

GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1514)

Name of Candidate	Shanti Rajlakshmi		
Medium Eng./Hindi	ENGLISH	Registration Number	483769
Center	ORN	Date	21/11/21

INDEX TABLE

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

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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.

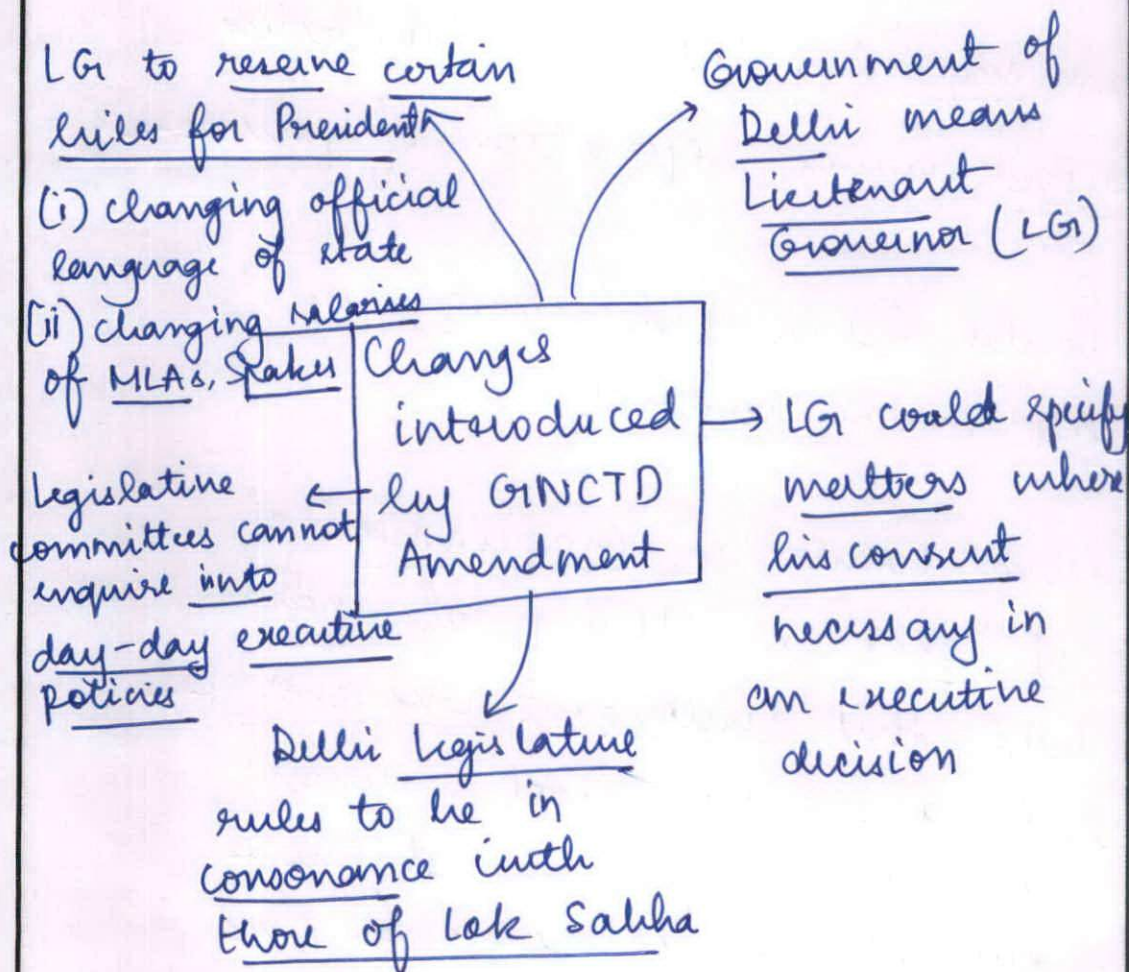
6.

All the Best

1. Highlighting the changes introduced by the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (GNCTD) Amendment Act, 2021, analyse various issues with the amended Act. (150 words) 10

दिल्ली राष्ट्रीय राजधानी राज्यक्षेत्र शासन (GNCTD) संशोधन अधिनियम, 2021 द्वारा प्रारंभ किए गए परिवर्तनों को रेखांकित करते हुए, इस संशोधित अधिनियम से जुड़े विभिन्न मुद्दों का विश्लेषण कीजिए।

The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (GNCTD) Amendment Act 2021 aimed to clarify the powers of Delhi government.



Issues with the changes

- (i) Delays in administration as every decision referred to LG if he seeks so
- (ii) Arbitrary powers in a non-elected body against democracy
- (iii) Depriving legislative committees from enquiring into administrative decisions against separation of powers
- (iv) Could harm federalism by greater centre control

Supreme Court in Government of NCT of Delhi vs Union of India has held that Lieutenant Governor of Delhi is a nominal head. Union and State government should work with principle of federalism in mind.

2. Are there valid arguments for continuing with sedition law in 21st century democratic India? Discuss in light of the debate surrounding it.

(150 words) 10

क्या 21वीं सदी के लोकतांत्रिक भारत में राजद्रोह कानून को जारी रखने के लिए वैध तर्क विद्यमान हैं? इससे संबंधित वाद-विवाद के आलोक में चर्चा कीजिए।

Sedition in India is provided by Section 124 A of IPC which prosecutes bringing disaffection or contempt to the government.

Valid arguments for continuing sedition in 21st century

(1) Prevents hate speech

(2) Protect national security by prosecuting separatist, terrorism promoting speeches

(3) Supreme Court upheld that sedition is needed to counter unconstitutional speech

Valid arguments for discontinuing

- (1) Against Article 19 as prosecutes right to criticise
- (2) Leads to undue coercion of individuals
- (3) Public governments should be ready to take criticism as held by Supreme Court in Jayalitha case
- (4) Colonial law - was used to prosecute leaders like Mahatma Gandhi, Tilak

Way Forward

Ranbir Singh committee for reforming the criminal justice system should be entrusted responsibility to assess the law's need.

3. Identify the issues that have contributed to a decline in the performance of Parliamentary Standing Committees. How can these issues be addressed?

(150 words) 10

उन मुद्दों की पहचान कीजिए जिन्होंने संसदीय स्थायी समितियों के प्रदर्शन में गिरावट में योगदान दिया है। इन मुद्दों का समाधान कैसे किया जा सकता है?

Parliamentary Standing Committees
are committees which keep a
track of ministry-wise policies.

Issues leading to decline of
performance

(1) Less referral of bills, policies
(10th Lok Sabha - 81%
16th Lok Sabha - less than 50%)

(2) Delays in meeting, lack of
quorum for proceedings

(3) Internal squabbles among
political parties prevents functioning

(4) COVID-19 has created issues,
delays in meetings

(5) Lack of data from government
for effective analysis

Measures to address,

(1) Ensure bills / policies taken up
by committees

(2) Ensure data availability

(3) Live-streaming of proceedings
to ensure accountability

(4) Technical training of members
for analysis

Parliamentary Standing Committees are
an effective way of ensuring Article
75

4. Despite being a non-constitutional body, the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) has wielded immense decision-making power in India. Discuss the advantages and issues associated with it. (150 words) 10

एक गैर-संवैधानिक निकाय होने के बावजूद, प्रधान मंत्री कार्यालय (PMO) के पास भारत में निर्णय-निर्माण की व्यापक शक्ति है। इससे संबद्ध लाभों और मुद्दों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Prime Minister's Office (PMO) is the office responsible for aiding decision making by prime minister.

Immense decision making power in India → Most governments in India have seen a powerful PMO

→ Cabinet meetings may not be frequent, but PMO meetings are frequent

Advantages

(i) closed group of people needs

faster decisions

(ii) PMO may hire technically
qualified people to make decisions
which may be efficient

Issues

(i) No accountability for decisions

(ii) Non-transparent procedure

(iii) Develops autocracy in a democracy

(iv) Reduces role of constitutional
bodies like legislature, council of
ministers

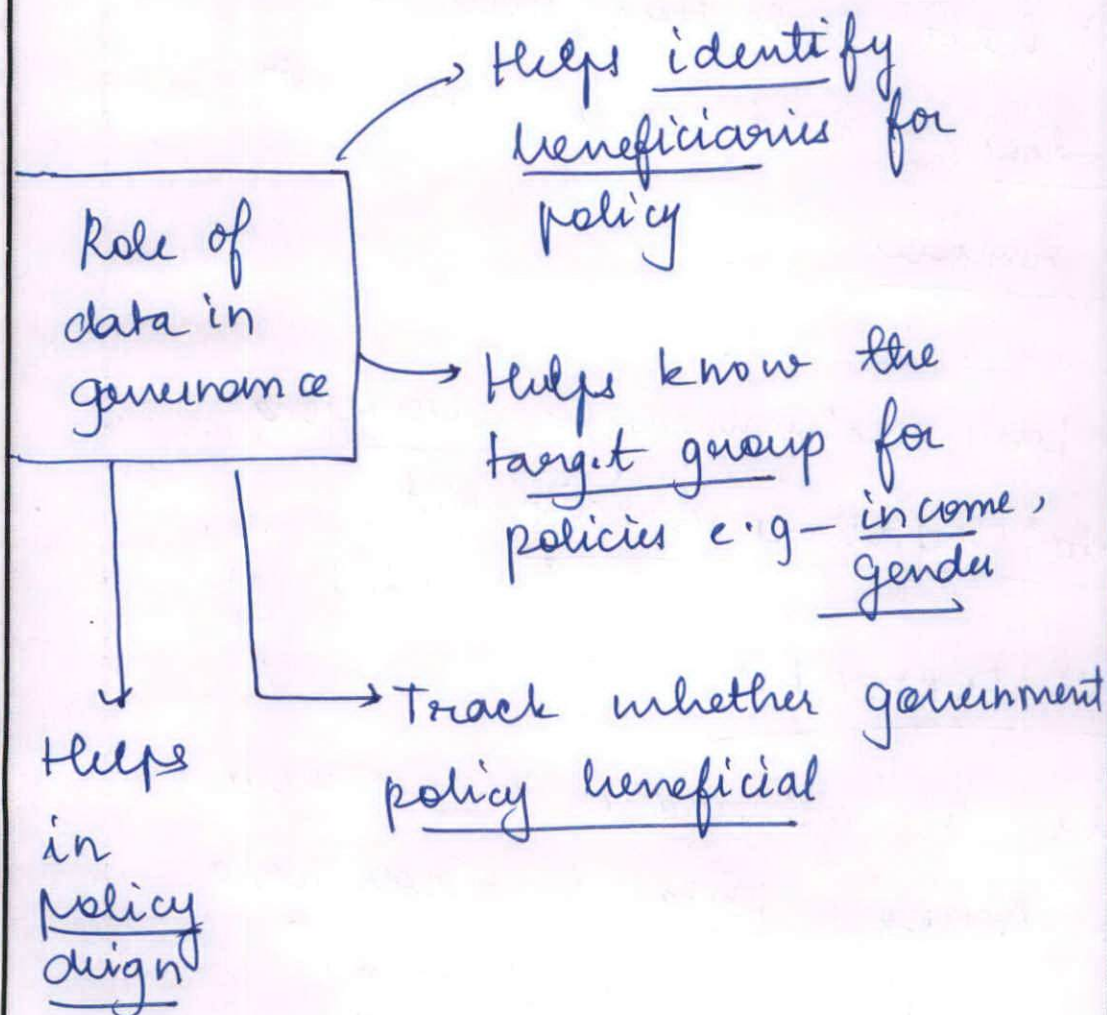
PMO has functioned as an
important office in India-

5. Discuss the role of data in governance in India. Also, state the various challenges in this regard and suggest remedial measures.

(150 words) 10

भारत में शासन में डेटा की भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, इस संबंध में विद्यमान विभिन्न चुनौतियों का उल्लेख कीजिए एवं उपचारात्मक उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

Data in governance is necessary
to track effectiveness of policies.



Challenges

- (i) Lack of good quality data
- (ii) Lack of a representative sample
- (iii) Data collection may be tedious, need large amount of resources
- (iv) Less mechanisms for verifying data, updating it difficult

WAY FORWARD

Data in governance is necessary.
Niti Aayog's Patha in Governance
framework is a good step.

6. With specific examples, elaborate upon the conditions that led to the emergence of a new civil society in urban India in the last few decades. Also, highlight its contribution towards effecting governance and policy changes. (150 words) 10

विशिष्ट उदाहरणों के साथ, उन परिस्थितियों का विस्तारपूर्वक वर्णन कीजिए जिनके कारण पिछले कुछ दशकों में शहरी भारत में एक नए नागरिक समाज का उदय हुआ है। साथ ही, शासन और नीतिगत परिवर्तनों को प्रभावित करने में इसके योगदान पर प्रकाश डालिए।

Civil Society refers to groups forming the third pillar of democracy, working to ensure rights of citizens.

Conditions leading to new civil society emergence in urban India

(i) Greater awareness on rights, conditions of downtrodden from social media

(ii) Humanities, science researchers more engaged in public research to aid civil societies e.g - CEEW

(iii) PIL, Article 32 helped groups
involve judicial powers for
rights enforcement

e.g - People for Union Civil
Liberties

Contribution to effective governance,
policy changes

(i) Has ensured judicial intervention
for reforms

e.g - Vishakha Guidelines (1997)

- Nanji Singh Johar vs
Union of India - LGBT
decriminalisation

(ii) Brought out effective criticism
of government policies e.g - CEEW

Civil society aids citizens by
ensuring rights.

7. The Gati Shakti mission has the potential to not only address the issue of infrastructure bottlenecks but also streamline the governance processes in the country. Elucidate. (150 words) 10

गति शक्ति मिशन में न केवल अवसंरचना संबंधी बाधाओं का समाधान करने की क्षमता है अपितु देश में शासन प्रक्रियाओं को सुव्यवस्थित करने की भी क्षमता विद्यमान है। स्पष्ट कीजिए।

Gati Shakti Mission by government
is an infrastructure creation
project involving multiple ministries.

Addresses infrastructure bottlenecks

(i) Ensures greater focus on capital
expenditure (currently less than 2%
of GDP)

(2) Ensures intelligent creation
of infrastructure by integrating
stakeholder ministries

e.g. - ~~aims to tackle~~ a road built
used to be dug out for laying
pipelines (It seeks to avoid

such situations)

Streamlines governance processes

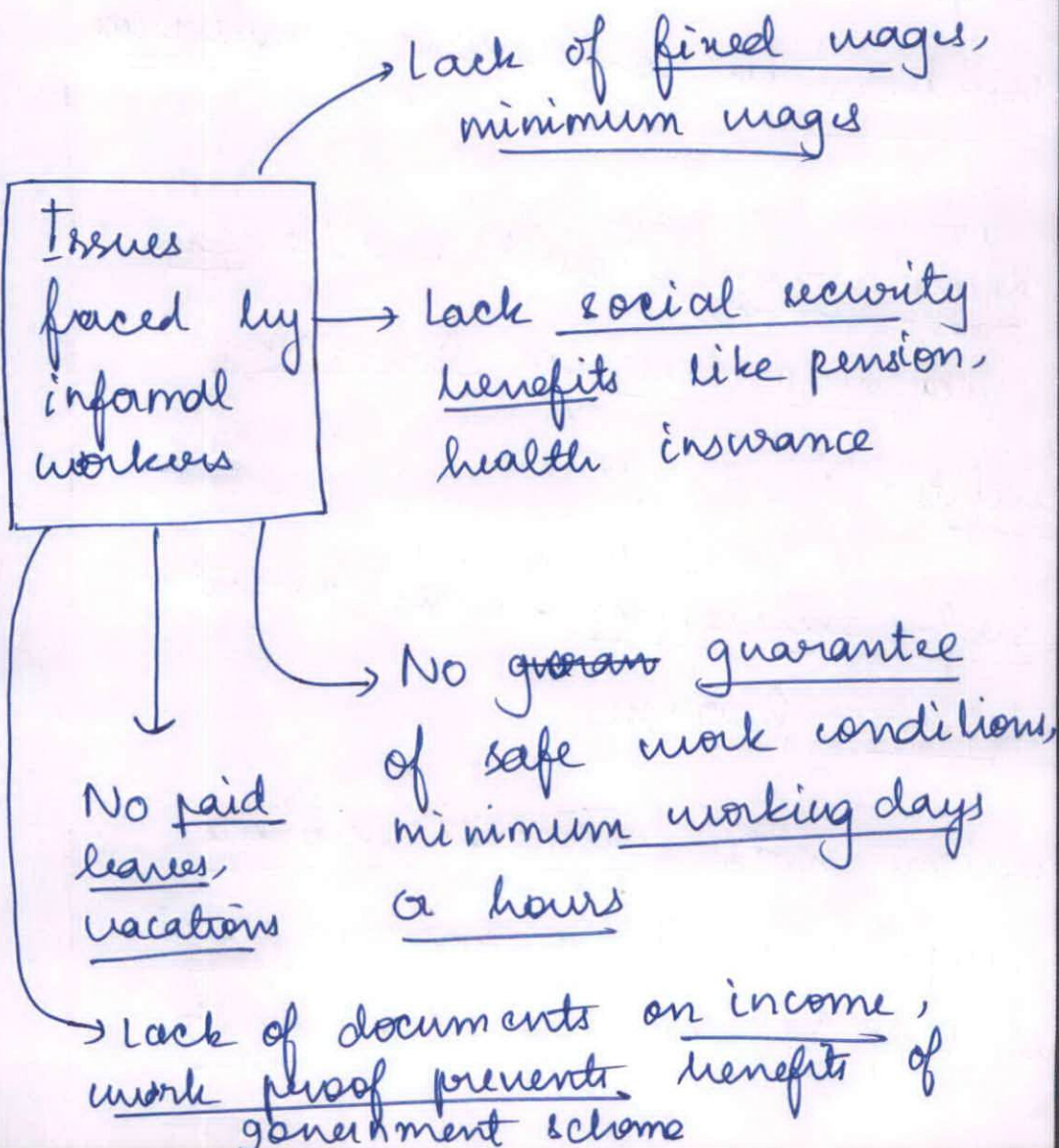
- (i) Ensures convergence of ministries
for proper decisions
- (ii) Reduce delays in sanctioning of
work
- (iii) Cooperation ensures departments
do not work in silos.
- (iv) Greater cooperation with local
bodies, state stakeholders

GRATI project will enable India
to become a \$5 trillion economy.

8. Giving an account of the issues faced by workers in the informal sector, discuss whether the recently launched e-Shram portal can help in addressing them. (150 words) 10

अनौपचारिक क्षेत्र में श्रमिकों द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली समस्याओं का विवरण देते हुए चर्चा कीजिए कि क्या हाल ही में प्रारंभ ई-श्रम पोर्टल उनका समाधान करने में सहायता कर सकता है।

The informal sector forms around
70-80% of the labour force in
India



E-Shram portal has been released by the Labour Ministry to register informal workers.

Benefits of E-Shram Portal

- (i) Keeps a track of informal workers for considering formalisation
- (ii) Registration would enable ease of reaching out for government benefits
- (iii) Self-declaration ensures no undue compliance burden

Discussions with informal workers for improving the e-Shram portal will help in ensuring their rights.

9. Clarifying the significance of the recent developments on the issue of global minimum tax, discuss its prospects and challenges for India.

(150 words) 10

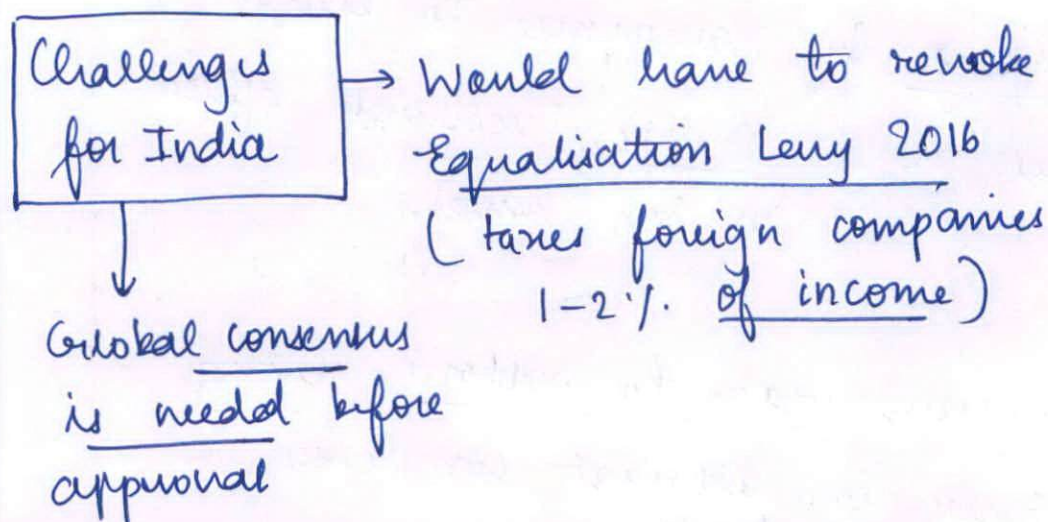
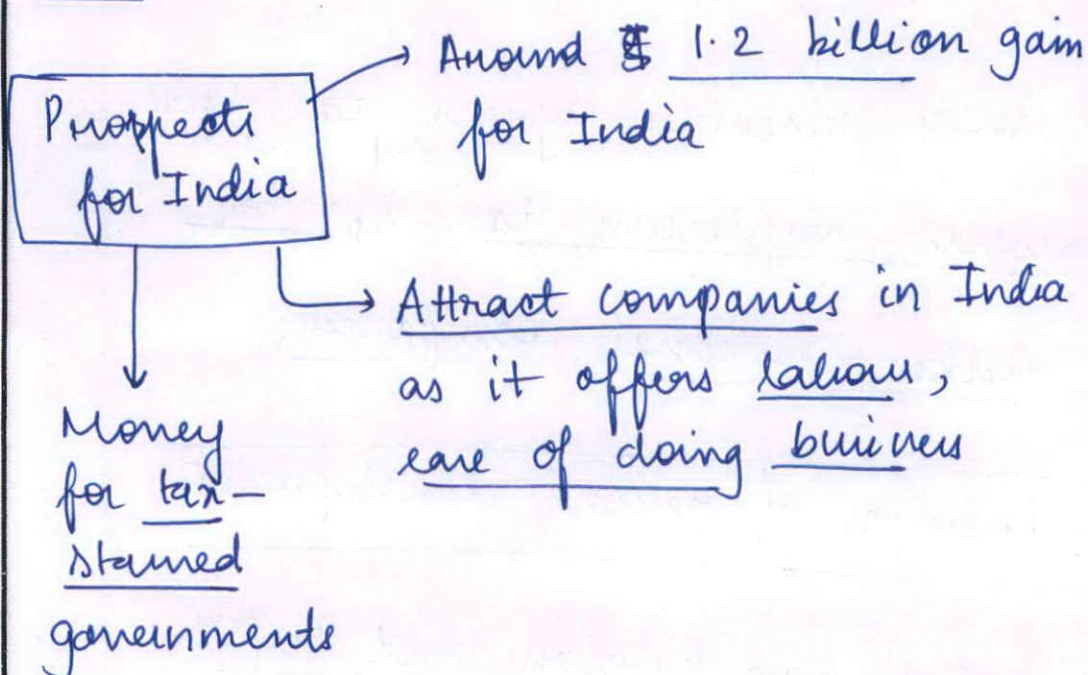
वैश्विक न्यूनतम कर के मुद्दे के संदर्भ में हालिया घटनाक्रमों के महत्व को स्पष्ट करते हुए, भारत के लिए इसकी संभावनाओं और चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

The G-7 recently agreed to impose a global minimum tax of 15% on multi-national companies.

Significance of recent developments

- (i) Counters Base Erosion and Profit Shifting by companies to evade taxes e.g. Google, Facebook offices in tax havens
- (ii) Prevents race to bottom among countries to attract companies
- (iii) Would ensure countries have significant finances
- (iv) Competition to attract companies

based on location, sources and not
taxes



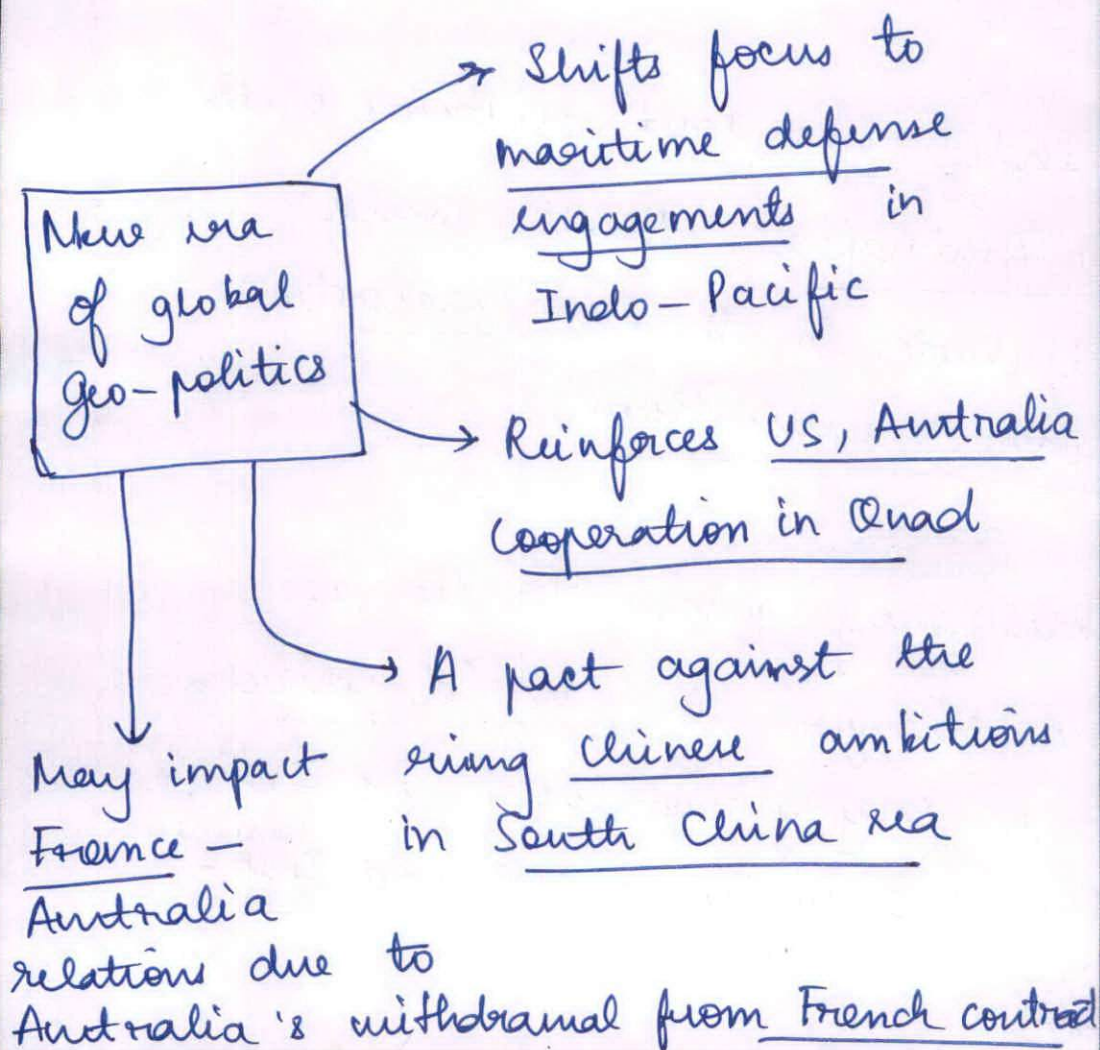
Global minimum tax is largely beneficial for India if implemented well.

10. Announcement of the AUKUS security pact heralds a new era of global geo-politics. Comment. Also, discuss how it may affect India's interests.

(150 words) 10

AUKUS सुरक्षा समझौते की घोषणा ने वैश्विक भू-राजनीति के एक नए युग की शुरुआत की है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। साथ ही, चर्चा कीजिए कि यह भारत के हितों को कैसे प्रभावित कर सकता है।

Australia - UK - US Security Pact (AUKUS) is a security cooperation in submarines for stability of the Indo-Pacific region.



Affects India Interests

(1) Contributes to strengthening of Quad for free Indo-Pacific

(2) Would act as a deterrent to Chinese ambitions, of which India a victim

(3) India has good relations with US, Australia, AUKUS could contribute to its own security agreement with them.

AUKUS may prove to be a game-changer in world politics, but is largely beneficial for India's vision of stability in IOE and Indo-Pacific

11. Effective devolution of finances is an important requirement for Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) to fulfill their objectives. Discuss while also elaborating on the reasons behind lack of financial resources for PRIs in India. (250 words) 15

पंचायती राज संस्थाओं (PRI) को अपने उद्देश्यों को पूरा करने के लिए वित्त का प्रभावी हस्तांतरण एक महत्वपूर्ण अनिवार्यता है। भारत में PRIs के लिए वित्तीय संसाधनों की कमी हेतु उत्तरदायी कारणों का वर्णन करते हुए चर्चा कीजिए।

The 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act 1992 gave recognition to the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in India.

Effective finance important for PRI objectives

- (i) Fulfilling responsibilities under 11th schedule subjects requires funds.
- (ii) Own finance resources and freedom to use resource leads to need-based creation of assets, services
- (iii) Solving local problems needs local taxation by PRI's

(iv) Financial independence also increases capability of Panchayats to manage funds better. Also, it saves cost to the exchequer who may not understand local needs.

Reasons behind lack of funds with PRIs in India

(i) States own resources limited, hence hesitant to devolve
₹ 5 lakh crore - ₹ 7 lakh crore shortfall
due to GST by 2022 (Finance Commission)

(ii) Panchayats hesitate to impose taxes on locals, as elected by them as noted by the IInd ARC report.

(iii) Tied nature of funds

e.g. - 15th Finance Commission funds to
panchayats have 60% are tied to
drinking water, rainwater harvesting
this prevents independence to take
initiatives

(iv) Poor financial management - Panchayat
members lack financial education to
manage them, sometimes also practice
corruption

WAY FORWARD

(i) Financial training of panchayats,
strengthening of Finance Commission in
states for proper devolution

(ii) Municipal and panchayat bond market
developments to raise funds

Finance decentralization is imperative
to achieve grassroots democracy.

12. Judicial activism is a necessary tool to guard against "legislative adventurism and executive excesses". Critically discuss in the context of the doctrine of separation of powers as provided in the Constitution of India.

(250 words) 15

"विधायी जोखिम और कार्यकारी अतिक्रमण" से रक्षा के लिए न्यायिक सक्रियता एक आवश्यक उपकरण है। भारत के संविधान में यथा प्रदत्त शक्तियों के पृथक्करण के सिद्धांत के संदर्भ में समालोचनात्मक चर्चा कीजिए।

Judicial activism is the participation of judiciary in legislative and executive sphere.

Guards against legislative adventurism

- (i) Strikes down unconstitutional laws violating fundamental rights or other basic features of constitution

e.g. - Struck down Section 66A of IT Law in Shreya Singhal vs Union of India as against Article 19

- (ii) Lays down judicial law where legislature ineffective

Guards against executive excesses

- (i) Protects citizen's rights against arbitrary executive policies
- (ii) Ensures basic structure of constitution not violated
- (iii) Gives citizen's right to put their grievances to courts
e.g - PIL evolution to approach Supreme Court for rights violation

Principle of separation of powers provided in the Indian Constitution divides powers between legislature, executive and judiciary

Judicial interference violates separation of powers

- (i) Interferes in the legislative, executive sphere against the constitution

(ii) A non-elected body should not dictate policies but leads to autocracy

(iii) Court does not have access to all stakeholders while making public laws so may violate provisions of constitution.

e.g - Supreme Court ban on selling liquor on highways against their right to employment

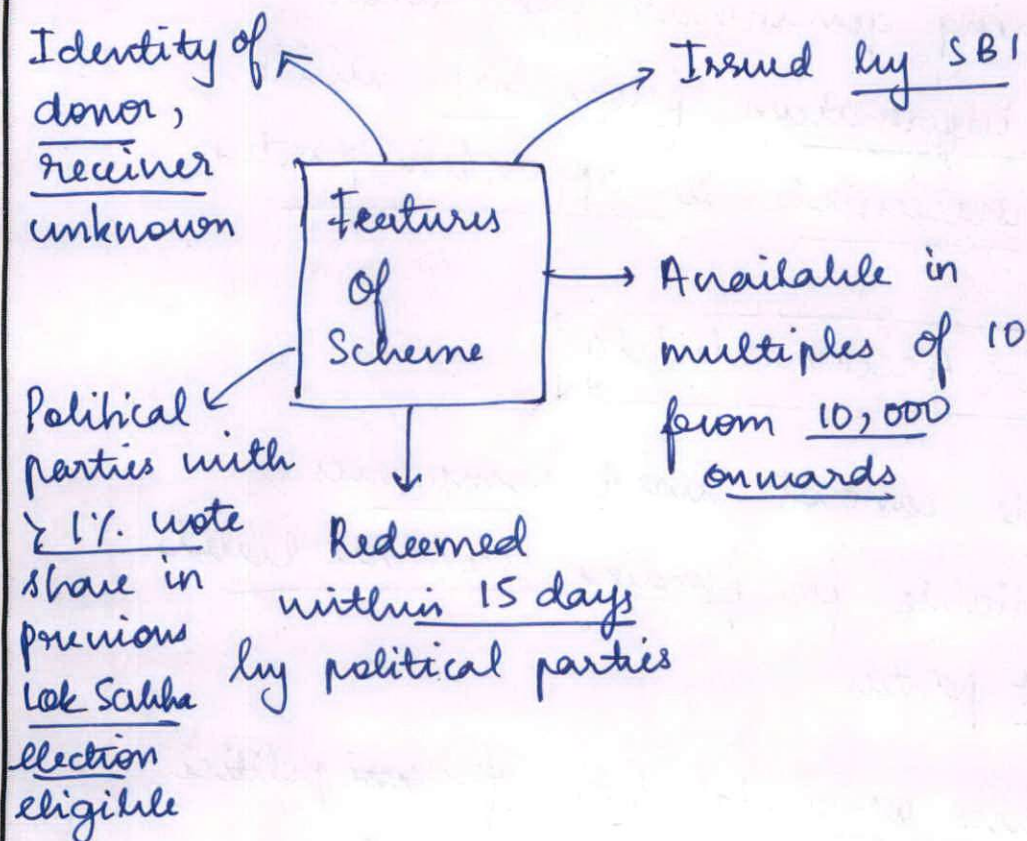
(iv) Creates discord between Judiciary - executive hampering administration
e.g - National Judicial Appointment Commission bill ~~striking down~~
~~Courts should be guided~~

Judiciary should be guided by principles of Bhanech d Parish vs Union of India by exercising judicial restraint unless provisions glaringly unconstitutional.

13. The electoral bond scheme is part of what appears to be a growing trend away from transparency and accountability in electoral funding. Critically analyse. (250 words) 15

चुनावी बॉण्ड योजना उस बढ़ती हुई प्रवृत्ति का भाग है जो चुनावी फंडिंग में पारदर्शिता और जवाबदेही से दूर जाने की प्रतीति होती है। समालोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Electoral Bonds are promissory notes
type of instruments facilitating
donation from an individual/
company to a political party.



Away from transparency in electoral funding

- (i) Anonymous donations — Donor, receiver relationship unknown to even Election Commission
- (ii) Amendments to Companies Act 2013 makes it difficult to know company's donations through electoral bonds. Also routing through shell companies possible
- (iii) Ruling government can access donor information from SBI while same inaccessible to opposition parties

Against Accountability

- (i) People cannot hold companies accountable for funding criminal leaders current parties
- (ii) Reduces accountability of ~~some~~ political parties as not required to reveal source of funds

Electoral Bonds promote transparency and accountability

- (i) Decreased cash funding decreases incidence of black money
- (ii) Anonymity of bonds prevents harassment of companies funding opposition parties by ruling government
- (iii) Holds political parties accountable for performance as not available if vote share $< 1\%$.

WAY FORWARD

- (i) Election Commission's right to audit political parties account to be ensured
- (ii) State Funding of elections (Dinesh Grossmann)

Electoral bonds need to be reviewed to ensure transparency, accountability, 2 important aspects of good governance as per Tind ARC.

14. The significance of the principle of subsidiarity was well reflected in the management of the COVID-19 pandemic. Analyse. (250 words) 15

समनुपंगिता (सब्सिडियरिटी) के सिद्धांत का महत्व कोविड-19 महामारी के प्रबंधन में बेहतर रूप से परिलक्षित हुआ है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Principle of Subsidiarity entails devolution of powers to multiple stakeholders to create ease of functioning.

Well Reflected in COVID-19 management

(i) Decentralization led to effective local - level management

e.g - Local bodies involved in contact tracing with local police

(ii) Greater powers to states under Epidemic Diseases Act 1897 helped

take need-based measures

e.g - Lockdown in 2nd phase depended
on state's decisions

(iii) Health being a state subject,
required state-level and local-
level cooperation

(iv) Ensured greater vaccination
rates as Central procured vaccines
and administration carried by
states

(v) Acceptance of 15th Finance
Commission recommendations by
centre ensured funds for states and
local bodies

(vi) States given freedom to make
own disaster management plans
under SDMA ensured results

Principle of Subsidiarity has
helped India manage COVID-19
and restore faith in federalism,
held as basic structure of
constitution.

15. Social media has ushered in greater transparency and accountability in governance. But accountability through social media is no alternative to institutional accountability. Analyse. (250 words) 15

सोशल मीडिया ने शासन में अधिक पारदर्शिता और जवाबदेही की शुरुआत की है। लेकिन सोशल मीडिया के माध्यम से जवाबदेही संस्थागत जवाबदेही का विकल्प नहीं है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

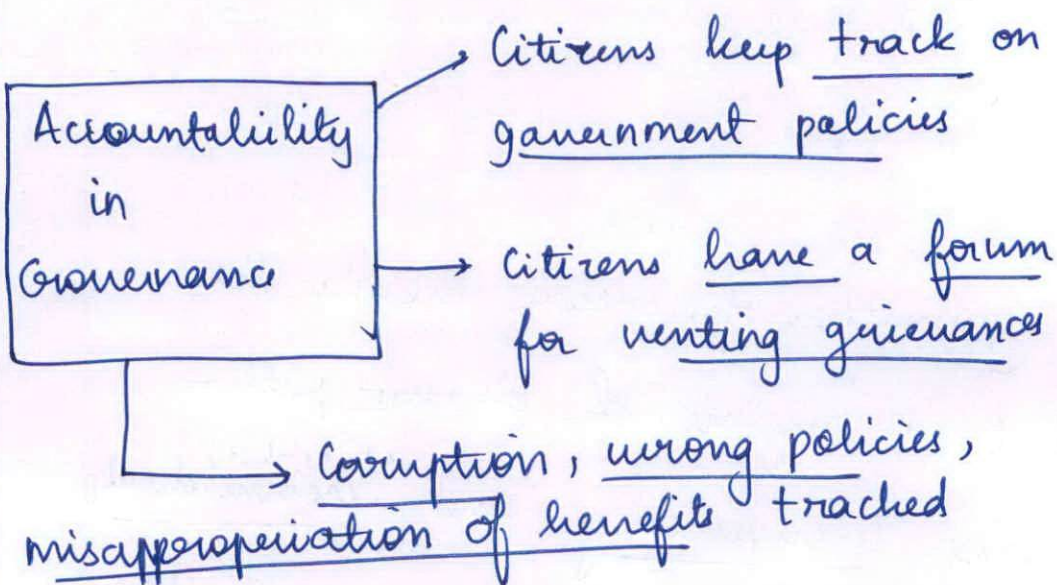
The growth of social media has created a regime of ~~disrupt~~ path-breaking transparency and accountability the 2 aspects of good governance as per 2nd arc.

~~Role of~~

Role of
social media
in transparency

→ Many government departments inform about policies on social media, so helps keep track

→ Whistleblowers taking to social media to reveal corruption
e.g. - Snowden revelation



Social media accountability not an alternative to institutional accountability

- (i) Lack of mechanism for formal action may not penalise wrongdoers once the uproar dies
- (ii) Social media users may lack policy details, background to analyse effectively unlike a group of experts (Parliamentary committees, Judicial committees)

(iii) Polarised platform - often unjust
too less criticism because of
ideology. An institution, chosen
wisely would be neutral

(iv) May not be a good platform
to ensure accountability of big-
tech who run these platforms

WAY FORWARD

Social media has brought governments
closer to public, but an effective
institutional mechanism is a more
vital way for achieving rule of
law.

16. Although the State has the right incentives and intentions to deliver public services efficiently, its capacity to do so is questionable. Critically discuss in the context of India. (250 words) 15

यद्यपि राज्य के पास सार्वजनिक सेवाओं के कुशलतापूर्वक वितरण हेतु उचित प्रोत्साहन और उद्देश्य विद्यमान हैं, तथापि ऐसा करने की उसकी क्षमता संदिग्ध है। भारत के संदर्भ में समालोचनात्मक चर्चा कीजिए।

State is responsible for delivering public services, because it is its duty to do so in India, as entrusted to it by the Directive Principles of State Policy.

State has right incentives and intentions

- (i) Being a democracy, for re-
election, the State has to perform
- (ii) States function as per DPSPs,
laws, regulations so guided by
good intentions

(iii) Separation of powers ensures accountability of the state so it functions efficiently.

Capacity to do so is questionable

(i) Lacks funds for development
(Tax - GDP ratio around 9%.)

(ii) Red-tapism, compliance burden
causes delays in governance
Team leave - Central government - more
than 23,000 compliances

(iii) Prevalence of corruption, black money diverts fund
e.g. - corruption Perception Fund - $\frac{86}{180}$

(iv) Lack of devolution of funds to states, local bodies leads to under-

governance

Capacity ~~not~~ available with
state

- (i) Rising GST collections have ensured
funds
- (ii) Single-window clearance, easing
laws, compliance burdens are
helping
e.g - Labour Codes
- (iii) Adequate power provided by
legislations, subordinate legislation,
delegated legislation to act.

Effective functioning of state is
necessary to achieve good
governance.

17. The problem of hunger in India does not lie in food production but various other underlying issues. Discuss in the wake of decline in India's ranking in the Global Hunger Index, 2021. (250 words) 15

भारत में हंगर (भूखमरी) की समस्या खाद्य उत्पादन में नहीं बल्कि अन्य कई अंतर्निहित मुद्दों के कारण है। ग्लोबल हंगर इंडेक्स, 2021 में भारत की रैंकिंग में गिरावट के आलोक में चर्चा कीजिए।

Global Hunger Index 2021 has ranked India 101/116 countries revealing an acute case of hunger

Hunger does not lie in food production

(i) India's wheat and rice production consistently increasing since the last 3 years (Economic Survey 2021)

(ii) Procurement by FCI exceeds its capacity every year (2019 - 81.2 MMT against 41 MMT buffer strength)

(iii) India largest producer of many fruits and vegetables like banana, mangoes, Okra. Also largest producer of pulses

Underlying issues of hunger

(i) Inequity in food production -

Foodgrain production concentrated in Haryana, Punjab. Eastern states like Jharkhand, Odisha cannot access

(ii) Socio-economic Inequality - Poor

households cannot afford costly food items (300 crore in world cannot afford balanced diet - SOFI 2020)

(iii) PDS Problems

→ Beneficiary list not updated, many eligible left out

↓
Concentration to rice, wheat creates micro-nutrient deficiency as no millets

- (iv) Cultural problems - Practices like
man on milk (Todas), not eating
pulses creates protein deficiency
- (v) Seasonal problem as agriculture seasonal
- WAY FORWARD

- (i) Diversification of PDS market
to include millets
- (ii) Beneficiary updation in PDS
- (iii) Promote drought resistant crops in
dry areas, irrigation
- (iv) Village level camps for early
detection of malnutrition
- (v) Practices like biofortification to
increase nutrient value
- Hunger in India poses a threat to
its well-being. Eradication is
necessary as envisioned by SDG-1.

18. Democratization of primary healthcare is indispensable for fulfilling the objectives of equitable and comprehensive care in India. Discuss.

(250 words)-15

भारत में समान और व्यापक देखभाल के उद्देश्यों को पूरा करने के लिए प्राथमिक स्वास्थ्य देखभाल का लोकतंत्रीकरण अपरिहार्य है। चर्चा कीजिए।

India spends around 0.5% of its
GDP on healthcare, with a miniscule
share of this going for primary
health care.

Democratisation of primary health
care involves greater ~~is~~ roles for
local bodies in healthcare at local
levels and also greater accessibility
for people

Democratisation needed for equitable
care in India

(i) Local bodies with powers would
invest more in medical infrastructure

e.g - Panchayats could increase PHC
efficiency

(ii) Ensure access to cheap healthcare to economically deprived classes

(iii) Free/cheap primary health care to help reduce Infant Mortality Rate (IMR), MMR in rural areas.

(iv) Reduce out of pocket expenditure by people

(Economic Survey 2021 - Spending by states to 2.5% of GDP to reduce oop by 60%.)

Democratisation ensures comprehensive care

(i) Ensures diagnostic facilities for early detection of disease.
e.g - Infectious diseases like Dengue, COVID-19

- (ii) Ensure primary treatment for disease to prevent complications
- (iii) Monitor women (pregnant), newborns for problems, advise on nutrition, conduct monthly check ups on a regular basis
- (iv) Early immunisation under Indra-
dhanush mission to prevent diseases

WAY FORWARD

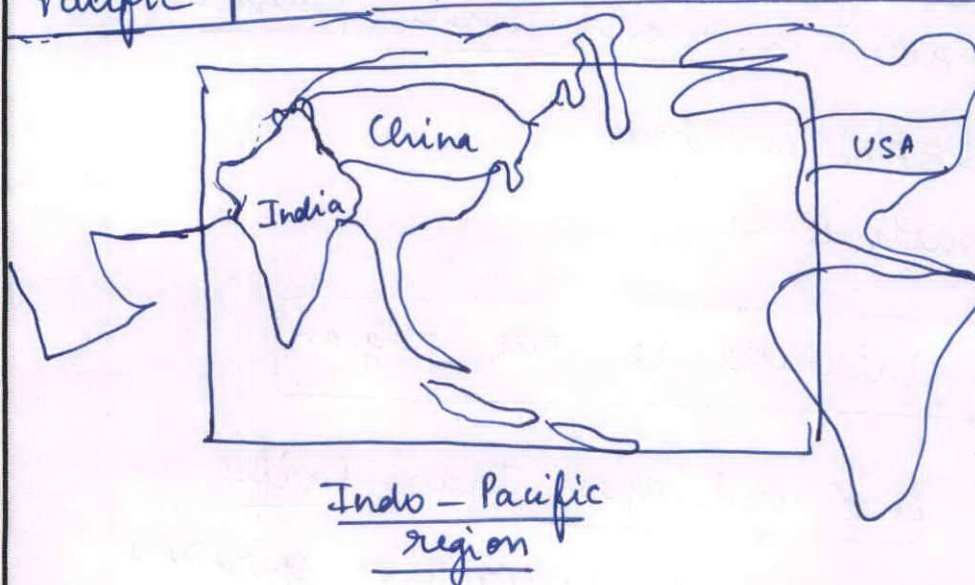
- (i) Increasing investment in healthcare
- (ii) Greater number of beds, doctors at PHCs, CHCs
- (iii) Basic medical training to ASHAs
ANMs as first responders

Primary health care needs to be strengthened to ensure SDG-3.

19. In the context of the evolving discourse on the Indo-Pacific, analyse the factors driving the global shift towards the region. Also, identify India's interests and challenges in this regard. (250 words) 15

हिंद-प्रशांत (इंडो-पसिफिक) पर विकसित हो रहे संवाद के संदर्भ में, इस क्षेत्र की ओर वैश्विक झुकाव को प्रेरित करने वाले कारकों का विश्लेषण कीजिए। साथ ही, इस संबंध में भारत के हितों और चुनौतियों की भी पहचान कीजिए।

Indo-Pacific has become a global hotspot as UK, France, USA and EU have released their own Indo-Pacific policies.



Factors driving global shift towards region

- (i) Source of resources - oil, gas, metallic minerals

(ii) Increasing Chinese hegemony,
claim over nine-dash line, coercion
of smaller states like Indonesia,
Philippines worrisome for world

(iii) Hub of the developing world -
Houses rising countries playing
greater role in world trade, politics
e.g - ASEAN countries
- South Asia

India's interests in the region

(i) Wants free and open Indo-Pacific
with freedom of navigation operations

(ii) Against Chinese coercion in South
China Sea, rising presence in Indian
Ocean Region

(iii) Wants to reinforce its role as net

security provider in the region

(iv) Freedom necessary to ensure freedom in global trade

India's challenges

(i) Freedom of navigation violations by encroachment. ~~on territorial~~ e.g. - US operations

(ii) Rising US-China conflict threatens stability

(iii) Chinese Belt and Road initiative threat to its infrastructure projects in neighbour countries.
e.g. - Bangladesh rising dealings with China (its largest trade partner)

WAY FORWARD

Cooperation in humanitarian and Disaster Relief operations, expansion of Quad, defence arrangements with friendly countries is needed for stability.

20. India's Afghanistan policy must be based on a clear-eyed understanding of important strategic goals in the region amidst the current regional and global strategic environment. Elaborate. (250 words) 15

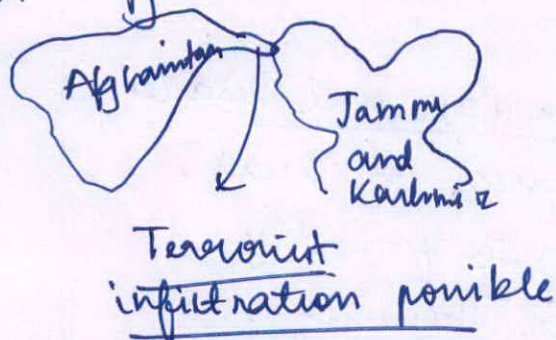
भारत की अफगानिस्तान नीति वर्तमान क्षेत्रीय और वैश्विक रणनीतिक परिवेश के बीच इस क्षेत्र में महत्वपूर्ण रणनीतिक लक्ष्यों की स्पष्ट समझ पर आधारित होनी चाहिए। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए।

The recent takeover by Taliban
of Afghanistan has created instability
in the world order.

Current regional strategic environment
for India in Afghanistan

(i) Taliban takeover has created
fears for women, minorities like
Sikhs in Afghanistan

(ii) Rise of terrorist groups like IS
in Afghanistan pose threat to India



(iii) India's \$ 3 billion strategic investments in Afghanistan at risk

e.g - Parliament building

- Salma Dam

India should also take global strategic environment in account

(i) China, Russia's indications to recognise Taliban may put Taliban against India if it does not do the same

(ii) Taliban's links with Pakistan against India's interests

(iii) India kept out of peace process, dialogues on Afghanistan. So needs to assert its place in process

e.g - Trivika Plus

India should be guided by these goals

(i) Engage with Taliban but ensure rights for women, minorities recognised

(ii) Prevent Taliban from becoming breeding ground for terrorists as per UN Resolution 2953.

(iii) Engage in multilateral forums to create global consensus on Afghanistan e.g. - Delhi NSA Dialogue

(iv) Humanitarian aid for Afghan citizens e.g. - wheat shipments

Afghanistan's stability is crucial to a strong Asia South Asia, whose integrity holds explosive value as per "A Glass Half Full" report of World Bank.