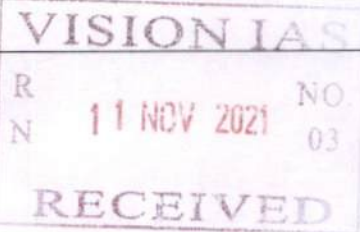




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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1514)

Name of Candidate	Parth Gupta		
Medium Eng./Hindi	Eng	Registration Number	122026
Center	ORN	Date	10/11/21

INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTIONS
Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained	
1	10		1. 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)। 2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं। 3. All questions are compulsory. सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं। 4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं। 5. 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। 6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए। 7. 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।
2	10		
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Total Marks Obtained:			
Remarks:			

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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।

National Capital Territory of Delhi act 2021 has raised questions regarding federal structure of India.

Provisions

- i) Government of NCT of Delhi would imply It Governor of Delhi.
- ii) Executive action only after prior sanction of Lt. Governor.
- iii) LG won't assent or pass to President bills out of purview of Delhi legislature.
- iv) Legislative assembly can't frame rules to conduct enquiry into day-to-day, administrative issues.

Issues

Though act tries to streamline the administration in Delhi and create less scope for centre-UT conflict, there are issues:-

- i) It is against SC judgement which said,

LG to act on aid and advice of Council of Ministers, and present to President only those bills which actually need his/her consent.

It goes against spirit of representative democracy and federalism which are basic features of Constitution. Hence the bill ~~is~~ act should be amended by taking concerns of delhi government into consideration.

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 is punished under section 124 A of Indian Penal Code and is seen ~~cited as~~ a reasonable restriction under article 19(2), to freedom of speech.

Yes - Continue sedition	No - discontinue it
i) <u>Diversity of India</u> can lead to alienation of one section by provocative speeches of other. ii) It <u>causes distrust</u> in government. iii) Surrounded by <u>hostile neighbours</u> who use <u>asymmetric warfare</u> to weaken India. iv) SC in Kedarnath case upheld sedition to be Constitutionally valid	i) It is a colonial law ii) <u>Frequently misused</u> to curb dissent. iii) Most of the liberal democracies have <u>abolished it</u>. iv) It <u>can alienate</u> one section and further <u>create distrust</u>. v) Global treaties like ICCPR don't support Sedition law.

However considering the unique societal, developmental and external challenges, we need to continue sedition law but use it sparingly as told in Kedarnath judgement i.e., only when there is direct incitement or threat of violence.

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 crucial for healthy legislative and democratic setup. eg, Public Accounts Committee.

Reasons for their decline

- i) less bills referred to parliamentary Committees. In 17th Lok Sabha no bill sent to them till now, while in 16th Lok Sabha it was only 25%.
- ii) lack of adequate technical and research staff with members.
- iii) 1 year membership - by the time members gain knowledge, their term in committee ends.
- iv) Partisan politics happening within Committees.
- v) less attendance by members.
- vi) Committees met less frequently during Covid pandemic.

Remedies :

- i) Experts suggest the term of committees be increased to 2 years.
- ii) More research staff with MPs.
- iii) Minimum attendance, no. of meetings for committees.
- iv) Reduce ministers' presence to minimal and only when absolutely necessary.
- v) Non-partisan speaker can ensure that committees keep away their party politics.

The committees are soul of parliament and should be reformed.

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~~ Indian political system is Parliamentary system where Prime Minister yields significant influence and PMO becomes Key decision making centre.

Advantages

- i) It ensures faster decision making as key insights, advisers are available in 1 place like Principal secretary, NSA etc.
- ii) It ensures close monitoring of initiatives eg., via Pragati platform.
- iii) Strategic decisions can be taken quickly like use of nuclear weapons etc.
- iv) It instills confidence in economy as more reform oriented, risk taking.

Issues

- i) Can affect the balance of powers among

different organs of state.

- ii) Has emerged as a super-cabinet.
- iii) Doesn't suit the democratic, representative system of government.
- iv) More control with Bureaucrats.
- v) Cabinet Secretary's powers get curbed.

Despite these issues PMO is crucial for the efficiency it offers, but by reforming it, we can ensure 'Minimum government Maximum Governance'.

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 has a huge role to play in governance of a vast and diverse country as India.

Data with government

<u>Surveys</u> - NFHS - Census etc	<u>Institutions</u> - School data - Hospitals
<u>Administrative</u> - Employees, Office, lands.	<u>Transactions</u> Tax, bills etc

Role of data

- i) It improves efficiency of service delivery
eg., through DBT, leakages were plugged.
- ii) It provides comprehensive information for better decision making eg., in disaster response to Fani cyclone.
- iii) Prioritisation of resources to most critical projects.
- iv) Better access to government services
eg., e-advisories, e-response to RTI.

v) Transparent data disclosure builds social accountability.

vi) Open data can help innovations as in Smart India Hackathons.

There are various challenges like lack of adequate infrastructure; inadequate quality of collected data and its lack of interoperability; issues concerning privacy and data security etc.

Remedies exist in having ① Context specific plans ② Creating robust infrastructure ③ Real time collection ④ Training of resources ⑤ Investing in data security ⑥ framing data privacy law.

This will ensure truly digital India.

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।

The last few decades have seen the rise of new civil society in urban areas.

Factors

- i) Rise in urban population and migration led to more issues in urban areas, which needed new civil society.
- ii) Global integration led to global civil society groups emerging in urban India like Greenpeace.
- iii) Growing concerns over emerging issues on environment. eg, Centre for Science and Environment.
- iv) Social media and internet based civil society groups asking for public participation eg, Janagraha, Ichangemycity, change.org.

Importance

Apart from increasing public conscience and participation, these are helping in policy reforms too:

- CSE report on delhi pollution led to steps like Odd-even, stubble burning ban.
- Janagraha's concept of My city My budget implemented in Pune.
- Drawing attention to key issues like those of divyangs.

Hence CSOs are 4th pillar of strong democracies and should be strengthened through greater participation.

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।

PM Gati Shakti Mission is ~~embellish~~ the logistics investment scheme which aims to address various bottlenecks to reduce India's logistics cost from 14%.

Scheme

- i) Central, ^{IT-based} platform to bring key ministries and departments in 1 place and see progress on projects. Thus, the issue of delays due to lack of communication between department will be addressed.
- ii) It focusses on creation of roads, railways, electricity, ports etc which will fill the infrastructure gaps.
- iii) It aims to involve private players through PPPs.

~~Because of these reasons,~~
iv) It aims for multimodal infrastructure planning and development and last-mile connectivity, both of which have been lacking in present infra design and planning.

Hence the scheme is a game-changer and will put India in the centre of global value chains leading to Atma nirbhar Bharat.

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।

More than 82% of India's workforce is in informal sector.

Issues by Informal workers

- i) low productivity due to lack of enough training, skill development by employers.
- ii) No social security benefits, job security.
- iii) Poor working conditions and exploitation.
- iv) Seasonality of jobs - in agriculture.
- v) Not registered, recognised in many schemes

However the recent SBA report points to increased formalisation due to usage of KCC cards, registration on e-SHRAM portal, benefits like ONORC etc.

e-SHRAM portal registers the informal workers across India and these can be provided social security benefits, adequate workplace protections, help in getting jobs by government.

However, there is need for more initiative from the employers, fixing of national minimum wage and adequate enforcement mechanism.

While e-SHRAM portal is a ~~an~~ good initiative, informal sector needs more multi-faceted reforms.

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।

Recent G7 deal on global minimum tax of ~~15%~~ 15% showed global consensus among key economies on tax reforms.

Importance

Major MNCs shift their profits to low tax jurisdictions thus affecting the tax income of source countries. Because of this, many MNCs had their bases in tax havens like Ireland.

Prospects for India

- i) Many MNCs operating in India would be willing to pay more taxes.
- ii) less tax disputes.
- iii) The minimum tax rate of 15% is same as the rate on new manufacturing firms.
- Thus there is no incentive to transfer income.
- iv) Increase tax-to-GDP ratio

Challenges

- i) Very few countries have signed it.
- ii) Tax on existing players is 22%, much high than 15% global rate.
- iii) Assessing income earned in a country is tricky - either market presence or based on sales or on operations.

Hence India needs more consultations on issue in G20 to address the challenges.

10. Announcement of the AUKUS security pact heralds a new era of global geopolitics. 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।

AUKUS is a security alliance between Australia, UK and USA.

Importance - It shows greater resolve of US and her allies to combine strength and safeguard Indo-Pacific from Aggressive China.

Also, it ~~shows~~ marks complete breach of Australia-China relations, and ^{trade} opportunities for other players like India.

India's interests in region:

- i) AUKUS will complement Quad in stabilising regional balance of power. However, concerns of militarisation of Indian Ocean region need to be addressed.
- ii) Shows US' growing involvement in Indo-Pacific and that underlines the significant

role India will play in US' foreign policy.

iii) China becoming more aggressive. Seen in the flights over Taiwan.

iv) ASEAN under pressure as pro-China and pro-US countries unable to bring consensus. ASEAN centrality in Indo-Pacific under threat.

Hence while AUKUS definitely adds to India's strength, the concerns must be addressed to fully reap the benefits.

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।

Panchayati Raj institutions are provided in Indian Constitution Part IX through the 73rd amendment act. Despite considerable powers to PRGs, they are unable to fulfil their constitutional duties due to lack of finances.

Importance of effective financial devolution

- i) It makes the PRGs plan their expenses properly in a timely manner. They can have annual plans, GRDPs with better insights.
- ii) Improves the technical capabilities at PRGs eg., with better finance they can use services of private players.
- iii) It creates better infra for PRGs eg., digital connectivity, panchayat office etc.

- iv) By devolving to panchayats and making them pay ground level staff, convergence in schemes can be brought. eg., ASHAs can be paid for ~~NNM~~, Poshan abhiyan, institutional deliveries etc.
- v) It leads to better people-government linkage. People see the outcome of their tax payments and feel empowered to demand better services.
- vi) Efficient implementation of govt. schemes.
- vii) Reasons for lack of financial resources
- i) States don't follow the recommendations of State Finance Commissions. In many states, SFCs are n't constituted regularly.
 - ii) Financial devolution ^{power} to PRGs under Part IX of constitution is very less and subject to state legislatures.
 - iii) Many of the funds to PRGs are attached to schemes offering less room for context specific use.

iv) PRGs not ready to raise their own resources due to local political economy.
eg., taxing locals can cost them votes.

That's why PRGs in India raise amongst lowest resources on their own globally.

v) Finance Commission of India gives less emphasis to grants for 3rd tier, especially PRGs.

It is therefore important for us to rectify this issue and create more channels for funds to PRGs, by promoting SFCs, CSR etc. This will go in making a strong rural foundation of participative governance.

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।

Indian political structure is based on balance of powers and separation of powers between the 3 main pillars - Judiciary, legislative and Executive.

Recent instances of executive excesses like overuse of UAPA to curb dissent, concerns over people's privacy raised during Pegasus issue saw judicial activism.

~~Also various legislative adventurist steps like Aadhaar bill were addressed by Judiciary~~
[Guard Against Executive excesses]

Judiciary has powers under article 142 to decide on any matter to do full justice. Using this and through hearing of PGLs Judiciary has tried to curb executive excesses.

- i) Ban on firecrackers in NCR during Diwali.
- ii) Issue of Jail v/s bail in case of drug abuse.

- iii) Excessive use of UAPA, like in case of SC lawyers protesting against violence in Tripura.
- iv) Ordering enquiry into Pegasus issue.
- v) Setting up a new panel for inquiries into violence in farmers' protest in Jharkhand Kheri.
- vi) Questioning the fake encounters. eg., recent Edsmetta encounter report.

Guard Against legislative Adventurism

- i) Striking out the undesirable provisions of Aadhaar act.
- ii) Questioning overuse of ordinance route as in Cooper case.
- iii) Framing of Vishakha guidelines by SC.

Limitations

While article 50 guarantees Independence of Judiciary, it doesn't have power to take their powers, which can lead to Judicial overreach.

Secondly, huge backlog of cases and lack of technical expertise on matters of executive and legislative can affect the capacity for Judicial

activism .

Thirdly, it is top-down approach, not accepted in many cases. eg., Talikattu ban, firecracker ban.

Fourthly, it can cause undue interferences into religions. eg., Sabarimala issue.

Hence while Judiciary as guardian of constitutional values must strive for activism, it needs to balance it with due consideration to other organs and ground realities.

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 प्रतीत होती है। समालोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Electoral bonds are a mechanism for digitally funding political parties, aimed to increase transparency in political funding.

Under the scheme, individuals buy electoral bonds from SBG branch and give in the name for their choice of party and give ~~it to~~ them to the party which then gets in their account.

While it was to increase transparency and reduce vendetta politics it is seen otherwise:

- i) More than 95% of funds are given to ruling party.
- ii) Majority funds are multiples of 1 crore, 10 crore etc indicating big donors.
- iii) Ruling party can get information on donors through SBG, which is otherwise restricted under RTI.
- iv) More electoral bonds in election bound states.

Some political observers see this as part of weakening transparency and accountability in electoral funding:

- i) Allowing foreign players with Indian offices to fund political parties from retrospective effect.
- ii) Removal of ~~2%~~ limit of ^{7.5} 2% of profit on political donations for corporates.
- iii) Instances of crony capitalism - disclosed in Pandorra papers.
- iv) Expenses in social media campaigns are not disclosed fully.
- v) Hiring of agencies like Cambridge Analytica to change public opinion.
- vi) ~~Reforms~~ Reforms in RTI act reducing the powers of CIC, SACs.

How It is because of this reason ECJ has recommended removal of electoral bonds or disclosing identity of donors.

However, there are trends towards increasing transparency too. Reducing limit of cash donation to ₹ 2000/-, SC order on disclosure of assets of candidates & their relatives, civil society groups like ADR etc.

These trends need to be strengthened by reforming the electoral bond process and creating further reforms that ensure 'free and fair elections' in India.

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

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

Principle of Subsidiarity is basis for good governance and healthy democracy.
It ^{significance} was displayed effectively in dealing with Covid pandemic.

Subsidiarity and Pandemic

Detection and Containment

Local level initiatives helped in swift containment of disease. Bhilwara model became the template for other places. Later in 2nd wave, containment zones were decided locally, as 1st wave lockdown had created economic challenges nationwide.

Treatment facilities

Local administration ~~was~~ engaged civil society, private players, army hospitals, religious organisations to provide treatment and isolation facilities for positive cases.

Migrant crisis

It was handled largely by local admin by providing emergency supplies, arranging for transports etc.

Vulnerable sections

local administration took steps to curb disease in slums, high density areas. eg., Mumbai model.

Economic recovery

It was also helped by local administration by allowing phasewise opening, persistent testing etc.

Oxygen support created by local administration. Vaccination strategy was context specific.

The principle of subsidiarity, which believes in giving more responsibility to local level admin, helped in ensuring timely, robust and effective response to pandemic and saving of many lives.

Pandemic thus served as a lesson for
us to strengthen our third tier of governance
and engage more stakeholders with it.

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।

Instances of viral videos showing misuse of power by public servants show the ~~for~~ importance of social media in holding them accountable.

Social Media and Transparency and Accountability

i) Social media with its wide outreach, speed and acceptance among public makes it effective tool.

ii) Since it is not controlled by any individual or organisation, anyone can post any complaint in it.

iii) Government cares for its image on social media, and thus actively monitors grievances.

iv) Many public offices regularly interact with users over social media.

Because of these reasons, social media has emerged as arena of protests like #metoo, farmers' protests etc. Many reports and instances of corruption are made on social media.

No alternative to Institutional Accountability

Despite these advantages, it doesn't replace importance of institutional accountability.

~~It~~ The latter is important because,

- i) limited access to social media, especially among vulnerable groups like tribals, women, elderly etc.
- ii) It builds trust among citizens and a sense of duty in institutions eg, as done by Citizens' charter.
- iii) It leads to institutions investing in building capability of workforce.
- iv) Social media posts don't necessarily go viral and may not be followed up. But 'institutional arrangements ensure due justice'.

Hence as part of Sevottam model by giving citizens charter, trained workforce, grievance redressal facility, we ensure good governance and public service delivery.

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।

Indian state is a welfare state ~~under~~ as per DPSPs and strives to ensure quality public services, despite limited means.

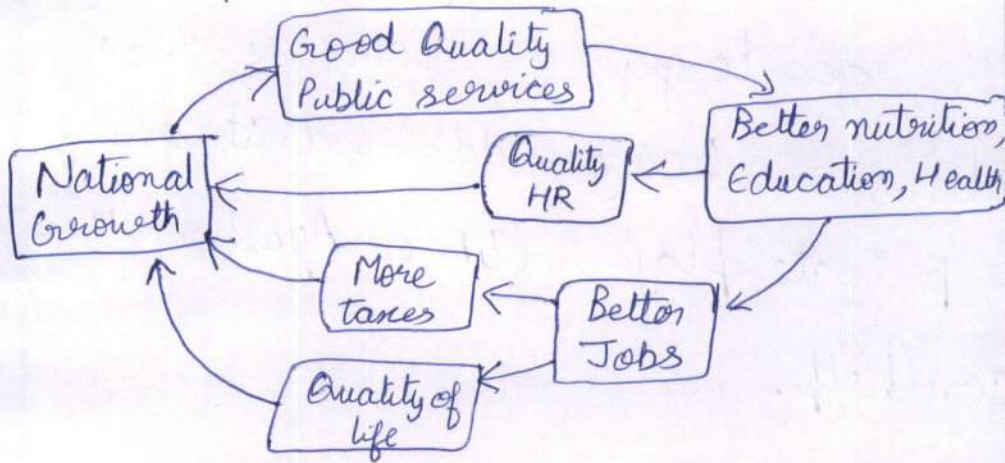
Right intent for public services

- i) Aim to increase health spending to 2.5% of GDP.
- ii) Reducing malnutrition - 2% underweight, 3% anaemia annually.
- iii) Declaring quality standards of services via citizens charters.
- iv) Guaranteeing right to education (RTE act 2009), right to food (NFSA act 2013), work (MGNREGS).
- v) Effective social security - Code on social security.
- vi) Doubling farmer's income.

Right Incentives

By delivering public services efficiently we can break the vicious cycles of poverty.

And low productivity: ~~with~~



Limited Capacity

i) limited funds for developmental schemes.
eg, MGNREGA.

ii) leakages and pilferages

iii) Poor quality of service. eg, 8.5% of water samples under Nal se Jal scheme were found polluted.

iv) Excessive centralisation, top down, one size fits all approach. eg, education curriculum.

v) Policy making in silos without enough convergence in schemes.

Hence we need to rectify this. Already through steps like DBT, convergence in

Schemes like Poshan Abhiyan, social audits, geotagging many of these limitations are being addressed. Involving CSOs, private players (like in Ayushman Bharat) too can help.

This will help in ensuring 'Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas Sabka Prayas'.

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।

India ranked 94 out of 107 in the GHG 2021. This continued the persistently low performance of India in this indicator. India was categorised in 'Severe' hunger category.

(Causes behind hunger in India)

i) Policy issues

- Our MSP, ~~great~~ PDS policies are too much cereal centric. Less focus on traditional foods, millets.
- Fragmented approach to hunger.

ii) Economic issues

- Lack of purchasing power due to poverty. eg., hunger death during pandemic.

iii) Social Causes:

- Patriarchal attitudes like early marriages, child birth; less food to females.

eating after males; less post pregnancy care;

- lack of sanitation, hygienic toilets and practice of open defecation.
- Unclean water and air, 37 out of 50 most polluted cities in India - WHO.
- Rising inequalities increase the caste based discrimination leading to intersectionality of vulnerabilities.
- less literacy, awareness on puberty etc.

Hence these issues need to be addressed by,

- i) Promoting sustainable food systems.
- ii) Empowering female members of family as done in Project Sampurna in Bongaigaon district to ensure 'Empowered mothers, healthy Children'.
- iii) Coverage of sanitary toilets and their usage.

iv) Promoting local, seasonal, traditional
foods like Millet cafes in Odisha.

Through such initiatives we can
tackle the problem of hunger and
achieve aim of 'Kuposhan Mukh Bharat'

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।

Primary healthcare is the basis for a strong healthcare sector in a country. It is crucial to attain SDG-3 of Good health and well being.

Democratisation of primary healthcare means making it affordable, accessible, acceptable to general public, and reliable. Thus it is a crucial component of Universal healthcare.

Need of Democratisation

- i) Early screening of diseases
- ii) Serve the vulnerable who can't afford private hospitals.
- iii) High out of pocket expenses, above 60%.
- iv) less coverage in rural, remote locations presently.
- v) Gender justice — institutional deliveries, post-pregnancy care etc.

- vi) Demographic trends - need for palliative, Geriatric facilities.
- vii) Tests, other facilities are limited.

It is because of these reasons, various schemes were launched to strengthen primary care. The National Health Mission - Rural & Urban aimed to increase PHCs, provide institutional deliveries.

Ayushman Bharat has Health and Wellness Centres to provide comprehensive care. Ground level workers - ASHA, ANMs also provide crucial services at doorsteps.

Further action

- i) ~~at~~ Increase density of PHCs by engaging private, CSO sectors.
- ii) Insurance coverage be increased beyond 40 crore under ~~PM~~ Ayushman Bharat.
- iii) Increase awareness on sanitation, nutrient.

- iv) Creation of digital health records—
Ayushman Bharat digital health.
- v) Other facilities like testing, institutes be increased.

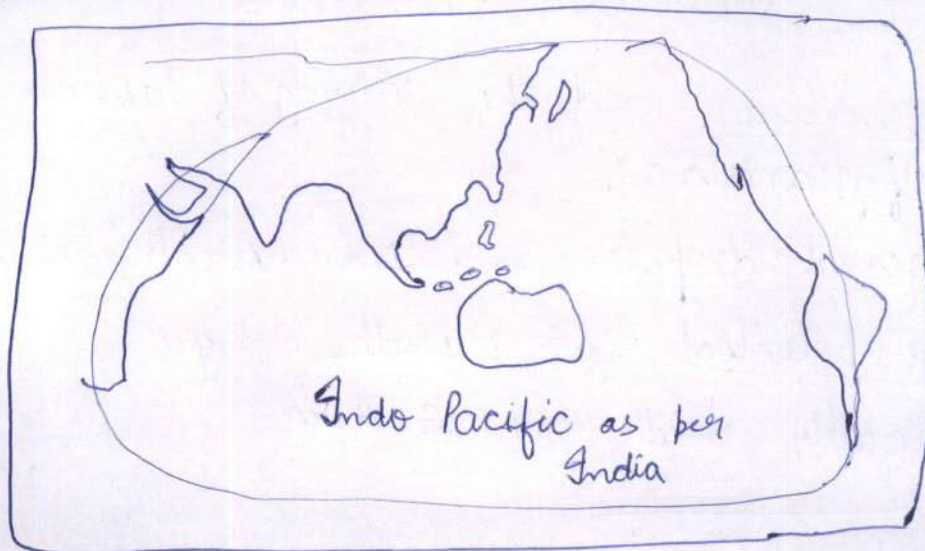
Democratisation of healthcare will help in ensuring right to health as which is implicit in the right to life u/a 21 and lead to Healthy India Happy India.

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 is emerging as main centre of geopolitics and recent quad summit confirms this trend.

Factors behind emergence



- i) Aggressive China – Raising disputes with neighbours, especially in South China Sea. eg., its claim of nine dash line, its policy of String of Pearls to contain India.

- ii) Trade - Globally important routes pass from this region - Malacca strait, Bab al Mandeb, etc. Suez Canal etc. Their disruption can cause global problems.
- iii) Resources - Oil resources in South China sea, metals in sea nodules, fisheries etc.
- iv) Climate Change and extreme weather events like cyclones driving many global initiatives like GSA, GRGS etc.
- v) Terrorism and the coming of Taliban in Afghanistan.
- vi) Regional disputes eg; Iran - Arab conflict.
- vii) Huge potential for growth in region especially South and SE Asia.

India's Interests

- i) Aligning with like minded nations to form GORA, Quad etc. to ensure rules based order and free, open, sea lines of trade.
- ii) Pressurise China to resolve issues through dialogue and not resort to border incursions

- iii) ~~Maintain~~ Emerge as Net Security Provider in Indian Ocean.
- iv) Engage economically with nations to increase exports.
- v) Reduce reliance on China. Diversify imports.

Challenges

- i) Concerns over militarisation of Indian Ocean after signing of AUKUS.
- ii) Need to strengthen naval strength.
- iii) Problematic neighbour - Pakistan - used as a tool by China to enter into India's 'backyard' - Indian Ocean.
- iv) Threat of climate change
- v) Piracy and terrorism.

India must overcome the challenges to meet the desired goals of stable Indo-Pacific.

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 return of Taliban rule in Afghanistan has raised some difficult questions for foreign policy makers.

Important Strategic goals in region

- i) Regional peace and mutual non-aggression
i.e., the new regime shouldn't try to create new conflicts in region.
- ii) Afghanistan not be used as safe haven for terrorists.
- iii) Promote regional trade, connectivity and contact. Access to Central Asia.
- iv) ~~Promote people to~~ Protect human rights especially of vulnerable - women, elderly, children.

Indian Response

- i) Dynamism: From no-communication to conditional talks ~~sat~~ with Taliban subject to their commitment to respecting

human rights of Afghans.

India has denied recognition to Taliban regime, to force it to mend its policies.

ii) Global Cooperation - Recent NSA level talks and Delhi declaration showed cooperation.

Even US denying recognition to Taliban.

iii) Calling out Pakistan for hypocrisy.

iv) Providing humanitarian aid to Afghans. Accepting Afghan refugees.

v) Continuing key projects like Chabahar port in the hope of future benefits.

This is essential when Taliban is seen to be getting closer to China and Pakistan and terror activities are picking up in Kashmir. India must try to find the opportunities to engage with Taliban outside the frame of reference of Pakistan and without giving up on its core issues.

