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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 2090)

Name of Candidate	Amritanshu Nayak	Registration Number	1062113
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Date	22/8/23
Center	Online		

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
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4	10	
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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 HINDI & ENGLISH.
इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं हिन्दी और अंग्रेजी 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।

Is student recommended for One-to-One mentoring?

Recommended

Strongly Recommended

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

1. पृथक्करणीयता का सिद्धांत क्या है? प्रासंगिक न्यायिक निर्णयों की सहायता से विवेचना कीजिए।
(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10
What is the Doctrine of Severability? Discuss with the help of relevant judicial decisions. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Doctrine of Severability refers to the principle that a principle will be declared unconstitutional to the extent it violates the Fundamental Rights without making the whole provision null and void.

Important features

- ① Use of Article 13(2) which allows any law which contravenes Part III to be made void
- ② If the given provision is linked to rest of the provision of the law, then the whole law would be void

[Relevant cases]

- ① A K Gopalan case → Allowed preventive detention but with some deletions.
- ② Minerva Mills case → Where it struck down some provisions of 42nd Amendment including 368(2) ^{some} ~~Article~~
- ③ Keshavananda Bharti case → ^{provisions} ~~268(4)~~ were struck down from the amendment.
- ④ Waman Rao case → Deleted the provisions which brought 9th schedule under Judicial review.

Thus, the doctrine of severability is one of the most used legal principle and is important for protecting democratic framework.

2. भारत में संवैधानिक शासन की सुरक्षित करने के लिए शासन के पद की संरक्षित करने की आवश्यकता है। संवैधानिक के पद से जुड़े हालिया विवादों के प्रकाश में विवेचना कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10
- The office of Governor needs to be transformed to preserve constitutional governance in India. Discuss in the light of recent controversies surrounding the Governors' office. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Governor's office refers to the de jure head of state government.

The Governor is an agent of the centre, appointed by the President and serves at his pleasure.

Recent controversies

① Conflict in West Bengal with state government on post poll violence

② ~~Ref~~ Changing Governor's speech and removal of Minister order without consent of CM in Tamil Nadu

③ In Kerala, Governor's threatening to remove of ministers if they reduce his dignity

⑤ Partisan role in Maharashtra
defection issues.

Thus, all of this has been put forward
for transforming Governor's office:

① Sarkaria Commission → Appointing
non political person to the
post, consultation with Chief
Minister.

② Punchhi Commission → Removal of
any ~~statut~~ non constitutional
duty like Via Chancellor appointment
from his office, Provision for impeach-
ment

③ Shamsher Singh case → Governor is
not a servant of central government,
should act in a dignified way

④ Security of Tenure should be improved,
Deploy a code of conduct for Governor

Thus, in order to preserve Constitutional
Governance and Federalism Governor's
needs to office needs to be reformed
for effective functioning..

3. "वाक् एवं अभिव्यक्ति की स्वतंत्रता की आड़ में लोक व्यवस्था में व्यवधान उत्पन्न करने या हिंसा भड़काने की अनुमति नहीं दी जा सकती।" हेट स्पीच के संदर्भ में उच्चतम न्यायालय के द्वाबिया निर्णय की सहायता से विवेचना कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10

"Disturbing public order or inciting violence cannot be allowed under the garb of the freedom of speech and expression." Discuss with help of the recent Supreme Court judgment on hate speech. (Answer in 150 words) 10

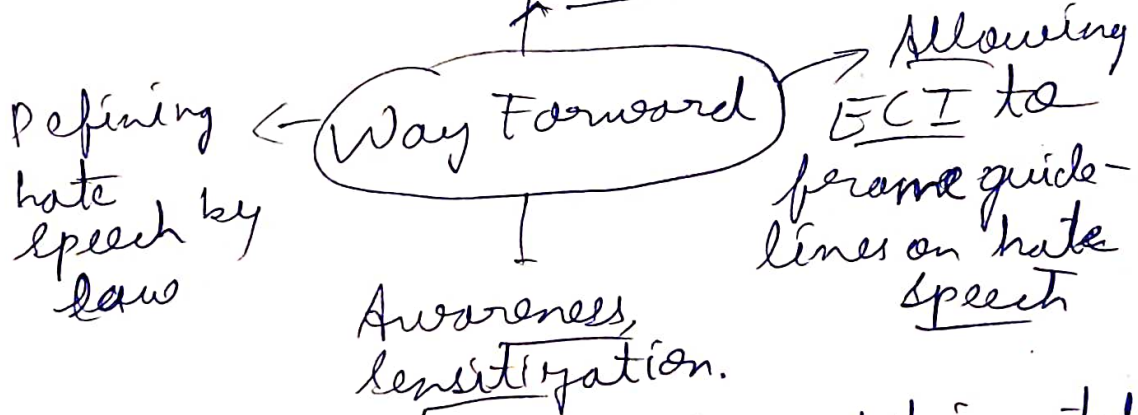
Hate speech refers to incitement to hatred among a particular person, or group or caste, community, gender etc. It can include provocative language, expressions or social media posts and others.

In the recent case, Supreme Court did the following:

- ① Asked the states to register FIRs on hate speech in a suo moto fashion without waiting for a complaint.
- ② called out various state governments for their inaction and lethargy to hate speech.

③ said that hate speech is a reasonable restriction to Freedom of speech under Article 19(2)

④ said that such speech has a risk of causing threat to security public order of the society
self regulation by media



Hate speech is not just a detrimental to Freedom of speech but affects the Right to life (Article 21) and right to a dignified life..

4. भारत में लोकतंत्र के प्रभावी काम-काज के लिए विपक्ष के नेता (LoP) की भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10
Discuss the role of the Leader of the Opposition (LoP) for the effective functioning of democracy in India. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Leader of Opposition (LoP) refers to the leader of the largest party in the house. It is a statutory post, having a cabinet level rank in governance.

In India, 10% of seats are needed to be called as LoP and it has a huge role in effective functioning of democracy:

- ① Benefits Parliamentary functioning
- Increase debate and deliberation of house
 - Ensure accountability of the Government through Parliamentary scrutiny.
 - Highlights issues of public importance in the house

② Key role in various important appointments like Director of CBI, CVC Commissioner, Lokpal etc

③ Protecting minority rights in the government → Prevent tyranny of majority.

④ Provides a de-facto shadow government which ensures continuity in governance.

⑤ Provides various suggestions to existing policies, budgets etc

Thus, presence of CoP is very critical to democratic health, good governance and preserving freedom of speech in Parliament as well as the country.

5. नीचे केवलों द्वारा कृषि सार्वजनिक सेवा वितरण सुनिश्चित करने और भारत में परिवर्तन लाने के लिए उभरती हुई प्रौद्योगिकियों का उपयोग किन विभिन्न तरीकों में किया जा सकता है? (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10
- What are the various ways in which emerging technologies can be utilised by civil servants in ensuring efficient public service delivery and affecting change in India? (Answer in 150 words) 10

With the information revolution becoming the mainstream, various emerging technologies have emerged like AI, ML, ICT, Big data etc. Hence, the onus is now on civil servants to ensure public service delivery and affecting change through using these technologies:

① Increase the quality of public service delivery so that people can use it effectively.

Eg DBT Transfers.

② Grievance Redressal for feedback and boosting responsiveness of government. Eg CPGRAMS portal for 24x7x365 days

- ③ Democratization of access to everybody. Eg Unified Payments system for digital transaction
ONDC for digital commerce
 - ④ Evidence based policy making through use of big data analytics
Eg catching GST frauds.
 - ⑤ Boosting Transparency and Accountability of the civil service. Eg use of Twitter to ask for complaints like Ministry of External Affairs
 - ⑥ Countering leakages and corruption in state finances through use of technology. Eg Geotagging of e-pos machines at ration shops
 - ⑦ Better monitoring through online dashboards.
- Additionally, such technology could also be used for capacity building skilling and becoming a Karmayogi as envisaged by the PM.

6. आपके अनुसार, प्रधान मंत्री कौशल विकास योजना भारत में कौशल विकास और रोजगार को बढ़ावा देने में किस सीमा तक सफल रही है? (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए)

10

To what extent, in your opinion, has the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana been successful in promoting skill development and employment in India? (Answer in 150 words)

10

PM Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY)
is one of the most important
skilling initiatives in India.
It is the flagship scheme of Ministry
of Skill Development and Entrepreneur-
ship.

Positive Impact

- ① Integral Part of Skill India mission and supports recognition to prior learning (RPL) certification
- ② Nearly 7000000 people have been skilled and trained under the schemes
- ③ Provided for a boost to the income of the country through various institutes.

③ A very good example of Public Private Partnership within the country.

Challenges faced

- ① Funds and Trainers shortage affecting efficiency
- ② high level of dropouts within the scheme.
- ③ Certifications are not acceptable at various institutions.
- ④ Backwardness of curriculum, old teaching methods etc.

Thus, there is a need to boost the practical application programs, industry tie-ups, funding etc so that PM KVY efficiently achieves its mandate.

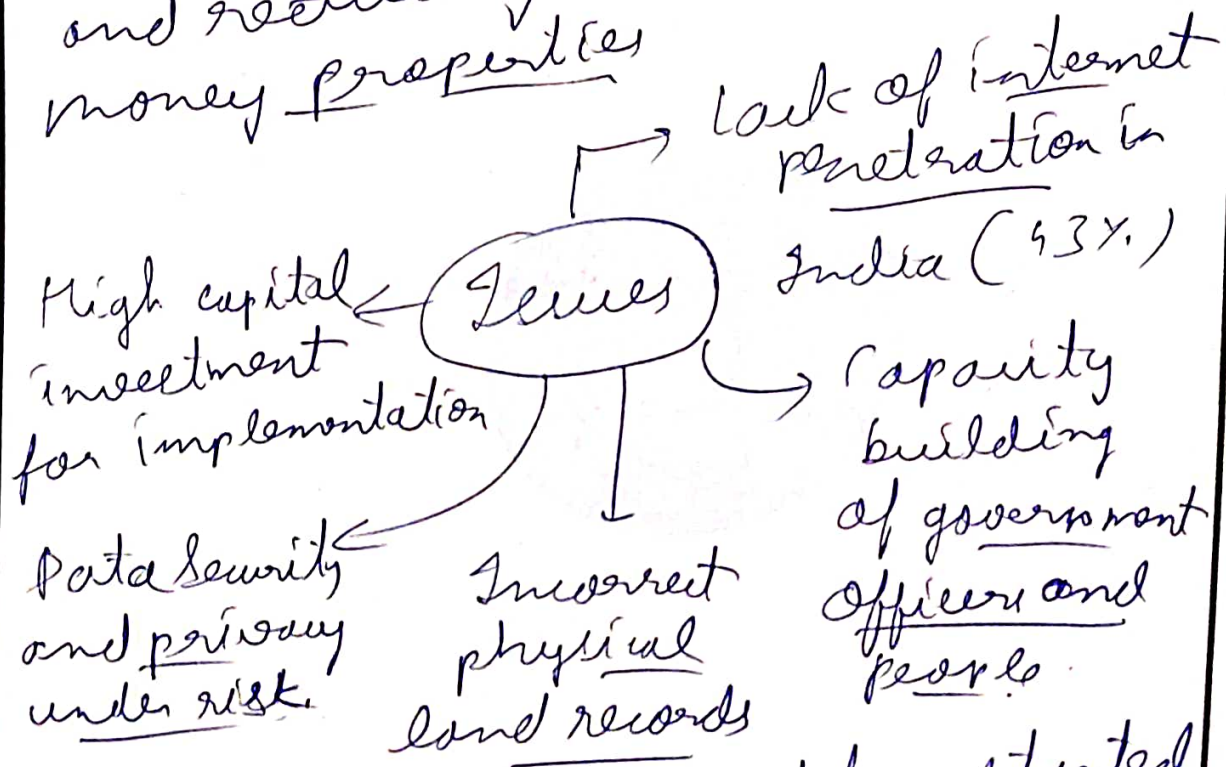
7. भारत की भूमि प्रबंधन प्रणाली में पर्याप्त लाभ उत्पन्न करने में भू-आधार परियोजना की क्षमता का परीक्षण कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10
Examine the potential of the Bhu-Aadhaar project in bringing significant benefits to India's land management system. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Bhu- Aadhaar refers to the Unique Land Parcel Identification Number (ULPIN) under Digital India Land Record Modernization Programme (DILRMP).
It aims to issue such 15 digit unique ID number to all land parcels by 2024.

Benefits

- (1) Citizens → Provide efficient and accurate land records, use of ULPIN as collateral for formal loan
- (2) Business → Reduce the cost of land acquisition and cost of business operation

(3) State → Preparation of centralized database
 → Reduce pendency and litigation of cases through conclusive titling.
 Better monitoring of, transparency and reducing Benami and black money properties



However, the government has started further schemes like SVAMITVA to augment Bharat-Aadhar to fulfill the aims of Digital India.

8. भारत में बाल श्रम की उपस्थिति के विभिन्न निर्धारकों पर चर्चा कीजिए। देश में बाल श्रम की समस्या से निपटने के लिए क्या उपाय किए जा सकते हैं? (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए)
Discuss the different determinants of the occurrence of child labour in India. What measures can be taken to tackle the issue of child labour in the country? (Answer in 150 words)

10

Child labour refers to the work done by the child, below 14 years and in hazardous occupation till 18 years. In India, it is regulated by Prevention of Child Labour Act, 1986.

Determinants of child labour

① Economic → Poverty at household, need of extra labour for income
→ Lack of sufficient money to send children to school

② Social → Inefficient family planning leading to larger families.

→ Poor access to education, health, facilities etc
→ Lack of awareness about child labour

Issues

① Business → Some specific industries like bead making, cricket etc need smaller hands.

→ Business owners prefer children due to power differential and low wages for profitability.

Legal

① Strict implementation of law

② Harsh punishment on offenders

Boosting awareness of parents, industry etc

Measures to tackle child labour

Education

① Provide proper schools, teachers etc.

② Reservations

Economic

① Poverty alleviation by welfare schemes

② Reduce inequality

Thus, child labour is a curse on inclusive development. Urgent steps are needed to counter this societal evil and uphold Article 23.

9. हाल के घटनाक्रमों से ज्ञात होता है कि कुछ बाधाओं के बावजूद, भारत-भूटान संबंधों में अभी भी निरंतरता बनी हुई है। चर्चा कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10
Despite certain hiccups, recent developments suggest that continuity still looms large in the Indo-Bhutan relationship. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words) 10

India-Bhutan relationship has been very special to both the countries since time immemorial. Despite sharing relations since 1949, Treaty of Friendship and immense goodwill, certain issues affect the relations:

- ① Big brother attitude of India towards the smaller neighbour.
- ② Delays in project funding and implementation
- ③ Refugee crisis in Bhutan affecting India's borders.
- ④ Chinese inursions → At Doklam in 2017 threatening Siliguri Corridor → Claiming the whole of Sakteng National Park of Nepal Bhutan.

However, continuity still looms large:

- ① India has continued to give lines of credit, grants to ^{chytan} ~~Himal~~
- ② Protection against China's neoranchism by strengthening borders.
- ③ Hydropower projects across Bhutan and its purchase
- ④ Main trade partner of Bhutan, training Bhutanese military and people to people contacts.

Thus, despite some hiccups, India-Bhutan have preserved their continuity in terms of political, economic and civilizational relations.

10. महत्वपूर्ण सूचना अवसंरचना एक वैश्विक सुविधा (ग्लोबल गूड) बन गई है जिसकी सुरक्षा के लिए वैश्विक मानदंडों की आवश्यकता है। महत्वपूर्ण सूचना अवसंरचना की सुरक्षा के लिए G20 क्या भूमिका निभा सकता है? (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए)
- Critical Information Infrastructure has become a global good that requires global norms for its safeguard. What role can the G20 play to safeguard Critical Information Infrastructure? (Answer in 150 words)

10

10

Critical Information Infrastructure (CII) refers to those digital processes, devices whose security is very essential for nation's physical and economic health. It has become a Global Good in following ways:

- ① Globalization and developing a thick system of connectivity
- ② Sharing of various similar networks, devices and processes
Eg Use of Microsoft Windows across the globe.
- ③ Vulnerable to some external shocks like cyber attacks, hacking etc.

Thus, due to common usage, they require common norms. Here, the G20 can play a crucial role to form global norms.

- ① Defining CII and determining its scope so as to prepare efficient regulation.
- ② Developing common network regulations, cyber security frameworks, data security, privacy and sharing.
- ③ collaborative and consensus based approach for equitability.
- ④ Protecting supply chains for procurement and making them resilient.
- ⑤ Capacity building by training and skilling.

Thus, common CII is the next step in global governance. Having the G20 regulate it will bring fairness and access to Global CII.

11. विधायिका और न्यायपालिका के बीच हमारा की परिणति केसवानंद भारती वाद में 'आधारभूत संरचना' के सिद्धांत रूप में हुई। विवेचना कीजिए। संविधान में संशोधन करने की शक्ति को सीमित करने में इस वाद का क्या महत्व है? (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए)

The tussle between the legislature and judiciary culminated in the 'basic structure' doctrine in the Kesavananda Bharati case. Discuss. What is the significance of the case in limiting the power of the Parliament to amend the Constitution? (Answer in 250 words)

15

15

The Constitution of India provides for 3 ~~de~~ organs of government, i.e. the Executive, Legislature and Regislature

The evolution of Conetitution due to tussle between legislature and judiciary due to lack of strict separation of power culminated in Doctrine of Basic Structure;

① 1st Amendment Act → Restricted Right to property

② Challenged through Shankari Prasad case → Parliament was allowed by Judiciary to restrict Fundamental Right to Property (Reiterated in Sajjan Singh case)

① ③ Golak Nath case → Judiciary stated that Parliament cannot amend Part III due to violation of Article 13(2)

④ In response, Parliament passed 24th and 25th Amendment

⑤ Keshavananda Bharati case → Held that Parliament can amend the Constitution to the extent of not violating the basic principles. i.e. Doctrine of Basic Structure

This limited the Amending power of the Parliament and had the following importance:

① No absolute Power to Parliament to amend the Constitution leading to a system of checks and balances

② Protected the sanctity of Fundamental Rights (Part III) and

Judicial Review (Article 13 and 32)

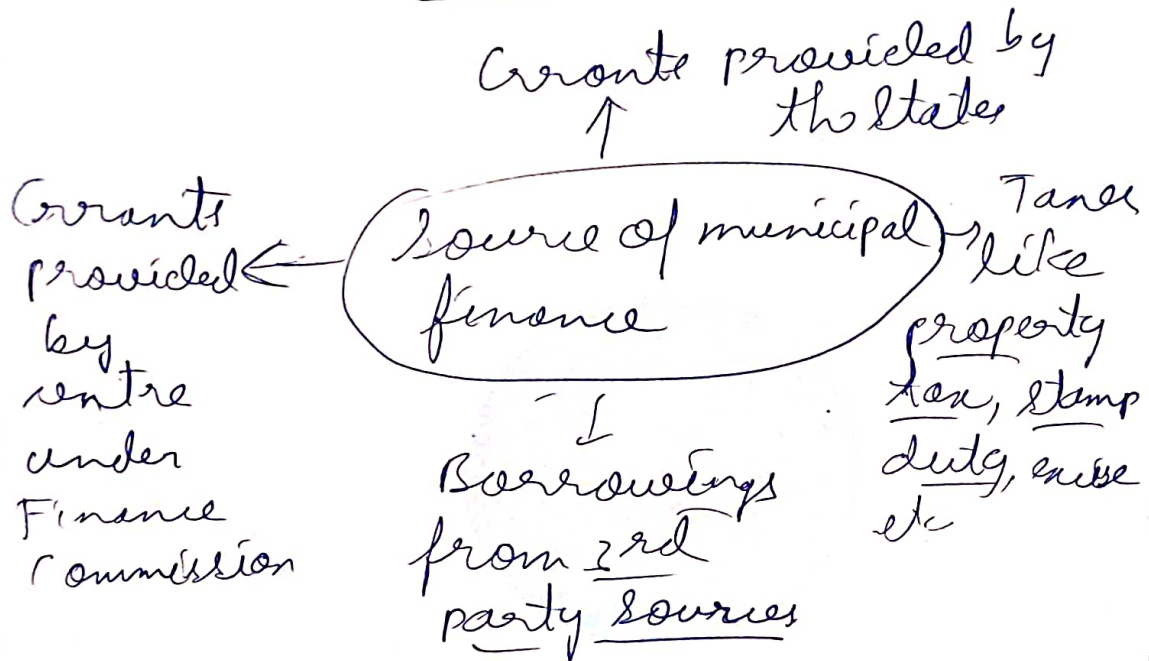
③ Preserving the separation of powers → so that there is less tussle between various organs.

④ Maintaining other basic features of the Constitution like Federalism (S R Bommai), Free and fair elections (Rajya Narain Shukla case) etc.

⑤ Supremacy of the Constitution is preserved

Though, doctrine of Basic Structure is criticized for Judicial Activism, tyranny of unelected but it still protects the rights of people from encroachment.

⑫ The municipal corporations of India were established under the 74th Amendment Act



However, these finances are quite limited as per RBI's State of municipal finances report.

Various issues include

① Lack of fiscal devolution by state governments

↳ most states haven't formed the State Finance Commission.

↳ Don't accept the advice of
state finance commission

② Insufficient and delayed fund
devolution from centre as well as
states

③ Lack of independent functioning

↳ Due to state government
interference in governance

↳ Bypass by central government
Eg Smart City Mission and use
of special Purpose vehicle

↳ Lack of sufficient taxation powers

④ Chronic corruption at all levels

Measures to improve municipal
finance

① Further devolution of fiscal
powers from centre and states
vis-a-vis 12th schedule

② Use of property tax efficiently

and adopting efficient measures
for collection.

③ Newer forms of finance

- Use of municipal bonds
- Use of ReiTS/Invits to pick money from the market
- Land consolidation and open market auction.

④ Bring local bodies under Priority sector lending.

It is expected that by 2050, 50% of India's population will live in cities. Thus, liberalization and expansion of ULB finance is a must for sustainable urbanisation.

13. "संविधान का उद्देश्य सुधार लाने के लिए समाज को रूपांतरित करना है और यह उद्देश्य रूपांतरणकारी संविधानवाद का मूल स्तंभ है।" हालिया न्यायिक निर्णयों की सहायता से विवेचना कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए)

"The purpose of having a Constitution is to transform the society for the better and this objective is the fundamental pillar of transformative constitutionalism." Discuss with the help of recent case laws. (Answer in 250 words)

15

15

Constitutionalism refers to the primacy of Constitution in governance. And transformative Constitutionalism refers to the use of Constitution to bring about social, political and culture change. It makes the Constitution an organic and living document case.

Important cases

① K S Puttaswamy case

↳ Brought about the Right to Privacy under Article 19(1) of the Constitution.

② Aruna Shobaug case → Upheld
right to dignified life (Article 14)
and passive euthanasia.

Recent laws and judgements have
further eased the compliance.

③ LLBTA rights → Decriminalized
homosexuality in Navtej Singh
Jauhar case → Upheld Article
14, 19, 21.

④ Joseph Shine case → Decriminalized
Adultery (Section 497) but
still a ground for divorce.

⑤ Sabarimala Case → Upheld
that constitutional morality is
over religious morality in
the society → Allowed entry of
women in the ancient Sabarimala
Temple.

Thus, this doctrine of transformative constitutionalism has been criticized for Judicial Overreach and Judiciary acting as the 3rd chamber of Parliament.

However, it has played a great role in public awareness, equality, dignity and developing positive culture of reform in the society.

① Rule of law refers to the British Constitutional Principle where the laws are the same for everybody without any special privileges. Thus, everybody is equal before the law (Article 14).

A rule of law, promotes individual liberty and democratic governance in following ways:

① Separation of Power by imposition of a system of checks and balances in society.

② Prevents arbitrary steps in governance. Eg Abolition of Section 66A of IT Act (Shreya Singhal case)

③ Protect the fundamental rights

of the citizen → Helping in
political participation

④ Boosting accountability of
the administration by unbiased
laws.

⑤ Preserve the civic culture
of the country → Enabling citizens
to act as responsible stakeholders

Challenges to such a rule of law
culture

① Personal level

↳ Lack of awareness of citizens
about own rights, duties and
political participation

② Societal level

↳ Prevalence of vote bank
politics based on caste, religion
etc

↳ Lack of access to justice due to poor education, geographical boundaries etc

③ Government level
↳ huge corruption in governance
↳ challenging the unbiased law
↳ Lack of transparency. Eg Diluting right to information Act.

Thus, as India goes into the Amrit Kal, a culture of rule of law should be fostered through awareness, procedures and political maturity to make India a developed society and Economy by 2047.

15. नागरिक समाज संगठन (CSOs) न केवल धार्मिक कार्यों में लगे हुए हैं, बल्कि स्थायमान, शान्तिपूर्ण, मानवीय और संघर्षपूर्ण भविष्य के निर्माण के लिए राजनीतिक प्रक्रियाओं में भी शामिल हैं। उदाहरण सहित चर्चा कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15
- Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) are not just engaged in charitable work but also involved in political processes for building a just, peaceful, humane, and sustainable future. Discuss with examples. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Civil society organizations refer to these non-formal, voluntary associations who work on societal issues. Eg Help Age India, AITUC

They are a key player in

① Charity → Help in resource mobilization, resource distribution, last mile delivery, protecting vulnerable sections. Eg Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

② They are also involved in political processes for building.

③ Just society → They promote equitability, public service

delivery and etc.

Eg SOS NGO helps in children rights and help in orphanages,
ADR goes for democratic rights

② Peaceful society → Ensures that there is sufficient harmony, stability and equality in society

Eg Amnesty International going for collecting evidence against war criminals.

Red Cross society provides services for health in war zones etc

③ Humane society → Providing protection to vulnerable sections, human rights protection etc
Eg Naz Foundation propagation for LGBTQ rights

Reporters Without Borders exposed various cases of corruption and elite capture in Africa.

① Sustainable Society → Help to ensure sustainable development, climate change practices etc
Eg TEBI's work in climate studies and environment protection
PETA work for animal rights.

Thus, CSO are a critical part in modern democracies, and play a huge role in societal evolution and transformation.

(10) SHGs refers to the voluntary association of people for common aims. In India, they vary in size from 10 to 25 members. So far 10 million+ SHGs exist in India.

Role of SHG in

(A) Rural Development

- ↳ Establishing small thrift and savings culture
- ↳ Increase access to formal capital
- ↳ Forming small industries and generating supplementary income and livelihood
- ↳ Foster entrepreneurship and skilling and self sufficiency.

⑤ Women Empowerment

- ↳ 80% of SHGs are formed by females
- ↳ Economic empowerment of women and socialization happens through SHGs
- ↳ Provide a collective voice to women and breakdown traditional roles and increase confidence

However, it suffers from the following challenges:

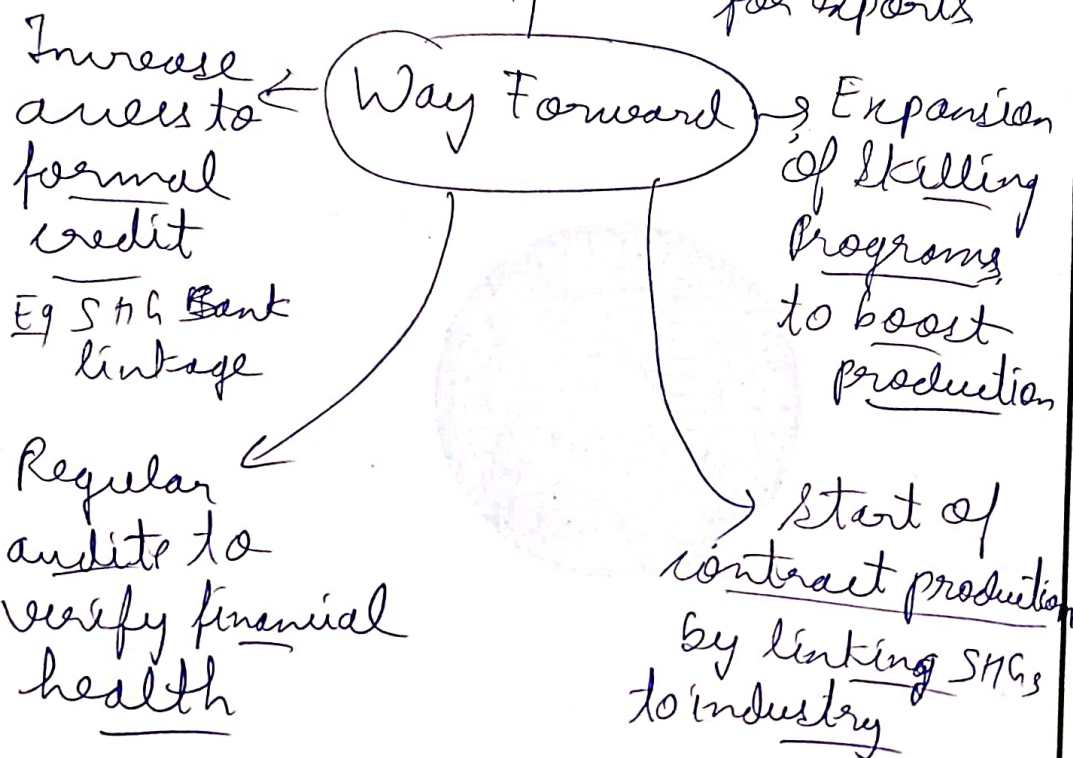
① Regional disparities

- ↳ more prevalent in South and Western India compared to the North
- ↳ Lack of growth in size and expansion of various SHGs

② Rev of NPAs → Due to lack of economies of scale

Lack of financial sustainability
Lack of poor quality of products
and low level of skilling

One district One Product model
for exports



SHGs are the catalysts to produce excellent results in rural India.
Hence, it is paramount that their viability and attractiveness is maintained.

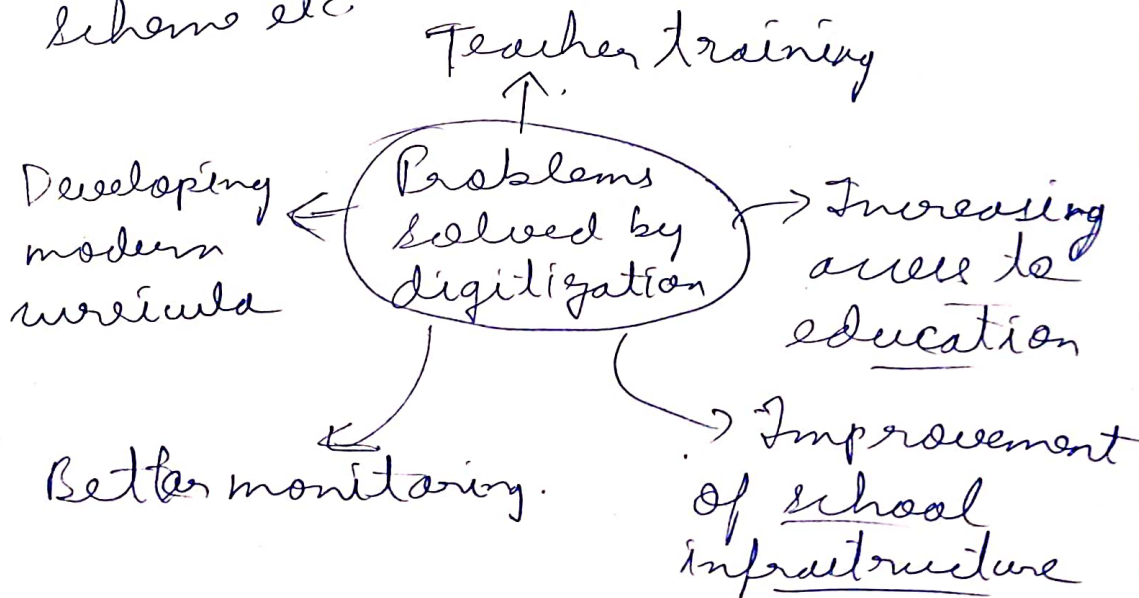
17. क्या आप इस विचार से सहमत हैं कि भारत की स्कूली शिक्षा प्रणाली में गहरी जड़े जमा चुकी समस्याओं को केवल डिजिटल रूपांतरण से हल नहीं किया जा सकता है? (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए)

15

Do you agree with the view that the deep-rooted problems in India's school education system cannot be solved by digital transformation alone? (Answer in 250 words)

15

At present, roughly 14.8 lakh schools exist in India. As per the New Education Policy (NEP)-2020, government has taken ~~the~~ a lot of steps for digital transformation like SWAYAM, DIKSHA, e-Vidya Scheme etc.



However, certain deep rooted problems still persist.

- ① Still focused on rote learning and not on problem solving.
- ② Learning outcomes are still poor
As per NIPUN FLN survey, the numeracy skills have fallen to Pre 2012 levels.
- ③ Gap in Primary and Secondary Enrollment Ratio because of completion of Right to Education limits → Increasing dropouts.
- ④ Inter regional disparities with respect to access and affordability of education Eg Rural areas still disadvantaged vis-a-vis urban areas.
- ⑤ Faculty Quality is still poor
Thus, following measures would be needed?

- ① Funding → Make it to 6% of GDP
- ② Monitoring of learning outcomes efficiently and regularly
- ③ Address the gender gap in education through scholarships, prizes, reservations
- ④ Faculty training, evaluation and skilling needs to be done sincerely
- ⑤ Change in curricula for problem solving and value education
- ⑥ Increase access to digital education (Internet penetration - 43%)

Thus, a just and equitable hybrid form of education is the need of the hour to make India a developed nation by 2047.

(18) DBT is a system launched by the Government in 2013. It aims to directly transfer the welfare scheme amounts to the bank account of the beneficiary. With the Jan Dhan - Aadhar - Mobile (JAM) trinity, the amount is directly sent to Aadhar linked bank accounts.

Impact of DBT on effectiveness and transparency of welfare schemes for the vulnerable sections in India.

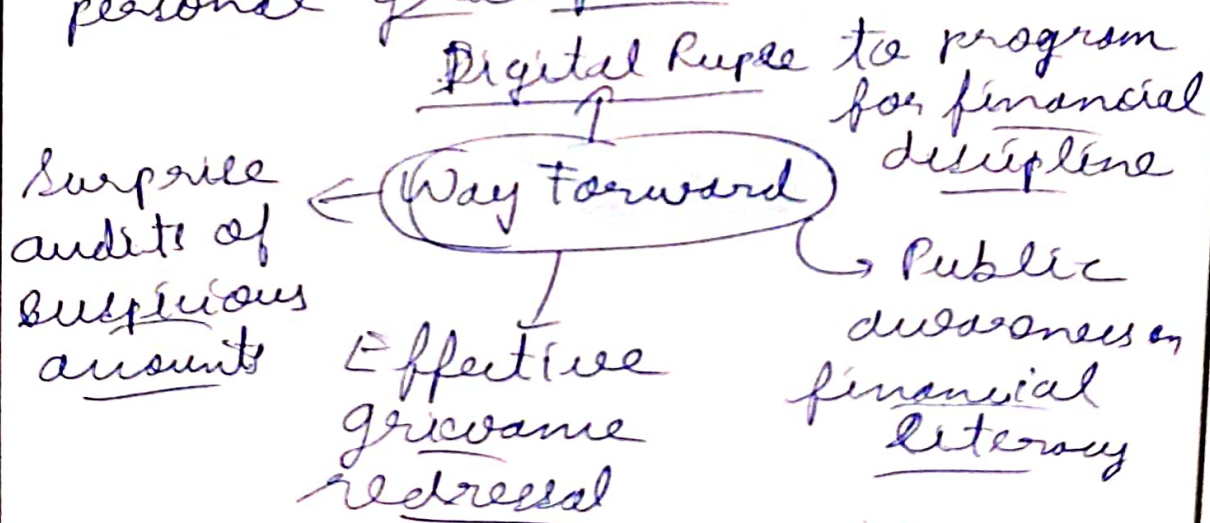
① Decreases time of delivery of funds → Almost instantaneously funds are transferred

- ② Cut down leakages of the earlier 84% to 0% in today's time (savings of ₹ 2 lakh crores.)
- ③ Increases transparency and accountability due to online tracking, monitoring of funds
- ④ Removed the ghost beneficiaries on the subsidy list reducing corruption
Eg. Over 2 crores in MGNREGA
and overall 4 crores in total
- ⑤ Financial Inclusion, Savings habit, access to formal finance through Jan Dhan Accounts.

However, it suffers from the following issues:

- ① Internet penetration of India is 43% → Lagging in digital public infrastructure

- ② Digital divide and digital literacy in rural India
- ③ Newer forms of wrongdoings
Eg Middlemen controlling the bank accounts of the poor and directly diverting funds.
- ④ Utilization of subsidy is non satisfactory → Used for consumption, personal gratification and alcohol.

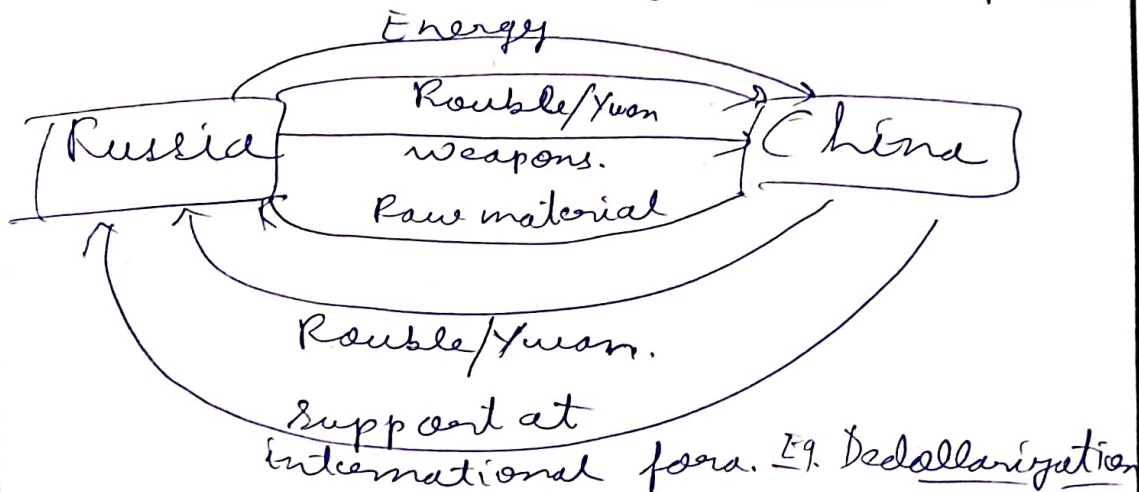


DBT has been a game changer in India and with further reforms it could fulfill the goals of inclusive development.

19. चीन-रूस के बीच गहरे होने रणनीतिक संबंधों को वृद्ध लोगों ने 'विश्व में सर्वाधिक महत्वपूर्ण अप्रोपित गठबंधन' के रूप में वर्णित किया है। यह गठबंधन भारत के राष्ट्रीय हित को कैसे प्रभावित कर सकता है? भारत को अपने हितों की रक्षा के लिए क्या रणनीति अपनानी चाहिए? (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15

The deepening China-Russia strategic relationship has been described by some as the 'most consequential undeclared alliance in the world.' How can this alliance impact India's national interest? What strategies should India adopt to protect her interests? (Answer in 250 words) 15

Post the Russia-Ukraine War in 2022, the Russia-China strategic alliance is reaching new heights



Thus, it is been called as most consequential undeclared alliance in the world'. Due to India's close to Russia and cold relations with China, it

could impact India in following
ways vis-a-vis its National Interests

- ① Border clashes on ~~China's~~ border with China
↳ Can escalate due to Russia's recent support and weapons
- ② Indo Pacific → Opposed by both Russia and China → India's Strategic Autonomy will be impacted
- ③ Pakistan → Growing Russia-China axis could attract Pakistan to its fold Eg Recently brought Russian oil
- ④ Central Asia → Growing Influence of China and Russia could increase its influence on the Stans' undercutting India.
- ⑤ Health of India-Russia relationship itself could be

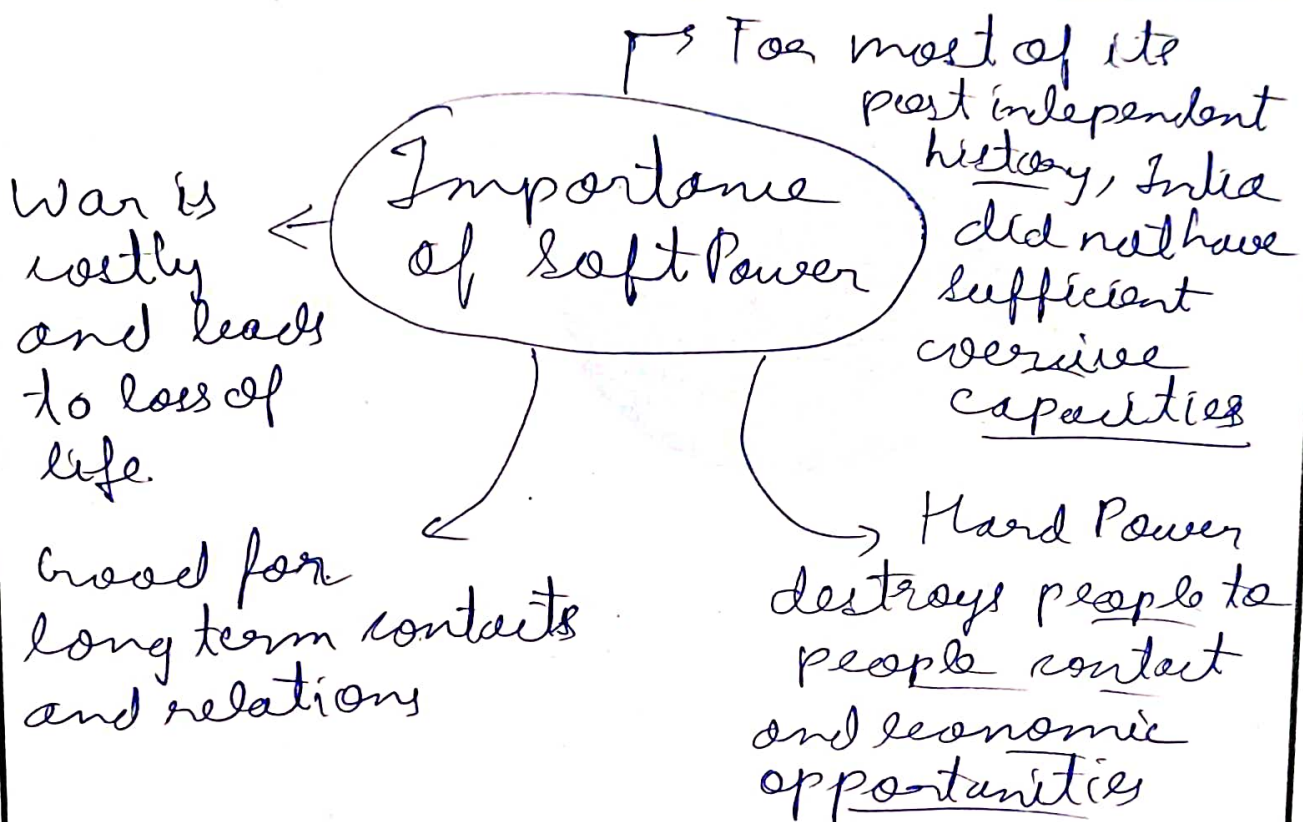
impacted due to over-reliance of Russia on China.

Steps to be taken by India vis-à-vis

- ① Russia → Continue the existing energy and rupee rouble trade and broaden relations on other issues like Far East, Education, Software etc
- ② China → Continue border deployment to deter any Chinese adventure
('Atmanirbhar Bharat' for self reliance and cut down the trade deficit of \$80 billion)
- ③ Rest of the world → Multi alignment for weapons, technology, influence etc
→ Encourage mediation and deliberation to finish the war peacefully and equitably

Only a multi-pronged approach with nimble diplomacy will help India to protect its National Interest in these volatile times.

② Soft Power refers to the use of attraction ~~and~~ to influence other countries in the international arena, moving from the coercive ideas of war and sanctions.



As a result, India used soft power as an important pillar in following ways:

- ① Credentials of a civilizational state of → spread of Hindu and Buddhist thought, culture, philosophy
- ② Democratic values of openness, transparency and human rights
- ③ Yoga and Ayurveda spreading
(21 June - World Yoga Day)
- ④ Entertainment industry like Bollywood. Eg RRR won an oscar
- ⑤ Diaspora → Rachtradoshs
(Ambassadors) of India abroad.
- ⑥ HADR → Humanitarian Assistance and disaster relief

Thus, India using the above strengths has taken the following soft power initiatives:

① Panchsheel and Cujral Doctrine
for non-aggression, peace,
non-interference etc

② Educational programs like
IITEC scholarships, Bay of Bengal
Studies at Walden University.

③ Environmentalism like Panchavati
Mission and LIFE, International
Solar Alliance

④ Cultural influences - Eg G20
symbol as Lotus, Slogan of
Vandhava Kutumbakam

⑤ Soft loans, line of credit, grants
Eg \$4 billion to Sri Lanka, Asia
Africa Growth Corridor

⑥ Vaccine Maitri for HADR and
Operation Dost to Turtige

⑦ Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas for diaspora.

Thus, with India's rising stature, India
must become a Smart Power, ~~combining~~
mixing elements of hard and soft power