signed and executive can return a name.

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

However, recently the former law minister has called out the collegium system as opaque.

Victim of its own success

- 1) Lack of accountability of the judiciary
- 2) 'Juristocracy' as judges appointing judges with limited outside role
- 3) Issues of bias, nepotism (eg) Few families occupying position as SC judges even after 76 years of independence.
- 4) Conflicts with the executive (eg) NJAC issue
- 5) Former judges of supreme court have also voiced concerns

Way forward → Finalising 'Memorandum of Procedure' as outlined in NJAC con
Cooperation, convergence between judiciary, executive

An efficient, transparent judiciary is the gunpowder of functioning democracy

5.

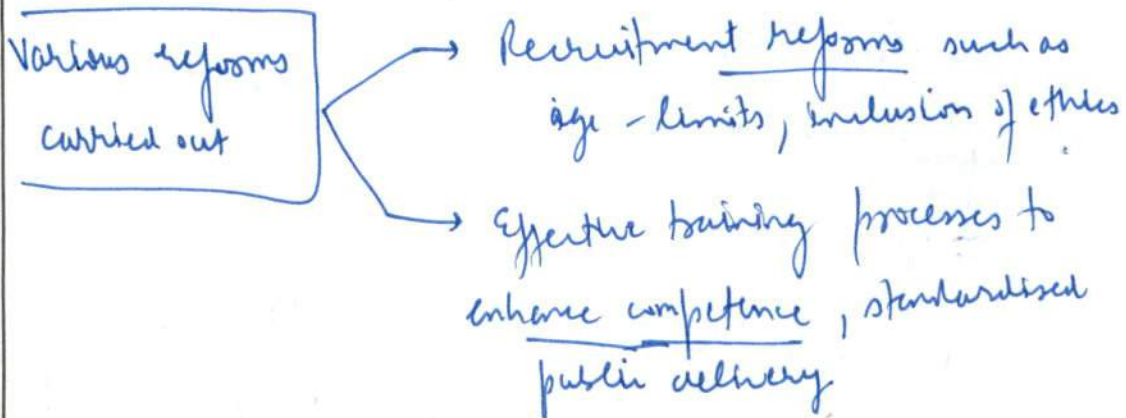
"सिविल सेवा सुधारों को वर्तमान दौर की चुनौतियों से निपटने के लिए भर्ती और मानकीकृत प्रशिक्षण से आगे बढ़ाया जाना अनिवार्य है।" विश्लेषण कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)
 "Civil services reforms must go beyond recruitment and standardised training to cope with the present day challenges." Analyse. (Answer in 150 words)

10

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

Civil services refer to the permanent executive that carry out various functions such as policy-making, implementation, law & order, public health etc.

Various committees such as Hota committee, 2nd ARC have time and again called for comprehensive civil service reforms.



However, ~~with~~ various present day challenges such as rise of new disruptive technologies such as AI, ML, complex demands of citizenry, evolving nature of polices, crimes need comprehensive reforms.

such as—

- 1) Specialisation of domains among civil servants to meet today's demands of technological awareness.
- 2) Periodic appraisal to ensure ethical governance
- 3) Recognition of innovative solutions carried out by civil servants.
- 4) Inculcation of emotional intelligence to meet diverse challenges.
- 5) Enhancing professionalism among civil servants

Steps taken → Mission / Karmayogi
→ NITI Aayog reforms agenda in
Strategy for New India @ 75

Civil services reforms that are comprehensive in nature will go a long way in ensuring 'institutional quality' for economic performance and democracy.

6.

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

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

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

Social Impact bonds are the instruments to raise capital to carry out social expenditure to achieve a defined outcome.

Potential of Social Impact Bonds

- 1) Ensure adequate availability of capital, finance to fund various social projects
- 2) To outline the carefully planned outcomes and meeting them
- 3) This will lay down the enhanced accountability and transparency mechanism to the stakeholders.
- 4) Achievement of the desired outcomes then

merely output numbers

(c) Foundational literacy and numeracy
from just literacy rate

3) Development of alternate service delivery
models by involvement of NHs, volunteers etc.

Challenges

- 1) Low development of market
- 2) Investors wary of investing as what if
outcomes not achieved
- 3) Currently, not included in CSR.

Social Impact bonds, however are a remarkable
way forward in achieving social-economic
outcomes. Further, models such as social
stock exchange should be developed

7.

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

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

10

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

There is increasing paradox where the number of females attaining education level is increasing, but the female labour force participation is low.

Gross enrolment ratio for females

Primary - 100%

Higher education - 25-30%
(All India) - 27.3.

FLFPR

$\sqrt{24\%}$ (LPFS
20-21)

Reasons

- 1) Social causes such as patriarchal attitude that hinder working of females.
- 2) Pink-colourisation of jobs leading to availability of only low skilled jobs to women

3) 'Motherhood penalty' as females withdrawing
from workforce
after bearing child

4) wage gap between male & female workers

5) Phenomenon such as 'time poverty' -

burden of home.
6) unsafe workplaces for women

Addressal of these

1) To enhance economic growth

↳ As per McKinsey 2-3% GDP
growth rate increase

2) To meet aspirations of half of population

3) To avoid wastage of resources.

The government is undertaking various
efforts to ensure women employment and
achievement of SDG-5

8.

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

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

10

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

Civil Registration system (CRS) involves the body that gathers data on various indicators such as birth rate, death rate etc.

Need for up-to-date & functional CRS

- 1) To ensure adequate, accurate data for policy making
- 2) Effective identification of beneficiaries
- 3) Addressing inclusion-exclusion errors
- 4) To address issues such as illegal migration

9.

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

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

10

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

International Monetary Fund is a part of Bretton Woods Institutions established in 1945 after the second world war to ensure financial stability of the countries.

Key areas of reform to meet current economic realities

1.) The post-world war economy has changed and new major economies in Asia have emerged - India, China

Reform → More voting rights ~~to~~ as per new economic realities

2.) World has expanded economically with countries expanding vast wealth, getting huge loans at bilateral level

Reforms → Easy bailouts to ensure small countries do not fall in debt trap.

3) Increase in financial shocks, demand greater vigil

Reforms → Safeguard mechanisms, check on the global economy situation

4) Increasing climate change

Reforms → Include present-day challenges such as climate finance.

5) Thus, ZMP needs to carry out various structural and functional reforms to ensure its relevance in present times and emerging multilateral development banks such as AIZB, NDB.

10.

हाल के वर्षों में, पश्चिम एशिया के साथ भारत के संबंध भू-राजनीति के दायरे से आगे निकलकर भू-अर्थशास्त्र के आयाम तक पहुँच गए हैं। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)
 In recent years, India's relationship with West Asia has evolved from the confines of geopolitics to expanse of geoeconomics. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words)

10

उम्मीदवारों को
 इस ह्रासिए में
 नही लिखना
 चाहिए
 Candidates
 must not
 write on
 this margin

The India - West Asia relationship has been confounded by adequate balancing of the three poles of West Asia, namely Iran, Israel and Saudi Arabia

Confines of geopolitics in relationship

- 1) Hesitation to ~~establish~~ establish diplomatic relations with Israel
- 2) Balancing sentiments of Shiites and Sunnis
- 3) Role of OPEC in relations of West Asia with India.
- 4) Great power politics for oil.

However, in recent years the relationship has become more realistic as per today's time and expanded to geoeconomics as -

- 1.) Greater cooperation with UAE, Saudi for
foreign investments in India (eg) \$ 75 billion
investments planned by UAE
- 2.) Greater trade cooperation (eg) India-UAE
FTA
- 3.) Increased oil imports from West Asia
along with diversification of supply chain
- 4.) Minilateral partnership such as 2202
for enhanced economic, technological
cooperation
- 5.) Huge Indian diaspora providing required
labour and remittances to home.

Thus, the India-West Asia relationship has
evolved as per changing times and needs.

11.

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

The role of the Competition Commission of India (CCI) is significant in furthering healthy competitiveness aimed at inspiring stakeholders to innovate and augment effectiveness.
Comment. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Competition Commission of India is a statutory body established by the Competition Act, 2002 to further the aim of provisions enabling market economy along with effective regulations.

Role of CCI

I. Furthering healthy competitiveness

1) To keep a check on the business practices to ensure fair competition

2) CCI called out the sales by e-commerce platforms as violative of fair business for small entrepreneurs.

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

2.) To ensure fair mergers of businesses

(eg) Amazon - Future first deal.

3) To address the concerns of unfair trade practices by global tech giants

(eg) Fine on Google

II. Inspire stakeholders to innovate

1) Carry out practices aimed at welfare of all stakeholders, i.e. competitors, consumers

2) New technological solutions to address the various lacunae.

III. Inspire to augment effectiveness

1) Ensuring effective regulation of malpractices along with providing for free market practices

2) Meet the present and challenges due to rising globalisation, global influences and deals

- 3) To ensure time-bound mergers and acquisitions
↳ Ease of doing business

Challenges

- 1.) Not as effective as western counterparts such as
USA, UK
- 2.) Various stringent provisions impact business
environment
- CCI needs reforms to meet the present-day's demands
and enhance its effectiveness in the present
digital era.

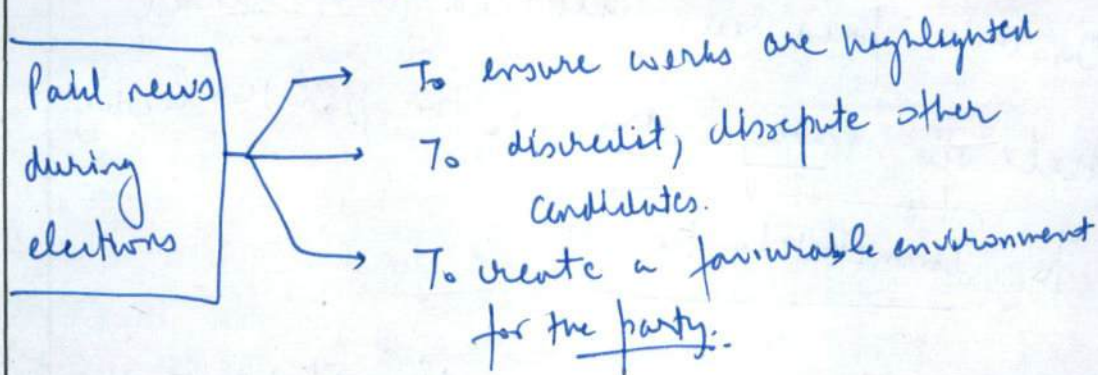
"पेड न्यूज का खतरा अक्सर चुनावों के दौरान अपना भयावह रूप दिखाता है।" भारत में पेड न्यूज को एक चुनावी अपराध बनाने की आवश्यकता पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

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

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

Paid news refers to the manipulation of media channels ^{using money} to disseminate favourable information or disfavourable towards others to set a narrative.

(eg) Various news articles pointed of a candidate showcasing remarkable work done by him/her, ~~that~~ while looking genuine, it is paid by candidate.



Representation of People's Act, 1951 carried out various provisions to deal with electoral offences such as boothery ^(Sec 125), vote capturing (Sec 135A) etc.

But, with the increasing reach of media through digital means, calls for adding paid news as offence have been raised.

(eg) Narottam Mishra, (M.P) MCA found guilty of paid news use.

Need for making paid news an electoral offence

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

- 1.) Potential for gross manipulation of the voters using specialised articles/news (eg) Cambridge Analytics scandal
- 2.) Prevalence of illiteracy among population, not able to recognise paid news.
- 3.) Unchecked paid news will lead to increased role of money power in the politics leading to commercialisation.
- 4.) Violates the journalism, media ethics leading to unhealthy nexus between candidates, politicians and media.
- 5.) To enhance the adherence to ideals that promote free and fair elections.

- 6) To institutionalise the action mechanism
for 'immediate control of paid news'
(eg) separate cell in ECZ should be made
- 7) To enhance awareness among people about
paid news.

Paid news is a menace that leads to 'manipulation'
'consent' and needs to be tackled effectively
by stakeholders such as election Commission
of India to ensure vibrant democracy

13.

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

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

15

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

'Doctrine of Essentiality' refers to the practice where the higher courts look into the facts around the essential practices related to any religion, without which followers will not be able to fully practice their religion.

Origin

The 'Doctrine of Essentiality' originated in Shri Nath case (1954) and since then has been applied by courts to examine various religious practices.

Significance

- 1.) Ensures that practices which are violative of fundamental rights and are not essential should be declared illegal. (2) Entry can

to Sabrimola lifted for women of menstrual age.
(Sabrimola case)

d) Ensures the core of religion's values are maintained

(eg) reversed Nikhil Soni case judgement of Rajasthan High court and allowed Santhara practice among jains.

3) Ensures that non-essential practices do not affect public order, movement

(eg) Practice of Tandava dance by a sect declared non-essential.

However, the practice has been criticised for various reasons as-

1) Judiciary going into reading of theological canons amounts to Judicial activism

2) No clear definition of the 'doctrine of essentiality', applied differently in different judgements.

3) Difference in the views of judges in the

Same judgement

(c) Justice Indira Malhotra said in Nabam case in dissenting judgement that the practice was essential to sect

4.) Various controversial issues propping up.

(c) Hijab case

Way forward

- 1.) Supreme court should clearly outline the doctrine
- 2.) Effective balance with fundamental rights
- 3.) Judicial Restraint.

'Doctrine of essentiality' should be delineated properly and used sparingly by courts. ~~very~~

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

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

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

15

Time and again calls have been made to carry out reforms to ensure 'minimum government, maximum governance'. The recent report by EAC-PM expounds this view.

Need to limit the size of government in India

Views in agreement

- 1) To limit the red tapism, bureaucratic hurdles of files across ministries, departments
- 2) To ensure effective decision-making without any delays → Lead to ease of doing business
- 3) To reduce the revenue expenditure of the government, thereby reducing the fiscal burden

- 4.) To address the issues such as corruption, especially collusive corruption.
- 5.) To ensure more accountability, transparency in decision - making.

Views in disagreement

- 1) 91st Constitutional Amendment Act has already rationalised the size of the ministries, ~~about~~

Com positions.

- 2) There is already severe understaffing in government departments leading to huge work burden

- 3) Minimising the government will entail closing avenue for jobs, increasing the unemployment.

- 4) Various new challenges erupting such as cyber security, climate change, disruptive

technologies that call for greater role of government.

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

Way forward

- 1) Taking reforms to ensure minimum discretion,
- 2) Establishing standardised procedures to enhance speed, efficiency
- 3) Incorporating e-governance as the prime mode of service delivery (Hyderabad declaration on e-governance)
- 4) Laws such as Jan Surwai Act, 2023

Thus, the action should be based on the rational view of balancing both sides parameters and ensuring efficient and effective government

15.

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

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

15

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

'Institutions of Eminence' (IoE) refers to the higher education institutions recognised by the Government of India to provide 'best in class' higher education, research institutions, and as catalysts for system change (19) 117 Delhi, JNU

Vision for 'IoEs'

- 1.) To provide the 'higher education' facilities comparable to top-ranking foreign institutes.
- 2.) To set a benchmark for the other institutions in the country to follow and adapt
- 3.) To provide for the adequate research environment for increasing R & D.

- 4) To provide holistic education, covering various aspects of curriculum
- 5) To attract foreign students for studying in India
- 6) To foster effective industry-academic linkage; funding from corporates etc
- 7) To enable Z.E.s to setup their branches abroad.

Challenges leading to it becoming a game changer

- 1) Lack of adequate policies, guidelines after the declaration of Z.E.s
- 2) Lack of adequate interest by industry, corporates
- 3) Lack of kick-off of the sufficient funding mechanisms
- 4) Various bureaucratic bottlenecks to enable setting up of foreign campuses.

- 8) Lack of creation of sufficient research environment — 0.7% R&D expenditure only.

Government steps, institutions steps

- 1) 227 Madras, Zangibar campus opened
- 2) Tie up with middle eastern countries for 227 campuses.
- 3) Easing regulations by UGC.

IoEs can play a key role in fulfilling the vision of NEP, 2020 to enhance GER in higher education to 50% by 2030 from current 27.3%.

16.

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

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

15

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

Digital Public Infrastructure refers to the open platforms that enable non-exclusion, non-rivalry and allow for various creative ecosystems to come up on the basic platform

(eg) Co-win, UMANG, Digi-Locker, UPI, DZKSHA

Significance of DPI

I. Innovative public service delivery

→ Leads to creation of products that improves access of public services through innovation

(eg) ONDC

II. Enhance convenience in public service delivery

→ Leads to ease of delivery and ease of

access to public services (eg) ~~UMANG~~ UMANG
app, DIKSHA portal

III. Helps overcome inclusion barriers

→ Ensures overcoming of inclusion - exclusion
gaps, barriers (eg) JAM

IV. Helps overcome accessibility barriers

→ Ensures last mile delivery of services
across terrains, regions, sections.

(eg) Tele-medicine - e-Sanjeevani, OPZ

V. Increase transparency and accountability

→ Helps ~~overcome~~ gap in increasingly access to
information to people.

(eg) ~~Dashboards~~ Dashboards highlighting
real-time data

However, still certain challenges in the DPI
system -

- 1) Lack of adequate digital infrastructure,
interoperability
- 2) Digital divide across rural-urban, sex-
poor
↳ only 15% have internet access in rural
areas as per NSSO.
- 3) Digital literacy levels are low leading to
vulnerability to frauds, scams

Steps by government

- 1) Availability in vernacular language
- 2) PM eDISHA for digital literacy
- 3) Bharat net programme.

Digital Public Infrastructure will go a long way
in enhancing financial inclusion, enhanced
digital economy and transparent
governance processes

17.

कानून के अलावा, भारत में 'सभी के लिए स्वास्थ्य के अधिकार' की पूर्ण प्राप्ति हेतु सामाजिक, वित्तीय और बुनियादी ढांचे की कमियों को दूर करने की आवश्यकता है। परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)
 Besides legislation, the full realisation of the 'right to health for all' in India demands plugging of social, financial, and infrastructural gaps. Examine. (Answer in 250 words)

15

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

'Right to health for all' refers to making right to access quality, affordable healthcare at all times ^{to all}, to fulfill the vision of Article 47 as well as ensuring right to life.'

Recently, a private member bill brought in the Parliament to ensure 'Right to Health'

Significance of Legislation

- 1) It will lay down the minimum standards for healthcare services to be provided
- 2) It will lay down the responsibility of various stakeholders to ensure 'Right to health'
- 3) It will enable people invoking the right in case of denial of healthcare services

However, ensuring ~~right~~ 'Right to health'
requires more reforms than just legislation.

Plugging other gaps

I. Improving social determinants of health

- 1.) Addressing ^{social} ~~income~~ divides such as those on
the basis of caste, gender to improve
access to healthcare services
- 2.) To ensure equality of healthcare to all
- 3.) To meet the needs of vulnerable sections
(eg) Reproduction issues of women

II. Addressing financial issues

- 1.) Increasing government expenditure on
healthcare — currently 2.1% of GDP
- 2.) Enhancing safety nets to prevent people
going to poverty due to high out-of-
poCKET - expenditure.

- 3) To address income divides by providing adequate access to poor.

III. Addressing infrastructural gaps

- 1) Adequate no. of primary health care centres across the country
- 2) To increase the no. of doctors - 1:1200 (NPHS-5)
- 3) To enhance the number of hospital beds.
- 4) More secondary and tertiary hospital access in government sector.

Govt steps

- 1) PM - Jan Arogya Yojana
- 2) Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission
- 3) Reforms in Medical Education
- 4) Ayushman Bharat Infrastructure Mission

Adequate healthcare services will go a long way in achieving SDG-3 i.e. good health and well-being

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

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

15

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

The 'third gender' refers to the persons who do not conform to the normative two genders - male and female. (29) Transgender

As per census 2011, Transgender population in India is around 4.8 Lacs.

Various measures to engender 'third gender'

- 1) Transgender's ^{Bill, 2019} ~~Act~~ brought by the government to - define transgender
 - To form national, state level committees.
 - To ensure protection from discrimination as outlined by supreme court in NALSA case

- 2) Measures by state governments such as Karnataka to provide reservations to 'third gender'

However, they still have not been gendered as -

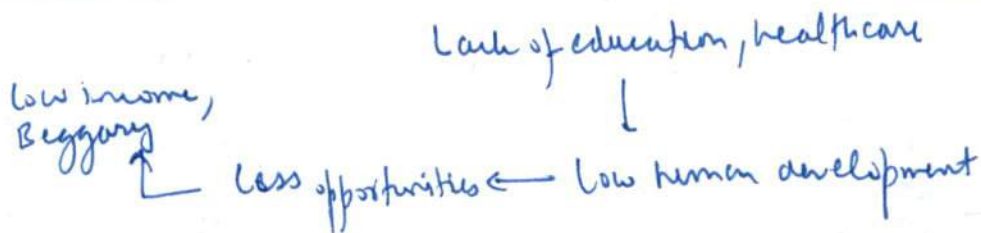
1) The social discrimination and negative social attitudes still prevails.

↳ 99% of 'third gender' surveyed said that they have faced social discrimination

2) Lack of adequate political voice

↳ only 30,000 out of 4.8 lakh have voter -20%

3) Lack of access to education, healthcare facilities



4) The Bill has various lacunae as discretion to DM to decide on the gender ~~for~~ as certificate has to be obtained.

5) Lack of adequate economic opportunities, leading

to life of penury.

Measures needed apart from legislation

- 1) Access to economic opportunities
(eg) Noida metro station - full transgender staff
- 2) Access to education, healthcare
(eg) Pune Municipal Corporation providing healthcare services
- 3) Following 'Rights based approach'

Following 'Yogyakhartha Principles' will help in
enriching holistic legislation and measures to
engender 'third gender'!

19.

अन्य कारकों के अलावा, चीन और पाकिस्तान के साथ तनावपूर्ण संबंधों ने भारत के लिए शंघाई सहयोग संगठन (SCO) से अपनी अपेक्षाओं को पूरा करना कठिन बना दिया है। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)
 Among other factors, strained ties with China and Pakistan make it difficult for India to fulfill its expectations from the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO). Discuss. (Answer in 250 words)

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उम्मीदवारों को इस खंड में नहीं लिखना चाहिए।
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Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) is a multilateral organisation comprising of south asian, central asian states, China and Russia.

Members

India, Pakistan, China, Russia, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, Iran

Expectations of India from SCO

- 1.) Forum to reach central asian states and extend 'Connect Central Asia Policy'
- 2.) Foster greater connectivity in the region
- 3.) Ensure adequate economic cooperation with central asian states.
- 4.) Address security issues emanating from the region's 'ungoverned spaces' - RATS structure

Challenges in fulfilling the expectations

1) Strained ties with Pakistan

- Leading to lack of adequate effective cooperation on security issues
- No effective consensus based decisions.

2) Strained ties with China

- Issues in cooperating when at bilateral level border dispute heightened
- Chinese 'technical holds' in UNSC on terrorist sanctions listing. (eg) Abdullah Malikhi
- China dominating the forum.

3) other challenges

- i) Lack of effective trade policy
- ii) Geopolitical factors such as coming of Taliban in Afghanistan
- iii) Growing Russia - China 'No limits

partnership.

- iv) Increasing proximity to USA and other western countries
- v) Calls for expansion of SCO to include 2000s

To address these challenges, the SCO should follow the master given by PM Modi - i.e. secure to ensure its adequate relevance as a grouping and for pursuit of Indian interests.

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

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

उम्मीदवारों को इस दृष्टि में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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India and USA has reached another strategic milestone with the signing of the agreement for joint cooperation initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies (iCET)

Significance

- 1) Leads to overcoming of various hesitations of history from both sides in field of technology cooperation
- 2) Extensive cooperation on research and development of new technologies such as AI, ML, Blockchain.
- 3) Greater cooperation among both countries to ensure effective regulation of

the disruptive technologies

- 4.) To ensure adequate 'technology transfer and sharing' between both countries.
- 5.) To overcome the weaponisations of the supply chains.
- 6.) To enhance the cooperation in the Indo-Pacific. → Enhanced interoperability

However, experts have pointed various challenges

- 1.) Increased dependence on USA for the technology if various technologies imported
- 2.) Low pace of R&D in India needs to catch up with the heavy investments by USA
- 3.) More adequate development of manufacturing facilities in India.

- 4) Ensure inter-operability with existing
Russian infrastructure in defence.

The ICET is a watershed agreement among
India and USA laying the foundation for
enhanced cooperation in field of technology
and diplomacy.

SPACE FOR ROUGH WORK

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