NEXT IAS

anubhav-2025

(To be filled by candidate)

TEST CODE : ANV2502

Name of Candidate: Aditi Arora Mobile [redacted]

Roll No. : AIM 25 QCA 2043 Start Time 2:30PM End Time 5:30PM

Date of Examination: 02/08/2025 Medium : English ☑ Hindi ☐

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1.	10	
2.	10	
3.	10	
4.	10	
5.	10	
6.	10	
7.	10	
8.	10	
9.	10	
10.	10	
TOTAL MARKS - 100		

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
11.	15	
12.	15	
13.	15	
14.	15	
15.	15	
16.	15	
17.	15	
18.	15	
19.	15	
20.	15	
TOTAL MARKS - 150		

GRAND TOTAL - ...../ 250 EVAL CODE: ..... EVAL DATE: .....

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. Immediately on receipt of the QCA booklet, please check that this QCA booklet does not have any misprint or torn or missing pages or items, etc. If so, get it replaced by a fresh QCA booklet.
2. Candidates must mention all relevant details like Name, Roll No, Mobile, etc. in the space allocated.
3. Candidate is expected to attempt all 20 questions within the given timeline.
4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized at the time of admission.
5. Candidates must write answers for the specific question under the respective question itself. Any answer written outside the space allotted may not be given credit.
6. Please write neatly. Avoid illegible writing.
7. Do not write/mark irrelevant matters in the QCAB.

सामान्य निर्देश

1. QCA पुस्तिका प्राप्त होने पर कृपया तुरंत जांच लें कि इस QCA पुस्तिका में कोई पृष्ठ या सामग्री आदि गलत छपी हुई या फटी हुई या गायब तो नहीं है। यदि ऐसा है, तो इसे एक नई QCA पुस्तिका से बदल लें।
2. अभ्यर्थियों को सभी प्रासंगिक विवरण जैसे नाम, रोल नंबर, मोबाइल नंबर आदि का आवंटित स्थान पर उल्लेख करना होगा ।
3. अभ्यर्थियों से अपेक्षा की जाती है कि वह आवंटित समय-सीमा के भीतर ही सभी 20 प्रश्नों के उत्तर-लेखन का प्रयास करें।
4. प्रत्येक उत्तर, प्रवेश के समय चुनी गयी भाषा के माध्यम में ही लिखे जाने चाहिए।
5. अभ्यर्थियों को विशिष्ट प्रश्न के उत्तर संबंधित प्रश्न के नीचे ही लिखने होंगे। आवंटित स्थान के बाहर लिखे गए किसी भी उत्तर को क्रेडिट नहीं दिया जाएगा।
6. कृपया साफ-सुथरा लिखें। अपठनीय लेखन से बचें।
7. QCAB में अप्रासंगिक तथ्यों को न लिखें / न ही चिह्नित करें।

REMARKS: .....

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FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Student Concerns / Query	Evaluator's Feedback / Response
1	1 .....
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2	2 .....
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3	3 .....
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MARKING SCHEME *

Marks Per Ques	Below Average	Average	Above Average
10 Marks	Below 3.00	3.00 - 3.75	4.00 and above
15 Marks	Below 4.50	4.50 - 5.75	6.00 and above

* Subject to change without prior notice.

IMPORTANT QR CODES

Topper's Copy

Common mistake and Correct Filled QCAB

Copy Scanner App

Next IAS Test Centre Location

MACRO COMMENTS

The Purpose of MTS 2.0 Score Improvement Program (SIP) is to provide constructive suggestions on 'How to improve Answer Writing and thereby score better marks.

Q1.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q2.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q3.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q4.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q5.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

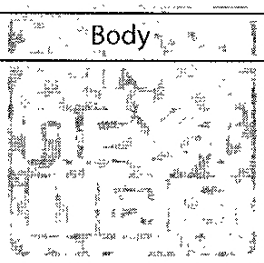
Q6.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q7.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q8.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion
		

Q9.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q10.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

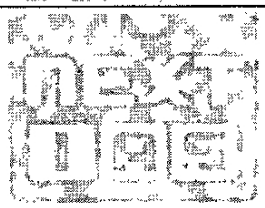
Q11.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q12.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q13.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion
		

Q14.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q15.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

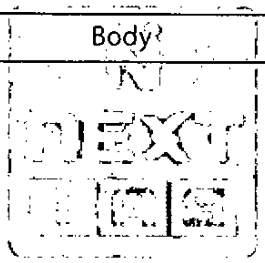
Q16.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q17.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q18.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion
		

Q19.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q20.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion


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Candidates must not write on this margin

1. समाजवादी आदर्श और पंथनिरपेक्षता भारत में मूल संरचना के सिद्धांत की मुख्य विशेषताएँ हैं। इस संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए कि किस प्रकार न्यायिक निर्णयों ने इन सिद्धांतों को संवैधानिक पहचान की आधारशिला के रूप में स्थापित किया है।
(उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक

Socialistic ideals and secularism are core features of the Basic Structure doctrine in India. In this context, discuss how judicial decisions have cemented these principles as the cornerstone of constitutional identity.
(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

socialism means that India's market economy functions in the presence of the state and state exists for the welfare. Secularism ~~was~~ is an ideology where religion is separate from politics.

Judicial decisions ~~of~~ which have cemented them

(1) SR Bommai case - secularism is part of Basic structure of constitution.

(2) India do not have MIXED socialism but democratic socialism.

(3) Kesavanda Bharati case - the ideals of Preamble ~~has~~ as a whole has been declared as part of Basic structure.

(4) Right of constitutional minorities — religious or linguistic ~~not~~ ~~to~~ to setup educational institutions of its choice.

(5) LIC of India v/s v o I → case by the preamble's ~~not~~ ideals

Candidates must not write on this margin

Were reiterated as part of basic structure.

(6) State should ~~work to~~ strive to eliminate poverty, inequality and diseases.

(7) Courts decisions to uphold reservation - Indira Sawhney → helps to fulfill substantive equality goals.

Socialism and secularism represents the social fabric of our country on which lay the whole structure of political & economic democracy.

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2. "चुनावी कदाचार के उभरते रूपों से निपटने के लिए जन प्रतिनिधित्व अधिनियम, 1951 के अंतर्गत 'भ्रष्ट आचरण' के दायरे का विस्तार करने की आवश्यकता है।" टिप्पणी कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक

"There is a need to expand the scope of 'corrupt practices' under the Representation of the People Act, 1951, to address emerging forms of electoral malpractices." Comment. (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Representation of People Act 1951 was enacted by the legislature to ensure electoral process remains transparent and is in interests of larger public

Emerging forms of electoral malpractices

(1) Use of huge amount of money
↳ (ex) recent lok sabha election cost ₹1.35 lakh crore highest in the world. Increasing.

(2) Freebies culture

(3) Political campaigning – biased towards ruling party.

(4) Criminalisation of politics (ex) ADR ~ 46% of current legislatures have case against them. And 27% are convicted.

(5) Use of hate speech and religious bickering in speeches.

(6) Use of unaccounted notes and ghost votes.

Candidates must not write on this margin

What measures can be taken

(1) Amendment to RPA 1951 Act → strictly define the nature of corrupt practices in the law.

(2) Expand the disqualifications based on judicial judgements.

(3) Strengthening High courts power to disqualify the candidates indulged in corrupt practices.

(4) Empowering EC to look into the matter independently.

With rising challenges, we need to ensure that electoral practices are in consonance with free and fair elections which is itself part of Basic structure doctrine.

Candidates must not write on this margin

3. भारत और फ्रांस की संवैधानिक संरचना में परिलक्षित समानता से संबंधित विशिष्ट दृष्टिकोणों का विश्लेषण कीजिए।
(उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक

Analyse the distinguishing perspectives on equality as reflected in the constitutional frameworks of India and France. (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

India and France differs in their approach of constitutional framework and the practice of equality as well.

Distinguishing features between India & France

	India	France
(1)	Equality of Religion	Also follows equality of religion but different secular interests.
(2)	Public display of symbols is allowed (article 28)	Public display of symbols not allowed.
(3)	Equality of opportunities in the constitution (article 16(1)).	Equality guaranteed by law and not constitution
(4)	Religion is individual specific, but government can intervene.	Government cannot intervene in any circumstance
(5)	Follows Rule of law	Follow Droit Administratif law

Candidates must not write on this margin

However there are certain similarities in their approach

(1) equality is abridged - is guaranteed by judiciary.

(2) equal opportunities to all the individuals irrespective of social status

India and France share common values in equality and hence has been the epitome of protection of the rights of citizens.

Candidates must not write on this margin

4. संघ के सकल कर राजस्व में राज्यों की प्रभावी हिस्सेदारी में लगातार कमी और संसाधनों के क्षैतिज वितरण में समता पर अत्यधिक बल देने के कारण भारत में राजकोषीय संघवाद को लेकर गंभीर चिंताएँ उत्पन्न हो रही हैं। विश्लेषण कीजिए।
(उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक

The shrinking effective share of States in the Union's gross tax revenues, coupled with equity-heavy criteria in horizontal devolution, raises critical concerns for fiscal federalism in India. Analyse.
(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Fiscal federalism is defined as the cooperation and collaboration between centre and states in fiscal matters

Issue in fiscal federalism concern

(1) low devolution (vertical) between centre and states → Ex 41% which is reduced from last year (15th F.C) (42%) · some states are demanding 50%.

(2) effective share is less - after cess and surcharges cut - Ex 41% was effective share now merely ~~35%~~ ~35-37%.

(3) limit on borrowing power of the states (article 293).

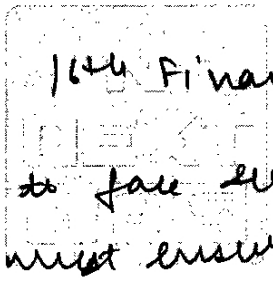
(4) Poor Horizontal devolution many → · high income states → says that devolution is biased towards low income states - Ex population criteria, Income distance criteria.

Candidates must not write on this margin

(5) ~~factor~~ representative and inclusive
Inadequate
indicators → (ex) forest and ecology
is which is not equal in India.

(6) Absence of address of needs of special states (ex) naxal affected status.

(7) Coastal states and low factor in
of climate change (ex) rising sea levels.



14th Finance commission
will have to face such challenges,
and it must ensure that diverse
needs are upheld to promote
fiscal federalism.

Candidates must not write on this margin

5. "नागरिकता संवैधानिक अधिकारों और दायित्वों का विधिक आधार है।" चर्चा कीजिए कि नागरिकता के प्रति भारत का दृष्टिकोण संवैधानिक मूल्यों के प्रति उसकी प्रतिबद्धता को किस प्रकार दर्शाता है।

(उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक

"Citizenship is the legal foundation of constitutional rights and responsibilities." Discuss how India's approach to citizenship reflects its commitment to constitutional values.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

The Indian constitution is an organic law of the land which defines citizenship as the relations between government and people.

India's approach to citizenship

(1) Accomodating and inclusive → (ex)
(ex) by registration, not naturalisation

(2) Equality of opportunities and no discrimination (ex) it does not discriminate between natural and naturalised citizenship

(3) Respect to constitutional ideals → (ex)
↳ if any person (not naturalisation or by registered citizen) violates the sanctity of constitution – he/she could lose its citizenship

(4) Single citizenship - uphold unity and integrity – (ex)

a person cannot simultaneously acquire any foreign citizenship

Candidates must not write on this margin

(5) strategic autonomy and sovereignty

Ex if during war any person trades with any enemy alien, he/she will lose its citizenship.

(6) Choice to citizens and people

during acquisition of territory — choice is given to people of the territory

Ex during Exchange of enclaves between India & Bangladesh.

(7) forgiving nature — if any person stays in India for more than 14 years will be able to grant citizenship despite its past citizenship.

(8) Duties given to citizenship

(9) Recognises extended ties by OCI, PIO card holders

Citizenship is the basis for any to mediation in a country which defines the rights of the person with government.

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6. घटती प्रजनन दर और बढ़ती जीवन प्रत्याशा के कारण, प्रजनन-केंद्रित हस्तक्षेपों के स्थान पर मानव पूँजी निवेश की ओर बदलाव की आवश्यकता है। हालिया जनसंख्या प्रवृत्ति के आलोक में परीक्षण कीजिए।

(उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक

Declining fertility rates, coupled with rising life expectancy, require a shift from fertility-focused interventions to human capital investments. Examine in the light of recent population trends. (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

India's fecundity rate at present has reached 2.0 which is below replacement level of fertility rate. And India's life expectancy has reached 70 years (NFHS-5)

Need of Human capital investments

(1) To maximise the demographic window (Ex) 65% of population in India is below 35 years of age.

(2) To improve health outcome

(Ex) ~~NFHS~~ NFHS-5 32% of children are not no wisered and 19% are wasted.

(3) To raise education level of children and bridge the skill gap.

(Ex) → 17.4% is the drop out rate from secondary education.

(4) To increase labour productivity

(Ex) recently only 4.7% of youth

Candidates must not write on this margin

has undergone formal training (PLFS 2023-24)

(5) Rising elderly population - to reduce health burden and ~~rising~~ out of pocket expenditure currently 39.4%.

(6) New economic opportunities to elderly class. as the pension is meagre → (a) Economic survey 2023-24 ~ 12% of formal employees get pension.

(7) To reap the demographic dividend - when world is ageing, India is young.

Shift from fertility focussed interventions to human capital formation will help to maximise efficiency and achieve 5 trillion economy goal.

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7. "शासन की गुणवत्ता लोकतांत्रिक प्रक्रियाओं में नागरिक सहभागिता की सीमा और प्रकृति से महत्त्वपूर्ण रूप से जुड़ी हुई है।" भारतीय संदर्भ में सोदाहरण विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक

"The quality of governance is critically linked to the extent and nature of citizen participation in democratic processes." Discuss using examples in the Indian context.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Governance is defined as collective problem solving and involves NGO's, civil society and market actors.

Governance = Government + Market + Civil society

How citizen participation ensures governance

(1) Accountability (ex) social audit in Andhra Pradesh revealed ₹1TD move scam.

(2) empowerment of citizens → (ex) Kerala's local budget planning.

(3) Transparency in governance (ex) MKSS led to RTI Act.

(4) Vulnerability sections empowerment → (ex) Naga Mothers association campaign led to 1st women MLA being elected in Nagaland assembly.

Candidates must not write on this margin

(5) Keeps government in check (ex) →

Centre for Science and Research aware citizens about policies etc.

(6) Bridge the supply and demand gap as argued by Hamza Alavi → Overburdened society.

(7) Proactive citizenry - keeps government accountable and responsive

(a) citizen charter

A proactive citizenry is the need of the dynamic changes that is happening and to keep the local participants active and ensure democratic governance for Sabka Sath, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Prayas.

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8. "शैक्षणिक परिणामों और बाज़ार की आवश्यकताओं के मध्य कम अनुकूलन सामाजिक और आर्थिक असमानताओं में वृद्धि कर सकता है।" भारत के कौशल पारितंत्र के संदर्भ में इस कथन का परीक्षण कीजिए।

(उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक

"Low alignment between educational outcomes and market needs can widen social and economic inequalities." Examine this statement in the context of India's skills ecosystem.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

India is at the edge of a demographic dividend and a huge labour-force. Accordingto UN population fund 2025, 68% of people lies within (18-35) years. of

what happens when there is huge skill gap

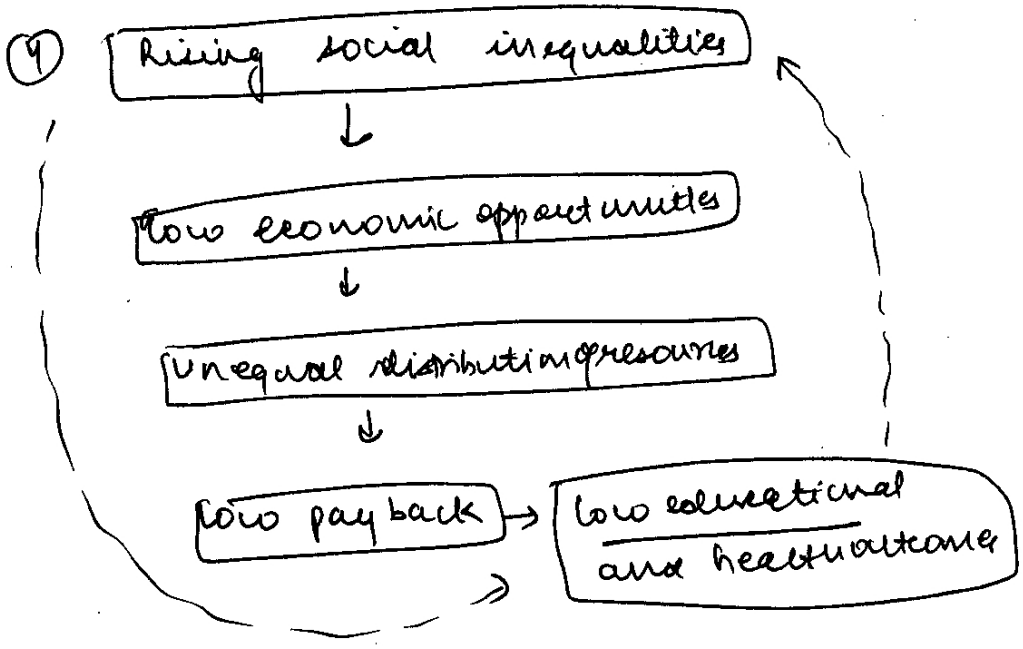
(1) Informalisation of the economy - ~90%. of workforce is in informal sector

(2) low skill and therefore → no economic opportunities (ex) 50% of India's graduates are employable (India skills report).

(3) Rising inequality as the job security is less in informal sector (ex) Oxfam report top 1% holds 40% of wealth in India

Candidates must not write on this margin

(4)



It is a ~~vicious~~ vicious cycle

(5) Poor Industrial and academia linkage → poor educational opportunities as the proliferation of universities leads to low outcome.

Government's initiatives such as STRIVE, SANKALP, NEP, Skill India mission is in right direction to bridge the skill ~~to~~ gap and turn our demographic disaster to demographic dividend.

Candidates must not write on this margin

9. "अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य संरचना के प्रति प्रमुख शक्तियों की शिथिल होती प्रतिबद्धता समतामूलक वैश्विक सहयोग के लिए गंभीर चुनौतियाँ प्रस्तुत करती है।" विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठन से अमेरिका के हटने और भारत पर इसके प्रभावों के आलोक में विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक

"The weakening commitment of major powers to international health frameworks poses serious challenges to equitable global cooperation." Discuss in light of the U.S. withdrawal from the WHO and its implications for India. (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Recently USA withdrawn from ~~Indi~~ WHO on account of rising inequalities in the health architecture and the poor evaluation of pandemic response.

Challenges of USA withdrawal

(1) financial contributions → as USA is the major contributor of WHO.

(2) Poor response from other country → as the potential for weaponisation of the health is possible.

(3) Low response as USA is the main factor for ~~resp~~ Research and development

(4) Major programmes of WHO may halt or weaken ex> TB elimination programme, GLASS ~~Polio~~ framework.

(5) major impact on economic countries such as in African continent which are

Candidates must not write on this margin

grappling with rising disease and poor financial viability.

Implications for India

(1) Lead epidemic control - India is the "Pharmacy of the world" and can help Bridge the gap.

(2) The generic medicine push by India may get affected as WHO is a platform where know which it could be shared.

(3) Rising conflict with China for the WHO future course of action.

(4) Can provide the necessary expertise

(5) National Programme may take a back seat due to poor financial availability.

India with its bilateral negotiation power can bring USA into WHO as USA is the major contributor of funds and R&D to WHO without it WHO may lose its teeth to implement.

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10. पश्चिम एशिया में चल रहे संघर्ष ने क्षेत्रीय कूटनीतिक संवेदनशीलताओं को उजागर कर दिया है। इस परिप्रेक्ष्य में, भारत की सामरिक स्वायत्तता और क्षेत्रीय सहभागिता पर पश्चिम एशियाई संघर्ष के प्रभावों की चर्चा कीजिए।

(उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक

The ongoing conflict in West Asia has exposed the vulnerabilities of regional diplomacy. In this light, discuss the implications of the West Asian conflict for India's strategic autonomy and regional engagement. (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

The world has seen rising conflicts in the last decade and it has taken new shape in west Asia. With Israel-Gaza, Israel-Iran war, the implications for global will be ~~cost~~ multifold.

Implications of west Asian conflict on India

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① Rising ~~cost~~ transit ~~of~~ at the Red canal route may be ~~mind~~ ered.

② Rising import bill - India imports 2/3 of its oil and may curtail of it is from west Asia

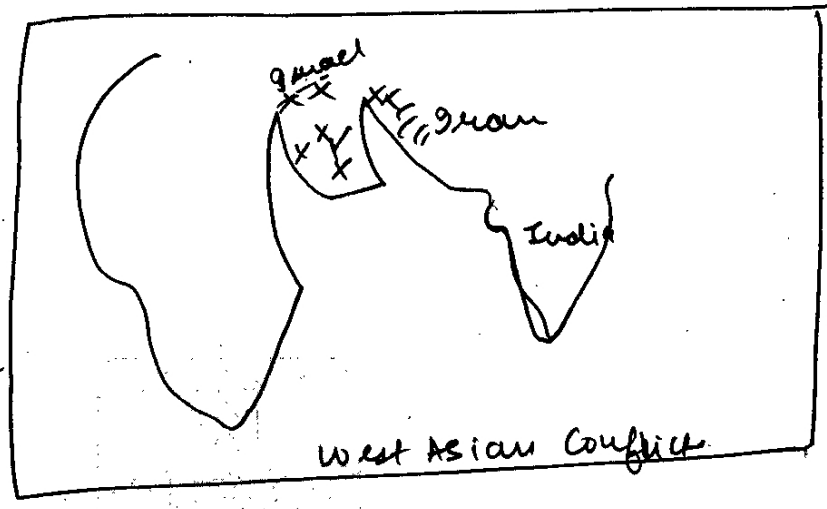
③ Rising cases of piracy ~~ex~~ by Houthis of Yemen → leads to political challenge.

④ Difficult to follow strategic autonomy as neutral policy of India may not yield result.

Candidates must not write on this margin

(5) Push for global rebalancing of Iraq — may hinder its regional aspirations -> of deprioritisation of Israel Palestine relations.

(6) Rising tensions on economic front



(7). India's Push for Two state solution may ~~be~~ sidelined by global leaders

(8) Has the potential to turn into full fledged war.

With Rising conflicts in West Asia India should pursue its aspirations with bilateral engagements and diversification of its economic needs.

Candidates must not write on this margin

11. विभाग-संबंधी स्थायी समितियाँ विधायी समीक्षा के लिए संस्थागत आधार के रूप में कार्य करती हैं, फिर भी उनकी क्षमता का पूरा उपयोग नहीं किया जाता है।" भारत में कार्यपालिका की जवाबदेही सुनिश्चित करने में संसदीय समितियों के समक्ष आने वाली चुनौतियों का समालोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

"Department-related Standing Committees serve as the institutional backbone of legislative scrutiny, yet their potential remains underutilised." Critically analyse the challenges faced by Parliamentary Committees in ensuring executive accountability in India.

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Departmental Related standing committee (DRSC's) are the one establishment of scrutiny of the bills for each departments and ministeries brought by the members in parliamentary members. There are total 24 of such committees.

Advantages of DRSC's

NEXT IAS

(1) Enhanced legislative scrutiny.

(2) Gives the expert opinion and finds the gaps in it

(3) Helps to identify the loopholes and lags in the provisions.

(4) Increases financial accountability.

(5) ensures that demand for grants of the ministeries is in line with the financial goal of the country.

(6) Prevents excessive excess.

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(7) Is a tool for accountability and control over the government acting

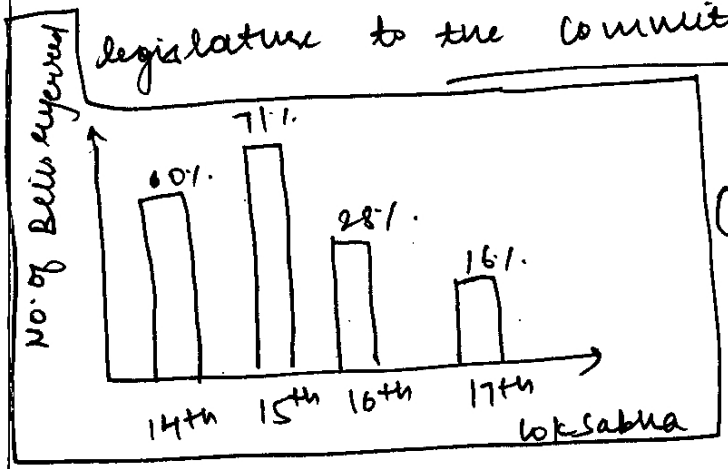
(8) Prevents hasty legislation.

(9) Analyse the provisions, thus helps in expanding the area of knowledge for Ministeries.

Challenges faced by Parliamentary Committees

(1) Cannot look into day to day matters of the ministeries.

(2) Bills are not referred by the legislature to the committees. for ex



(3) Lack of expert opinion as members are parliamentary members only.

(4) Bypassing of ~~Legislative~~ committees recommendations

(Ex) Budget of 2018, 2023 were passed by without discussion.

Candidates must not write on this margin

(5) Executive enjoys majority in parliament hence the recommendation do not seems likely to be discussed.

(6) cannot give or question the objective of policy; behind the

(7) lack of evaluation.

(8) Delay in scrutinising.

Measures

① Provide secretarial assistance to the committee

② Parliamentary Budget office should be formed which will give expert opinion to these committee

③ Compulsory sending of Bills to these committee.

④ ~~Use of~~ Provide timelines under which they have to execute

Parliamentary committee act as a check on excessiveness of the executive and ensure accountability.

Candidates must not write on this margin

12. "राष्ट्रपति शासन, शासन की विफलता से निपटने के लिए एक संवैधानिक तंत्र है, यह राजनीतिक सुविधा का तंत्र नहीं है।" किसी राज्य में किन परिस्थितियों में राष्ट्रपति शासन लागू किया जा सकता है? इससे संबंधित संवैधानिक सुरक्षा उपायों और न्यायिक निर्णयों पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

"President's Rule is a constitutional mechanism to deal with governance failure, not political convenience." Under what circumstances can President's Rule be imposed in a State? Discuss the constitutional safeguards and judicial verdicts associated with it.

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

President rules is imposed under Article 356 of the constitution. It is imposed to check the State's administrative machinary has failed in its functioning or not.

Under what circumstances can it be applied

(1) Under the governor's report → which he sends fortnightly to the President.

(2) under article 365 → when administrative machinary has failed in a state.

(3) If the state fails in following constitutional ideals (SR Bommai case)

(4) If state fails to follow the directive given by the state.

(5) when no party claims majority in the legislature, and there is a deadlock, governor either calls for fresh mandate or President's rule.

Candidates must not write on this margin

→ Governor cannot ~~suspend~~ dissolve the assembly without floor test. It has to give the ministers a chance to claim majority.

→ It also declared federalism as part basic structure of the constitution.

Constitutional safeguards say that what Dr Ambedkar ji envisioned as dead article (article 356) has become the deadliest article. Constitutional safeguards, judicial scrutiny and legislative restraint should ensure that it do not exceed.

NEXT IAS

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13. हाल ही में जारी किए गए अंतरण सूचकांक में पंचायती राज संस्थाओं को सशक्त बनाने में राज्यों के प्रदर्शन में व्यापक भिन्नता को उजागर किया गया है। इस भिन्नता के लिए उत्तरदायी कारणों की व्याख्या करते हुए, पंचायती राज संस्थाओं को उनके संवैधानिक अधिदेश को पूरा करने में सक्षम बनाने में क्षमता निर्माण पहल की भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए।

(उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

The recently released Devolution Index reveals wide variation in the performance of States in empowering Panchayati Raj Institutions. While explaining the reasons behind this variation, discuss the role of capacity-building initiatives in enabling PRIs to fulfil their constitutional mandate. (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Devolution Index was recently released to check the performance of Panchayati Raj Institutions. They were formed after 73rd constitutional amendment act 1993, which empowered state to devolve powers to local bodies.

Reasons behind the variation in devolution by the states

(1) Dilution of power by the states → They seems that their power will reduce.

(2) financial constraints of the states — as they do not themselves have the financial capacity (constrained by article 293), they do not devolve it to ~~sta~~ local bodies.

(3) Difference in approach

(ex) Kerala has empowered local bodies in budget formulation.

(4) Different development parameters

Candidates must not write on this margin

of the states → hence low capacity or empowerment of local bodies

(5) Delay in elections - some PRI's face the slow election process.

(6) Items are not delegated (in Schedule 11)

(E) Role of capacity Building initiatives

(1) low funds devolution by centre <50% own revenue.

(2) Panchayat Devolution Index - will help promote competitive federalism.

(3) Representation of women ↑

ex) HBI ~ 6% of total women's representatives in PRI's

(4) PESA act - Panchayat Extension to Scheduled Areas Act - has empowered tribal areas, and given them self development.

(5) Gram Sabha → has awakened the masses of the villages.

Candidates must not write on this margin

However there are challenges that persist

→ (1) Low utilisation of their capacity.

(2) Panchayat Pati concept.

(3) Has led to Sarpanch Raj in the village

(4) Low powers - as functionaries are with district government

(5) Low devolution of funds by the states.

NEXT

We need to increase the SFC's to the states as ~~as~~. They are funds, functions and functionaries and promote cooperative federalism and grass root empowerment.

Candidates must not write on this margin

14. उभरते संवैधानिक और राजनीतिक परिदृश्य में, सांविधिक आयोगों की प्रभावशीलता उनकी संरचनात्मक स्वायत्तता और स्वतंत्रता पर निर्भर करती है।" राष्ट्रीय महिला आयोग (NCW) और राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग (NHRC) जैसे सांविधिक आयोगों के लिए संवैधानिक दर्जे की बढ़ती माँग के संदर्भ में विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

"In the evolving constitutional and political landscape, the effectiveness of statutory commissions depends on their structural autonomy and independence." Discuss in the context of the growing demand for constitutional status for statutory commissions like the National Commission for Women (NCW) and the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC). (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Various statutory commissions have been formed to fulfill the social objectives of the states. It helps to guard the rights of minorities and empowerment of vulnerable sections

Why there is a need for constitutional status to National Commission for women and NHRC

(1) Lack of enforcement powers (ex)
NHRC can look into details of the case; give advice but cannot enforce its decision.

(2) Do research, but its recommendations are not binding (ex) NCW only recommends.

(3) Politicisation of bodies - because the statutory provisions has been tweaked to favour the political masses.

(4) NHRC → lack of autonomy - the members are inconsistent. (ex)

Candidates must not write on this margin

recently it lost its International accreditation

(5) Mandate of the laws are not upheld (ex) NCW - atleast women should be present, but instances where women are absent.

(6) NHRC cannot take cases beyond one year — restricts its power beyond in Rights violation.

Advantages of giving constitutional status

(1) Decrease politicisation of bodies.

(2) Funds will be channelised properly — (ex) NHRC can provide relief to the violation of

(3) NCW can do research and will give recommendations based on evolving dynamics → helps to in stability in the institutions.

(4) No Arbitrary misuse of powers → Accountability and check methods can be evolved.

Candidates must not write on this margin

(5) Budgetary provision → will streamline its financial resources legislative excess.

By giving constitutional status to the evolving bodies, constitutional morality and Transformative constitution will be upheld and the social justice goal of the government will be completed.

Candidates must not write on this margin

15. "संवैधानिक मूल्यों को बनाए रखने के लिए एक स्वतंत्र न्यायपालिका आवश्यक है, किंतु जनता के विश्वास को बनाए रखने के लिए इसे जवाबदेह भी होना चाहिए।" हाल ही के मुद्दों के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।

(उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

"An independent judiciary is essential for upholding constitutional values, but it must also remain accountable to preserve public trust." Discuss in the context of recent issues.

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

An independent judiciary forms a bedrock of federalism and is an essential feature of the constitution. It helps maintain legislature and executive accountable.

Independent judiciary importance

(1) Guarantor of fundamental rights →

(ex) Article 21 scope was expanded to include Right to speedy trial in Hariram Bhoota case.

(2) Keeps check on government →

(ex) Keshavananda Bharati case → basic structure doctrine.

(3) upholds Ubi Jus Ibi Remendium → where there is right there is a remedy under article 32 and 226

(4) Expanded the rights of citizens

(ex) Right to move abroad is guaranteed in article 21 → Satwant Singh case.

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(5) Preserves the foundational value of the constitution

(ex) NALSA judgement - Transgender case upholds Basic Bowl integration.

(6) Ensures minority rights (ex) St. Stephen's college - SC upheld 50% reservation for minorities in minority education institution.

However with the rising cases of judicial overreach, and judges conduct, it is necessary to ensure its working.

(1) Appointment of judicial commissioner (AR 124)

(2) Appointment of a collegium system and merit be ensured in selection (Law commission recommendations)

(3) Adopt a National judicial commission (AR 124)

(4) To protect judicial activism → and overreach → (ex) recent verdict on President's and Governor's power of

Candidates must not write on this margin

reserving Bills, recently highlights the constitutional misuse.

(5) Lack of public trust - as judiciary has become an ivory tower and uses its power to not be transparent but secrecy. (ex) Abolition of NJAC.

The judicial acts as the protector of fundamental rights and it should use its power judiciously and cautiously. Power is not absolute. Montesquieu's separation of power is a guiding light " where there is no one, don't create where there is none".

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16. विश्वसनीयता, पारदर्शिता और निष्पक्ष प्रतिस्पर्धा सुनिश्चित करने के लिए क्षेत्रीय विनियामकों की संस्थागत स्वायत्तता अत्यंत महत्त्वपूर्ण है। हाल ही की घटनाओं के आलोक में, भारत में विनियामक निकायों की स्वतंत्रता और स्वायत्तता से संबंधित मुद्दों का परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

Institutional autonomy of sectoral regulators is critical for ensuring credibility, transparency, and fair competition. In light of recent incidents, examine the issues pertaining to the independence and autonomy of regulatory bodies in India.

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Regulatory bodies are formed to ensure that fair competition and just implementation of rules and regulations is done in a transparent manner and which benefits all.

Why institutional autonomy is needed

(1) Helps ensure fair competition Ex competition Commission of India

(2) Checks for fair practices in the market Ex SEBI

(3) Ensures that authorities do not monopolise the market Ex IRDA.

(4) Helps in fulfilling social justice goal of the government Ex RBI via monetary policy.

But certain issues persist in their working →

(1) Rising unfair and trade practices —

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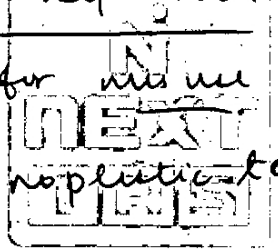
Google's anti Trust issue which the regulator failed to assess.

(2) Misuse of power - (ex) SEBI encroaching the domain of other financial regulators.

(3) Political interference in working

(4) lack of enforcement mechanism.

(5) Monopoly by bodies → failed to check for misuse (ex) Telecom operators monopolistic tendencies.



Measures that can be taken

(1) Give them the enforcement powers.

(2) Financial autonomy so that they can work for the common good.

(3) depoliticisation of posts and ensure independence in its appointments.

(4) Give them quasi-legislative and

Candidates must not write on this margin

quasi executive powers.

(5) Ensure transparency in working.

(6) Must be accountable to the government.

(7) Establish clear guidelines for its working.

(8) Standardisation of conduct.

(9) Pro active citizenry.

Regulatory bodies help to maintain level playing field in the market, and their independence and autonomy must be ensured for its effective functioning.

Candidates must not write on this margin

17. आपके विचार में, प्रशासनिक चुनौतियों के बावजूद, सामाजिक न्याय और समतामूलक विकास के लक्ष्यों को प्राप्त करने की दिशा में जातिगत जनगणना किस सीमा तक एक आवश्यक कदम है? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक
How far do you think a caste census is a necessary step toward realising the goals of social justice and equitable development, despite the administrative challenges it poses?
(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Caste census first time happened during British time and the last caste census was in 1930's, whose results are not yet fully operationalised.

Advantages of a caste census

(1) social management approach to governance → as caste is not treated like a taboo but as development indicator.

(2) Helps in equal distribution of resources → as resources can be distributed according to needs.

(3) Helps to achieve social justice goals of the government (ex) article 14, article 15.

(4) Informed policy decisions.

(5) will help eliminate the ghost beneficiaries and unidentified persons.

(6) Substantive equality under article 15(4) and 16(4) can be achieved.

Candidates must not write on this margin

(7) upholds Judicial judgement of need of quantifiable data in reservation.

However there are certain challenges or limitations associated with it.

(1) can mobilise population based on caste identities.

(2) Politicalisation of caste identities can deepen.

(3) can reignite race to the bottom → as caste identities will change the reservation policies.

(4) Fear of caste based violence in the country.

(5) social disharmony as people ~~may~~ may start identifying the ~~to~~ caste.

Administrative challenges associated with caste census

(1) Digital data → fear of surveillance and privacy concern.

(2) human Mistakes can bound to be happen.

Candidates must not write on this margin

(3) Huge amount of data that needs to be analysed and properly catalouged.

(4) ensuring fairness, transparency and accountability in collection process

(5) Inadequate trained personnels.

measures that can be Taken

(1) skills training to the personnel.

(2) Use of Data Analytics (ML) AI to analyse data

(3) Public awareness of potential benefits

(4) long term measure to prevent mobilisation → social harmony to be developed

The government's action includes providing not just political equality (14) but also substantive equality (article 15(4), 16(4)) and caste census helps to provide an empirical data for it.

Candidates must not write on this margin

18. "आधुनिक शासन की जटिलता अनुकूलनीय और गतिशील प्रशासनिक सुधारों की माँग करती है।" भारतीय शासन में दक्षता, पारदर्शिता और जवाबदेही में सुधार लाने में प्रशासनिक सुधारों की भूमिका का मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

(उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

"The complexity of modern governance demands adaptive and dynamic administrative reforms." Evaluate the role of administrative reforms in improving efficiency, transparency, and responsiveness in Indian governance. (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Modern governance has changed and has become dynamic due to evolving challenges and new political agenda items in governance. Hence administrative reforms are needed to ensure accountability and transparency.

Positives of administrative reforms

(1) capacity building (ex) Mission karmayogi and PRAC framework

(2) Accountability and transparency
↳ RTI, and citizen charter.

(3) citizen centric governance - Sevottam model.

(4) Bridging the hierarchy and limiting the discretion of administrators
(ex) e-governance reforms → SARITA in Maharashtra

(5) Dynamic administration to evolve with the changing needs of citizen (ex) Code of conduct for administrators.

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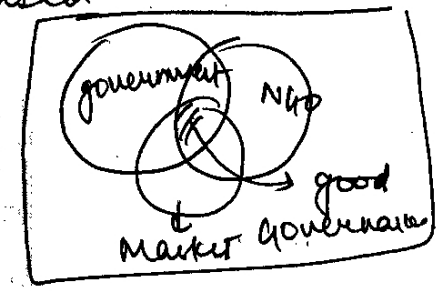
(6) Responsive administrative governance

Ex social audit in Meghalaya

(7) Diffusion of powers of the administration

Ex district administration powers distributed by 73 and 74th CAA 1992

(8) Check on administration Ex - good governance practices, role of civil society and NGO's has increased.



However there are some challenges in administrative reforms

(1) Politicisation of Bureaucracy

(2) Prevalance of 'yes man' culture

(3) Low RTI and citizen charter responses

Ex Report by Satark Nagrik Sangathan

↳ 8111 post of CIC is vacant

↳ Citizen Charter → Obesity of its all approaches

↳ Thailand it has be differentiated over last 4 years.

Candidates must not write on this margin

④ Hierarchy is maintained (ex) in police machinary minimum 12 levels of hierarchy is there.

⑤ Bureaucracy dependant on 3P's (Pay, Promotion and postings by politicians

⑥ Arbitrary transfers (ex Ashok Kemka transferred 57 times in 30 years of service.

Measures
1. Adoption of egovernance
2. Multi stakeholder performance evaluation (Hota committee)
3. Performance management framework (APCII)
4. Lateral Entry (Surinder Nath committee)

Administrators act as the face of the government and most visible part of government hence they must act with utmost accountability and transparency.

Candidates must not write on this margin

19. विगत् 75 वर्षों में भारत-चीन संबंधों की प्रगति व्यावहारिक सहयोग और अनसुलझे रणनीतिक तनावों के बीच संतुलन को दर्शाती है। इस उभरती नीति की रूपरेखा पर चर्चा कीजिए और चीन के साथ विषमताओं को संतुलित करने के लिए भारत द्वारा उठाए जाने वाले कदमों को रेखांकित कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

The trajectory of India–China relations in the last 75 years reflects a balance between pragmatic cooperation and unresolved strategic tensions. Discuss the contours of this evolving policy and highlight the measures India should take to counterbalance asymmetries with China. (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

India china relations have evolved from a Panchsheel mechanism (Jawaharlal Nehruji) to latest policy of non-interference and mutual respect.

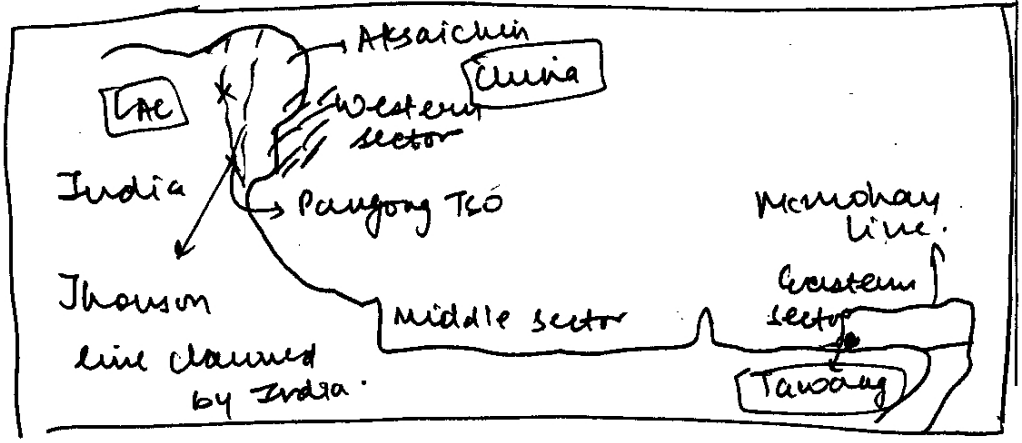
Evolving Policy dynamics of Indiachina relation

(1) Cooperation at the border → The relation is aptly described by this quote "Interference at the border, dependency in market"

(2) We the agreement of status quo to move troops beyond a certain point.

(3) But maintenance of troops at LAC.

(4) Unresolved disputes at Macmohan line



Candidates must not write on this margin

(5) Recent weaponisation of Rare earth minerals by china → economy of India may get hurt.

(6) Trade deficit with China.

(7) Dependency on china for minerals
(ex) lithium India source (80%) of it from china.

(8) Recent controversy over Tibet and Buddhist philosophy.

(9) China's philosophy of salami slicing, strings of pearl, and Right Hand Palm approach hurts sovereignty of India.

Measures India could take

(1) As said by our foreign secretary
Is Three Mutuals Mutual dependency



Mutual interest

Mutual cooperation

(2) Focus on domestic economy to reduce trade deficit with china

(3) Countering the border implications of china on India's strategic defense mechanism.

Candidates must not write on this margin

(4) Concluding FTA's with other countries recent India-UK FTA.

(5) Border Area development → so as to be ready in for future exigency

(6) Bilateral talk should continue

(7) Countering the maritime Dilemma by forming an neighbourhood

(Ex) by SAGAR, Project MAUSAM.

India China relationship is one of evolving dynamism and should be garnered with trust and cooperation with national interests in mind.

Candidates must not write on this margin

20. चतुर्पक्षीय सुरक्षा संवाद (QUAD) का एक समुद्री सुरक्षा समूह से बहुआयामी साझेदारी के रूप में विकास, हिंद-प्रशांत क्षेत्र में बदलती रणनीतिक वास्तविकताओं को दर्शाता है। इस संदर्भ में, भारत की क्षेत्रीय आकांक्षाओं और रणनीतिक स्वायत्तता के लिए QUAD द्वारा प्रस्तुत अवसरों और चुनौतियों का परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

The evolution of the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QUAD) from a maritime security grouping to a multidimensional partnership reflects changing strategic realities in the Indo-Pacific. In this context, examine the opportunities and challenges that QUAD presents for India's regional aspirations and strategic autonomy. (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Quad is a quadrilateral dialogue of four countries namely India, Australia, Japan and USA. It has evolved as a partnership that is based on trust and cooperation.

Opportunities that QUAD presents

(1) Maritime Awareness (ex) By exercises such as of domain activeness and proactive strength.

(2) Sharing of ideas and aspirations for a multilateral dialogue.

(3) Humanitarian Assistance and disaster preparedness.

(4) Securitisation of Indian Ocean

(5) Can help in Further issues such as climate change and learn from best practices.

Candidates must not write on this margin

Challenges that QUAD presents

(1) Prevalance of china in the region

(2) Recent tariff war between USA and India can hamper progress in QUAD group.

(3) Presence of a trigroup → Of Japan, Australia, USA → which can deepen the fracture.

(4) Difficulty in balancing regional interests as India countries has many different aspiration.

Nevertheless QUAD represents ample opportunities for India and measures that can be taken are:-

(1) Common security dialogue

(2) Evolve into a other issues (ex) collaboration in disaster relief and proactive governance.

Candidates must not write on this margin

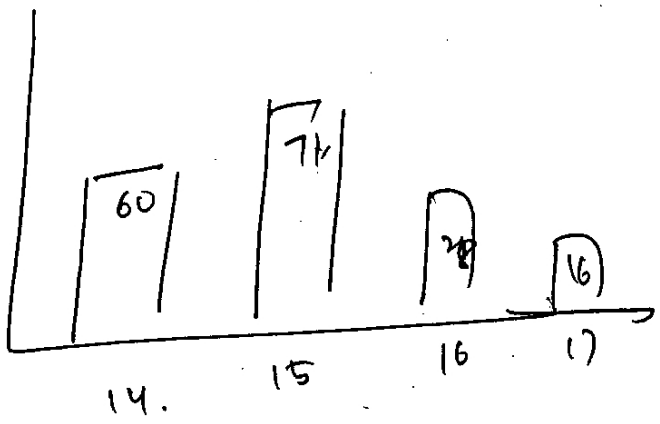
(2) Dilemma of India as to balance its regional interests or of group interest. They can be countered by integrating the interests

QUAD has the potential to fulfill national aspirations of India as well as the regional interests it has.

NEXT IAS

Space for Rough Work

% of Bills rejected 10%



Space for Rough Work

IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS

CANDIDATES SHOULD READ THE UNDERMENTIONED INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY. VIOLATION OF ANY OF THE INSTRUCTIONS MAY LEAD TO PENALTY.

DONT'S

1. Do not write your name or registration no. anywhere inside this Question-cum-Answer Booklet.
2. Do not write anything other than the actual answers to the questions anywhere inside your QCA Booklet.
3. Do not tear off any pages from your QCA Booklet, if you find any page missing do not fail to notify the supervisor/invigilator.
4. Do not leave behind your QCA Booklet on your table unattended, it should be handed over to the invigilator after conclusion of the exam.

DO'S

1. Read the Instructions on the cover page and strictly follow them.
2. Write your registration number and other particulars, in the space provided on the cover of QCA Booklet.
3. Write legibly and neatly. Do not write in bad/illegible handwritings.
4. For rough notes or calculation, the last two blank pages of this booklet should be used. The rough notes should be crossed through afterwards.
5. If you wish to cancel any work, draw your pen through it or write "Cancelled" across it, otherwise it may be evaluated.
6. Handover your QCA Booklet personally to the invigilator before leaving the examination hall.

SPECIAL REQUEST FOR CANDIDATE AVAILING ONLINE FACILITY

1. Scan the QCA booklet properly. We suggest the uses of the app CAM scanner (Scan QR code in page 2) based on our previous experiences.
2. Please scan the QCA booklet in ample light. Copies scanned under moderate light can hamper evaluation quality.
3. Any page/pdf having shadow needs to be rescanned. Please make sure that the pdf that you upload is as clean as possible.
4. **Candidates not using the QCA booklet** must mention their details on the front page. And leave the next page blank for the macro comments. It must be understood that the answer should start from Page no. 3 in of the scanned pdf.
5. Candidates not using the QCA booklet must follow the sequence of the answer as per the question paper.
6. Please check the sequence of the answer and total number of pages in the scanned version. Make sure it is in consonance with the physical version of the same.

महत्वपूर्ण निर्देश

अभ्यर्थियों को निम्नलिखित निर्देशों को ध्यानपूर्वक पढ़ना चाहिए। किसी भी निर्देश का उल्लंघन करने पर दण्डित किया जा सकता है।

क्या न करें-

1. इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका के भीतर कहीं भी अपना नाम या पंजीकरण संख्या न लिखें।
2. अपनी QCA पुस्तिका में कहीं भी प्रश्नों के वास्तविक उत्तरों के अलावा कुछ भी न लिखें।
3. अपनी QCA पुस्तिका से कोई भी पृष्ठ न फाड़ें, यदि आपको कोई पृष्ठ गायब लगे, तो पर्यवेक्षक/निरीक्षक को सूचित करना न भूलें।
4. अपनी QCA पुस्तिका को अपनी टेबल पर न छोड़ें, परीक्षा समाप्त होने के पश्चात इसे निरीक्षक को सौंप देना चाहिए।

क्या करें-

1. कवर पृष्ठ पर दिए गए निर्देशों को ध्यान पूर्वक पढ़ें और उनका सख्ती से पालन करें।
2. QCA पुस्तिका के कवर पृष्ठ पर दिए गए स्थान पर अपना पंजीकरण नंबर और अन्य विवरण लिखें।
3. स्पष्ट और पठनीय तरीके से लिखें। खराब/अपठनीय लिखावट में न लिखें।
4. रफ नोट्स या गणना के लिए, इस पुस्तिका के अंतिम दो खाली पृष्ठों का उपयोग किया जाना चाहिए। रफ नोट्स को बाद में क्रॉस कर देना चाहिए।
5. यदि आप किसी कार्य को रद्द करना चाहते हैं, तो उस पर अपना पेन चलाएं या उस पर "रद्द" लिखें, अन्यथा उसका मूल्यांकन किया जा सकता है।
6. परीक्षा हॉल छोड़ने से पहले अपनी QCA पुस्तिका व्यक्तिगत रूप से निरीक्षक को सौंप दें।

ऑनलाइन सुविधा का लाभ उठाने वाले अभ्यर्थियों के लिए विशेष अनुरोध

1. QCA पुस्तिका को ठीक से स्कैन करें। हम चाहेंगे कि आप स्कैनिंग के लिए कैमस्कैनर ऐप (CAM SCANER) का प्रयोग करें। (यह कोई प्रमोशन नहीं है)।
2. कृपया QCA पुस्तिका को पर्याप्त रोशनी में स्कैन करें। कम रोशनी में स्कैन की गई पुस्तिकाएं, उनके मूल्यांकन की गुणवत्ता को बाधित कर सकती हैं।
3. स्कैन के दौरान छाया वाले किसी भी पृष्ठ/पीडीएफ को फिर से स्कैन किया जाना चाहिए। कृपया सुनिश्चित करें कि आपके द्वारा अपलोड की गई पीडीएफ यथा संभव स्पष्ट हो ।
4. QCA पुस्तिका का उपयोग नहीं करने वाले उम्मीदवारों को अपना विवरण पहले पृष्ठ पर देना चाहिए और मैक्रो टिप्पणियों के लिए अगला पृष्ठ खाली छोड़ दें। यह समझना चाहिए कि उत्तर स्कैन की गई पीडीएफ में पृष्ठ नंबर 3 से शुरू होना चाहिए।
5. QCA पुस्तिका का उपयोग नहीं करने वाले उम्मीदवारों को प्रश्नपत्र के अनुसार उत्तर के अनुक्रम का पालन करना चाहिए।
6. कृपया स्कैन किए गए संस्करण में उत्तर के अनुक्रम और कुल पृष्ठों की संख्या की जाँच करें। सुनिश्चित करें कि यह उसी के भौतिक संस्करण के अनुरूप है।