NEXT IAS

anubhav-2025

(To be filled by candidate)

TEST CODE : ANV2502 **Test Date : 02/08/2025**

Name of Candidate: Aman Shanwal Mobile No. [redacted]

Roll No. : ANH 259001102 Start Time ..... End Time.....

Date of Examination: 2/8/25 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


NEXT
OS

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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

Recently, Supreme court dismissed the plea challenging addition of "socialist" and secular" terms in preamble under 42nd constitutional ammendment.

Constitutional identity of socialism & secularism
- → Fundamental rights u/a 25-28] secular
- → DPSP u/a 42, 43, 47 socialistic
- → Fundamental Duty u/a 51A – socialist as well as secular

Judicial decisions on socialistic ideals

① Keshavanand Bharti case, 1973

added socialism as basic structure of constitution

② Maneka Gandhi case, 1978

upheld right to life & dignity of life which are two main ideas of socialism

Candidates must not write on this margin

③ Minerval Mills case

Upheld the addition of the term in Preamble under 42nd C.A.A., 1976

Judicial decisions cementing secularism

① Kesavanand Bharti case, 1973

added it as basis structure of constitution

② S.R. Bommai case,

Uphold secularism and prohibited any discrimination.

③ Aruna Roy case, 2002

Prohibited any discrimination based on religion

④ Shayara Bano Case

→ Propogated Doctrine of essentiality to reform religious ideas

Secularism and socialism though western ideas, however their essence has been observed & applied in India since ancient times.

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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

Section 8 of RPA, 1951 provides for disqualification of elected member ~~based on~~ if found guilty of corrupt practices.

Emerging forms of electoral malpractices

① Use of social media for propogation based on religious sentiments and ~~buy~~ using caste consciousness to attract vote

② Use of Deepfakes or manipulated clipping of leaders' speech to ~~pass~~ portray wrongdoings & create misunderstanding

③ Use of Algorithms to influence voters

Eg: Meta accepted using algorithm in UK election campaigning

④ Free handouts based on vouchers to escape ECI surveillance

Candidates must not write on this margin

~~Need~~ Expanding scope of "corrupt practices"

① widening definition of including digital spaces ~~as~~ for corrupt practices

② Including guidelines on Digital campaigning under Model Code of Conduct as well as Election guidelines

③ ECI to have power to trundown false information and fake videos on social media.

④ Power to ECI to penalise such political parties or to de-register in extreme cases. SC in INC case, 2002

⑤ Also include cryptocurrency, online payments and free vouchers under the ambit of freebies & bribing voters.

Free & Fair elections are foundation for any democratic nation, it must be ensured to empower ECI and laws with evolving deviant practices. to uphold Article 326

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 borrowed ideals of "Equality, liberty and Fraternity" from France, however both the countries have different interpretations of such ideals.

Distinguishing perspectives

① Equality before law & equal protection of law u/a 14 ensures positive equality

→ however, France has negative equality.

② India's constitutional frameworks mandate "classification of legislation" and not class legislation

while France do not allow ~~class~~ classification of legislation i.e. same rules for all irrespective of historical wrongs or unequal status.

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③ India follows "Due process of law" u/a 21 — ensuring wider scope for Right to life
→ while France follow "Procedure established by law" — making executive supremacy.

④ Indian constitution provides for Positive secularism i.e. equal treatment & respect for all religions
→ while France prohibits public religious practices in public places — prohibit separating state from law in complete sense.

⑤ Judicial review under Indian constitution upholds constitutional equality provisions while similar is not the case with France

"Equal law does not mean same law for all" ~ Justice H.R. Khanna.
— Highlighting principle of equality that Indian constitution embrace.

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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

In Fiscal year' 24, Union govt. shared only 35% of its revenue with states against 41% as mandated by 15th Finance commission.

Concerns over fiscal federalism

① Increasing share of cess & surcharge in Union's tax revenue which is not eligible for devolution.

② States demands for GST compensation during covid losses

③ ~~Fiscal~~ Failure of Govt to fully devolve finances according to 15 Finance commission (only 35%)

④ ~~Issues~~ High number of centrally

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sponsored schemes — Obligating state funds.

(5) Ambiguity over certain subjects u/a 246

This demands for reforms in fiscal federalism to attain co-operative federalism

NEXT IAS

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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

Citizenship Act, 1955 provides for provisions of citizenship in India.
It defines citizenship as legal relation of residence with state.

India's approach to citizenship and constitutional value

(1) Inclusivity for all people belonging to Indian origin
Eg: ~~OK~~ PIO cards

(2) Giving opportunity to those who belonged to undivided India

(3) Human rights concerns
Citizenship Amendment Act, 2019 ~~wh~~ shows how minority religion people can acquire Indian citizenship

Candidates must not write on this margin

~~other if~~ * If opressed by neighbouring countries

(4) Union of ~~stat~~ Destructible states

Clause for single citizenship and single domicile

(5) Equal citizenship irrespective of caste, race, sex or gender, etc

(6) No provision of acquiring citizenship through economic power
Eg: Golden ~~card~~ card of USA.

Thus India's citizenship laws ~~the~~ uphold the envisioned constitutional morality.

Candidates must not write on this margin

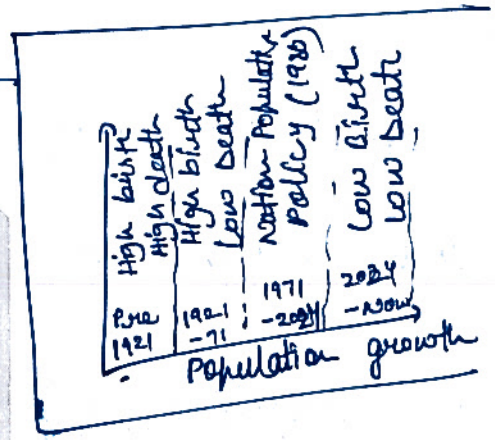
6. घटती प्रजनन दर और बढ़ती जीवन प्रत्याशा के कारण, प्रजनन-केंद्रित हस्तक्षेपों के स्थान पर मानव पूँजी निवेश की ओर बदलाव की आवश्यकता है। हालिया जनसंख्या प्रवृत्ति के आलोक में परीक्षण कीजिए।

(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

According to NFHS – 5, India's TFR has fallen to 2.0 which is below replacement rate 2.1.



Reasons for Declining Fertility rates

1. Better availability of contraceptives
2. Education and wareness
3. Prohibition of child marriage (Child Pregnancy)
4. Rise in Delayed marriages

Reasons for rising life expectancy

life expectancy – 69.8

1. Better healthcare facility
2. Increased insurance penetration
3. Economic prosperity and improved connectivity among rural-urban
4. Awareness about modern medicinal system over faith healers

Candidates must not write on this margin

Shift from Fertility focus to Human Capital investment

① To ~~prevent~~ convert ~~dis~~ demographic disaster into demographic dividend.

② To attain economic growth along with development for inclusive and fair growth

③ Transitioning for Developing to Developed countries
- Raising Per Capita Income
- Standard of living

④ Reduce burden on Govt. treasury to ~~distribut~~ relief poor or marginalised sectors ~~ors~~.

⑤ Long term permanent solution rather than political short term gain

Way forward
- ~~int~~ education - industry collaboration
- Rural industrialisation
- Empowering women rather than free handouts

Investing Human Development will ensure "Sab ka Prayas" for "Sabka" ~~Sat~~ Vikas" through "Sabka Sath"

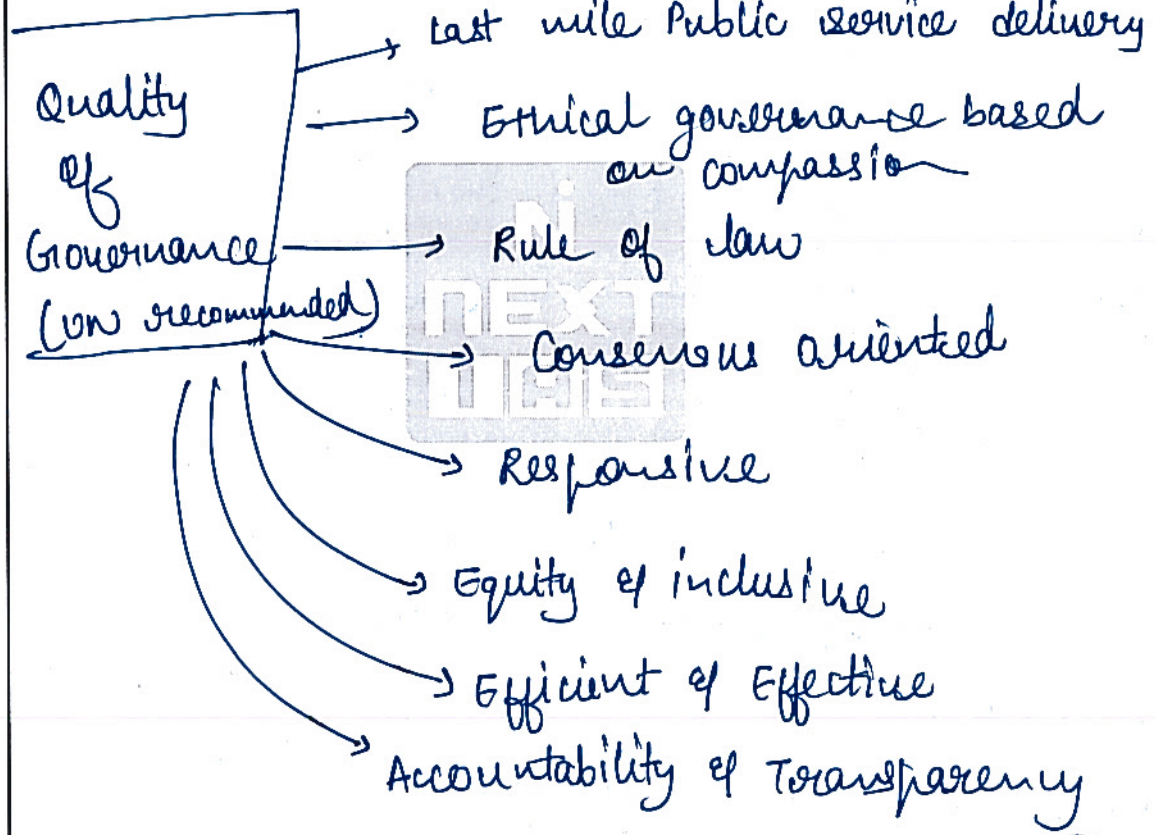
Candidates must not write on this margin

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

The recent S.C. judgement under ADR case, 2024 abolishing electoral bond scheme shows how active citizen participation can ensure quality governance and citizen's rights.



Citizen Participation (active) and Quality governance

① ~~To~~ Ensures Transparency and prevents leakages

Eg: MKSS demand for RTI in 1990s led to establishment of a mechanism to check on leakages

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② Feedback by citizens

Eg: MyGov App provides platform for citizens to provide opinions

③ ~~Informat~~ Uphold governance and administration accountable.

④ Check on arbitrariness of administration

Eg: Puttaswamy case, 2017 on Aadhar Bill as money bill

⑤ widening rights to citizens for better governance

Eg: Article 21 widened multiple times through PIL

⑥ Last mile delivery through volunteering ~~thh~~ through CSO medium

Eg: Akshay Patra foundation providing mid-day meal to remotest schools.

"A governance is not about economic growth but about equal participation of state and its citizens for development of nation" ~ A.B. Vajpayee.

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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

According to world bank, 51% graduates in India are unemployable - highlighting gaps between education & market demands

Reasons behind such gaps

1. Lack of update in curriculums
2. Policies like "No fail till 8th"
3. ~~Lack of~~ focus on quantity rather than quality education.

How it can lead to social inequalities

1. Low social mobility of poorest sections
2. Increased social widening between "Haves" and "Have nots"
3. Rise on dependence over state rather than empowerment
4. ~~Emp~~ Narrowing down low caste - class people to unskilled jobs.

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Economic inequalities

① Rise in income inequality gap
Top 5% have 60% of wealth in India.

② Vicious cycle of low development and poverty.

③ Increased poverty and a ~~social~~ economic divide between capitalists and worker class.

Solutions and Policy reforms

① Increase expenditure on ~~GDP~~ education
Acc to National Policy — Target : 6% of GDP
Actual : 4.5% of GDP

② Focus on academia - industry partnership
PM - Internship scheme is welcoming step

③ Universal quality education rather than universal education

④ Updating curriculum with modern technology like AI, Machine learning, Digital marketing, etc
→ NEP 2020 - have some updation.

India must remember, education is the only solution ~~which can~~ to reach equal society as envisioned u/a 14,21 "~~Sa~~ Padhega India, Tabhi to Badhega India"

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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, WHO has framed "Pandemic treaty" - However ~~the~~ scholars are questioning its effectivity after USA's withdrawal

Reasons behind weakening commitment

① Exposed WHO limitations during covid

→ Till date no authentic information over origin of virus

② Biased nature of international organisation

→ ~~#~~ WHO accused to biased towards china

③ Rise of Protectionist Politics

Increasing ~~inside~~ De-Globalisation tendency

Challenges to equitable global cooperation

① Lack of funding - may cause stopping of various programmes

Eg: WHO operations in African countries

Candidates must not write on this margin

② Lack of Technology Sharing

will hamper Global south with underdeveloped modern medicinal system

③ May lead to rise in deaths

due to lack of vaccination & medicine caused due to fund crunch.

Implications for India

① India is ~~a deve~~ 3rd largest pharma exporter in volume.

② US withdrawl may stop WHO aid in India over eliminating diseases like Malaria, etc.

③ India may miss SDGs targets under SDG 3 – Better Health

④ Opportunity for India to showcase its leadership role in global institutions.

⑤ ~~May deve~~ India may shift from generic drugs to research on self ~~in~~ innovated drugs.

Withdrawl of USA impose serious challenges on India – however, we must grab the opportunity to fill the void and show our importance.

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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

Israel - Gaza conflict is close to complete 2 years on October 7, 2025. More than 40,000 people have been killed — highlighting the vulnerabilities of regional diplomacy.

Vulnerabilities of Regional Diplomacy

1. Failure of Egypt and African countries to mediate
2. Silence of Arab nations like UAE & Saudi Arabia
3. The direct conflict between Iran and Israel
4. Failure of UNSC and ICC to control the conflict.

Implications of India's autonomy and engagement

1. Challenge for India to balance talks between Israel & and Iran
2. While, with Israel we have many defence deals like BOLD-QIT, Iran - we have

Candidates must not write on this margin

economic interest like Chabhar port.

③ Condemning hamas attack on Israel as terrorist attach while also condemning Israel's aggression over Iran through BRICS

④ Balancing sides as Global South leader as well good allies with US and eastern interest in middle-east

⑤ To secure energy demands
West Asia is major oil supplier to India — the conflict may impact it.

⑥ Limitation of Indian foreign policy and inability to ~~to engg~~ engage both the parties for mediation.

However, till now India have effectively maintained its strategic autonomy and regional engagement. As EAM Jaishankar says — "Minimising divergences & leveraging convergences is our foreign policy"

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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

There are total 24 Department-related standing committees (DRSC) — formed by parliament u/a 118 (Powers of Houses).

Parliamentary Committee as backbone

① Role to provide detailed analysis of reports for effective in parliament

② Hold executive accountable by scrutinising reports or Public Accounts prepared by C&AG.

③ Provide expert advise by inviting experts from various fields.

Potential remains underutilised — Challenges

① High pendency of reports

Due to low no. of sittings, Committees

Candidates must not write on this margin

often can not scrutinise all reports

② Short term tenure of MPs for only 1 year

③ Lack of expertise with MPs themselves leads to dependence on outer experts

④ Lack of Personal dedicated secretariat & funds for inviting experts — hamper committees efficiency

⑤ ~~Too~~ lack of discussion of reports by committees on the floor of house — leads to total erosion of ultimate goal.

⑥ Party Politics prevalence inside committees — affects neutrality of biasness

2nd ARC and NCRWC has provided many suggestions to revamp parliamentary committees:

① Establishing dedicated secretariat & funds to committees.

Candidates must not write on this margin

② Allocating MPs ~~on~~ to committees based on their background of interest.

③ Ensuring min. ~~#~~ number of sittings for each committee and each house — for effective discussion and reduction of pendency

④ Minimum attendance clause

Eg: Rahul Gandhi absent in 90% sitting in security committee.

⑤ Ensuring neutral political objectivity within committees by creating guidelines.

⑥ Providing some training and workshops to new members for effective scrutiny.

Parliamentary committees were formed to facilitate discussion of working of parliament. Urgent & conscious reforms are needed to strengthen committees upholding accountability of executive.

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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

Part XVIII of Indian constitution deals with President's rule and national emergency provisions.

Conditions to impose President's rule

- Article 356
  - ① in case of constitutional failure of state govt.
- Article 365
  - ② Defiance of executive order of union by centre

③ When Governor of State sends report recommending President's rule
— However not mandatory.

④ In case of inability to form government by state legislature. Eg: Recent Manipur case.

⑤ Failure of state to implement constitutional mandates or control violence

~~Eg~~

Candidates must not write on this margin

Constitutional safeguards and Judicial verdicts

① Article 355 → Duty of Union to protect state

② Article 361 → Full faith & disclosure clause between union & states

③ S.R. Bommai Case

(a) President's rule is subject to judicial review

(b) Duty of union to prove that reasons were relevant to state

(c) Court may reinstitute executive & legislature in case unsatisfied with reason

(d) Court may revoke president's rule

(e) no state legislature can be dissolved unless parliament resolute president's rule.

Candidates must not write on this margin

④ No effect on Fundamental Rights

allowing freedom of speech u/a 19 — enabling public scrutiny.

⑤ Cases when President's rule is misused

① when Janata Govt formed in 1978 — dismissed ~~st~~ Congress state govts in many states

② Similarly return of Congress saw dismissal of Janata party ruled states in 1980.

Thus it becomes important to ensure use of Article 356 in case of governance and failure and not political tool.

Candidates must not write on this margin

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

~~Accordin~~ 73rd & 74th Constitutional amendment Act mandates for devolution of revenue & subjects to Grassroot Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRI) u/a 243.

Devolution Index report by NITI aayog

1. On average 98% of funds of PRIs are out of grants from union & state.
2. Only 20-25 states have devolved all 29 subjects to PRI
3. Southern States like Kerala & Tamil Nadu ranked higher in devolution.
4. While central states like MP, Chattisgarh & Bihar lacked behind.

Candidates must not write on this margin

Reasons behind the variation

① Low literacy rate of awareness in public regarding PRI. Eg: UP, Bihar

② Lack of political mobilisation of empowerment at grassroot levels in states like Odisha & Chattisgarh

③ Ability of PRIs to raise funds at grassroot level is higher southern states in comparison to northern states

④ Economic prosperity and ~~Urban~~ rural industrialisation is high in southern states.

⑤ Rise of regional parties also shows states with dominance of regional parties have devolved more

Eg: Telangana

Candidates must not write on this margin

Capacity building for constitutional mandate

① Training of local leaders
→ Realising them their power so that they can exercise them

② Digital infrastructure for seamless documentation and policy implementation
Eg: only 40% PRI have operational computers (approx)

③ Appointing secretary for each PRI to improve productivity.
Eg: UP have few secretaries working for more than 10 Gram Panchayats

④ Devolving Taxing powers : To fulfill public local demands

⑤ ~~Do~~ Integrating various ~~the~~ agencies implementing similar policies to prevent wastage of duplication.

Strengthening PRI as constitutional mandate u/a 40. According to Gandhi, — local self government will ~~the~~ pave the way for real rural empowerment

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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

NCW was established by National Commission on Women Act, 1988 while NHRC established under ~~Human~~ 1992 legislation.

Reasons for Growing demand for Constitutional backing

① Toothless Tigers : Do not have sufficient powers to implement their orders

② Dependence on executive for funds, and resources

③ High vacancy : NHRC had only one member between 2020 to 2024

④ Lack of seriousness among departments regarding these commissions

Candidates must not write on this margin

(5) Constitutional backing will constitutionally mandate their orders. ~~and~~

Need for structural autonomy

(1) To attain goals they are assigned

(2) For proper governance and administration

(3) Upholding constitutional morality for Human rights

(4) Fulfilling DPSP Article 43 to raise status of women

Functioning of statutory bodies depends on their autonomy of independence. Constitutional backing may ensure their working of uphold public trust.

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NEXT IAS

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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

The constitution of Indian emphasise on "separation of powers" and independent judiciary to check different arms — however it also puts accountability over it.

Provisions for Independent Judiciary

1. Judiciary itself appoints Judges U/a 124 and fourth judge case "NJAC.
2. Security of Tenure
3. ~~Use~~ Conditions of service can not be diminished by parliament during one's tenure
4. Complex of hard removal process U/a 124 to ensure judges independence from legislature
5. Power to Judicial review

Candidates must not write on this margin

Eg: S.C. invalidated NJAC Act in 2015 citing protection of independence of judiciary

⑥ Contempt of court

S.C. ~~to~~ & H.C. power to punish anyone on the charge of contempt.

⑦ ~~to~~ Constitutional restriction on MP / MLA to discuss a conduct of judges in house except their removal motion.

⑧ Article 142 - provides for undefined ~~ultimate~~ powers to S.C. ~~to~~ for justice delivery
↳ making Indian Supreme court strongest in world.

⑨ Special leave u/a 136 : To ensure justice and check on arbitrary power of executive.

However, Judiciary is always alleged to be intransparent due to :

① no established SOP to appoint judges

Candidates must not write on this margin

② No transparency in working of ~~set~~ collegium system

③ ~~No~~ RTI does not apply on judicial functions of judiciary

④ Ruling PIC and judicial activism — encroaching separation of powers.

Solution of Policy reforms required

① Proper disclosure of Judges' property

Recently CJI has mandated this rule for better public trust.

② Establishing mechanism to appoint judges balancing transparency with judiciary independence.

③ Digitalising courts for better info disclosure even at local courts

~~NJAT GRID etc~~ National Judiciary Data grid provide for higher courts only.

For a country like India — judiciary independence and accountability is important. Community participation and harmony between three arms should be the way to formulation of policy which can balance both

Candidates must not write on this margin

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

Recently, Chairman of SEBI was charged with Adani - Hidenburg scam blame.
- highlighting the issues of transparency ~~xxx~~ with sectoral regulators.

Issues with sectoral regulators

1. Lack of transparency in appointments of board
2. Lack of transparency in their conduct of operations
3. Dependence over government due to
   - no security of tenure
   - conditions of service can be manipulated
4. Often alleged to political influence and corporate influence.

Candidates must not write on this margin

⑤ Failure to implement of regulate rules breach

Eg: NGT certifications are often breached.

Solutions

- ensuring min. security of tenure
- widen RTI jurisdiction
- Active disclosure of info over business
- Transparent mechanism in appointments
- Increases powers with authorities for proper implementation
- Separating politics from regulators

~~Institut~~ Sectoral regulators are important for individual growth of sectors like insurance, finance, stock market, etc. Mechanisms must be evolved to enhance public trust.

Candidates must not write on this margin

NEXT IAS

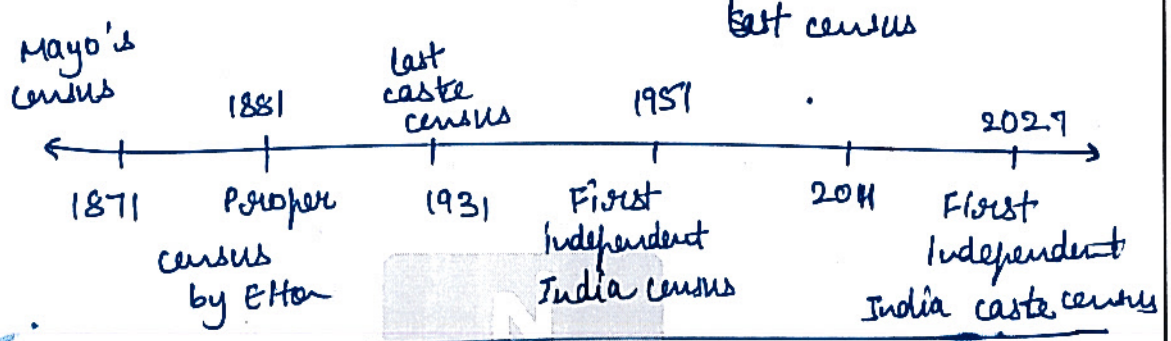
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17. आपके विचार में, प्रशासनिक चुनौतियों के बावजूद, सामाजिक न्याय और समतामूलक विकास के लक्ष्यों को प्राप्त करने की दिशा में जातिगत जनगणना किस सीमा तक एक आवश्यक कदम है? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

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

India is set to conduct its first caste census after independence in 2027.



Administrative Challenges

① Infinite number of caste makes it hard to categorise them

② Oral trust and no documentation

Caste enumeration will based on person's opinion and not document verification — may lead to inaccuracy.

③ No former experience regarding caste census in world

Candidates must not write on this margin

④ World's largest ~~cast~~ census

According to estimate – over 1.4 billion people

⑤ Linguistic barriers

with over 1000+ dialects.

Necessary for social justice & Equitable development

① enable sub-classification of caste for reservation

Eg: Rohin commission – 25% OBC caste occupy 97% Govt jobs.

② Targetted policy formulation

caste census will enable admn to formulate policies based on data.

③ Reorganisation of reservation system

based on current population proportion

④ Better identification of ~~creamy layer~~ ~~upper~~ & developed & less-developed sub-castes within SC & ST also

Candidates must not write on this margin

(5) Caste as building block of Indian society — understanding it in better manner will help in implementation

Challenges with caste census

(1) May disturb social order over debate on sub-classification

(2) May lead to politicisation of caste for votebanks

(3) Demand to raise 50% cap on reservation

Thus, caste census must be conducted with utmost objectivity, & community participation — upholding caste sentiments of people to ensure use of caste for betterment of India

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 as defined by 10th five year plan aims to create an environment which promote development of individual to his per utmost potential – contributing to well being of society.

Reason behind adaptive & Dynamic reforms

1. Emergence of new technology like AI – creating modern technology
2. Active citizen participation in governance
3. Rise of social media & public scrutiny.
4. Increasing influence of public opinion in ~~policy formu~~ administrative actions due to social media activism

Candidates must not write on this margin

Role of Administrative reforms

① To improve transparency among governance.

Eg: RTI reforms

② To make governance participatory & citizen centric

Eg: MyGov app for public opinion

③ To improve efficiency & better co-ordination between different departments

Eg: PRAGATI – timely implementation

④ Last mile public service delivery using modern technology

Eg: UPI to digitalise economy in remotest areas

⑤ Active involvement of NGO, CSO, in governance

Eg: NGO Sarkar and National Policy on voluntary organisations (2007)

Candidates must not write on this margin

⑥ Grievance redressal of Public
Eg: CPGRAMS have addressed 1.15 crore complaints (2020 - 24)

⑦ Improving efficiency by reducing leakages
Eg: PM- JAM Trinity enabling Direct Benefit transfer.

⑧ Reducing linguistic barriers to ensure effective governance
Eg: BHASHINI

⑨ Awareness about governance policies
Eg: M-KISAN app providing info to farmers

⑩ better clearance mechanism and non-physical interface.
Eg: PARIVESH portal for environmental clearance to industries

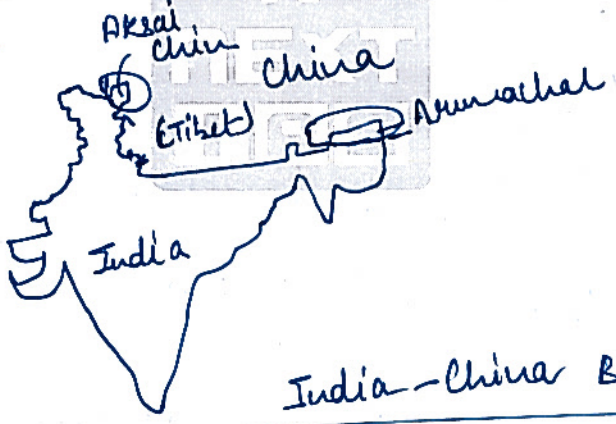
Thus with emerging changes — Governance needs to evolved ~~with~~ for ensuring effective public service ~~for~~ delivery and upholding social contract.

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 share ancient engagement since time of Ashoka and Chandra-Gupta Maurya — The relationship have evolved drastically in 75 years with co-operation as well as confrontation.



India - China Border & Tensions

Countours of evolving policy

① Initially India-China share close relationship due to colonial exploitation

② Signing of Panchsheel b/w India & China
- Peaceful co-existence
- Mutual respect
- Mutual Benefit
- non interference
- Humanitarian assist

Candidates must not write on this margin

③ Indo-China war, 1962

* Major setback in the relations between two countries

④ China's occupation of Aksai Chin during 1950s over border disputes

⑤ India's economic liberalisation in 1991 and stance as ~~counter~~ & Asian power

⑥ India's closeness with USA in 2000s — increased China's adverse relations with India

⑦ India as major contender of "China + 1" theory

⑧ Economic dependence on China with imports worth $ 95 Billion and exports only $ 16 Billion

Measures to counterbalance Asymmetrics

① Diplomatic ~~tools~~ tools to settle border disputes

30+ meetings between India-China since 2020.

Candidates must not write on this margin

② Using BRICS and SCO to engage with China

Eg: Kazan meet witnessed Modi-Xi meeting after 5 years.

③ ~~Use~~ Using Russia - Iran - China Nexus to restrict China's agression over India.

④ Common voice as Global south leaders

⑤ Plans to restart direct flights for better cultural exchanges

⑥ Steps to ~~sign~~ reach trade agreements with China ~~to~~ to ensure ~~the~~ trade balance.

No country has been developed with hostile neighbourhood — India should actively engage ~~it~~ with China for economic collaboration as well as to counter US tariffs and increasing dominance.

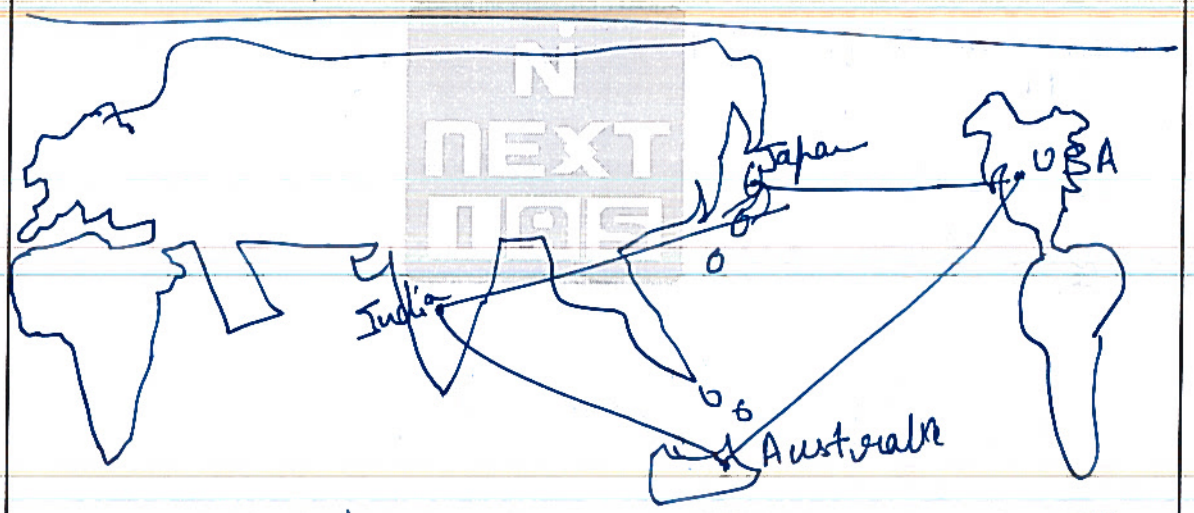
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20. चतुर्पक्षीय सुरक्षा संवाद (QUAD) का एक समुद्री सुरक्षा समूह से बहुआयामी साझेदारी के रूप में विकास, हिंद-प्रशांत क्षेत्र में बदलती रणनीतिक वास्तविकताओं को दर्शाता है। इस संदर्भ में, भारत की क्षेत्रीय आकांक्षाओं और रणनीतिक स्वायत्तता के लिए QUAD 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 – also known as Indo-Pacific

NATO has evolved from maritime security grouping to multi-dimensional partnership.



QUAD grouping

Opportunities for India

① Engage with developed countries like US & Japan

② Restrict China's aggression to Indian ocean.

Candidates must not write on this margin

③ Better Military Exercises through QUAD

④ Patrolling initiative under QUAD
- Recent development

⑤ Widening scope towards healthcare
Eg: Cancer moonshot initiative

⑥ Support for Technology sharing

Challenges to India

① QUAD perceived as Anti-China
→ adverse impact on India-China relations

② Increasing weaponisation of Indo-Pacific region

③ May impact India's strategic autonomy

④ China may use India's engagement with west to take lead a

Candidates must not write on this margin

leader of Global south

(5) Increased Involvement of USA in Indian ocean also a risk for India

However India must use QUAD to balance china and improve its position in ~~Indo~~ pacific region



Space for Rough Work

Space for Rough Work

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2. Write your registration number and other particulars, in the space provided on the cover of QCA Booklet.
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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.
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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-	क्या करें-
1. इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका के भीतर कहीं भी अपना नाम या पंजीकरण संख्या न लिखें।	1. कवर पृष्ठ पर दिए गए निर्देशों को ध्यान पूर्वक पढ़ें और उनका सख्ती से पालन करें।
2. अपनी QCA पुस्तिका में कहीं भी प्रश्नों के वास्तविक उत्तरों के अलावा कुछ भी न लिखें।	2. QCA पुस्तिका के कवर पृष्ठ पर दिए गए स्थान पर अपना पंजीकरण नंबर और अन्य विवरण 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।	3. स्पष्ट और पठनीय तरीके से लिखें। खराब/अपठनीय लिखावट में न लिखें।
4. अपनी QCA पुस्तिका को अपनी टेबल पर न छोड़ें, परीक्षा समाप्त होने के पश्चात इसे निरीक्षक को सौंप देना चाहिए।	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।