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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1835)

Name of Candidate	Diyaanshi Singla		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	1365836
Center	Delhi	Date	9 Aug/2022

INDEX TABLE		
Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
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17	15	
18	15	
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20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

- Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
- There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **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. The withdrawal of general consent to the CBI by certain state governments in India threatens the spirit of cooperative federalism in India. Discuss.

(150 words) 10

भारत में कुछ राज्य सरकारों द्वारा सी. बी. आई. से सामान्य सहमति वापस लेना भारत में सहकारी संघवाद की भावना के लिए खतरा उत्पन्न करता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

CBI is an executive body which has been given powers under the Delhi ^{Special} Police (Establishment) Act, 1946.

Investigation by CBI

→ CBI requires state governments' consent to do investigation of offences in states against Central Govt employees under PCA.

→ Withdrawal of Consent by nine states. Eg - Mizoram (2019), Meghalaya (2021), Maharashtra, etc.

→ Fresh cases cannot be registered after consent has been withdrawn.

Consent withdrawal - Threat to Cooperative Federalism

- ①. Conflict between Central agency and State police.
- ②. Non-cooperation in cases of corruption offences. Eg - West Bengal
- ③. Sometimes, CBI does not take up cases on request of states due to overburden and inadequate number of personnel.
- ④. Many Central Govt. employees protected by States due to ill will.

Central Bureau of Investigation must be depoliticised to work in favour of cooperative federalism.

2. Stating the sources of finance for local self-governments in India, suggest ways to strengthen their financial position. (150 words) 10

भारत में स्थानीय स्व-शासी सरकारों के लिए वित्त के स्रोतों का उल्लेख करते हुए, उनकी वित्तीय स्थिति को मजबूत करने के उपाय सुझाएं।

Local self-govt. in India is established by 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendment Act with addition of 11th and 12th Schedules.

Sources of finance -

- ①. Devolution of Taxes by State legislatures on recommendations of State Finance Commission.
- ②. Recommendations by Finance Commission to supplement the resources of Panchayats (Art-280).
- ③. Grants-in-aid by Centre and states.

- ④. Statutory Grants (Art. 275) and Discretionary grants.
- ⑤. Funds under schemes and programmes.

Ways to Strengthen them

- ①. Devolution of financial powers by States $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \rightarrow \text{to levy taxes} \\ \text{(under 29218 subjects)} \end{array} \right\}$ Generate their own revenue.
- ②. Strengthening them to levy property tax and other taxes.
- ③. Funds untied to schemes.
- ④. Education in management of finances.
- ⑤. Audit of their accounts.

Thus, Local Govt must be strengthened to realise the vision of Mahatma Gandhi (Art. 40).

3. Cabinet Committees play an important role in reinstating collective responsibility and principle of homogeneity of the Executive in the Indian Parliamentary system. Elucidate.

(150 words) 10

भारतीय संसदीय प्रणाली में मंत्रिमंडलीय समितियां सामूहिक उत्तरदायित्व और कार्यपालिका की एकरूपता के सिद्धांत को बहाल करने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाती हैं। स्पष्ट कीजिए।

Cabinet Committees are extra-constitutional bodies formed by Prime Minister according to the exigencies of time and situation.

Role of Cabinet Committees -

①. In reinstating collective responsibility :- (Art. 75)

② Members of Cabinet bound by decisions.

③ Any dissent by any member must be expressed within meeting and not outside.

④ Prime Minister can dismiss any

minister if his opinions are against the decision of the cabinet.

② Principle of homogeneity of executive

① Collective decision with consensus of all.

② members from other parties also agree to their decisions of cabinet.

Eg - Coalition of BJP and other parties.

③ Different ideologies of different party members do not creep into decision-making.

Hence, Cabinet Committees ensure collective responsibility by ensuring individual responsibility in the Cabinet Committee.

4. There is a need to overhaul the public procurement and project management (PPPM) framework of India for faster, efficient and transparent execution of government projects. Comment.

(150 words) 10

सरकारी परियोजनाओं के तीव्र, कुशल और पारदर्शी निष्पादन के लिए भारत के सार्वजनिक खरीद और परियोजना प्रबंधन (PPPM) ढांचे में सुधार की आवश्यकता है। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

"Transparency is the master key to Good Governance" (2nd ARC).

Thus, there is a need to overhaul the public procurement and project management framework.

Issues with public procurement

①. Corruption issues. Eg - Allegations of Corruption in Rafale deal.

②. Marred by Bureaucratic Red-tapism
Eg - Many military equipments are pending for years to be procured

Issues with project management

①. Lack of coordination among different departments. Eg - Sagarmala require coordination b/w Ministry of Ports and Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

②. Finance management issues.

- Delay in release of funds.
- Non-utilisation of funds.

Way Forward

→ e-Governance based on ICT tools.

→ Govt. e-commerce websites for public procurement and transparency.

→ Coordination and cooperation among different departments.

Transparency in Governance process is required at all levels to ensure efficient pro-poor and

5. Adequate measures are required to overcome the challenges and vulnerabilities associated with undertaking social accountability initiatives and institutionalising them. Elaborate.

(150 words) 10

सामाजिक जवाबदेही पहलों को शुरू करने और उन्हें संस्थागत बनाने से जुड़ी चुनौतियों और कमजोरियों को दूर करने के लिए पर्याप्त उपायों की आवश्यकता है। मविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए।

People are the ultimate sovereign
whose concerns, demands and grie-
nces must be taken into account
in all policy measures.

~~Challenges~~ Social Accountability
refers to the answerability to
the public and common citizens.

Challenges associated

①. lack of public participation → passive
citizensry
→ lack of political
awareness

②. Lack of political will → Eg - EIA ,
public consultation

③. Lack of institutional and legal framework.

④. Colonial time laws
 ↓
 Any protest might be turned as dissent or sedition.
 → Sec 124A of IPC
 → Sec 499, 500 of IPC

Measures Required -

①. Awareness and education among common people.

②. Citizen Charter
 → services
 → redressal of grievances
 → feedback
 → citizen-centric

③. Legal policies with stakeholders consultation.

Social Accountability is pre-eminent for deepening of democracy.

6. In view of the recent Parliamentary Standing Committee report, discuss the issues faced by the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) and suggest measures that can be adopted to strengthen it. **(150 words) 10**

एक संसदीय स्थायी समिति की हालिया रिपोर्ट को ध्यान में रखते हुए, राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जनजाति आयोग (NCST) द्वारा सामना किए जाने वाले मुद्दों की विवेचना कीजिए और इसे मजबूत बनाने के लिए अपनाए जा सकने वाले उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) was established by 89th Constitutional Amendment Act.

Issues faced by NCST →

- ①. No enforceability mechanism i.e. offences can't be enforced by it.
- ②. Recommendations are not bindings ⇒ inaction by Govt.
- ③. Cannot award compensatory allowance, only prescribe it to Govt.
- ④. Lack of autonomy due to

dependence on ministry for finance.

Measures to be adopted

- ①. Along with powers of inquiry any investigations, powers to expedite the prosecution of accused.
- ②. Strengthening financial aspects
- ③. Action taken report on its recommendations must be made public.
- ④. Powers to award compensatory allowance during course of inquiry.
Giving more teeth to NCST is pertinent to strengthen Scheduled Tribes and hence, the most marginalised.

7. While the Mid-Day Meal scheme was aimed at fulfilling the nutritional needs of students, it is far behind in achieving this objective. Discuss. Also, suggest remedial measures in this context.

(150 words) 10

यद्यपि मध्याह्न भोजन योजना का उद्देश्य छात्रों की पोषण संबंधी आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करना था, किंतु इस उद्देश्य को प्राप्त करने में यह काफी पीछे है। चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, इस संदर्भ में उपचारात्मक उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

National Food Security Act, 2013
provides for Mid-Day Meal to
reduce drop-out of students and
enhance nutrition levels.

Issues in Mid-Day
Meal Scheme

- ① Diversification of foods is less
↓
protein deficiency, iron deficiency, etc.
- ② Leakage issues { → corruption by Fair Price Shop owners
→ by diversion.
- ③ Poor quality foodgrains - Eg

poor health ^{of students} in a state due to this.

- ④. Poor incentivisation of Aanganwadi workers { low pay
no worker status.

Remedial Measures

- ①. Diversification of food products { eggs, soya bean, etc.
fortified foods (Golden Rice)
- ②. Quality of foodgrains to be ensured by grassroots workers.
- ③. Aanganwadi workers given equal status to that of AASHA workers.
- ④. Online management of scheme { e-POS at Fair Price shops
data on public website.

Mid-Day Meal Scheme under POSHAN 2.0 must be strengthened in all ways.

8. Sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) remain critical for the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In this context, discuss the impediments in the fulfilment of SRHR in India. Also, mention the steps that can be taken in this regard.

(150 words) 10

सतत विकास लक्ष्यों (SDGs) की प्राप्ति के लिए यौन एवं प्रजनन स्वास्थ्य और अधिकार (SRHR) महत्वपूर्ण हैं। इस संदर्भ में, भारत में SRHR की प्राप्ति में आने वाली बाधाओं पर चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, इस संवोध में उठाए जा सकने वाले कदमों का भी उल्लेख कीजिए।

Sexual and reproductive health and rights are special health needs of women required to fulfill SDG 5.0 of Gender equality apart from other SDGs.

Impediments in SRHR

- ①. Patriarchal mindset of society
 - health of adolescent girls neglected
 - food needs neglected
- ②. Poor health infrastructure (1:1456 doctors in India against WHO's prescribed 1:1000)
- ③. Lack of awareness among people

④. High drop-out rates of women, early marriages, lower education.

⑤. Poor women empowerment
 ↓
 no decision-making power.

17th Lok Sabha (14% women)
 women labour force participation lower than men

Steps in this regard

①. High participation of women in all sectors
 { political, economic, social.

②. Awareness of women regarding schemes like NFHS, 2013, SUMAN etc.
 → CAG report showing less participation due to low awareness

③. Investment in Healthcare Infrastructure.

National Digital Health Mission

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must encompass the mission of improving women's health.

9. State the functions of the United Nations Human Rights Council. Also, discuss the issues faced by the Council in the promotion and protection of human rights around the globe.

(150 words) 10

संयुक्त राष्ट्र मानवाधिकार परिषद के कार्यों का उल्लेख कीजिए। साथ ही, विश्व भर में मानवाधिकारों को बढ़ावा देने और उनके संरक्षण में परिषद द्वारा सामना किए जाने वाले मुद्दों की विवेचना कीजिए।

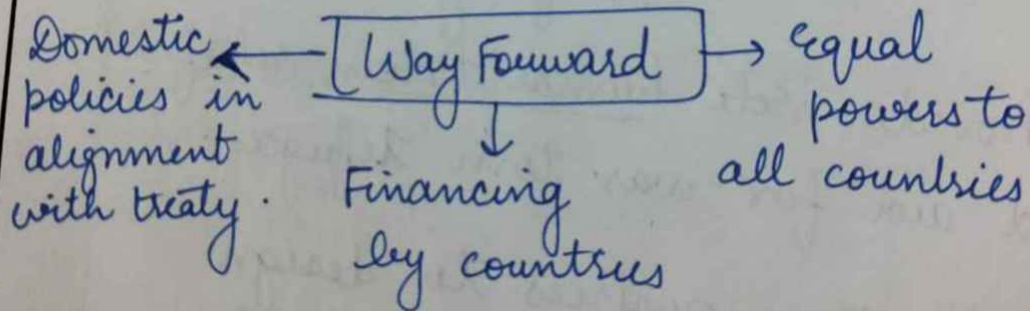
India got elected for the 6th term in United Nations Human Rights Council established to protect human rights around the globe.

Functions of UNHRC

- ①. To look into the issues of human rights violations in many countries. Eg - Syria, Afghanistan, Xinjiang (China).
- ②. Provide humanitarian relief and aid for war torn refugees.
- ③. Push the countries to design their policies with respect of human rights.

Issues faced by the Council

- ①. Funding issues with big powers stepping out of it. Eg - US left it in 2018.
- ②. Hegemony of influential powers leading to non-action. Eg - China, in Xinjiang province.
- ③. Non-resolution of various issues like Rohingya refugees, etc.
- ④. ~~Who~~ Violators of human rights are members $\Rightarrow$ Contradictions



Thus, UNHRC strengthening is crucial to stop abuse of power and the prevail of peace and prosperity in world.

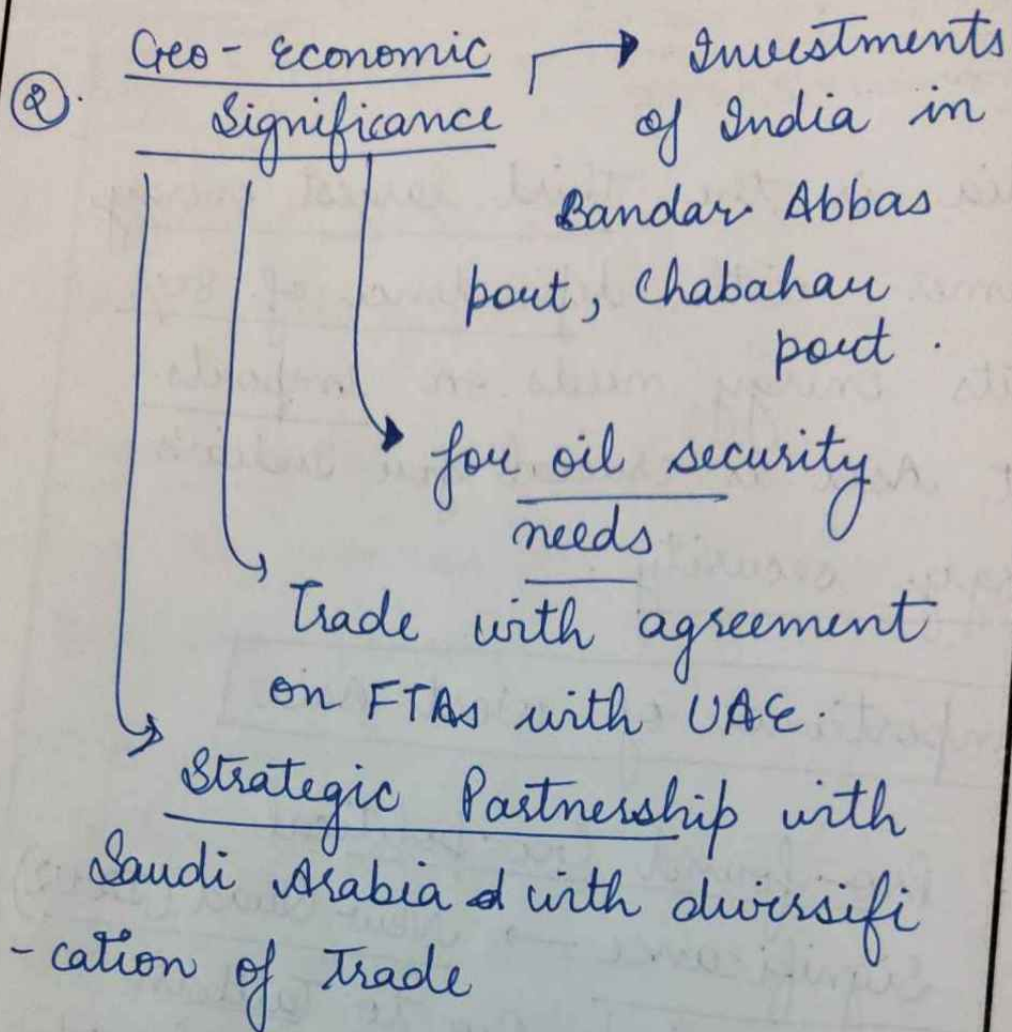
10. West Asia is an important strategic region for India with profound geo-political and geo-economic significance. Discuss. (150 words) 10

अत्यधिक भू-राजनीतिक और भू-आर्थिक महत्व के कारण पश्चिम एशिया भारत के लिए एक महत्वपूर्ण रणनीतिक क्षेत्र है। चर्चा कीजिए।

India is the third largest energy consumer with dependence of 80% of its energy needs on imports. West Asia is crucial for India's energy security.

Importance of West Asia

- ①. Pro-found Geo-political Significance → New Quad (I2-U2)
- ↳ Due to Taliban take-over of Afghanistan
 - ↳ Geo-strategic position with various trade routes.
 - ↳ Interests of US and China in West Asia.
 - ↳ Abraham Accord ⇒ collaboration among UAE, Israel, etc.



Apart from this, millions of Indians are settled there extending soft power in the region.

Thus, Partnership with the Middle East must be taken to new heights to fulfill India's aspirations of global leader.

11. Disenfranchising prisoners desecrates a cherished value in a democracy i.e. 'right to vote', which should be guarded earnestly. Discuss in the light of The Representation of The People Act, 1951. **(250 words) 15**

कैदियों को मताधिकार से वंचित करना वस्तुतः लोकतंत्र के एक प्रशंसनीय मूल्य, अर्थात् "मतदान के अधिकार" का अपमान करना है, जिसकी गंभीरतापूर्वक रक्षा की जानी चाहिए। लोक प्रतिनिधित्व अधिनियम, 1951 के आलोक में चर्चा कीजिए।

Universal Adult Franchise is the foundational bedrock of Indian democracy which must be strengthened through conduct of free and fair elections by ECI (Art. 24).

Representation of People Act, 1951

- ①. Prisoners do not have right to vote. Although, they can contest the elections from inside jail.
- ②. Prisoners under preventive detention have voting rights.

Consequences of disenfranchising

- ①. Representation not inclusive and diverse.
- ②. Their fundamental rights under Art. 19(1)(a) and 21 are violated.
- ③. Under-trial prisoners who form majority are devoid of their rights.
- ④. Disenfranchising them makes politicians not taking prison reform as in their manifesto.
- ⑤. Disharmony b/w the Right not to vote but right to contest the elections.

Measures required to be taken

- ①. Amendment of RPA, 1951 to add provision of Right to vote to prisoners.
- ②. Efficient criminal justice system
 - CCTNS
 - e-courts mission
 - making bail a norm & not exception
 - reducing discretion of police and prison superintendent.
- ③. Inclusion of prison reforms in political manifesto.
- ④. Fundamental rights under Art. 20 & 22 must be protected.

Thus, enfranchising prisoners along with overhaul of justice delivery is key to deepening democracy.

12. There are similarities and interactions between the affirmative action adopted by India and USA owing to similar historical injustices faced by their respective vulnerable groups. Discuss. (250 words) 15

भारत और यू. एस. ए. के मुन्हेद्य समूहों द्वारा सामना किए गए एकसमान ऐतिहासिक अन्याय के कारण, इनके द्वारा अपनाई गई सकारात्मक कार्रवाई के बीच समानताएं हैं और इनका एक-दूसरे पर प्रभाव पड़ा है। चर्चा कीजिए।

India and USA share the values of democracy built on foundation of equality and sovereignty of people.

Similarities b/w Affirmative Actions

- ①. Vulnerable Group in India → Dalits and tribes being socially and educationally backward
 ↓
 Art. 29, 30 to protect the → given special protection by way of positive discrimination under Art. 15(4), 16(4), 16(4)(a)

②. Vulnerable Group in US

- Blacks due to racism
- given special rights to correct historical injustices.

③. Other vulnerable groups in India and US

Eg - Women

- given special provisions under constitution - Eg - Under Art-15(3) in India.
- political representation to women in US. Eg - Kamala Harris - Vice President.

Interaction b/w their affirmative actions

- ①. US releases human rights list which makes India to protect human rights.
- ②. Many policies of US for immigrants impact Indian diaspora residing there. Eg - H-1B Visa.
- ③. "Black Lives Matter" movement all over the world.
- ④. Global media showing atrocities faced by dalits and tribes.
- ⑤. Actions to prevent and protect distinct culture of indigenous people.

Affirmative actions taken must promote welfare of all with the spirit of "Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas"

13. Objections to domicile-based reservation in private sector jobs on the grounds of constitutional equality and freedom are misplaced. Critically discuss.

(250 words) 15

संवैधानिक समानता और स्वतंत्रता के आधार पर निजी क्षेत्र की नौकरियों में अधिवास आधारित आरक्षण पर आपत्ति अनुचित है। समालोचनात्मक चर्चा कीजिए।

Many states in India have come up with this policy of providing reservation for locals on the basis of domicile in private sector jobs.

Eg - Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, etc.

Objections to Domicile-based reservation

- ① Violates Art. 14, 15 & 16 of Constitution of India.
- ② Art. 16 prohibits discrimination in employment on the

basis of place of residence.

③. Violation of Art. 19(1)(d), 19(1)(e) to reside and settle in any part of India.

④. Violation of Art. 19(1)(f) to practise any job or profession of one's own choice.

⑤. Violation of Constitutional ideals

- fraternity as emphasis is on sons-of-soil theory.
- integrity of India
- single citizenship (Art. 5-11)

However, certain grounds on which this domicile-based

reservation is justified are

→ huge unemployment among educated youth.

→ fulfilling expectations of constituency.

→ Issues related to migration can be solved

- skewed demography
- resource crunch
- sanitation and slums.

Reverse ← Way Forward → Indira
discrimination should not happen. Sawhney judgement
Investment (50% limit on by Govt. to reservation can't promote employment be breached)

Populist Policies must be curbed and engine of growth must be started to realise the

14. There have been arguments that sedition law is an attack on the very foundation of India's liberal democratic principles, as enshrined in the Constitution. Do you agree? (250 words) 15

ऐसा तर्क दिया जाता है कि राजद्रोह कानून भारत के उदार लोकतांत्रिक सिद्धांतों की नींव पर हमला है, जैसा कि संविधान में निहित हैं। क्या आप सहमत हैं?

Sedition under 124 A of IPC

is defined as an attempt to overthrow government or incite violence by way of writing, speaking or any other medium of expression.

Sedition : An attack on Indian democracy

①. Dissenting voices of people are suppressed by arbitrary actions of State.

②. Freedom of speech and expression (not under 19(2))

under Art. 19(1)(a) is violated.

- ③. Vaguely and broadly worded law $\Rightarrow$ discretion of State. Eg - Bhima - Koregaon Case
- ④. Curbs the creativity. Eg - Cartoonists accused under this offence.
- ⑤. Most arrests on grounds of mere sloganeering ~~or~~, ~~or~~ protesting, etc.

However, certain arguments
are for this law

- ①. To protect the sovereignty
and integrity of India.
- ②. To curb various secessionist

and separatist tendencies like North-east, Khalistan movement, etc.

③. To keep a check on miscreants/proxy-terrorism sponsored by neighbouring countries.

Way Forward -

①. Law Commission Report, 2018 -

- either Complete overhaul
- or
- Repeal of Sec 124A of IPC

②. Kedamath judgement of Supreme Court must be made into law.

A balance b/w fundamental rights and sovereignty and integrity of state is required.

15. Despite Government e-Marketplace facing certain challenges, it has brought about a significant improvement in the procurement of goods and services by various government agencies. Discuss. **(250 words) 15**

गवर्नमेंट ई-मार्केटप्लेस द्वारा कुछ चुनौतियों का सामना करने के बावजूद, इन्होंने विभिन्न सरकारी एजेंसियों द्वारा वस्तुओं और सेवाओं की खरीद में महत्वपूर्ण सुधार किया है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Government e-Marketplace is a platform to ensure smooth and transparent procurement of goods and services by various government departments.

Challenges faced →

①. Lack of digital literacy and rigidity in public departments.

②. Non-utilisation of this platform. Departments still procuring in offline mode.

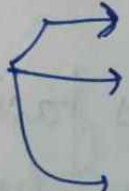
- ③. Discrimination in favour of small sellers like MSMEs, etc.
- ④. Rules of origin terms prevents ease of doing business
- ⑤. Ineffective dispute resolution mechanism.

Despite these challenges, various improvements have been brought about by E-ro-e marketplace such as

- ①. Transparency in procurement.
- ②. Welfare of MSMEs and small service providers.
- ③. Corruption and role of middle men reduced.

④. Expediting the process of procure-
-ment.

To realise the full potential
Certain steps are needed →

①. Development of digital infrastru-
cture  Internet connectivity
Computers
digital training

②. Mandatory procurement provision
must be extended to other sectors.

③. Simplification of procedures
like Rules of origin, etc.

Thus, all issues must be
fixed at the earliest to make
the procurement process hassle-
free and goal of service delivery
efficient.

16. A reformed system of recruitment, training and evaluation needs to be put in place to take forward the development of a highly efficient and accountable civil service. Discuss in the context of India. (250 words) 15

अत्यधिक कुशल और जवाबदेह सिविल सेवा के विकास को आगे बढ़ाने के लिए भर्ती, प्रशिक्षण और मूल्यांकन की एक संशोधित प्रणाली लागू करने की आवश्यकता है। भारत के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।

Civil Services is as termed as the steel frame of our nation by Sardar Patel.

However certain issues facing this services are needed to be resolved at various levels →

1. Recruitment

① Merit based recruitment in Centre and States. Eg - Many instances of corruption in HPSC, RPSC, etc.

② Skills required by a civil servant must be comprehensive

- sively quaged by recruitment process.

② Process must be regularly held with appropriate time intervals.

2. Training

① Training to civil servants in various values required under it

- Compassion
- Accountability
- Integrity

② Awareness and Education of Civil Services Conduct Rules, etc.

3. Evaluation

① After posting, evaluation in terms of targets and deadlines.

- ⑥ Art- 311 to be amended To ensure equality of law (Art- 14)
- ⑦ Evaluation based on Transparent parameters and not personal interests of ministers.
- ⑧ Recognition of honesty through rewards and punishing corrupt through disciplinary action.

Civil Services is the hallmark of public service delivery and thus, must be made truly accountable to public to attain the goal of Aatmanirbhar Bharat

17. Despite initiatives taken by the Indian government to achieve critical goals in the education sector, major interventions are required to tackle learning poverty as well as the persisting inequalities. Discuss. (250 words) 15
- शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में महत्वपूर्ण लक्ष्यों को प्राप्त करने के लिए भारत सरकार द्वारा आरंभ की गई पहलों के बावजूद, लर्निंग पॉवर्टी (अधिगम निर्धनता) के साथ-साथ विद्यमान असमानताओं से निपटने के लिए बड़े हस्तक्षेपों की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Learning poverty refers to the inability to read and write among ten year olds and above.

Initiatives taken by Indian Government

①. National Education Policy, 2020
(drafted by Kasturirangan Committee)

↓
foundational & numeracy & literacy
to be achieved by 2025 -

↓
Cross enrolm-ent ratio to be increased to 50% in schools by 2025.

- ②. Samagra Shiksha under which continuum of education from primary to secondary level is made.
- ③. Online education initiatives
- DIKSHA Platform
 - SWAYAM Portal
 - TV channels like Doordarshan, etc.
- ④. Mid-Day Meal Scheme to ~~increase~~ retain students.

However, still gaps remain as is evident by existing inequities in education.

Measured required

- ①. Effective Implementation of NEP, 2020.

②. Digital Divide among poor and rich must be bridged to ensure smooth education access.

Eg - During Covid Pandemic

③. Action taken on evidence. Eg - ASER report of PRATHAM.

④. Since, education is state subject - it - Hence one-size-fits-all approach not feasible.

⑤. Focus on ^{gender}~~gender~~-sensitive education.

⑥. Regulation of fees in private schools and development of infrastructure in public schools.

Schools of future will decide the future of our nation and hence must be strengthened as per 21st Century needs.

18. In light of the burgeoning burden of both communicable and non-communicable diseases, there is a need to revamp the public health surveillance system in India. Discuss. (250 words) 15

संचारी और गैर-संचारी दोनों प्रकार के रोगों के बढ़ते बोझ के आलोक में, भारत में सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य निगरानी प्रणाली में सुधार की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

India spends less than 2% of GDP on healthcare highlighting the dire need of investment in healthcare infrastructure.

Burden of Communicable and non-Communicable diseases

①. 65% of deaths in India due to non-communicable disease like Heart stroke, diabetes, blood pressure, etc.

②. Zoonotic diseases on rise more than ever

- Influenza
- Swine flu
- Covid Pandemic

③. High out-of-pocket expenditure
(~70%) $\Rightarrow$ sliding below poverty
line.

④. More focus on curative care than
preventive care. (High focus on
3 care than Health and Wellness
centres).

⑤. Need to revamp

①. Less doctor-patient ratio (1:1456
against WHO recommended 1:1000)

②. Inequitable distribution $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \rightarrow \text{rural and} \\ \text{urban areas} \\ \rightarrow \text{access to rich} \\ \text{and poor.} \end{array} \right.$

③. Lack of R&D on zoonotic disease
and one health.

④. Lack of digital health care

Interventions required →

- ①. Budgetary allocations for preventive healthcare to be increased.
- ②. Effective implementation of PM-JAY and Aayushman Bharat.
- ③. National digital health blueprint required to be researched properly.
- ④. CSIR-labs, etc. to be strengthened for robust R&D on communicable diseases.
- ⑤. Fit India Movement, Eat Right Movement for non-communicable disease prevention.

An action on all fronts is required from funding to preventing disease to make India healthy in true spirit.

19. The repercussions of the ongoing economic crisis in Sri Lanka extend beyond its borders. Discuss with specific reference to India. Also, mention the steps that India has taken to assist Sri Lanka tide over the crisis.

(250 words) 15

श्रीलंका में जारी आर्थिक संकट का प्रभाव उसकी सीमाओं से परे भी पड़ रहा है। भारत के विशिष्ट संदर्भ में विवेचना कीजिए। साथ ही, उन कदमों का भी उल्लेख कीजिए जो भारत ने इस संकट से निपटने में श्रीलंका की सहायता के लिए उठाए हैं।

India - Sri Lanka share historical ties based on the tenets of Buddhism, trade, sea connectivity, etc.

Repercussions of Sri Lankan Economic Crisis on India

①. Investment projects of India in Sri Lanka might face losses.

Eg - Mattala airport, Colombo Railways, Adani group investments, etc.

②. Tamil people residing in Sri Lanka.

Eg - Conflict b/w Tamilians and Sinhalese

- ③. Sri Lanka might turn to China for help. $\Rightarrow$ Dent on India's "Neighbourhood First" policy.
- ④. India's aid perceived as Big Brotherly attitude.
- ⑤. Goal of India of being "Net Security provider" in danger as non-collaboration with Sri Lanka in Indian Ocean Region.

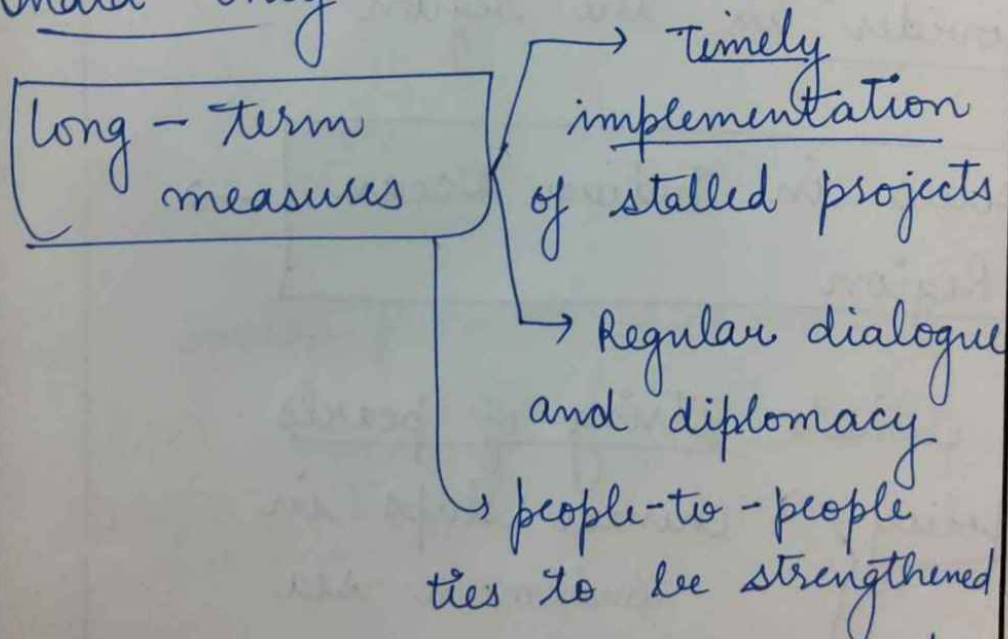
To tide over this crisis, India helped Sri Lanka in various ways $\rightarrow$

- ①. Currency Swap of \$400 mn b/w India and Sri Lanka.
- ②. Loans / Credits given at soft

interest rates.

- ③ Aid in form of food, fuel, medicines sent to Sri Lanka.

However, certain issues still remain as Sri Lanka perceive this aid by India in interest of India only.



India-Sri Lanka peaceful and prosperous ties are crucial for regional security and realising the dream of Asian century.

20. India is a reliable partner in the Indian Ocean Region and can take on the role of being the net security provider in the region. Discuss. (250 words) 15

भारत हिंद महासागर क्षेत्र में एक विश्वसनीय भागीदार है और इस क्षेत्र में निवल सुरक्षा प्रदाता होने की भूमिका निभा सकता है। विवेचना कीजिए।

India's "SAGAR vision" i.e. Security and Growth for all in the region is a way towards the goal of being "net security provider" in the region

Issues in Indian Ocean Region →

- ①. China's string of pearls policy →
 - Chinese ships in Andaman sea
 - Guadalupe port investments
- ②. Piracy and crimes like smuggling, Terrorism, etc.

Eg - Mumbai attack happened through sea route.

③. Disaster Management especially in wake of climate change.

Eg - Cyclones, Tsunami 2004, etc.

④. Securing the interests of small island developing countries like Maldives, Seychelles, etc.

Role of India →

①. India provided assistance and humanitarian aid during Tsunami 2004.

②. Indian Ocean Fusion Centre located in Cochin to collect data about Indian ocean.

③- India's Neighbourhood First Policy in line with security provider.

④- Indian investments in interests of countries unlike deft trap diplo-macy of China.

Eg → Mattala Airport vs Hambantota port in Sri Lanka.

Way Forward

①. Collaboration among all Indian Ocean rim countries.

②. Indian commitments must be made into reality.

③. Securing the sea lanes

- Indian Ocean
- Malacca Strait
- South China Sea.

UNCLOS treaty must be adhered to by all for safe and prosperous Indian Ocean Region.