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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 875)

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Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	12.5	
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5	12.5	
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7	12.5	
8	12.5	
9	12.5	
10	12.5	
11	12.5	
12	12.5	
13	12.5	
14	12.5	
15	12.5	
16	12.5	
17	12.5	
18	12.5	
19	12.5	
20	12.5	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

Signature of Examiner

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH.
3. All questions are compulsory.
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
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.
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Alignment Competence
2. Context Competence
3. Content Competence
4. Language Competence
5. Introduction Competence
6. Structure - Presentation Competence
7. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

Answer all the questions in NOT MORE THAN 200 WORDS each. Content of the answers is more important than its length. All questions carry equal marks.

12.5X20=250

1. Centralising recruitment through an All-India Judicial Service (AIJS) will not address the multiple problems in the judiciary and cause new ones instead. Critically evaluate.

Centralised recruitment via AIJS
is debated for following reasons:-

① Lack of transparent appointment process of judges. (Collegium system is opaque.)

② Lack of hesamnel with integrity being elevated to Chief Justice positions. e.g. Justice C.S. Karkhanavala.

AIJS will address problems facing judiciary in following manner:-

① Merit based selection and appointment of judges and judicial officers ensuring

integrity - meritocracy

- ② Interview process can ensure men of integrity to be selected.
 - ③ It will help in increasing number of judicial posts lying vacant.
 - ④ It shall lead to elimination of negotiation and shall ensure integrated and independent judiciary.
 - ⑤ Hence, social justice and faster completion of pending cases is envisaged through this.
- But it will not eliminate all challenges and issues plaguing judiciary.
- ① It shall hamper federal equilibrium
 - ② Political interference may increase and

Executive intervention may hamper
Separation of Powers doctrine which is
a basic structure of Constitution.

- ③ Judicial proceedings are cumbersome.
Digitisation is weak. ICT usage is
minimal. Summer vacations are long.
These are the issues which need
redressal to ensure quick completion
of cases and help enable social justice.

Hence, it is important to have
AJIS to deepen cooperative federalism
and correspondence between executive
and judiciary to ensure separation
of powers with adequate check and
balances but beyond this, other
challenges and issues need quick redressal.

2. The roots of the most pertinent challenges faced by Indian politics today can be traced to the lack of intra-party democracy in candidate selection and internal elections. Discuss.

Indian politics faces acute challenges today and ^{they} are as follows:

- ① Dynasty Politics
 - ② Nepotism, favouritism, spoils system.
 - ③ Lack of ethical polity.
 - ④ Growing authoritarianism and populism.
 - ⑤ Growth of Personality Cults.
 - ⑥ Caste based electoral politics.
 - ⑦ Horse trading and defections.
 - ⑧ No constructive opposition and lack of accountability mechanisms.
- These challenges can be traced to the lack of intra-party democracy.

- ① Whip orders of dissented can lead to disqualification.
 - ② Formation of Kitchen Cabinet has led to coterie of bootlicking politicians which is against the principles of democratic polity.
 - ③ Candidates are selected keeping in view electoral vote bank. Playboy caste politicians which is against our secular polity.
 - ④ Contempt Powers used to quell dissent and punish the members has led to silencing of intra Party democracy.
- Due to these issues,
internal elections and cohesive,
inclusive voice of all representatives

remain unheard.

Consequences:

- ① Unethical, authoritative politics.
- ② Money power rules.
- ③ Non-inclusive growth.
- ④ Populistic measures.
- ⑤ Lack of regionally balanced policy framework.
- ⑥ Patronisation of vigilantism which is seen today.

Way Ahead:

It is very important to reform
Anti-Defection Law and Ethics
Committee, PAC and have constructive
dissect backed by impartial role
of Governor, Speaker etc. in ensuring
sustainable, inclusive, synergy
among all stakeholders in
polity

3. While the idea behind merger of autonomous bodies in India is to curb overlapping work and reduce expenditure, it may end up doing more harm than good. Discuss.

Merger of autonomous bodies like SEBI, IRDA, PFRDA etc. is called for the following reasons:-

- ① To increase synergy and best practices
- ② To ~~avoid~~ jurisdictional overlapping.
- ③ To promote market regulation more effectively.
- ④ To pool capital and ensure financial soundly.
- ⑤ To increase professionalism and reduce judicialisation, hence respecting separation of powers.
- ⑥ To plug grey areas and loopholes which illegal investors etc. exploit due to differential regulatory bodies

⑦ To reduce regulatory regime and overburdening and reduce complexity favouring Ease of doing business and liberal market competitiveness

⑧ To better manage portfolios and product diversification and work for the welfare of consumers by reaching to all in a cohesive manner.

But it has certain drawbacks also:-

① It will lead to generalised approach towards growing domain specialised work

② Domain expertise is the characteristic feature of separate autonomous and regulatory bodies.

Merger may jeopardise this.

- ③ Merger may increase conflict with CCI which favours to check monopolistic mergers and disenfranchisement

Fiscal Sector Legislative Reforms

Commission, 2013 asked for Unified Agency while keeping certain crucial bodies like RBI as a separate entity only. Its recommendations can be implemented selectively to ensure wherever mergers are possible to have synergies and cost-effective

regime harnessing resources optimally for consumer welfare. Moreover, corporate governance of the bodies ~~to~~ needs a leverage too.

4. Well-defined electoral laws and greater powers for the Election Commission of India are required as the existing laws and mechanisms are inadequate to deal with new challenges. Analyse.

RPA, 1951, Constitutional mandates under Art 324, Art 326 etc. empower legislature, judiciary and ECI to check electoral malpractices and ensure free and fair elections. But existing laws and mechanisms are not enough to deal with new challenges:

- ① Integrity of ECI is being questioned by political parties due to growing competitive electoral politics.
- ② Financial dependence and secretarial dependence of ECI on Parliament. Lack of security of tenure can lead to

political interference and Conflict
of Interest. Future posts and
lack of qualification set and criteria
for ECs lead to ambiguity about
impartial functioning.

③ New modes of threats to democratic
elections like hard news, communal
politics, LWE, new, innovative
modes of bribes and inducements like
RK Nagar by poll elections.

④ Growing Black money, opaque
funding and criminalisation of
polity and growing conviction rate
of representatives. e.g. VK Sasikala etc.

⑤ Ambiguous interpretation of electoral
laws. e.g. Section 123(3) of RPA, 1951
which gives room for caste,
racial and religious polity to
grow
unchecked

Hence, there is a need of well defined electoral laws with the help of judiciary to interpret them in the interest of social justice. Also greater powers to ECI should be envisaged as follows:

- ① Secretarial staff appointment independence
- ② Security of tenure to ECs (all)
- ③ Financial independence, salaries, fees to be charged from CFI.
- ④ Modification of RPA, 1951 to include Paid news on media (social media) as electoral offence, barring convicted politicians for heinous crimes for life etc.

5. Privileges should be defined and delimited for the free and independent functioning of the legislatures. In this context, discuss whether there is a need to re-examine the balance between fundamental rights and parliamentary privileges in India.

Parliamentary privileges refer to the rights, immunities and exemptions enjoyed by the both houses of Parliament, its members and its committees, individually and also collectively.

Sources

- ① Constitution, conventions, various statutes and judicial verdicts.
- ② Art 105 and Art 194 of Indian Constitution

Significance :

- ① Dignity, authority and independent functioning of Parliament for the exclusive policy framework.
- ② To let legislatures debate, dissent and speak freely

without fear or favour to anyone.

Need to re-examine :-

- ① Unbridled Contempt powers to legislators. e.g. Recent Karnataka Assembly gave punishment of 2 years to journalists for breach of privileges
- ② Questions about Separation of Powers - Judicial powers in Executive
- ③ Hate speech in the name of privileges and ~~no~~ immunity against any action for hate speech in parliament.
- ④ Unparliamentary behaviour and unethical policy - abuse and misuse of powers, arrogance etc.
- ⑤ It threatens the fundamental right of freedom of speech and expression in India

- ② Quells dissent and hampers the
watchdog of democracy i.e. media to
act without fear.

Way forward →

- ① Codification of Parliamentary privileges
is the need of hour.

- ② Restraint or Contempt powers to

~~Prevent~~ of ~~Contempt of Court~~
be used in the best interest of
people and dignity of Parliament.

- ③ Regulation of speech within legislative
templates. Role of Speaker and Ethics

Committee is important here.

Hence, with these measures
there will be reconciliation between
Parliamentary privileges and fundamental
rights of people.

6. The principle of accountability is an essential part of the rule of law. In this context, discuss the lacunae in government's approach and judiciary's response to the phenomenon of extrajudicial killings in India.

Rule of Law emanates from Art 13.

and judicial review and response is an integral part of it. It helps ensure accountability and answerability of government, security agencies and the state in particular for its actions taken.

Extra-judicial killings.

have grown over years in the form of:

- ① AFSPA in Manipur → Alleged 1500 extra-judicial killings.

- ② Excess powers to armed forces in valley (J&K)

③ Mob trials, lynchings, vigilantism.
eg. Dadri killings, vandalisation
of Padmawati sets, Salwa Judum or
LWE areas etc.

④ Killing of activists and rationalists.
eg. Dabholkar, Gauri Lankesh.
Lacuna in government's approach;

① No quick restoration of law and order.

② Conflict between Centre and States
Sometimes, state but holists plays
a role.

③ Authoritative and executive orders
like Lockdown (Prohibition of Cow
Slughter Rules), 2017 which implicitly
promotes vigilantism.

④ Law and order is a state subject.

Lack of Police reforms to act
vigilantly against vigilantism

- ③ No quick Convictions and lack of
filing FIR's timely.

Judiciary's response:

- ① Executive Centre under Art 253
should use its executive powers
to direct the states to control
vigilante killings.

- ② AFSPA cannot be absolute. Security
personnel need to be accountable and
can be booked for decisions taken
arbitrarily in conflict prone areas.

- ③ Tolerance is our virtue. and we should
preserve this virtue for inclusive
growth and not to alienate masses
and minorities.

7. Explain the rationale behind enacting the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016. Discuss how it can help in revitalizing consumer confidence in the real estate market. Also highlight the hurdles that remain in implementing it.

RERA is a progressive act which will help in reviving the real estate sector and related industries in India - Construction, cement, steel, iron, banking etc. which shall increase economic activity and GDP.

Rationale:

- ① To check illegal real estate developers
- ② To check Banned property.
- ③ To increase transparency and accountability.
- ④ To ensure affordable housing for all.
- ⑤ To increase private, honest investment in construction sector
- ⑥ To increase FDI in Real estate.
- ⑦ To preserve consumer interest and promote economic activity.

③ To resolve disputes amicably by providing for tribunal mechanisms.

④ This rationale will help in realising consumer interest in real estate market in following ways:

① It will help him deliver home on time.

② Escrow account (70% funds to be kept for construction) will lead to timely completion of projects.

③ Regulatory body will register all projects and track, monitor the implementation of projects.

④ Strict penal provisions will lead to more accountability and transparency.

⑤ It will help in making real estate cheaper and affordable for people.

⑥ Housing for All will be realised.

⑦ Infrastructure states will least
have real estate private participation
and better credit availability.
Hurdles that remain:

① Real estate is a state subject.
It needs political will on the
part of states. unanimously

② Regulatory regime and overbureaucracy
may increase hurdles.

③ Stray maps and lobbying and
crony capitalism may lead to
inability to implement the law
in its true letter and spirit.
Way forward:

For the welfare of economy, social
development and inclusive growth,
RERA needs implementation quickly.

8. Moving the subject of water from state list to concurrent list will solve the issues related to governance of water resources. Comment.

Mohi-ud-Din Commission recommendations
call for moving the subject of water
from state list to concurrent list.

It will have following advantages:

- ① Inter state River water disputes
will be resolved with active
intervention of Centre. Quick decision
making and national policy on water
will be helpful and shall not need
the approval of all states, which
otherwise is a cumbersome process.
- ② Inter state River water Disputes Act,
1956 which is enacted recently will
be implemented across states for
quicker decisions.

- ③ Central Water Commission will be constituted which shall involve hydrologists, agronomists etc. which shall better manage policies and water governance.

This is similar to education.
RTE Act, 2009 led to growth in literacy rates only because education was triggered from state to concurrent list. It leads to better institutional capacities and strengths which caters well on a national scale and overlooks key regional politics.

- But there are drawbacks:
① It will hamper cooperative federalism. e.g. Teesta water sharing arrangement.

② It might weaken the federal
union and may give rise to more
regionalism

③ It will lead to centralised
planning overlooking decentralised
approach to water governance.
Way Ahead:

① Community level water governance.

② MGNREGA level climate resilient
infrastructure.

③ Amended ISRWDA, 1956 and state
tribunal for water disputes with
final and binding award.

④ Groundwater recharge, check dams,
wells, revival of baolis, kunds etc.
with proactive ULBs - PRIs - NGOs
and citizen participation

9. Give an account of the areas of potential conflict in the relationship between the political executive and civil servants. Also discuss why a healthy working relationship between the two is critical for good governance.

Bureaucracy forms the steel frame of Indian governance architecture on which the entire government machinery rests. Areas of potential conflict:

- ① Federal or Centralised appointment and working of civil servants under state government's executive. It leads to Conflict.
- ② Political partiality and ideology = Lack of neutrality or growing partisanship leads to disobeyance and political favouritism to some.
e.g. Bihar conflict recently between civil servants and Nitish Kumar's executive

- ③ Conflict of interest as well as conflicting interests are areas of potential conflict.
- ④ Conflict between elected and merit based selected remains an issue which goes back of conflict.
- ⑤ Idealism and pragmatism, note back history leads to conflict.
- ⑥ Frequent transfers and suspensions.
- ⑦ Political interference on IPS, IAS etc.
- ⑧ Healthy working relationship is desired because;
- ⑨ Good governance refers to inclusive, ethical governing of poor, disadvantaged and weak.
- ⑩ Synergy between executive and bureaucracy is important for

the effective implementation of
Centrally Sponsored and Central
Sector schemes

- ⑥ Conflict creates blockades in
socio-economic development
process, delays in file approvals
and red tapism and lobbying
recs, synergy, cooperation
and collaboration between
Centre, State's executive and
bureaucracy is important for
the healthy NGO-citizen-
civil servants and PRIs, ULBs
collaboration to achieve grassroot
development.

10. Despite their location in the non-political domain of civil society, NGOs have ended up playing a key, if indirect, role in India's politics. Comment.

Indian polities aimed at realising the ideals of Preamble i.e. sovereign, socialist, secular, democratic, public and aimed at deepening social justice, liberty, education and health to all.

NGOs became a cog in the wheel of this political ambition. and it has ended up playing a key role in India's politics in following ways:-

- ① Vertical accountability ensured.
- ② Social audit for better transparency
- ③ Deepened grassroots democratic participation via politicising and educating weak

about their rights based approach
via RTI etc

- ④ Effecture synergies by utilizing
public funds optimally along with
community mobilization or schemes
like MGNREGA etc for socio-
economic development.

- ⑤ Realising political aspiration of 100%
literacy via effective ground level
implementations of RTE Act. eg.
Teach for India.

- ⑥ NGOs like Normada Bachao,
Bachpan Bachao have also lobbied
with Government to frame policies
in accordance with the needs and
aspirations of people. eg. National
Child Labour Project etc

Drawbacks:

- ① Engineered dissent e.g. Amnesty case
- ② Money laundering and terror financing.
- ③ LWE growth, Naxalite pro NGOs.
- ④ Religious conversions e.g. IVF of Zakir Hussain.

These negatives have also affected internal security and socio-economic development of Indian politics.

Way Ahead:

- ① Light regulation. i.e. - SVI by Kumar Committee recommended
 - ② Internal and internal audit
 - ③ More teeth to NGOs to leverage accountability and social auditing. e.g. EIA, SIA reports etc.
- Thus, way, we need to create holistic synergy between NGOs and Politics.

11. Magnitude of India's urbanisation is not unusual but the pattern is. In this context, examine the issues in the governance of cities in India. Also suggest the reforms required to make Indian cities dynamos of competitive sub-federalism.

Urbanisation in India is going at the rate of 29% (2011 census).

It is obvious due to growing economy, industrialisation, newer economic avenues, better health, technology and education. But the pattern is skewed, concentrated and not equitable. Urban centres are few. eg. Mumbai, Pune, Delhi, Jaipur etc. leaving large hinterlands and villages bereft of any dividend of urban growth.

Issues in the governance of cities

- ① Congestion - traffic, lack of intelligent transportation.

- ② Problems of urban and hori-urban spreads (suburbs)
- ③ Slum dwelling and homeless households.
- ④ Caste based societies and class based societies still exist in urban cities.
- ⑤ Unmindful town and urban planning.
- ⑥ No clear roles, responsibilities and devolution of power to ULBs and cooperative societies by the state government.
- ⑦ Lack of professionalism in local governance institutions and bickering between ULBs and state government.
eg. Delhi politics - AAP v/s local governance of BJP.
- ⑧ No skills and institutional capacities to handle landfills, sanitation, PHCs, CHCs etc.

- ⑨ Growing concerns and insecurity to vulnerable children, women..

Reforms required to overhaul urban governance :-

- ① Institutional capacity of ULBs to be leveraged.
- ② Direct election of Mayor to increase accountability.
- ③ Financial handovers. eg. exploitation of Property tax to the fullest.
- ④ Enactment of FRBM Act for ULBs.
- ⑤ Skilled officials, and citizen's charter in utility departments.
- ⑥ local citizen participation like RWAs on local issues and macro issues like Smart City mission. ⑦ Devolution of roles to

12. Social boycott should be treated as a criminal offence, rather than being considered as just another form of social evil plaguing the Indian society.
Examine.

Success of democracy hinges on the healthy functioning of its institutions. India still carries forth regressive institutions like Caste Panchayats, Khat Panchayats which act as Kangaroo courts and lead to extra-judicial verdicts which are totally unconstitutional and violate rule of law. They are arbitrary and invoke conservation, orthodoxy and justify caste oppression and untouchability violating the FRs of equal and disadvantaged directly.

They are abhorrent in a healthy democracy. Example: honour killing and tarnishing of honor and ostracisation are criminal, honor offences which violate our constitutional ethos of right to equality, Art 21 is right to life and personal liberty, right to live with dignity etc.

Hence, social boycott of widows, Muslim women, low caste, untouchables, young couple marrying according to their choice should be treated as an offence.

In this regard, Maharashtra has come up with prohibition of social boycott Act to check the unbridled and arbitrary

powers of khap, Caste panchayats.
 This aims at social inclusion and
Rule of law and leads to
good and ethical governance
 checking extra judicial
verdicts by extra-constitutional
bodies

2012 SC verdict also
 calls khap as Kangaroo
 courts which should be
 dissolved to realize the
 fruits of democracy in true
 letter and spirit.

13. Human Trafficking in India has emerged as a serious issue, which calls for understanding the complexity of the problem and devising an effective strategy to combat it. Discuss.

Art 23 and Art 24 of Indian Constitution calls for Rights against exploitation. Under Art 23, forced labour and human flesh trade is prohibited. But human trafficking is still emerging as a serious issue in the form of young child labour, child pornography, women slaves, Devadasi system, prostitution etc.

Reasons

- ① Porous borders - Illegal migration of Bangladesh, Nepal's lead to their exploitation at the hands of crooks, quacks etc.

② Poverty is the major factor. Which accentuates vulnerable like women and children into the trap of prostitution.

③ Organised crime and syndicates are growing and flesh trade has become a profitable business.

④ Disaster prone regions like earthquakes floods etc lead to vulnerability of women. Rural-urban migration also an issue

Here the issue is complex and needs to have a multi-pronged governance strategy to address multifaceted issues and challenges which shall lead to curbing of human trafficking in near future

- ① Good governance - Police reforms in accordance with Prakash Singh reforms.
- ② NGO involvement and active community policing.
- ③ Disaster resilient governance based on Sendai Framework which will reduce the loss of lives and livelihood here making women, children less vulnerable.
- ④ Resolving cross border conflicts and Refugee crisis - Investing in education, health and awareness shall lead to equitable development and shall curb human trafficking.
- ⑤ Cyber Capacity to curb child pornography. e.g. Aarambh Initiative.
- ⑥ Vigil district administration to curb organised crimes and syndicate network.

14. A weak teacher education system is at the core of India's problems in school education. Evaluate. In this context, also enumerate the recommendations of the High-Powered Commission on Teacher Education constituted by the Supreme Court of India.

In spite of RTE Act, 2009, inclusive education with better learning outcomes is a pipe dream for India. ASER report reveals that Class V student can't read Class II texts properly. Reasons are:

- ① Weak teaching aids.
- ② Teacher absenteeism
- ③ Lack of adequate qualifications.
- ④ Lack of training modules to teachers.
- ⑤ Lack of dynamic learning and lack of skills even in teachers.

This is due to teacher shortage in supply as well as due to lack of quality teaching framework also.

Consequences

- ① Ryan cases . Teacher sensitivities
- ② Lack of learning outcomes .
- ③ Unemployable youth . etc .

But other reasons:

- ① Low public spending on education (3%)
- ② Lack of adequate public infrastructure
- ③ Lack of functional toilets for girls .
- ④ Gender gap and disparities .
- ⑤ Non-effective implementation of Mid Day
Meal Scheme etc to raise cognitive
abilities

Recommendations of HPC on TeacherEducation:

- ① Teachers to clear NET mandatory.
- ② Teacher Training modules to be
Completed on time .

- ③ Continuous evaluation of teachers and proper appraisal to raise efficiency and increase accountability.
- ④ Proper digitised and bimetric attendance modes to ~~the~~ eliminate teacher absenteeism.
- ⑤ Overhauling teaching aids and including vocational education, creative writing and skill important into academic curriculum.
Here, mastery in teachers quality and education is also equally important to raise school education standards

15. It has been argued that the recent order of the Supreme Court to prevent the misuse of Section 498A institutionalises the prejudices and rehabilitates the myths, which the women's movement in India has battled over decades. Discuss.

Section 498A of IPC penalises husbands and relatives for domestic violence acts over wife.

But recent dilution of this provision by SC has sparked off a debate regarding patriarchal institutions suppressing women empowerment.

SC's Verdict :-

- ① Husband will not be arrested immediately.
- ② Family Welfare Courts to be constituted in each district.
- ③ Based on its findings, after 1 month, a report will decide whether to proceed or not against husband.

- ④ Sisters and mothers of husbands also can file complaints against frivolous allegations of wife.
- ⑤ It shall make Domestic Violence not more gender neutral.

Counter Arguments +

- ① Displays patriarchal and gender stereotypes of male dominated institutions of India, including judiciary.
- ② It ~~will~~ does not take into account the psychological agony of wife (victim) and takes only physical bruises as evidence.

- ③ One month time may lead to more harassment of women and make her more vulnerable. It can even lead to depression and mental trauma. leading to withdrawal of case in Family Welfare Courts. It may jeopardise social justice.
- Way Ahead:

Gender neutrality is fine. FWCs should have NGO inputs and all women body and expertise or social welfare to decide the course of action taken which should be based on objectivity, rationality, evidence and compassion.

16. As strategic interests between India and US continue to converge, defence has emerged as a major area of cooperation between the two. Discuss the significance and possible implications of this development.

Due to Russia - China isolation.
India too has converged with
diverse partners like US, Israel,
on strategic grounds.

Defense has emerged as a major
area of cooperation in following ways:

- ① LEMOA: Logistics Exchange
Memorandum of Agreement.
- ② UAV - Drones for surveillance,
reconnaissance purposes.
- ③ Cyber security and ter information
sharing network and resolve to
eliminate radical terrorism.
- ④ Malabar Naval exercise in Bay
of Bengal.

- ⑤ More proactive defense synergy in global issues like Afghanistan and North Korea as well as South China Sea and Indian Ocean.

Significance:

- ① technology transfer and enabled defence preparedness for India.
- ② More assertiveness in Indian Ocean region and maintenance of freedom of navigation in sea lanes of communication for seamless trade and commerce network.
- ③ Energy security (shale gas, tight oil) and joint exploration of gas hydrates in K-G basin and EEZ...
- ④ Regional stability and security.
- ⑤ It will help India gain a global position in Asia-Pacific.

region and extended partnerships
with South East Asian Nations,
ASEAN whose collaboration
matters for regional peace,
prosperity and economic well-being
possible implications +

- ① More assertive China.
- ② Arms race in Korean Peninsula.
- ③ More major, strategic partnerships
in the region. which may lead to
even alliances in a global flux.
- ④ Better security network for India.
- ⑤ hike in India due to defense
manufacturing and employment
generators

hence the rising synergy has
multidimensional implications which
need to be studied carefully

17. India's contribution to peacekeeping missions of the United Nations has remained steadfast despite changes in the nature, form and variety of UN peace keeping missions. Examine.

UN Peacekeeping missions were envisaged to ensure collective security and defence in conflict ridden areas and war zones. This was done to ensure rule of law and order and restoration, relief, rehabilitation of victims, refugees, migrants in a safe, secure manner.

India continues to be 2nd largest contributor to peacekeeping mission of UNO. Examples are South Sudan crisis, Yemen crisis etc.

UN Peacekeeping missions

have changed in nature, form
and variety in following ways:

- ① Lack of participation by West
Nations, Allies and NATO;
- ② Lack of adequate arms, ammunition
and security gear. in conflict
border areas.

In spite of this Indian
contribution has been steadfast

It is important to envisage
reforms in UNSC and UNO as
a whole to make it self
sustainable and not dependent
on member nations for its
peacekeeping forces. It should

have its independent army, adequate
devolution of funds, roles and
responsibilities for robust security
regime in the same manner as
that of NATO alliance

18. India's partnership with Africa is an amalgam of African development priorities as well as India's development objectives. Discuss. Also highlight the initiatives taken by India in this context.

Indo-African union is significant since Anti-Colonialism days which also got manifested in NAM policy of Nehru. It envisages shared prosperity, economic growth, regional stability, maritime security, harnessing energy needs for economic aspirations and regionally balanced and sustainable development while at the same time respecting mutual coexistence and sovereignty. Africa development priorities

① Democracy deepening and conflict resolution.

- ② Education and health demands
- ③ sanitation and local governance
- ④ technology, self sufficiency
- ⑤ social welfare initiatives like job generation, PDS system etc.
- ⑥ Agricultural productivity for food security, water harvesting needs.
- ⑦ Loan, affordable line of credit for financial development.

India's development objectives:-

- ① Knowledge economy deepening.
- ② Energy needs - Oil, minerals, gas, hydropower, renewables etc.
- ③ Trade diversification.
- ④ Investments in ICT, education, health sector for better revenues.
- ⑤ Strategic concerns like Anti-Piracy, maritime security etc.

Initiatives taken :-

- ① Afro-Indian Development Bank
branches to be opening in India.
- ② Indo-African Union Summit.
Pygmalion Summit - 54 African
Nations for the first time participated
- ③ Line of Credit worth \$10 million extended
to African Union
- ④ ONGC Violesh Exploration on
African oil fields
- ⑤ Literacy and job generation in
services sector in Africa.
- ⑥ Security and defence partnerships
in conflict ridden countries of Africa
- ⑦ Soft Power - People to People
contact, tourism, cultural
exchanges
- ⑧ Afro-Asian Economic
Corridor & in pipeline

19. Comment on the role of International Court of Justice in upholding the values of international law. In this context, also highlight the association of India with the ICJ over the years.

ICJ is an organ of UNO which helps prevail rule of law on international affairs of conflict between nations. It is working at Peace Palace, The Hague, Netherlands.

It has ~~15~~ judges for a tenure of 9 years each. Balveer Bhargava of India represents 15 judge bench.
Chief

- ① Fairness, transparency, impartiality in justice availing mechanisms of nations. It ensures this. e.g. resent India-Pak issue over
Mulhushan Jadhav.

② Versailles treaty and assurance of
diplomatic endings + proper trial
respecting life of dignity and right
to life based on Universal
human right Declaration and
ICCPR, 1966

③ Rule based global liberal world
order. Its decisions are mostly
binding. But there are criticisms
when US did not agree to its
order in Nicaragua case.

India has always respected
ICJ orders and has been
an active association presently
as Dalveer Bhanda represents
is judge bench. ~~It has~~

20. In view of the focus on trans-regional economic corridors and changing regional geo-politics and geo-economics, critically discuss the idea of an Indo-Pacific Economic Corridor.

Trans regional economic corridors like Belt and Road initiative and Maritime Silk route by China are expansionist economic policies which are about to shape trade, commerce and geopolitics globally over years.

China regional geo-politics like China-Pakistan Economic Corridor for strategic reason String of Pearls Policy, create look diplomacy

by China and oceanic border disputes
in close vicinity demands a
new global alliance and alternative
to such economic corridors.

In the light Pacific
Economic Corridor can be
though. Japan ~~had~~ ^{has} had
come up with Asia-Africa
Economic Growth Corridor which
shall encompass Indian Ocean as
well as Pacific Ocean and shall
lead to synergy between
Afro-Asian developmental needs
and huge markets and Japanese
and other developed nations.

capital, technology and
investments.

But, it will only lead
to proxy trade wars,
strategic and major partnerships.
Very ahead would be to have
a synergy ~~with~~ accession nations
including China, Russia etc.
while diplomatically resolving
low hanging fruits like sustainability
issues, environmental concerns,
economic imperialism and sovereignty
issues. ~~Training~~ Training out these
will surely lead to peaceful
coexistence, prosperity, growth
and better

energy security and
sustainable, inclusive
global justice and
development