



VISION IAS

www.visionias.in

GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1839)

Name of Candidate	RAJAT YADAV		
Medium Eng./Hindi	ENGLISH	Registration Number	731806
Center	ONLINE	Date	23/08/2022

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
2	10	
3	10	
4	10	
5	10	
6	10	
7	10	
8	10	
9	10	
10	10	
11	15	
12	15	
13	15	
14	15	
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 मिलेगा।
- Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
- Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

16-B, 2nd Floor, Above National Trust Building, Bada Bazar Marg, Old Rajinder Nagar, Delhi-110060

Plot No. 857, 1st Floor, Banda Bahadur Marg (Opp Punjab & Sindh Bank), Dr. Mukherjee Nagar
Delhi- 110009

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.

1. An independent umbrella body that brings the various central investigative agencies under one roof holds the key to shoring up their credibility. Discuss.

(150 words) 10

एक स्वतंत्र अम्रेना निकाय जो विभिन्न केंद्रीय जांच एजेंसियों को एक छत के नीचे लाता हो, उनकी विश्वसनीयता को बढ़ाने की कुंजी है। विवेचना कीजिए।

India has large number of central investigative agencies like RAW, NIA, NTRO etc. The multiplicity and overlapping causes depletion of credibility and functioning.

Independent umbrella body
(Key to increasing credibility)

Pros

- 1) Breakage of silo culture (a lacunae) as per 2nd ARC
- 2) Swift and tangible actions because less hassles and red tapism
- 3) Better regulation
- 4) Increased accountability due

- to diffusion of 'blame-games'
- 5) Pooling of resources and expertise
 Eg. technical expertise of NITRO can augment NIA capabilities

Cons

- 1) Their mandates too diverse and complex to be successfully functioning under one body ::
- 2) No guarantee of reduced corruption in new body
- 3) Political interference still there
- 4) Other countries like USA have multiple agencies (eg. FBI, CIA)

Effective investigation can augment entire criminal justice system ~~as~~ as per Prakash Singh judgement.

2. Discuss the significance of the Doctrines of Pith and Substance and Colourable Legislation with respect to Centre-state relations in India.

(150 words) 10

भारत में केंद्र-राज्य संबंधों के संदर्भ में तत्व एवं मार के सिद्धांत और छद्म (आभासी) विधायन के सिद्धांत के महत्व की विवेचना कीजिए।

Indian judiciary has showed creativism in dealing with heated issues of Centre State relations, resulting in doctrines like Pith and Substance etc.

Doctrine of Pith and Substance

→ Substantive provisions and essence of a law will be considered while considering validity under Articles 245-255 and 7th Schedule elements

Doctrine of Colourable Legislation

→ If a law made by Central

government exists on a concurrent list subject, then a State Law can't override it, but only supplement it.

Such doctrines have helped in functioning of a robust federal structure and kept the pressure-cooker from bursting; as per Prof. M. P. Singh

3. Do you agree with the view that there should be simultaneous elections to the Lok Sabha and the State Legislative Assemblies in India? Discuss with suitable arguments. (150 words) 10

क्या आप इस विचार से सहमत हैं कि भारत में लोक सभा और राज्य विधान सभाओं के निर्वाचन एक साथ होने चाहिए? उपायुक्त तर्कों के साथ चर्चा कीजिए।

PM Modi recently re-iterated the idea of holding simultaneous elections to Lok Sabha and States Legislative Assemblies - the idea of One Nation One Election (ONOE).

A view at ONOE Concept

Pros

- 1) Not a new idea as simultaneous elections was norm before 1970
- 2) Will reduce politicisation of issues
- 3) Free up time for legislative

work as currently politicians
are engaged in election
round the year

Cons

- 1) Not easy as a lot of democratically elected governments need to end before tenure for ONOE to kick in
- 2) Large expenditure and infra-structural developments required on ECI's end
- 3) Regional issues, interests and political parties will suffer

A properly assessed and created attempt to establish ONOE can further strengthen Indian elections, says Amitabh Kant.

4. Discuss the need for codification of parliamentary privileges in India, in light of the uncertainty and ambiguity around them. (150 words) 10

भारत में संसदीय विशेषाधिकारों के बारे में अनिश्चितता और अस्पष्टता के आलोक में, उनके महत्वाकरण की आवश्यकता पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Parliamentary privileges
are provided in Indian
constitution via Articles 105
and 194. However, they're
not codified and Parliament
currently follows British convention.

Uncertainty and ambiguity

- 1) The degree of protection
of Freedom of Speech and
Expression of MPs
↳ eg. can MP incite
communal issues?
- 2) Uncertainty viz-a-viz Anti
Defection Law (10th Schedule)
- 3) Right to freedom of press to

report parliamentary happenings

- 4) Undeterred protection to MPs
from criminal cases and
court visits

(Need for codification)

- 1) To bring clarity and
hence reduce misuse
- 2) ~~Need~~ Need to keep MPs in
check as radicalisation
is on a rise around the
world
- 3) Will reduce the scale of
MP protection, as currently
"everything under the sun
is possible"

A responsible and
humane parliamentarian is
the key to a vibrant democracy

5. While the Civil Services Board can be a step forward in making the Indian bureaucracy more effective it has its own issues which need to be addressed. Analyse. (150 words) 10

हानाकि, सिविल सेवा बोर्ड भारतीय नौकरशाही को और अधिक प्रभावी बनाने की दिशा में एक अग्रणी कदम हो सकता है, लेकिन इसके अपने मुद्दे हैं जिन्हें हल करने की आवश्यकता है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Civil Services Board was recommended by Hota Committee and Supreme Court in TSR Subramaniam Case.

Making Indian Bureaucracy effective

- 1) Less political interference in appointments



- 2) Accountable and transparent process of selection
- 3) Can gauge in collaboration from other sectors to involve new ideas like 'Lateral Entry'

Issues

- 1) Lack of political will
(less than half number of States have such boards currently, as per ADR)
- 2) Lack of autonomy, as people heading such boards can have political ties
- 3) Resource and expertise crunch
- 4) No Standard Operating Procedure
create model CSB Rules

Way Forward

- make such boards compulsory
- Fund devolution
- Transparent appointment of selection Committee
- collaboration with private sector for expertise building

CSB can help uplift Indian bureaucracy and enable it to act as vanguard of

6. Highlight the potential of India Digital Ecosystem Architecture (IndEA) 2.0 in transforming the ecosystem of service delivery in India. (150 words) 10
- भारत में सेवा वितरण के पात्रों को क्वांटिफाई करने में इंडिया डिजिटल इकोसिस्टम आर्किटेक्चर (IndEA) 2.0 की क्षमता पर प्रकाश डालिए।

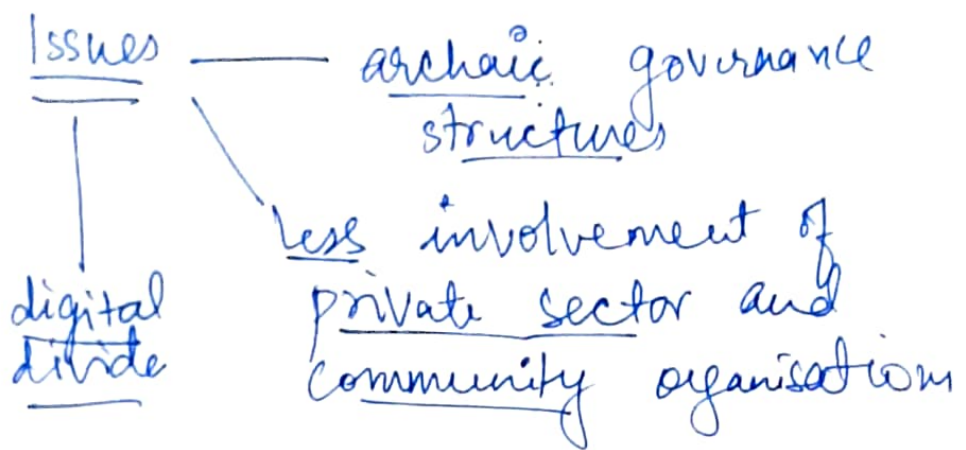
Service delivery in India

has seen a multitude of changes, with key contributions in e-governance sector like Ind EA and Ind EA 2.0.

Potential of Ind EA 2.0

- 1) Better entreach to public of far flung areas possible
- 2) Coordination among digital services of government on single platform, ease up "consumer-state interface"

- 3) Development of departmental capabilities and better adoption of digital avenues among government institutions and staff
- 4) scope of private sector participation
- 5) Reduced costs of e-governance



E-governance holds significance in revolutionising governance in India, as per 2nd ARC. IndEA 2.0 will be a driver of e-governance.

7. What is Civil Registration System? Highlight its importance and discuss the measures taken by the government to bring about improvements in it.

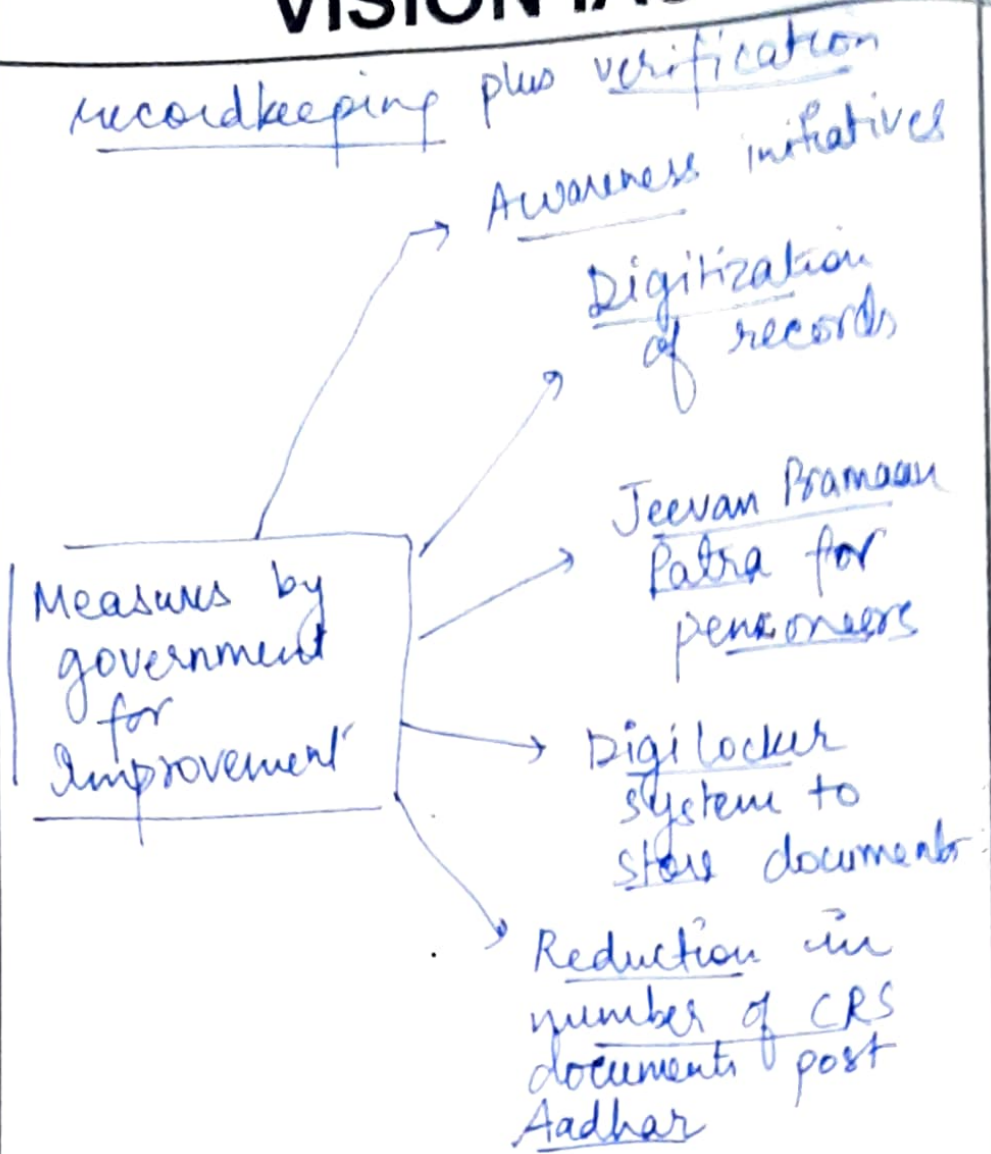
(150 words) 10

नागरिक पंजीकरण प्रणाली क्या है? इसके महत्व पर प्रकाश डालिए और इसमें सुधार करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा किए गए उपायों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Civil Registration System
(CRS) refers to the registering
mechanism for events like
births and deaths, marriages,
etc.

Importance

- 1) Helps in keeping track
of Birth Rates / Death Rates,
causing population estimation
- 2) Necessary records for court
cases
- 3) Need CRS certificates for
availing benefits like pension
- 4) Key part of government's
census practices and



CRS is a central part of quality governance architecture, which enables a welfare state and hence fulfillment of Article 38.

8. The Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and Their Rehabilitation Act, 2013, provides an effective mechanism for empowerment of the intended beneficiaries in the society. Critically discuss. (150 words) 10

हाथ में घेना उठाने वाले कर्मियों के नियोजन का प्रतिरोध एवं उनका पुनर्वास अधिनियम, 2013 समाज में इच्छित लाभार्थियों के सशक्तीकरण के लिए एक प्रभावी तंत्र प्रदान करता है। समाजोन्ननात्मक चर्चा कीजिए।

Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers Act was passed with the aim of removing untouchability as per Article 17.

Empowerment of beneficiaries

- 1) Act prohibits employment as manual scavengers
- 2) Cleaning of toilets and latrines has been mandated only via necessary equipments and keeping health of workers in mind

3) Rehabilitation of manual scavengers

- └ Education
- └ Health
- └ Alternate employment

4) Strict action against violators

5) Bringing them at par and providing dignified life

Issues

- 1) Lack of alternate employment
- 2) Lack of sensitisation among public
- 3) Manual scavengers often unaware of rights

Stringent actions on behalf of government, citizens and civil society is quintessential to uphold the categorical imperative of human dignity.

9. Discuss the reforms that must be undertaken to strengthen the World Trade Organisation in order to address the vulnerabilities in the present global trading system. (150 words) 10

वर्तमान वैश्विक व्यापार प्रणाली में विद्यमान कमियों को दूर करने के लिए विश्व व्यापार संगठन को सुदृढ़ करने हेतु उम पर किए जाने वाले सुधारों की विवेचना कीजिए।

World Trade Organisation
has benefitted the world, as
more than 90% of trade
is today under WTO's guidance
and supervision, as per statistics.
Still, it is full of issues.

Vulnerabilities in present global trade

- 1) Inherently biased policies
viz a viz developing
nations like India, who
need policies like subsidy
support for growth
- 2) Debacle of Dispute Settlement
Body under Donald Trump
hence no conciliation avenues

- 3) Pending agendas like Doha Development agenda and IT Agreement
- 4) Issues of equity in IPR
issues of TRIPS waiver for COVID
- 5) Cropping up of alternate channels like FTAs, RTAs etc.

Reforms

- 1) Robust dispute settlement body
- 2) Democratisation and more representation of developing nations
- 3) Leeways in form of subsidies and countervailing measures
- 4) Standard definition of terms like 'developing countries'
- 5) Time bound resolution

WTO's health is important for world trade and prosperity, as per Dr. S. Jaishankar.

10. State the significance of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). Also, discuss the need for a legally binding Marine Biodiversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) agreement.

(150 words) 10

संयुक्त राष्ट्र समुद्री कानून संधि (UNCLOS) के महत्व का उल्लेख कीजिए। साथ ही, कानूनी रूप से बाध्यकारी राष्ट्रीय अधिकार से परे क्षेत्रों की समुद्री जैव विविधता (BBNJ) समझौते की आवश्यकता पर चर्चा कीजिए।

UNCLOS looks after
the issues of sea jurisdiction
and its manifestation. It
has bodies like International
seabed Authority and CCLS
for various functions.

(Significance)

- democratic resolution of
disputes
- centralised mechanism
and standard operating
procedure
- required in an increasingly
divisive world e.g. Russia

Ukraine War

Need for legally binding
Marine biodiversity Beyond
National Jurisdiction Laws

- large number of flora and fauna found in global waters and high sea
- No nation willing to take responsibility of such 'commons' due to resource crunch and poor political will
- Current mechanisms like TRAFFIC, CITES etc. have missed a holistic focus on international waters' biodiversity

Environmental cooperation is a indisputable part of global relations, says Antonio Guterres.

11. Critically assess the role played by the National Human Rights Commission as a watchdog of human rights violations in India. (250 words) 15

भारत में मानवाधिकारों के उल्लंघन के प्रहरी के रूप में राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग द्वारा निभाई गई भूमिका का सम्बन्धनात्मक मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

National Human Rights Commission was set up under Protection of Human Rights Act 1993, conforming with global rights conventions (UDHR).

Positive contributions of NHRC

- 1) Protecting rights of prisoners and undertrials

↳ eg. provision of livelihood avenues to Tihar inmates

- 2) Campaigns against manual scavenging

3) Upholding rights of refugees by dragging matters in courts
 ↳ cf. NHRC vs. State of Arunachal Pradesh

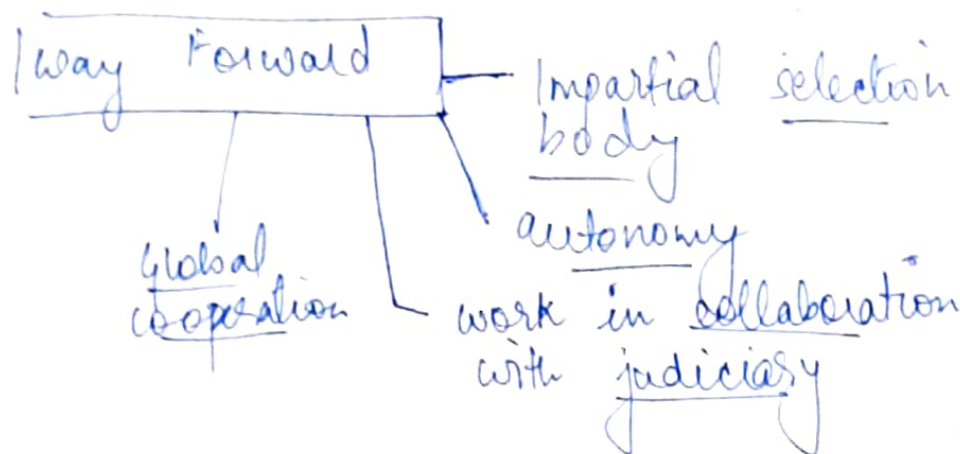
4) Frequent reports on human rights like liberty, speech, expression and second generation rights like livelihood, choosing partners etc.
 ↳ submitted to Parliament and such insights help in better law making

Issues with NHRC

1) Only a recommendatory body
 ↳ Supreme Court in "Re-inhumane conditions in"

1832 case said NHRC is
'toothless tiger'

- 2) Time limit to actionable complaints
- 3) Parliament not bound to accept recommendations
- 4) Issues of fund crunch
- 5) Lack of robust appointment mechanism and de-politicisation



NHRC has to go a long way, and recent re-accreditation to global GANHRI is a positive indicator of progress.

12. Discuss how the integration of information and communications technology (ICT) in the dispute resolution processes will help in overcoming the challenges associated with the functioning of courts and Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) forums. (250 words) 15

विवेचना कीजिए कि विवाद समाधान प्रक्रियाओं में सूचना और संचार प्रौद्योगिकी (ICT) का एकीकरण अदालतों एवं वैकल्पिक विवाद समाधान (ADR) मंचों के कामकाज से जुड़ी चुनौतियों का समाधान करने में किम प्रकार सहायता करेगा।

Indian Judiciary is
marred with issues like
pendency of cases (4.5 crore
cases pending as per National
Judicial Grid) and lack of
justice to all : (DPSP under Art. 39A).

challenges with courts and
Alternate Dispute Resolution forums

- 1) Doesn't reach the needy
citizenry in remote areas
- 2) Expensive procedures
- 3) Vacancies of judges

eg. > 40% vacancy of High Court judges as per CJI V.V. Lallit

- 4) Lack of awareness among people regarding judicial processes and rights
- 5) ADR forums relatively new to India hence very less scope of adoption
↳ only prevalent in business sphere

How integration of ICT can help?

- i) Helps reaching every 'nook and corner'
↳ because internet penetration more than 80% due to efforts like BharatNet

- 2) Brings down costs
- 3) Reduces load on judges as many cases can be disposed via processes like plea bargaining ef. ADR mechanism
- 4) Information dissemination
- 5) Easy ADR processes
- 6) Reduced hassles as 'going to courts' is stigmatised

Concerns — digital divide
 — lack of infrastructure
 — archaic judicial processes

Hence, judicial overhaul requires integration of ICT via projects like FASTER scheme and at the same time, skilling and upgradation of infrastructure and staff.

13. Despite various provisions concerning disqualification of legislators under The Representation of The People Act, 1951, the issue of criminalization of politics is still unresolved to a large extent in India. Discuss.

(250 words) 15

लोक प्रतिनिधित्व अधिनियम, 1951 के तहत विधायकों की निर्दोषता में संबंधित विभिन्न प्रावधानों के बावजूद, भारत में राजनीति के अपराधीकरण का मुद्दा अभी भी काफी हद तक अनसुलझा है। विवेचना कीजिए।

Criminalisation of Politics
is one of the biggest hurdles
in actualisation of a vibrant
Indian democracy, says Milan
Vaishnav in his book "When
Crime:: Pays".

Some provisions of disqualification
under RPA 1951

- 1) Failure to submit criminal
antecedents
- 2) Not revealing movable and
immovable assets ~~the~~
- 3) incitement of hatred via

appealing to issues of caste or religion

- 4) If convicted for a jail term of more than 2 years
- 5) Proven financial impropriety

Issue of criminalization still unresolved

- 1) More than 40% of MPs in 17th Lok Sabha have criminal charges and 29% with serious charges like rape etc. [ADR report]
- 2) Nexus of corporate-criminal-politicians
- 3) Lack of accountability (Political Parties don't come under RTI)

- 4) Elections becoming expensive hence need vast amounts of money [100 crore spent per constituency in 2019-ABP]
- 5) Need for muscle power to pacify dissidents
- 6) Development of 'Chalta Hai' culture

Way Forward

Bring parties under section 2(h) of RTI Act

convicted persons should be debarred from contesting (NCRWC)
'political education' so that informed people take up politics as profession

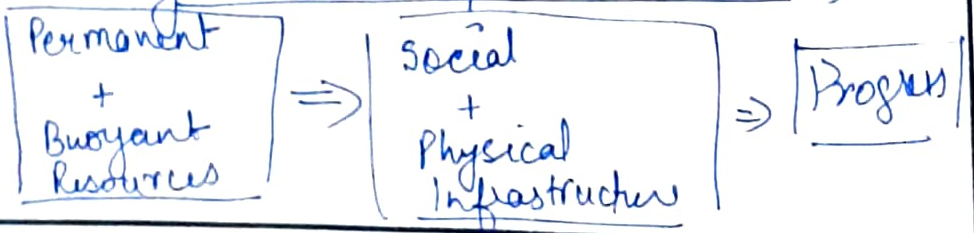
Schemes like Electoral Bonds and judicial intervention like in Lily Thomas Case, can help mitigate the issue

14. It is time for reforms, which recognise that urban local bodies (ULBs) need permanent, buoyant revenue sources to match the growing demands of an increasing urban population. Discuss. (250 words) 15

यह मुद्दों का समय है जो यह पहचान करता है कि शहरी स्थानीय निकायों (ULBs) को बढ़ती शहरी आबादी की बढ़ती मांगों को पूरा करने के लिए स्थायी, वृद्धिशील राजस्व स्रोतों की आवश्यकता है। विवेचना कीजिए।

As per Isher Judge Ahluwalia, "there can't be smart cities without smart Urban Local Bodies (ULBs)."

ULBs, set up under Articles 243P - 243ZG via 74th Amendment, are marred with issues like revenue crunch, which hampers efforts to meet growing demands of increasing urban population (predicted to grow to 40% by 2040 as per UN DESA).



Reforms for permanent and buoyant revenue sources

- 1) widening of tax nets of ULBs by giving financial autonomy over 12th Schedule elements
- 2) Making certain financial provisions 'compulsory' so that ULBs aren't totally under states' mercy
- 3) Better collaboration with other bodies like voluntary organisations (SHGs, NGOs etc.) and private sector to pool in resources
- 4) Devolution of finances in conjunction with State Finance Commission's

Recommendations

- 5) Direct devolution of some portions of taxes by centre (says Vijay Kelkar Committee)
- 6) Reduce overlapping jurisdictions with other bodies like DA's (Development Authorities), Port Trusts, etc.

Concerns — lack of political will as urban areas produce large economic output
bureaucratic apathy
States' fear loss of sovereignty

Urban areas' development held the key to a New India in next 25 years of Amrit Kaal.

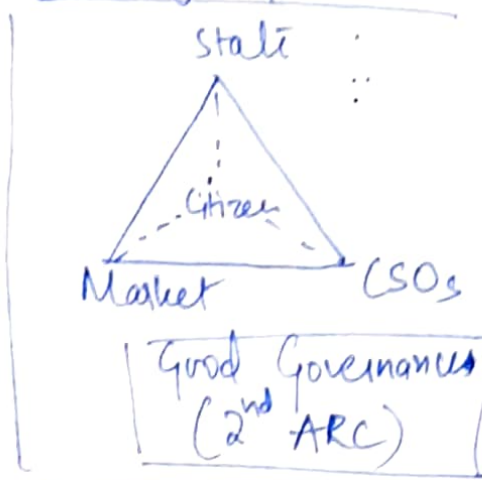
15. The role of the civil society organisations (CSOs) in India is changing in contemporary times and has become increasingly more complex. Discuss.

(250 words) 15

समकालीन समय में भारत में नागरिक समाज संगठनों (CSOs) की भूमिका बदल रही है और निरंतर अधिक जटिल होनी जा रही है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Civil society organisations (CSOs)
constitute the vital third
arm of good governance in
a nation, apart from State
and Market. It comprises of
NGOs, SHGs, pressure groups etc.

Role played
by CSOs in
India is
changing in
recent times,

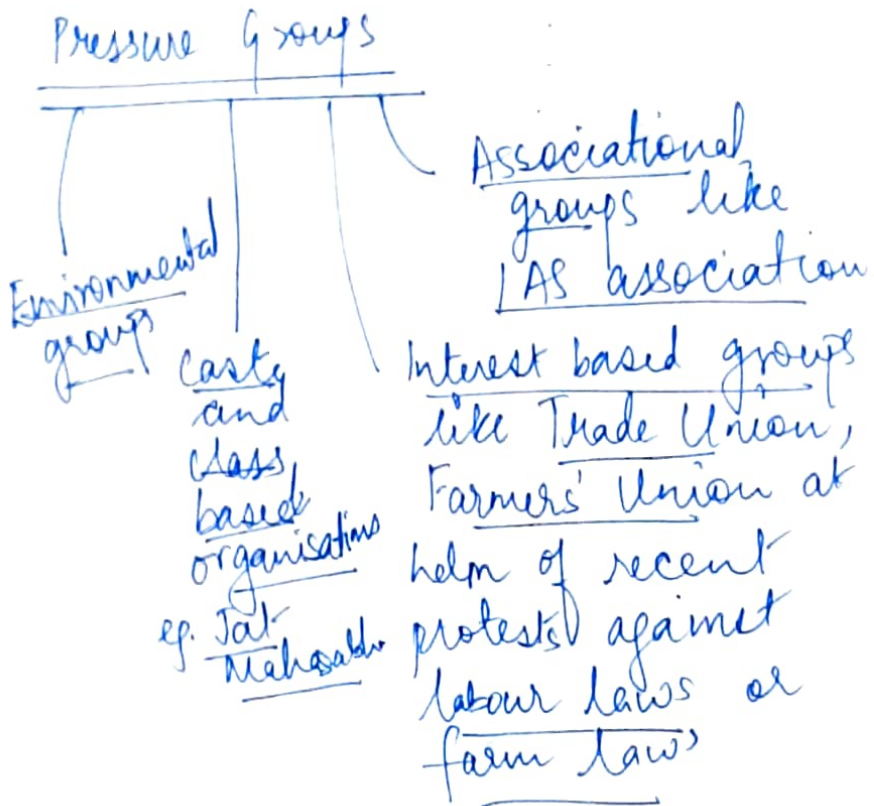


with multi-vector diffusion
of challenges and opportunities.

Some changes observed
in CSOs are shift in

focus from welfare to
empowerment, inclusion
of 2nd and 3rd degree rights
like livelihood or environmentation,
etc.

Role of CSOs in contemporary
times



NGOs— Amnesty International
like NGOs advocating
human rights— Environmental movements— Women rights advocacySHGs— Food security tackling
by combining other
reformative measures
like women empowerment
eg. Kerala's KudumbashreeConcerns— MHA accused USA's
MercyCops NGO for
anti-national activitiesAccountability(DAV College
Trust
case
judgment)— FCRA amendment might
cause CSOs shifting
to other nations

CSOs will help in
overall national development,
in consonance with global
ideas and 17 SDGs.

16. Though the Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) aims to address the inequity in development in India, there are a number of issues which plague the scheme. Discuss. (250 words) IS
- वैश्वीकरण के युग में, विकेंद्रीकरण आधारभूत प्रतिक्रिया प्रवृत्ति है, जो भारत में विकास प्रक्रिया का समावेशी होना सुनिश्चित कर सकती है। चर्चा कीजिए।

MPLADS ~~is~~ scheme has been a topic of discussion ever since a temporary stoppage of scheme during COVID-19 pandemic to mobilise resources elsewhere.

Key Provisions of MPLADS

sum given to MPs to invest in durable assets

7.5% to be spent on welfare of backward sections

can be carried to next year

compulsory checks and balances by district administration

Addressing inequity in development

1) Backward constituencies getting

much needed financial resources
as compulsion to spend
money per constituency

2) Reduces "disequilibrium" in
society by devoting funds
for vulnerable sections
like SC/STs and women

3) Some portions of MPLADS can
be used as disaster relief
to other constituencies facing
devastation

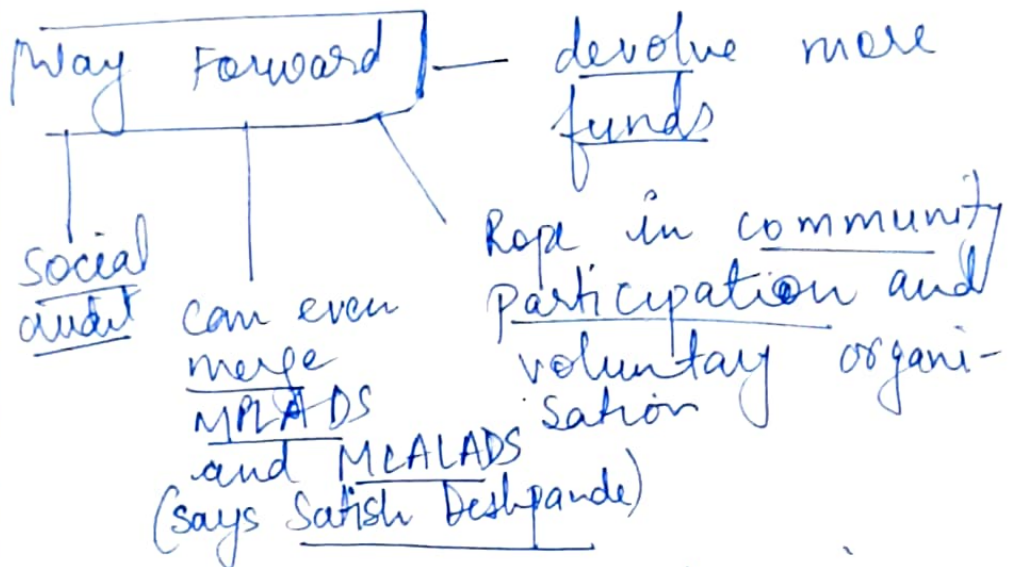
eg. MPs pledging MPLADS
funds during Kerala Floods

Issues plaguing the scheme

- 1) Lack of accountability
and corruption
- 2) "Pork Barrel Policies" - within
constituencies, MPs spending

money only in areas supporting
the MP in elections

- 3) Apathy on behalf of states
as they argue dilution
of federalism
- 4) Funds provided are not adequate
- 5) Lack of cooperation and over-
lapping with schemes like
MALADS



MPLADS helps in
making India a true welfare
state, and reducing inequalities (SDG#10)

17. Highlighting the factors responsible for the growth of EdTech sector in India in recent times, discuss its benefits. Also, state the concerns associated with it.

(250 words) 15

हान के दिनों में भारत में एडटेक क्षेत्र के विकास के लिए उत्तमदायी कार्यों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, इसके लाभों पर चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, इससे जुड़ी चिंताओं का भी उल्लेख कीजिए।

Ed Tech sector refers to the provision of educational goods and services via technology.

Ex. new startups like BYJU'S

Factors responsible for growth

- 1) Internet penetration via initiatives like Bharat Net
- 2) Globalisation led change in consumer habits, hence students (consumers) preferring online media
- 3) Ability of ed-tech to reach remote regions increases

- its attractiveness in an unequal society like India
- 4) Support to startups via credit, tax holidays etc. (Startup India, SEZs etc)

Benefits

- 1) Reduced costs as technology results in reduction of unnecessary capital infrastructure
- 2) Dissemination of ideas and education to every nook and corner

L.e.g. PM-eVIDYA scheme during COVID pandemic

- 3) Increase in portfolio of curriculum beyond conventional subjects
L.e.g. 'Front Row' teaching students vocational activities

Concerns

- 1) Digital divide still exists
- 2) Health issues associated with looking at mobile or PCs for long duration
- 3) Issues of privacy if records of students leaked
- 4) Resistance from conventional school/coaching lobbies
- 5) How to augment existing education infrastructure

Way Forward

Public
Private
Partnerships
to increase
Scale

Reduce cost
of internet
Adopt mix of
online and offline
sources

EdTech can help countries like India reach the educational goals under SDG 4.

18. Bring out the role of Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) workers in delivering health services in rural India. Also, suggest the measures that can be taken to overcome the challenges faced by them. (250 words) 15
- ग्रामीण भारत में स्वास्थ्य सेवाएँ प्रदान करने में मान्यता प्राप्त सामाजिक स्वास्थ्य कार्यकर्ता (आशा) की भूमिका पर प्रकाश डालिए। साथ ही, उनके द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली चुनौतियों को दूर करने के उपाय भी सुझाएँ।

ASHA (Accredited Social Health Activist) workers are a unique strategy adopted by India in fulfilling the burgeoning demand-supply gap of healthcare services in rural India.

Role of ASHA workers

- 1) Work at the interface of schemes like PM-JAY and public
- 2) Dissemination of information
- 3) Work collaboratively with other bodies like NGOs, SHGs etc.

- 4) Provide key maternal and neo-natal care
- 5) Inculcating better sanitation and preventive healthcare spirit in the largely unaware rural population
- 6) Distribution of goods like sanitary pads

Challenges faced

- 1) Lack of resources and training
- 2) Aren't provided protection hence lack of zeal to work selflessly
- 3) Less adoption among rural population as there are already existing bodies like Anganwadis

with similar functions

1) Suggestions to solve challenges

- 1) Capacity building of ASHA workers by collaborating with hospitals and doctors
- 2) Can include healthcare training at ITIs
- 3) Compulsory protection via social security, health benefits and laws against miscreants
- 4) Collaboration with other tools like Bank Correspondents to provide holistic one-stop services

Improvisations in ASHA worker services can go a long way in achieving goals of NHP 2017 and SDGs 1, 2 and 3.

19. Discuss the various concerns that have arisen for India after the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan. Also, suggest the measures that India should take in the given context.

(250 words) 15

तालिबान द्वारा अफगानिस्तान पर अधिकार करने के बाद भारत के लिए उत्पन्न विभिन्न चिंताओं की विवेचना कीजिए। साथ ही, उन उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए जो इस संदर्भ में भारत द्वारा अपनाए जाने चाहिए।

More than a year has passed since Taliban takeover of Afghanistan. The new Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan poses concerns for India and garners interest of diplomatic community.

Concerns

Geo Strategic

- 1) Can be breeding grounds for terrorism under Pakistan's influence



- 2) Insurgency in Kashmir
via LeT, JeM etc.
- 3) Proliferation of organised crime
and drug trafficking
↳ Afghanistan part of
Golden Crescent

Geo-economic

- 1) Vulnerabilities of large number
of Indian projects like Salma
Dam
- 2) Transportation initiatives like
INSTC corridor and
Zaraj-Delaram road are
uncertain now

Other issues

- 1) Refugee influx
- 2) Radicalisation
- 3) Taliban's affinity towards China

Measures that India should take

- 1) Collaborating with global watchdogs like FATF
- 2) Increased surveillance against rise in insurgency and crimes
- 3) Use of 'pedigree' and soft power gained by developmental projects in Afghanistan and "trusted image" among Afghans
- 4) Engagement with Taliban is must amidst Realpolitik approach of South Block
- 5) Act "quickly" to establish India as responsible neighbour so that China doesn't fill vacuum

India's dealing of Afghan Peace Process will determine the future of India as a regional power, says Marsh V. Pant (foreign policy expert).

20. Bangladesh is not only a key part of India's "Neighbourhood First policy" but also crucial for the "Act East policy". In this context, discuss the steps taken by the two countries to strengthen their relationship. (250 words) 15

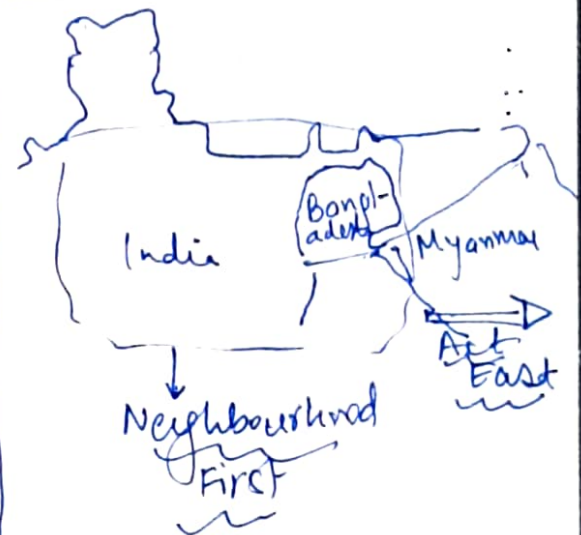
बांग्लादेश न केवल भारत की "नेबरहुड फर्स्ट पॉलिसी" का एक महत्वपूर्ण हिस्सा है, बल्कि "एक्ट ईस्ट पॉलिसी" के लिए भी अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण है। इस संदर्भ में, दोनों देशों द्वारा अपने संबंधों को मजबूत करने के लिए उठाए गए कदमों की विवेचना कीजिए।

India-Bangladesh relations are a case in point when diplomacy in a region is considered, says expert C Raja Mohan.

Key part of
Neighbourhood
first

1) more than
4000 km of
border

2) Socio-cultural
contacts and common values
of democracy, freedom struggle
experience etc.



crucial for "Act East" Policy

- 1) Gateway to Myanmar and ASEAN via South East Asia
- 2) Projects like IMT and interests of North East India require support of Bangladesh

Issues

— Teesta water issue
 — Refugees and illegal immigration
 — Radicalisation
 — impacts of domestic politics (e.g. protest against CAA 2019)

Efforts taken by two countries to strengthen relationsGeo-strategic

- 1) Land Boundary Agreement via 100th Amendment Act
- 2) Improved border management to tackle miscreants

- 3) Amicable resolution of disputes
Leq. at Permanent Court
of Arbitration regarding
territorial water issue
- 4) Frequent trainings of Bangladeshi
diplomats and military exercise

Geo-economic

- 1) Chattogram and Moulga
ports allowed to India
for transit
- 2) Trade incentives (More than
\$ 15 Billions trade in 2020-21)
- 3) Integrated checkpoints and 'border
haats
- 4) Water sharing agreements
ep. Feni river

Other — collaboration at WTO,
SAARC, BIMSTEC etc.

↳ key countries of developing
world

A further adherence to
Gujral doctrine and improving strategic
ties can be a