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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 875)

Name of Candidate	KEERTHI VASAN V.		
Medium Eng./Hindi	ENGLISH	Registration Number	143707
Center	ORN	Date	9/10/17

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	12.5	
2	12.5	
3	12.5	
4	12.5	
5	12.5	
6	12.5	
7	12.5	
8	12.5	
9	12.5	
10	12.5	
11	12.5	
12	12.5	
13	12.5	
14	12.5	
15	12.5	
16	12.5	
17	12.5	
18	12.5	
19	12.5	
20	12.5	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

- Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
- There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI.
इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
- All questions are compulsory.
सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
- The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
- Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other than the authorized one.
प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेगा।
- 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।

75, 3rd Floor, Old Rajinder Nagar Market, Near Axis Bank, New Delhi – 110060

103, 1st Floor, B/1-2, Ansal Building, Behind UCO Bank, Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi – 110009

EVALUATION INDICATORS

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

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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

12.5X20=250

1. Centralising recruitment through an All-India Judicial Service (AIJS) will not address the multiple problems in the judiciary and cause new ones instead. Critically evaluate.

अखिल भारतीय न्यायिक सेवा (AIJS) के माध्यम से केंद्रीयकृत भर्ती न्यायपालिका में विद्यमान विभिन्न समस्याओं का समाधान नहीं करेगा अपितु उसके स्थान पर नई समस्याएं उत्पन्न करेगा। आलोचनात्मक मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

All India Judicial Service (AIJS)

refers to a central cadre of judicial officers who are to be recruited on the basis of a common selection exam.

The idea has been mooted by the SC and the law commission and it has been included under article 312 of the constitution.

Existing problems in judiciary :-

- large pendency of cases - particularly

in the lower judiciary.

- less number of judges per million population.
- delay in awarding judgements.
- rampant corruption among the lower judiciary.

But the idea has been challenged by the state governments and lower judiciary, as it might affect their prospects of promotion.

Benefits of AIJS:-

- attracts young talent to serve the judiciary.
- uniformity in quality of judges.

- Willingness to work across the states.
- Centralised command leading to greater cooperation between states.

Challenges:

- Over regulation by central government.
- Non-adherence with existing judicial officers.
- Seniority issues in promotion.

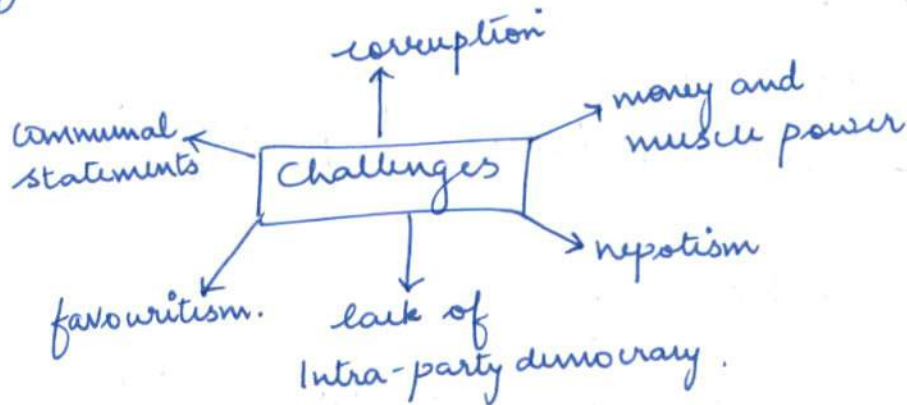
Way forward:

The PM has also mooted the idea and AITS is the need of the hour.

2. The roots of the most pertinent challenges faced by Indian politics today can be traced to the lack of intra-party democracy in candidate selection and internal elections. Discuss.

वर्तमान समय में भारतीय राजनीति द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली सबसे महत्वपूर्ण चुनौतियों के चिन्हों को उम्मीदवार के चयन और आंतरिक चुनावों में दलों के भीतर लोकतंत्र की कमी में देखा जा सकता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Indian politics has evolved over time and there are many challenges plaguing the political system today.



The roots can be traced back to lack of intra-party democracy and internal elections.

After independence, the single

major party was a party of consensus and Nehru emerged as a consensual leader.

But, with the development of coalition politics, political parties have emerged as "catch all parties".

Reasons:

- willingness to come to power.
- no clear ideology.
- mass base parties.
- electoral system of first past the post.

lack of intra-party democracy is
- evident from:

- emerging culture of whip.

- discretion of speaker in regards to anti-defection law.
- growing factionalism among parties as seen in Gujarat RS elections and recently in TN.

Way forward:

Greater consensus among party cadre is essential for the effective functioning of Indian democracy.

3. While the idea behind merger of autonomous bodies in India is to curb overlapping work and reduce expenditure, it may end up doing more harm than good. Discuss.

यद्यपि भारत में स्वायत्त निकायों के विलय के पीछे निहित कारण उनके कार्यों में व्याप्त अतिव्यापन को रोकना और व्यय को कम करना है, लेकिन यह स्थिति को सुधारने के स्थान पर अधिक नुकसान कर सकता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Merger of autonomous bodies
is a case of 'minimum government
- maximum governance'. The idea has
been mooted recently by GoI and
the reasons being :

- greater efficiency in utilising funds.
- reduces overlapping jurisdiction.
- utilising manpower in other crucial sectors.
- reduced litigation, due to reduction
in conflict among agencies.

But, the idea also comes with its own set of drawbacks:

- moving towards generalisation, away from specialisation.
- greater workload on a single body.
- might lead to inefficiency and pendency of projects.
- affects ease of doing business.
- might lead to greater political interference.

So, before moving ahead with the idea, the Govt has to analyse the prospects on a case to case basis in order to

efficiently implement the scheme.

Way forward:

Reducing government control is anytime good. But care has to be taken not to affect the autonomy of the bodies.

4. Well-defined electoral laws and greater powers for the Election Commission of India are required as the existing laws and mechanisms are inadequate to deal with new challenges. Analyse.

सुपरिभाषित चुनावी कानूनों एवं भारत निर्वाचन आयोग के लिए अधिकाधिक शक्तियों की आवश्यकता हैं, क्योंकि मौजूदा कानून और तंत्र नई चुनौतियों से निपटने के लिए अपर्याप्त हैं। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

The Election commission of India (ECI) has time and again requested for greater dissolution of powers in order to effectively undertake the democratic process of elections.

What are the new challenges?

- Innovative ways of corruption - as seen in R.K. Nagar by-election in TN - using wallet to transfer money, bitcoins, etc.
- rampant use of money and muscle power in elections.
- growing factionalism among parties.

- growing population and the corresponding logistical challenges.
- tension between politicians and local level bureaucracy.

The existing laws and mechanisms restrict ECI to the adherence of :

- Representation of people act, 1951.
- model code of conduct.
- Election rules made under RPA.
- Judicial pronouncements.

The existing mechanisms sometimes are inadequate to deal with the challenges.

So, ECI goes for using its extraordinary powers under article

324 to maintain its autonomy.

This can be avoided by providing greater powers and removing ambiguity in election laws by amending it.

Way forward:

The ECI executes the largest democratic experiment in the world and greater evolutions of functional and financial autonomy is the need of the hour.

5. Privileges should be defined and delimited for the free and independent functioning of the legislatures. In this context, discuss whether there is a need to re-examine the balance between fundamental rights and parliamentary privileges in India.

विधानमंडलों के मुक्त और स्वतंत्र कामकाज के लिए विशेषाधिकार परिभाषित और सीमांकित होने चाहिए। इस संदर्भ में, चर्चा कीजिए कि क्या भारत में मूल अधिकारों और संसदीय विशेषाधिकारों के मध्य संतुलन के पुनः परीक्षण की आवश्यकता है?

Parliamentary privileges
offer the required protection needed
for the legislators to function without
any prejudice and fear.

But these privileges are
sometimes misused to curb any
constructive criticism and legislatures
resort to using its powers to
punish media persons and other
dissidents.

It is evident from the recent
case of Karnataka legislature speaker

punishing the editor of a local journal.

Benefits of privileges:

- Ensures bold debates in the legislature.
- Greater transparency in discussing the reality on ground.
- Averts any fear of persecution by the media.

Need to re-examine balance:

Fundamental rights under article 19 assures right to freedom of speech and expression.

But it is subject to certain restrictions such as contempt of court, defamation, etc.

So, parliamentary privileges are also in line with this restrictions on reasonable grounds. This would ensure a greater democratic culture.

Way forward:

While the civil society should avoid making judgemental criticisms regarding parliamentary proceedings, the parliament can also avoid misusing its extraordinary power to curb genuine criticisms.

6. The principle of accountability is an essential part of the rule of law. In this context, discuss the lacunae in government's approach and judiciary's response to the phenomenon of extrajudicial killings in India.

उत्तरदायित्व का सिद्धांत विधि के शासन का एक अनिवार्य अंग है। इस संदर्भ में, भारत में न्यायेतर हत्या की घटनाओं के प्रति सरकार के दृष्टिकोण एवं न्यायपालिका की प्रतिक्रिया में विद्यमान कमियों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Accountability and transparency
in service delivery are the key
indicators of good governance.

Extrajudicial killings in India
have been on the rise lately and
there is a mixed response from
the government and judiciary regarding
this phenomena.

Government approach:

- shows indifference to the existence
of such practice.

- no proactive measure or legislation to punish the violators.
- has not taken the required police reforms.
- should enhance surveillance and accountability of the police.

Judiciary's response:

- blames the executive for the prevalence of the practice.
- has issued guidelines for police reforms as in 'Prakash Singh case'.
- given more teeth to NHRC to enquire into instances of killings.

Way forward :

The government should own
responsibility for such incidents
and should inculcate accountability
by enacting strict laws and norms.

7. Explain the rationale behind enacting the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016. Discuss how it can help in revitalizing consumer confidence in the real estate market. Also highlight the hurdles that remain in implementing it.

स्थावर संपदा (विनियमन एवं विकास) कानून, 2016 (रियल एस्टेट (रेगुलेशन एंड डेवलपमेंट) एक्ट, 2016) को अधिनियमित करने के पीछे निहित तर्क की व्याख्या कीजिए। चर्चा कीजिए कि यह स्थावर संपदा बाजार में उपभोक्ताओं के विश्वास को पुनः सशक्त करने में किस प्रकार सहायता कर सकता है। साथ ही इसके क्रियान्वयन में विद्यमान बाधाओं पर भी प्रकाश डालिए।

The Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016 has been passed by the parliament as a part of Govt's programme to sub menance of black money and corruption.

Rationale involved:

- * Real estate is a potential source to hide unaccounted wealth.
- * Regulations earlier had many loopholes which were exploited by the promoters to stack ill-acquired wealth.

* Greater regulation and transparency in the field could help curb black money.

Features to revitalise confidence:

- * brings down prices, enhancing the attractiveness of real estate.
- * Real estate regulation authority at state level to certify projects.
- * reduces harassment by tax officials.
- * Greater social inclusion and help achieve social equity.

Challenges in implementation:

- lack of digital documentation of real estate records.
- bank channel purchases would

prevail, which could negate the objectives of the act.

- Market price would still be much higher than government determined prices.

Way forward:

It is a positive step in the right direction. Greater autonomy to RERA and converting the 'de-facto' deals into 'de-jure' deals is the need of the hour.

8. Moving the subject of water from state list to concurrent list will solve the issues related to governance of water resources. Comment.

जल को राज्य सूची के विषय से समवर्ती सूची में स्थानांतरित करने से जल संसाधन के प्रशासन से संबंधित मुद्दों का समाधान हो जाएगा। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

The subject of water in the 'state list' has remained a controversial issue since the time of independence.

The major problem arises with respect to the 'inter-state rivers'. The constitution makers foresaw the potential prospects of issues and included article 262 in order to deal with disputes.

But, the provision has also failed to solve the aspirations of states as seen from prominent cases such as Kaveri river dispute,

Krishna dispute, SYL canal
dispute, etc.

As seen in many international
cases as in Canada and Australia,
an idea has been mooted to move
the subject to 'concurrent list'.

Benefits:

- greater role of centre to deal with
disputes.
- binding nature of centre's executive
orders.
- promotion to cooperative federalism.

Challenges:

- states might still challenge the
awards in SC.
- political unrest in the states.

- RS may not amend the bill.

Way forward :

The states and centre should evolve a consensus using platforms like ISC, Zonal councils, NITI Aayog, etc. The centre can think of moving only 'inter-state rivers' as a subject into concurrent / union list.

9. Give an account of the areas of potential conflict in the relationship between the political executive and civil servants. Also discuss why a healthy working relationship between the two is critical for good governance.

राजनीतिक कार्यकारी और सिविल सेवकों के मध्य संबंधों में संभावित संघर्ष के क्षेत्रों का विवरण दीजिए। साथ ही चर्चा कीजिए कि सुशासन के लिए दोनों के बीच स्वस्थ कार्यशील संबंध क्यों महत्वपूर्ण हैं।

The relationship between the political executive and civil servant has always been seen as an area of conflict, due to the following reasons:

- populist nature of executive decisions affects bureaucratic efficiency.
- accountability onus falls upon the bureaucracy.
- Bureaucrats are responsible for day to day functioning of administration.

Areas of potential conflict :

- Implementation of welfare schemes.
- Budgeting process.
- Announcement of various infrastructure projects.
- Land leasing and resource allocation.
- managing PSUs.

Why healthy relationship is required :

- ensures continuity in governance.
- effective implementation of policies.
- Merit based allocation of resources.
- reduces corruption and nepotism.
- reduces irrational transfers, thus improving governance.

Way forward :

As witnessed in the 2G scam and Coalgate cases, a nexus exists between politicians and bureaucrats. The negative nexus has to be converted into a healthy relationship in order to achieve effective governance.

10. Despite their location in the non-political domain of civil society, NGOs have ended up playing a key, if indirect, role in India's politics. Comment.
सिविल सोसाइटी के गैर-राजनीतिक क्षेत्र में स्थिति होने के बावजूद भी गैर-सरकारी संगठन (NGOs) भारत की राजनीति में भले ही अप्रत्यक्ष, लेकिन महत्वपूर्ण, भूमिका निभा रहे हैं। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

NGOs have emerged as major players in India's political structure. This is due to their ability to mobilise public interest and effective articulation of opinions.

For example, PETA, a NGO focused on protecting animal rights led to creation of a popular uprising in Tamil Nadu regarding the 'Jallikattu' issue - which had major political repercussions.

Similarly, the Narmada Bachao

Andolan movement has mobilised public opinion for effective rehabilitation of the displaced tribal communities.

NGOs are also being funded by major corporates to support particular political parties whom they wish to hold in power.

Recently, the MHA has done a major crackdown on foreign NGOs, involved in religious conversions and other terror funding activities.

So, NGOs have played a mixed role in influencing Indian politics and many genuine NGOs

still face many problems in the
form of cash crunch.

Way forward:

Role of NGOs are essential
for any democratic society. The NGOs
should also refrain from having
any ulterior motives of destabilising
the political structure.

11. Magnitude of India's urbanisation is not unusual but the pattern is. In this context, examine the issues in the governance of cities in India. Also suggest the reforms required to make Indian cities dynamos of competitive sub-federalism.

भारत के शहरीकरण का विस्तार असामान्य नहीं है लेकिन पैटर्न असामान्य है। इस संदर्भ में, भारत में शहरों के प्रशासन से संबंधित मुद्दों का परीक्षण कीजिए। साथ ही भारतीय शहरों को प्रतिस्पर्धी उप-संघवाद के डायनेमो बनाने के लिए आवश्यक सुधारों हेतु सुझाव दीजिए।

Urbanisation in India is not a recent phenomena, as we have witnessed urban civilisations as late as Indus Valley civilisation.

But, the recent pattern of urbanisation is a cause of concern because:

- lack of planned development.
- proliferation of slums.
- Irrational suburban structure.
- diversion of farm and forest land to build cities, etc.

Issues in city governance:-

- provision of basic amenities such as water, electricity, etc. which are scanty in availability.
- migrant workers and homeless distitutes.
- proliferation of anti-social elements.
- lack of funds for infrastructure development and service delivery.

Reforms required:

- devolution of taxing powers to municipal governments.
- guarantees against loans can be provided by State or central government.
- Separate cadre of functionaries for effective governance.

- freedom and enhancing capacity to float muni bonds.

Way forward:

ULBs are a key component in effective performance of cities. The recommendations of Isher Judge Ahluwalia committee can be implemented to make cities as dynamos of competitive sub-federalism.

12. Social boycott should be treated as a criminal offence, rather than being considered as just another form of social evil plaguing the Indian society. Examine.

सामाजिक बहिष्कार को वस्तुतः भारतीय समाज को अभिशप्त करने वाली सामाजिक बुराई का केवल एक अन्य रूप मानने के बजाय, एक आपराधिक कृत्य माना जाना चाहिए। परीक्षण कीजिए।

Social boycott refers to the practice of excluding an individual or a group of individuals from mainstream social activities and functions.

The practice has been followed from ancient times and is against the rights and dignity of individual.

Various legislations and constitutional provisions were enacted to curb this evil practice, such as :

- Protection of civil rights act.
- Act of preventing manual scavenging.

- articles 14, 15, 17, 21, etc.

But the convictions under the law has been dismal when compared to the ground reality.

Even after declaring it as a criminal offense, the practice still prevails.

What needs to be done?

- sensitisation of the public against the evil practice.
- promoting alternate livelihood options for the socially backward classes.
- stronger enforcement of existing laws along with capacity enhancement

of the public officials.

Way forward:

Only a behavioral change among the people of the society could effectively curb the practice. The existing legal machinery needs to be strengthened in the short term.

13. Human Trafficking in India has emerged as a serious issue, which calls for understanding the complexity of the problem and devising an effective strategy to combat it. Discuss.

भारत में मानव दुर्व्यापार एक गंभीर समस्या के रूप में उभरा है, जो समस्या की जटिलता समझने एवं इससे मुकाबला करने के लिए एक प्रभावी रणनीति तैयार करने का आह्वान करता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Human trafficking refers to the act of commodification of a human being and trading across borders illegally for cash or kind.

The practice has been rampant in India, given the porous nature of our borders.

Problems associated with trafficking:

- loss of dignity of individual.
- proliferation of drugs, arms and FICN in exchange.
- Sexual exploitation of women.

- child trafficking lead to child pornography and child labour.
- growth of terrorism and religious fundamentalism.

How to combat it ?

- effective border management.
- enhancing border infrastructure such as roads, fences, check posts, etc.
- employing latest technology for identification of traffickers.
- Generating awareness among the socially backward communities.
- enhancing capacity of surveillance and intelligence agencies.

Way forward :-

Human trafficking is a serious issue and could have wide ranging outcomes which are detrimental to the nation.

The mentioned strategy has to be implemented in a time bound manner to curb the menace.

14. A weak teacher education system is at the core of India's problems in school education. Evaluate. In this context, also enumerate the recommendations of the High-Powered Commission on Teacher Education constituted by the Supreme Court of India.

कमजोर शिक्षक शिक्षा प्रणाली स्कूली शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में भारत की समस्याओं के मूल में है। मूल्यांकन कीजिए। इस संदर्भ में, भारत के सर्वोच्च न्यायालय द्वारा गठित शिक्षक शिक्षा पर उच्च-स्तरीय आयोग की अनुशंसाओं को भी सूचीबद्ध कीजिए।

The education system of any country also includes the teacher education system, which is a major determinant of quality of education.

The teacher education system in India is plagued with the following problems:

- lack of necessary infrastructure.
- lack of uniformity in curriculum.
- no innovation in syllabus.
- poor level of testing at entry and exit level.

- lack of financial support.
- only second tier of candidates opt for the profession as it does not seem very attractive.

Recommendations of high powered committee :-

- decentralisation of teacher training institutions.
- Teacher eligibility Tests mandated at entry level.
- Use of ICT in enhancing the capacity of teachers.
- Practical knowledge to be imparted while in the course itself.

Way forward :

Recent appraisal committee report on RTE act has found many teachers to be ineligible for employment.

The eligibility has to be verified at entry gate and mid-career capacity enhancement is also crucial.

15. It has been argued that the recent order of the Supreme Court to prevent the misuse of Section 498A institutionalises the prejudices and rehabilitates the myths, which the women's movement in India has battled over decades. Discuss.

यह तर्क दिया जा रहा है कि धारा 498A के दुरुपयोग को रोकने के लिए सुप्रीम कोर्ट का हालिया आदेश वस्तुतः उन पूर्वाग्रहों को संस्थागत एवं उन मिथकों को पुनर्स्थापित करता है, जिनसे भारत में महिला आंदोलन ने कई दशकों तक संघर्ष किया है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Section 498A refers to the punishment under IPC for cases involving domestic violence and harassment with respect to dowry.

It has been argued that many women ^{mis}use this provision to make false accusations against the family members of her husband.

The SC has made the provisions under 'Protection of Women against domestic violence' act - gender neutral.

Now, the woman can also file complaints against the female family members also.

Earlier, the male members used to harass their wives through their mothers or sisters as they were aware of the gendered nature of the act.

But, now it is no more possible to do so. But this has opened another issue of misusing this provision as the actual conviction rate with respect to number of cases filed is very low.

Way forward :

While the SC interpretation is progressive, it lies in the domain of the legislature to amend the provisions of IPC or any act.

Women should also refrain from ~~misusing~~ the legal provision for personal gains as it could delegitimise rightful claims.

16. As strategic interests between India and US continue to converge, defence has emerged as a major area of cooperation between the two. Discuss the significance and possible implications of this development.

जैसा कि भारत और संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका के बीच रणनीतिक हितों का एकीकरण जारी है, रक्षा दोनों देशों के बीच सहयोग के एक प्रमुख क्षेत्र के रूप में उभरा है। इस विकास के महत्व और संभावित निहितार्थों की चर्चा कीजिए।

The relations between India and USA has never been harmonious as it is today. The US senate has ratified the status of India as a 'major defense partner', which is at par with the NATO allies of USA.

Defense has emerged as a major area of convergence as seen from initiatives like :

- * Defense Technology and Trade Initiative (DTTI)
- * Signing of LEMOA to enhance

inter-operability, etc.

Significance of cooperation :-

- recognition of India as a major power in the region.
- greater transfer of technology.
- enhance India's capacity.
- possibility to achieve balance of trade.
- greater promotion to FDI and subsequent job creation.

Major implications :

- alienation of Russia - and consequent appeasement of Pakistan by Russia.

- China possibly views this as an attempt to balance its rise.
- Greater cooperation with Japan, as seen in Malabar exercise.

Way forward :

In the world of complex interdependence, India needs to follow an multi-vector approach and maintain balance in relations with every major power.

17. India's contribution to peacekeeping missions of the United Nations has remained steadfast despite changes in the nature, form and variety of UN peace keeping missions. Examine.

संयुक्त राष्ट्र शांति स्थापना अभियानों (UN peace keeping missions) की प्रकृति, ढाँचे और आयामों में परिवर्तन के बावजूद संयुक्त राष्ट्र के शांति स्थापना अभियानों में भारत का योगदान निरंतर बना हुआ है। परीक्षण कीजिए।

India is the second largest contributor of troops to UNPKF missions, after Ethiopia. India has also won the Dag Hammarskjöld award for two consecutive time for the contribution to UNPKF.

Changes in nature, form and variety of UNPK missions:

- Initially focused on maintaining peace along the treaty lines, the focus have come under attack by opposite factions as seen in Sudan.

- There are also allegations of sexual violence by the UNPKF.
- Very harsh working conditions.
- Remote and deserted locations of peace keeping missions.

Despite all odds, India's contribution has been steadfast as is evident from :

- greater presence of armed and paramilitary forces at various missions.
- commitment to train the national forces of the host state.
- economic assistance provided for

capacity enhancement of UNPKF.

Way forward :

India's contributions to UNPKF
is a case to point the status of
India as a 'net security provider'
in the region. India is also an
eligible candidate to the UNSC, for
its committed contribution over the PS.

18. India's partnership with Africa is an amalgam of African development priorities as well as India's development objectives. Discuss. Also highlight the initiatives taken by India in this context.

अफ्रीका के साथ भारत की साझेदारी अफ्रीका के विकास की प्राथमिकताओं के साथ-साथ भारत के विकास लक्ष्यों का सम्मिश्रण है। चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही भारत द्वारा इस संदर्भ में की गई पहलों पर भी प्रकाश डालिए।

The African continent possesses a huge potential for development. Many countries of Europe, India and China are focusing on expanding cooperation with the African countries.

Complementarities in India-Africa partnership:

- health services are an important area of cooperation. India offers cheap generic medicines to address prevailing major illness in Africa.

- cooperation in education sector - many scholarships are being offered to African students in India.
- Agricultural cooperation - procurement of pulses from Mozambique in order to address the domestic deficit.
- Security cooperation - fight against piracy in Arabian sea.

Initiatives of Govt :-

- India hosted the recent AfDB conference, the 1st time outside Africa.
- PM Modi outreach to 4 African nations to enhance cooperation.

- Asia Africa Growth Corridor (AAGLC) along with Japan.
- SAGAR and IORA - focused on promoting a blue economy.

Way forward :-

The complementarities in the partnership needs to be harnessed in order for both India and Africa to develop.

19. Comment on the role of International Court of Justice in upholding the values of international law. In this context, also highlight the association of India with the ICJ over the years.

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय विधि के मूल्यों को बनाए रखने में अंतर्राष्ट्रीय न्यायालय की भूमिका पर टिप्पणी कीजिए। इस संदर्भ में, विगत वर्षों में अंतर्राष्ट्रीय न्यायालय के साथ भारत के संबंध को भी प्रकाशित कीजिये।

The International court of Justice (ICJ) is a principal organ of the UN system. It has the mandate over the upkeep of international laws and conventions.

Role in upholding values :-

- ICJ has been criticised for being biased towards the west.
- Majority of the Judges are from western nations.

- Appeal to the judgements lie with the UNSC, which effectively degrades the utility of the court.
- Excessive interference in the functioning by the PS of UNSC.
- Countries do not uphold the judgements of ICJ, thus questioning its legitimacy.

India has been associated with the ICJ for many years.

India has contributed many judges to the ICJ panel of judges.

- India has never flaunted away with any judgment of ICJ.
- India is a responsible member of the international community and upholds the rule of law.

Way forward:

The International regime needs to be more democratised in order to strengthen its legitimacy. The Ps should also refrain from undue interference.

20. In view of the focus on trans-regional economic corridors and changing regional geo-politics and geo-economics, critically discuss the idea of an Indo-Pacific Economic Corridor.

पार-क्षेत्रीय आर्थिक गलियारों एवं बदलती क्षेत्रीय भू-राजनीति और भू-अर्थनीति को ध्यान में रखते हुए, भारत-प्रशांत आर्थिक गलियारे के विचार पर आलोचनात्मक चर्चा कीजिए।

Recently, many regional economic parts are being discussed such as RCEP, TPP, TTIP, etc.

A similar idea of Indo-Pacific economic corridor is also being debated. (IPEC)

Changing global dimensions :-

Geo-political :-

- rise of china.
- resurgence of Russia.
- decline of USA's hegemony.
- growth of BRICS nations.

Geo-economic :-

- India's fastest growing economy.

- protectionism of west.
- job loss in the west.
- TRIPS + negotiation in WTO.
- Doha development agenda.

Positives of IPEC:-

- greater regional integration.
- movement of goods, services and people.
- uniformity in quality of goods.
- enhanced ties among nations.
- reduced geo-political rivalries.

Challenges:-

- China's dumping policy.
- Very strong Indian services may face opposition.

- greater restrictions on IPR,
phyto-sanitary measures.
- greater non-tariff barriers by
the developed nations.

Way forward :-

While IPEC is a progressive
idea, countries need to agree upon
their own comparative advantages
in order to extract maximum
benefits.