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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1863)

Name of Candidate	PARAS - GARG		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	420571
Center	Online	Date	23.12.2021

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
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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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1. Parliamentary oversight of administration is not an end in itself rather it acts as a means to strengthen the efficient functioning of the administration. Discuss. (150 words) 10

प्रशासन की संसदीय निगरानी अपने आप में एक अंत नहीं है बल्कि यह प्रशासन के कुशल कामकाज को मजबूत करने के एक साधन के रूप में कार्य करता है। विवेचना कीजिए।

Ans:- Parliament keeps oversight over Government through various instruments such as debates, asking questions, through its committees etc.

Means to strengthen efficient functioning of administration :-

- ⊙ Ensure accountability of administration for the wasteful expenditure.
- ⊙ Asks questions to determine probity and outcomes.

↳ to decide whether output is resulting into good outcomes. for. eg. whether giving cylinders has led to decline in usage of cow dung[^] as fuel or wood.

- ⊙ Safeguard against corruption.
- ⊙ Asks Government about its failures and bring transparency.
- ⊙ Budgetary Control → Censure motions, Cut motions etc. to ensure equity and efficiency in Budget.
- ⊙ Due to oversight administration act more responsibly.
- ⊙ Best decisions are taken after discussion

End in itself

- Ensure democratic ~~functioning~~ functioning
- Curb authoritative tendencies.
- Collective decision making

Therefore the Parliamentary structures must be strengthened and it should sit for minimum 120 days as is the case in U.K and Canada to ensure good governance

2. The Tenth Schedule of the Constitution has weakened the democratic credentials of India's representative democracy. Critically discuss.

(150 words) 10

संविधान की दसवीं अनुसूची ने भारत के प्रतिनिधि लोकतंत्र की लोकतांत्रिक साख को कमजोर कर दिया है। समालोचनात्मक विवेचना कीजिए।

Ans:- Tenth schedule of Constitution was added by 52nd Amendment to the Constitution. This was to prevent frequent defections in lieu of certain benefits.

Weakened democratic credentials

- ① Legislators are representatives of peoples and should have freedom on how to vote in legislature.
- ② They should vote as per their conscience as per interests of their constituents.
- ③ Anti Defection Law curbs valid criticism within the party as whip is issued in all the matters.

Strengthened Democracy :-

- ① No frequent defections means political stability.
- ② A safeguard against horse trading by corrupt means
- ③ Government can focus on governance rather than its stability
- ④ Defection after winning on a party ticket is betrayal to public.

However, the scope of this law should be narrowed down to only those bills which affect the stability of Government such as Money bills, No Confidence motion etc.

3. Article 246 of the Indian Constitution is considered as the cornerstone of Centre-state legislative relations. Discuss. (150 words) 10

भारतीय संविधान के अनुच्छेद 246 को केंद्र-राज्य विधायी संबंधों की आधारशिला माना जाता है।
विवेचना कीजिए।

Ans:

Indian Constitution divides subjects into three lists - Union list, State list and Concurrent list.
Union and State ~~Gover~~ legislature have exclusive right of legislation in Union and State list respectively and both can legislate on matters listed in Concurrent list.

However in case of an emergency, when Rajya Sabha considers it to be expedient in National interest, it can authorise Parliament to legislate

on a subject mentioned in
State list by passing a resolution
to this effect by a special
Majority.

Another factor important in
maintaining smooth Centre-State
relations is Cooperative federalism
~~the~~ under which state or
Union should not enter
into the domain of other.

4. Although the provision of issuing ordinances amounts to the usurpation of legislative power by the Executive, both Centre and states in India have taken unrestrained course to it. Discuss. (150 words) 10

हालांकि अध्यादेश जारी करने का प्रावधान कार्यपालिका द्वारा विधायी शक्ति के अधिग्रहण के समान है, फिर भी भारत में केंद्र और राज्यों दोनों ने इसे अनियंत्रित रीति से प्रयुक्त किया है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Ans:- Indian Constitution provides for power of President and Governor to issue ordinances in case of an urgent need when the house is not in session.

However this has been misused and has led to usurpation of legislative power by Executive.

Misuse of Ordinance route

- ⊙ Ordinances are issued for normal laws to evade Parliamentary scrutiny. without any urgent need.
- ⊙ Same ordinances are re-promulgated

many times and the approval of legislature is many times not even sought.

- ⊙ Despite rejection in Rajya Sabha, ordinances are issued again and again.

Measures needed to address this

- ⊙ As stated by Supreme Court in S.R. Bommai judgement ordinances are exceptional measures and should not be issued regularly for normal course of business.
- ⊙ Executive must seek approval of Ordinance in legislature and it should not be re-promulgated unless absolutely necessary.

As B.R. Ambedkar said, Ordinances are exceptional instruments and should not be used normally.

5. There has been a manifold increase in the number of ministries in the central government since independence. Do you agree with the view there is a need to phase out many ministries and amalgamate others in this context? (150 words) 10

स्वतंत्रता के बाद से केंद्र सरकार में मंत्रालयों की संख्या में कई गुना वृद्धि हुई है। क्या आप इस विचार से सहमत हैं कि इस संदर्भ में कई मंत्रालयों को चरणबद्ध तरीके से समाप्त करने और अन्य को समामेलित करने की आवश्यकता है?

Ans! - The number of ministers in the Council of Ministers (COM) cannot be more than 15% of total strength of Lok-Sabha. However, this is the upper limit, but is generally reached to accommodate Political aspirations.

Need to Phase Out / Amalgamate ministries :-

- ① Amalgamation of Ministry of MSME, ministry of heavy industry etc into Ministry of Industry and having departments named after

the hitherto ministries.

① Amalgamation will ensure better coordination. for eg. Functions of Ministry of Broadcasting and department ~~look~~ with Ministry of IT looking after digital news channels have overlapping functions.

② To ensure better sharing of data and improving professionalism, this can be done.

③ Better usage of manpower deployed in these ministries in new areas. for eg. for Artificial Intelligence, Digital technologies etc.

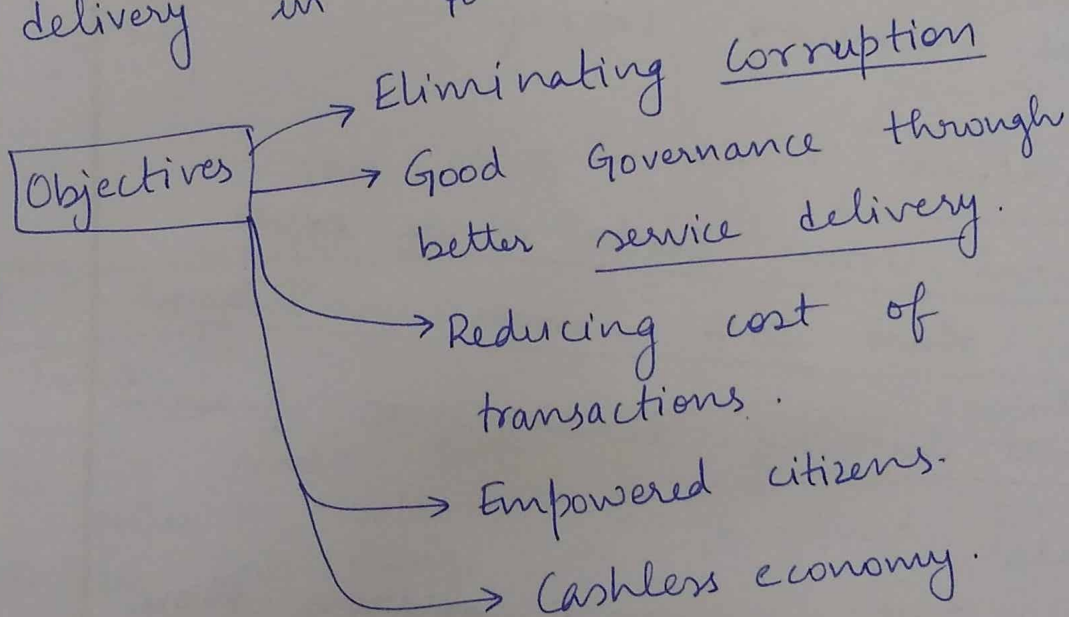
Thus there is a need of rationalisation of number of ministries to ensure better cooperation, coordination of and efficiency.

6. Evaluate the success of Digital India in fulfilling its vision of transforming India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy.

(150 words) 10

भारत को डिजिटल रूप से सशक्त समाज और ज्ञान आधारित अर्थव्यवस्था में बदलने के अपने दृष्टिकोण को पूरा करने में डिजिटल इंडिया की सफलता का मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

Ans:- Digital India scheme was launched with an objective of utilising digital technologies for the empowerment of citizens and improving service delivery in Governance.



Success of Digital India :-

- More than 50 crore smartphones users in country.

- Optical fibers in ~~the~~ villages -
- Free Wi-fi in villages in common spaces such as Panchayats.
- Free Wi-fi in Railway stations.
- Billions of UPI transactions
- Service delivery through UMANG app empowering people.
- Online auction process through GeM portal reducing corruption.

Limitations :-

- Rural-Urban digital divide exists.
- Less than 30% women use Internet.
- Digital illiteracy leading to financial frauds.

We must address these issues by improving connectivity infrastructure in rural areas and building digital literacy tools.

7. Examine the issues related to poverty measurement in India. Suggest measures to improve upon the existing methodologies. (150 words) 10

भारत में निर्धनता के मापन से संबंधित मुद्दों का परीक्षण कीजिए। मौजूदा पद्धतियों में सुधार के उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

Ans:- As per Rangarajan Poverty line, 29% people in India were below poverty line in 2012. But as per World Bank more than 50% of India's population was in Multi-Dimensional poverty.

This shows issues in poverty measurement in India.

Issues :-

- ① Too much focus on income poverty rather it should be on consumption.
- ② Very few things are considered for.
eg. ability to get calories but not adequate nutrition.
- ③ Data about poverty is difficult to collect.

- ① Lesser focus on Housing, adequate health etc.
- ② No focus on ability to attain education especially higher education.
- ③ Poor training of survey officials.

Remedial Measures

- ① Collecting good quality updated data by NSSO surveys.
- ② Adequate training of survey officials
- ③ Including technological aspects in data collection and analysis.
- ④ Focusing on hinderances in capability for eg. Nutrition, Education, Skills, financial literacy etc.

Adequate measurement of poverty is necessary to address it to achieve SDG-1 of No Poverty.

8. As one of the recommendations of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, discuss the rationale behind internationalisation of higher education in India and its associated challenges. (150 words) 10

राष्ट्रीय शिक्षा नीति (NEP), 2020 की सिफारिशों में से एक के रूप में, भारत में उच्चतर शिक्षा के अंतर्राष्ट्रीयकरण के लिए दिए गए तर्कों और इससे जुड़ी चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Ans. National Education Policy 2020 (NEP) aims to open the campuses of foreign Universities in India to improve accessibility and availability of ~~the~~ quality Higher education.

Rationale

→ Allowing top 100 universities to set up their campuses will provide access to many Indians within India for which they now have to go to abroad. This will save precious resources.

- Encouraging Research and collaboration with Indian universities through cross-learning.
- Improving employability of students
- Protecting and reversing Brain drain.

Challenges

- ① These universities could be very costly and thus inaccessible to ~~most~~ most students
- ① India need to focus much more on primary education than Higher education
- ① Same quality in Indian Campuses will be difficult to ensure.
- ① Bringing high quality foreign professionals will be a challenge.
- ① Introducing all the research facilities

9. Stating the significance of Free Trade Agreements (FTAs), examine whether they have been as beneficial as expected for India. (150 words) 10

मुक्त व्यापार समझौतों (FTAs) के महत्व को वर्णित करते हुए, परीक्षण कीजिए कि क्या वे भारत के लिए अपेक्षा के अनुसार लाभदायक रहे हैं।

Ans:- Free Trade Agreements between two countries help in increasing trade by reducing import tariffs and other non-tariff barriers. India has many free trade agreements such as with ASEAN, Japan etc.

Benefits to India

- ① Increased foreign investments in India.
- ② Increase in India's exports of pharmaceuticals and software products.
- ③ Some integration in Global value chains.

- ① Making Indian industries competitive to address the comparative advantage.

Limitation of FTA's for India :-

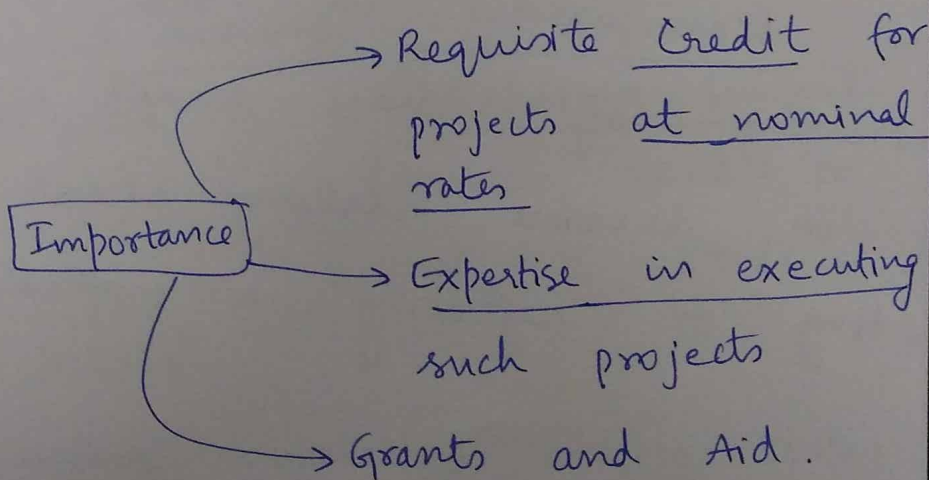
- ① Huge trade deficit with ASEAN countries resulting in loss of jobs in India
- ① Many Industries such as Fishing face non-trade barriers such as sanitary and phytosanitary measures in Japan and ASEAN.
- ① No subsequent agreement on movement of personnel or trade in services.

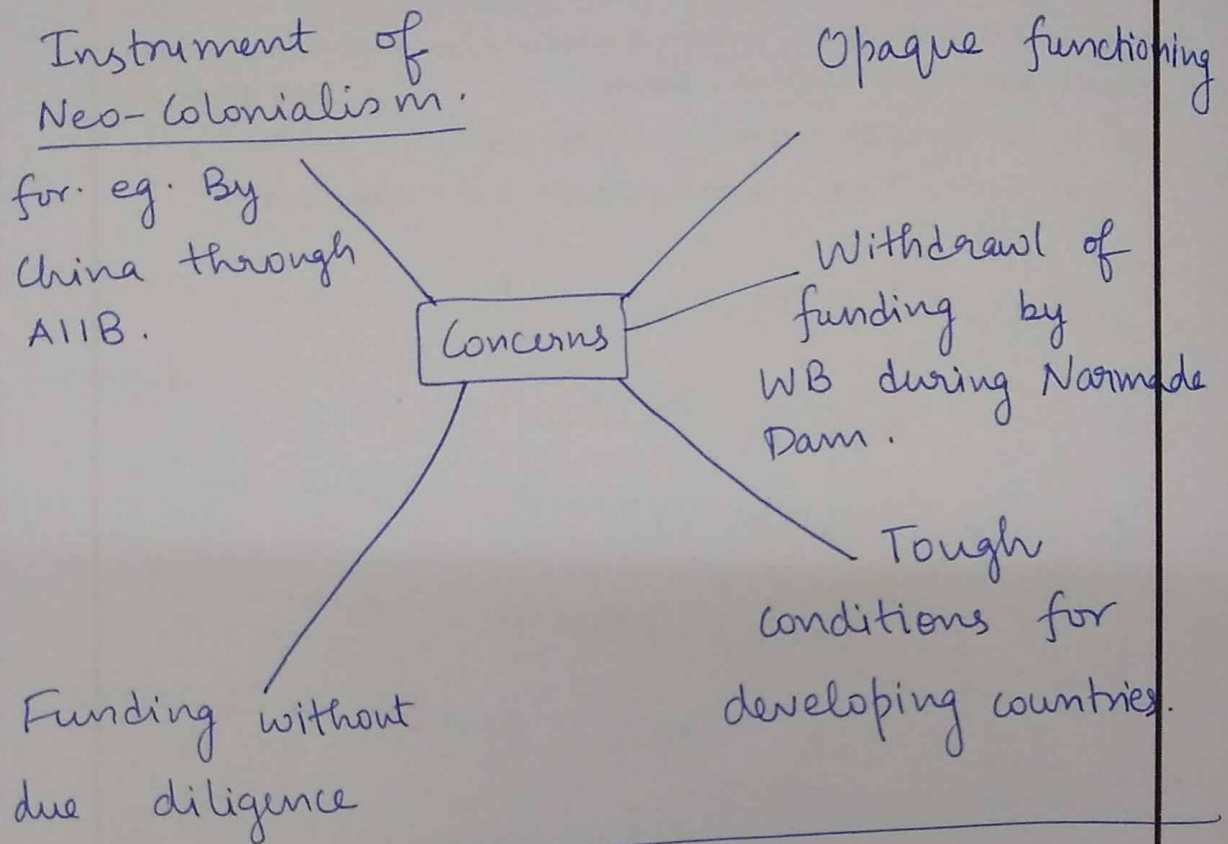
India should better negotiate these FTA's to ensure equal access for our services and free movement of people.

10. Though multilateral development banks (MDBs) are crucial for holistic development of developing nations like India, there are certain legitimate concerns about their functioning. Discuss. (150 words) 10

यद्यपि बहुपक्षीय विकास बैंक (MDBs) भारत जैसे विकासशील देशों के समग्र विकास के लिए महत्वपूर्ण हैं, तथापि उनके कामकाज के बारे में कुछ वैध चिंताएं भी हैं। विवेचना कीजिए।

Ans! Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) such as World Bank, Asian Development Bank, New Development Bank by BRICS countries provide loans at reasonable rates to developing countries. for their infrastructure or social development projects.





There is a need for more transparency in the functioning of these banks especially in decision making about accepting or rejecting a proposal.

11. Despite the legal framework to resolve inter-state river water disputes, why do they continue to exist? Also, discuss measures that can be taken to resolve such disputes in an expeditious and agreeable manner.

(250 words) 15

अंतर्राज्यीय नदी जल विवादों को हल करने के लिए कानूनी ढांचे के विद्यमान होने के बावजूद, वे अभी भी जारी क्यों हैं? साथ ही, ऐसे विवादों को शीघ्र और सहमतिपूर्ण रीति से हल करने के लिए किए जा सकने वाले उपायों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Ans:- There are many tribunals that have been set up under Inter state River water disputes Act. However the disputes continue to exist.

Reasons for disputes continuing

① Political reasons

- Water is a sensitive subject and no politician want to look as giving up state's interest.
- Poor cooperation among states.
- Increasing water demands.

- Disagreements over data
on rivers.
- Development needs — Irrigation.
- Fuelling these issues
during elections

⊙ Administrative
Reasons

- Lengthy judicial
process with issue
going till Supreme Court
- Lack of enforcement of
orders
- Poor quality ~~are~~ data
- Outdated data.

Following measures must be taken
to resolve these disputes in
expeditious manner:-

Measures needed :-

- ① Updated data on water in rivers, ground water along with seasonal
- ② Political Cooperation through Inter State Council and Regional Councils
- ③ Proper enforcement of orders.
- ④ Clear orders — for eg. many cases are filed seeking clarifications in the court orders.

⑤ Faster judgements

⑥ State must accept the verdict.

Rivers are lifeline of our country. These disputes lead to wastage of water and loss for both the disputing states. States must cooperate and find other avenues such as drip and sprinkler irrigation to ensure per drop more crop.

12. While use of technology is a welcome step towards improving the efficiency of the judicial system, it must be understood that technology itself comes with a set of challenges that make justice even more inaccessible. Discuss. (250 words) 15

हालांकि न्यायिक प्रणाली की दक्षता में सुधार की दिशा में प्रौद्योगिकी का उपयोग एक स्वागत योग्य कदम है, लेकिन यह भी समझा जाना चाहिए कि प्रौद्योगिकी स्वयं चुनौतियों के एक समूह को साथ लाती है जो न्याय को और भी अधिक दुर्गम बनाती है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Ans:-

India has more than 4 crore cases pending in various courts. To solve this issue and ensure equal access, technology is seen as a natural partner. However there are certain challenges:-

Challenges :- Inaccessible Justice

① Digital Divide - Court orders and dates of hearing are published on its website. it leads to

many issues - for eg

- Rural-Urban divide.
- Rich-poor divide.
- Poor connectivity in rural areas.

- ① Websites are mostly in Hindi or English and not in regional languages.
- ① Digital devices — Nearly 40% population does not have access to a smartphone or a laptop.
- ① Literacy → Very few people can file for appeal or a suit on the website.
- ① Poor design of websites makes it difficult to access it.
- ① Disable unfriendly websites
- ① Issues of transparency — Hitherto Lok Adalats have been stopped during COVID-19 and online Lok-Adalats were held. Very few people knew

about them.

Other measures needed

- ① Increasing Judge to population ratio from current 20/million.
- ① ~~Finance~~ Digital literacy along with strengthening infrastructure in common services centres.
- ① Further penetration of optical fiber is needed.
- ① Hybrid methods — Displaying information both online and offline

Access to Justice is an essential part of A-21 Right to Life and Liberty. It should not be considered as a welfare measure but as an entitlement.

13. The current urban planning capacities in India are extremely skeletal and need systemic reforms and a change in mindset. Discuss. (250 words) 15

भारत में शहरी नियोजन की वर्तमान क्षमताएं अत्यंत सीमित हैं तथा प्रणालीगत सुधारों और मानसिकता में बदलाव की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Ans! - 74th Constitutional Amendment Act provided constitutional status to Urban local bodies. It also mandated district planning committees for holistic development in urban areas.

However this planning has many issues:-

Skeletal Urban Planning Capacities

- ① Multiple agencies for planning for eg. PWD department, Urban development authorities, Water board, Municipal corporations etc.
- ② Poor coordination.
- ③ Lack of mechanism to ensure accountability.

- ① Limited powers with mayors to devise a scheme.
- ② Unelected implementing authorities under D.M.
- ③ Funding — Very variable as urban bodies depend on state's finances. This makes planning for long term impossible.
- ④ Functions have not been devolved by all the states uniformly.

Therefore, we need systemic reforms to address urban planning issues.

Reforms needed :-

- ① Directly elected mayors who are responsible for the planning and development in cities.

- [2] Stability in terms of grants by states.
- [3] More taxation powers with urban local bodies.
- [4] Better collection of taxes. for eg. Municipal bodies collect only 44% of their potential tax.
- [5] Better coordination in terms of preparing a Master Plan.

Cities are growth engines of an economy. Their efficient working is essential not only for Ease of living of people but also for the growth of our economy.

14. Reservation for women in the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) has not translated into corresponding increase in women's representation in India's state legislatures. Bringing out the reasons for the same, discuss how under-representation of women in the state legislatures can be corrected.
(250 words) 15

पंचायती राज संस्थाओं (PRIs) में महिलाओं के लिए प्रदत्त आरक्षण उसी अनुपात में भारत की राज्य विधान-मंडलों में महिलाओं के प्रतिनिधित्व में वृद्धि में परिवर्तित नहीं हुआ है। इसके कारणों को वर्णित करते हुए चर्चा कीजिए कि राज्य विधान-मंडलों में महिलाओं के कम प्रतिनिधित्व में कैसे सुधार किया जा सकता है।

Ans:- 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act-1992 provided for 33 % reservation for women in PRIs in all the 3 levels. This has resulted in more than 45 % women representatives in PRIs today.

However, the same has not happened in state legislatures.

Reasons for Under-Representation :-

- ① Political parties give tickets based on winnability as politics is considered a Man's job.

- ① Criminalisation of politics discourages women.
- ① Even in PRIs there is a Sarpanch Pati.
- ① Poor family support for women to fight elections.
- ① Use of money and muscle ^{and violence} power during elections.

Measures needed to correct this

- ① Increased number in PRIs should be used as a tool to spread awareness.
- ① Political parties should give more tickets to women. For eg. Giving 40% tickets to women candidates.
- ① Reservation of women in state legislatures and Parliament at 33%.

- ① NGO's should encourage women to fight elections and help them in filling documents.
- ① Faster ^{trial and} conviction of accused who are members of legislatures.
- ① Inner party democracy to generate more women leaders.

Increasing political participation of women in country will help us in ensuring social empowerment. Laos with gender perspective will help us in ensuring social justice as enshrined in our preamble and DPS P's.

15. For effective public service delivery, there is need to shift from traditional accountability mechanisms to social accountability mechanisms. In this context, discuss the pre-conditions for the success of social accountability efforts and challenges associated with them. (250 words) 15

प्रभावी सार्वजनिक सेवा वितरण के लिए, पारंपरिक जवाबदेही तंत्र से सामाजिक जवाबदेही तंत्र में स्थानांतरित करने की आवश्यकता है। इस संदर्भ में, सामाजिक उत्तरदायित्व के प्रयासों की सफलता के लिए पूर्व-शर्तों और उनसे जुड़ी चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Ans: Social Accountability refers to accountability of public servants towards public. Here public itself ask for accountability of government officer. For eg. social Audit, Social Accounting and EIA (Environment Impact Assessment).

Pre-Conditions for the success of Social Accountability :-

- ① Awareness and Education of public about their rights and responsibilities of government servants.

- ① Effective tools with public to seek accountability for eg. their adequate knowledge and disclosures.
- ② Tools to take action. for eg. This should not just be recommendatory but substantial.
- ③ Proper monitoring of entire process to ensure that accountability is real
- ④ Transparency about Government decision making and all the documents.

However there are certain challenges associated with this:-

Challenges :-

- Poor literacy levels.
- Poor accessibility of records of

Government.

① Time consuming process

- Training so many people.
- Opportunity cost for the poor is high.

② Resources to monitor this exercise are huge.

③ Neutrality of Government servants means

that they can ~~neig~~ neither take credit nor responsible for their action.

Social Accountability can prove to be an effective tool in eliminating corruption and ensuring efficient service delivery. It must be institutionalised to empower people.

16. The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) remains one of the most ambitious programmes for public welfare and rural development, but its objectives cannot be achieved without strong and capable Panchayati Raj Institutions. Elucidate.

(250 words) 15

महात्मा गांधी राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण रोजगार गारंटी अधिनियम (मनरेगा) अभी भी लोक कल्याण और ग्रामीण विकास के लिए सबसे महत्वाकांक्षी कार्यक्रमों में से एक है, लेकिन इसके उद्देश्यों को मजबूत और सक्षम पंचायती राज संस्थानों के बिना हासिल नहीं किया जा सकता है। स्पष्ट कीजिए।

Ans:-

MGNREGA provides a guarantee or a right legal right to work for 100 days in an year to one member of a household. Its objective was to reduce poverty, increasing rural prosperity.

It was designed as a self-targeting scheme as only the ones who would need work will come forward for manual low or no skilled work.

Issues in MGNREGA due to weak
Panchayati Raj Institutions :-

- ① Inclusion errors
 - Corruption in preparing muster rolls.
 - No work is given despite asking for it.
 - Money going into accounts of people who never worked.

② Timely payments are not given.

③ Corruption in building assets in lean period.

④ No ^{effective} audit of funds given and utilised.

⑤ Social Audit does not involve all the members of Gram Sabha.

Need for strong PRI for fulfilling its objectives :-

① Empowering Gram Sabha

- to ensure no ghost beneficiaries
- Timely payments to everyone.
- Guaranteed work within 15 days of applying.

② Empowering Panchayat

- Raising demand for timely disbursement of funds by Centre and State Governments.
- Sufficient amount of money by its own resources.
- Grass root empowerment by building sustainable assets.

Hence strengthening PRI's is the need of the hour to attain the objectives of both MGNREGA & 73rd C.A.A.

17. Despite legal safeguards and international conventions, the State has failed to uphold the rights of persons with disabilities in general and those with psychosocial disabilities in particular. Discuss in the context of India.

(250 words) 15

कानूनी सुरक्षोपायों और अंतर्राष्ट्रीय अभिसमयों के बावजूद, राज्य सामान्य रूप से दिव्यांगजनों और विशेष रूप से मनोसामाजिक दिव्यांगजनों के अधिकारों को बनाए रखने में विफल रहा है। भारत के संदर्भ में विवेचना कीजिए।

Ans:- Every citizen as has Fundamental Right to Equality U/A-14, 15, 16 and Right to a dignified life U/A-21. International Covenants on Civil and Political rights mentions about the rights of people with disabilities also. But despite this many such people do not enjoy these rights as can be seen from the following.

State's failure in upholding rights :-

① Right of equal access to public

places has not been ensured. for.
eg. Ramps etc.

- ① No proper mental health provisions for psychosocially disabled people.
- ② Lack of adequate schools and public teachers who can address the education requirements of psychosocially disabled people.
- ③ Poor political will is the key reason behind this.

④ No enforcement of their rights by courts so far. unlike the Right to Education for other people and Health.

However, Government has taken certain steps in this directions.

Steps taken

- Accessible India Campaign
- Disability Act — Providing reservation in Government jobs and educational institutions.

Measures Needed

- Psychological support in Public healthcare facilities.
- Teachers training in Government schools to deal with such students

We must understand providing for these basic rights is the responsibility of all of us but more so of the state. These must be ensured as a matter of right and not welfare.

18. To what extent has the PM Awas Yojana (Gramin) been successful in solving the problem of rural housing in India? Discuss with adequate arguments.
(250 words) 15

भारत में ग्रामीण आवास की समस्या को सुलझाने में प्रधान मंत्री आवास योजना (ग्रामीण) किस सीमा तक सफल रही है? पर्याप्त तर्कों के साथ चर्चा कीजिए।

Ans:- India has shortfall of around 3 crore houses in rural areas. To address this PM Awas Yojana was started. Under this, more than 50 lakh houses have been built or are being built or loans have been given.

Success of PM Awas Yojana (Gramin)

- ① Subsidized loans to lakhs of people have been disbursed.
- ② Lakhs of houses have been built by Government itself.

- ① Money for an additional room in a Pucca house has been given.
- ② Addition interest subvention for timely payment.

Limitations of PM Awas Yojana

- ① Still, a huge short fall exists.
- ② Misuse of loans for other purposes such as related to agriculture inputs.
- ③ Overall cost of loans rises as banks charge huge fees.
- ④ In case of non-payment of interest and loans, houses can be taken back.

This scheme, although has not solved the problem completely, ~~but~~ is an important

milestone in ensuring housing for
all.

19. Despite the potential of India's Neighbourhood First policy, there have been several impediments to regional cooperation in South Asia. Discuss.

(250 words) 15

भारत की नेबरहुड फर्स्ट नीति में क्षमता होने के बावजूद, दक्षिण एशिया में क्षेत्रीय सहयोग के लिए कई बाधाएं विद्यमान हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।

Ans: India launched Neighbourhood First Policy in 2014 to improve regional cooperation, improved connectivity and trade. However, even today South Asia remains the least integrated region of the world.

Impediment to regional cooperation :-

[1] India-Pakistan hostilities

↳ Pakistan promotes terrorism as a state policy. for eg. Pathankot Attack, Uri Attack and Pulwama attack.

→ India has responded that there
can be no talks unless
terrorism stops

→ Pakistan's disagreement in
accepting India as most
favoured nation.

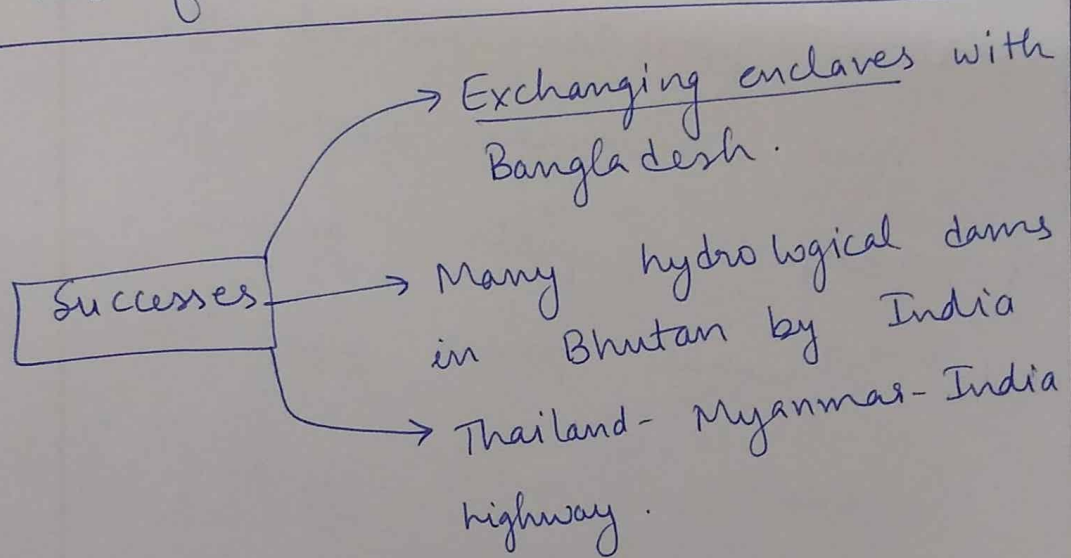
→ Its refusal to sign South
Asia trade agreement -

2] China factor

→ Interference of China in
Nepal, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh
has led to their closeness
with China.

→ Issues with Nepal on border
issues.

- ③ Bhutan was hesitant to sign BBIN motor agreement due to ecological reasons.
- ④ Emergence of Taliban in Afghanistan has further complicates the matters.



India should work for the revival of SAARC to ensure better cooperation. This will result in mutual prosperity and decline in influence of China in the region.

20. It is argued that China's Belt and Road Initiative has resulted in unsustainable debt-for-infrastructure deals in several countries across continents and it is a part of debt trap diplomacy. Discuss. (250 words) 15

यह तर्क दिया जाता है कि चीन का बेल्ट एंड रोड इनिशिएटिव महाद्वीपों के कई देशों में गैर-संधारणीय अवसंरचना के लिए-ऋण आधारित सौदों में परिणत हुआ है और यह ऋण जाल कूटनीति का एक हिस्सा है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Ans:- China launched its Belt and Road Initiative in 2015-16 to build infrastructure projects around the world. These include highways, railway projects, ports, airports ~~and~~ and thermal power plants etc.

However, this is leading to unsustainable debt as can be seen from the following:-

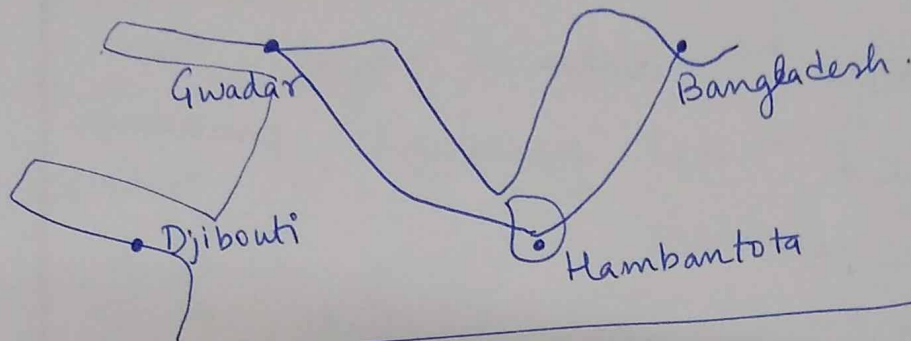
Debt-Trap Diplomacy

① Hambantota Project in Sri-Lanka was given to China on 99 year lease after it failed in repaying the debt.

- ① Gwadar Port in Pakistan is also facing financial difficulties.
- ① CPEC which is more than a \$50 Billion ~~dollar~~ project has exacerbated the financial problems of Pakistan.
- ① Similar examples include a railway project in Malaysia and many such projects in Africa.
- ① Endangering Sovereignty of many countries due to their inability to pay back debt.
- ① This is leading to China end up owning these infrastructure projects.

Issues for India :-

→ String of Pearls to encircle India



→ Neo-colonialism of many of its partners - Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and African countries.

Therefore, India must work with like minded countries to provide alternative sources of finance. for. eg. through Asia-Africa growth corridor. It should also raise this issue with countries at bilateral level and in UN.