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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1247)

Name of Candidate	SAURAV PANDEY		
Medium Eng./Hindi	ENG	Registration Number	11805
Center	KB	Date	3/9/2019.

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
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Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

- Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
- There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH & HINDI**
इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
- All questions are compulsory.**
सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
- The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
- Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other than the authorized one.
प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
- Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
- Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

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

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

1. Mention the structure and functions of NITI Aayog. Also, comment on its contemporary relevance. (150 words) 10

नीति (NITI) आयोग की संरचना और प्रकार्यों का उल्लेख कीजिए। साथ ही, इसकी समकालीन प्रासंगिकता पर भी टिप्पणी कीजिए।

NITI Aayog was formed through an executive resolution to replace Planning Commission.

Structure

- 1) Prime minister → Chairman
- 2) Governing Council → Chief Minister of all states and Lieutenant Governors / Administrators of Union Territories.
- 3) Regional council → PM + concerned CMs.
- 4) Vice Chairman
- 5) CEO, appointed by PM
- 6) Domain experts.
- 7) Three Wings
 - Consultancy
 - Research
 - Team India.

Functions

- 1) Genuine participation of states in the spirit of cooperative federalism.
- 2) Catalyst for development beyond

government and public sector.

- 3) Think tank and research for different policies and governance challenges.

Contemporary Relevance

- 1) NITI focuses on Antyodaya, Farmer's welfare, public participation which is important for reducing poverty and inequality.
- 2) It has brought in competitive indices on Health, Education, Logistics to drive growth.
- 3) As a think tank NITI is focusing on Artificial Intelligence, Precision agriculture, cyber physical system to leverage Industry 4.0 based Demographic dividend.

NITI Aayog needs to build more implementation and monitoring capacities to nudge India towards faster development.

2. Critically discuss the practice of setting up Fast Track Courts to reduce pendency of cases in the judiciary. (150 words) 10

न्यायालयों में लंबितवादों को कम करने के लिए फास्ट ट्रैक कोर्ट को स्थापित करने की कार्यप्रणाली की आलोचनात्मक विवेचना कीजिए।

Fast Track Courts were set up in 2000 by state governments, high courts to speedily dispose of pending or special cases. However, 6.5 lakh out of 39 lakh cases are pending in Fast Track Courts.

Rationale of Fast Track Courts

- 1) Dispose off huge amount of pending cases.
- 2) Reduce burden on judiciary.

Limitations

- 1) No special procedure of justice delivery followed, which defeats the rationale/purpose.
- 2) Eventually cases end up in higher courts, so there is lack of finality.
- 3) No uniform standards among different fast track courts.

- 4) Lack of infrastructure as most FTCs are run in regular courts by regular judicial personnel themselves. Judges-cases ratio is also low-

Measures

- 1) Constitute a lead agency to coordinate FTCs and bring uniform standards.
- 2) Hiring and training of judicial personnel.
- 3) Special fast track procedures to be used in order to serve the purpose of speedy redressal.

Without meeting its stated objectives, fast track courts will be merely mushrooming of courts out of integrated judicial setup.

3. Highlight the challenges faced by lower judiciary in India and suggest measures for enhancing their productivity. (150 words) 10

भारत में निचली अदालतों द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली चुनौतियों पर प्रकाश डालिए और उनकी उत्पादकता को बढ़ाने हेतु उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

Lower judiciary ~~is~~ is the lower ladder of integrated judicial system of India. They comprise of district and sessions courts.

Challenges faced

- 1) Pendency is high at around 2-8 crore cases.
- 2) Low judges to population ratio
- 3) Vacancies and delays in appointment
- 4) Justice delivery is not efficient as many cases end up in higher courts and stand reversed.
- 5) Sensitization about freedom of speech, progressive issues is weak and hence judgements are sometimes regressive, e.g. misuse of IT Act

Measures for enhancing productivity

- 1) Increase strength of judges.
- 2) Training in rising modern and complex issues.
- 3) Sensitization about progressive issues and judgements.
- 4) All India Judicial Service as suggested by Law Commission and Chief Minister's Conference can bring well trained personnel and uniformity like IAS, IPS.
- 5) Leveraging technology → case management system.
- 6) Improving police investigation and police reforms in training and appointment.

Lower judiciary if strengthened will increase accessibility of justice to all corners of India.

4. Assess the need to formalise the process of post-legislative scrutiny to improve the effectiveness of laws. (150 words) 10

कानूनों की प्रभावशीलता में सुधार के लिए विधि-निर्माण पश्चात् संवीक्षा की प्रक्रिया को औपचारिक बनाने की आवश्यकता का मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

India has one of the highest numbers of laws in the world. These laws have procedural accountability but no substantive accountability as post-legislative scrutiny is not done to adjudge their performance.

Need to formalize

- 1) It will help to know the impact of the laws on governance, public service and people.
- 2) Currently, impact is judged by common observation, NGOs and other third party observers like media. This does not bring expertise.
- 3) Post-legislative scrutiny will subsequently improve the quality of legislation and better laws will be framed based on these databanks and data points.

(4) Globally it is practiced in many countries such as USA, UK, Australia and it has shown favourable result.

With declining pre-legislative scrutiny through Parliamentary Committees, post-legislative scrutiny backed by laws such as the one brought in Meghalaya, will boost law-making and its significance.

5. Discuss the potential of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in improving the effectiveness of e-governance in India. (150 words) 10

भारत में ई-गवर्नेंस की प्रभावशीलता में सुधार लाने में कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता (AI) की क्षमता की विवेचना कीजिए।

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is the pillar of fourth Industrial Revolution. It involves decision making by machines using data and inputs.

Role/Potential in Governance

- 1) Health → accessibility and reach can be increased, e.g. vulnerability and probability of being impacted by an epidemic.
- 2) Education → Policies can be framed around pockets with specific issues, e.g. Andhra Pradesh is implementing Microsoft's AI to ascertain which students may dropout.
- 3) Agriculture → Ascertaining soil health, chlorophyll zones for aquaculture, precision farming, e.g. NITI and IBM.

4) Transport and Infrastructure

Smart transport, traffic control,
smart power and water meters.

5) Law and order, judiciary

Face recognition to recognize
criminals, case data grids, online
FIR and patterns of criminal
activity, monitoring online
radicalization of youth.

AI has enormous potential
in governance given the large
amount of data that exists in
India. Care needs to be taken
about data security and privacy.

6. Despite various reforms in the public grievance redressal mechanisms, their effectiveness remain limited. Discuss. (150 words) 10

लोक शिकायत निवारण प्रणाली में विभिन्न सुधारों के बावजूद, उनकी प्रभावशीलता सीमित बनी हुई है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Public grievance redressal means resolving any issue encountered by public in obtaining government services.

Reforms in Public Grievance Redressal

- 1) App-based redress filing
- 2) RTI Act to obtain information on public service; Citizen Charter
- 3) DARPG department initiated CPGRAMS awards for competitive improvement in public grievance redressal.
- 4) Digitization → railway ticket booking, documents, bill payments, simplification of tax filing.

Yet their effectiveness remains limited due to

→ Inefficient and untimely capture of grievances.

- weak coordination between government departments and passing of buck.
- weak centre-state coordination
- Lack of sensitization towards issues faced by weaker sections → women, dalits, LGBT communities, poor.
- B Animosity and partisanship among some public official.
- Lack of legal sanction to Citizen Charter
- Public Services Bill has been brought only in a few states.

Public service is not just one way process. Public grievance redressal is the feedback loop which completes good governance.

7. Explaining the factors that contribute to trafficking of women and children in India, highlight the steps taken in recent times to combat it. (150 words)
10

भारत में महिलाओं और बच्चों की तस्करी में योगदान देने वाले कारकों की व्याख्या करते हुए, इससे निपटने के लिए हाल के दिनों में उठाए गए कदमों पर प्रकाश डालिए।

Trafficking of women and children implies forcibly moving them for indecent purposes of slavery or prostitution. As per NCRB, there were 8000 cases of trafficking in 2016.

FACTORS

- 1) High vulnerability of women and children due to low literacy and awareness in rural hinterland.
- 2) Poverty often causes selling of women and children for desperate need of money.
- 3) Disasters → cause displacement of people, 75% of whom are women and children.
- 4) Weak law enforcement due to nexus, lack of coordination between different states, centre and states.

c) Presence of porous borders with hostile neighbours that have nexus between organized trafficking, narco-trade and terrorism.

STEPS

- 1) Ujjwala Scheme → to track women who are trafficked.
- 2) Rhoya Paya Portal → to track lost children.
- 3) Swadhar Greh → to provide safe places to stay for women who face violence and crime.
- 4) Prevention of Trafficking Bill → to protect children, women from trafficking, rescue and rehabilitation.

Existence of such a heinous crime against humanity is outrageous and unacceptable, especially given the rampant nature and scale of this crime.

8. With Vector-Borne Diseases (VBDs) reaching epidemic proportions in India, highlight the factors that have led to their emergence. Also, suggest some measures for their effective control and management. (150 words) 10

भारत में रोगाणुवाहक-जनित रोग (VBDs) महामारी की तरह उभरकर सामने आये हैं, अतः उन कारकों को रेखांकित कीजिए जिनके कारण इनका उद्भव हुआ है। साथ ही, इनके प्रभावी नियंत्रण और प्रबंधन हेतु कुछ उपायों का भी सुझाव दीजिए।

Vector-borne diseases have been frequently causing epidemics in India, e.g. Chikungunya, Dengue, Nipah, etc.

Factors

- 1) Low hygiene in public places and sprawl in urban areas where stagnant waters become breeding ground for vectors
- 2) Connectivity → disease originating in one region quickly spreads far and wide due to communication, e.g. Swine Flu spread across Rajasthan, Delhi and UP
- 3) Crowded cities often lead to quick epidemics, e.g. Dengue.
- 4) Use of anti-biotics in an unscientific

manner has caused Anti-microbial resistant pathogens, e.g. in Tuberculosis

5) Disasters → Floods often cause spread of water-borne diseases, e.g. leptospirosis in Kerala Floods of 2018.

Measures for effective control and management

- 1) Prevention → Stagnant waters should be removed, e.g. Delhi has taken active steps ~~is~~ to avoid Dengue.
- 2) Quarantine and detection at proper time.
- 3) Rational use of antibiotics, e.g. Red-line campaign in India
- 4) Awareness regarding hygienic practices.

Epidemics are a threat to ~~loss~~ lives and livelihoods and are an emerging public health issue to be managed proactively.

9. After years of neglect, rapidly evolving regional strategic realities are now forcing India and Indonesia to coordinate their policies ever more closely. Discuss. (150 words) 10

वर्षों की उपेक्षा के बाद, तेजी से विकसित हो रही क्षेत्रीय रणनीतिक वास्तविकताएं अब भारत और इंडोनेशिया को और अधिक घनिष्ठता से अपनी नीतियों को समन्वित करने के लिए बाध्य कर रही हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।

For the whole of cold war era, though India and Indonesia partnered in Non-Alignment, they had divergence during Indo-Pak war of 1971 which kept the two countries apart.

After 1991, India paid attention to ASEAN regional block and gradually now India-Indonesia have agreed to have a comprehensive Strategic Partnership and increase trade from 18 billion USD to 50 billion USD. Such changes are occurring due to evolving regional strategic realities which are as follows:-

→ India's economic role → As the fastest growing major economy and a huge market, India is a useful partner.

- India is a net security provider in Indian Ocean and partnered with Indonesia with Aceh as important port near Malacca Strait.
- Geo-strategic construct of INDO-PACIFIC has important role of India, and India recognizes centrality of ASEAN
- Indian Act East Policy, Make in India developing North East will benefit by ASEAN and Indonesia in particular.
- cooperation in tourism, models for governance ~~is~~ with religious minorities.
- Both countries cooperated in Space → ISTRAC → Telemetry branch in Indonesia,
- opposition of "Osaka Track" in G20 by both, shows areas of convergence
- Disaster Management → Tsunami, volcanic eruptions, have potential to cooperate.
- SAGAR, Project Mausam

10. Despite several attempts at resetting the ties, various barriers continue to be a cause of concern in the India-Nepal bilateral relations. Discuss.

(150 words) 10

संबंधों को पुनः स्थापित करने के कई प्रयासों के बावजूद, भारत-नेपाल द्विपक्षीय संबंधों में विभिन्न अवरोध निरंतर चिंता का कारण बने हुए हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।

India - Nepal have a history together of high cultural cooperation and yet bilateral relations often become sour.

Barriers in relationship

1) High dependence on India → India surrounds Nepal on 3 sides.

3/4th of trade with India
90% of import and export go to
from/through India.

2) Perception → Indian projects on Kosi river, Pancheshwar dams, etc seem to benefit India more although India provides power to Nepal.
Madhesi blockade after Nepal's constitution was brought was blamed on India.

3) Role of China → Political compulsions of different political parties in Nepal make them use China-card to leverage benefits and reduce dependence on India.

4) Porous borders → have caused crimes, trafficking and security issues in India → concerns people in Darjeeling etc

Nepalese people live and work in India. They are part of our armies as well. We speak similar language and practice similar cultures. India-Nepal relations can be improved based on mutual trust and principles of binjaraal doctrine and Neighbourhood first.

11. Delineate the differences between pressure groups and interest groups. Citing examples, elaborate on the ways in which pressure groups influence government decisions and policy making in India. (250 words) 15

दबाव समूहों और हित समूहों के मध्य अंतर का वर्णन कीजिए। उदाहरणों को उद्धृत करते हुए, उन तरीकों का सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए जिनके माध्यम से दबाव समूह भारत में सरकारी निर्णयों और नीति-निर्माण को प्रभावित करते हैं।

Pressure groups and interest groups are voluntary organizations where people come together to work for common goals. Although used often interchangeably, they are different in following ways:-

Interest Groups

Formal group

Main focus is protection of interests.

Do not use pressure tactics

Pressure Group

Structured in a rigid manner.

Main focus is protection as well promotion of interests

often use pressure tactics to influence government policies.

Pressure groups have been crucial in influencing government decisions and policy making in

following ways.

- 1) Policy formulation is often done considering inputs from Pressure Groups such as ASSOCHAM, FICCI, CII.
- 2) Students organizations raise issues regarding youth affairs and education, e.g. ABVP, NSUI.
- 3) Vulnerable sections such as farmers welfare are raised by bodies such as All India Kisan Congress to make demands on farmer's issues.
- 4) Cultural protection is supported by bodies such as Thakhand Mukti Morcha, Hindi Sangathan, Vishwa Hindu Parishad to raise religion and linguistic issues.

5) Media → Television, print as well as social media makes important issues relevant to catch government eyes.

Although Pressure groups may give in to parochial interests, be dominated by political parties and may lack legal and constitutional backing, they are indispensable for democratic governance in this era.

12. Highlighting the issues faced by the institutions of local self governance in India, suggest measures that can be taken to improve their effectiveness in the delivery of public goods and services at the grassroot level.

(250 words) 15

भारत में स्थानीय स्व-शासन की संस्थाओं द्वारा समाना की जा रही समस्याओं पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, जमीनी स्तर पर सार्वजनिक वस्तुओं और सेवाओं के वितरण की प्रभावशीलता में सुधार लाने हेतु किए जा सकने वाले उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

Local self governance is related to governance of villages and cities. Local governance bodies were made Constitutional bodies by 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments, yet there are several issues faced by these institutions.

ISSUES

① Lack [autonomy] on three fronts
[Functions] → Not all functions that should be performed at local levels are devolved.

[Finance] → There is no separate local finance list for taxation purposes and they depend on state government.

[Functionaries] → Local governments are understaffed and lack appropriate

capabilities.

- ② They act as departments of state government.
e.g. Gram Sabha → implementing arm as it has no law making powers de-facto.
- ③ Overshadowed by Central and State Schemes.
- ④ Dependence → in case of crisis/disaster Measures that can be taken

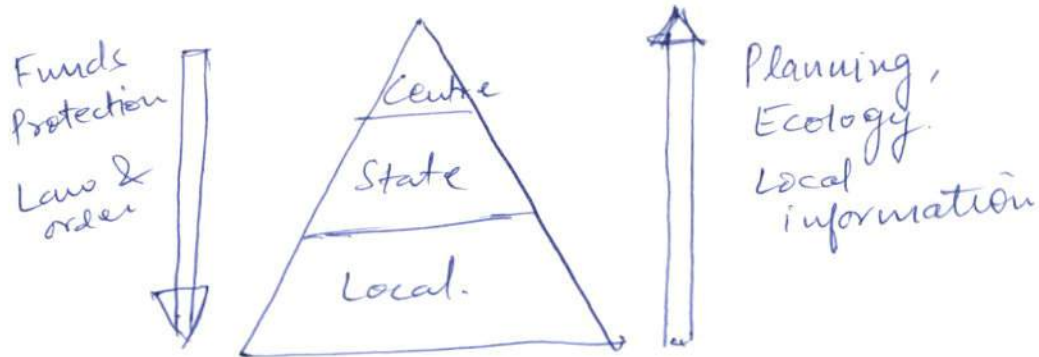
Panchayati Raj

- 1) Mandatory devolution of fund-raising powers and functions.
- 2) Law-making powers on local issues.
- 3) Lowering of MLAs and MPs in panchayats at district levels.

Urban Local Bodies

- 1) Separate Local Finance List for local level taxation.
- 2) Simplification of roles of ULBs and other parastatal bodies.
- 3) Directly elected Mayor for grassroot level democracy.

~~Local self government~~
Multi level planning needs to
be developed.



Local self governments can be
made effective by allocating powers
based on Principle of Subsidiarity
in a 'bottom-up' approach.

13. The recent amendment to the Right to Information Act, 2005 will weaken the act and undermine the authority of Information Commissioners. Discuss. (250 words) 15

सूचना का अधिकार अधिनियम, 2005 में हालिया संशोधन इस अधिनियम को कमजोर बनाएगा और सूचना आयुक्तों के प्राधिकार को क्षीण करेगा। चर्चा कीजिए।

Right to Information Act, 2005 was enacted to uphold the principles of transparency and accountability in governance. Chief Information Commission and State Information Commissions were established as statutory bodies.

Amendments to RTI Act have been brought in following manner:-

- 1) Tenure → Fixed tenure is removed, which was earlier 5 years or 65 years of age whichever earlier.
- 2) Salaries and allowances of Chief ~~Election~~ ^{Information} Commissioner and other Information Commissioner was equivalent to ^{election Commissioner} Supreme Court Judges^{as} and State Information Commissioners to High Court Judges / Chief Secretaries. This provision has been removed.

AMENDMENTS WEAKEN THE ACT

- 4) Rationale of amendment that Right Information Commissioners are merely statutory while Judges and Election Commissioner are constitutional posts is flawed as even Right to Information has been held as a fundamental right. The amendment weakens this significance.
- 2) Erodes autonomy of the Information Commission as the central government will fix tenures and determine salaries.
- 3) Encroaches upon states as central government will also fix tenures and salaries for State Information Commissioners.

RTI Act is foundation of an informed public and participatory democracy. Information Commission needs to be strengthened even further to manage growing citizenry and awareness.

14. Highlight the process of delimitation in India. Also, throw light on the debates surrounding the delimitation exercise in India. (250 words) 15

भारत में परिसीमन की प्रक्रिया को रेखांकित कीजिए। साथ ही, भारत में परिसीमन की प्रक्रिया को लेकर होने वाले वाद-विवादों पर भी प्रकाश डालिए।

Delimitation means determining the territorial areas that will vote for a particular seat in the Parliament or state legislative assemblies. It can extend to lower levels as well.

PROCESS OF DELIMITATION

1) Constitutional Provisions

Article 81 Delimitation should be in such a way that ratio of seats to population remains same for all constituencies.

Article 82 Delimitation Commission to be set up after every decennial census.

2) Practiced delimitation has been modified as 42nd Constitutional Amendment 1976 froze delimitation at 1971 Census levels. without changing allocation to different states, ~~deli~~ constituencies were rearranged in 2002. This

freeze is extended till 2026.

Debates regarding delimitation exercise

1) Updating based on latest census or not?

Merit

Population will be duly represented. Currently MP from Rajasthan represents 30 lakh while Tamil Nadu MP represents 18 lakh

Demerit

Family planning will be disincentives. Southern States will feel that development is not encouraged but the low development in north is.

2) Increasing number of seats or not?

Merit

Currently, Indian MP represents on an average 150,000 people which is highest in the world. It reflects weak representation of public voice

Demerit

Parliament strength will increase to unsustainable level, and task of speaker will be even more challenging.

Delimitation exercise is of high significance borne by the fact that Delimitation Commission's orders hold the weight of law not questioned by courts or Parliament. A new Delimitation commission should be constituted to look into rising issues regarding territorial representation.

15. Self Help Groups (SHGs) are vehicles of rural development, which help in the upliftment of marginalized groups. Elucidate. Further, mention the constraints faced by SHGs and how they can be addressed. (250 words) 15

स्वयं सहायता समूह (SHGs) ग्रामीण विकास के वाहक हैं तथा ये हाशिए पर मौजूद समूहों के उत्थान में सहायता करते हैं। स्पष्ट कीजिए। साथ ही, SHGs द्वारा सामना की जा रही बाधाओं का उल्लेख कीजिए। इन बाधाओं को कैसे दूर किया जा सकता है।

SHGs are group of volunteers that come together to achieve common objectives. They are especially important for rural development because -

- 1) Become voice of voiceless → raising issues that plague the marginalized groups such as social discrimination, gender based violence, human rights.
- 2) Cover the governance gap by providing education, healthcare
- 3) Credit facilities → women and dalit. SHGs collectivize and raise finances for agriculture, local business and shops, e.g. SHG-Bank linkage program.
- 4) Help frame rural development policies such as watershed development benefits reaching to all sections,

forest and horticulture products reaching markets, e.g. Mahua drink in Chhattisgarh

Constraints faced by SHGs

- 1) They do not have legal sanctions and their work may not hold important weight where governance is not responsive.
- 2) Lack of uniformity and low sharing of best practices among different SHGs.
- 3) Some SHGs get politicized when dominated by political parties.
- 4) Parochial interests may overshadow the overall rural development if more focus is given on particular group.

With growing complexities in rural development, an individual may not be able to participate in democratic processes. Hence, role of SHGs is very important in rural development which will continue to have more than ~~half~~ half of our population till 2050.

16. With construction of toilets being only one part of the solution for a clean India, it is time that the Swachh Bharat Mission puts more emphasis on the other facets as well. Discuss. (250 words) 15

शौचालयों का निर्माण स्वच्छ भारत के समाधान का केवल एक भाग है, अतः अब समय आ गया है कि स्वच्छ भारत मिशन अन्य पहलुओं पर भी अधिक बल दे। चर्चा कीजिए।

Clean Indian requires not only freedom from open defecation, but complete cycle of solid waste management that is why ambit of Swachh Bharat should be enlarged.

Recognizing this Swachh Bharat has brought in following additions.

1) ODF+ and ODF++ status to include public urination removal, and complete ~~to slug~~ sludge and solid waste management to rate cities.

2) Swachh Survekshan

→ will include all cities
→ will survey village households and ambient environment as well.

3) Garbage Free Cities will be rated under Swachh Bharat.

Other facets that should be included

- 1) Public participation in river cleaning such as Ganga Praharis, Ganga Gram Yojana.
- 2) Cleaning up of wetlands → such as East Kolkata wetlands being used for water treatment, beach clean up under Blue Flag initiative.
- 3) Plastic pollution should become a facet of Swachh Bharat.
- 4) E-waste, biomedical waste, construction and demolition waste management are equally important to handle achieve a Clean India.
- 5) Aesthetics and "visible pollution" in urban environment, tourist places.
- 6) [Social Issues] related to Swachh Bharat → such as manual scavenging, bonded labour must be a part of Swachh Bharat.

Swachh Bharat Mission, by including more facets can be a landmark people's movement to establish a Clean India.

17. Highlight the salient features of Mission Indradhanush. What are the challenges that the mission is facing in its implementation? Suggest measures to address these challenges for progressing towards full immunization coverage. (250 words) 15

मिशन इन्द्रधनुष की प्रमुख विशेषताओं पर प्रकाश डालिए। इसके कार्यान्वयन में मिशन को किन चुनौतियों का सामना करना पड़ रहा है? संपूर्ण टीकाकरण प्राप्ति की दिशा में प्रगति करने हेतु इन चुनौतियों को दूर करने के उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

Mission Indradhanush scheme aims to provide universal immunization to under-5 children, pregnant and lactating mothers. It is estimated that every year 5 lakh children die due to vaccine-preventable deaths and 95 lakhs are vulnerable to the same.

Salient features

- 1) Vaccination for Diphtheria, Pertussis, Tetanus, Tuberculosis, Hepatitis B, Malaria for all districts.
- 2) For selected districts → Japanese encephalitis, measles Rubella, Rotavirus vaccination.
- 3) It will now also include uncovered districts where universal immunization could not be achieved, based on demand.

Challenges

- 1) Lack of awareness among people about vaccination
- 2) Cultural impediments, misconception and superstitious attitudes in rural pockets.
- 3) Lack of monitoring technology leading to low coverage
- 4) Shortage of manpower in many districts.

Measures to achieve universal immunization

- 1) Identification of coverage with use of disaggregated data
- 2) Awareness campaigns through state functionaries.
- 3) Improving training, capacity and numbers of healthcare personnel.

Human Capital Index recognized that an Indian child will grow only to 44% of his potential. With immunization under Indradhanush, human capital realization can be achieved.

18. Assess the importance of skilling in light of changing economic and demographic structure in India. In this regard, how far has the Skill India Mission succeeded in its mandate. (250 words) 15

भारत में बदलती आर्थिक और जनसांख्यिकीय संरचना के आलोक में कौशल सृजन के महत्व का मूल्यांकन कीजिए। इस संबंध में, स्किल इंडिया मिशन अपने अधिदेश में कितना सफल रहा है।

Indian economy is dominated by services sector contribution-wise and policy aims are being directed to increase manufacturing contribution to 25% by 2025. With Indian TFR declining, "demographic bulge" of young population will last only for 4-5 decades. In light of future in Industry 4.0, skilling of youth has become extremely important.

Importance of skilling

- 1) High unemployment rate → reaching 6.5%.
- 2) Changing requirements in industry very rapidly requires constant re-skilling and up-skilling.
- 3) Social attitudes towards vocational education is unfavourable.

4) Competing in global trade, supply chains and new technology.

To achieve skilled population, Skill India Mission was launched in 2015 with target to skill 400 million by 2022.

Performance

- 1) Number of skilled people has increased from around 4 lakh in FY17 to 16 lakh in FY18.
- 2) 55% have been placed under Short Term training program.
- 3) 30% received placement under PM Kaurshal Vikas Yojana.
- 4) National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF) has recognized prior knowledge as well.

Limitations and Challenges

- 1) Curriculum is not properly defined
- 2) Sharada Prasad Committee pointed

out conflict of interest in NSDC
monitoring sector skill councils.

3) Lack of coordination between
Ministries of Human Resource and
Skill Development

Skill India mission should
delineate proper courses, degrees
for a group of occupations to optimally
reap India's demographic dividend
in a changing economy.

19. What according to you are the reasons that motivated India to create a dedicated Indo-Pacific division in the MEA recently? Also, highlight the challenges for India in the Indo-Pacific region. (250 words) 15

आपके अनुसार वे कौन-से कारण हैं जिन्होंने हाल ही में भारत को MEA के तहत एक समर्पित भारत-प्रशांत प्रभाग सृजित करने के लिए प्रेरित किया? साथ ही, भारत-प्रशांत क्षेत्र में भारत के समक्ष चुनौतियों पर भी प्रकाश डालिए।

"Indo-Pacific" is a geo-strategic construct that combines Indian Ocean and western Pacific Ocean regions. Recognizing the importance of this construct, India has created an Indo-Pacific division in the MEA.

Reasons that motivated

- 1) India has been left out from APEC (Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation) and ASEM which makes India consider the importance of being part of Indo-Pacific narrative.
- 2) Economic interests as the region is mineral and energy rich.
- 3) Strategic interests such as managing and countering growing China's influence in the region.

4) Security → India is net security provider in the region and Indo-Pacific division will be able to coordinate better.

5) In-line with foreign policy of Act East, Make-in India as India wants to enhance connectivity with ASEAN and is negotiating RCEP.

However, there are many challenges

1) India needs to avoid being portrayed as an anti-China power to preserve its strategic autonomy.

2) Growing Chinese influence in the region through Belt and Road and cheque-book diplomacy

3) India and Indonesia have some hesitations of history because :
Indonesia supported Pakistan in 1971.

- 4) Implementation of connectivity projects have been slow.
- 5) RCEP negotiations are not forthcoming due to fear of Chinese goods flooding Indian market and India is being seen as a roadblock in finalizing RCEP.

Indo-Pacific region is a recognition of India's role in the region. It is being promoted by various countries such as Japan, Australia and ASEAN nations. India will need to engage strongly in this region.

20. For SCO to become a successful regional grouping, it has to overcome bilateral differences between its members and their respective geopolitical calculations. Comment. Also, discuss the role that SCO can play in enhancing India's interest in the Eurasian region. (250 words) 15

SCO को एक सफल क्षेत्रीय समूह बनने हेतु, अपने सदस्यों के मध्य के द्विपक्षीय मतभेदों और उनके संबंधित भू-राजनीतिक अपेक्षाओं से उबरना होगा। टिप्पणी कीजिए। साथ ही, यूरेशियाई क्षेत्र में भारत के हितों को बढ़ाने में SCO द्वारा निभाई जा सकने वाली भूमिका की भी विवेचना कीजिए।

SCO is an political, economic and security alliance comprising India, China, Russia, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan. It is a eurasian regional grouping.

To become a successful grouping, SCO needs to overcome several bilateral issues:-

↳ India and Pakistan, the most recent members have a host of bilateral issues like Kashmir, cross-border terrorism; border disputes such as Sir Creek; water dispute over Kishenganga HEP.

↳ India - China have bilateral issues ranging from Border disputes (Ladakh, Aksai Chin, Doklam, Arunachal Pradesh), Dalai Lama's government-in-exile in India

River water hydrological data sharing, large trade deficit for India and thwarting of India's entry into NSG and UNSC permanent members by China.

↳ China Russia too have border disputes

↳ Central Asian countries have bilateral issue based on borders, terrorism.

To become a strong regional grouping and a counter to NATO, these bilateral issues need resolution.

SCO's Role for India

1) Energy Security → India can access hydrocarbons, gas from Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan.

2) Trade → is highly under-achieved in the region. Demand for Indian automobile, movies, engineering products can be leveraged. Central Asia is an untapped market for India.

3) Connectivity → International North South corridor, Ashgabat Agreement can not only connect central Asia, but provide access to other parts of Eurasia, Eastern Europe all the way to Scandinavia - via -, bypassing Pakistan.

4) Security → Counter-terrorism operation under RATS and leveraging India's only foreign air-base in Farkhor will help counter rising I.S. threat in the region.

Becoming SCO member will help India engage better in the region given impending withdrawal of the USA from neighbouring Afghanistan.