



VISIONIAS

INSPIRING INNOVATION

ABHYAAS MAINS

सामान्य अध्ययन (प्रश्न पत्र-II)/GENERAL STUDIES (Paper-II) (2218)

निर्धारित समय: तीन घंटे
Time Allowed: **Three Hours**

अधिकतम अंक: 250
Maximum Marks: 250

सामान्य अनुदेश

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

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

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

General Instructions

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

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

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

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

पंजीकरण सं./Registration No. : **0218920**

अभ्यर्थी का नाम/Name of Student : **Shubham**

माध्यम: हिंदी/अंग्रेजी
Medium: Hindi/English

English

तारीख
Date

27/8/22

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

केंद्र
Centre

**Karol Bagh,
Delhi**

निरीक्षक के हस्ताक्षर
Invigilator's Signature

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

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परीक्षक के हस्ताक्षर Signature of Examiner(s)	

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

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



सामान्य अध्ययन (प्रश्न पत्र-II)/GENERAL STUDIES (Paper-II) (2218)

निर्धारित समय: तीन घंटे
Time Allowed: **Three Hours**

अधिकतम अंक: 250
Maximum Marks: **250**

प्रश्न-पत्र संबंधी विशेष अनुदेश

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

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

सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।

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

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

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

प्रश्नों में इंगित शब्द सीमा को ध्यान में रखिए।

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

QUESTION PAPER SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

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

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

All questions are compulsory.

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

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

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

Keep the word limit indicated in the questions in mind.

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

EVALUATION INDICATORS

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

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

1.

क्या आप इस विचार से सहमत हैं कि भारतीय संविधान की सातवीं अनुसूची पर पुनर्विचार करने का समय आ गया है? उपयुक्त तर्कों के साथ चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Do you agree with the view that time has come to revisit the Seventh Schedule of the Indian Constitution? Discuss with suitable arguments. (Answer in 150 words)

10

उम्मीदवारों को
इस हिसाब में
नहीं लिखना
चाहिए
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Article 246 provides for Seventh Schedule which divides power into Union list, State list and Concurrent list

Need for reviewing seventh schedule

i) Remove colonial leanings

↳ as 7th schedule was derived from 1935 GOI Act

ii) Decentralisation of power

↳ as 42nd Amendment increased contents in concurrent list

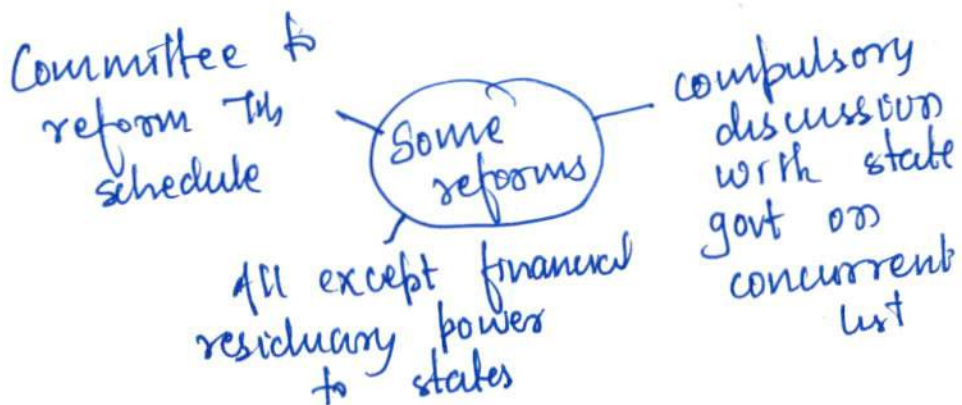
iii) Proper placing of various subjects in three lists.

iv) Include new areas of emerging

governance challenges
↳ e.g. disaster management, emerging
technology

v) Deal with issue of concurrent list
↳ as it increases states-centre conflict
↳ e.g. education reforms, labour reforms

vi) Residuary power reform
↳ need to be shifted and properly
defined with equal power to states



To improve centre-state relations
and governance, reforms in the
schedule is necessary

2.

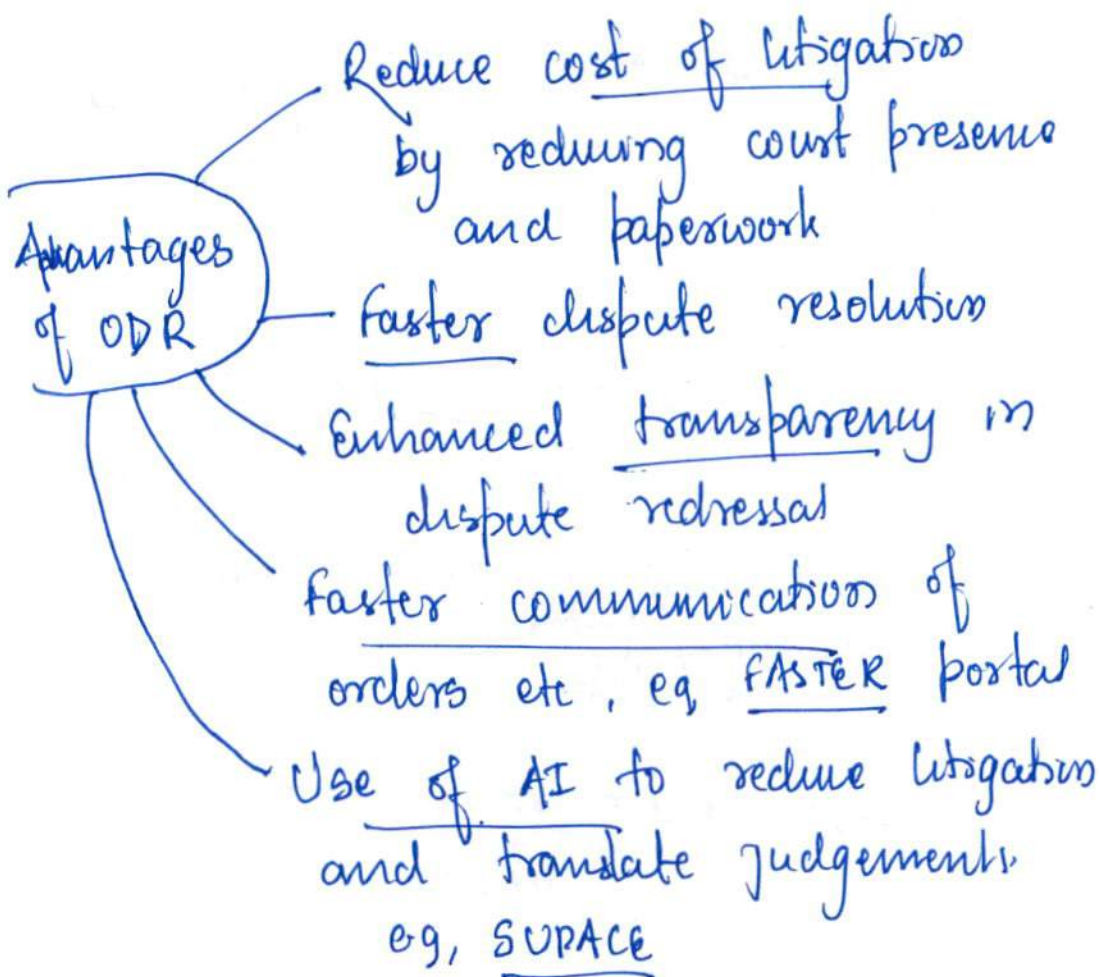
न्याय वितरण के लिए ऑनलाइन विवाद समाधान (ODR) तंत्र के लाभों को रेखांकित करते हुए, भारत में इसके प्रभावी कार्यान्वयन से जुड़ी चुनौतियों की विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Highlighting the advantages of online dispute resolution (ODR) mechanism for justice delivery, discuss the challenges associated with its effective implementation in India. (Answer in 150 words)

10

उम्मीदवारों को
इस हार्डिंग में
नहीं लिखना
चाहिए
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Online dispute resolution refers to the use of online tools to solve various disputes like e-mediation, virtual hearings etc.



Challenges

- i) Inadequate infrastructure
↳ only 30% of court halls had facilities for virtual hearing
- ii) Digital illiteracy and device
↳ rural population will be at disadvantage (tele-density - 58%)
- iii) Privacy issue
↳ e.g., marital cases
- iv) Can impact functioning of judges
through influence of media
↳ e.g., judges being cautious during live hearing.
- v) Lack of digital ecosystem in judiciary
↳ e.g., court management systems

Expenditure on judiciary needs to increase with early implementation of e-courts project.

3.

शक्तियों के संवैधानिक विभाजन के बावजूद, केंद्र-राज्य विवाद भारतीय लोकतंत्र की एक चिरस्थायी विशेषता रहे हैं। उदाहरण सहित चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Despite the constitutional division of powers, Centre-state disputes have been a perennial feature of Indian democracy. Discuss with examples. (Answer in 150 words)

10

उम्मीदवारों को
कृपया हार्शिए में
नहीं लिखना
चाहिए
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Federalism is the basic structure of Indian constitution, as per Supreme Court in SR Bommai case.

Constitutional divisions of power

- Part XII (245-263) contains division of power between centre and states
- 7th schedule contains subjects dividing between centre and state.
- Financial division of power in Part XII of the Indian constitution (264-300)

Perennial centre-state disputes

- Disputes in legislative domain.
 - eg, farm laws issue

ii) financial disputes

- eg. GST compensation, off budget borrowing, cess and surcharges etc.

iii) Use of central agencies against state government

- eg. ED in money laundering case, CBI cases

- Public order and police are state subjects

iv) Disputes in executive domain

- eg. land acquisition for projects like Bullet train

v) Other disputes

- foreign policy intervention, eg. Teesta river dispute

Strengthening Inter-state council (Article 263) and Zonal councils can help solve some of these disputes.

4.

क्या आप इस विचार से सहमत हैं कि लॉबींग के लिए एक ढांचे को अंगीकृत करना भारत में सहभागी शासन और कारोबार सुगमता को सुदृढ़ करेगा? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Do you agree with the view that adopting a framework for lobbying will strengthen participative governance and ease of doing business in India? (Answer in 150 words)

10

उम्मीदवारों को इस कक्ष में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Lobbying refers to the act of persuasion employed by mainly corporates against government to protect its economic interests.

Lobbying framework will strengthen the participative governance and EoDB as -

- in a democracy, it is the right of stakeholders to engage with government to protect its interests.
- can lead to clean way of approaching the policymakers → more transparency
- better economic policies as all stakeholders will have a say in it.
↳ ease of doing business

- improved implementation of policies as there will be no protest or resistance.

However it can create and amplify many concerns -

- i) distort level playing field - as rich business will have more resources for lobbying
- ii) policies in favour of corporates - might ignore common man
- iii) loss to public exchequer - eg, lobbying to reduce spectrum base price for 5G.

Thus, lobbying framework can improve governance and EODB but it needs complete transparency and automatic limitations.

5.

सरकारी अनुप्रयोगों के लिए सरकार द्वारा प्रोपराइटी (निजी स्वामित्व और नियंत्रण वाली) प्रौद्योगिकी के बजाय ओपन स्रोत प्रौद्योगिकी को प्रोत्साहित करने के बावजूद, फ्री एंड ओपन सोर्स सॉफ्टवेयर (FOSS) और डिजिटल प्लेटफॉर्मों की वास्तविक क्षमता का दोहन नहीं हो पाया है। चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Despite the government encouraging open source instead of proprietary technology for government applications, the true potential of Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) and digital platforms remains unrealized. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words)

10

Open source refers to those software whose source code is publicly available for modifications, eg android

Open source government applications

i) In health sector,

↳ Aarogya, CoWIN, etc

ii) Education sector

↳ Swamyam portal, eVidya etc

iii) Finance sector

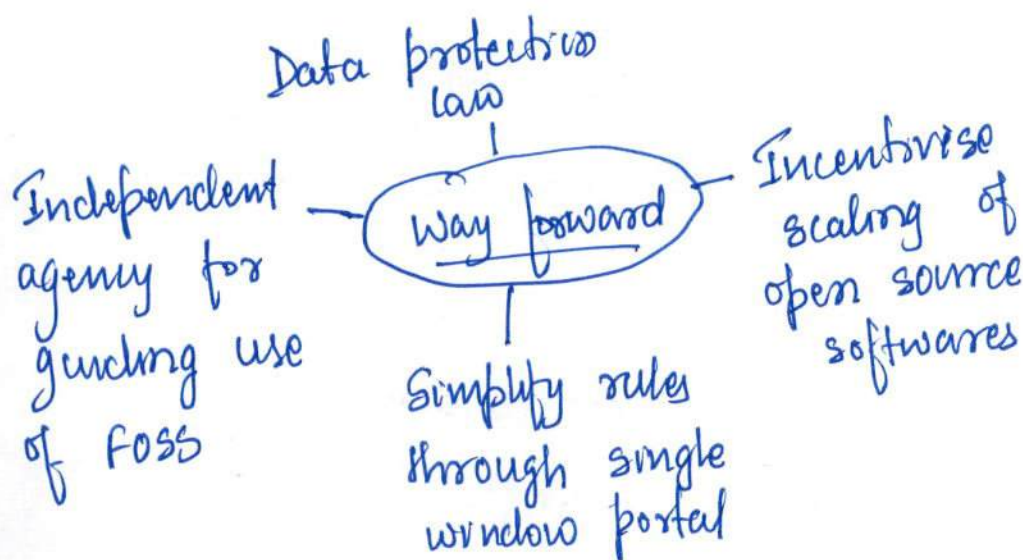
↳ UPI, DBT etc

iv) Governance sector

↳ Umang, Digitalocker etc

Reasons for unutilised potential

- i) Limited digital literacy and infrastructure.
- ii) Various regulations that prevent easy incorporation of government software.
- iii) Lack of data protection architecture.
- iv) Disinterest from private sector due to scaling challenges, and privacy issues.



India's journey towards \$1 trillion digital economy can be made more inclusive through free and open source software.

6.

एक सामाजिक सुरक्षा-वाल्फ के रूप में, गैर-सरकारी संगठन (NGOs) प्रमुख साधन हो सकते हैं जिनके माध्यम से समुदाय अपनी चिंताओं को व्यक्त करते हैं। चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

As a social safety-valve, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) can be the principal vehicles through which communities voice their concerns. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words)

10

उम्मीदवारों को इस कक्ष में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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According to estimates by CBI, there is ~~are~~ one NGO for every 600 Indians.

NGO as societal safety valve

- i) Give platform to citizens to voice their concerns. eg, All India Democratic Women's Association for women rights.
- ii) Activism against state policies that violate fundamental rights
eg, Greenpeace for environmental rights protection
- iii) Give representation to all kinds

of minorities. e.g., Nazariya for LGBTQ+ rights

iv) Awareness generation and mobiliser of mass. e.g., Samyukt Kisan Morcha about farm laws

v) Present demands before governments and judiciary.

e.g., Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) is fighting electoral bonds case

Challenges — tool of foreign policy and lobbying
— disturb development projects
— lack of transparency in functioning
— give voice mostly to already powerful groups

NGOs as part of civil society should act as a force multiplier for enhancing social capital.

7.

अपने रोगी केंद्रित दृष्टिकोण के लिए सराहे जाने के बावजूद, मानसिक स्वास्थ्य देखभाल अधिनियम, 2017 का कार्यान्वयन सुस्त है और विभिन्न मुद्दों से घिरा हुआ है। चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Despite being lauded for its patient centric approach, the implementation of the Mental Healthcare Act, 2017, remains sluggish and mired with various issues. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words)

10

उम्मीदवारों को
इस हशिमे में
नहीं लिखना
चाहिए
Candidates
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According to WHO, India has one of the largest populations of mental health patients.

Patient centric approach of Mental Healthcare Act 2017

- Gives agency to patient to seek treatment in public hospitals.
- Present guidelines for sensitive treatment procedures.
- Fund for awareness generation and infrastructure support
- Use of technology to deal with mental health related issues.

Issues in dealing with mental health

- i) Lack of dedicated mental healthcare institutes and professionals.
- ii) stigma associated with mental health prevents diagnosis and treatment.
- iii) Low expenditure on mental health programmes.
- iv) Very low awareness about mental health, especially in villages.
↳ dominance of cultural beliefs, local doctors etc.
- v) Expensive treatment options, limited to private sector.

Mainstreaming mental health through social influence and government campaigns should be the starting point to deal with issues.

8.

क्या आप इस विचार से सहमत हैं कि राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर एक शहरी रोजगार गारंटी योजना तैयार करने का समय आ गया है? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Do you agree with the view that time has come to formulate an Urban Employment Guarantee scheme at the national level? (Answer in 150 words)

10

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Recently, Rajasthan government launched urban employment scheme for providing job security in urban areas

Need for urban employment guarantee scheme at national level

- i) Increasing urban population
 - ↳ nearly 50% share by 2030.
- ii) Higher unemployment rate in urban areas
 - ↳ almost 15% (CMIE)
- iii) Need of developing city-level infrastructure.
 - ↳ like drains, light houses etc
 - ↳ climate resilient infrastructure

- iv) Improve urban quality of life
↳ by increasing salary of urban poor

Challenges

- i) Very large fiscal requirement for its implementation.
- ii) Might increase rural to urban migration
- iii) Lack of capacity of ULBs to manage infrastructure creation through job guarantee scheme.
- iv) Spatial variations in needs and capacity of cities.
↳ southern cities have different needs from north-eastern cities.

Increasing formal and gig job opportunities at the city level is better way to deal with unemployment.

9.

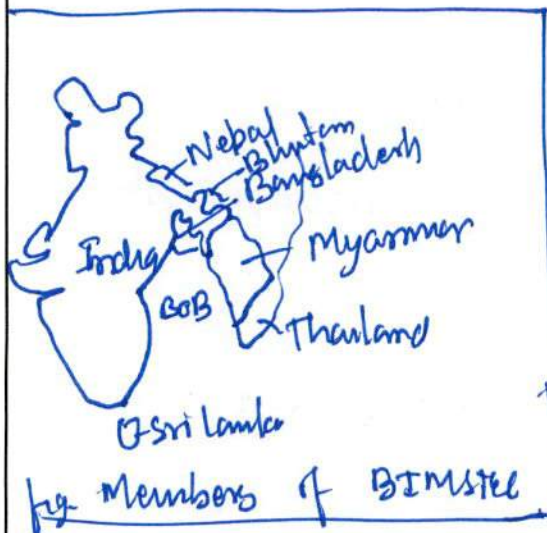
हिंद महासागर क्षेत्र में भारत की सामरिक आकांक्षाओं को पूरा करने के लिए एक क्षेत्रीय संगठन के रूप में बिमस्टेक की प्रासंगिकता की विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Discuss the relevance of BIMSTEC as a regional organisation to fulfil India's strategic aspirations in the Indian Ocean Region. (Answer in 150 words)

10

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Recently, BIMSTEC summit was held which released the BIMSTEC charter. It is the regional grouping of littoral countries surrounding Bay of Bengal



Relevance of BIMSTEC
to fulfil India's
strategic aspirations
in IOR.

1) Regional economic development through cooperation.
e.g., Masterplan on Transport Connectivity was adopted.

2) Role of net security provider in the region

iii) As a counter to Pakistan and China
↳ increases India's role in neighbourhood
countries

iv) Strategic location
↳ nearness to Malacca choke point
↳ Bay of Bengal handles 22% of Indo-
Pacific trade.

[Challenges]

i) Perception of India-dominated group
among members

ii) Very slow progress on engagement
↳ formed in 1997, charter signed in
2022

iii) Divergence between nations
↳ e.g., Myanmar is military ruled, Bhutan
is environmentally conscious.

Annual summit of BIMSTEC can provide
momentum to the regional grouping
for strategic development.

10.

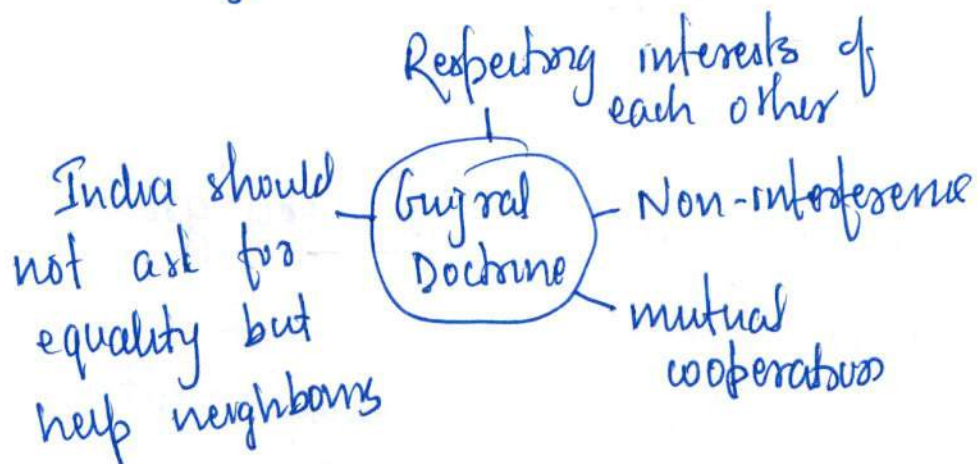
वर्तमान समय में अपने निकटतम पड़ोसियों के साथ अपने संबंधों के संदर्भ में भारत के लिए गुजराल सिद्धांत की प्रासंगिकता की विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Discuss the relevance of the Gujral Doctrine for India with regard to its relations with its immediate neighbours in the present times. (Answer in 150 words)

10

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Gujral Doctrine was propagated for improving relations between India and its neighbours by former PM I.K. Gujral.



Present relevance of Gujral doctrine

i. Not relevant as -

- Neighbours have become equal and should be treated equally. e.g. Bangladesh has higher per capita income than India

- Use of terrorism as foreign policy tool by Pakistan.
 - ↳ need to intervene for own security
 - ↳ e.g., Balakot strikes
- Increasing influence of China in South Asia
 - ↳ India needs to counter through both hard and soft diplomacy

2. Relevant as -

- Many countries are dependent on India for strategic and economic needs
e.g., Nepal for trade
- As a economic powerhouse, India needs to help weaker countries.
e.g., financial help to Sri Lanka

Although it is not fully relevant,
Gugral Doctrine should still be part
of foreign policy debates

11.

भारतीय संसदीय प्रणाली में "संसद के अधिकारियों" की महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका पर प्रकाश डालिए। साथ ही, उनके निष्पक्ष कामकाज के लिए संवैधानिक और वैधानिक प्रावधानों की विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Highlight the pivotal role of the "Officers of Parliament" in the Indian Parliamentary system. Also, discuss the constitutional and statutory provisions for their impartial functioning. (Answer in 250 words)

15

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Officers of parliament refer to those who manage the functioning of Parliament like speakers, Secretaries etc.

Roles of Officers of Parliament

i) Functions of the house

↳ include sessions, committee, elections, media engagement etc.

ii) Maintain decorum of the house
↳ mostly by speakers

iii) Plan the schedule, working and meetings of Parliament

iv) Increase accountability of executive to legislature. (Article 75(3))

- v) Protect privileges of the house and its members
↳ e.g., contempt of house proceedings

Constitutional provisions for impartial functioning

- Article 93 contains provisions about the speaker and Deputy speaker.
 - ↳ Security of tenure
 - ↳ Casting vote
 - ↳ Fixed service conditions
- Article 85 provides for summoning of sessions and functioning.
- Article 105 contains privileges of the house and its members
 - ↳ guided by the speaker

statutory provisions

i) Transaction and Business rules of
Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha
↳ gives power to speaker and
chamrren of Lok Sabha and Rajya
Sabhas

ii) the India Conduct rules 1977 for
functioning of parliamentary
secretaries etc.

Impartral functioning of officers of
Parliament is necessary for legislative
accountability and parliamentary
form of government.

12.

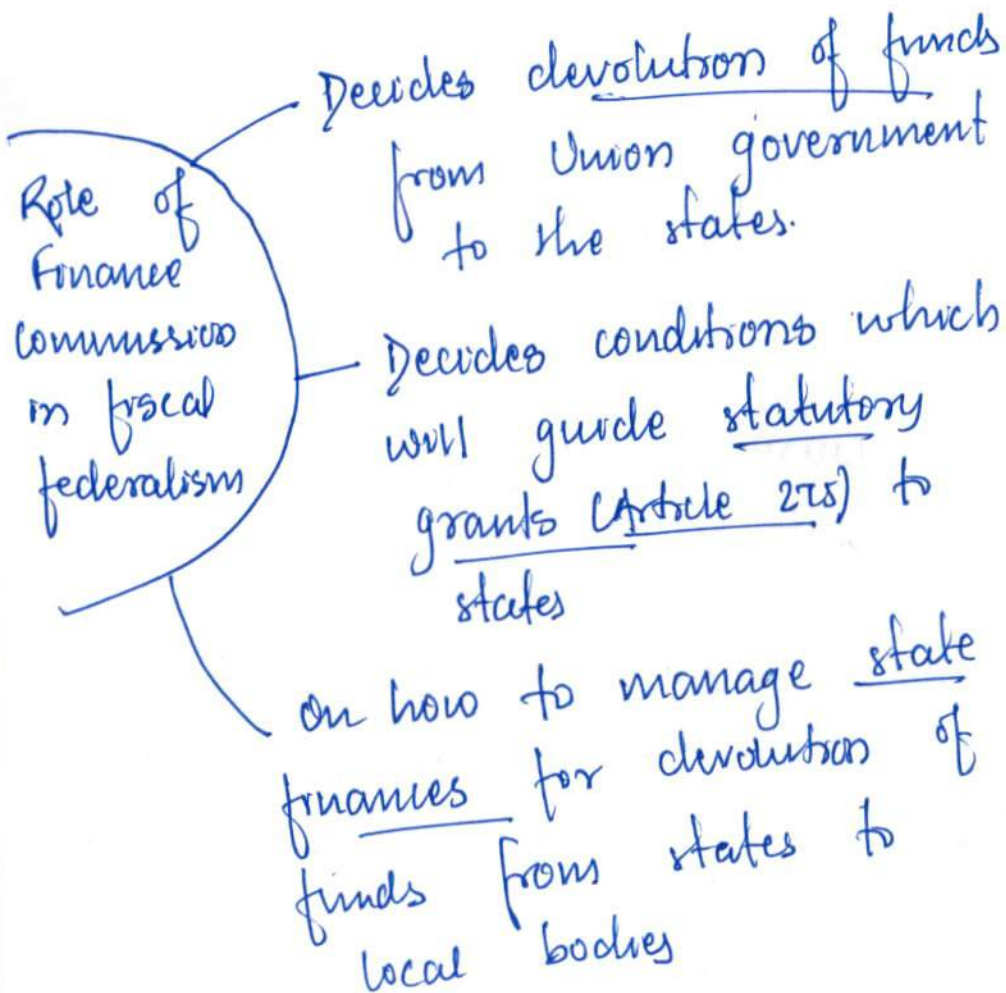
वित्त आयोग भारत में राजकोपीय संघवाद को संतुलित करने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाता है। इस संदर्भ में, 15वें वित्त आयोग द्वारा की गई सिफारिशों का परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The Finance Commission plays a crucial role in balancing fiscal federalism in India. In this context, examine the recommendations given by the 15th Finance Commission. (Answer in 250 words)

15

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Article 280 provides for the constitution of Finance Commission every five years by President.



15th Finance Commission recommendations and fiscal federalism

- 41% devolution of Central government revenue to states

↳ 1% decrease from 15th FC owing to formation of Ladakh and Jammu & Kashmir.

- Increased united funds to local government

↳ decentralisation of funds ensure fiscal federalism.

- Various criteria for statutory grants like population, performance of discoms, economic performance etc brought transparency to

fiscal federalism.

- Recommendations of extra borrowing limit on fulfilling some reforms criteria improved fiscal situation of many states.

Remaining challenges to fiscal federalism

- i) Increasing share of cesses and surcharge which are not shareable.
- ii) GST compensation issue
- iii) Spatial variations in contribution towards central revenues and proportional devolution.

Fiscal federalism needs to be strengthened further into the bigger federalism through Inter-state council and GST council.

13.

आलोचनात्मक मूल्यांकन कीजिए कि क्या आदर्श आचार संहिता को वैधानिक समर्थन प्रदान करना भारत में स्वतंत्र और निष्पक्ष निर्वाचनों में योगदान करेगा। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Critically assess whether according statutory backing to the Model Code of Conduct will contribute towards free and fair elections in India. (Answer in 250 words)

15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाथिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Model Code of Conduct refers to the guidelines issued by Election Commission before the election for free and fair elections.

Arguments in favour of giving statutory backing to m.c.c.

i) Remove discretion in the decision making process by ECI.

↳ e.g., allegation that ECI acts soft on ruling party.

ii) Reduce use of money and muscle power in elections

↳ as ECI will be able to recognise party.

iii) Include new violations like paid news.

- iii) Working of MCC till now suggest that it has been successful in ensuring level playing field.
↳ statutory status will thus improve this.

Arguments against giving statutory backing to MCC

- i) Through its very nomenclature, it is a model code.
- ii) Will increase litigation and lengthen the election process.
↳ ECI will lose power to deal with cases quickly as it will go to courts
- iii) Codification of MCC will be a logistical nightmare.

↳ frequent judicial intervention

iv) As it has worked till now well,
no need to change it and make
it more complex

v) Decision about disputes will come
long after election is complete.

Better way is to strengthen the
powers of the Election Commission
in dealing with MLC violations.

Recommendations of Umesh Sinha
Committee can be implemented.

डिजिटल क्रांति के कारण बाजार में आए व्यवधान ने डिजिटल अर्थव्यवस्था में निष्पक्ष प्रतिस्पर्धा सुनिश्चित करने के लिए नवीकृत फोकस और परिप्रेक्ष्य को आवश्यक बना दिया है। इस आलोक में, भारतीय प्रतिस्पर्धा आयोग (CCI) में सुधार की आवश्यकता की विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The market disruption caused by digital revolution warrants renewed focus and perspective to ensure fair competition in the digital economy. In this light, discuss the need to revamp the Competition Commission of India (CCI). (Answer in 250 words)

उम्मीदवारों को इस हार्डिग में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Competition Commission of India is a statutory body which replaced MRTP Act and ensure competition and fair play in corporate sector.

Market disruption caused by digital revolution

- i) New business model based on online only presence. e.g., digital lending
- ii) Acquisitions and mergers of startups. e.g., Pharmeasy and Tata
- iii) Misuse of digital data and creation of digital monopoly. e.g., Google ecosystem.

Need to revamp CCI

i) To deal with new emerging challenges
↳ eg, privacy policy by whatsapp

ii) Clarify the role of CCI in digital sector.

↳ eg, how to deal with digital startups merger

iii) To deal with monopoly in digital market.

↳ eg, cartelisation by sellers on e-commerce sites

iv) Improve ease of doing business in digital and overall sector

↳ by quick resolution of merger and acquisition process

v) Ensuring fair competition between traditional and digital players.

↳ e.g., Kirana shops and online grocery sites

v) Reduce manipulative trade practices and predatory use of market dominance.

↳ e.g., increase in telecom prices due to duopoly

Amending the Competition Act to balance ease of doing business and protecting consumer rights has become necessary in the digital age.

15.

भारत में एक प्रभावी व्हिसल-ब्लोइंग तंत्र और साथ ही यह सुनिश्चित करने की तत्काल आवश्यकता है कि सार्वजनिक और निजी दोनों क्षेत्रों में व्हिसल-ब्लोअर्स की सुरक्षा के लिए आवश्यक सुरक्षा उपाय किए जाएं। चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

There is an urgent need for effective whistle-blowing mechanisms and ensuring that necessary safeguards for the protection of whistle-blowers are established in both public and private spheres in India. Discuss. (Answer in 250 words)

15

Whistleblowing refers to the practice of insiders releasing corrupt and unethical practices within an organisation in public domain.

Need for effective whistleblowing mechanisms

i) Reduce crony capitalism and corrupt practices.

↳ eg, Twitter and Facebook favouring ruling party

ii) To improve corporate governance practices.

↳ act as deterrence against unethical practices

iii) Reduce scams in public offices and
save public money. e.g. Golden
Quadrilateral scam whistleblowing

iv) To ensure objectivity in investigation
and protection of interests of
all stakeholders

↳ 2014 whistleblowers resolution is
ineffective on this

Necessary safeguards for the protection
of whistleblowers

v) To protect against violent retribution
from vested interests.

e.g. Vyapam scam whistleblower was
killed

↳ killing of RTI activists

- ii) Allowing anonymous complaints to protect integrity of whistleblowers
- iii) Protect whistleblowers in private sector as they may lose job and never find one.
- iv) Improve efficiency of public and private offices as whistleblowers will create deterrence.

Amendment of 2014 Act and its proper implementation can ensure effective whistleblowing in private and public sector.

भारत में सहकारी समितियों के खराब प्रदर्शन के कारणों का उल्लेख कीजिए। साथ ही, इनकी कमियों को दूर करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा किए गए सुधारों की विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)
 State the reasons behind the poor performance of cooperatives in India. Also, discuss the reforms undertaken by the government to overcome the shortcomings. (Answer in 250 words)

Cooperatives refer to the voluntary association of people on democratic principles to solve common problems.

Reasons behind poor performance of cooperatives

- i) Government interference
 - as govt is the biggest funder
- ii) Politicisation of cooperatives
 - eg, sugar cooperatives in Maharashtra is dominated by local politicians
- iii) Dominance of single purpose society
 ↳ restricts role and functioning of cooperatives.

iv) Challenges with cooperative banks
↳ dual regulation, high NPAs, low recovery.
↳ eg, PMC bank failure

v) Spatial inequality in presence of cooperatives

↳ near absence in eastern and north-eastern India

vi) Lack of awareness and skill deficiency among members

Reforms undertaken by government

i) Creation of Ministry of Cooperation
↳ to streamline policies for effective functioning and regulation of industries

i) Banking Regulation Amendment Act 2019

↳ gave powers to RBI for increasing regulation of stressed cooperative banks

ii) National Cooperation for Development of Cooperatives

↳ provides financial, technical and functional support to cooperatives

iii) 97th Amendment

↳ made forming cooperatives a fundamental right and its promotion as DPSP (Article 19(1)(c) and 43B)

A National Policy on Cooperatives should be prepared to enhance regulation and functioning of cooperatives in a democratic manner.

17.

सार्वजनिक-निजी भागीदारी मॉडल का यदि उचित तरीके से दोहन किया जाए, तो इसमें भारत की स्वास्थ्य देखभाल प्रणाली में विद्यमान अंतराल को पाटने की क्षमता है। चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)
Public-Private Partnership model, if harnessed properly, has the potential to bridge the gaps in India's healthcare system. Discuss. (Answer in 250 words)

15

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India spends only 1.35% of its GDP on healthcare. This funding gap and infrastructure support can be narrowed through PPP model.

PPP model in healthcare

- Can involve government purchasing services directly from private sector.
↳ eg, empanelled private hospitals under Ayushman Bharat scheme.
- Health infrastructure creation through PPP model.
↳ eg, creation of hospital on BOT or Hybrid Annuity model

- Increase research in healthcare system through vaccines development, medicines etc.

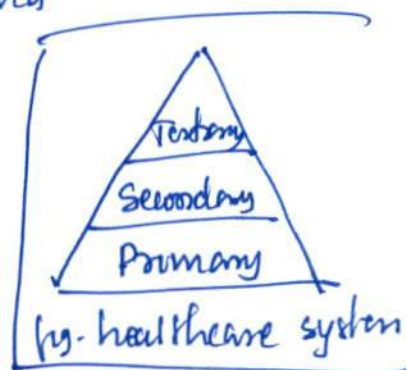
eg, NIV Pune and Bharat Biotech collaborated on covid vaccine

- Manage health insurance sector through PPP model.

↳ health insurance on the line of PM Fasal Bima Yojana

- Improve primary level healthcare system.

eg, running of primary health care clinics on PPP basis



Challenges in PPP model in healthcare

- i) Direct financial responsibility on

the government through Private Finance Initiative.

- ii) Can increase the cost of healthcare, especially in villages.
- iii) Lack of dispute resolution and independent regulator for PPP projects.
- iv) Unfettered PPP healthcare market in India.

Some trial projects can be initiated for PPP in healthcare. Based on the results, further expansion should be done to ensure right to health.

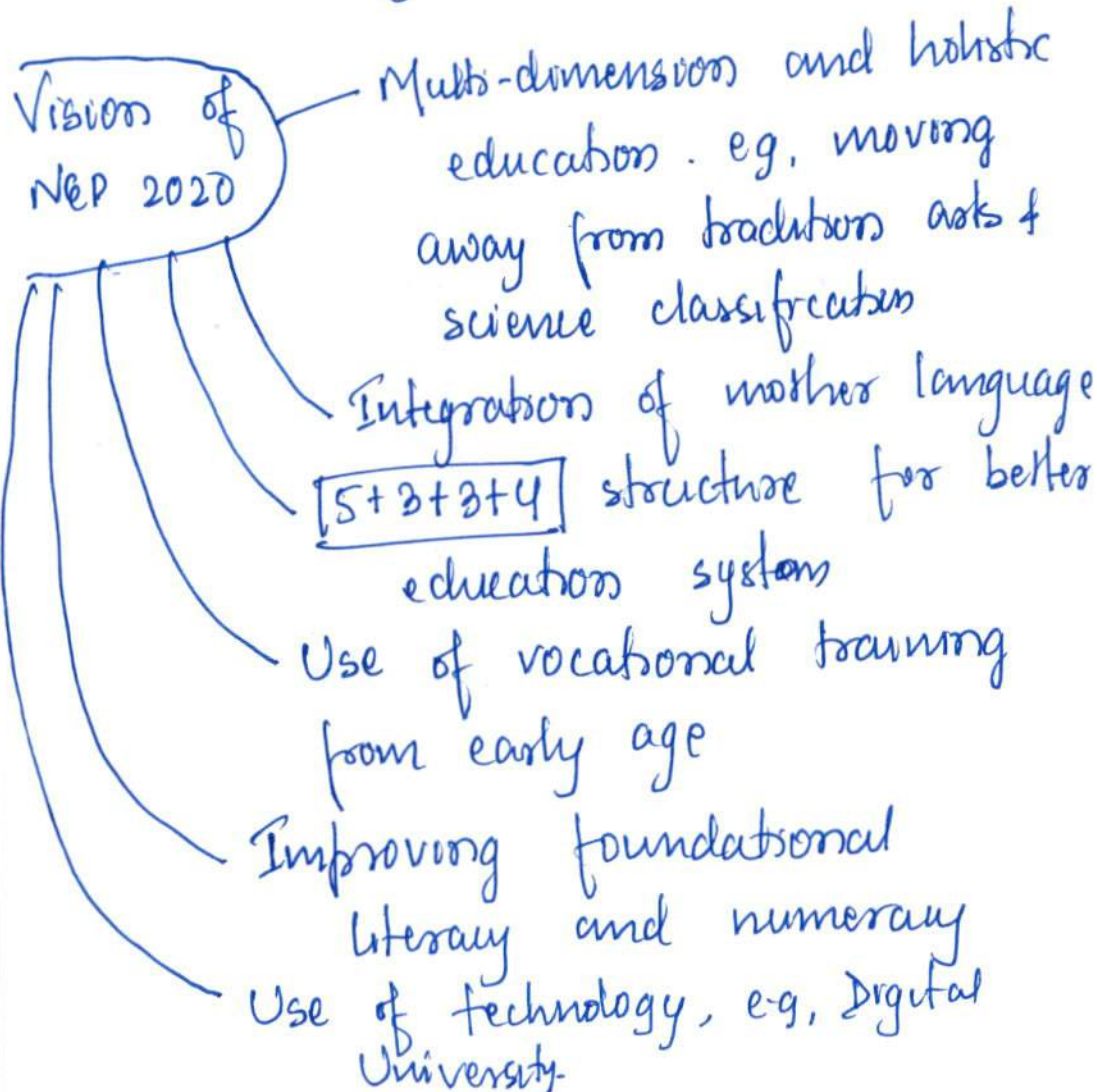
18.

यद्यपि नई शिक्षा नीति अपने साथ एक प्रशंसनीय दृष्टिकोण लेकर आई है, इसकी सफलता सरकार की अन्य नीतिगत पहलों के साथ प्रभावी ढंग से एकीकृत होने की इसकी क्षमता पर निर्भर करेगी। चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Although the New Education Policy brings with itself a commendable vision, its success will depend on its ability to effectively integrate with the government's other policy initiatives.
Discuss. (Answer in 250 words)

15

New Education Policy 2020 aims to transform education sector through multi-disciplinary focus, use of technology and multi-lingualism.



Integration of NEP 2020 with other government policy initiatives

i) Mid Day Meal scheme

- to reduce malnutrition among children for full cognitive development

ii) Teachers training initiatives like NISHTHA

- to modify pedagogy and improve the quality of teaching

iii) Technology initiatives

- eg, Swayam, eVidya etc to provide more opportunities to students.

iv) Infrastructure initiatives

- for creating modern education centres for quality education
- eg, Higher Education Financing Agency

- v) International collaboration initiatives
for bringing world class universities
in India
reduce brain drain
- vi) Implementation of KTE 2009
many private schools are still not
following the inclusive directive.
- vii) Increasing funding to at least
6% of India's GDP.
- viii) Academia-Research linkage, e.g, KIRAN
initiatives
- ix) Reduce gender disparity in higher
education - eg, Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao

Achieving the objectives of SDG4
involves integration of NEP 2020 with
various other government policies.

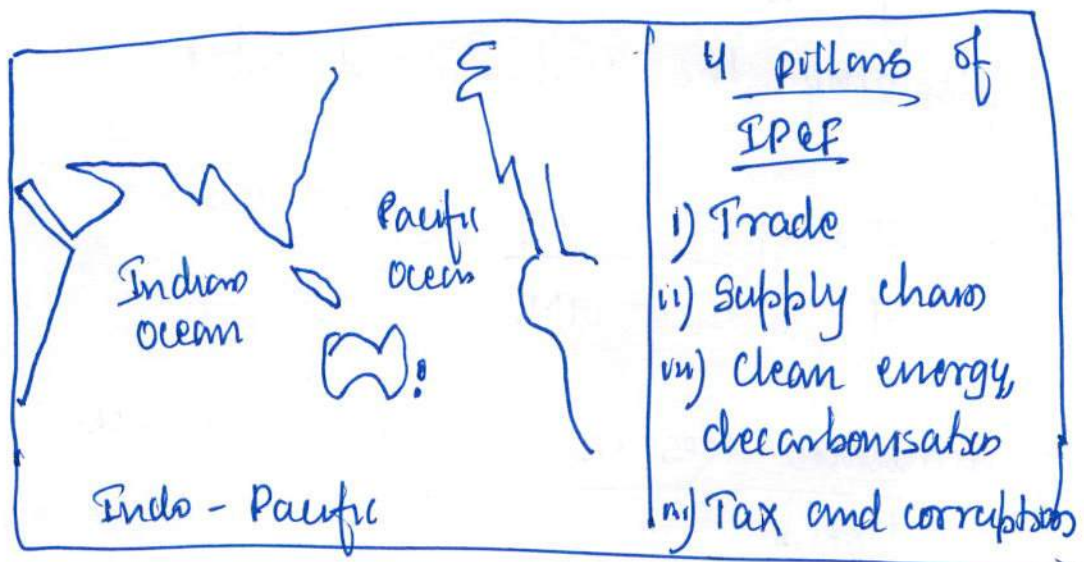
19.

इंडो-पैसिफिक इकोनॉमिक फ्रेमवर्क फॉर प्रॉस्पेरिटी (IPEF) हिंद-प्रशांत क्षेत्र को वैश्विक आर्थिक विकास का इंजन बनाने की सामूहिक इच्छा से उत्पन्न हुआ है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। साथ ही, इस संदर्भ में भारत की चिंताओं की विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF) is born from a collective desire to make the Indo-Pacific region an engine of global economic growth. Comment. Also, discuss India's concerns in this context. (Answer in 250 words)

15

Recently, 14 countries in the Indo-Pacific led by USA formed Indo-Pacific Economic Framework.



IPEF and desire for economic growth of Indo-Pacific

i) Increase economic cooperation between littoral countries.

- ii) Resilient supply chain through cooperation and diversification
- iii) Counter China in economic domain
- iv) Engage on digital economy transformation and global rules making.
- v) Sustainable economic development through clean energy and decarbonisation collaboration.
- vi) Opportunity for increasing trade and investment among members
↳ almost 40% of global GDP among members

India's concerns with IPEF

- i) Platform dominated by USA, advancing its own interests.

ii) Discussion on digital economy that India is not interested in.

eg, data localisation

iii) Pillar of tax and anti-evasion might lead to scrapping of equalisation levy.

iv) Not much discussion about the goals and strategies about IPeF.
It might include difficult issues in future discussions. eg, moderatum on e-commerce transaction fees.

India needs to play a central role in discussion among IPeF members and protect its own interests and establish fair and rules based order-

0.

विस्तृत होते डिजिटल स्पेस और नई एवं उभरती सामरिक प्रौद्योगिकियों की जटिलताओं के बीच भारत को अपनी तकनीकी-कूटनीति (टेक्नो-डिप्लोमेसी) को आगे बढ़ाने के लिए प्राथमिकता वाले क्षेत्रों की पहचान करने की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

India needs to identify the priority areas to further its techno-diplomacy amidst the complexities of expanding digital space and New and Emerging Strategic Technologies. Discuss. (Answer in 250 words)

15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हार्शिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Recently, the Ministry of External Affairs formed New and Emerging Technologies divisions to deal with geopolitics of the same.

Complexities of expanding digital space and emerging strategic technologies

i) Increasing role of big-tech companies in geopolitics. eg, FB banning Russian pages

ii) Cyber warfare and espionage.
eg, 2007 cyber attack on Estonia

iii) Geopolitical complexity of dealing with cross-border data flow and its

misuse. eg. recent allegation about China misusing TikTok data

- iv) Geopolitics of AI and emerging technology
↳ accountability issues, technology sharing, ethical fallouts.
↳ eg. AI manipulating election in Cambridge Analytica case

Need to identify priority areas to enhance techno-diplomacy

- i) Protect sovereign interests and prevent foreign interference through digital tools.

↳ eg. Nodal officer of big-tech in India

- ii) Collaborate to form policies for regulation of strategic and

emerging technologies

↳ eg, cryptocurrency regulations

iii) Technology and expertise sharing with friendly countries

↳ eg, Colombo Security Conclave for regional digital security

iv) Engage with big-tech to regulate its working and influence

↳ eg, Indian diplomat attachment at Big-tech headquarters

v) Net security provides in digital security in the neighbourhood.

↳ through cyber diplomacy and technology development

The new frontier in geopolitics is digital and India needs to be prepared to deal with any challenges.

SPACE FOR ROUGH WORK

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