

NEXT IAS

anubhav-2025

(To be filled by candidate)

TEST CODE : ANV2502

Test Date : 02/08/2025

Name of Candidate: Himanshu Singh Mobile No.

Roll No. : MT24FLT01005 Start Time 2:30 PM End Time 5:30 PM

Date of Examination: 03-08-2025 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।

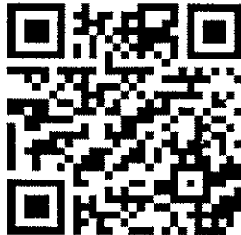
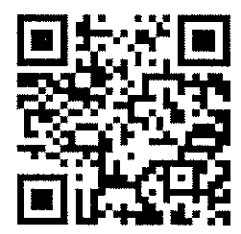
REMARKS:

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

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

<u>IMPORTANT QR CODES</u>	
 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.

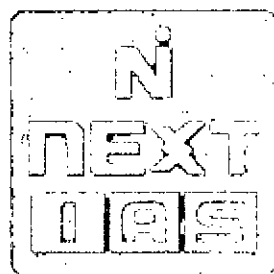
Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q19.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q20.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion



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

Indian socialist model is that of democratic socialism - Mixed economy with a welfare state. And India's model of secularism is that of "watchful ambivalence or principled distance approach" rooted in "Sarva Dharma Sambhava".

Socialistic ideals are features of Basic structure doctrine and cornerstone of constitutional identity

① Preamble declares → India as socialist (added through 42nd CA 1976)

② DPSP → Such as art 38 - inherent welfare state

③ Judicial decisions →

(i) Kesava Nanda Bharati case — art 39(b) and art 39(c) over ~~at~~ some of the fundamental rights (FR)

(ii) Minerva Mills case → Harmonious construction between FR and DPSP's as part of Basic structure.

(iii) Right to health under art 21 → Bandhua Mukti Marcha case

(iv) Right to livelihood under art 21 → Olga Tellis case

Secularism as core features of basic structure and cornerstone of constitutional identity

① Preamble → declares India as secular State

② art 25 → Freedom of conscience, propagate, practice etc.

③ art 27 → truly brings out character of Indian state - No tax for promotion of religion.

④ Judicial decisions →

(i) S.R Bommai case → Secularism as part of basic structure

(ii) Shirur Mutt case 1954 → Doctrine of essential religious practices.

(iii) Sabrimala case 2018 → Constitutional morality over social morality.

As Brianville Austin mentioned "Indian Constitution - It and foremost is a social document made for a progressive society" Socialist ideals & secularism are part of this progressive society.

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

article 327 (part XV) provides for Parliament by law to regulate elections and hence enacted Representation of people act 1951 (RPA, 1951)

Need to expand scope of “corrupt practices under RPA, 1951”

① Parliamentary composition → 46.1% having criminal cases (ADR)

② Bypassing election expands provision in RPA, 1951

↓
According to CMS - Lok Sabha 2024 elections
1-35% ^{46%} were spent

③ Rise in hate speeches during elections (misusing section 123 A)

④ Low enforcement of model code of conduct

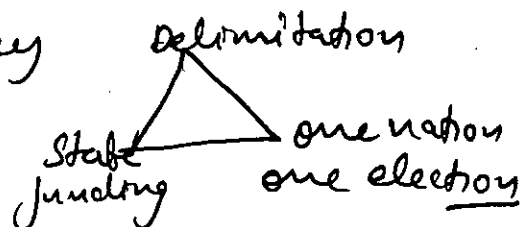
↓
Huge announcement of freebies.

⑤ Low accountability of political parties.

Measures to be taken

- ① Indrajit Gupta Committee → Ban on tainted individuals from participating in elections.
- ② NCRWC → ECI to be given power to deregister political parties.
- ③ Dinesh Goswami Committee
 - ↳ Permanent committee in Parliament to oversee electoral reforms
 - ↳ Modify Section 77 to reduce expenditure of political parties using star campaigners.
- ④ State funding of elections model for creation of level playing field and reducing money & muscle power.
- ⑤ Subramaniam Swamy case → SC said ECI to regulate freedom in elections.

"Elections are essential for democracy"
Hence triad of reforms needs to be taken for our vibrant democracy



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 are two large democracies, with concept of equality emanating from French revolution. However they differ in approaches to equality.

Differences in perspectives on equality

	India	France
① Concept	Based on Equality before law and Equality protection of law	Only based on Equality before law
② Affirmative action	High scope of affirmative action	Very less or negligible Scope of affirmative actions.
③ Privileges	Privileges to M.P's, President, Governor etc.	Very less privileges more rigid approach to equality.

③ Religion
equality

Principled distance
approach, equal
support to every
religion

complete
separation
of religion
from state
No support
whatsoever

Hence, India and France have
different approaches to equality based
on their history and specific needs.

4. संघ के सकल कर राजस्व में राज्यों की प्रभावी हिस्सेदारी में लगातार कमी और संसाधनों के क्षेत्रीय वितरण में समता पर अत्यधिक बल देने के कारण भारत में राजकोपीय 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

India is a "quasi-federal" state, whereby Union controls ~~the~~ more fiscal space leading to challenges in fiscal federalism.

Shrinking effective share of states in union gross taxes

- ① Union

power to levy taxes on Union list

Residuary power on taxes also with Union
- ② GST ~~can~~ regime

more share of IGST

 yet not shared effectively.

 ② Cess & Surcharges $\approx 14\%$
- ③ Rise in Cess & Surcharges for union govt. which are not shareable

Heavy criteria in Horizontal devolution

- ① use of 2011 population figures by Finance Commission (N.K. Singh)
- ② More devolution to populous states

- ② Rise in demand of special category states because of
→ 3-3-3 puzzle
- ③ Punishing population control measures
↓
Karnataka receives very less i.e. 0.29 rupees for every 1 rupee shared

Measures to be taken

- ① Residuary powers to tax should be centralised.
- ② C. Rajamohan → Time for para-diplomacy
↓
Funding & loans by states directly from foreign sources.
- ③ New terms of reference to Arvind Pangariya FCI for meeting regional demands.
- ④ Creation and capacity building of local bodies tax collection.

Australia model of fiscal federalism
can be adopted to meet regional aspirations.
for "Ekk Bharat Shreshth Bharat"

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 in Indian constitution is in Part II (from art 5 to art 11).

Basis → Jus soli (Birth)
 ↳ Jus Sanguine (descent)

Citizenship is legal foundation of constitutional rights and responsibilities

① Enjoyment of certain rights by citizens
 eg art 14 and art 15.

② Citizens are entitled to state's welfare policies
 eg art 38 of DPSP's.

③ Citizens are required to perform certain fundamental duties. (11 FD's)
 Part IV-A → art 51 A.

India's approach to citizenship reflecting constitutional values

① Based on Birth is not discriminating anyone on basis of birth.

- ② By descent ⇒ living heir of Indian citizens (now or previously)
 ↓
 Shared living bridge ⇒ Inclusion
- ③ By Naturalisation ⇒ By virtue of living in Nation for certain period
 ↓
 entitled to rights -
- ④ By registration ⇒ Anyone who wants to be Indian citizen > 12 years in India
 (exception by CAA, 2019 for some communities)
- ⑤ By incorporation of territory ⇒
 (eg) Sikkim, Goa inclusion in India -

Hence, India's approach to citizenship reflects its commitment to constitutional values and ~~and~~ 3 modes (deprivation, termination, renunciation) of citizenship removal also reflects the constitutional values of liberty, freedom, equality etc

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 UNFPA - India has become most populous country in the world with 1.42 billion people.

Recent population trends

- ① Total fertility rate declined to 2.0 (NFHS-5) with southern states $\approx$ 1.8 TFR
- ② Rise in expectancy age $\approx$ 70 years (NFHS-5)
- ③ Rise in proportion of senior citizens
2011 census: 9.1%, UNFPA: 20% by 2050
- ④ Median age of India $\approx$ 28 years

Requirement of shift from fertility focused interventions to human capital investments

- ① Education and health improvement needs.

② HDI rank = 130
2025,

② focussing on skill development and vocational training.

② India $\approx$ 5-10% formally skilled (India Skills report)

③ we are in long window of demographic dividend (2017-2055)

↓
catch the demography $\rightarrow$ Economic growth & prosperity

④ Gender Justice $\rightarrow$

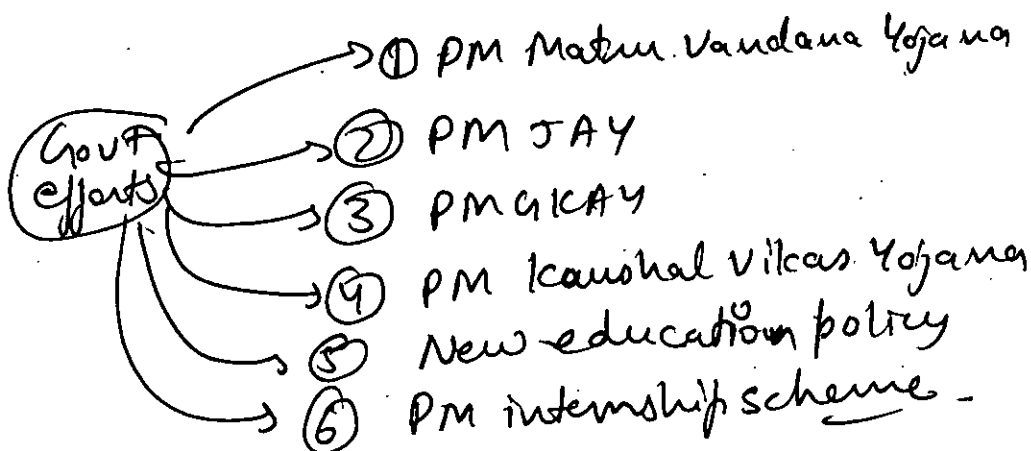
• Improvement in LFPR $\rightarrow$ still 41% (PLFS)

• Anaemia and disease burden

↓
57% (NFHS-5)

↳ Non-communicable diseases

⑤ Bridging regional disparity in development and standard of living.



Hence shift is required for human capital development to achieve SDG 1, SDG 2, SDG 3, SDG 4 etc.

7.

"शासन की गुणवत्ता लोकतांत्रिक प्रक्रियाओं में नागरिक सहभागिता की सीमा और प्रकृति से महत्वपूर्ण 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

Recent nobel prize in economics "why nations fail" highlighted the role of "Inclusive institutions" in a democracy by ensuring citizens participation.

Quality of Governance linked to extent and nature of citizen participation ⇒

- ① Policy advocacy ⇒ Need of policy to be advocated by citizens.
eg SHG ⇒ Mahila Samman Saving certificates
- ② Policy formulation ⇒ Inclusion means better policy targeting.
eg Aspirational districts programme - NITI Aayog
- ③ Policy implementation ⇒ Innovations by NHO's, community, pressure groups to bridge state's weaknesses
eg Rapid Response NHO's Role in disaster management

④ Policy evaluation → using social audits, citizen charter to ensure optimal allocation of resources

eg) MGNREGA

⑤ Policy feedback mechanism for improvement of policies and addressing loopholes.

eg) NCI's role POSH act.

⑥ Grievance redressal → Decentralised grievance redressal ensuring citizen welfare

eg) Jan Sampark Portal Rajasthan.

Hence, citizen participation is critical to establish "ethical care giving State" and ensuring good governance.

8. "शैक्षणिक परिणामों और बाजार 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

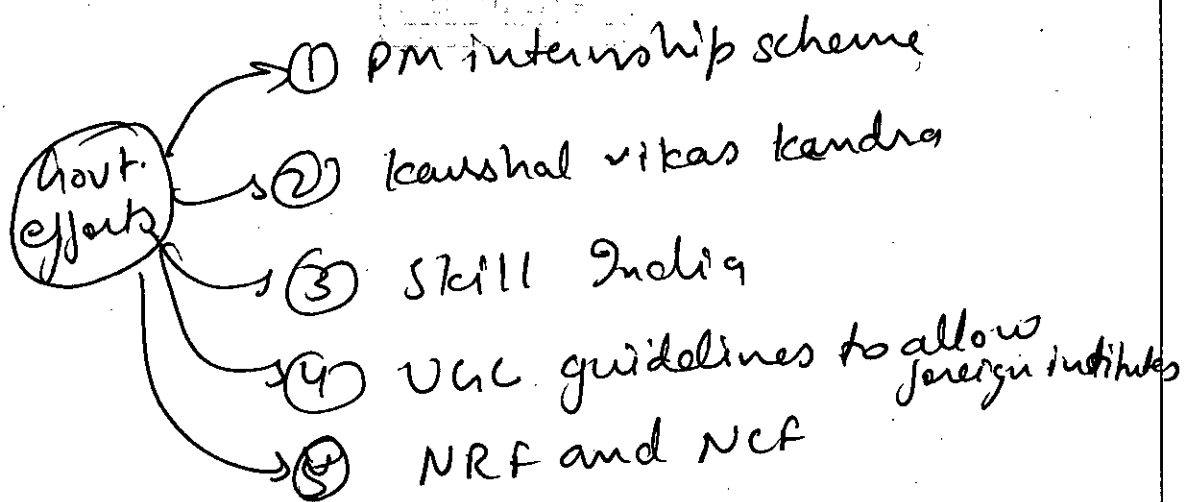
Recent India Skills report highlighted "only 47% of Indian graduates are employable", painting a stark picture of educational outcomes and market needs.

Challenges in educational outcomes and market needs

- ① Academic centric curriculum
↓
low hands on experience
- ② low industry academia linkage
due to outdated concepts & books
- ③ lack of infrastructure in schools & colleges
↓
widened gap filled by coaching institutes
- ④ High levels of disguised employment and voluntary employment.
- ⑤ low adoption of technology and delay in policies
- ⑥ New education policy still in nascent stage

Measures to be taken for Improving India's Skill ecosystem

- ① Multistakeholder engagement to refine curriculum.
- ② Implementing "Professor of Practice" to adopt best practices.
- ③ Adopting Korean model of mandatory internships → on jobs experience.
- ④ Creation of vocational education institutes.



Further, Sharda panel recommendations on skill development can be applied to improve India's skills ecosystem.

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 has withdrawn from WHO (World Health Organisation) leading to weakening international health frameworks.

U.S.A withdrawal from WHO

- ① Mismanagement of COVID-19 allegation
- ② Lack of reforms and transparency in WHO
- ③ Disproportionate funding mechanism allegations

Challenges to equitable global cooperation on health

- ① Funding gaps → USA was major contributor to WHO for project execution.
- ② Technology support by USA will now be a challenge ∥
achieving SDG goals taking a backseat

③ Enhanced role of China
^U
 Debt trap crisis.

Implications for India →

- ① USA advocated and supported vaccination ~~and~~ ~~serious~~ for serious diseases like TB programme, polio etc.
- ② USA undertakes various anti-malnutrition programmes.
- ③ Research and technology support of USA health department
^U
 Low adoption of technology

Measures to be taken →

- ① ~~Enhancing~~ India's funds to WHO
- ② collaboration between like minded countries eg African countries.
- ③ focus on non-communicable diseases as a new pillar

In light of climate change, health risks are amplified. Hence convergence of WHO programmes and country specific programmes are required.

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

West Asia has been subsumed in conflicts from past few years like Israel-Hamas war, Iran's octopus doctrine, Red sea crisis, Syrian civil war etc. Lack of strong regional cooperation & platform has further exposed vulnerabilities.

Implication of west Asian conflict for India's strategic autonomy and regional engagement

- ① Diplomatic tightrope between Israel and Arab nations.
- ② Indian interest in initiatives like IMEC, INSTC takes a backseat with slow adoption of projects.
- ③ Energy diplomacy and India's oil imports consistently declining from west Asia.

- ④ IZUZ diplomacy is now stalled with revival of Carter doctrine.
- ⑤ BRICS expansion to include countries like Iran & S. Arabia, ~~Egypt~~ has not provided fruitful outcomes
- ⑥ Regional instability in region


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graph TD
    A[Regional instability in region] --> B[Arce of energy]
    A --> C[Arce of instability]
            
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Measures to be adopted →

- ① Connectivity diplomacy as solution
↳ IMEC completion
- ② Engagement at bilateral levels with countries such as Qatar, Bahrain etc.
- ③ India should not be neutral but on the side of peace
- ④ diversifying our energy imports and market destinations

India should play a role of 3M
- mediator, mobiliser, Motivator to come out of crisis of west Asia.

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

Department - relating standing committees (DRSC's) constitute of 31 members (21 from Lok Sabha and 10 from Rajyasabha) maximum. There are 24 DRSC's → 16 under Lok Sabha
→ 8 under Rajyasabha

DRSC's Institutional backbone of legislative scrutiny

- ① Debate and discussion → In Parliament, voting & discussions are on party lines, where DRSC's → more constructive discussions.
- ② Policy assessment → DRSC's prepare and assess demands for various laws and their efficacy.
- ③ Research → DRSC's undertake various researches, using big data.
- ④ DRSC on agriculture -

- ④ DRSC's have power to ^{II} summon Multistakeholder engagement.
- ⑤ legislature being a large body, cannot meet frequently, DRSC's work year round
- ⑥ DRSC's to prepare demand for grants for ministries → financial efficacy of legislature.

Challenges faced by parliamentary committees

Along with DRSC's, estimates committee, Public accounts committee, committee on public sector undertaking face various challenges

- ① Referral → Reducing trend of parliamentary referral to committees
 - ② In 17th LS = only 16.1% referral (PRS)
- ② Expertise are not carried forward due to small tenure = 1 year.
- ③ Reports and opinions are not binding on legislature.

④ Lack of ~~of~~ research support to individual M.P's mean they cannot very effectively participate in DRSC's

⑤ Access to data and management remains a challenge -

⑥ Rise of cabinet committees
Measures to be taken →

① NCRWC → institutionalising committee referral system

② National advisory  providing research support to individual M.P's

③ Appointment of experts from various backgrounds.

"A nation is as strong as its institution"
Hence DRSC and other parliamentary committees
role is crucial for our vibrant democracy.

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.

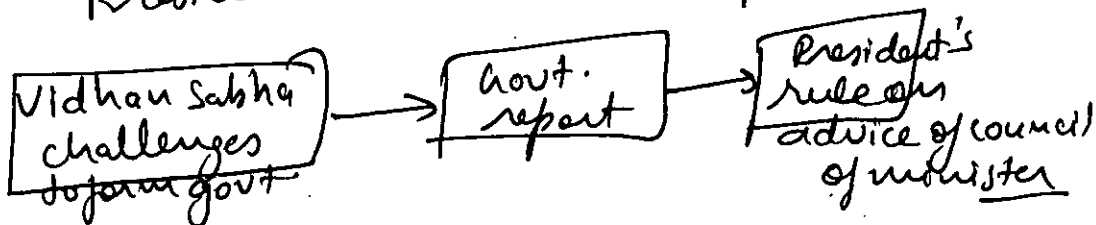
(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

President's rule or failure of constitutional machinery is provided in art 356 under Part XVIII of the constitution. Recently Manipur has been under President's rule.

Circumstances → President's rule can be imposed

① art 355 → State's responsibility to protect state from internal disturbances and external threat.

② art 356 → when there is no clear majority in Vidhan Sabha, President's rule can be applied.



③ art 365 → when state fails to follow directions given by Centre with respect to maintenance of strategic resources

Constitutional safeguards for President's rule →

- ① Governor's report to President showing circumstances.
- ② ~~President's~~ President's proclamation of President's rule on aid and advice of union council of ministers
- ③ Approval by Lok Sabha and Rajyasabha within 2 months of imposition
Simple majority.
- ④ Can be applied for 6 ~~month~~ months at a time
- ⑤ It can be extended to 3 years maximum and to continue beyond 3 ~~month~~ years

II
ECI must justify why elections cannot be held in the state.

Judicial Safeguards to President's rule

- ① Judicial review of President's rule is possible as upheld in Raj Narain Case.
- ② S.R. Bommai case → SC can examine Governor's report
Declared federalism as part of Basic Structure.
- ③ Anumachal Pradesh Assembly case
SC reconstituted Anumachal Pradesh Vidhan Sabha since Governor's report was manifestly arbitrary.

There has been overall decline in use of President's rule due to rise of coalition politics, Judicial Safeguards. Further Subaric commissions safeguards can be applied to prevent its misuse.

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

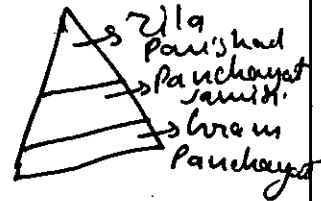
The recently released Devolution Index reveals wide variation in the performance of States in empowering Panchayati Raj Institutions. While explaining the reasons behind this variation, discuss the role of capacity-building initiatives in enabling PRIs to fulfil their constitutional mandate. (Answer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

Recent Panchayat Devolution Index paints a stark picture on devolution of functions to Panchayati Raj institutions. Kerala topped it with devolution of 29 departments whereas some states devolved as low as 3 departments.

Reasons behind variation →

① Lack of political will to devolve the functions.

② Constitutional ambiguity regarding 3-tier structure → what functions to be performed



③ Lack of institutional capacity of PRI's to handle the devolution.

- ④ Rising trend of Centralisation within State
 - ⑤ Bangalore governance act. subsumed power of local bodies.
 - ⑥ Fear of casteisation of PRI's and token representation also adopted to the cause.
 - ⑦ High corruption and lack of transparency in PRI's $\Rightarrow$ less devolution.
- Low devolution trap

Role of capacity building in enabling PRI's

- ① Capacity building with respect to funds $\Rightarrow$
 - $\rightarrow$ Ability and will to impose taxes and use them to provide services
 - $\rightarrow$ use of e-governance for activity mapping
 - ⑤ Assam's $\rightarrow$ e-governance initiatives
- ② Capacity building of functionaries $\Rightarrow$
 - $\rightarrow$ Enhanced role of village development officers
 - $\rightarrow$ Empowering gram sabha and training
 - ⑤ Kerala's gram sabha initiative

- ③ Capacity building of local leaders
- ↳ Gender mainstreaming using women SHGs
 - ↳ e-governance initiatives for training of Sarpanch, pradhans.

Other measures to be taken-

- ① NCRWC ⇒ Restructuring of Schedule II to create separate fiscal domain for PRI's
- ↳ Power to create & train own personnel cadres
 - ↳ Creation of State Panchayat Council directly under Chief Minister
- ② Learning from best practices and creation of Panchayat stack for ~~the~~ information management.

If PRI's are to fulfill goal of democratic decentralisation, funds, function, functionaries needs to be strengthened to achieve DPSP 40.

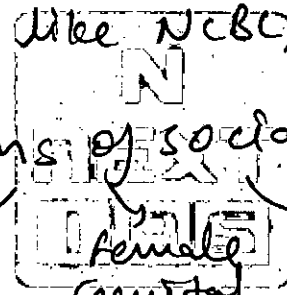
14. उभरते संवैधानिक और राजनीतिक परिदृश्य में, सांविधिक आयोगों की प्रभावशीलता उनकी संरचनात्मक स्वायत्तता और स्वतंत्रता पर निर्भर करती है।" राष्ट्रीय महिला आयोग (NCW) और राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग (NHRC) जैसे सांविधिक आयोगों के लिए संवैधानिक दर्जे की बढ़ती मांग के संदर्भ में विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों 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 is a statutory commission established under NCW act 1990 whereas NHRC is apex human rights institution created under Protection of human rights act 1992.

Effectiveness of NCW & NHRC depending on structural autonomy and independence

- ① Issues with respect to appointment
 - High vacancies in NHRC and SHRC
 - Post retirement jobs for appeasement
- ② Lack of involvement of human rights activist and women rights activists.
- ③ C.A.N.H.R.I accreditation of NHRC signifying independence and lack of autonomy.

- ④ Selective choosing and enforcement of issues
 eg wrestlers issue was not taken by NCW.
- ⑤ lack of enforcement mechanism and separate financial domain.
- ⑥ lack of coherence between approaches of NHRC, SHRC, NCW and other institutions like NCBC, NCSC, NCST.

- ⑦ Perpetuations of social evils like

 - Manual Scavenging
 - Female genital mutilation
 - RTI activist deaths
 - Prison related challenges

Demand of constitutional status for statutory commissions ⇒

- ① Expenditure will be charged on Consolidated fund of India
 ||
 Autonomy in decision making -

- ② Appointments will be timely and vacancies would be filled.
↳ eligibility of human rights activist to be included.
- ③ Enforcement mechanisms will be enhanced
- eg NHRC → role in removal of Natakatha
NCW → visited all states
- ④ ~~There~~ role in policy formulation, evaluation, grievance redressal will increase
- eg Pann Rajput committee report regarding NCW enhanced role.

Further, A apex NHRI (National human rights institution) subsuming other institutions like NHRC, NCW can be ~~re~~established to enforce and uphold Paris principles

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

Indian judiciary is hierarchically organised and organically linked with an integrated structure. It has played huge role in our vibrant democracy however recent events like PIL's overuse, Allahabad HC judge remarks highlight need of judicial accountability.

Independent judiciary essential for upholding constitutional values

① Protection of Fundamental rights

eg Kaushal kishore case → Progressive realisation of FR's

Maneka Gandhi case → Substantive due process of law

② Judicial Innovation such as basic

Structure doctrine ~~and~~ preserving Constitutional values

eg Keshava nanda Bharati case, IR Coelho case

③ Cope up with changing needs of evolving society.

eg Nalsa Judgement → transgender as 3rd gender

Babita Punjya case → Permanent commission to women in armed forces

④ Resolving disputes between federal units

eg S.R Bommai case — Federalism as part of basic structure

↑ N Governor's case — time limit for bills.

⑤ Environment justice

eg Rangitsingh case — Right to be free from adverse effects of climate change under article 21.

Need for accountability →

① Judges conduct → Judges joining political parties without cool off

eg RS M.P nomination of SC judge, ~~later~~ Kolkata HC judge joining political party.

② Misuse of Contempt of court act

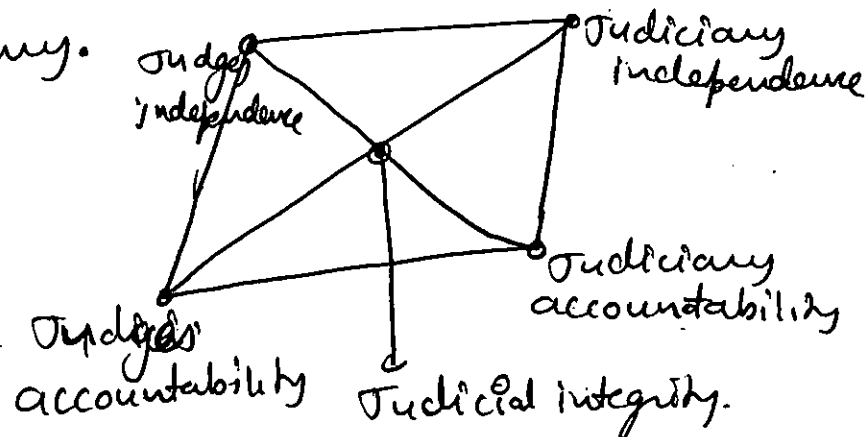
③ Delays in judicial appointments

eg collegium transparency issues

- ④ Judicial adventurism and Judicial over-reach
 @ cracker ban, National anthem in cinemas
- ⑤ overuse of PIL's and judicial legislations
 Pendency of cases > 5 crore (NDOH)

Measures to be taken -

- ① Enforcement of "Bangalore principles" of judicial conduct.
- ② Reforms in Collegium $\rightarrow$ adopting UK-JAC model
- ③ Revival of Judicial standards accountability bill, 2010
- ④ Judicial restraint to be practices by Judiciary.



④ "Judiciary should be sentinel qui vive" to uphold constitutionalism and protect fundamental rights of people.

16.

विश्वसनीयता, पारदर्शिता और निष्पक्ष प्रतिस्पर्धा सुनिश्चित करने के लिए क्षेत्रीय विनियामकों की संस्थागत स्वायत्तता अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण 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

In the era of economic liberalisation role of independent sectoral regulators like SEBI, CCI, TRAI becomes important for ensuring credibility, transparency and fair competition.

Institutional autonomy → for ensuring credibility, transparency, fair competition

① Prevent monopolistic tendencies of various corporates.

eg CCI penalised Google.

② Preventing crony capitalism to flourish in India.

eg CCI penalised cement companies for unfair trade practices.

③ Promoting rights and interest of people

eg TRAI's role in telecommunication sector.

④ Promoting economic growth by optimal allocation of resources.

eg SEBI's role in capital markets.

Issues pertaining to independence and autonomy of regulatory bodies

① Conflict of interest of members of regulatory bodies

eg BCCI role in cricket association

② Lack of transparency and accountability in meetings

③ Lack of whistleblower protection in corporate sector

④ Issues in enforcement mechanisms

eg Post 2024 Lok Sabha election market crash

⑤ Political interference in day today functioning

eg Hindenberg report - SEBI's role -

Measures to be taken

- ① Applying recommendations of Bimal Jalan committee for integrated regulator for finance sector -
- ② Multi-stakeholder engagement in appointments -
- ③ National accountability standards and Jan Vishwas bill to enhance ease of doing business -

Regulatory sector in India is still at nascent stage, USA's model can be adopted for regulatory sector to maintain interest of all and ensure Credibility & fairness.

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 is collection of data of population figures keeping caste into mind. It is done by Registrar general and ~~the~~ census commissioner of India. Recently Central govt. has notified Socio-Economic Caste census.

Caste census - a necessary step realising goals of social justice and equitable development

- ① Evidence based policy making and better targeting
 ↳ bridging "guesstimate" economics
- ② Assessing the benefit of affirmative actions like reservation, skill development
- ③ Revealing intersectionalities and intra-group vulnerabilities
 (eg) Mandal commission → OBC reservation

④ art 340 mandates to collect data revealing socio-economics
 ↓
 Not done since 1931.

⑤ Regional disparities and vulnerability of few caste groups in some states can be addressed.

Caste census not a necessary step towards realising goals of social Justice

- ① May lead to Politicisation of caste.
- ② Threat to National security and integration
 ↓
 Hate speeches, caste discriminations
- ③ Intra group rifts may be developed

Administrative challenges it possess

- ① Quality of data collection remains a issue
 (eg) 2011 - SECC data still not released due to quality of data.
- ② Huge role of teachers in caste census
 ↓
 undermining education.

③ Accuracy of data collection and management issues

Measures to be taken

- ① use of AI and blockchain technology
for collection of data
- ② selective ~~opacity~~ opacity to hide certain
caste vulnerabilities
- ③ Separate database for tribes data

"Caste is a reality in India either
in its traditional form or its modern
avatar". Hence "count it now do
not count in future" & using it as tool
for social mobility.

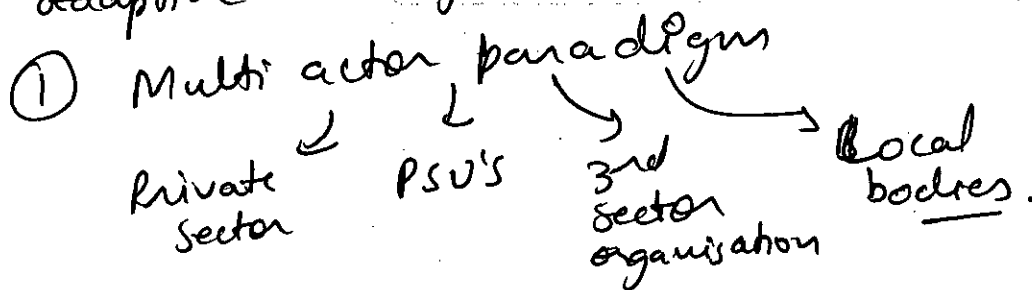
18. "आधुनिक शासन की जटिलता अनुकूलनीय और गतिशील प्रशासनिक सुधारों की माँग करती है।" भारतीय शासन में दक्षता, पारदर्शिता और जवाबदेही में सुधार लाने में प्रशासनिक सुधारों की भूमिका का मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

(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

India is a parliamentary democracy whereby Political class is responsible for policy formulation and administration for policy implementation. However, adopting colonial structure of administration meant that efficiency, transparency etc are still a challenge.

Complexity of modern governance ~~demanding~~
~~adaptive and dynamic~~



② Top heavy bureaucracy → low ground level connect

eg) 58 ministries at union level
↓
Red tapism

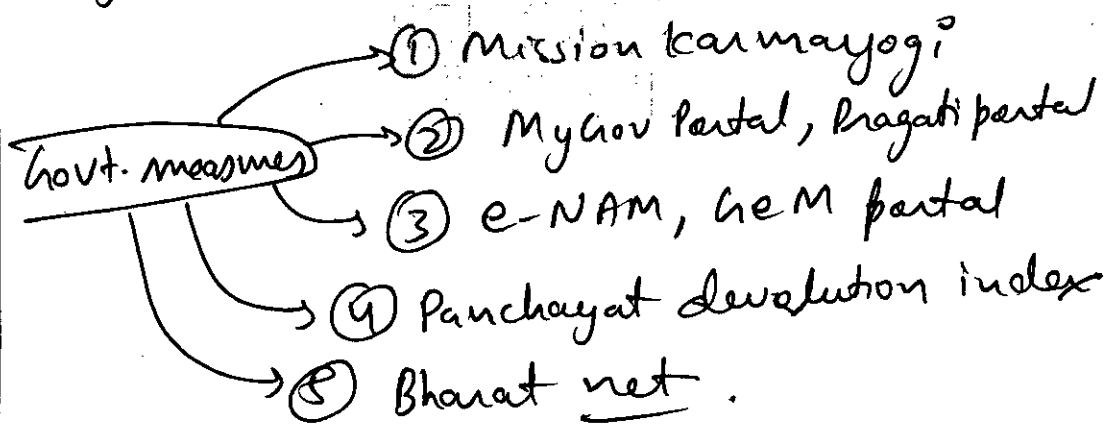
- ③ Aspiration of people and new welfare model $\rightarrow$ strain on administrative resources
- ④ Diversities in India demanding bottom up approach.
 - (eg) From deserts of Rajasthan to mountains of North East

Role of administrative reforms in improving efficiency $\rightarrow$

- ① optimal allocation of resources based on evidences
 - (eg) India's National e-governance programme
- ② Inclusion of 3rd sector organisations like NCO's, SCA's etc
 - (eg) ~~Ash~~ Ashay Patra foundation $\rightarrow$ Mid day meal scheme
- ③ Multi-stakeholder engagement to assess need of policy
 - (eg) Digital agriculture mission

Role of administrative reforms in improving transparency and responsiveness

- ① Enforcing social audits and citizen charters for reducing corruption.
- ② New models of grievance redressal
 @ MyGov. portal.
- ③ Better data management and record upkeep.
 @ RTI's section 4.



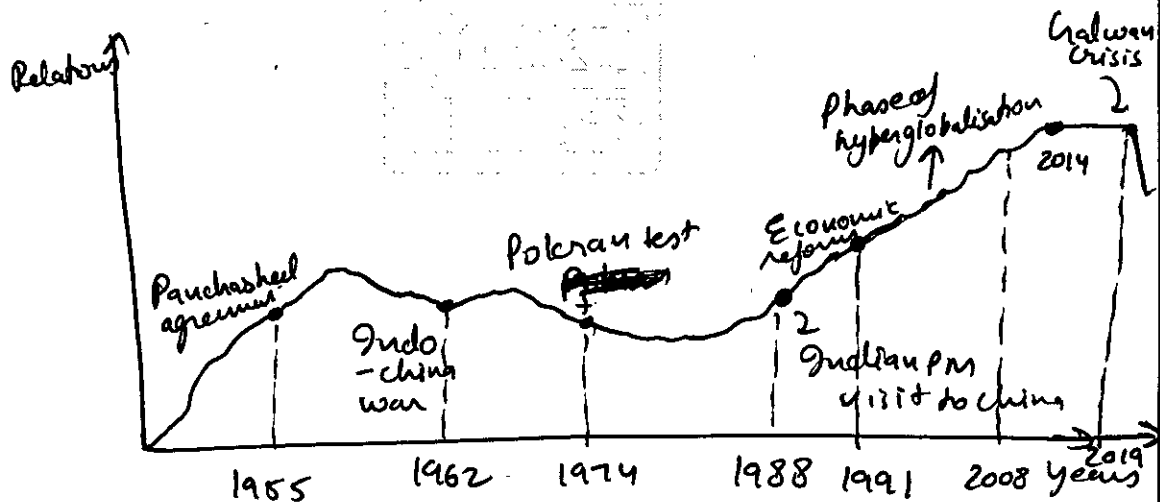
Provided the administrative reforms are in "holdilock zone", good governance can be achieved improving efficiency, transparency and responsiveness.

19. विगत 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 are cultural ~~foundations~~ fountain heads of Global civilisation from ancient times. However last 75 years have been ups and downs.

Trajectory of India-China relations in last 75 years ⇒



(A) Pragmatic cooperation ⇒

① Cooperation at bilateral level ⇒ in trade and pharmaceuticals

eg) trade exceeding \$100 billions in 2024

② Cooperation in Border agreements & management

eg) Indo-China border agreement 1992 & 2024

② Cooperation at multilateral level ⇒

- (a) Advocacy for reformed multilateralism
- (b) Rise of BRICS, SCO etc.
- (c) Cooperation in Environment organisations
↓
climate change diplomacy.

③ unresolved strategic tensions

- (a) China's cartographic aggression and border disputes
 - ②a) Guelia → Johnson Aridagh line
 - China → McDonald McCartney line
- (b) China's 5 finger policy
 - ↳ Tibet on its palm
 - ↳ Nepal, Ladakh, Bhutan, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh as its finger.
- (c) China's lawfare tactics and recent dam declaration on Yarlung Tsangpo.

Contours of evolving policy

- ① Engagement ⇒ Containment and engagement
- at bilateral level and multilateral levels
 - ↳ economic policies & trade.

- ② India's Necklace of diamond policy
(eg) Kaladan. multimodal project
- ③ Defence indigenisation and exports
(eg) Akash missiles to Indonesia and Vietnam
- ④ India's → offensive-defensive
 ↳ defensive-offensive policy.

Measures India should adopt →

- ① Regional supremacy and engagement to reduce China's role in neighbourhood
- ② Indian Ocean dominance and role as net security provider
- ③ Vocal for local and make in India to reduce import dependence
- ④ Leveraging India's good will in Global South.
- ⑤ Advocacy for reformed multilateralism and counterbalancing China.

Further "India should engage in South China sea to make it a strong pillar in Indo-Pacific diplomacy" to balance and counter China

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 (Quadrilateral security dialogue) is ~~not~~ grouping of 4 like minded countries of Indo-Pacific namely, Australia, India, USA, Japan made with an aim of "Free, open, inclusive Indo-Pacific". It has transformed itself into multidimensional partnership.

Opportunities of QUAD for India's regional aspirations and strategic autonomy

- ① Countering expansionist power in Indo-Pacific
- ② Enhancement of India's role as net security provider in Indian Ocean
- ③ India's access to Diego Garcia base of USA.

- ③ Blue economy as a pillar for Quad diplomacy
- ④ Defense cooperation and military exercises.
eg Malabar exercise
- ⑤ Trade and economic policy enhancement.
eg IPEF's role -
- ⑥ Quad can help in reforming global multilateral institutions
eg WTO's dispute resolution body -
- ⑦ Participation and cooperation in disaster risk reduction.

Challenges Quad presents for India

- ① China calling it Asian NATO.
- ② Lack of formal structure reducing its capacity.

- ③ Slow adoption of projects & policies
- ④ Trump's transactional diplomacy
 $\Downarrow$
 • Coercive world order creation
- ⑤ Creation of parallel bodies.
 (eg) South Dialog with Philippines, Australia, Japan, USA.

Measures to be adopted by Quad

- ① Tariff reduction and a FTA among Quad members to be advocated.
- ② Maritime cooperation as major pillar in Quad diplomacy.
- ③ Establishment of permanent secretariat.

In the era of multilateralism "Quad can help in achieving India's ~~aspiration of~~ regional aspirations and strategic autonomy.

NEXT IAS

Space for Rough Work

NEXT IAS

Space for Rough Work

NEXT IAS

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अभ्यर्थियों को निम्नलिखित निर्देशों को ध्यानपूर्वक पढ़ना चाहिए। किसी भी निर्देश का उल्लंघन करने पर दण्डित किया जा सकता है।	महत्वपूर्ण निर्देश
क्या न करें- 1. इस प्रश्न-सूच-उत्तर प्रश्निका के भीतर कहीं भी अपना नाम या पंजीकरण संख्या न लिखें। 2. अपनी OCA प्रश्निका में कहीं भी प्रश्नों के वास्तविक उत्तरों के अलावा कुछ भी न लिखें। 3. अपनी OCA प्रश्निका से कोई भी पृष्ठ न फाड़ें, यदि आपको कोई पृष्ठ गायब लगे, तो परीक्षक/निरीक्षक को सूचित करना न भूलें। 4. अपनी OCA प्रश्निका को अपनी डेबल पर न छोड़ें, परीक्षा समाप्त होने के पश्चात इसे निरीक्षक को सौंप देना चाहिए। 5. यदि आप किसी कार्य को रद्द करना चाहते हैं, तो उस पर अपना पत्र चलाएँ या उस पर "रद्द" लिखें, अन्यथा उसका पंजीकृत किया जा सकता है। 6. परीक्षा हॉल छोड़ने से पहले अपनी OCA प्रश्निका अधिकतम रूप से निरीक्षक को सौंप दें।	करना करें- 1. कवर पृष्ठ पर दिए गए निर्देशों को ध्यान पूर्वक पढ़ें और उनका सख्ती से पालन करें। 2. OCA प्रश्निका के कवर पृष्ठ पर दिए गए स्थान पर अपना पंजीकरण नंबर और अन्य विवरण लिखें। 3. स्पष्ट और पठनीय तरीके से लिखें। खाल/अपठनीय लिखावट में न लिखें। 4. एक नोटिस या गणना के लिए, इस प्रश्निका के अंतिम दो खाली पृष्ठों का उपयोग किया जाना चाहिए। एक नोटिस को बाएं में कार्य कर देना चाहिए। 5. यदि आप किसी कार्य को रद्द करना चाहते हैं, तो उस पर अपना पत्र चलाएँ या उस पर "रद्द" लिखें, अन्यथा उसका पंजीकृत किया जा सकता है। 6. परीक्षा हॉल छोड़ने से पहले अपनी OCA प्रश्निका अधिकतम रूप से निरीक्षक को सौंप दें।

ऑनलाइन सूचिका का लाभ उठाने वाले अभ्यर्थियों के लिए विशेष अनुरोध

1. OCA प्रश्निका को ठीक से स्कैन करें। हम चाहेंगे कि आप स्कैनिंग के लिए कैमस्कैनर ऐप (CAM SCANNER) का प्रयोग करें। (यह कोई प्रमाणन नहीं है)।
2. कृपया OCA प्रश्निका को पर्याप्त रोशनी में स्कैन करें। कम रोशनी में स्कैन की गई प्रश्निकाएं, उनके पंजीकृत 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. OCA प्रश्निका का उपयोग नहीं करने वाले उम्मीदवारों को अपना विवरण पहले पृष्ठ पर देना चाहिए और मैके डिप्लिया को लिए अपना पृष्ठ खाली छोड़ दें। यह सुनिश्चित करने के लिए कि उम्मीदवारों को यह पीडीएफ में पृष्ठ नंबर 3 से शुरू करना चाहिए।
5. OCA प्रश्निका का उपयोग नहीं करने वाले उम्मीदवारों को प्रत्येक 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 भीतिक संस्करण के अनुरूप है।

