



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. : 1492371

अभ्यर्थी का नाम/Name of Student : Muskan Srivastava

माध्यम: हिंदी/अंग्रेजी
Medium: Hindi/English

English

तारीख

Date

26th Aug 2023

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

केंद्र

Centre

Kanpur (27)

निरीक्षक के हस्ताक्षर

Invigilator's Signature

[Signature]
26/08/2023

	महत्वपूर्ण अनुदेश	Important Instructions
	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।	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 मंदा 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.

कार्यालय के प्रयोग हेतु For Official Use	कार्यालय के प्रयोग हेतु For Official Use
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) (2423)

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.

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

Pressure groups (PG) according to World Bank are informal or formal group working towards achieving specific objective through using legitimate use and tools. Environmental PG, have been proactive in India to achieve objectives of sustainable environment

EPG enhances public participation and responsiveness!

(1) Organizes protests against specific environmentally unsound projects:-

(eg) Narmada Bachao Andolan group against dams Sardar Sarovar dams

(2) Builds public opinion

(eg) Water Aid group → campaigns for clean water

(3) Engages with people

(eg) # Fridays for Future group organized in numerous colleges in India.

(4) Demands for environment protection

(eg) Western Ghats → Ecosensitive zone
aftermath of Silent valley protest

(5) Connect with Rest of the world

(eg) Muy Kamboja → engagement with
Greta Thunberg

However, they ~~create~~ ^{have} some challenges:-

(eg) Green' Peace Initiative → Sustained
Anti-India protest ~~ago~~ during
Kudankulam nuclear power plant
issues.

↳ lack of outreach in rural areas

EPG have remained important
~~test~~ outlet of citizen participation in
achieving environmental objectives
in India.

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)

10

Supreme Court of India has recognized 'sex work' as profession in India. It also has given following directives:

- police should not harass sex workers during raids
- child should not be assumed trafficked
- child should not be separated from mother
- financial inclusion instructions.

Implications of such recognition:

- Right to recognition of sex workers
- opening up avenue to access governmental services
- Right to Dignity

However, it is just a first steps in ensuring basic rights and equality.

(1) Not recognized by law

↳ argued they are against 'family structures' of India

(2) Ghettoisation

Eg ~~Red~~ Kamathipura in Mumbai
Red light area in Kolkata

(3) Denied safe Health care

↳ poor access to contraceptive
↳ high incidence of HIV

(4) Lack of access to social security

↳ children born to sex workers not
issues govt identity cards

(5) Social Discrimination

↳ denied education in schools
↳ low prospects of marriages and family

Sex Work is the oldest profession in the world. Bringing them into legal fold of India can not only provide them access to basic amenities but can formalize this entire economy. German model is good one to replicate here

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)

10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हार्निंग में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidate must not write on this margin

DLSAs are statutory body under NALSA act, 1987. They aim at free and quick legal aid to poor.

Role :

(1) Providing legal aid to vulnerable strata

- ↳ persons earning less than ₹1 lac
- ↳ women and children
- ↳ PWD
- ↳ natural disaster survivors.

(2) Varied services

- ↳ remission of court fees
- ↳ preparing court documents
- ↳ finding legal counselors.

(3) Taking campaigns

- ↳ generation of awareness about legal rights

(4) Assisting & NALSA in setting up Lok Adalats and Permanent Local Adalats

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

Challenges in DLSPs :

- (1) Lack of Infrastructure
 - ↳ poor capacity of staff
 - ↳ secretariat services
- (2) Limited resources
- (3) Limited awareness among citizens about DLSPs
- (4) Delay in releasing funds by states
 - delay in remission of fees etc.

DLSPs have been imperative to achieve the DPSP under Art 38 A for free and quick legal aid among the needy.

4.

"कुछ लोगों के हाथों में शक्ति के सँकेंद्रण 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)

10

The collegium system is body of Supreme Court which oversee judicial appointment in higher judiciary.

Why evolved?

(1) After ~~the~~ (3) Judges cases in interpretation of Art 124

(2) To uphold independence of judiciary in judicial system.

Supreme Court Collegium

↓
CJ + 4 senior most judges of SC

↓
recommends names of judges to President

• no judge can be appointed without recommendation of collegium.

HC collegium → CJ + 2 SC judges to recommend HC judges

↙ CJ + 2 SC judges for transfers of judges
+ HC judges

Victim of its own success :-

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

(1) Opaque

- ↳ ~~No~~ No defined criteria for selection of judges
- ↳ closed door meetings

(2) "Old boys' club" :- dominated by only senior SC judges

(3) Against separation of power ↳ judges appointing judges

(4) Issues of nepotism

(5) Raise question on judicial accountability

(6) No SC judge has appointed under criteria of 'eminent jurist' category post collegium system.

Way forward :-

(1) Allowing recommendation of nomination by President

(2) Committee of Eminent Citizens of legal background → engagements with collegium

(3) Secretariat for document keeping and of nominees

(4) UK model → Judicial Appointment Committee 15 members committee → selected through open competition.

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 दृष्टि से नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidate must not write on this margin

Civil services form the 'steel frame' of Indian administration.
Certain issues are calling out reforms in civil services.

~~Reforms~~
Reforms Need!

(1) Recruitment

- ↳ centralised recruitment
- ↳ long cycle of recruitment
(Eg) 15 months long by UPSC
- ↳ ~~top~~ bottom-up recruitment

(2) Training

- ↳ centralised training for All India services
↓
lack local character
- ↳ rising new curriculum
 - ↳ e-governance, cyber security
 - ↳ training not imparted in these sectors

3) Other present Day challenges

- ↳ climate change and era of environmentalism
- ↳ environmental governance
- ↳ rise of private sector
 - ↳ issues in ~~pp~~ prt sector engagement and appraisal.
- ↳ new forms of crime
 - ↳ cyber attacks, drones etc.

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

Way Ahead :

2nd ARC recommendations :-

- ↳ shorten exam cycle upto 6 months
- ↳ lateral entry for specialization
- ↳ 360° appraisals

Present day challenges → Mission Karmayogi

- ↳ competency and training framework
- ↳ i-GOT platform for self paced learning
- ↳ Electronic HR management

Such reforms are needed to transform civil services from rusted steel frame to trusted steel frame of India

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 दृष्टि में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Budget 2023 has introduced outcome based financing model

What is outcome based financing model?

- defining clear set of criteria
- performance judged on the basis of achievement of such criteria
- next round of financing
 - ↳ based on past achievement

Potential to catalyse change & deliver socio-economic impact :-

(1) Quicker achievement of social objectives

(2) Saving public money → curbing corruption
→ checking inclusion and exclusion errors

(3) Demand based financing of projects
→ reduced underutilization of funds

(Eg) PM Kaushal Vikas → underutilized

(4) Evaluation based on impact not
amt. spent

(5) Increases role of social audit

(Eg) MNREGA → social audit increased
the impact

(6) Helps in recognizing priority areas
with high visibility → Health, Education
Sanitation etc.

Outcome based finance model
is thus a welcomed step towards
achieving balanced social development

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

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

According to No Education, there is more than 20% gap in female graduating and those entering in workspace.

Why need to be address? :-

(1) Low female LFR of India
↳ 23% lowest among BRICS

(2) achieving demographic dividend

Ex IMF → 27% ↑ India's GDP if women participated at level of men

(3) Addressing gender gap

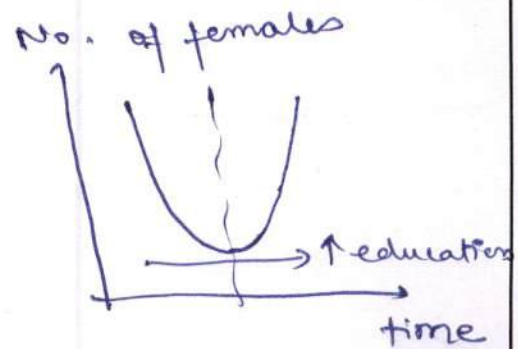
Ex > 100 years to achieve gender equality in India [Gender Gap Report]

(4) Women Empowerment → financial autonomy

Reasons for wide Gap:

(1) U-curve hypothesis

↳ more women entering into post graduation
↓
temporary gap in workforce



(2) Social factors

→ rising income of families → women study but need not work

→ unpaid care work burden
→ gender bias mindset

(3) Infrastructural factors

↳ lack of women-specific safe spaces
↳ facilities like creeches

(4) Organizational factors

↳ maternity penalty
↳ pink collar jobs

Way Ahead?

(1) Gender bias auditing requirement in each firm

(2) Promoting attitudinal change in family and society

We need both male and female at workplace to become economic powerhouse

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)

10

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

CRS is the body that registers:-

(i) death rate and birth rate of India

(ii) ~~Birth~~ issues birth certificates

(iii) monitors other indicators

↳ IMR
↳ MMR etc.

Significance in socio-economic planning:

(1) Data collection of vital information

(2) Helps in designing evidenced based population population

(3) Mandatory birth registration

↳ checks female infanticide

(4) Determines health indicators

(5) Assess the impact of developmental policies

Recent move of Central Government.

- (1) Digitization of all records
- (2) Adoption of cyber security infra for databases
- (3) Introduced new set of standards for data collection
- (4) Time limit for collating data from local levels.

Benefits :-

- (1) Digital Public good creation
 - ↳ longevity of records
 - ↳ removes delay.
- (2) Checks cyber attack vulnerability
- (3) Set of Standards
 - ↳ interoperability between states
 - ↳ national database.
- (4) Expediting quality collection of data

CRS has continued to deliver its objective since the time it was established during British era. New revamp is making it ready to deliver its objectives in 21st century

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 दृष्टि में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

IMF is one of the Bretton Woods Conference. It is ~~one~~ the custodian of world's monetary systems.

Key Areas of Reform :-

(1) Increasing shareholding of emerging economies

(Eg) With 41.7% shareholding USA holds implicit veto.

(2) Increasing more currencies in basket of SDR

(3) Transparency in selection of President.

(Eg) All president → from EU

(4) Avoiding imposition of conditionalities while giving loans

(Eg) Tough conditions imposed (Washington)

consensus) on India during 1991 ~~ref~~ crisis

(5) Increasing monitoring network
↳ was n't able to avoid 2008 sub prime crisis

(6) Recognizing today's reality
↳ China, India, S. Korea → important players of today

IMF act as lender of last resort during balance of payment crisis. However, it has tendency of western bias as was also reflected in Sri Lankan crisis.

It needs to reform its rules and regulation to meet credibility of Global South

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

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

India has and West Asia has civilizational historical ties. Post 1947, this relationship was dominated by geopolitics, is now moving towards geoeconomics.

Earlier Geopolitics ties :-

- (1) Energy security dominated
↳ India major importer of oil from region.
- (2) Muslim pilgrims → Mecca, Medina.
- (3) Diaspora → huge remittances
- (4) Limited economic collaboration

Expanding Geoeconomics ties :-

- (1) Pursuance of de-hyphenated policy by India

eg - Israel - Palestine Issue
Abraham Accords led to 2020

(2) Economic collaboration

↳ (Eg) signif signing FTA with UAE

(3) Attracting foreign investment through West Asia's sovereign funds

(Eg) 'Khaleesi investment'

(4) Increasing trade

↳ (Eg) Egypt - India trade doubled in
last 10 years

(5) Defence coproduction

↳ (Eg) Israel - India → Barak missiles

(6) Increasing energy diplomacy beyond oil

(Eg) India with Qatar

↳ clean energy agreements in the region

(7) Cross border transactions facilitation

(Eg) UPI integration in UAE

India and West Asia ^{relation} has
evolved to much higher level in
context of geoeconomics. It has
much higher potential under India's
Act West Policy.

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)

15

Competition Commission of India

CCI is a statutory body set up under CCI Act in 2002 to counter Anti-competitive practices by corporates.

Role of CCI :-

(1) Healthy competitiveness by checking abuse of dominant position by a corporate

(Eg) Google fined to misuse its position in android ecosystem by compelling others to pay 30% commission.

(2) checks anti-competitive takeovers by larger corporates of smaller corporates

(3) implements and over-see implementations of fair practices laws

(4) Also act as Anti-profiteering ~~power~~
authority of GST since 2022,

(5) Hear grievances of corporates in
unfair practices

eg Reliance - future deal case

(6) Lays down guidelines for corporate
collaboration

(7) Reports to government on competitiveness
of Indian economy.

Impact :-

(1) checks abuse of power by corporates

(2) Increases efficiency of Indian economy
by maintaining competition

(3) caters to grievances

Issues :-

(1) Granted statutory provision, late

↳ [pre-2002] → limited powers
couldn't check abuse during
that era.

(2) Independence

- ↳ appointments by Central Executive
- ↳ financed by Central Executive
- ↳ ~~may not be able to take stand~~
threat of political interference in
case of politician-corporate nexus

(3) Delays in grievance redressal

- Ⓔ No finality of orders
 - ↳ Google challenged in SC
as perceived by MNCs

(4) Alleged Indian biasness

CCI is essential to ensure competitiveness and innovation in Indian economy. To plug issues of CCI, independence in appointment and finance, fast tracking redressal of cases, correcting perception of MNCs is need of the hour.

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
Candidates must not write on this margin

A recent report by an eminent American university has highlighted the explosive increase in paid news in India before the general elections in 2024.

Need for making Paid News an electoral offence :-

(1) Threat of spreading misinformation.

(Eg) China led advertorial in an eminent Indian newspaper → claimed aid given by China to people of NE

(2) Misalignment of electorates

(Eg) Cambridge Analytica case

(3) may not be backed by concrete evidences → just as electoral advertisement

(4) Questions credibility of media

↳ important leg to disperse info during elections

(5) can be misused by party in power

↳ using state resources → to promote its own agenda
↳ using laws to restrict publishing news of other parties
↳ not a level playing field for smaller parties.

(6) Paid News → can create divides based on caste, language etc.

↳ new tool for vote-bank politics

(Eg) ~~Amul~~ a news in Tamil Nadu against use 'Amul' products and Hindi words 'Dahi'
↓
based on language divide

Challenges in making it an offence?

(1) Monitoring issues by ECI

- ~~too~~ overburdened staff
- rise of social media platforms as news info tool
- multiplicity of languages and media outlets

(2) Wrt to political parties

- restricting them to use their electoral rights of campaigns
- inter-party disparity → national level party more resources = new ways to campaigns.

(3) Wrt to electorates

- right to know about parties achievements
- building opinion before voting

Paid News menace needs to be challenged by not overall ban but adding criteria such as providing concrete proofs, media outlet should mention that it is paid news and strict enforcement of MCA.

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

'Doctrine of Essentiality' was given by Supreme Court in Shirur Mutt case to determine essential religious practices of any religion.

Need of the doctrine:

Right to Freedom under Art 25-28 can come in conflict with other fundamental rights. (e.g.) In Sabrimala case, restricting entry of women violated Art 14.

In such case, a balancing act is required India being a secular state. Thus, non-essential practice of any religion are declared unconstitutional if they contravene

fundamental rights

Positives of ~~the~~ doctrine :-

(1) Balancing right to religion and other rights

⊗ Sabarimala case upheld Right to Equality

(2) Protecting public interest

⊗ performing Tandav on streets
terms 'unconstitutional practice
of Anand Math

(3) upholds constitutional morality

⊗ keeping beard by Muslim men
in army not allowed in interest
of nation.

Negatives of the doctrine :-

(1) According to Justice Indu Verma

↳ Supreme court involves
itself in ecclesiastical matters to

determine essentiality

↳ they lack desired expertise to do so.

(2) It can be perceived negatively by minority communities

(Eg) Hijab as non-essential practice declared by KN High courts

↳ religious disharmony in KN

(3) Religion may not be based on rationality so may be the practice. Can not be judged on modern yardsticks.

(4) Art 25 → allows freedom of CONSCIENCE
i.e. Person's inner relationship with God.
Only he can decide what is essential for him.

Doctrine of essentiality has been important in balancing religious and other rights. The courts to ~~balance~~ decide in such matters with caution and must involve stakeholders.

~~the~~

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)

15

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

According to ~~the~~ Kautilya, best government is the limited government. This remains true even in today's world. The same fact has been highlighted by EAC-PM.

Need to limit size of government :-

(1) Jumbo size cabinets especially in states like Tamil Nadu

(2) Increases coordination challenges

(eg) Sanitation and Health need convergent approaches

(3) Politicization of 'minister posts'

↳ increases difficulty especially in coalition government

(4) Increasing complexity of administration

↳ require multi-disciplinary approach by each minister.

⊕ Eg) Cybersecurity can't be treated different from traditional security.

(5) Saving taxpayers' money

↳ spending less on maintaining additional ministries

(6) Reduces Duplication Efforts

⊕ Eg) GATI Shakti portal identified numerous such efforts

However, there are few issues :-

(1) Threat of increasing of workload on individual ministers

(2) can increase delay in decision making

(3) against the principle of ~~de~~

division and specialization of labour.

(4) According to DARPA
↳ already acute shortage
of staff at central
level.

Way forward

(1) Government Steps

↳ limited the size of government
to 15% of seats in legislative
body [11th Amendment Act]

(2) Rationalizing the cabinets based on
today's need

↳ converging similar departments

(3) Creation of new departments for emerging
needs

⊕ Creation of MEITY in late 20th
century

we need to balance the optimum
size of the government in view of
Minimum government, maximum governance

इंस्टीट्यूशंस 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)

Institutions of Eminence (IoE)
was scheme brought by min. of Education for higher education in technical sector especially.

Features of IoE

- 10 institutes to be identified
- 5 private institute + 5 public institute
- ₹1000 crores to be given for infra development.
- flexibility in curriculum design
- can attract the foreign students
↓
can design fees
- special focus on R & D.

It was intended to be game changer, but was not able to achieve its objective :-

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

(1) Private Institution :- still '2' not selected

(2) Over-dominance in selection of IITs

↳ already ~~of~~ have requisite infra
↳ concentration of resources

(3) Issues of corruption in grants given

⊕ Alleged Reports in ~~one~~ VIT

(4) Selection criteria not defined

⊕ No institute given SoE even before construction and commencement of institute

(5) foreign students → not able to attract.

Way forward :-

- (1) Objective criteria for selection with competition based proposal
- (2) Working improvement of quality of higher education
 - ↳ flexibility to all institute [envisaged by NEPs]
 - ↳ academia - industry collaboration
- (3) Collaboration with foreign institute
 - ↳ R & D
 - ↳ attract students
- (4) Going beyond IITs
 - ↳ developing new institute & strengthening existing ones

India is at the cusp of 'Amrit Kaal'. Higher education is important to achieve developed India at 100

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

उम्मीदवारों को इस हार्शिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए

Candidates must not write on this margin

Digital Public Infrastructure refers to digital public goods developed by state led actors aiming at betterment of its citizens.

Innovative and convenient public services

(1) Reduces delays

Ex) fasttracking of vehicle registration licenses using e-license service

(2) Innovative and breakthrough services

Ex) UPI → Eco. Survey 2023
 ↳ largest share of digital transaction through UPI
 ↳ adoption in foreign countries too.

Exclusion and Accessibility Barriers

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

① Serving unserved and underserved population

② JAM trinity has brought more than 10 mn unserved population under financial inclusion.

② Remote Area accessibility

③ Inoperability between states

④ One Nation One Ration Card
E-way bills

④

Accountability and Transparency

① Easier ~~scrutiny~~ scrutiny

② CAG recent report highlighting
> 7 lac person linked to same
mobile numbers

↳ easier to identify such gaps using no numbers.

② Increases faceless transaction

③ E-ITR file → curbs corruption.

(3) Easier to disclose information to citizens → Increases transparency.

However there are some challenges:-

- ↳ (1) Lack of adoption of By private sector
- (2) Data security issues
- (3) Increasing vulnerability to cyberattacks
- (4) Digital Divide and digital illiteracy in population to take advantage.

Way forward:-

- (1) Indigenous server development to reduce vulnerability
- (2) Digital literacy campaigns (eg) MH Women commission among women
- (3) Providing incentives to private sector to adopt digital public goods (eg) India Stack

According to world Bank, India is leading in the world with digital public good adoption rate. It will help us fulfill 'Panch Pran'

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
 must not
 write on
 this margin

In M. Singh Chawla case, Supreme Court has recognized Right to health as a fundamental right under Art 21.

Legislations for Right to Health

- ↳ Aayushman Bharat
- ↳ Jan Arogya Yojana
- ↳ National Digital Health Mission.
- ↳ Insurance scheme
- ↳ Mental Health Act.

However there is need to plug gaps:

(1) Social

↳ Inequitable access

⊙ 80% doctors and 60% hospitals in urban areas

↳ Inter-regional disparities

⊙ Kerala has = 4x (Jharkhand) in terms of doctors

- ↳ lack of information among poor strata
- ↳ neglecting health of women and girls

(eg) $> 60\%$ pregnant women anaemic [NRHS]

(2) Ananda

- ↳ $< 2\%$ of health investment of GDP [desired = 2.5%]
- ↳ high out of pocket expenditure [450%]

(3) Infrastructure gaps

- ↳ doctors availability $\rightarrow$ $0.74/1000$ population [India]
- ↳ $1:1000$ [WHO recommended]
- ↳ No. of beds $\rightarrow$ 0.5 per lac population.
- ↳ 60% of [PHC] have only one doctor.

Way forward :

(1) Plugging social gaps

- ↳ Gender bias correction $\rightarrow$ gender neutral policies
- ↳ special policies for women

(Eg) Women given special protection under NFHS

↳ correcting regional disparities

↳ incentives for private sector to set up new hospitals in lagging area

(2) Financial gaps

↳ increasing government spending
↳ universal health coverage programme

(Eg) Thailand model

↳ dropped IMR, NMR significantly

↳ attracting PPP model

(3) Infrastructural gap

↳ increasing no. of seats in medical college

↳ formation of National Beds Commission recommended by MCI

India has highest no. of productive population. With Right to health for all we will not be able to achieve demographic dividend.

18.

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

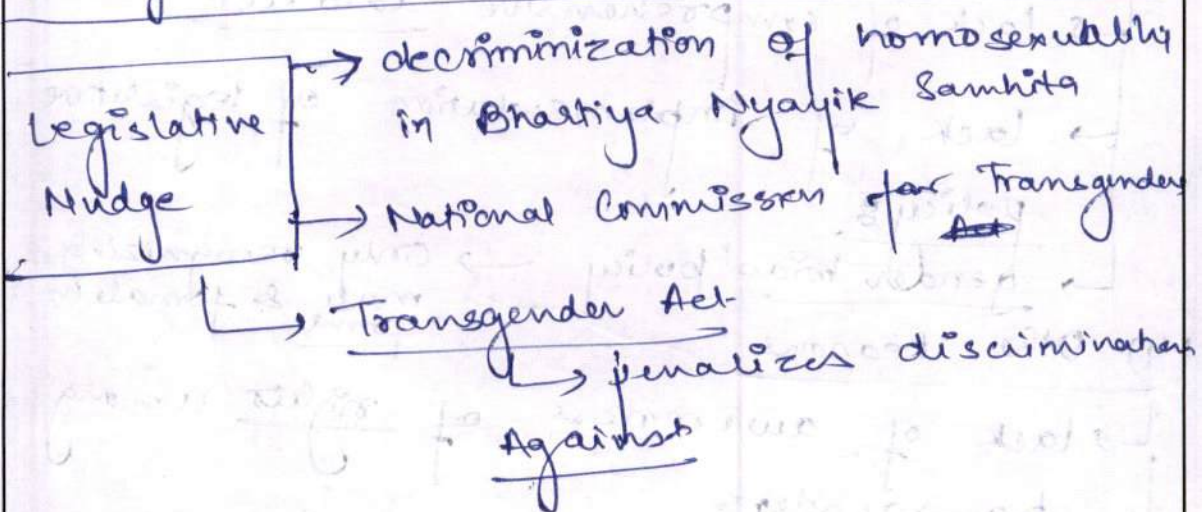
The 'third gender' has not yet been engendered in the Indian society despite legislative nudge. Analyse. (Answer in 250 words)

15

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

'Gender' is different from the biological sex prescribed at the birth. It depends upon individuals own identity. India has traditionally been observing only 'two genders' — male & female. With rising awareness about issues of LBGTQ+, third gender is being recognized.

Not Engendered in Society despite legislative Nudge



Why Not Engendered :

(I) Political

↳ low representation (eg) 'ghost citizen' term

(2) Social Reasons

- ↳ negative attitude towards transgenders
 - (eg) 99% are disowned by parents
- ↳ lack of awareness among society
- ↳ prevailing 'therapy - clinics' to 'correct gender'
- ↳ historical practices
 - (eg) Exclusion of 'Kinnars'

(3) Administrative Reasons

- ↳ lack of comprehensive data set
- ↳ lack of implementation of legislative policy
- ↳ gender bias policy → only recognizing male & female in forms

(4) Other Reasons

- ↳ lack of awareness of rights among transgenders
- ↳ low education levels

Way Ahead

(1) forming gender neutral policies

- ↳ Rationalizing government forms
- ↳ Recognizing trans-women under definition of 'women' in laws like Rape, Abuse etc.

(2) Societal Persuasion

- ↳ changing attitude
 - ↳ exposure to LGBTQ community
 - (eg) Rainbow parades
 - ↳ media campaigns & movies
 - (eg) Badhai 2

(3) Governmental & State Actors initiative

- (eg) NOIDA metro station → first pride station → employment to transgenders
- ↳ Punjab → giving e-Rickshaws to transgenders to earn their living.

Recognizing equal rights of transgenders is imperative to achieve SDG 10.

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 हार्डिंग में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
 Candidates must not write on this margin

Shanghai Cooperation Organization is a multilateral organization involving Central Asian countries, China, Pakistan, Russia, Iran, India etc.

Expectations of India from SCO

(1) Engagement with Central Asia

↳ Central Asia → land locked

↳ no direct land access to by India

(2) Raising terrorism concerns

(Eg) RATS structure of SCO

(3) Multi-alignment :- SCO balancing axis to India's western engagement

(4) Stable solution to Afghanistan :-

(eg) SCO involves all the stakeholders of the region.

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

(5) Connectivity projects

(eg) Dushanbe air base in Tajikistan.

• TAPI gas pipeline.

• INSTC

China - Pakistan factor

making it difficult to achieve above objectives.

(1) China

↳ debt trap policy in Central Asia

↳ increasing Russia - China nexus in wake of Ukraine war

↳ BRI project → Central Asia
→ Pakistan

↳ issue of territorial integrity of India

(eg) Karakoram highway.

(2) Pakistan

- issue of listing of terrorist by RATS
- increasing China - Pakistan nexus
- divides Central Asia on Kashmir issue
- creates dead locks, (Eg) incomplection of TAPI pipeline

(3) Other factors

- Russia - Ukraine war = no clear stand by India
- geographical - distance from Central Asia
- admission of Iran - conflicts with Pakistan.

Way forward: - Adopting ^{2 implementing} Samarkand Declaration

- (1) unified list of terrorist
 - (2) completion of TAPI pipeline
 - (3) no country should be allowed to dominate
- These principles can resolve discussed issues

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 हार्डिंग में
नहीं लिखना
चाहिए
Candidates
must not
write on
this margin

India and the USA share Comprehensive
Global Strategic Cooperation. In the recent
deals between the two nations iCET
is one of the most important.

What is iCET?

- ↳ initiative for critical technologies
- ↳ technology transfer agreement
- ↳ involves forum for collaboration
of startups of two countries
- ↳ easier framework for defence
coproduction
(Eg) F414 jets
- ↳ framework for semi-conductors
development plants in India.
- ↳ access to export controlled technologies.

Significance:

(1) Bilateral Relation advancement

(2) Technology progression

- investment in India
- employment generation in India.
- risk diversification of US away from China.

(3) Access to critical technology like chip-making and defence to India.

(4) Supply chain Resilience

(5) Demographic Dividend for India
→ young, cheap and skilled labour presence

(6) Geopolitical significance for USA - balancing axis to China by investing in India.

Way forward :

- (1) Expediting defence co-production.
- (2) Expanding ICET agenda.
↳ upgradation of nuclear civil deal
- (3) Supply chain resilience & clean energy technology like lithium etc.
- (4) Mineral Security Partnership - involving key players like lithium triangle countries.

India and USA share common values of cooperation and clean energy development. This agreement comes in back drop of increasing engagement between the two nations.

SPACE FOR ROUGH WORK

- (1) Expected difference in proportion
- (2) Expected difference in proportion
- (3) Expected difference in proportion
- (4) Expected difference in proportion

values of proportion and standard deviation of proportion are given in the table below. The values of proportion are given in the first column and the values of standard deviation are given in the second column.