



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 उपरांत 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. : 1557138

अभ्यर्थी का नाम/Name of Student : AYUSH SHROTRIA

माध्यम: हिंदी/अंग्रेजी
Medium: Hindi/English

English

तारीख
Date

26 Aug

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

केंद्र
Centre

Bhai Joga
Singh School

निरीक्षक के हस्ताक्षर
Invigilator's Signature

Krishna

महत्वपूर्ण अनुदेश उम्मीदवारों को नीचे उल्लिखित निर्देश सावधानी से पढ़ लेने चाहिए। किसी भी निर्देश का उल्लंघन करने पर उम्मीदवारों को मिलने वाले अंकों में कटौती, उम्मीदवारी रद्द या आयोग के परवर्ती परीक्षाओं के लिए वर्जित करने इत्यादि के रूप में दण्डित किया जा सकता है।	Important Instructions Candidates should read the undermentioned instructions carefully. Violation of any of the following instructions may entail penalty in the form of deduction of marks, cancellation of candidature, debarment from further Examination of the Commission etc.
1 (क) अपना पंजीकरण सं. एवं अन्य विवरण केवल प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका (क्यू.सी.ए.) में उम्मीदवार के लिए निर्धारित स्थान पर ही लिखें। (ख) इस पुस्तिका में अन्यत्र कहीं भी अपना नाम, पंजीकरण सं., मोबाइल नं., पता अथवा प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका (क्यू.सी.ए.) संख्या न लिखें जिससे आपकी पहचान का खुलासा हो।	(a) Write your Registration Number and other details only in the space provided in the Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet for candidates. (b) Do not disclose your identity in any manner such as, by writing your Name, Registration number, Mobile number, Address, Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet No. etc. elsewhere in the Booklet
2 अपनी प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में कहीं भी प्रश्नों के वास्तविक उत्तर के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें जैसे कि कोई कविता/दोहा, अभद्र या अपमानजनक अभिव्यक्ति इत्यादि और न ही कोई ऐसा चिन्ह/निशान बनाएं जिसका उत्तर से सम्बन्ध न हो।	Do not write in the QCA Booklet anything other than the actual answer such as couplet, obscene, abusive expression etc., nor put any sign/mark having no relevance to the answer.
3 परीक्षक को प्रत्यक्ष/अप्रत्यक्ष रूप से कोई भी प्रार्थना/धमकी भरी बातें न लिखें।	Do not make any direct/indirect appeal/threat to the examiner.
4 उत्तर अस्पष्ट अथवा गंदी लिखावट में न लिखें। इस प्रकार के उत्तर का मूल्यांकन नहीं भी किया जा सकता है।	Do not write answers in bad/illegible handwriting. Such answers may not be evaluated.
5 उत्तर स्याही में ही लिखें। उत्तर लिखने के लिए पेंसिल का उपयोग न करें, हालांकि आरेख, चित्र इत्यादि बनाने के लिए पेंसिल का उपयोग किया जा सकता है।	Write answers in ink only. Do not use pencil for writing the answers. However, pencil may be used for drawing diagrams, sketches, etc.
6 प्रवेश पत्र में उल्लेख किए गए माध्यम के अलावा अन्य किसी माध्यम में उत्तर न लिखें। अधिकृत और अनधिकृत की मिली जुली भाषा का भी उपयोग न करें।	Do not write answers in medium other than the authorized medium in the Admission Certificate. Do not use mixed language either i.e. authorize and unauthorized media together for writing answers.
7 प्रश्नों के उत्तर ठीक उसके नीचे दिए गए निर्धारित स्थान पर ही लिखें। निर्धारित स्थान के अलावा किसी अन्य स्थान पर लिखे गए उत्तर का मूल्यांकन नहीं किया जाएगा।	Write answer at the specific space (right below the question) only. Answers written elsewhere at unspecified places in the booklet shall not be evaluated.
8 यदि आप अपने किसी उत्तर को रद्द करना चाहते हैं तो उसे पेन से काट दें तथा उस पर "रद्द" लिख दें, अन्यथा उसका मूल्यांकन किया जा सकता है।	If you wish to cancel any work, draw your pen through it and write "Cancelled" across it, otherwise it may be valued.

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परीक्षक के हस्ताक्षर Signature of Examiner(s)	

प्राप्तांक के विवरण (परीक्षक द्वारा भरा जाए)/ Marks Details (To be filled by the Examiner(s))

प्रश्न सं. Q. No.	अंक Marks		प्रश्न सं. Q. No.	अंक Marks	
1			11		
2			12		
3			13		
4			14		
5			15		
6			16		
7			17		
8			18		
9			19		
10			20		
उप-योग (A) Subtotal (A)			उप-योग (B) Subtotal (B)		
सकल योग (A+B) / GRAND TOTAL (A+B)					



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Time Allowed: **Three Hours**

अधिकतम अंक: 250
Maximum Marks: **250**

प्रश्न-पत्र संबंधी विशेष अनुदेश

कृपया प्रश्नों के उत्तर देने से पूर्व निम्नलिखित प्रत्येक अनुदेश को ध्यानपूर्वक पढ़ें:

कुल बीस प्रश्न दिए गए हैं जो हिंदी और अंग्रेजी दोनों में छपे हैं।

सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।

प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के लिए नियत अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।

प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए, जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश-पत्र में किया गया है, और इस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यू.सी.ए.) पुस्तिका के मुख-पृष्ठ पर निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिखे गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।

प्रश्न संख्या 1 से 10 तक का उत्तर 150 शब्दों में तथा प्रश्न संख्या 11 से 20 तक का उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए।

प्रश्नों में इंगित शब्द सीमा को ध्यान में रखिए।

प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़े गए कोई पृष्ठ अथवा पृष्ठ भाग को पूर्णतः काट दीजिए।

QUESTION PAPER SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions.

There are **TWENTY** questions printed both in **HINDI** and in **ENGLISH**.

All questions are compulsory.

The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.

Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in a medium other than the authorized one.

Answers to Questions No. 1 to 10 should be in 150 words, whereas answers to Questions No. 11 to 20 should be in 250 words.

Keep the word limit indicated in the questions in mind.

Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Questions-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

1.

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

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

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

Pressure groups are voluntary organization formed to advance common interest.

Environmental Pressure Groups Role

• Responsiveness :

(1). Ensure critical scrutiny of policies and spread awareness regarding it

~~eg Bannik~~ ^{In} Mazdoor Kisan Ekta Sangtham case, SC declared environmental assessment null and void due to absence of public consultation.

(2). Organizational capacity to people
~~eg~~ 'Van Kalyan Samuh' led the Nyimagiri protest

• Public Participation:

- (1). eco-feminism and women leadership
eg) 50% women reservation in van
panchayat in Uttarakhand
- (2). These pressure groups participates in
EIA (Env. Impact Assessment) and ensure
monitoring of management plan.
- (3). Environmental Pressure groups raise
the social justice notions eg)
Medha Patkar role in 'Narmada Bachao'.
- (4). These groups provide training,
capacity-building to tribal 'van dham
samuh'.

Such pressure groups ensure the
ground implementation of pro-environment
policies and enable balanced and
equitable development

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

SC recognized the voluntary sex work as one of the avocation under Art. 19.

Significance of recognition

- Will protect the sex workers from unnecessary harassment by police and system
- Brings them under the fold of democratic rights and uphold Art. 14, 19.
- SC stated that movement of them can be restricted on grounds of morality. This balances the concerns of other societal elements.

↳ It will enable protection of sex workers against exploitation and even counter human trafficking.

Other steps

- (1). Replacing the ~~raid~~ - rescue - rehabilitation model to a proactive welfare model
- (2). State needs to ensure public provisioning of public goods as they might face social exclusion ~~key~~ Access to PDS
- (3). SC also setup a task force to take concerns of children of sex workers on-board. State needs to ensure adequate protection and education to them.
- (4). Greater employment skill development so as to ensure that work is voluntary.
- (5). Effective vigilance over cartels and forced sex work.

Constitution promises right to dignified life to everyone. In this light, sex workers need to be mainstreamed.

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

Following the directive of Ar 39A, Parliament enacted the Legal Services Authority Act. It setup a 3-tiered structure - National level, state and district level.

Role played by DLSAs

(1). Free legal aid to undertrials
e.g. case of Vishnu Thuari whose bail petition remained suspended for 16 years due to lack of documents

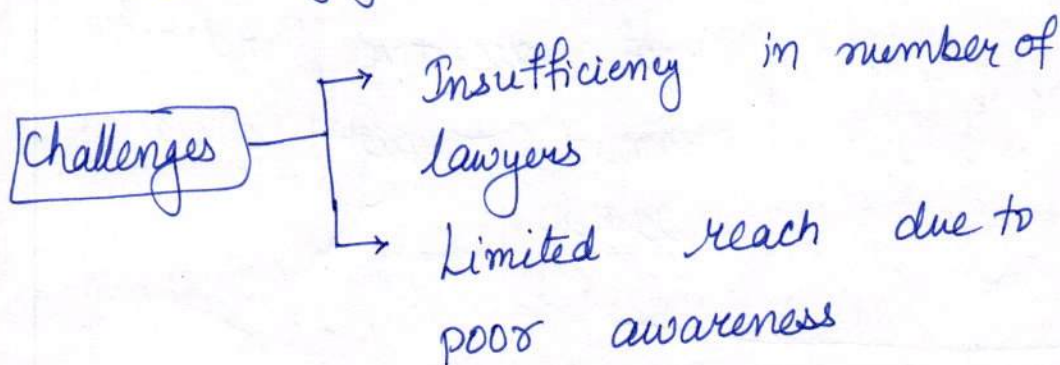
(2). Legal help to victims facing caste-atrocities or social exclusion
↳ Enables implementation of SC/ST Act 1989

(3). Promotion of constitutional rights by advancing causes of women, industrial workmen, senior citizens, etc.

(4). Facilitates mediation and other ~~alternative~~ dispute resolution.

↳ saves the litigation burden as well as time and cost of parties

(5). Promote legal awareness and local bodies dispute resolution
e.g. Nyaya Panchayat.



DLSA's capacity - augmentation can ensure that justice reaches every nook and corner of society as injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.

4.

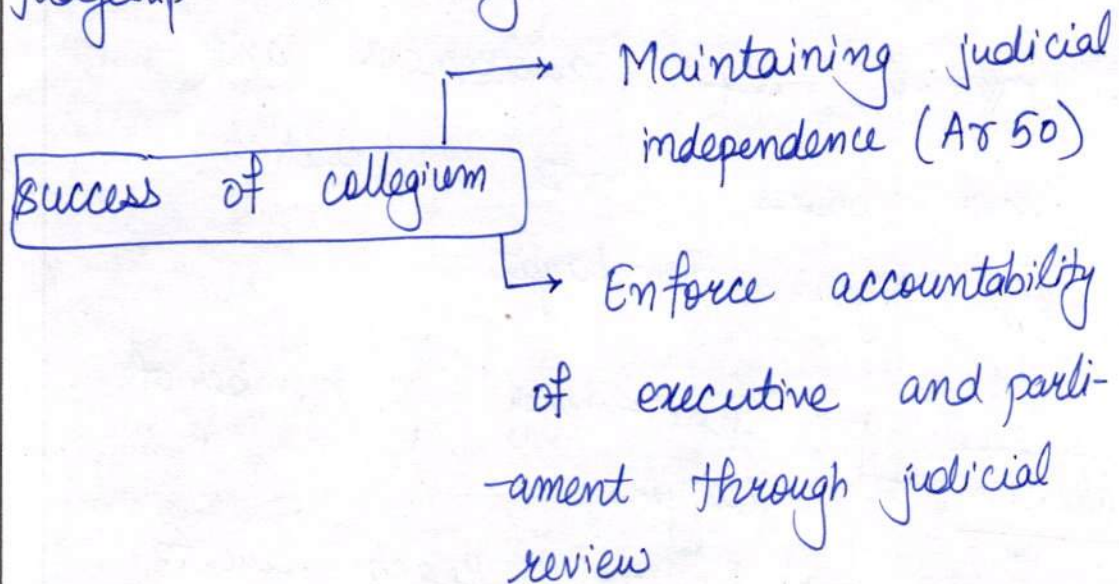
"कुछ लोगों के हाथों में शक्ति के सँकेंद्रण के कारण, कॉलेजियम प्रणाली अपनी ही सफलता का शिकार हो गई है, जिससे इसकी वैधता पर सवाल उठने लगे हैं।" टिप्पणी कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

"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

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

Collegium is an extra-constitutional body which came into existence after 2nd judges case and recommends judgeship in higher courts.



Legitimacy questions

(1). It is an extra-constitutional body which raises the existentialist question.

- (2). Phenomenon of judges appointing judges → uncle judge syndrome
- (3). Lack of transparency in selection process. (Not under RTI)
- (4). Collegium stops functioning before 1 month of retirement of CJI → Affects judicial vacancies and justice delivery.
- (5). The confrontation between executive and judiciary over delays → In PLR project vs Mahamadi Coal field, SC has directed that approval should be given within few weeks

Suggestions

- Reform the NJAC bill by giving judicial members majority in commission
- collegium can involve outside members to ensure transparency

Collegium system reforms requires a consensus-based approach so as to ensure transparency without diluting judicial credibility.

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

Civil services represent the permanent executive and implement the policy decisions of political executive.

Reforms in recruitment and training

(1). Lateral entry (Basswan committee) to bring efficiency and public-orientedness.

(2). Training needs to build a culture of service rather than elitism to curb bureaucratic apathy.

(3). Use of psychometric tests, lower age in recruitment to ensure public-spirited bureaucracy.

Beyond these domains

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

- (1). Performance Appraisal: Replace Annual confidential report by Multi-Stakeholder feedback.
- (2). Merit rather than experience should be the basis of promotion.
- (3). Replace the carrot-stick policy of political whims ~~reg~~ Resolving 'plum-posting' issue by giving transfer powers to multi-member bodies like Civil Services Board.
- (4). Effective enforcement of Ar 311 to ensure non-genuine officers are not shielded ~~reg~~ Govt. forcibly retiring 16 IRS officers facing corruption charges.
- (5). Facilitate innovation by suitably rewarding risk-taking approach.

Civil Services are the steel-frame of nation and institutional reforms are pre-requisite of nation building.

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

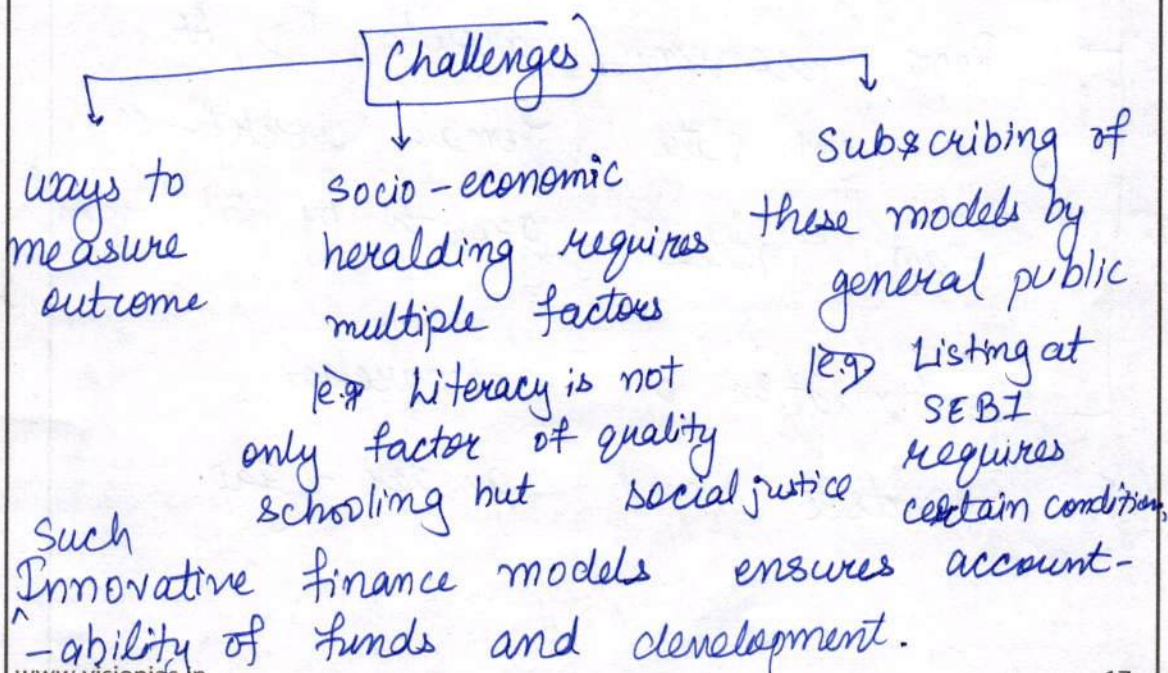
Conversion of outlays into outcomes
can deliver the much needed socio-economic good.

eg outlay → Funds under PM Kaushal Vikas
↓
output → 16,000 Skill training centres
↓
outcome → Greater upskilling, recognition of prior learning, employability increment

Potential of outcome-based finance models

(1). Prudent measure to evaluate schemes and course-correction if needed eg Social impact bonds for tribal livelihood outcomes.

- (2). Facilitates greater coordination among different institutions to catalyze change ~~egs~~ Local bodies revamping the waste collection and treatment process
- (3). It can provide the local bodies much needed funding → Greater adaptation of local SDGs ~~egs~~ Navratna project - Andhra
- (4). Social impact bonds can ensure women empowerment → SHGs can raise the required finance.



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

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

Females comprises $\sim 48\%$ of graduates from Higher education institution but female labour force participation rate is $\sim 31\%$. (PLFS 2021 data).

Impact of this gap

- India not able to harness demographic dividend
- Poor economic growth $\rightarrow$ As per govt. data, female workforce can increase growth by 1.3% / annum
- Continuation of patriarchal mindset and gender-gap.

The lower participation rate is also due to unaccounted female workforce in care economy, domestic work, etc.

उम्मीदवारों को इस कक्ष में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Measures

- (1). Build clear statistical model & ensure definite data collection.
- (2). Formalization of care economy ~~for~~ Potential of adding 300 mn jobs
- (3). Shunning the patriarchy ~~for~~ Notions like no need of second income.
- (4). Enforce Child marriage act (164% rise in 2020 from 2015) to delay dropouts due to pregnancy
- (5). Promote gender-sensitive work environment
 - ↳ Gig economy, Work from Home
 - ↳ Creche facility

To harness the boons of demographic dividend and greater gender parity, economic liberation of women is a must.

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

Civil Registration System maintains the data of birth rate, death rate, migrations, etc.

Significance of CRS

(1). Studying demographic attributes

↳ Enables evidence-based policy making

eg. 20% elderly population by 2050 (UNFPA data)

(2). Targeted interventions for social problems like meta-son preference

eg. Though sex ratio is 1020:1000, child sex ratio at birth is 929:1000 (NFHS-5)

- (3). It enables a robust mechanism for data collection → Creates a mechanism to cross-check data of surveys, polls, etc.
- (4). It will help in creating ^{other} databases like NPR, socio-economic caste census, etc.
- (5). Timely health interventions → Family planning methods, Poshan-vatikas development for countering nutritional deficiency resulting in MMR, Infant mortality.

Due to these aforementioned significance, recent government push in revampings CRS augurs well for data-led governance

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

IMF is a bretton-woods institution aiming for economic stability of nations as well as global economic order.

IMF ~~about~~ reform areas

(1). The loan-sanctioning process ~~is~~

Despite SL repeated requests and early guarantee by India there were delays in aid package.

(2). Conditionalities of IMF ~~is~~ Imposition of western ideals of greater market access, liberalization and privatization

(3). Bilateral debt management ~~is~~ Chinese debt trap diplomacy causing

Balance of Payment crisis

- (4). Greater voice to emerging economies and reflecting current economic realities eg Paris Club needs to include members like India
- (5). New developments of climate finance
↳ Facilitating grant-based loans and financial aid.
- (6). Devolution of quotas held by US and western powers → Democratic control of institutions.
- (7). Progressive instruments ~~provision~~ like Debt swaps for climate

The world today faces the trilemma of transitioning to low carbon economy, development and managing the already incurred debt burden. Reforms in EMS can oil the wheels of such global south economies.

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 and west Asia share the civilizational links and historical ties.

India's relationship has seen the evolution towards geoeconomics.

Earlier confines of geopolitics

- (1). India following the hyphenated policy with respect to Israel-Palestine.
- (2). India was less assertive in its relationship with Iran-UAE-S. Arab.

Expanse of geoeconomics

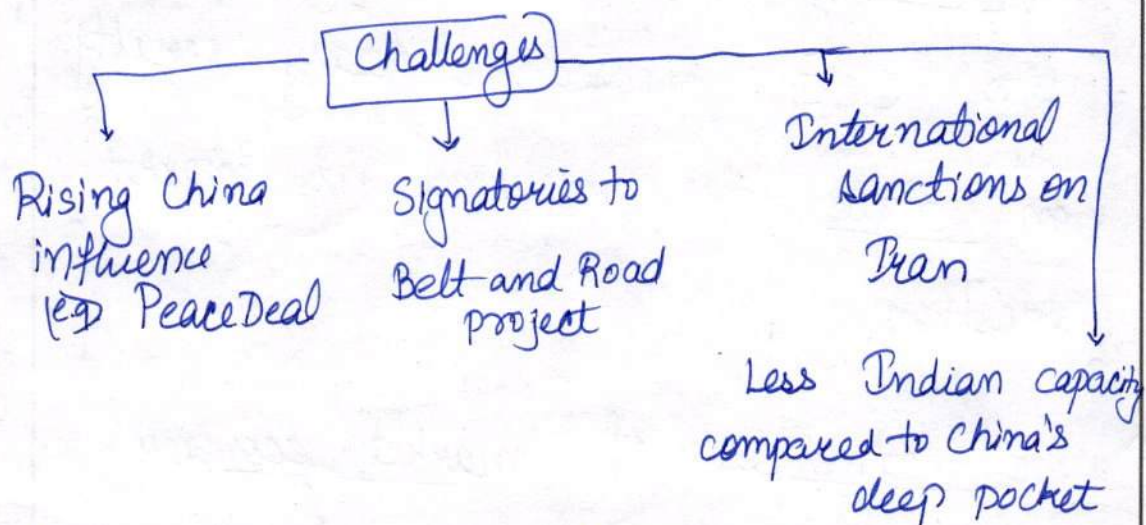
- (1). Economic aid and disaster diplomacy i.e. operation Dost
- (2). India signing new economic agreements for greater integration of economy,

labour, capital ~~eg~~ CEPA India - UAE 2022

(3). IDUA involves collaboration in
agriculture and economic domain ~~eg~~
Food parks, desalination plants

(4). India taking the lead in infrastructural
projects and grants / low credit rate loans
~~eg~~ India joined ^{Asghabek Agreement} ~~Chabahar~~ ;
Developing Chabahar port

(5). India pushing for greater FDI
from sovereign wealth funds of S. Arab,
UAE.



The Abraham accords, Peace deal have signalled
a long-awaited peace in west asia. It
poses plethora of opportunities along geoeco-
nomics to strengthen the ties

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

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

Competition act, 2002 created the
statutory body CCI to ensure
a fair market.

Role of Competition Commission of
India

(1). Watchdog of weaker players
e.g. CCI imposed a heavy penalty
on Google for misusing its market
position.

(2). Effectiveness of market economy
e.g. CCI imposed a hefty fine
on cement cartel

(3). Healthy competition objective →

CCI organizes awareness camps and
invites complaints to ensure such status

(4). Works as National Anti-Profiteering
watchdog ^(AST) to augment effectiveness.

(5). Inspires innovation by small players
especially domestic weaker sections by
upholding the fair economy
↳ suo-motu powers

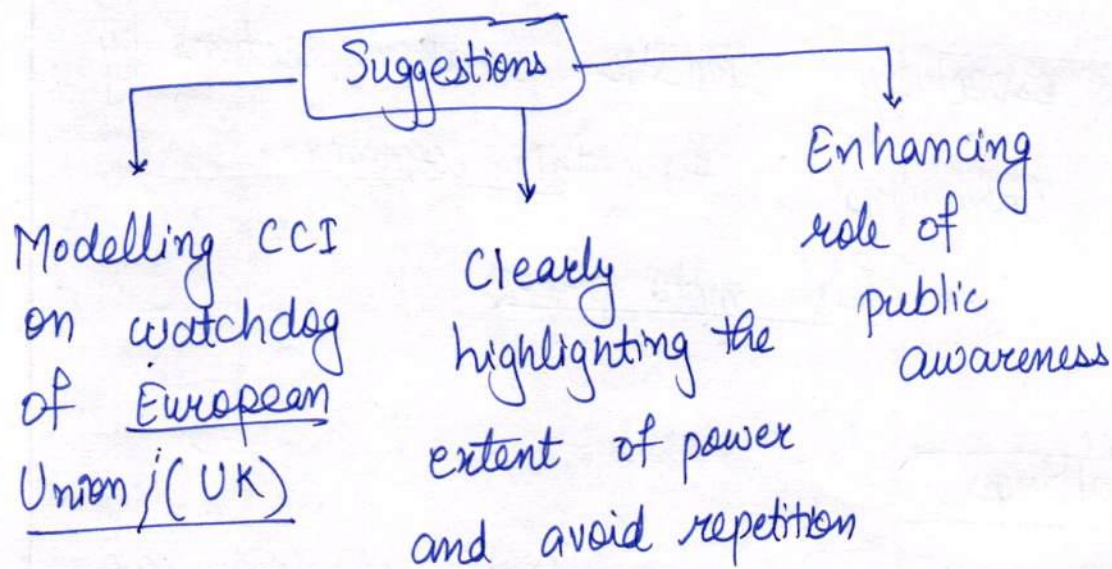
Challenges

(a). Dominant executive shadow can
undermine the institutional
independence

(b). CCI role has not gone ahead of

imposing fines $\rightarrow$ Minimal role
in bank merger approvals despite
legal backing.

(b). Limited jurisdiction on ground due
to presence of other watchdogs
like SEBI.



CCI is an essential agency to
ensure that 'invisible hand' of market
genuinely inspires innovation and public
welfare.

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

Election Commission of India (Art. 324)

has recommended that paid news be included in scheduled offences under RPA Act, 1951.

Impact of Paid News

- (1). Menace of Post-Truth : Reduces the accountability of political players.
- (2). Hinders free and fair elections → Part of basic structure (Kihoto Hollohan vs Zachillu) e.g. Cambridge Analytica case
- (3). It can lead to status-quo by

promoting the interests of party
in power ~~leg~~ Scandal in US where
paid news propagated Trump's
candidature.

(4). Widening the faultlines: It can
deepen the cleavages along caste,
religion, region lines.

(5). Paid news results in 'manufactured
consent': Skewed results in elections

Suggestions

(1). Paid news to be made an
electoral offence.

(2). sec. 126 of RPA should include

print media which bans publishing of ads by political parties 48 hours before voting.

(3). Independent unit to curb fake news, paid news (eg) PIB fact check unit

(4). Yellow journalism needs to be suppressed through journalism ethics, statutory punishing powers to press council of India, Editor's Guild, etc.

(5). Differentiating the mainstream media and social media

A free and fair elections is vital for an effective democracy and representation of popular sovereignty in true meaning.

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

Doctrine of Essentiality' (DoE) ~~was~~ was propounded by SC in Shirur Math case to distinguish the essential religious practices and customary practices.

Significance of DoE

- (1). Cultivates constitutional morality instead of customary morality
e.g. In Shamim Ara case, SC declared triple talag as not an essential practice.
- (2). Ensures that Indian model of

secularism does not promote gender discrimination eg Inheritance rights for women

(3). Balances individual rights and (Ar 25) collective (Ar 26) rights

eg In Sabrimati case, SC allowed entry of women.

Challenges

(1). SC is not a religious body.

Determining what constitutes essential practice may violate freedom of religion.

(2). It can have a spill-over effect
eg. Furor over Hijab ban → can lead to dropouts by female

(3). Minority apprehensions : Transgressing of SC in religious domain might come as imposition of majority value system.

(4) Doctrine of essentiality itself is vague and can invite unnecessary discretion eg Paper thin majority in verdicts
Split judgements

The doctrine has ensured that Constitution remains supremum. But it is vital to embark upon a consensus - pathway regarding such grey areas.

14.

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

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

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

15

The report formulated by EAC-PM and chaired by Bibek Debroy argued for cutting the size of government.

Need to limit the size

- (1). Top-heavy bureaucracy : Limited contact with groundworks, symbolise heavy-tower bureaucracy
- (2) Financial drain of public resources
- (3). Excessive presence of government can hamper the innovation and autonomy Try Make in India 2.0

envisioning a public-sector free non-strategic area and limited presence (1 to 4) in non-strategic.

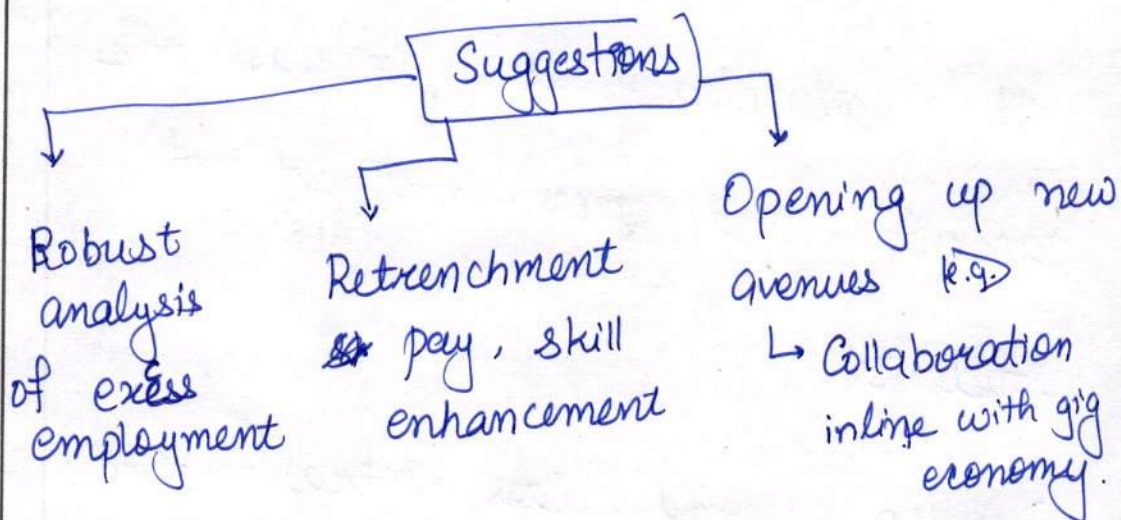
(4). Unnecessary big size tends to breed poor work ethics → delays, corruption.

(5). Idea of "Minimum government, Maximum governance". → facilitator role

However, arbitrarily cutting down the size can defeat the process.

↳ The huge size of government ensures greater employment to masses → social security

- Automation certainly will cut down the jobs in short-term - 20% of job loss in IT sector (NASSCOM data)
- Public sector will act as a cushion.
- The diversified domains of governance requires greater diversity among government servants, hence, the big size.



Cutting down the size can increase efficiency but not necessarily effectiveness.
Due diligence is the need of hour. Thoreau -
"That govt. is best, which does not govern at all."

15.

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

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

15

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

Institutions of Eminence scheme

provides 100 crore to selected

institutions (equal ^{number-} public and private) for

5 years.

Conceived to develop world class centres

(1). It attempted to increase the capacity and gross-enrollment of (GER) students.

(2). Develop world class infrastructure
↳ Research laboratories, Experimentation cells, smart classrooms.

(3). Increase the research output and take 'First Movers' advantage in cutting-edge technologies.

(4). Quality education to students → Higher employability; knowledge economy

Shortcomings - yet to become game changer

(1). 45% of graduates unemployable (India Skills Report)

(2). Limited spending on research and development (0.7% GDP) → Less number of citations

(3). No Indian university/college in top 100 QS world rankings

(4). Stagnant GER at 26-28%.

Suggestions

उम्मीदवारों को
इस लिखित में
नहीं लिखना
चाहिए
Candidates
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write on
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(1). Upfront financial support without delays to ensure continuity.

(2). Filling the vacancies, increase student-teacher ratio, accredited courses → only 26% ^{universities} courses are accredited (NAAC 2021 report)

(3). Research and development requires significant investment and has gestation period → SAMAVESH portal
National Research Foundation is a welcome step.

DOE scheme had limitations (even its coverage was mainly IITs, engineering colleges, etc.)
Comprehensive restructuring of it is the way ahead.

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

Digital Public Infrastructure refers to the backbone of digital economy that ensures digital provisioning of public goods.

Significance of DPI

- (1). Reaching the last mile. ~~eg~~
 CoWIN app has ensured the vaccination of even the remotest village
- (2). Increasing efficiency and innovative public service delivery ~~eg~~ DigitalLocker services

(3). Facilitate convenience and ease-of- doing business e.g UPI revolutionizing the digital payments

(4). Overcome inclusion , accessibility barriers e.g ONDC promises to break e-commerce companies hegemony

(5). Increase transparency and accountability e.g RBI ombudsman ; PRAGATI portal for monitoring

(6). Evidence -based policy making e.g UDISE + data ; DIKSHA app based on NDEAR platform.

Challenges

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

- (1). Digital divide $\rightarrow$ $\frac{1}{3}^{\text{rd}}$ of rural people have access to internet compared to $\frac{2}{3}^{\text{rd}}$ in urban.
- (2). Gender barrier - 31% women have access to internet as compared to 59% of men (NFHS-5)
- (3). Surveillance state threat $\rightarrow$ Huge public data and its misuse can violate privacy rights (Puttaswamy case)
- (4). Ineffective cybersecurity framework
e.g. Recent cyberattack on AIIMS Delhi,
Alleged leak of Aadhar data

DPI has enabled democracy to uplift to a higher pedestal. It should also imbibe the unaccounted segments of society to herald good governance

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 Bandhua Mukti Morcha vs UoI
SC declared Right to health is a
fundamental right.

Need of legislation 'Right To Health'

- It will correct the inclusion-exclusion error in health schemes
- similar to RTE Act - 2009, it will promote health equity and reduced disability-adjusted life years.
- legislation will accord the statutory backing and is the first step for embarking upon Health for all.

Need to fill gaps

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

• Infrastructural :

- Only 37% rural areas have access to in-patient ^{health} service within 5 kms
- 60% of hospitals, 75% dispensaries in urban area
- The 22 AIIMS under PM Swastha Suraksha Yojana are still not operational
- Low doctor: patient ratio (1 : 1405)

• Financial :

- High out-of-pocket expenditure (48.1%)
- Low insurance penetration → 'Missing Middle'

• Social :

- Health inequity due to social disabilities of gender, caste, etc.
- 'Mental health' remains a taboo (0.75 psychologist per lakh)

Suggestions

- (1). Right to health act as done in Rajasthan.
- (2). Insurance coverage of middle class.
Near universalization of PM - Ayushman
Bharat can ensure inclusivity
- (3). Digital health infrastructure →
complements scheme like Tele - Manas,
e Sanjeevani
- (4). Social awareness → Nudging
towards WASH measures

Right to Health for all can improve
the health attributes of demography,
save families from poverty and increase
productivity.

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

SC in NALSA vs UOI recognized the third gender embarking upon gender-inclusive society. Parliament has enacted Transgender Act but still they face social alienation.

Third gender not engendered in society

(1). Backlash from traditional societal elements e.g. opposition against recognition of same sex marriage

(2). Prevalent prejudices, biases against third gender

- Thinking it as a mental problem
- forced conversion therapy

(3). Discrimination in occupational ecosystem eg SC rebuking the govt. concern on open status of a gay lawyer

(4). Societal alienation of third gender eg. Disproportionate share of them in begging.

Measures

(1) Legislative nudge needs to be implemented on-ground eg. SMILE scheme

(2). Gender-sensitive nudging through progressive education in early age itself.

- (3). Institutional nudging eg 1% horizontal reservation to transgenders in Karnataka
- (4). legal obligations like punishment for discrimination eg Anti social boycott act in Maharashtra
- (5). Behavioural awareness through media campaigns, public rallies, greater political will.

Societal acceptance can fulfill the mandate of legislative nudging and ensure doctrine of progressive realization of rights (Navtej Johar case). It requires the aforementioned multi-faceted approach.

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 खंड में नहीं लिखना चाहिए।
Candidates must not write on this margin

SCO is a regional intergovernmental organization to promote cooperation, collaboration and coordination among Asian nations.

Indian expectations

- (1). A platform for dialogue to resolve bilateral and multilateral issues.
- (2). Countering terrorism e.g. RATS mechanism
- (3). Greater regional integration to usher in a new era of development. e.g. Chabahar port

(4). Energy security of nation $\rightarrow$
TAPI pipeline

(5). Supply chain resilience $\rightarrow$ central asian
republics hold vast reserves of minerals

Difficulty due to strained ties

• China:

(1). Hegemony of china in SCO
membership $\rightarrow$ west perceive it as a
pro-china platform

(2). China advancing its Belt and
Road initiative (all members except
India are signatory) $\rightarrow$ BRI violates
Indian sovereignty

(3). China's incursion and disproportionate
influence in other nations foreign policies.

• Pakistan:

- Blockage of TAPI pipeline
 - Does not allow passage to central asia
 - 'Thousand cuts' strategy
- The emerging Iran-China-Pak nexus and greater Russia-China engagement.

Measures

- Trust building with members e.g. India can engage central asia which shares "mohalla - culture" similar to panchayat
- Geo-economic diplomacy to counter policies like debt trap diplomacy
- Greater diplomatic assertion and dialogue to resolve disputes.

India hosted the 2023 SCO summit indicating its significance of its presence. Global powers need to come on-board to counter global challenges like terrorism.

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)

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Once called 'estranged democracies' have heralded the bilateral relationship through greater collaboration, iCET being one of the prime example.

iCET promising technological partnership transformation

(1). Strengthens the collaboration by acting upon the promises made
eg F-414 engine technology transfer

(2). Mutual prosperity : India has the skilled workforce in technologies like semiconductors while US has

the designing capabilities

(3). It will enable joint development of projects and new research outputs on critical technologies

e.g. NISAR mission.

(4). The greater technological transformation will stabilize the geo-politics hotbed and counter revisionist tendencies of China.

(5). Greater supply chain resilience - India has 4th largest rare earth minerals reserves and US has the relevant technology.

Challenges

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- (1). US Carrot-stick approach → Incentivizing tech-sharing to bring India in its fold (grouping).
- (2). USA not including India into Mineral Strategic Partnership despite India's assertive interest.
- (3). Comparatively nascent stage with respect to Anglo-Saxon diplomacy e.g. AUKUS deal.

US has to realize that India is not a bandwagoning state and prioritizes strategic autonomy. The pacts like COMCASA, BECA have laid the foundation for ICE7 to unleash the potential of this "new era of partnership".

SPACE FOR ROUGH WORK

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