



VISIONIAS
INSPIRING INNOVATION
ABHYAAS MAINS

सामान्य अध्ययन (प्रश्न पत्र-II)/GENERAL STUDIES (Paper-II) (2423)

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. : 0289567

अभ्यर्थी का नाम/Name of Student : Abhijnan Hazarika

माध्यम: हिंदी/अंग्रेजी
Medium: Hindi/English

English

तारीख
Date

26/8/2023

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

केंद्र
Centre

Guwahati

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)					



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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.

उपयुक्त उदाहरणों की सहायता से, चर्चा कीजिए कि पर्यावरणीय दबाव समूह भारत में पर्यावरण नीतियों के संबंध में सार्वजनिक भागीदारी और अनुक्रियाशीलता को कैसे बढ़ाते हैं। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

With suitable examples, discuss how environmental pressure groups enhance public participation and responsiveness with regard to environmental policies in India. (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हशिप में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Pressure groups (PGs) are a formal group of people formed to put pressure on the Govt to fulfil certain interests or influence the people

Environmental pressure groups enhancing public participation and responsiveness

1. Creating awareness in the society
(a) PETA against killing on animals
2. By highlighting negative effects of developmental projects (a) Greenpeace against Kudankulam
3. Transforming technologies of public usage (a) Centre for Science and Environment's role in CNG buses in Delhi
4. Influence Govt to make policy changes
(a) mining in Chotanagpur belt

5. Forcing judiciary to implement changes
(a) TN Godavarman case recognising all
deemed forests as protected under FRA, 2006

Issues in fulfilling aims

1. Considered subordinate by state
2. Issue of obeying - harms reputation
of PUs
3. Seen as anti-development (a) Greenpeace's
activities in Kudankulam
4. Non-transparency in functioning

Environmental PUs have increased
to large numbers in recent times which
should focus on public goals rather
than its own interests.

2.

हाल ही में, उच्चतम न्यायालय द्वारा सेक्स वर्क को एक 'पेशे' के रूप में स्वीकार किया जाना, भारत में सेक्स वर्कर्स के लिए बुनियादी अधिकार और समानता सुनिश्चित करने की दिशा में पहला कदम है। परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The recent acknowledgment of sex work as a 'profession' by the Supreme Court is merely the first step in ensuring basic rights and equality for sex workers in India. Examine. (Answer in 150 words)

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाथिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

10

The acknowledgment of sex work as a profession by the Supreme Court (SC) highlights that the Constitution is a living document.

Merely first step in ensuring basic rights and equality for sex workers

1. Social discrimination

- excluded from mainstream society
- looked down upon

2. Political

- exclusion - no voting rights to most
- grey area - as many are victims of trafficking
- lack of access to welfare schemes

3. Health

- marred by diseases like STDs
- no proper access to healthcare
ex) under PM DAY

4. Education

- ↳ not granted in many cases
- ↳ children - do not get education
- ↳ end up as sex workers

5. Economic

- ↳ exploited by brothel owners
- ↳ minimal for survival

Positive steps

1. Half way homes - for trafficked ^{women} rehabilitation
2. KIRAN helpline - for grievances
3. SC - Gauvan Jain judgment
right to education of sex workers
children

(Sex workers) should be provided all the facilities as the other citizens of the country and steps should be taken for their upliftment.

3.

भारत में निःशुल्क कानूनी सहायता प्रदान करने और कानूनी जागरूकता फैलाने में जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरणों (DLSAs) द्वारा निभाई जाने वाली भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)
Discuss the role played by District Legal Services Authorities (DLSAs) in providing free legal aid and disseminating legal awareness in India. (Answer in 150 words)

उम्मीदवारों को इस कक्ष में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

10

The National Legal Service Authorities (NALSA) Act, 1986 provided legal recognition to Lok Adalats, DLSAs etc.

Role played by DLSAs

* Free legal aid

1. Organisation of Lok Adalats - free of cost for parties to dispute
2. Fulfil constitutional obligations (under A 39A)
3. Hire legal experts at Govt expense
4. Upliftment of vulnerables - by giving them justice

* Legal Awareness dissemination

1. Organising Lok Adalats - spreading of legal knowledge
2. Organising programs under the district

through eminent lawyers or jurists
→ spread of legal knowledge

3. Principles of natural justice followed
→ easier to spread legal awareness

4. No strict adherence to Evidence Act,
Civil Procedure Code etc.

→ common people can understand

5. Ensure access to justice (SC said necessary
in Ankita Khurana case)

Issues → Power imbalance in society - biased
against poorer people

→ lack of adequate infrastructure

→ lack of adequate expertise.

The DLSPs should be strengthened by improving financing, increased
legal experts and augment infrastructure
through National Infrastructure Judicial
Authority (NIJA's) formation

4.

"कुछ लोगों के हाथों में शक्ति के सकेन्द्रण के कारण, कॉलेजियम प्रणाली अपनी ही सफलता का शिकार हो गई है, जिससे इसकी वैधता पर सवाल उठने लगे हैं।" टिप्पणी कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)
 "The collegium system has become a victim of its own success, with the concentration of power in the hands of a few, leading to questions about its legitimacy." Comment. (Answer in 150 words)

उम्मीदवारों को इस हार्शिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
 Candidates must not write on this margin

10

The collegium system is accused to be encroaching into executive's domain by hampering principle of separation of power (SoP) by many including Vice President J.D. Kharkhar

[Success to some extent]

1. Tackled executive interference (en) superseding promotions during Indira Gandhi's reign
2. Ensured judicial independence

[Victim of own success as]

1. Appointments at discretion of collegium (en) Chief Justice of India and 4 seniormost judges as per 3rd Judges case
2. Promoting nepotism - Aunty and Uncle

Judges phenomenon

3. Non-transparency in appointment
↳ as there is no qualification, criteria etc.
4. No judicial accountability
5. Against democratic principles - Faigen
Mustafa says independence of judiciary
doesn't mean independence of judges

Way ahead

1. ~~Re~~ Introduction of NJAC like
mechanisms with reforms
2. Update Memorandum of Procedure of
appointment

Vidhi Centre for legal Policy
suggests that a 3rd stakeholder in
the form of bar and civil society must
be included for appointments which
can be thought of.

5.

"सिविल सेवा सुधारों को वर्तमान दौर की चुनौतियों से निपटने के लिए भर्ती और मानकीकृत प्रशिक्षण से आगे बढ़ाया जाना अनिवार्य है।" विश्लेषण कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)
 "Civil services reforms must go beyond recruitment and standardised training to cope with the present day challenges." Analyse. (Answer in 150 words)

10

उम्मीदवारों को इस क्वेश्चन में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
 Candidates must not write on this margin

Civil services are the backbone of the functioning of the country but requires reforms to meet present day challenges.

Need for recruitment and standardised training reforms

1. Specialists necessary (in) IT field work [2nd ARC]

2. Mid-service training necessary for improving capacities [India @ 75 Report]

Need to go beyond

1. Technology-driven workforce (in) as increasing use of technology in form of e-Governance

2. Comprehensive appraisal systems

↳ Performance Management System [2nd ARC]

↳ SPARROW [India @ 75]

3. Reform governance aspects

- Need for neutral Civil Service Board
[TSR Subramaniam case]
- Security of tenure atleast at higher levels [Hota Committee]

4. Behavioural changes

- shed elitist mentality
- need for rightizing of the bureau-
cracy

Well rounded civil service reforms
are hence required to make it ^{modern}
citizen-centric force.

6.

सामाजिक प्रभाव बॉण्ड्स जैसे परिणाम-आधारित वित्त मॉडल में वास्तविक रूप से परिवर्तन लाने और बड़े पैमाने पर सामाजिक-आर्थिक प्रभाव उत्पन्न करने की क्षमता विद्यमान है। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Outcome-based finance models such as social impact bonds have the potential to truly catalyse change and deliver socio-economic impact at scale. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हार्शिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

RBI had constituted Izharat Hussain Panel to decide on introduction of social impact bonds.

Potential to catalyse change

1. Shift from output orientation to outcome orientation

(a) actual outcome on the section intended

2. Mobilise money to ensure social goals (a) health, environment etc

3. Change outlook of people - as directly contributing to society

Potential to deliver socio-economic impact

1. Cause based (a) for health infrastructure

2. Huge scope - as large amounts can

be mobilised in country like India

3. Remove poverty - achieve SDG goals

4. less chances of corruption and leakages
- as outcome needs to be measures

(c) Social Audit

Issues

→ Market very limited as of now

→ Outcome measurement is a difficult
task

→ Inadequate capacity of state - to
affect social change

Social impact bonds like

Blue Bonds in Seychelles needs to be
introduced in India.

7.

प्रत्येक वर्ष ग्रेजुएट होने वाली और कार्यक्षेत्र में प्रवेश करने वाली महिलाओं की संख्या के मध्य का व्यापक अंतराल एक गंभीर समस्या है जिसे हल किए जाने की आवश्यकता है। भारत के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The wide gap between the number of females graduating every year and those entering the workspace is an issue of paramount importance that needs to be addressed. Discuss in the context of India. (Answer in 150 words)

10

The Gross Enrollment Ratio (GER) of females in higher education in India at 26% is at par with males but female labour force participation rate (FLFPR) is very low at only 25%.

This points to the gap between females graduating and entering workspace

Needs to be addressed

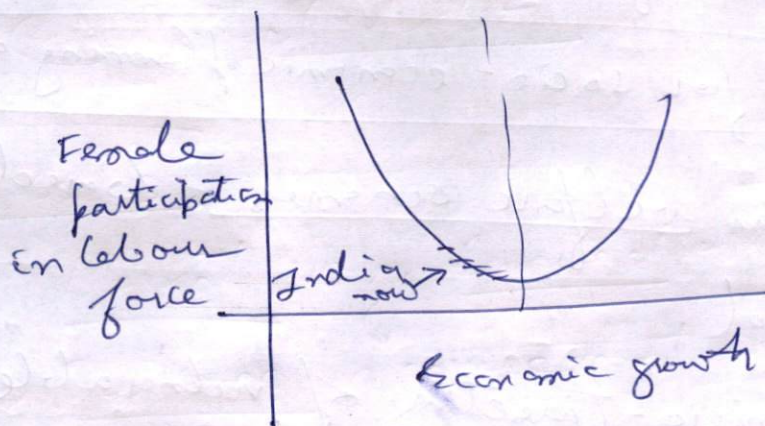
1. To ensure economic independence of women
2. To ensure economic growth [as IMF Chief lagarde said that if LFPR (male) = FLFPR then Indian GDP will increase by 27%]
3. To ensure social justice - towards rights of women
4. To improve India's status in world

scenario [India ranks 125/136 in Global Gender Gap Index '2022]

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Some feel not necessary as

1. Female U-hypothesis - will automatically increase



2. FLFPR is understated as

- ES says women's household work is not considered

FLFPR, however, needs to be increased to ensure SDG 5 of reduced inequalities.

8.

भारत में सामाजिक-आर्थिक नियोजन के लिए एक अद्यतित और कार्यात्मक नागरिक पंजीकरण प्रणाली (CRS) अनिवार्य है। देश में CRS प्रणाली में सुधार हेतु केंद्र सरकार के हालिया कदम के आलोक में चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

An up to date and functional Civil Registration System (CRS) is essential to the socio-economic planning in India. Discuss in the light of the recent move of the Central government in revamping the CRS system in the country. (Answer in 150 words)

उम्मीदवारों को इस हिसाब में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Civil Registration System (CRS) is the recording of births, deaths etc. demographic factors in the country.

Essential for socio-economic planning as

1. To plan welfare schemes - based on need
2. For micro-targeting of vulnerable groups
3. To keep a check on rapid demographic decline (41) Tigo Pauri campaign
4. To understand the composition of the population (42) need for geriatric care if elderly very high in number
5. To revamp planning - corrections and modifications in schemes
6. Tackle issues like migration (43)

by
7. Checking amount of migrations to a particular state

7. Provide employment opportunities - to poor and vulnerable

CRS system is hence a very essential tool for socio-economic planning in the country.

9.

यदि अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मुद्रा कोष (IMF) को वर्तमान आर्थिक वास्तविकताओं के साथ समायोजित होना है तो इसमें सुधार के प्रमुख क्षेत्र कौन-से होंगे? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

What are the key areas of reform if the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has to align with the current economic realities? (Answer in 150 words)

10

उम्मीदवारों को इस इच्छा में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

The International Monetary Fund (IMF)
is a leading multinational agency that provide aid to the nations in emergency and for development

Current economic realities	Reforms required
→ Increasing growth of <u>Renminbi's</u> acceptance	→ Need to increase its share in <u>SDR</u> basket
→ Changing <u>economic status</u> of countries (Ex) India becoming 5th largest economy	→ Need to increase <u>voting rights</u> and <u>India's SDR</u> share
→ <u>De-dollarisation</u> is happening	→ Reduce dollar's influence
→ <u>Multilateralism</u> growing	→ Need to be more <u>representative</u>

- shift to economic efficiency
- protectionism
and friend
shoring
- Economic crisis
in many places
- Growth of other
multilateral
banks @ AIIB,
NDB etc.
- ② more than 50% share
of USA needs to
be done with
- Take measure to counter
it
- liberalise systems for
granting IMF loans
for quicker dispersal
- Need to transform
for maintaining
its strength

The IMF reforms need to
come soon to tackle the realities

10.

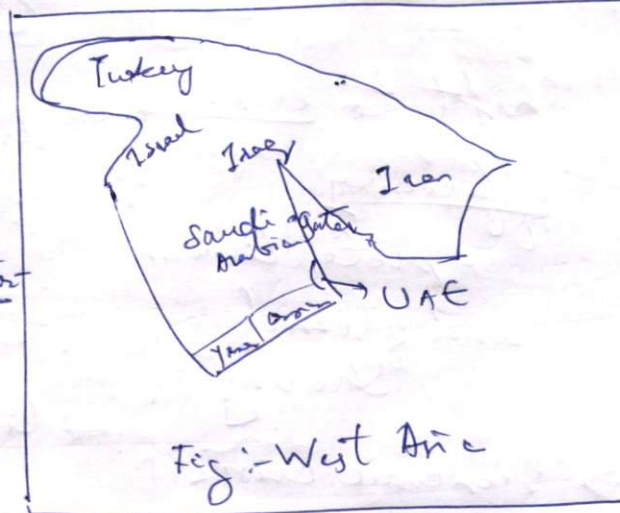
हाल के वर्षों में, पश्चिम एशिया के साथ भारत के संबंध भू-राजनीति के दायरे से आगे निकलकर भू-अर्थशास्त्र के आयाम तक पहुंच गए हैं। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

In recent years, India's relationship with West Asia has evolved from the confines of geopolitics to expanse of geoeconomics. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words)

10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हिसाब में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

India's relations with West Asia has developed from only minimal interaction to close partnership in recent times



Confines of geopolitics initially

1. Trilateral foreign policy - to tackle S Arabia, Iran and Israel
2. To ensure participation in the Great Power rivalry in the region
3. Political relations (or) Strategic and Comprehensive Partnership with UAE

Evolved to geoeconomics

2. signing free trade agreements (FTAs)
(or) with UAE in 2022

2. Movement of people (en) for jobs in UAE, Qatar etc.
 3. Huge source of remittance (en) around 87 billion \$ (30% of total as said by RBI)
 4. Importing energy
(en) natural gas mostly from Qatar
 5. Investments in strategic assets in India
(en) ADNOC investing in oil reserves of India
- Other dimensions

1. Defence (en) India's naval outpost at Dugon, Oman
 2. Cultural relations (en) Hindu temple at Abu Dhabi
 3. Connectivity (en) Chabahar port in Iran
- India and West Asia share many complementarities which needs to be further enhanced as in increasing bilateral trade.

11.

हितधारकों को नवाचार और प्रभावशीलता में वृद्धि हेतु प्रेरित करने के लिए स्वस्थ प्रतिस्पर्धात्मकता को बढ़ावा देने में भारतीय प्रतिस्पर्धा आयोग (CCI) की भूमिका महत्वपूर्ण है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The role of the Competition Commission of India (CCI) is significant in furthering healthy competitiveness aimed at inspiring stakeholders to innovate and augment effectiveness.
Comment. (Answer in 250 words)

उम्मीदवारों को
इस हार्शिए में
नहीं लिखना
चाहिए
Candidates
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write on
this margin

15

Competition Commission of India (CCI)
was recently given role of checking
GST rates ^{solvency} by abolishing National Anti-
Profiteering Agency (NAAPA)

Role significant in furthering competitiveness

* By improving innovation

1. By checking anti-competitive practices
(a) predatory pricing to kill
competition

2. Encouraging newer innovations
- by protecting copyrights of innov-
ations from being misused

3. Promoting research and development
- in functioning of industries

* By augmenting effectiveness

1. By promoting ^{healthy} competition between various organisations

2. By ensuring economic viability of products
to check misuse by large companies
to destroy new companies

3. By checking malpractices

(a) surrogate advertising

4. By providing level playing field to all

Issues → lack of adequate capacity
→ Allegations of corruption allowing
some practices at expense of others
→ lack of adequate funds

Way ahead

1. Check duopoly in telecom sector
- more than 60% share of Reliance and Airtel

2. Enhance capabilities of CCI - to

take action against swing parties etc.

Strong institutions like CCI

is necessary to ensure that nations
do not fail and ensure economic develop-
ment in the long run.

12.

"पेड न्यूज का खतरा अक्सर चुनावों के दौरान अपना भयावह रूप दिखाता है।" भारत में पेड न्यूज को एक चुनावी अपराध बनाने की आवश्यकता पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

"The menace of paid news often rears its ugly head during elections." Discuss the need for making paid news an electoral offence in India. (Answer in 250 words)

15

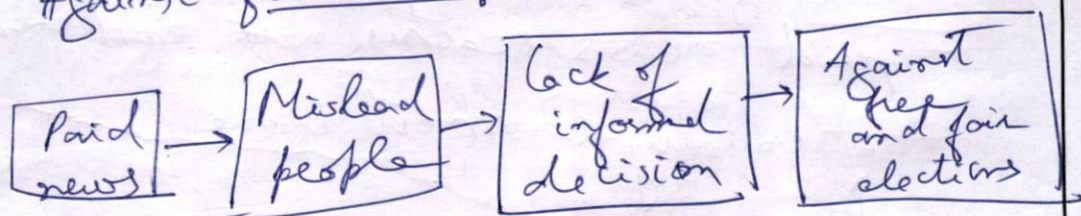
उम्मीदवारों को इस हिसाब में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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The phenomenon of displaying news by being ^{monetary gains} paid for it is called paid news which has become rampant in recent times.

Rearing its ugly head during elections → to glorify particular candidate
→ to whitewash criminal candidates from their crimes
→ frequently seen as in US elections against Biden

Need for making paid news an electoral offence

1. Against free and fair elections



2. Leading to criminalisation of politics
[ADR: 43% in 16th LS have criminal antecedents] → as criminals are

whitewashed and glorified

3. ~~Dem~~ Media - not fulfilling duty as
4th Pillar of democracy

4. Affecting people's fundamental rights
(a) right to know under freedom
of speech and expression

5. Manufactured consent (Noam Chomsky)

→ the consent towards voting someone
is manufactured and not voluntary

6. Affecting Model Code of Conduct (MCC)
- of Election Commission

7. Reach of social media and internet
- paid news reaches nook and corner
of country in short time

8. Promotes corruption - among Govt and
media

9. People's trust in democracy diminishes

- when people realise the truth

10. Can promote disharmony in society
- if paid news is against particular
caste, creed, community etc.

Way ahead

1. Augment technological capabilities - to
check paid news in social media

2. Enhance powers of Election Commission
of India to make MCC legal

Paid news need to be made
a corrupt practice under §126 of
CrP.A, 1950 alongwith the aforementioned
steps.

13.

भारत में धार्मिक प्रथाओं के संदर्भ में, न्यायालयों द्वारा उद्धृत 'अनिवार्यता के सिद्धांत' पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Discuss the 'Doctrine of Essentiality' referred to by the courts in the context of religious practices in India. (Answer in 250 words)

15

उम्मीदवारों को
इस हस्तिए में
नहीं लिखना
चाहिए
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The Doctrine of Essentiality is a system of jurisprudence developed by the SC in the Shirur Mutt case, 1954

Features

1. Derived under A 26 of the Constitution
↳ which ~~Features~~ gives protection to religious denominations
2. Essential Religious Practice (ERP) is given constitutional protection under A 26
3. If religious practice is not ERP, then not given protection (ex) Annamalai
Manga not given rights to practice
Tandav Nritya in the streets
4. Court sits as a body to decide what constitutes ERP

Applied to

1. Protect fundamental rights of individuals
(a) Sabariimala case - to safeguard A14,
(equality before law), A15 (non-discrimi-
nation) and A21 (right to freedom)
2. Strike down regressive practices
(a) triple talac struck down under
Shah Bano case
3. Bringing changes to non-essential practices
(a) bigamy declared not ERP in
Hindu system
4. Expand scope of rights of people
(a) right to marry person's of one's
choice (Hadiya case)

Issues in application

1. Court is not an eclectic body (a) Judicial
Malhotra in Sabariimala case said that

Court can't decide religious morality

2. Misinterpretations - ^{9th} Nikhil Soni case,
Rajasthan HC equated Santhara with
suicide

3. Unintended consequences (a) clashes after
roadside namazs after Ismail
Farooqi judgement that namaz in mosques
not ERP

4. Difficult to quantify - as for religious
person, all practices can be religious

'Doctrine of Essentiality' needs to
be applied in a way so that the
religious rights under Constitution are
not hampered.

14.

प्रधान मंत्री की आर्थिक सलाहकार परिषद (EAC-PM) की हाल ही में जारी रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, भारत में सरकार के आकार को सीमित करने की तत्काल आवश्यकता है। क्या आप सहमत हैं? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

As per the recently released report of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM), there is an urgent need to limit the size of the government in India. Do you agree? (Answer in 250 words)

उम्मीदवारों को इस खण्ड में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

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The report of EAC-PM talks about the need to rightsize the Govt.

Need to rightsize

1. Lot of people at the lower levels
→ hampering productivity due to laziness in work
2. Growth of information technology (IT) sector - too many people are not required as computerised
3. Save Government expenses
→ huge in the form of salaries, facilities, pensions etc.
4. To improve productivity of work
→ by limiting size only to the skilled people
5. Remove bureaucratic attitude
→ of red tapism, elitism etc.

However, limiting size is problematic as Economic

1. Avenue for jobs for many vulnerable sections ex through reservation
2. Already many jobs are becoming contractual [Indian Staffing Federation says 44% Govt. jobs contractual]
3. Result in more unemployment and poverty
4. Economic capacity is increasing - which requires many people to serve

Social

1. Cannot fulfil social duties ex huge manpower required to fulfil social welfare schemes
2. Administration at grassroots will be affected - manpower required

Political

1. Compulsion in democracy to provide
access to affirmative actions to all
(as) Govt jobs

2. India's population is increasing - requires
huge political-administrative force

Way ahead

1. Reskill and upskill the youth [Skill
India Report, 2015 - less than 50% graduates
in India are employable]

2. Capability approach (ASen) - provide
adequate education, health facilities etc.

3. Ensure gender equality - Angus Daiton
says need to improve female economic particip-
ation to reap demographic dividend.

Balance must be ensured
between limiting Govt and expanding Govt

15.

इंस्टीट्यूट्स ऑफ एमिनेंस (IoE) योजना की कल्पना भारत में उच्चतर शिक्षा के 'विश्व स्तरीय' केंद्र विकसित करने के लिए की गई थी, लेकिन छह साल बाद भी, यह अभी तक गेम चेंजर नहीं बन पाई है। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The Institutions of Eminence (IoE) scheme was conceived to develop 'world-class' centres of higher education in India but six years later, it is yet to become the game changer it was intended to be. Discuss. (Answer in 250 words)

15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हार्डिप में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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The Institutions of Eminence (IoE) scheme was launched to initially develop ten world class institutions for higher education in India

Develop world class infrastructure like labs etc.

Ensure autonomy in functioning

Attract youth from outside India

Provide financial grants for development

Features

However, not become game-changer as

Infrastructure

1. Still in nascent stage - infra upgrade-tions not completed

2. Adequate funds have not been released - for infra development

Faculty

1- lack of world-class faculty in India
(as many migrate outside)

2. Not able to attract faculty from outside India

Student

1. Huge brain drain - more than 2 lakh students migrate in one year
2. Attracted more towards existing top institutes (ex) IIT, IIMs, NITs etc.

Private sector

1. Not making enough investment - to develop world-class institutes

Policy issues

1. Shifting of focus (ex) allowing foreign universities to set up campus in India
→ shifts focus from ZOE
2. Uncertainty in Govt policy

Manipulative practices

1. NIRF rankings - temporary recruitment

of teachers by private institutes to improve student/teacher ratio.

Way ahead

1. Adequate funding - to 16E
2. Build infrastructure through PPP model
3. Focus on improving access to education to all - by ensuring limited fees etc.
4. Collaborate with foreign institutions
(a) joint degree

Higher education system in India needs to be revamped to ensure social justice, gender parity and qualitative education.

16.

डिजिटल पब्लिक इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर (DPI) नवोन्मेषी और सुविधाजनक सार्वजनिक सेवाओं की अनुमति देता है, समावेशन या पहुंच संबंधी बाधाओं को दूर करने में मदद करता है तथा रियल-टाइम डेटा की मदद से पारदर्शिता और जवाबदेही बढ़ाता है। उदाहरण सहित चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) allows for innovative and convenient public services, help overcome inclusion or accessibility barriers, and increase transparency and accountability with real-time data. Discuss with examples. (Answer in 250 words)

15

India has becoming a leading hub of Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) which is a platform that provides a base infrastructure for other infrastructure to innovate and build upon it

Allows innovative and convenient public services

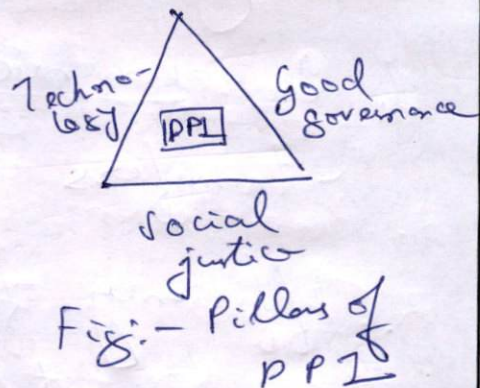
1. Easy to use and access (a) CoWIN for COVID vaccinations

2. Provides proper health services

(a) Digilocker - keeping health records

Help overcome inclusion or accessibility barriers

1. Almost universal ownership and use (a) Aadhar card



उम्मीदवारों को इस हिसाब में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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2. Access to business from backward areas (a) One Nation Digital Commerce (ONDC)

3. Financial inclusion to all
(a) Jam Doshok app for PM Jan Dhan Yojana

Increasing transparency and accountability

1. In economic activities

• transfers under MGNREGA wages

2. Efficiency of welfare schemes

(a) Direct Benefit Transfer to bank accounts for PM-KISAN

3. Digitisation of land records (a) ABCD Campaign in Wayanad, Kerala

Issues

1. Digital divide - many people lack access to digital infrastructure

2. Digital illiteracy - increase vulnerability
of ~~lower class~~ ^{poor} people

3. Governance issues

→ Technical faults - denial of food
in Jharkhand leading to death

→ leakages & Ghost beneficiaries
under NFSA Act

Way ahead

1. Create anchor firms for DPI

(a) UIDAI → Aadhar

2. Increase digital accessibility

(a) complete National Optical Fibre
network

DPI provides us great opportu-
nity to highlight our success in former
like G-20 and uplift the vulnerable.

17.

कानून के अलावा, भारत में 'सभी के लिए स्वास्थ्य के अधिकार' की पूर्ण प्राप्ति हेतु सामाजिक, वित्तीय और बुनियादी ढांचे की कमियों को दूर करने की आवश्यकता है। परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)
 Besides legislation, the full realisation of the 'right to health for all' in India demands plugging of social, financial, and infrastructural gaps. Examine. (Answer in 250 words)

15

उम्मीदवारों को
 इस हिसाब में
 नहीं लिखना
 चाहिए
 Candidates
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'Right to Health' Bill was recently introduced in Rajasthan renewing debate on the issue of right to health for all

Need for legislation

1. Shift towards ^{from} welfare orientation towards right based necessity

↳ create obligation upon state to fulfil

2. Provide adequate relief to poor
 (a) very high out of pocket expenditure around 50% in health sector

~~Req~~ Requires plugging of

* Social gaps

↳ Denial of healthcare (a) as seen during COVID

↳ Premature privatisation of healthcare (A Sen) - lacks access to many people

→ lack of recognition of issues like mental healthcare [only around 0.06% of health budget]

→ stigmatisation of diseases @ mental health

* Financial gaps

→ limited budget of Govt @ 2.2% of GDP in 2023-24 budget [National Health Policy suggests at least 2.5%]

→ lack of focus on preventive healthcare (less than 7% of health budget)

* Infrastructural gaps

→ lack of adequate manpower [221 doctors, nurses and midwives per lakh population]
- WHO suggests at least 500

→ lack of world class hospitals

→ poor primary healthcare system (PHC)

→ Inadequacy of beds

Positive steps taken

1. PM-Jan Arogya Yojana - health insurance of ₹ 5 lakh/family/year
2. Expansion of PHC (in) mini, block PHCs^{etc}
3. Mental Healthcare Act - to increase focus
4. Institutional - National Medical Commission Act '2021

Way ahead

1. Involve PPP in healthcare [NIT/Aayog]
2. National Health Cadres - to provide health related services
3. School Health Service - to ensure awareness about health among children

'Right to health for all' is essential to ensure fulfilment of SDGs like SDG 1 (no poverty), SDG 2 (zero hunger) etc.

18.

विधायी समर्थन के बावजूद 'थर्ड जेंडर' को अभी तक भारतीय समाज में मान्यता नहीं मिली है। विश्लेषण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The 'third gender' has not yet been engendered in the Indian society despite legislative nudge. Analyse. (Answer in 250 words)

15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हशिप में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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legislations like Transgender Protection Act have been introduced to protect transgenders but they have not yet been engendered.

Not engendered as can be seen from

1. Socially discriminated - NALSA report says 96% faced social discrimination
2. Lack of political rights (a) only 30,000 of 46 lakh transgenders have voting rights (NALSA report)
3. Lack of access to jobs - not provided by most people.
4. Lack of legislative rights (a) MTP Act, Surrogacy Act do not recognise rights of transgenders
5. Exploitation - many transgenders are trafficked and forcefully

given to son labour

6. Psychological trauma - very high rates of suicides
7. Lack of recognition of constitutional rights (or) same-sex marriage not recognised
8. No access to education - denied rights
9. Judicial pronouncements not fulfilled
- (or) NALSA judgement of reservation under OBCs

Reasons

1. Lack of social acceptance
2. Lack of political will - to recognise third gender rights
3. Religious and cultural issues - of non-recognition

Engendered to some extent

1. Recognition as third-gender (or) by

OC as per transgender protection act.

2. Decriminalised homosexuality (a) Navtej Singh Johar case

3. Initiatives by civil societies (a) Khudol initiative of third gender 'football' team

4. Rehabilitation (a) Gaurma Greh

Way ahead

1. Recognised same sex marriage by modifying Special Marriage Act [interpret as spouse as done in Fourie case, South Africa]

2. Provide reservations in education

SC in Navtej Johar case talked that constitutional morality should prevail over social morality recognising rights of transgenders.

19.

अन्य कारकों के अलावा, चीन और पाकिस्तान के साथ तनावपूर्ण संबंधों ने भारत के लिए शंघाई सहयोग संगठन (SCO) से अपनी अपेक्षाओं को पूरा करना कठिन बना दिया है। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)
Among other factors, strained ties with China and Pakistan make it difficult for India to fulfill its expectations from the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO). Discuss. (Answer in 250 words)

15

उम्मीदवारों को इस कक्ष में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Shanghai Cooperation Organisation's 23rd Summit in 2023 is being held in India

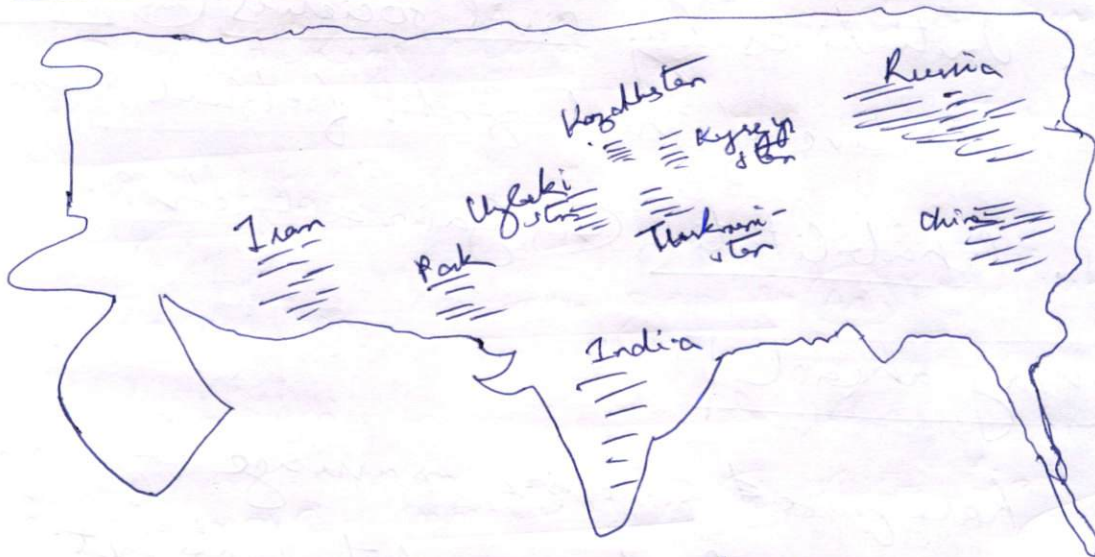


Fig:- members of SCO

Expectations of SCO

- strengthen social, political, economic ties between nations
- cooperate to ensure ^{regional} peace and stability
- safeguard member countries
- coordinate for socio-economic development

Difficulties to fulfil expectations

1. China and Pakistan ties with India

- SCO is a China led, China controlled group
- Russia-China friendship has grown
 - ↳ friendship with no limits
- Russia-China-Pakistan-Iran axis (known as Chinese QUAD) - undermines India's scope in SCO
- lack of consensus - due to poor India-China and India-Pakistan ties
- Belt and Road Initiative issue
 - as all are part except India
- China's economic clout over region
- China's geographical location - makes it difficult for India to improve ties with Central Asia

2. Other issues

- lack of trade relations (insufficient) with many countries

→ Connectivity issues en to Central Asia

→ seen as an anti-Western group

- hampers India's ties with the West

→ a talking club not much action

Way ahead

1. Focus on common goals en Countering terrorism
2. Improve connectivity en Connecting the Connectivities Program
3. Diplomatic Balancing - between East and West

Balancing between China and Russia, China and Pakistan is the need of the hour as suggested by H Jacob.

20.

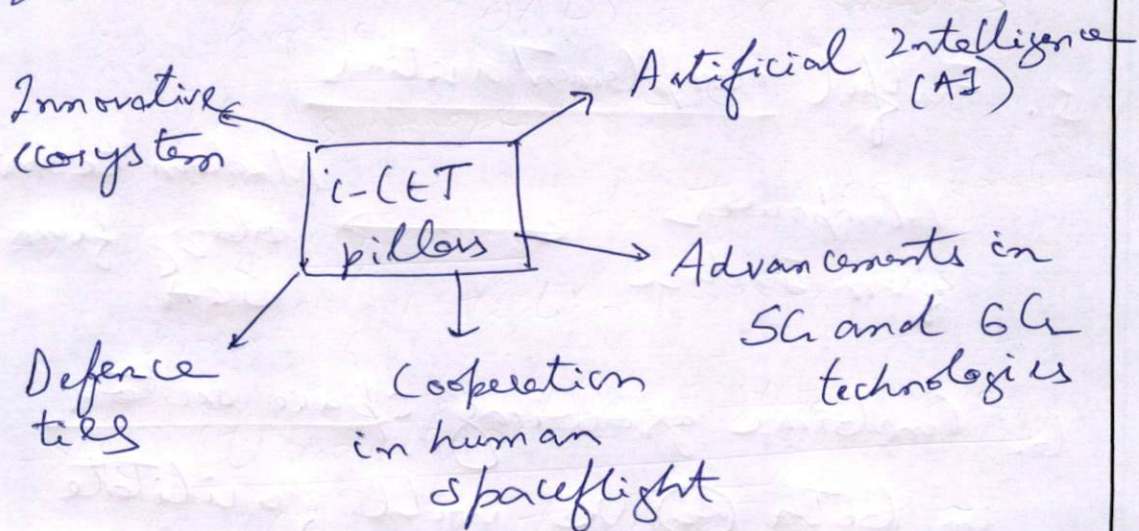
संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका और भारत के बीच महत्वपूर्ण एवं उभरती प्रौद्योगिकी (iCET) पर हाल ही में संपन्न पहल, प्रौद्योगिकी के क्षेत्र में इनकी साझेदारी में लंबे समय से प्रतीक्षित परिवर्तन का वादा करती है। परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The recently concluded initiative on Critical and Emerging Technology (iCET) between the United States and India promises a long overdue transformation of their partnership in the field of technology. Examine. (Answer in 250 words)

15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

iCET partnership was recently signed between United States and India to deepen ~~the~~ technological ties between the nations.



Promises long overdue transformation

1. As deepens ties in emerging fields
(a) AI technology
2. Will remove mistrust between nations (a) US reluctant to transfer technologies like cryogenic engine

3. Expands defence cooperation

- after signing LEMOA, COMCASA
etc earlier

4. Focus on innovation

- enhance human capital in both

5. Fulfil complementarities

Manpower from India $\longleftrightarrow$ Modern technology from USA

6. Combine growing space sector
in both (2) US will facilitate

Indian person's movement to International Space Station (ISS)

7. Develop telecom technologies (2) 6G
technology

Issues remain as

1. India's dependence on Russia in
defence (2) 46% as per SIPRI

- will create trust deficit
2. India's delivery deficit - delays in fulfilling commitments
 3. India's very low spending on research and development - only 0.65% of budget
 4. Chances of increasing brain drain to USA

iCET can go long way to ensure technological advancements in India if the issues are adequately addressed

