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Writing mains, Evaluate on priority please

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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1514)

Name of Candidate	SONALIDEV		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	331221
Center	Offline Karol Bagh	Date	27/11/2021

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
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3	10	
4	10	
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11	15	
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15	15	
16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

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

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

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

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

1. Highlighting the changes introduced by the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (GNCTD) Amendment Act, 2021, analyse various issues with the amended Act. (150 words) 10

दिल्ली राष्ट्रीय राजधानी राज्यक्षेत्र शासन (GNCTD) संशोधन अधिनियम, 2021 द्वारा प्रारंभ किए गए परिवर्तनों को रेखांकित करते हुए, इस संशोधित अधिनियम से जुड़े विभिन्न मुद्दों का विश्लेषण कीजिए।

The Government of NCT Delhi Act 2021 was passed by the central government to clarify the provisions of under Article 239AA

- Government: to mean LCR
- congruence: required in matters of LCR other than law, land, police
- no inquiry into administrative procedures (ex post facto application)

Issues of the Act

- 1) Violates Supreme court judgement on the issue in 2018, that clearly states that LCR should act on advice and advise of Council of ministers
- 2) Reduces legitimacy of elected government against democratic conventions

- 3) Over centralisation against principle of subsidiarity
- 4) Reserving of bells even on subject devolved to government against constitutional provisions.
- 5) Central legislature cannot contravene judicial pronouncements.
- 6) Disrupting Federal balance

Justifications given by government

- 1) UT administration directly under President and his nominee i.e. Lieutenant Governor
- 2) Administrative convenience as criteria for UT
- 3) Delhi not a 'full fledged state'

However, this amendment reduces the powers of a legitimately elected government and hands over power to a nominated authority.

2. Are there valid arguments for continuing with sedition law in 21st century democratic India? Discuss in light of the debate surrounding it.

(150 words) 10

क्या 21वीं सदी के लोकतांत्रिक भारत में राजद्रोह कानून को जारी रखने के लिए वैध तर्क विद्यमान हैं? इससे संबंधित वाद-विवाद के आलोक में चर्चा कीजिए।

Sedition Act under 124 A of IPC
has a colonial legacy and was
introduced by Lord Curzon to
curtail the voice of Indian Nationalists

Should be continued

- 1) Rising cases 47 → 70 from 2014 to 2018
shows relevancy (NCRB - 2019)
- 2) Needed to protect sovereignty,
Security of Nation (reasonable
restrictions under Article 19(1))
- 3) curtail extremism of Maoist areas.
- 4) Vital for curbing crossborder terrorism
- 5) Stopping violence and dissaffection
(DPSP → brotherhood and fraternity)
+ Fundamental duties)
- 6) Law commission has highlighted its
growing need, Supreme court itself
declared sedition legal (Kannoya
Kumar case)

Should be repealed

- 1) Against freedom of speech and expression
- 2) Dissent, Dissatisfaction and debate
vital for democratic functioning
- 3) Vague provisions (disaffection) and
indiscriminate use
- 4) Conviction on sedition hardly increased
(only 4 cases convicted since 2016)
- 5) Repealed by UK, Australia
- 6) Against international covenant on
civil and political rights (ratified
by India)

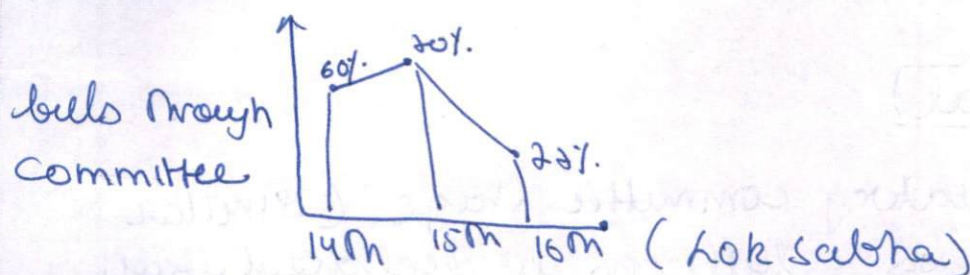
~~The~~ Supreme Court guidelines in
Kedar Nath case and Bachchan Singh
case should be institutionalised:
sedition should only be said to
occur if there is intent + accompanying
violence.

3. Identify the issues that have contributed to a decline in the performance of Parliamentary Standing Committees. How can these issues be addressed?

(150 words) 10

उन मुद्दों की पहचान कीजिए जिन्होंने संसदीय स्थायी समितियों के प्रदर्शन में गिरावट में योगदान दिया है। इन मुद्दों का समाधान कैसे किया जा सकता है?

The 16th Lok Sabha saw only 22% of all bills pass through committee stage.



Issues leading to decline

- 1) No mandatory provision of committee stage
- 2) Institutional issues
 - 1 year term, extremely less for expertise
 - non ministers
 - minimum public hearing non binding
- 3) Online and rushed legislation due to reduced sittings, increasing disruptions
- 4) procedural issues
 - lack of dedicated staff, secretariat assistance
 - no funding allocation

→ not audited.

- 5) COVID 19 restrictions caused hurdles in assembly.
- 6) Dominance of one party in Parliament
→ increasing executive actions
- 7) Discretion of Speaker to refer to committee, declare money bill.

Addressal

- 1) Mandatory committee stage (Similar to US, bill can be declared dead)
- 2) Legislative impact assessment
- 3) Diversified participation - experts, public, civil society organisation
- 4) sufficient time for public hearing
- 5) Parliament to regulate its own procedure rather than government

Parliamentary standing committees uphold Executive accountability to legislature and are vital to effective functioning.

4. Despite being a non-constitutional body, the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) has wielded immense decision-making power in India. Discuss the advantages and issues associated with it. (150 words) 10

एक गैर-संवैधानिक निकाय होने के बावजूद, प्रधान मंत्री कार्यालय (PMO) के पास भारत में निर्णय-निर्माण की व्यापक शक्ति है। इससे संबद्ध लाभों और मुद्दों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Prime minister's office is an extra constitutional, extra statutory body for secretariat assistance to Prime minister in effective discharge of his functions.

Immense decision making powers

- 1) Aid and advise the Executive (Prime minister)
 - 2) Prime minister directly heads Dept. of space, Atomic energy
 - 3) Heads Cabinet Committees and influences decisions
 - 4) formulate, implement and monitor policy.
 - 5) Chain of command from Prime minister → Executives.
 - 6) Chief crisis manager
- (Advantages)

- 1) Quick and fast decision making
eg handling disasters and pandemics
PM cares Jewel
- 2) Administrative functioning eg. CPGRAMS

for monitoring of all departments

- 3) Birds eye view of all developmental, legislative, administrative activity
- 4) Reforms undertaken
- of Mission Karmayogi
- 5) Assessment and monitoring leading to accountability of Governance reforms index
- 6) Coordination of departments otherwise working in silos of National infrastructure pipeline and Jyoti Shakti

Challenges

- 1) Executive overbearance over legislative reducing ministerial responsibility.
- 2) Violation of separation of powers (legislative)
- 3) Overcentralisation of decision making
Threat of autocracy
- 4) One size fits all approach of Departments have experts, localised problem solving
- 5) Undimmed Cabinet Secretariat (permanent bureaucracy), ~~const~~ other bodies (Niti Aayog).

PMO's powers and functions should be regulated

5. Discuss the role of data in governance in India. Also, state the various challenges in this regard and suggest remedial measures.

(150 words) 10

भारत में शासन में डेटा की भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, इस संबंध में विद्यमान विभिन्न चुनौतियों का उल्लेख कीजिए एवं उपचारात्मक उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

Governance is the mechanism through which countries resources are efficiently and effectively managed, distributed, monitored

Data Key to achieving good governance

- 1) Better policies
formulation → need based welfare based
 ↓
implementation → rationalisation local problems.
 ↓
monitoring → eg. PDs update data eg. outcome budgeting
- 2) Citizen centric through social audits eg. MNRGA funds. inadequate highlighted
- 3) Preemptive crisis management eg. → climate change adaptation policies
- 4) Responsive to needs eg. Poshan Abhiyan aligned with Health survey data - 5
- 5) Critical interventions eg. women empowerment of KIRAN scheme based on

labour force participation data

Challenges

- 1) Outdated and not comprehensive:
Eg Caste reservations still based on 1931 Census.
- 2) Inaccessible to departments due to
decentralised decision making
- 3) Prone to leaks - Data privacy, Theft,
cyber security issues
- 4) Collection of data - end in itself
lack of technologies to use 'Big data,
IoT'

Remedial measures

- 1) Digitization and decentralisation
through block chain
 - 2) Datalake projects within ministries
for cross referencing
 - 3) Self Disclosure to instill
transparency
 - 4) Protection of Private data will to
be passed
 - 5) localisation of critical data within
country.
- 'Data is the new oil and currency of
good governance'

6. With specific examples, elaborate upon the conditions that led to the emergence of a new civil society in urban India in the last few decades. Also, highlight its contribution towards effecting governance and policy changes. (150 words) 10

विशिष्ट उदाहरणों के साथ, उन परिस्थितियों का विस्तारपूर्वक वर्णन कीजिए जिनके कारण पिछले कुछ दशकों में शहरी भारत में एक नए नागरिक समाज का उदय हुआ है। साथ ही, शासन और नीतिगत परिवर्तनों को प्रभावित करने में इसके योगदान पर प्रकाश डालिए।

Civil society organisations are group of citizens formally come together that act as a vital link between government and governed

Condition of emergence of 'new civil society' in urban India

- 1) Technological -
 - 1) better data collection through ICT
 - eg. RMI for e vehicles.
- 2) Young grievances through social media eg. Kisan Sabha for farm bills involved urban youth.
- 2) Social
 - 1) vocal for reforms eg. Campaign for decriminalisation of homosexuality.
 - 2) Agency to vulnerable eg. Dalit reforms. Sports campaigns post olympics.
- 3) Stepping in policy implementation eg. Ration delivery in lockdowns Oxygen langars

3) Political → (a) changes in laws eg ^{citizenship} ~~Constitutional~~ amendment bill affecting rights

4) Legal - legal recourse through PILs after dilution of locus standi eg PULL

5) Outcome based → CDS - Lokniti report on legislative performance

A. Contribution of effective governance

- 1) Watchdog: of government policies
- 2) Agitator: of peoples demands
- 3) Advocate: of new policy decisions
- 4) Implementation: eg PRATHAM → ^{Midday meal} ASER report
- 5) highlight vulnerable sections eg. SEWA of self employed women

3) policy changes

- 1) feedback and audit: eg MNPCHA ^{audits pushed} government for fresh allocation of jobs
- 2) withdrawal of farm bills to address dissatisfaction.
- 3) Tweak: eg. Privacy bill.

New Civil society organisations are playing vital role in checking policy decisions

7. The Gati Shakti mission has the potential to not only address the issue of infrastructure bottlenecks but also streamline the governance processes in the country. Elucidate. (150 words) 10

गति शक्ति मिशन में न केवल अवसंरचना संबंधी बाधाओं का समाधान करने की क्षमता है अपितु देश में शासन प्रक्रियाओं को सुव्यवस्थित करने की भी क्षमता विद्यमान है। स्पष्ट कीजिए।

Mission Gati Shakti aims to 'speed up' and 'strengthen' the implementation of National Infrastructure Pipeline and other infrastructural development.

Address issues of bottlenecks

(A) Governance Process

- 1) Coordination between government departments working in silos e.g. 4 ministries of Transportation
- 2) Data congruence and use e.g. Density of Roads to play complementary role to railways
- 3) Survey of scale - efficiency of resources.
- 4) Better outcome monitoring - Geotagging of asset, function & digitization of records
- 5) Reduced litigation: Government itself the biggest litigator.

(Digitisation of records)

(B) reduce infrastructural bottlenecks

1) PPP based funding and creation of SPV's.

2) Monetisation of government assets to tune of SCRE

3) INVTIS and REITS funding

4) Technology transfer through international collaboration & dedicated bright corridor by Japan

5) Experts, personnel to be rolled in

Jyoti Shakti mission is critical in achieving target of reducing logistics cost to <10% of GDP by 2022

8. Giving an account of the issues faced by workers in the informal sector, discuss whether the recently launched e-Shram portal can help in addressing them. (150 words) 10

अनौपचारिक क्षेत्रक में श्रमिकों द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली समस्याओं का विवरण देते हुए चर्चा कीजिए कि क्या हाल ही में प्रारंभ ई-श्रम पोर्टल उनका समाधान करने में सहायता कर सकता है।

90% of India's workforce continues to be employed in informal sector

Issues

- 1) Economic:
 - low wages
 - flouting of minimum wages, bonus.
 - Extra working hours
 - no pf benefits.
- 2) Social
 - no social security
 - vulnerable to occupational hazards eg. fire outbreaks
 - Inaccessibility of washrooms, water.
- 3) Skill development
 - Unskilled and trapped in low income jobs
- 4) Legal - little access to institutional credit
 - inter state migrant workers dominated → loose out on Ration benefits.

5) Administrative

- not addressed in policy making
of exemption from compliance
under various acts

Benefits of E-Shram portal

- 1) Assessment of number of informal workers
- 2) better delivery of public services
of DBT for monthly ration
Spearheading one nation one
ration card
- 3) Skill mapping of workers and
training appropriately.
- 4) Social security benefits ensured
under New labour codes
 - gig workers
 - platform workers
- 5) Check on only flout of rules
based on number of employees.
(Factories Act)

Thus E-Shram portal and digital
use can address social, economic
benefits of informal workforce and usher
in formalisation

9. Clarifying the significance of the recent developments on the issue of global minimum tax, discuss its prospects and challenges for India.

(150 words) 10

वैश्विक न्यूनतम कर के मुद्दे के संदर्भ में हालिया घटनाक्रमों के महत्व को स्पष्ट करते हुए, भारत के लिए इसकी संभावनाओं और चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Recently 120 countries have agreed for 15% global minimum tax on multinational companies.

Significance

- 1) Bring into ambit digital companies
- 2) Streamline individual taxes imposed by individual jurisdictions (equalisation levy by India)
- 3) Global ease of doing business.
- 4) Avoid profit shifting and multiplication of tax havens
- 5) Curb black money in global economy.

Prospects for India

- 1) India likely to benefit as its minimum tax for new digital companies at 15%
- 2) Increased tax revenue - significant presence of digital giants.

- 3) Comparative advantage of huge consumer base and level playing tax fields.
- 4) money can be used for economic growth, development, post COVID recovery.
- 5) Check black money, hawalla.

Challenges

- 1) Issue of agreeing on minimum tax by all nations
- 2) procedural guidelines to calculate tax
- 3) Might not benefit as most companies headquartered in developed world
- 4) strong opposition from digital MNC
- 5) WTO negotiations stalled on new way

way forward

India should participate as an early member of negotiating the global minimum tax and push ~~it~~ at through WTO high table.

10. Announcement of the AUKUS security pact heralds a new era of global geopolitics. Comment. Also, discuss how it may affect India's interests.

(150 words) 10

AUKUS सुरक्षा समझौते की घोषणा ने वैश्विक भू-राजनीति के एक नए युग की शुरुआत की है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। साथ ही, चर्चा कीजिए कि यह भारत के हितों को कैसे प्रभावित कर सकता है।

AUKUS is the trilateral security pact between Australia, UK, USA for military engagement and trade new era of global geopolitics

- 1) Atlantic and Pacific engagement Shift from geographical grouping.
- 2) Effective hegemony of like minded - developed capitalist nations
- 3) Shift against Asian centrality, free and fair Indo Pacific
- 4) (Non nuclear) Australia allowed nuclear technology shifting against non proliferation.

Renewed existing geopolitics

- 1) Against Chinese hegemony
- 2) Resilient supply chains.

3) Alternative to QUAD

Effect India's interest

A) Positive

- ① waivers to India in NSC
- ② renewed focus on Indo Pacific engagement
- ③ effective to counter China's hegemony.
- ④ Can open up trade links with Australia, UK on own merit (post Brexit)
- ⑤ Uranium trade from Australia

B) Negative

- a) Sam sideline QUAD dialogue
- b) India's - security trade with Russia can undermine uram.
- c) India's commitment to Non aligned military blocks may lose out on effective engagement.

India should engage with AUKUS on its own merit independent from QUAD

11. Effective devolution of finances is an important requirement for Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) to fulfill their objectives. Discuss while also elaborating on the reasons behind lack of financial resources for PRIs in India. (250 words) 15

पंचायती राज संस्थाओं (PRI) को अपने उद्देश्यों को पूरा करने के लिए वित्त का प्रभावी हस्तांतरण एक महत्वपूर्ण अनिवार्यता है। भारत में PRIs के लिए वित्तीय संसाधनों की कमी हेतु उत्तरदायी कारणों का वर्णन करते हुए चर्चा कीजिए।

Panchayati Raj institutions ushered in legislative and administrative decentralisation in India with 73rd and 74th constitutional amendment Act.

Effective devolution of finances are key to fulfilling their objectives.

- 1) grassroot decision making
 - requires funds for inspection policy formulation
- 2) decentralised planning: requires funds for monitoring → assessment → allocation of resources
eg. bottom up planning requires assessment of ground level plans, resource availability and efficiency
- 3) Democratic participation
 - assembly of gram sabha and collective participation require funds

- 4) Audit of schemes eg MNREGA
 - requires resources for expert involvement and audit
- 5) mobilisation of resources for vibrant village economy.
 - ↳ asset creation under gram swarf abhyon.
- 6) Human development
 - functional devolution of managing local schools and hospitals remain only on paper due to paucity of funds.
- 7) Employment generation
 - requires investment into infrastructure, agriculture and cottage industries

Reasons for lack of financial resources

- 1) Non compulsory provision under Article 243 (73rd amendment) and this varies from state to state
- 2) non devolution of taxation powers by state governments.

- 3) Tied nature of Central funds
eg 15th finance commission tied
local body grants to health and
education
- 4) State's own financial crunch for
further devolution by state finance
commission.
- 5) Ascriptive barriers: PRI bodies
themselves do not tax their fellow
villagers (2nd ARC)
- 6) Lack of functionality of assets or
resources leading to declining
revenue generation.
 eg revenue streams linked to
 road tax, agricultural tax.
- 7) Inefficient collection, maintenance
of records due to lack of personnel,
secretariat, lack of digitisation.

PRI committees including Atal Bihari Vajpayee,
GVK Rao have stressed on effective
financial devolution to make PRI viable.

12. Judicial activism is a necessary tool to guard against "legislative adventurism and executive excesses". Critically discuss in the context of the doctrine of separation of powers as provided in the Constitution of India.

(250 words) 15

“विधायी जोखिम और कार्यकारी अतिक्रमण” से रक्षा के लिए न्यायिक सक्रियता एक आवश्यक उपकरण है। भारत के संविधान में यथा प्रदत्त शक्तियों के पृथक्करण के सिद्धांत के संदर्भ में समालोचनात्मक चर्चा कीजिए।

Judicial Activism is the proactive role played by judiciary to keep a check on legislature and executive functions of a government.

Necessary to guard against

(A) Legislative adventurism

- 1) To ensure procedure established by law followed with due process of law (Maneka Gandhi case)
- 2) Protect against breach of fundamental rights (Keshavnand Bharti)
- 3) Ensure basic structure of constitution is retained.
- 4) Legislative guidelines eg. NCT of Delhi case, Prakash Singh guidelines for police reforms.

(B) Executive excesses

- 1) Ensure accountability of Executive

to legislature eg. Striking down,
constitutional article 43B as it encroached
over state list.

2) maintain separation of power and
judicial independence eg. striking
down NJAC act

3) Executive action shouldn't violate
the wisdom of a law, check
unbridled powers into hands of few

4) Take actions where executive has
not taken urgent steps eg Vishaka
guidelines.

5) PIL given real power to people
Judicial Activism unnecessary

1) Violates Separation of power (Articles)

2) Contravenes Constitutional supremacy
and upsets in Judicial supremacy

3) Check on judiciary itself unchecked
eg. 99th amendment declared
unconstitutional

4) Judicial encroachment of pure
legislative domain and executive
domain eg. banning of

liquor shops near highway.

- 5) No bounded guidelines for judicial activism → discretion can cause collusion with present day government
- 6) Backlog and Pendency of judicial cases
Wanting of social justice of 3.53 crore pending cases.
- 7) Already overburdened judiciary.

'Judicial Activism' should be applied with 'judicial restraint' so that.
Self Indian constitution's principle of 'Checks and balances' can be maintained
(Ram Swamy case)

13. The electoral bond scheme is part of what appears to be a growing trend away from transparency and accountability in electoral funding. Critically analyse. (250 words) 15

चुनावी बॉण्ड योजना उस बढ़ती हुई प्रवृत्ति का भाग है जो चुनावी फंडिंग में पारदर्शिता और जवाबदेही से दूर जाने की प्रतीति होती है। समालोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिए।

The electoral bond Scheme allows for anonymous contributions to a political party through denomination of 1000, 10,000, 1 Lakh and 1 Crore.

A growing trend away from Transparency and accountability of Electoral funding

1) Anonymous donations.

- violates earlier promises of capping corporate contribution to a political party.
- may violate FRA norms

2) Contravenes declaration of funding details

- earlier all contributions exceeding Rs 20,000 would have to be declared

3) Dominance of high denomination bonds

- RTI reveals 99% of all contributions

were above 1 lakh, with maximum
beyond 1 crore

- 4) Ruling Party accounted for maximum
donations through electoral bond scheme
- 5) No cap on Political Party spending
as a whole, keeps funding unchecked.
- 6) Political parties are not under RTI
decreasing transparency of funding process
- 7) Muscle and money power remains
unchecked with 90% of sitting MPs having
net worth > 1 crore.

Upsides of elector bond scheme in bringing
transparency and accountability

- 1) Non bearer instrument : Checks illegal
transfers
- 2) Lapses within 15 days if not redeemed
∴ cannot be misused as cash
instruments/hawking
- 3) Digitises records reducing chances

of 'black money' in funding.

- ④ ~~Level~~ smaller donation denominations helps in effective mobilisation of funds including clout of corporates, criminals colluding with politicians.

Reforms needed

- 1) State funding of Elections -
Indrajit Gupta committee
- 2) Capping political party expenses.
- 3) Level playing field for all parties (removal of 1% votes) or in line with recognised party criteria.
- 4) Self declaration of Assets, income (CSC guidelines)

Check on electoral funding can be first step to purge election processes of criminalisation.

14. The significance of the principle of subsidiarity was well reflected in the management of the COVID-19 pandemic. Analyse. (250 words) 15

समनुषंगिता (सब्सिडियरिटी) के सिद्धांत का महत्व कोविड-19 महामारी के प्रबंधन में बेहतर रूप से परिलक्षित हुआ है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

The Principle of Subsidiarity states that a function that can be performed at a 'lower level' should be performed at a lower level. 'Decentralisation of powers' is the guiding principle.

reflected well in COVID 19 management

- 1) State lockdowns were implemented under Epidemic diseases act and gave powers to (DM's) to assess the requirement, duration, stringency of such lockdowns
- 2) Vaccination success achieved through involvement of state functionaries. State purchase from central government.
- 3) IEC for COVID protocols took place at grassroots systems with involvement of local NCO's, Asha, vernacular radio.

- 4) Decentralised production of masks, sanitizers by involvement of SHCs at 3rd tier
- 5) Management of quarantine centers testing and tracing for curbing inter-state spread of COVID
eg Kerala curtailed spread in 1st wave
- 6) Dispersal of crowds ~~not~~ even in opening up in local markets by use of local police, volunteers.

Principle of subsidiarity not followed

- 1) Stringent nationwide lockdown in phase 1 causing a migrant crisis
- 2) Drug pricing and control order issued to stop black marketing of drugs like Remdesivir.
- 3) Funds collected at National level - PM CARES to bounce back economy post COVID.
- 4) Compensation cess not paid to states.

- 5) Universality of vaccination, protocols, travel norms, suspension of international flights.
- 6) Devolution of vaccine stock to states to ensure continuous supply

Thus principle of subsidiarity though necessary to tackle local problems, effective engagement, monitoring planning should be balanced with centralisation to ensure uniformity in rules and administration

15. Social media has ushered in greater transparency and accountability in governance. But accountability through social media is no alternative to institutional accountability. Analyse. (250 words) 15

सोशल मीडिया ने शासन में अधिक पारदर्शिता और जवाबदेही की शुरुआत की है। लेकिन सोशल मीडिया के माध्यम से जवाबदेही संस्थागत जवाबदेही का विकल्प नहीं है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Social Media has manifested itself as the 4th pillar of democracy

sewing as a common platform for both government and the governed

ushered in greater transparency and accountability

(A) Transparency

→ Government twitter handles used especially for IEC activities on important work

eg. Consumer grievances and redressal forums.

2) Regular update on development work undertaken

eg. Development of schools, hospitals.

3) Outcomes publicised

eg. National Family health survey - results.

4) Self transparency mechanism under RTI Act, 2005 given voice by publishing departmental efforts of ministries, diplomatic engagements

⑤ Accountability

1) raise public grievance and set form demand

- eg. Protest toolkits circulated

2) Citizen engagement

eg public hearing, feedback, surveys on social media

3) Outcome assessment - real time updates of vaccination status

However cannot replace institutional accountability

1) Lacuna in social media accountability

a) huge digital divide (25% digital literacy) ∴ high exclusion

b) misinformation and fake news

c) yellow journalism only highlighting

successes.

- d) misuse of sedition, defamation cases used to voice grievances through social media posts.
- 2) may violate parliamentary accountability (Article 24, 25)
- 3) Institutional accountability
 - gives legitimacy to recognised government
 - ensures government through ultimate sovereignty of people
 - laws in place keeps check on discretionary transparency

Thus social media accountability should only supplement institutional accountability, social media guidelines should also recognise their role ~~is~~ in deepening democracy.

16. Although the State has the right incentives and intentions to deliver public services efficiently, its capacity to do so is questionable. Critically discuss in the context of India. (250 words) 15

यद्यपि राज्य के पास सार्वजनिक सेवाओं के कुशलतापूर्वक वितरण हेतु उचित प्रोत्साहन और उद्देश्य विद्यमान हैं, तथापि ऐसा करने की उसकी क्षमता संदिग्ध है। भारत के संदर्भ में समालोचनात्मक चर्चा कीजिए।

State's aim of Good Governance

highlights its responsibility in effective delivery of public service

Efficiency of Public services Through:

(A) Right ~~Inte~~ Incentives

1) Mandate of government and state stems through people (We the people in constitution)

2) Benchmark of state's performance and vital for its continuance

3) Accountability — use of RTI
— (Article 74, 75).
(executive accountability to Parliament)

(B) Right Intentions

1) To usher in development
eg. Education, health.

- National Digital health mission
- 2) Laws for efficiency of goods
eg. National food security Act,
2013.
- 3) Uphold Constitutional morality of
uplifting vulnerable sections,
promote justice
eg. National commission for
~~trans~~ transgender formed,
outcome budgeting adopted
- 4) Monitoring, assessment, planning
decentralisation mandated
through (11th schedule), e governance,
CPGRAMS, citizen charters to
efficiently deliver services.

Limited Capacity

- 1) Public participation in decision
making remains low eg. Public
hearing rules in EIA diluted.
- 2) Lack of personnel, funds for
effective delivery.
- 3) Work in silos causing ~~the~~ real

tapism, pushing up of files (2nd ARC)

(4) Corruption has infested government machinery causing leakages, pilferages and diversion eg.

(5) Lack of Database causing high inclusion and exclusion errors eg 1000 Crore dispersed to ~~unintended~~ unintended beneficiaries under PM Kisan

(6) Accountability remains procedural

- self declaration under RTI not followed
- copy paste methodology of citizen charters

Addressal

- 1) Civil service training oriented towards functionality (Mission Karameyogi)
- 2) Lateral entry for experts
- 3) Mandatory citizen charters for every department, social audits should be done
- 4) Effective devolution to third tier

Capacity development of State would be critical in achieving good governance (OECD).

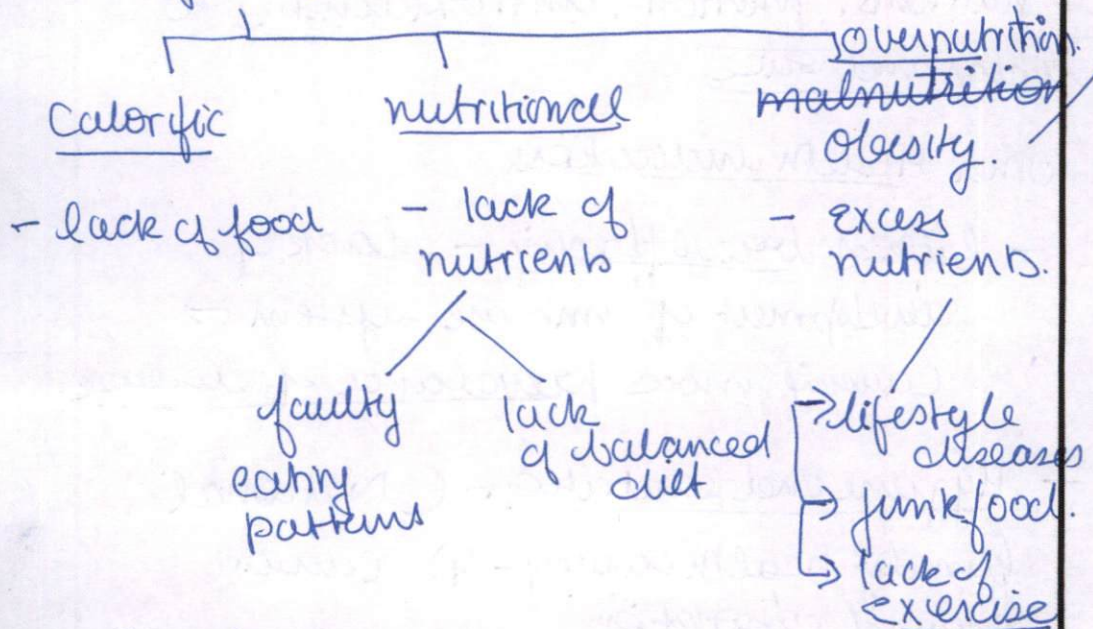
17. The problem of hunger in India does not lie in food production but various other underlying issues. Discuss in the wake of decline in India's ranking in the Global Hunger Index, 2021. (250 words) 15

भारत में हंगर (भूखमरी) की समस्या खाद्य उत्पादन में नहीं बल्कि अन्य कई अंतर्निहित मुद्दों के कारण है। ग्लोबल हंगर इंडेक्स, 2021 में भारत की रैंकिंग में गिरावट के आलोक में चर्चा कीजिए।

India has slipped to 102 rank on global hunger index, with severe hunger reported.

Hunger doesn't manifest itself only due to food production but other issues.

1) Types of hunger



2) Affordability

- 21.9% people under poverty line
- cannot afford nutritional food.

③ Accessibility

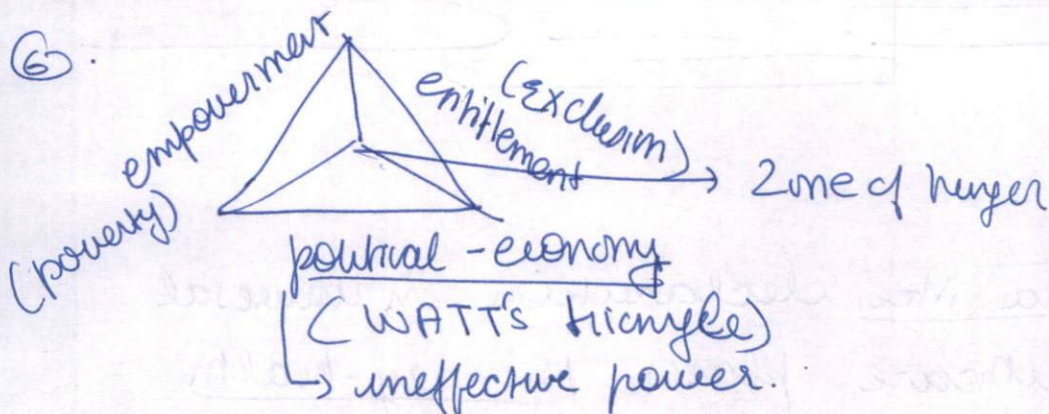
- pilferages and leakages in PDS system
eg. Aadhar issue and Shankhbel
starvation case
- only 32% people benefiting under PDS
- migrants out of ambit due to demicle
restrictions

④ Equity

- unsustainable subsiding practices and
change in diet eg. Shift from
millet based diet (rich in
nutrients, protein, antioxidants) to
wheat and rice

⑤ Other Health indicators

- lack of breastfeeding - lack of
development of immune system →
causing more prevalance of disease
- Hygiene and sanitation (National
family health survey - 4) causes
reduced absorption
- Maternal health and Anaemia can cause
deficiency in offspring



eg) Refugee groups

However, declining food production is also causing a threat

eg 1) Decreased net sown area
from 46.1 ^{land use} ~~Hectares~~ in 1991 to
42.1 in 2011 census.

2) vulnerability of rainfed area due
to climate change

3) Desertification and soil degradation
reducing productivity.

Recessall

- 1) Rationalisation of food subsidy,
targeting Antyodaya
- 2) decentralised procurement
- 3) Dindori model of millet bars in
schools to improve health indicators.
- 4) conjunction of Health, sanitation.

Hunger eradication is critical to achieve
SDG 2 (zero hunger)

18. Democratization of primary healthcare is indispensable for fulfilling the objectives of equitable and comprehensive care in India. Discuss.

(250 words) 15

भारत में समान और व्यापक देखभाल के उद्देश्यों को पूरा करने के लिए प्राथमिक स्वास्थ्य देखभाल का लोकतंत्रीकरण अपरिहार्य है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Alma Ata declaration on universal healthcare places primary-health care as central to "universal healthcare".

Democratisation of primary healthcare

A) equitable care

1) Improved affordability: Currently out of pocket expenditure as high as 60% of healthcare expenditure (Economic survey 2019)

2) Improved accessibility

— rural healthcare institutions have a 30% deficit of staff, nurses and doctors

3) Reducing disproportionate disease burden

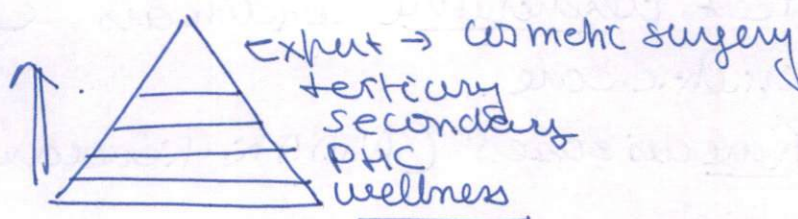
eg. Deaths of 'Chakmi Bukhar' of 300+ children could be avoided even with basic glucose facility

4) Vulnerable included

- Sick, disabled, children,
vulnerable that bear maxim
burden of disability adjusted
lifestyle.

③ Comprehensive care

1)



↳ democratisation of Primary
health care would reduce burden
on limited doctors, staff (1:1456
ratio)

2) Timely and efficient care without
rushing to big hospitals.

3) preventive and preemptive care
from diseases, nutrition

4) vaccine immunisation - universal
coverage can be achieved
(critical for eliminating ~~viral~~
diseases - Rubella, measles)

5) IEC for curbing spread of
Tuberculosis, AIDS requiring

door to door redressal.

However, they should be supplemented
by Democratizing secondary and
tertiary healthcare systems

- 1) to treat lifestyle diseases (>50%
disease burden now)
- 2) treat degenerative conditions of
geriatric care.
- 3) Rare diseases (NIDAN Kendras)

Steps to democratise

- 1) All India and state medical surveys
(Economic Survey - 19)
- 2) Integration with traditional medicine
by AYUSH doctors
- 3) panelisation under Ayushman Bharat
- 4) Universal health ID and
Digi doctor accessibility at common
service centers.

Primary healthcare is stepping stone
to achieve universal healthcare (SDG
3).

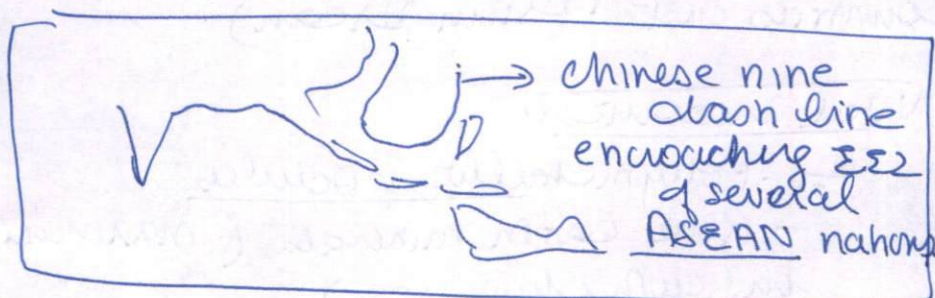
19. In the context of the evolving discourse on the Indo-Pacific, analyse the factors driving the global shift towards the region. Also, identify India's interests and challenges in this regard. (250 words) 15

हिंद-प्रशांत (इंडो-पसिफिक) पर विकसित हो रहे संवाद के संदर्भ में, इस क्षेत्र की ओर वैश्विक झुकाव को प्रेरित करने वाले कारकों का विश्लेषण कीजिए। साथ ही, इस संबंध में भारत के हितों और चुनौतियों की भी पहचान कीजिए।

Discourse of 'free and fair' Indo Pacific, 'ASEAN centrality', reinvigoration of QUAD has shifted diplomatic interests towards the region.

Factors driving the global shift

- 1) Chinese growing hegemony and Middle kingdom dream causing aggression in South China Sea (Nine dash line).



- 2). US's containment of communism policy translating to containment of China policy and building of strategic ports at Hong Kong, Korea, Japan, Djibouti, Saudi.

3) Vital trade routes

- Strait of Malacca
- Strait of Hormuz.

Carrying 90% of global trade by volume.

4) Threat by small island nations on
sovereignty due to debt trap
diplomacy, presence of foreign military
eg. Maldives5) Part of ambitious maritime silk route
with potential of changing economic
order of world6) greater role assertion by ASEAN
countries and 'Asian Dream')7) Vital resources

- eg - Poly metallic nodules
- Rare earth minerals (maximum in south China sea)
 - Lithium Reserves
(Claron Clipperton zone)

8) Most vulnerable to climate change
- Pacific islands.Indias Interests in Indo Pacific

- 1) Potential of harnessing blue economy
- 2) Vast reserves of oil and Natural gas
eg. Bombay high, K a basin,
seabed minerals
- 3) Counter chinese aggression of String of
pearls through String of flowers
- 4) Neighbourhood first policy and
critical to maintain peace in border
areas eg. Bangladesh, Myanmar.
- 5) Save Trade Links to Atlantic, Pacific
- 6) Maritime security eg. 26/11 attacks
through maritime route

Challenges 1) Multitude of stakeholders
eg AUKUS kept India out
of deal.

- 2) Effective cooperation of all nations
for blue economy, Hg and mapping
- 3) Military supremacy and Yuan.
diplomacy of China can derail Indian
efforts

Thus. Indo pacific command ~~and~~ at
Nicobar and separate division has
been created under (MEA) to achieve
effective engagement in the region

20. India's Afghanistan policy must be based on a clear-eyed understanding of important strategic goals in the region amidst the current regional and global strategic environment. Elaborate. (250 words) 15

भारत की अफगानिस्तान नीति वर्तमान क्षेत्रीय और वैश्विक रणनीतिक परिवेश के बीच इस क्षेत्र में महत्वपूर्ण रणनीतिक लक्ष्यों की स्पष्ट समझ पर आधारित होनी चाहिए। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए।

Sudden Withdrawal of US troops from Afghanistan, resurgence of Taliban has forced India to rethink its future Afghan Policy.

Should be based upon:

(A) understanding strategic goals in the region

- 1) Important for India's neighbourhood first policy
- 2) Vital for Connect Central and Look west policy.
- 3) Chamber → Chetaram link
Can act as gateway to Eastern Europe
- 4) Counter China's One belt one road initiative
- 5) peaceful Afghanistan is cornerstone to peace in

Kashmir valley and reduced
levels of violence and extremism

6) Curtail global drug trade (
Afghanistan part of drug-crescent)

(B) balancing current regional environment

1) Huge humanitarian crisis and
fleeing of people (India
conducted operation Bar Shakti)

2) Pakistan's increasing involvement
in supporting Taliban

3) Taliban reinvigorating talks
with Al Qaeda

4) China's willingness to engage
with Taliban to ensure continuity
of Belt Road initiative

(C) Global strategic environment

1) Power vacuum in Afghanistan.

2) Russia's entirest reinvigorated
to put Afghanistan in its
backyard

3) Acceptance of Afghan led
Afghan controlled process for

maintaining long term stability and peace.

4) Shifting focus from Afghanistan to South China sea of USA.

India's policy should include

- 1) Restoring its belief in Afghan led, Afghan controlled process
- 2) track 2 diplomacy with Afghanistan
- 3) Continuing investments of human resources
- 4) fast tracking citizenship rules for Minorities
- 5) Border security to prevent any incursions.

Afghanistan Remains central to India's policy of maintaining peace in the neighbourhood.