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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1863)

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Medium Eng./Hindi	ENG	Registration Number	1031651
Center	TABLE	Date	17-12-'21

INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTIONS
Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained	
1	10		1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code). उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)। 2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं। 3. All questions are compulsory. सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं। 4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं। 5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other than the authorized one. प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे। 6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए। 7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off. उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।
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Total Marks Obtained:			
Remarks:			

16-B, 2nd Floor, Above National Trust Building, Bada Bazar Marg, Old Rajinder Nagar, Delhi-110060

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

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

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

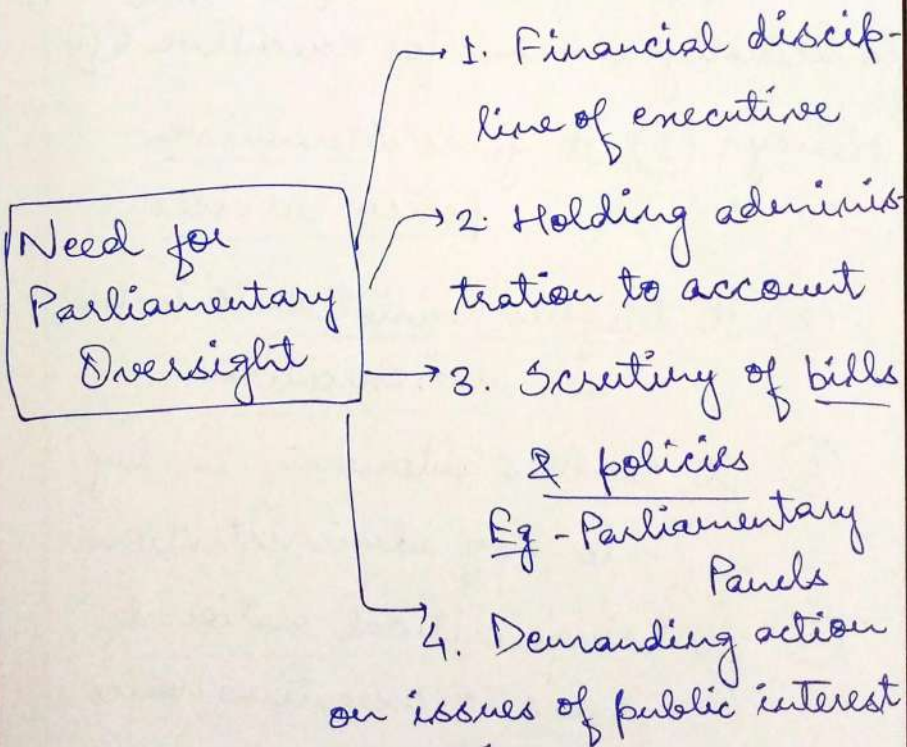
5.

6.

1. Parliamentary oversight of administration is not an end in itself rather it acts as a means to strengthen the efficient functioning of the administration. Discuss (150 words) 10

प्रशासन की संसदीय निगरानी अपने आप में एक अंत नहीं है बल्कि यह प्रशासन के कुशल कामकाज को मजबूत करने के एक साधन के रूप में कार्य करता है। विवेचना कीजिए।

Art-75(3) provides for the Collective responsibility of Council of Ministers to the House of People.



Conventional Role :

- Lack of detailed discussions

on Budget, CAG reports etc.

- Parliamentary panels seen as
conclusive authorities for scrutiny
- Mere formal debates in question
hour.

Developing Parliamentary oversight
(PO)
is actually a means for executive effi-
ciency: ① It gives alternative
policy advices

② It delegates legislation to impro-
ve law execution.

③ It enables autonomy in day-
to-day administration.

④ It brings critical national
issues to executive notice

Indeed, PO is a means towards
the end of efficient executive
functioning

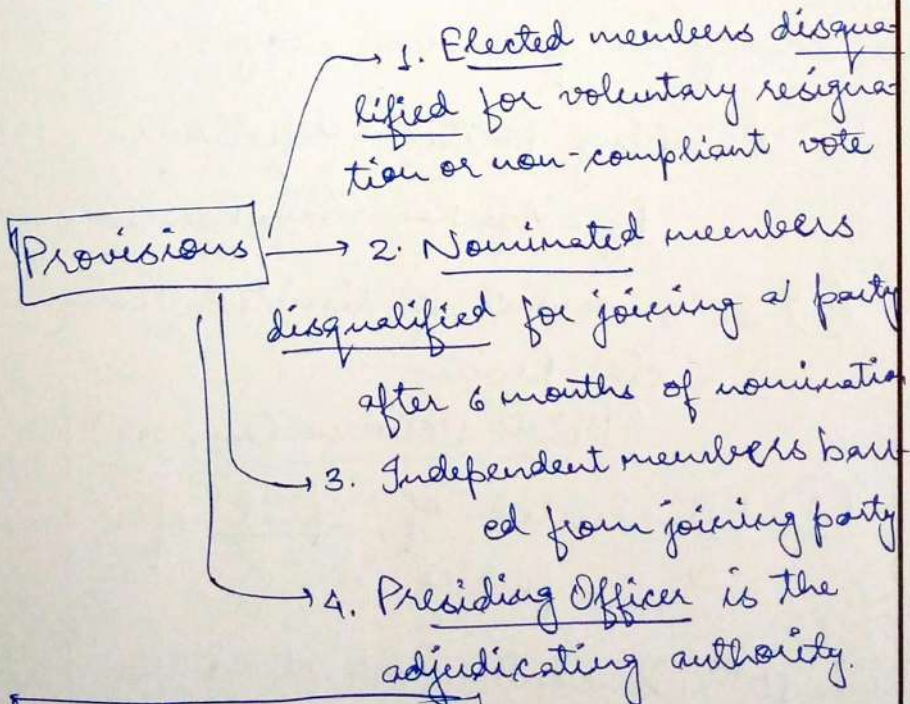
2. The Tenth Schedule of the Constitution has weakened the democratic credentials of India's representative democracy. Critically discuss.

(150 words) 10

संविधान की दसवीं अनुसूची ने भारत के प्रतिनिधि लोकतंत्र की लोकतांत्रिक साख को कमजोर कर दिया है। समालोचनात्मक विवेचना कीजिए।

52nd Constitutional Amendment (1985)

added 10th Schedule (called Anti-Defection Law) to curb floor crossing & defections by political parties.



Weakened Democracy

1. Alternative tactics of

Resignation employed by legislators

2. Presiding Officers authorised without adjudicatory expertise
3. Allows "Merger" of political parties.
4. Tried to prevent judicial review

However, it has strengthened our democracy in following ways:

- ① Checking political defections
Eg - Aya Ram - Gaya Ram (1967)
- ② SC's verdict for limited Judicial Review
(Kihoto Hollohhan Case, 1992)
- ③ Elimination of "Split" of parties.

Thus, 10th Schedule has stood the test of time to ensure respect to will of the electorate.

3. Article 246 of the Indian Constitution is considered as the cornerstone of Centre-state legislative relations. Discuss. (150 words) 10

भारतीय संविधान के अनुच्छेद 246 को केंद्र-राज्य विधायी संबंधों की आधारशिला माना जाता है।
विवेचना कीजिए।

Article-246 provides that three lists

(Central-State-Concurrent) in 7th Schedule are to be the basis of the respective legislative powers of Centre & State

- Other Provisions
- 1. Only Parliament to frame laws with extra-territorial effect
 - 2. Parliament empowered to legislate on State subjects to implement international treaties

Cornerstone of Legislative Relations

- Clear Demarcation of legislative ambit
- Concurrent subjects to enable

legislation as per Central or
State needs.

- Removes risk of frequent encroachment or litigation
- Parliament empowered to shift subjects from 1 list to another in national interest (Art-38)

Shortcomings

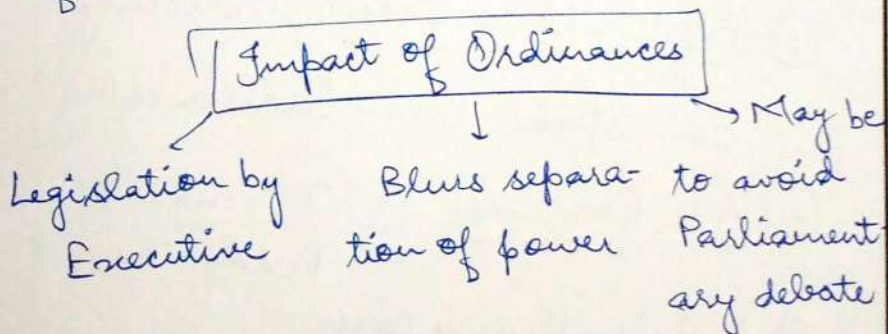
- 1. Instances of encroachment by ancillary legal provisions
- 2. ~~Now~~ State consultation for treaty laws.
- 3. Limited State subjects to

SC's doctrines like Pith & Substance, Colourable legislation etc. have clarified Art-246 further.

4. Although the provision of issuing ordinances amounts to the usurpation of legislative power by the Executive, both Centre and states in India have taken unrestrained course to it. Discuss. (150 words) 10

हालांकि अध्यादेश जारी करने का प्रावधान कार्यपालिका द्वारा विधायी शक्ति के अधिग्रहण के समान है, फिर भी भारत में केंद्र और राज्यों दोनों ने इसे अनियंत्रित रीति से प्रयुक्त किया है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Art.-123 & 213 provide for promulgation of Ordinance by President & Governor, when either House is not in session & there's a need of immediate action.



However, Centre - States take unrestrained course to it: Instances:

- ① Repromulgation of an Ordinance for 14 years in Bihar (1980s)
- ② Ordinance used for structural

changes

Eg - Farm laws.

- ③ Often used to circumvent discussions in legislatures
- ④ Promulgated without an urgent need for "immediate Action"

Judicial Interventions :

① DC Wadhwa Case : Judiciary can strike down Ordinance Raj

② A K Roy Case ③ T. Venkata Reddy Case

④ Krishna Kumar Case

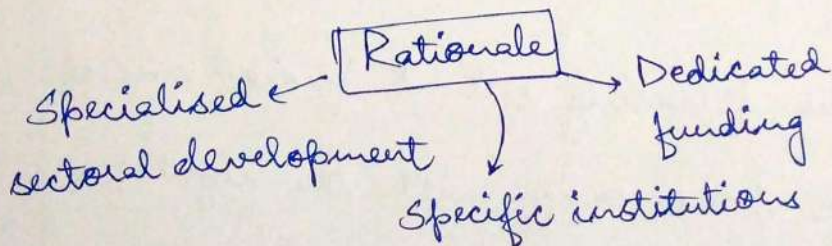
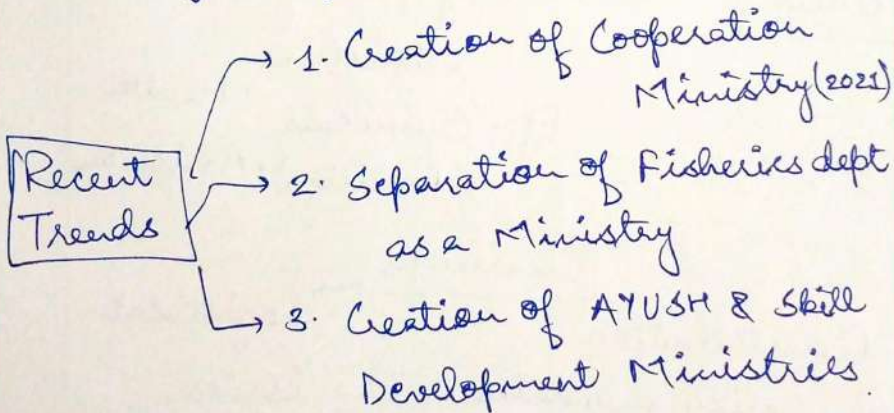
→ Way-Ahead → Compulsory
Promulgation only for a legitimate cause placement in legislature

Ordinance is an emergency power to be used most sparingly.

5. There has been a manifold increase in the number of ministries in the central government since independence. Do you agree with the view there is a need to phase out many ministries and amalgamate others in this context? (150 words) 10

स्वतंत्रता के बाद से केंद्र सरकार में मंत्रालयों की संख्या में कई गुना वृद्धि हुई है। क्या आप इस विचार से सहमत हैं कि इस संदर्भ में कई मंत्रालयों को चरणबद्ध तरीके से समाप्त करने और अन्य को समामेलित करने की आवश्यकता है?

Diversifying aims of government has created a need to increase number of ministries over the years to manage different issues.

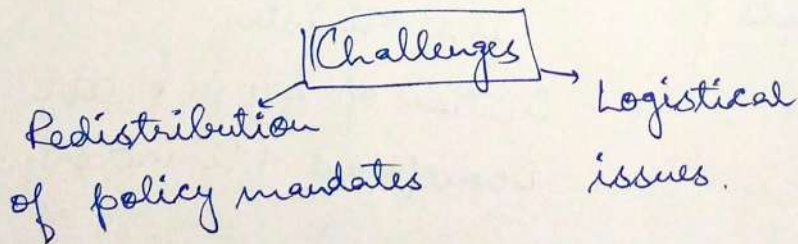
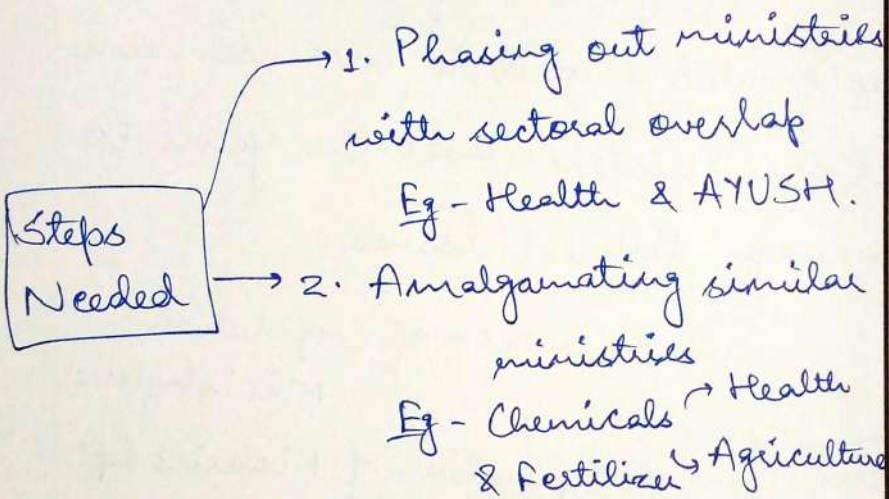


Need for Reforms :

1. To streamline administrative

re burden.

2. To utilise unused funds
3. To maintain a inter-agency coordination



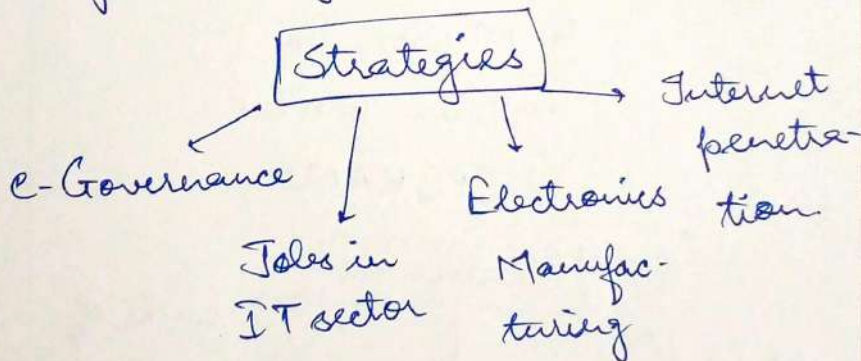
Thus, phasing out & fusion must be done only with the sight for administrative ease.

6. Evaluate the success of Digital India in fulfilling its vision of transforming India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy.

(150 words) 10

भारत को डिजिटल रूप से सशक्त समाज और ज्ञान आधारित अर्थव्यवस्था में बदलने के अपने दृष्टिकोण को पूरा करने में डिजिटल इंडिया की सफलता का मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

Digital India (DI) ~~is~~ is India's flagship initiative to make India a digitally empowered society & knowledge economy.



Achievements:

- ① Digital financial inclusion
Eg - UPI, DBT.
- ② Social sector digitisation
Eg - SWAYAM MOOC

2. e-Sanjeevani

③ Bharat Net laying Optic Fibre

Cables to 2.5 lakh Panchayats.

④ Boost to digital startups

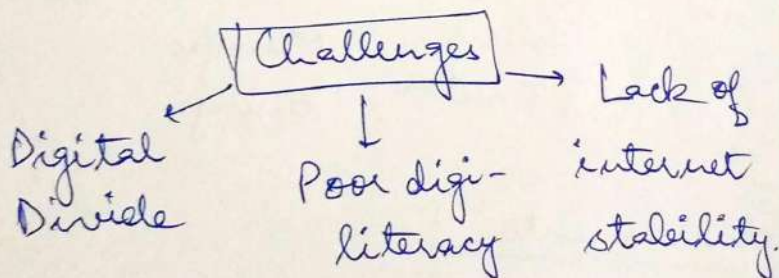
Eg - PayTM, Byju's

⑤ e-Governance

↳ MyGov. In

↳ Data.gov.in

↳ CPGRAMS.

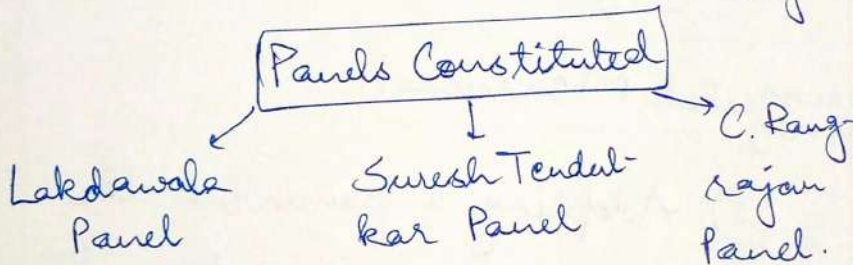


To fulfill its objectives, DI still needs to address above issues.

7. Examine the issues related to poverty measurement in India. Suggest measures to improve upon the existing methodologies. (150 words) 10

भारत में निर्धनता के मापन से संबंधित मुद्दों का परीक्षण कीजिए। मौजूदा पद्धतियों में सुधार के उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

Poverty Measurement in India is carried out to ascertain the number of persons living in abject poverty



Issues in India :

- ① Older measures of assessing consumption

Eg - Calorie intake.

- ② Relatively lower threshold for Below Poverty Line status

- ③ Neglect of multidimensionality

of poverty

Eg - Social deprivation,
Resource inaccessibility.

④ Older Head Count Ratio used

⑤ Irregular data update.

Suggested Measures:

① Adopting a framework like
Multidimensional Poverty
Index.

② Encouraging data sharing
by States.

③ Identification through
welfare scheme data.

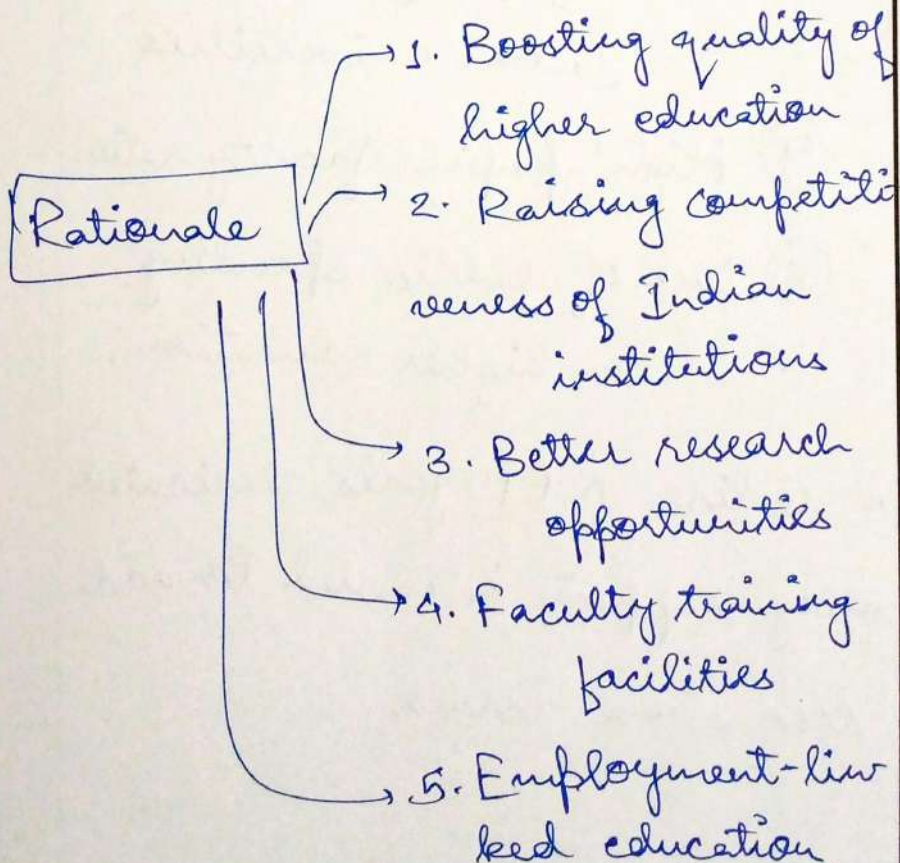
④ Regular update of BPL limit

To attain SDG - 1, poverty measurement is critical.

8. As one of the recommendations of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, discuss the rationale behind internationalisation of higher education in India and its associated challenges. (150 words) 10

राष्ट्रीय शिक्षा नीति (NEP), 2020 की सिफारिशों में से एक के रूप में, भारत में उच्चतर शिक्षा के अंतर्राष्ट्रीयकरण के लिए दिए गए तर्क और इससे जुड़ी चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

NEP 2020 proposed greater integration of Indian higher education with global institutions & stakeholders.



Challenges :

- ① Lack of student exchange programs in India.
- ② Poor higher education infrastructure
- ③ Lack of foreign faculty in Indian universities
- ④ High[^] = pupil - faculty ratio.
- ⑤ Lack of public spending in higher education.

To realise NEP goals, dedicated policy support is needed to address above issues.

9. Stating the significance of Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) examine whether they have been as beneficial as expected for India. (150 words) 10

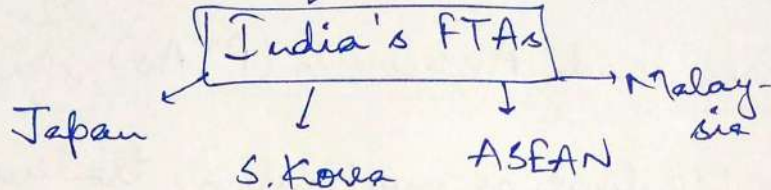
मुक्त व्यापार समझौतों (FTAs) के महत्व को वर्णित करते हुए, परीक्षण कीजिए कि क्या वे भारत के लिए अपेक्षा के अनुसार लाभदायक रहे हैं।

Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) refer to bilateral or multilateral trade arrangements, wherein tariff & non-tariff barriers are lowered/eliminated to boost trade (goods-services), investments etc.

Significance :

- Broaden export destinations for a country
- Accessibility to scarce commodities
- Curb global price fluctuations
- Increase market access for domestic producers
- Promote FDI, raise employment

& ensure seamless movement of service professionals



FTAs have had less than expected success for India:

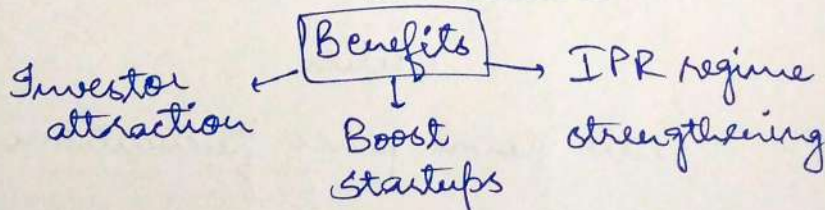
- Stagnant or declined exports

Eg - to Japan

- Lack of technology transfer

Eg - S. Korea

- Limited or no improvement in trade balance



India's FTAs must be recalibrated to suit our economic interests amid free trade.

10. Though multilateral development banks (MDBs) are crucial for holistic development of developing nations like India, there are certain legitimate concerns about their functioning. Discuss. (150 words) 10

यद्यपि बहुपक्षीय विकास बैंक (MDBs) भारत जैसे विकासशील देशों के समग्र विकास के लिए महत्वपूर्ण हैं, तथापि उनके कामकाज के बारे में कुछ वैध चिंताएं भी हैं। विवेचना कीजिए।

Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs)

are financial institutions, which are multilaterally funded & controlled, so as to boost global equitable development (Eg- World Bank)

Role in Developing Countries

- Grassroots financial inclusion & employment

Eg - DAY-NRLM

- Strengthening infrastructure

Eg - DRIP Project

- Social sector initiatives

Eg - Healthcare, Education

- Lessening fiscal deficit burden

- Welfare schemes for Poverty Alleviation

Legitimate Concerns:

- Lack of transparency in functioning
Eg - IMF loans
- Domination of Western nations in Governance
Eg - World Bank.
- Creation of Multilateral Banks
Eg - AIIB (China)
- Dependence on developed countries for funding

Way Ahead:

MDBs must work in a transparent & inclusive manner to repose global trust & confidence.

11. Despite the legal framework to resolve inter-state river water disputes, why do they continue to exist? Also, discuss measures that can be taken to resolve such disputes in an expeditious and agreeable manner.

(250 words) 15

अंतर्राज्यीय नदी जल विवादों को हल करने के लिए कानूनी ढांचे के विद्यमान होने के बावजूद, वे अभी भी जारी क्यों हैं? साथ ही, ऐसे विवादों को शीघ्र और सहमतिपूर्ण रीति से हल करने के लिए किए जा सकने वाले उपायों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Indian Constitution provides for an institutional mechanism for inter-state river management for a dedicated & expeditious dispute redressal

Legal Framework:

- Inter-State River ^{Development} Management Board Act (1956)
- Inter-State River Dispute Tribunal Act (1956)

Reasons for Continuance:

- ① Decline in surface water resource availability

Eg - Seasonal Perennial Rivers.

② Reorganisation of States

Eg - AP & Telangana

③ Emerging drinking water crisis

④ Old age of dams & disputes

in dam maintenance

Eg - Mullaperiyar Dam.

⑤ Non-implementation of
River Tribunals' verdict

⑥ States' competition to produce
cheap hydroelectricity.

Suggested Measures:

- Setting up an independent
panel on a case-to-case basis
with representatives of:

↳ States ↳ Centre

↳ Technical experts

- Strengthening river basin database for constant monitoring

↳ GIS for water use

- Bringing punitive sanctions against non-compliant states.

- Using Judiciary only as a last resort

↳ Preference to alternative resolution

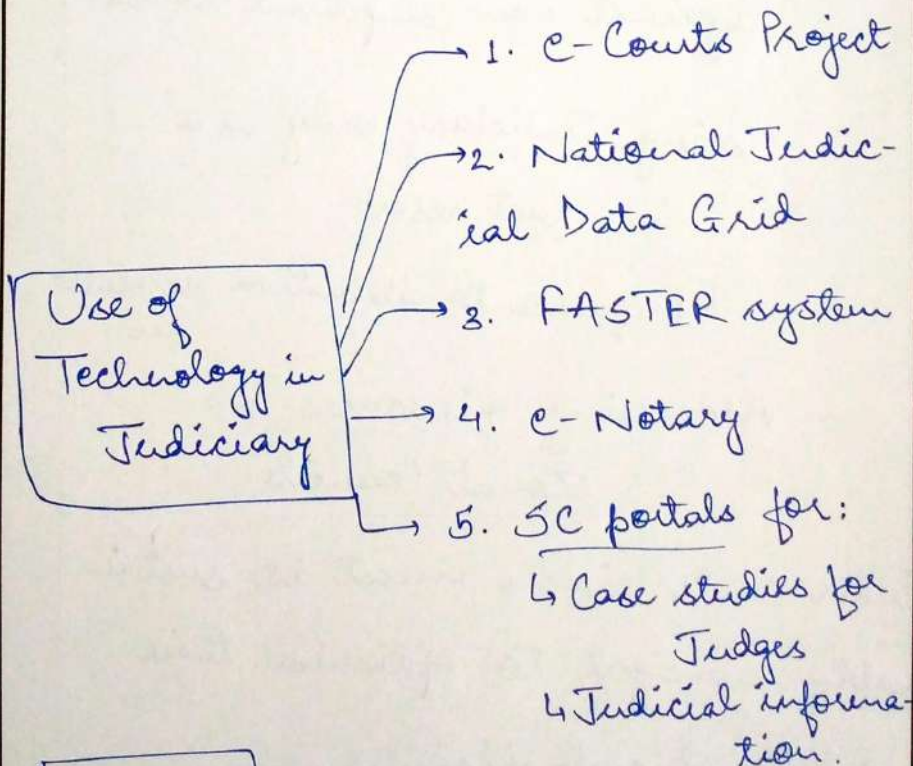
- Addressing grievances in Zonal Councils

Inter State rivers must be sustainably managed to optimise their benefits & curb disputes.

12. While use of technology is a welcome step towards improving the efficiency of the judicial system, it must be understood that technology itself comes with a set of challenges that make justice even more inaccessible. Discuss. (250 words) 15

हालांकि न्यायिक प्रणाली की दक्षता में सुधार की दिशा में प्रौद्योगिकी का उपयोग एक स्वागत योग्य कदम है, लेकिन यह भी समझा जाना चाहिए कि प्रौद्योगिकी स्वयं चुनौतियों के एक समूह को साथ लाती है जो न्याय को और भी अधिक दुर्गम बनाती है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Recently, CTI proposed greater use of technology in judicial system to expedite & widen the access to justice



Benefits :

- ① Quicker transfer of orders to:
↳ Prisons ↳ Police
- ② Streamlined judicial data & information for Judges.
- ③ e-Copy of orders for wider citizen accessibility.
- ④ Continued functioning amid COVID
↳ Virtual hearings
- ⑤ Step towards Online Dispute Redressal (ODR)

Challenges with Technology

- Lack of infrastructure in Courts
- Poor digital literacy among citizens.

- Inadequate technical knowledge
among Judges-Lawyers
- Risk to citizens' privacy
& confidential information.
- Low internet penetration
↳ less than 15% in rural
India (NSSO-2016)
- Technical glitches during



Technology in Judiciary must be promoted only after addressing these challenges.

13. The current urban planning capacities in India are extremely skeletal and need systemic reforms and a change in mindset. Discuss (250 words) 15

भारत में शहरी नियोजन की वर्तमान क्षमताएं अत्यंत सीमित हैं तथा प्रणालीगत सुधारों और मानसिकता में बदलाव की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

74th Constitutional Amendment (1992)

provided Constitutional status to Municipalities for furthering grassroots urban planning in India.

Developing smart cities



Current Urban Planning

- Limited devolution of powers by States to Urban Local Bodies (ULBs)
- Poor capacity of urban

planning personnel.

Eg - Road- Drainage layout
design.

- Lack of inter-departmental
coordination

Eg - Digging roads for pipeli-
nes

- Arbitrary sham evictions &
demolitions for infrastructure

- Insufficient funding of ULBs

Steps Needed :

① Raising unconditional gr-
ants to ULBs

② Building capacities & skilling
urban personnel

③ Consultative urban planning

↳ Online public comments

④ Enhance power devolution
by States.

⑤ Empowering ULBs with right
to local taxation.

⑥ Promoting Municipal Bonds
for credit-worthy ULBs

⑦ Changing mindset to accom-
modate holistic natural-
cum-development planning

Way Ahead

To attain SDG-11, integrated
reforms in urban planning are
need of the hour.

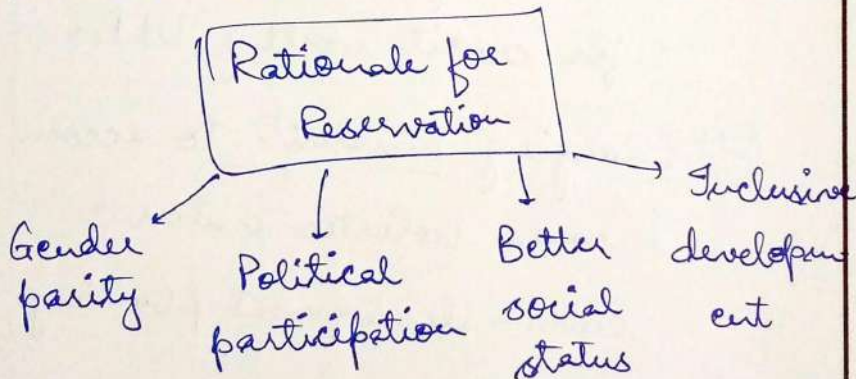
14. Reservation for women in the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) has not translated into corresponding increase in women's representation in India's state legislatures. Bringing out the reasons for the same, discuss how under-representation of women in the state legislatures can be corrected.

(250 words) 15

पंचायती राज संस्थाओं (PRIs) में महिलाओं के लिए प्रदत्त आरक्षण उसी अनुपात में भारत की राज्य विधान-मंडलों में महिलाओं के प्रतिनिधित्व में वृद्धि में परिवर्तित नहीं हुआ है। इसके कारणों को वर्णित करते हुए चर्चा कीजिए कि राज्य विधान-मंडलों में महिलाओं के कम प्रतिनिधित्व में कैसे सुधार किया जा सकता है।

73rd Constitutional Amendment (1992)

provided for 33% women reservation
in all PRIs



Women's Representation: State Assemblies

- Absence of reservation of seats
- 10-15% representation in most States.

- Lack of focus on women-specific issues & gender-budgeting

Reasons :

- ① Patriarchal mindset & procedures in Indian politics
- ② Abuse of women's powers by 'Sarpanch Patis' even in PRIs
- ③ Predominance of caste & religion-based politics in States
- ④ Social restrictions on women's participation in politics
- ⑤ Economic deprivation of women
 - Urban &
 - Rural Poor.

Steps for Correction :

- Reserving 33% seats

for women in State legislatures

- Spreading awareness among young women for political career.
- Correcting 'Sapanch Pati' tendencies in PRIs
- Initiating women's representation in ULBs on a large scale
- Social sensitisation for gender parity

Way Ahead

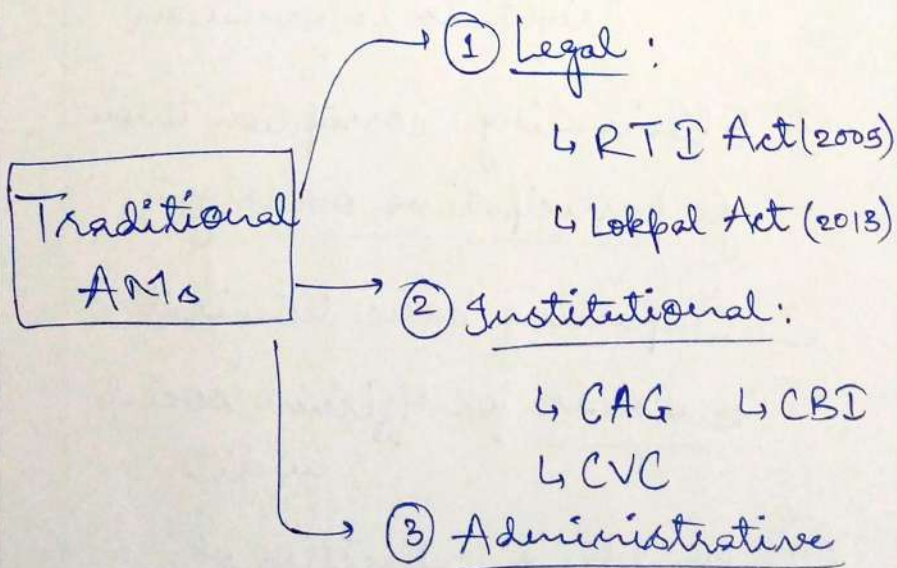
As Global Gender Gap Index (2021) points to low political representation of women, strengthening their participation in States would be the right step.

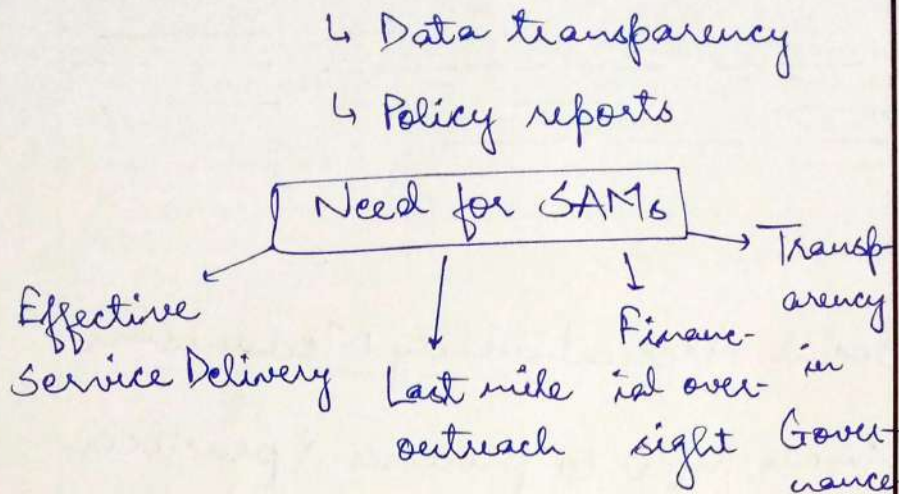
15. For effective public service delivery, there is need to shift from traditional accountability mechanisms to social accountability mechanisms. In this context, discuss the pre-conditions for the success of social accountability efforts and challenges associated with them. (250 words) 15

प्रभावी सार्वजनिक सेवा वितरण के लिए, पारंपरिक जवाबदेही तंत्र से सामाजिक जवाबदेही तंत्र में स्थानांतरित करने की आवश्यकता है। इस संदर्भ में, सामाजिक उत्तरदायित्व के प्रयासों की सफलता के लिए पूर्व-शर्तों और उनसे जुड़ी चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Social Accountability Mechanisms

(SAMs) refer to processes & practices that promote direct community participation in ensuring efficient service delivery & administrative accountability.

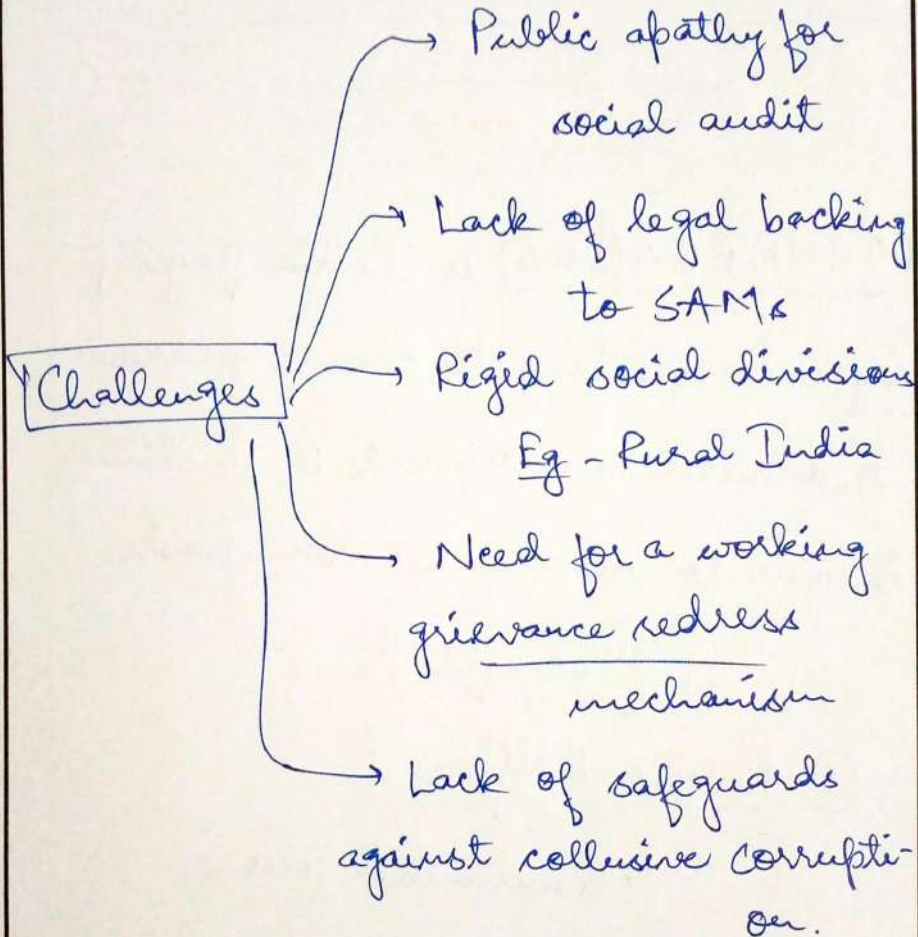




Pre-Conditions for Success:

- ① Widening grassroots awareness for citizens' right to know & right to information
- ② Eliminating corruption through participative oversight
- ③ Imparting basic technical knowledge for efficient social audit.
- ④ Building capacities of

administrative personnel



SAMs are the need of the moment in India. However, above issues need to be addressed.

16. The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) remains one of the most ambitious programmes for public welfare and rural development, but its objectives cannot be achieved without strong and capable Panchayati Raj Institutions. Elucidate.

(250 words) 15

महात्मा गांधी राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण रोजगार गारंटी अधिनियम (मनरेगा) अभी भी लोक कल्याण और ग्रामीण विकास के लिए सबसे महत्वाकांक्षी कार्यक्रमों में से एक है, लेकिन इसके उद्देश्यों को मजबूत और सक्षम पंचायती राज संस्थानों के बिना हासिल नहीं किया जा सकता है। स्पष्ट कीजिए।

MGNREGA (2005) is India flagship legal mechanism to ensure guaranteed rural employment in unskilled labour to all volunteer households.

Benefits

① Public Welfare

- ↳ Guaranteed jobs
- ↳ Provision for reemployment allowance
- ↳ Direct Benefit Transfer of Wages
- ↳ Social cohesion in rural India

② Rural Development

↳ Creation of durable assets

↳ Convergence of other schemes

Eg - PMAY(G), SBM(G)

Rural Employment

Objectives

Social security

Grassroots

Development

However, PRIs play a critical role
in the execution of MGNREGA:

- Processing job application
- Identifying assets to be created
- Redressing payment grievances
- Monitoring fund access
- Distributing work

Need of the Hour :

→ Accountability in PRIs

→ Inclusive representation
in PRIs

↳ Women ↳ SC-ST

→ Capacity building for
PRI's functionaries

→ Checking fund leakages

→ Ensuring participative &
grassroots-led growth

MGNREGA can be further optimi-
sed by bringing PRIs to the centre
of its management, evaluation
& feedback.

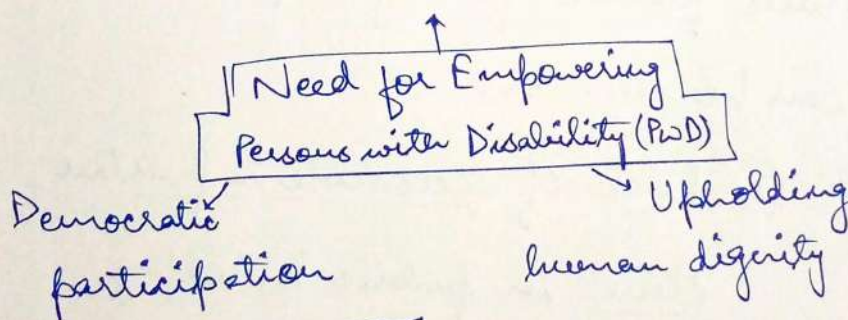
17. Despite legal safeguards and international conventions, the State has failed to uphold the rights of persons with disabilities in general and those with psychosocial disabilities in particular. Discuss in the context of India.

(250 words) 15

कानूनी सुरक्षोपायों और अंतर्राष्ट्रीय अभिसमयों के बावजूद, राज्य सामान्य रूप से दिव्यांगजनों और विशेष रूप से मनोसामाजिक दिव्यांगजनों के अधिकारों को बनाए रखने में विफल रहा है। भारत के संदर्भ में विवेचना कीजिए।

As per ICMR, $\frac{1}{6}^{\text{th}}$ of Indian population suffers from some kind of physical or mental disability.

Inclusive growth



Legal Safeguards :

- ① Rights of PwDs Act (2016)
- ② Mental Healthcare Act (2017)
- ③ Art-41 of Constitution

↳ Social security to PwD

International Conventions :

↳ UN Convention for Rights of
PwD (2006)

↳ Tucheon Strategy

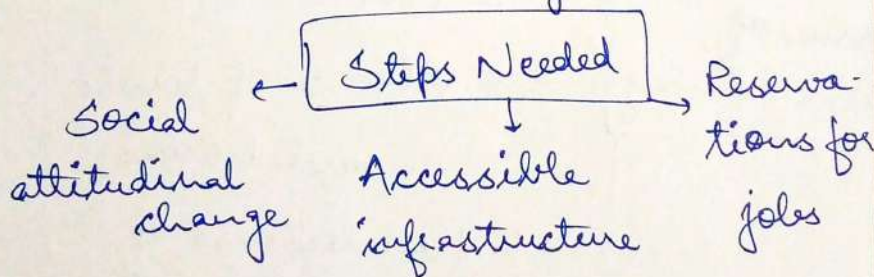
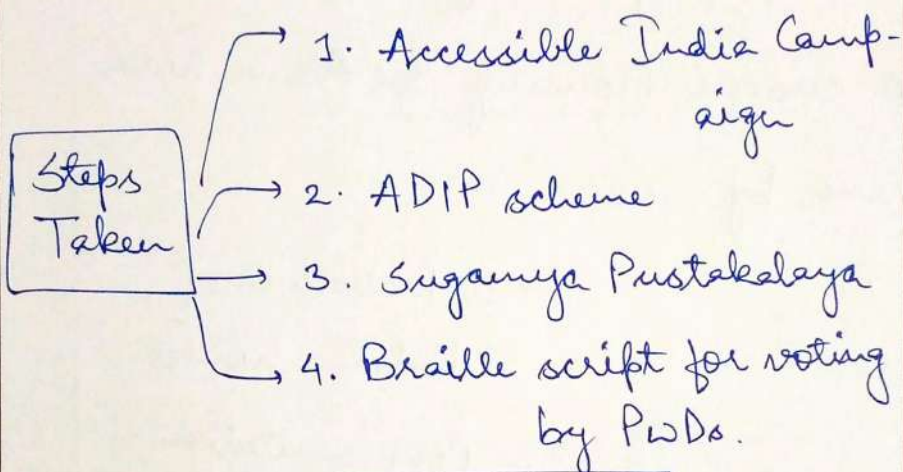
↳ Biwako Declaration.

Despite multifarious provisions,
State's failure for rights protection
can be seen as:

- ① Lack of accessible infrastruc-
ture in public building
- ② Absence of ramps in public
transport.
- ③ Rising cases of suicide am-
ong mentally unhealthy
↳ NIMHANS report.

④ Continuance of social stigma for disabilities.

⑤ As per ILO, 63% of PwDs are out of labour force in India



To achieve "Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas" safeguarding PwD rights is an urgent need.

18. To what extent has the PM Awas Yojana (Gramin) been successful in solving the problem of rural housing in India? Discuss with adequate arguments. (250 words) 15

भारत में ग्रामीण आवास की समस्या को सुलझाने में प्रधान मंत्री आवास योजना (ग्रामीण) किस सीमा तक सफल रही है? पर्याप्त तर्कों के साथ चर्चा कीजिए।

PM-Awas Yojana (Gramin) [PMAY-G]

is India's primary welfare scheme to ensure Housing for All in rural areas, by 2022.

Issue of rural housing

- 1. Prevalence of Kutchha houses
- 2. Poor sanitation
- 3. Absence of toilets in rural houses
- 4. Homelessness of rural poor.

Achievements of PMAY (G)

① As of March 2021, 1.10

crore houses sanctioned.

② Construction of 52 lakh houses

↳ As per Min. of Rural
Development

③ Integration with other rural
development schemes

Eg - SBM(G), JTM(G)

④ Dedicated space of kitchen &
adequate ventilation

↳ Curbing indoor pollution

⑤ Provision for joint ownership
in the name of a Male & Female

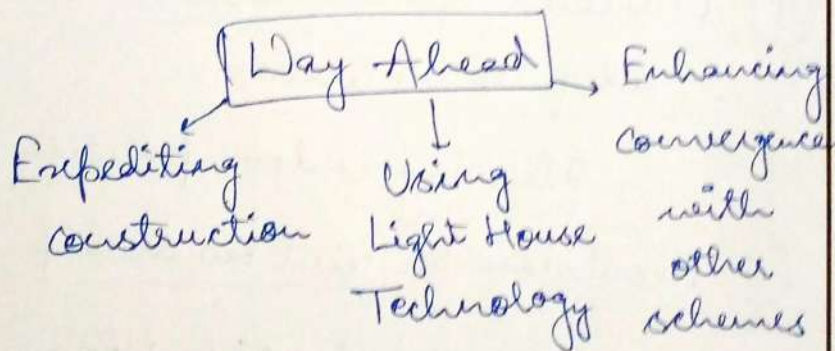
⑥ Building pucca houses in
poor rural areas.

Issues:

- Lagging behind target of

2.95 crore houses by 2022

- Slow pace of sanctions in 2020
↳ COVID onslaught
- Delays in land acquisition
& clearances
- Procedural hurdles in transfer
of ownership.



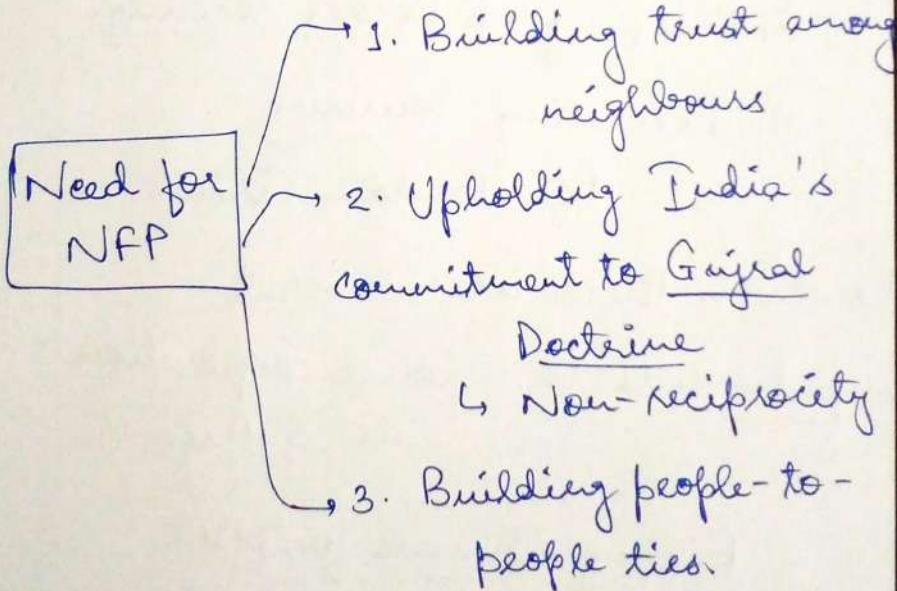
PMAY (G) can be India's tool
to ensure housing for all. However,
above issues need to be addressed

19. Despite the potential of India's Neighbourhood First policy, there have been several impediments to regional cooperation in South Asia. Discuss.

(250 words) 15

भारत की नेबरहुड फर्स्ट नीति में क्षमता होने के बावजूद, दक्षिण एशिया में क्षेत्रीय सहयोग के लिए कई बाधाएं विद्यमान हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।

India's Neighbourhood First Policy (NFP) is a foreign engagement policy that prioritises strengthening of relations with India's neighbours.



Potential of NFP:

1. Boosting trade & investment

in S. Asia region.

2. Fostering connectivity for
seamless movement of people
3. Finding alternative routes to
NE India

Eg - Kaladan Multi-Modal
Project

4. Ramping up border security.

5. Promoting tourism

Eg - Buddha Circuit

However, there are several

impediments to regional cooperation
in S. Asia:

- Rising Chinese footprint

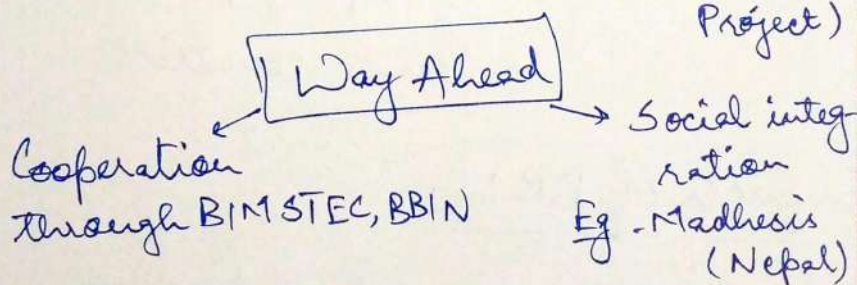
↳ BRI

- Deep indebtedness of India's

neighbours to China

↳ Debt diplomacy.

- Perception of India's big brotherly attitude in the region.
- Boundary disputes
Eg - Kalapani
- Bilateral tensions
Eg - India - Pak.
- Dormancy of SAARC
- Slow pace of projects (Eg - Panchsheel Project)



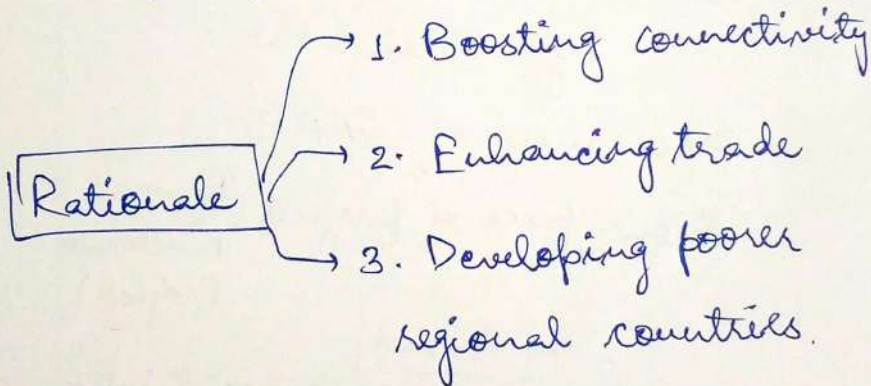
Regional cooperation in S. Asia is a must - for the success of NFP.

20. It is argued that China's Belt and Road Initiative has resulted in unsustainable debt-for-infrastructure deals in several countries across continents and it is a part of debt trap diplomacy. Discuss. (250 words) 15
- यह तर्क दिया जाता है कि चीन का बेल्ट एंड रोड इनिशिएटिव महाद्वीपों के कई देशों में गैर-संभारणीय अवसंरचना के लिए-कृण आधारित सौदों में परिणत हुआ है और यह कृण जाल कूटनीति का एक हिस्सा है। चर्चा कीजिए।

China's Belt & Road Initiative (BRI)

is its flagship project for creation of transnational infrastructure viz.

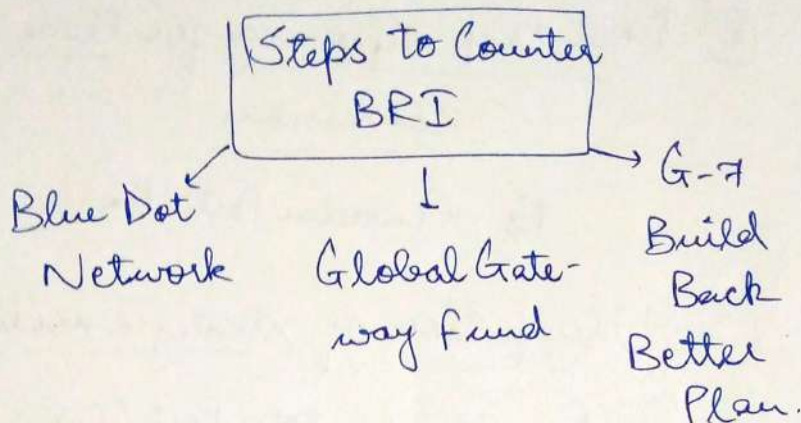
Highways, railways, waterways etc.



Impacts of BRI :

- ① Entrenchment of poor countries in deep indebtedness
Eg - Bangladesh.

- ② Debt trap diplomacy for trade concessions
Eg - Gwadar Port (Pak)
- ③ Usurpation of strategic assets
Eg - Hambantota Port (Sri Lanka)
- ④ Encroachment on India's sovereign territory
- ⑤ Creation of dual use ports by China.
- ⑥ Exploitation of poor African countries.
- ⑦ Encircling India with a "String of Pearls"
- ⑧ Developing Chinese hegemony in regional affairs.



Need of the hour :

- Global cooperation against debt predation.
- India's role in strengthening regional relations.
- Curbing China's unilateralism
- Sustainable global infrastructure

India needs to gather global cooperation to curb debt diplomacy & encroachments.