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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1510)

Name of Candidate	SURAM SINGHA		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	227299
Center	ORN	Date	30/11/2021

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
2	10	
3	10	
4	10	
5	10	
6	10	
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9	10	
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11	15	
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15	15	
16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

- 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)।
- There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH & HINDI**.
इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
- All questions are compulsory.**
सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
- The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
- 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।
- Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
- 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।

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

Plot No. 857, 1st Floor, Banda Bahadur Marg (Opp Punjab & Sindh Bank), Dr. Mukherjee Nagar
Delhi- 110009

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.

All the Best

1. Highlight the role played by the MPLAD Scheme in creating community assets based on local needs. Also, critically evaluate the recent move to suspend it. (150 words) 10

स्थानीय आवश्यकताओं के आधार पर सामुदायिक परिसंपत्तियों के निर्माण में MPLAD योजना द्वारा निभाई गई भूमिका पर प्रकाश डालिए। साथ ही, इसे निलंबित करने के हालिया कदम का समालोचनात्मक मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

MPLADS scheme was initiated to build durable physical & social infrastructure is based on decentralized approach & local needs.

Role of MPLADS in building community assets based on local needs :-

1) 19 lakh projects worth 45k cr sanctioned till 2017

2) More than 50% projects have been in rural areas.

3) empowers district authorities with funds to fulfil local needs

Recently, MPLADS was suspended in backdrop of COVID-pandemic to concentrate funds for

health & other development needs

Positives of suspension	Negatives
1) Unspent funds: <u>>90%</u> MIs could not utilize entire amount from 2014-18 2) More pressing need for <u>health</u> expenditure in wake of COVID 3) concerns around violation of <u>separation of powers</u> (MIs - recommend projects) 4) concerns around <u>transparency</u> in <u>contracts</u> under MPLADS	1) <u>violation of locals empowerment</u>, as <u>MPLADS</u> projects were based on local needs 2) There could be possibilities of <u>convergence</u> through directions to use <u>MPLADS funds</u> for health infra in districts 3) tendencies towards <u>centralization</u>

while MPLADS as a project has been upheld to be in right spirit by the SC & LC Law Commission, more pressing need for increasing health infrastructure justifies the concurrent step taken

2. Adequately empowering the third tier of Indian federal structure is key to strengthen federalism in India. Analyse. (150 words) 10

भारतीय संघीय ढांचे के तृतीय स्तर को पर्याप्त रूप से सशक्त बनाना, भारत में संघवाद को सुदृढ़ करने की कुंजी है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

73rd & 74th amendments to the constitution
ushered in decentralization by establishing
PRIs & Municipalities as 3rd tier of
Indian federal structure.

Despite the above constitutional amendments,
2nd tier suffers from problems inhibiting
true empowerment. [UF]

1) Funds: less than 5% of funds
spent by PRIs & municipalities are
own funds

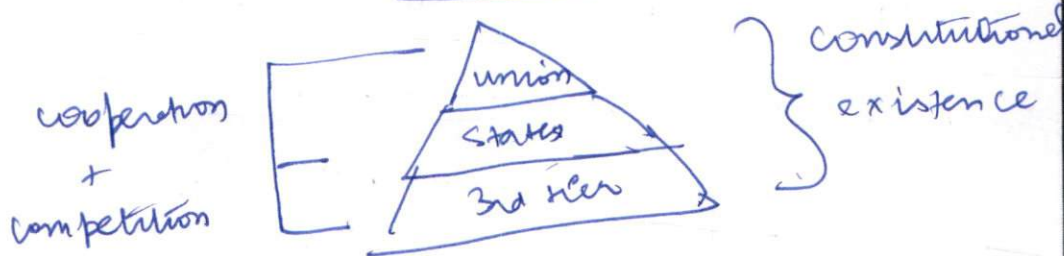
2) Functions: of the subjects in
~~7th & 10th~~ 11th & 12th schedules
majority states have not devolved.

3) functionaries: lack of trained
human resources

4) functionality: due to issues like
overlapping jurisdiction with district
administration.

Need for empowering 3rd tier to
strengthen federalism in India

Federal structure :



- 1) Participative democracy lies at root of true federalism
- 2) Empowered local communities - can better demand better for dev rights & development $\Rightarrow$ competitive federalism
- 3) Healthy cooperation with states & centre (cooperative federalism)

Way forward:

- 1) Incentivize development of subjects such as through 15th FC recommendations
- 2) Innovative funding mechanisms :
[eg] Municipal Bonds, Pune PPP infrastructure
- 3) Standardize recruitments at 3rd tier

A vibrant democracy lies in a vibrant
empowered 3rd tier of federalism

3. To safeguard and uphold the freedom of speech and expression in India, it is imperative to adequately reform colonial laws that curtail free speech.
Discuss. (150 words) 10

भारत में वाक् एवं अभिव्यक्ति की स्वतंत्रता को सुरक्षित रखने और उसे बनाए रखने के लिए, मुक्त वाक् को कम करने वाले औपनिवेशिक कानूनों में पर्याप्त रूप से सुधार करना अनिवार्य है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Article 19 of the Part 3 of Indian constitution guarantees freedom of speech & expression as a fundamental right, subject to certain safeguards.

Colonial laws that curtail free speech:

1) Sedition law, under IPC: offence to vaguely defined offences like 'attempt to incite hatred', etc.

2) Official secrets Act - hinders genuine whistleblowing at times

3) Contempt of Court - Recent Basant Bhushan case

Need for reform:

1) Rising arrests on vague grounds such as 'threat to law & order'

(eg): arrest of journalist Munawar Faruqi

2) chilling effect on free speech &

expression - due to fear of above laws.

3) Misuse by state authorities at times to curb genuine political dissent / criticism

4) Weaken participative & consultative democracy through curbing criticism.

Way forward:

1) SC in Kedar Nath v. S. Bhari & Balwant Singh v. State of Punjab cases recommended

that genuine criticism should be not be penalized

2) Law Commission report: intention to disrupt public order

3) International best practices: UK, Canada etc have done away with contempt laws.

India's ratification of International Covenant on Civil & Political Rights commits to preservation of free speech.
Reform of above laws to

4. Highlight the role of pressure groups in a democratic country. Also, differentiate between pressure groups in India and developed countries.

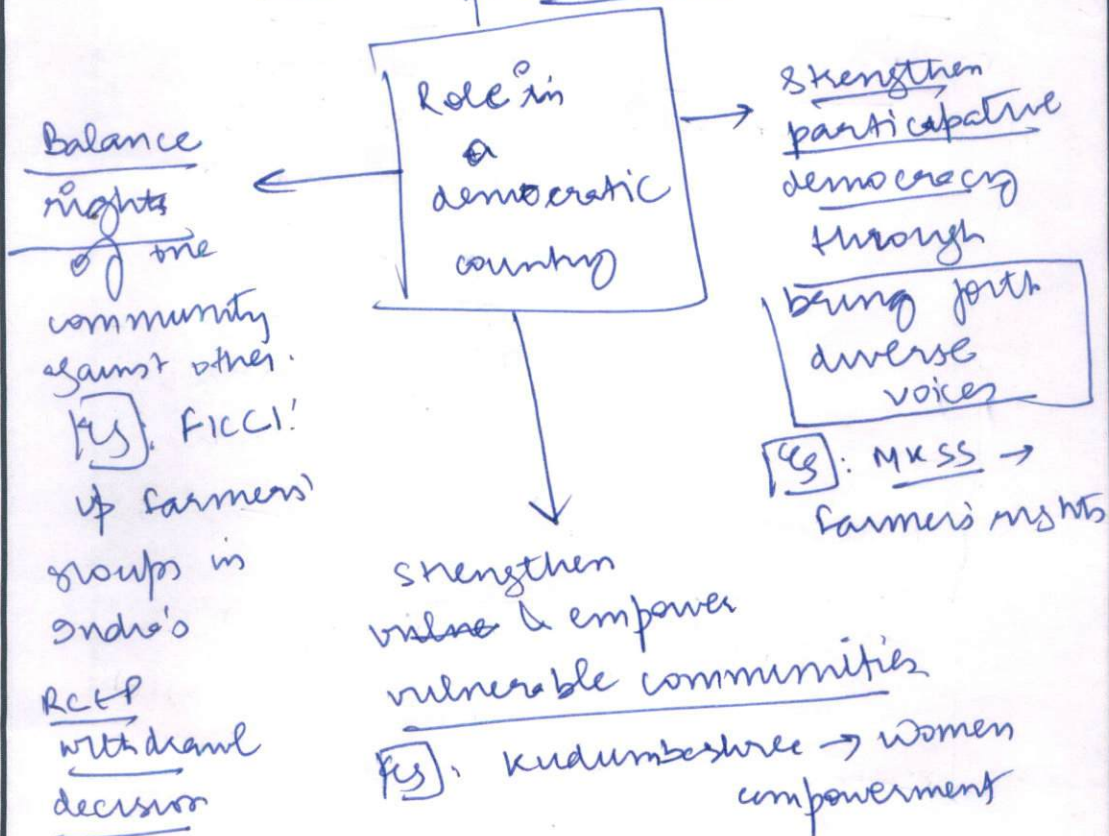
(150 words) 10

एक लोकतांत्रिक देश में दबाव समूहों की भूमिका पर प्रकाश डालिए। साथ ही, भारत और विकसित देशों में दबाव समूहों के मध्य अंतर स्पष्ट कीजिए।

Pressure groups are organization of people / individuals with common interests & a common cause to pursue.

[eg]: FICCI: Industrialists
MKSS: Farmers

Add value to democratic deliberations



Difference b/w Pressure groups

	Developing countries	Developed countries
<u>Organization</u>	loosely organized pressure groups, more <u>informal</u>	<u>Better organized</u> through formal channels of <u>communication</u>
<u>Mode</u>	<u>Protests</u> , <u>media</u> <u>dialogs</u> are <u>major</u> modes	<u>Lobbying</u> is a major mode of demands presentation
<u>Number</u>	More in number, but loosely set up	eg USA → cap industrialists send representatives to <u>senate</u> less in number, but better organized
<u>Role</u>	More less formal role in decision-making	More formal role - eg: representation in <u>committees</u>

Pressure groups play a major role in the 4th era of democracy & should be strengthened

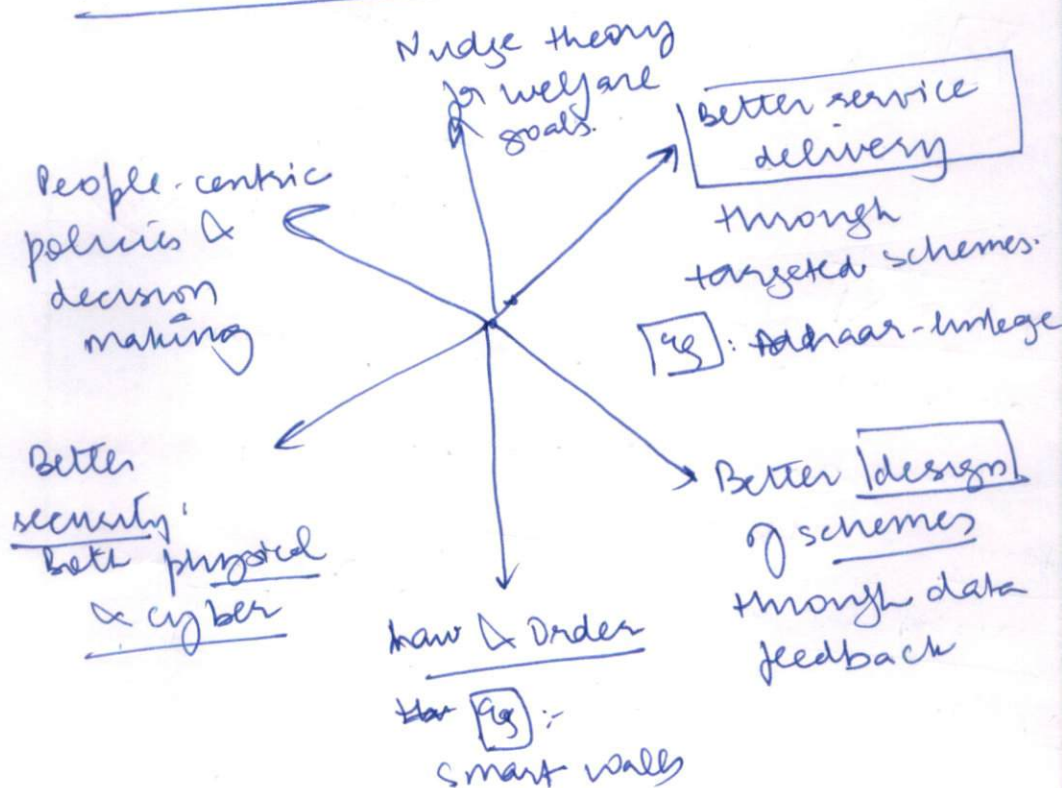
5. The idea that Public Intent Data can play a transformative role in the public sector is not bereft of challenges. Discuss. (150 words) 10

यह विचार कि लोक प्रयोजन डेटा (पब्लिक इंटेंट डेटा) सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र में एक परिवर्तनकारी भूमिका निभा सकता है, चुनौतियों से रहित नहीं है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Recently released World Development Report by World Bank, titled 'Data for better life' referred to the role of Public Intent Data in public sector.

Public Intent Data refers to data that is used for public welfare.

Transformative role of data in public sector



Challenges :

- 1) Privacy concerns associated with data analysis. [98], debate around Adhaar & Puttaswamy judgement
- 2) concerns around data security. [99]: leakage of Adhaar data of 1000s of Indians recently
- 3) Data surveillance threats. [99], China against Uighur muslims
- 4) ^{lack of} Digital infrastructure for data usage. [99]: limited computing abilities
 - ⊗ Internet Access disparity (Rural-urban, Male-female)

Way forward :

Transformative role of public intent data can be realized by balancing intent with concerns around privacy & security on lines of Justice Gopalan & BN Srikrishna recommendations + universal access to internet (USA + etc)

6. Enumerating the key objectives of the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act, discuss why the recent amendments in the act are seen as a matter of great concern for the development sector in India. (150 words) 10

विदेशी अभिदाय (विनियमन) अधिनियम के प्रमुख उद्देश्यों को सूचीबद्ध करते हुए, चर्चा कीजिए कि इस अधिनियम में हाल के संशोधनों को भारत में विकास क्षेत्रों के लिए बड़ी चिंता का विषय क्यों माना जा रहा है।

Foreign Contribution Regulation Act - implemented by the MHA. aims to regulate foreign investments into the country - to ensure their use is in line with public welfare

Objectives of FCRA :-

- 1) Regulate ~~ing~~ & monitor inflow of foreign funds.
- 2) ensure funds are not used for activities deleterious to national security & Law & order.

Recent Amendments to FCRA :-

- 1) ~~more~~ stricter guidelines for receiving foreign funding by NROs

⊖ Only in designated SBI branches in Delhi

- 2) stricter monitoring :

NROs to submit periodic reports on usage.

3) changed limits of usage

from earlier 50%, now less than 20% can be used for administrative expenses.

4) widened category of prohibited persons: Now public servants too become ineligible to receive foreign funds.

concern around recent amendments

1) Reduced flexibility of fund usage for NBROs (50% → 20% limit)

2) Increased cost of compliance (Reports submission, funding only in Delhi branch, etc)

3) Ban on ~~the~~ redirection of money from one NBRO to other - impact to collaboration efforts.

4) Hampers ease of doing business for NBROs

Need of the hour is to balance development role & positive contribution of NBROs with security concerns. Above steps should be supplemented by measures like social stock exchange.



7. The current COVID-19 pandemic has posed a serious threat to the safety and wellbeing of children all over the world. Discuss. Also provide an account of the measures taken by the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) in this regard. **(150 words) 10**

वर्तमान कोविड-19 महामारी ने विश्व भर में बच्चों की सुरक्षा और कुशलक्षेम के समक्ष एक गंभीर खतरा उत्पन्न कर दिया है। चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, इस संबंध में राष्ट्रीय बाल अधिकार संरक्षण आयोग (NCPCR) द्वारा किए गए उपायों का विवरण भी प्रदान कीजिए।

WB
World Bank recently released a report pointing that Learning Disability may ↑ by 10% in developing countries due to covid-induced destructions.

Threat of COVID on well-being of children

Healthcare	Education
1) Disruption of traditional network of ASHAs in last-mile delivery 2) Reduced institutional deliveries 3) Disruption of traditional vaccination network	1) <u>Closed down of schools</u> 2) Digital divide & lack of access to digital infra (less than 70%). Children have access to smart phones

- Mental health
concerns due to
reduced socialization

- Physical health:
increased screen time

→ Mr. MDMS advised

→ Reduced teacher-
child interaction

Measures taken by NCPCR:

1) surveys & studies conducted ~~at~~
to generate impact of COVID
data

2) increased role through helping
number to address & rights violation
& grievances.

3) engagement with social media to
enhance reach.

4) online portals to track
complaints & violations

Special emphasis of on child-well
being is needed in post-COVID
world. A mix of institutional &
civil society efforts is way forward.

8. Various challenges need to be addressed in order to successfully eradicate the menace of bonded labour in India. Discuss. (150 words) 10

भारत में बंधुआ श्रम के संकट को सफलतापूर्वक उन्मूलित करने के लिए विभिन्न चुनौतियों का समाधान करने की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Article 23 of Indian Constitution prohibits human trafficking & bonded labour, setting forth the institutional mechanisms against this menace.

Existing measures to eradicate bonded labour

↳ Bonded Labour Abolition Act, 1976

↳ Article 23 of Indian Constitution (Fundamental Right)

↳ Ratification of ILO Forced Labour Convention

↳ NHR to enforce human rights, redress grievances

↳ Active role of Judiciary

↳ Pressure groups

Despite above acts, bonded labour remains challenges in eradication.

- (A) Institutional
1) Informal nature of workforce in

India $\rightarrow$ different to stock cases

2) lack of enforceable & data on
existing nature of bonded labour.

Supply-side issues
3) lack of institutional credit &
availability

4) lack of financial inclusion

force agst labourers
into moneylenders' ~~net~~
trap $\rightarrow$ bonded labour

5) lack of awareness about safeguards

6) lack of rehabilitation efforts

Demand-side

7) weak implementation of laws

8) strict labour code laws

Way forward:-

Active role of various stakeholders for
NARC & civil society to media &

is needed - to bring forth cases

$\rightarrow$ ensure rehabilitation - for

attainment of SDGs $\rightarrow$ 17.

9. In the background of the recent military coup in Myanmar, discuss why a stable Myanmar is important for India. (150 words) 10

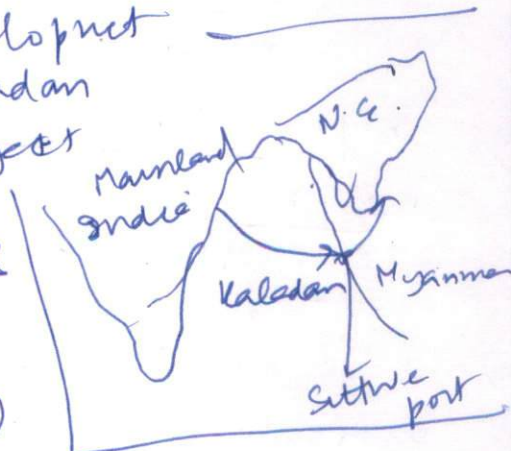
म्यांमार में हाल ही में हुए सैन्य तख्तापलट की पृष्ठभूमि में, चर्चा कीजिए कि क्यों एक स्थिर म्यांमार भारत के लिए महत्वपूर्ण है।

Recently, Myanmar's military (Junta) staged a coup, overthrowing the democratically established government.

Importance of a stable Myanmar for India:

- 1) connectivity with India's NE region thru through Myanmar is crucial for internal development
(Ex) Kaladan project

- 2) strategic importance for success of India's Act East Policy + ASEAN-centrality



(Myanmar: Bridge between India-ASEAN)

- 3) economic : trade with Myanmar, especially via N-E's border haaks

- 4) internal security : countering cross-border in emergencies via joint operations

[Ex] operation Clean-up

↳ countering hegemonistic role of
China in India's backyard -

[Ex]: investments in energy projects
in Myanmar.

Way forward:

1) Practical approach based on
(strategic idealism):

[Ex] engaging with Myanmar's
Junta while keeping
drawing red lines - based on
human rights

2) Diplomatic forums like UN-CTA,
BIMSTEC - to create pressure for
restoration of democracy.

↳ Strengthen security at border
through modern technology
[Ex] CIBMS etc

A stable Myanmar is crucial to India's
role as a net security provider in
Indian Ocean region, & for attainment
realization of 'Asian century'

10. In the case of Maldives it's not the size but the location that makes it strategically significant. Explain in the context of India's neighbourhood first approach. (150 words) 10

मालदीव के मामले में, आकार नहीं, बल्कि उसकी अवस्थिति उसे रणनीतिक रूप से महत्वपूर्ण बनाती है। भारत की 'पड़ोसी देश प्रथम' दृष्टिकोण के संदर्भ में स्पष्ट कीजिए।

Maldives is an island nation located in India's close proximity in the Indian Ocean region.

Despite its small size, strategic significance for India:



1) Freedom of Navigation in Indian Ocean region, in backdrop of Chinese hegemony. → Maldives

2) Role as net security provider in region

3) Indian Diaspora strength in Maldives, & safeguarding their interests

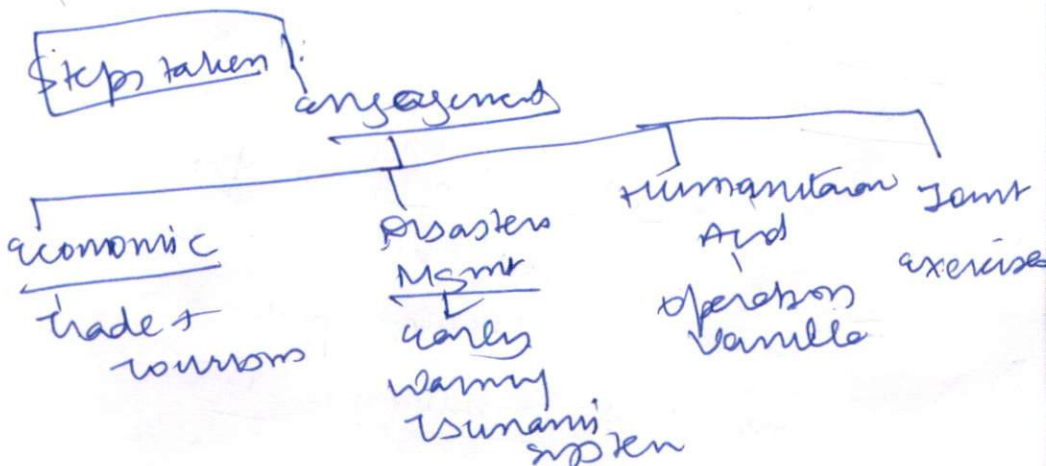
4) Securing maritime trade routes.
[eg]: China's recent investments & leasing of Maldivian ports ⇒ threat to maritime trade

in context of india's neighbourhood
out policy:

- 1) Maldives is an important part of
regional blocs - such as BIMSTEC
→ crucial to their success
- 2) Maldives' economic & general
prosperity - crucial to Asian-
century's prosperity.
- 3) Maldives' voice in small island
Developing nations' forum
- 4) tourism & other trade exchanges
with India.

Way forward:

→ Walk the talk for India by
delivering commitments on high
impact Development projects.



(13)

11. While the judiciary should not be a silent spectator when constitutional rights of citizens are infringed by executive policies, it must also not assume the role of the executive or pass policy prescriptions. Do you agree? Justify your stand with logical arguments. (250 words) 15

जब कार्यकारी नीतियों द्वारा नागरिकों के संवैधानिक अधिकारों का उल्लंघन हो तब न्यायपालिका को मूक दर्शक नहीं बने रहना चाहिए, साथ ही इसे कार्यपालिका की भूमिका भी ग्रहण नहीं करनी चाहिए अथवा नीतिगत निर्धारण जारी नहीं करना चाहिए। क्या आप सहमत हैं? उचित तर्कों के साथ अपने रुख का औचित्य सिद्ध कीजिए।

Separation of Powers is a cardinal feature of Indian constitution, based on Doctrine of checks & balances. Recent Judicial activism such as highway alcohol ban have raised concerns on role of Judiciary.

I agree with the above statement, where Judiciary should play activism in protecting citizen rights as:-

- 1) In line with doctrine of checks & balances &

Exeg: Anuradha Bhasin case:-
Internet a fundamental right - result of executive excesses

- 2) Constitutional role of delivering complete justice [Article 142] + defender of rights [A32].

[eg]: ~~Sabir~~ Mamool scavenger case -
direction to eliminate

3) ^{uphold} ideal of social justice & secularism
as constitutional core ideals.

[eg]: sabrimale verdict - Cruel
Justice

4) Preventing executive / legislative
excesses, via power of Judicial
review.

[eg]: Basic structure doctrine's
evolution - Keshavnanda Bharti

5) Voice to the voiceless - through
innovative mechanisms like PIL.

However, above Judicial Action should
not turn into Judicial over-reach
by assuming role of executive, as:

1) violates Doctrine of separation of
powers.

2) Against principles of representative
democracy, where people's
representative make decisions.

3) Power without accountability

(to people, via elections)

- 4) Lack of expertise in domains $\Rightarrow$
ill-informed decisions.

[eg]: Retraction of National Highway
liquor shop ban due to implementation
issues.

- 5) High pendency of cases $\Rightarrow$
dereliction of duty in moving to
executive's domain.

(~60k cases pending in SC,
2.9 cr in lower courts)

Way forward:

- 1) Fine balance between Judicial
restraint & activism.

- 2) Act only when in cases of
gross violation of rights - ~~has~~

- 3) establish objective criteria
as in case of PLA guidelines.

Constitution stands on a bedrock of
balance b/w the 3 organs of government.
Judiciary as upholder of constitutional
ideals must act in line with above
balance

12. 'Effective legislatures are measured by their outcomes and not by their output.' Analyze the functioning of the Indian Parliament in this context.

(250 words) 15

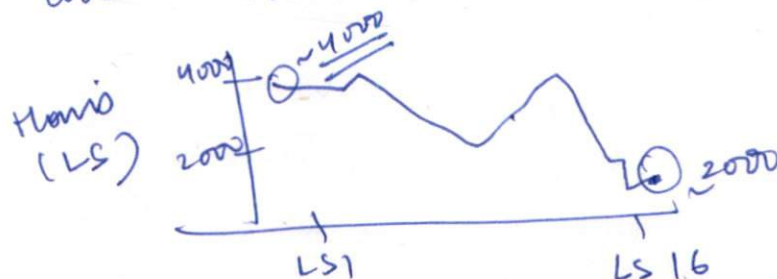
'प्रभावी विधान-मंडलों का मापन उनके आउटकम्स (परिणामों) के आधार पर किया जाता है न कि उनके आउटपुट (निर्गत) के आधार पर।' इस संदर्भ में, भारतीय संसद की कार्यप्रणाली का विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Indian Parliament - consisting of upper house & a lower house - is the highest institution & an embodiment of India's democratic deliberative & representative democracy.

Despite 107.1% output bills passed, functioning of Indian Parliament has recently been affected by crisis

1) Decline in outcome / productivity over years -

⊙ Declined time for deliberations due to reduced hours of session



2) Increased disruptions in Parliament
(~127 hrs in Budget session, Lok Sabha)

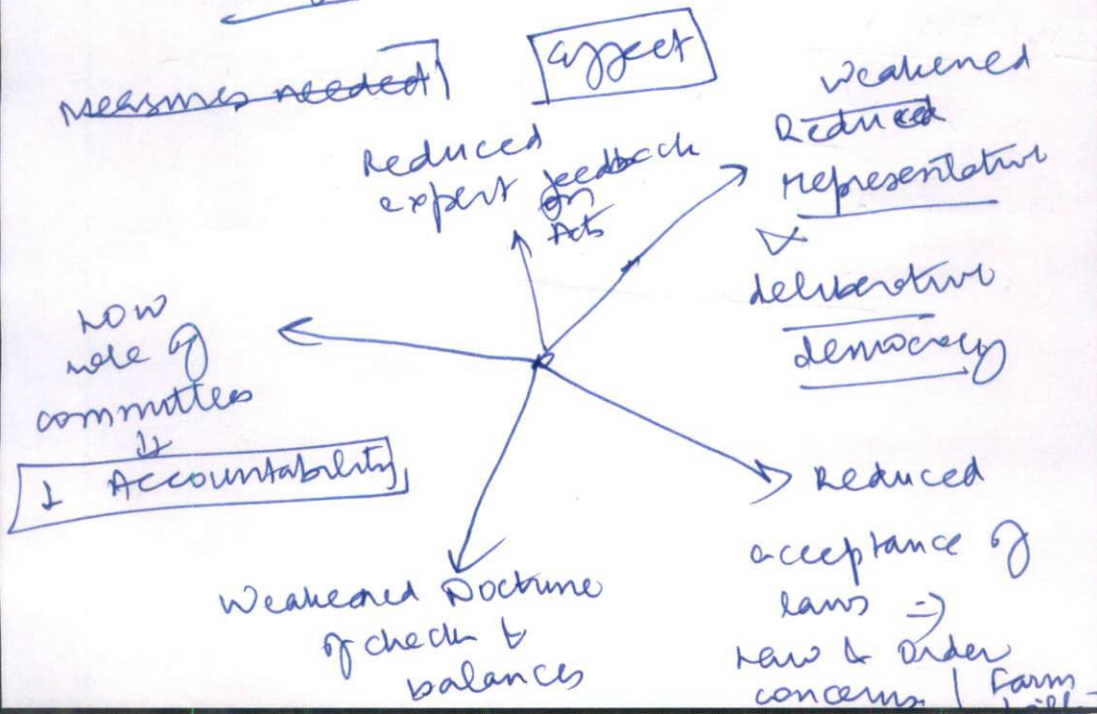
3) Decreased functioning, of question hour
(~ 71.1% of time allotted time in LS)

4) ~~less~~ Reduced reference of bills to
Committees: [9] : [25.1] bills
referred to committees in 16th LS

5) Misuse of anti-defection & money
bill powers by the speaker.

6) Lack of constructive debates,
frequent resort to rhetoric.

7) ~~loss~~ Reduced role of opposition.
No private members' bill passed in
~ 30 yrs



Measures needed:

- 1) Fix minimum sitting hours in Parliament (NCRWC, LC recommended)
- 2) Code of conduct for MPs & ministers
- 3) compulsory reference of all important bills to committees
- 4) inner-party democracy to enhance deliberations on issues
- 5) International best practices:
 - ⊗ Shadow cabinet of UK to increase role of opposition

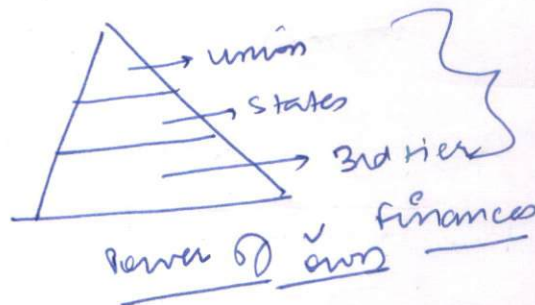
15pt Business Reform Charter as recommended by VP Venkiah Naidu can act as the way forward to efficient Parliamentary functioning

13. Fiscal federalism in India has evolved with time. Discuss in light of the developments in recent years. (250 words) 15

भारत में राजकोषीय संघवाद समय के साथ विकसित हुआ है। हाल के वर्षों के घटनाक्रम के आलोक में चर्चा कीजिए।

Fiscal federalism refers to distribution of units
fiscal powers between the various organs
of government

~~current~~
Recent changes such
as 101st Constitutional
Amendment (GST) &
debate around cesses have brought fiscal
federalism into news.



Evolution of Fiscal Federalism over time

1950

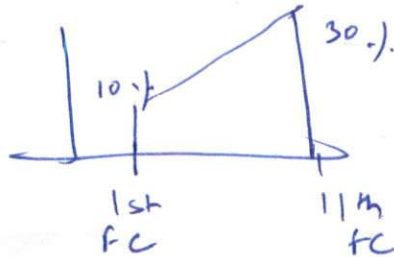
(A) with enactment of Constitution
1) establishment of Finance Commission to
recommend devolution to states;

2) Articles 270-280 - grants distributing
taxation powers between centre & states.

(B) & 1990s-2000 :

3.) 10th Finance Commission recommended
devolution to states as a share in net
proceeds of taxes for 1st time.

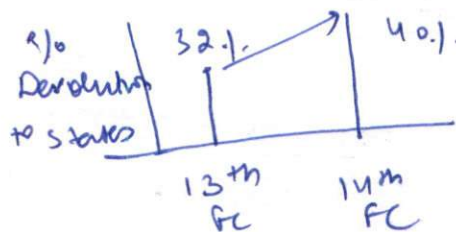
This led to a
huge jump in
share of proceeds
to states



4.) 73rd & 74th constitutional amendment
acts - recommended for devolution of
taxation powers to PRIs & Municipalities
(11th, 12th schedules)

(C): Present Contemporary phase

5.) 14th Finance Commission : huge
jump in share of net proceeds to
taxes to states $\Rightarrow$ Greater fiscal
autonomy to states



D) Recent centralizing tendencies :-

- 6) enactment of GST Act (101st C.A Act) -
subsuming certain taxation powers
from Centre & states to a common pool.
⇒ fiscal cooperation
- 7) increase in share of cesses & surcharge
as a percentage of taxes : Amounting
to 15th FC :- share of cesses doubled
to 20% (2020-21) from 10% in
2011-12. (Not part of divisible pool)
- 8) denial to compensation Cess to states
in wake of COVID-pandemic

Way forward :-

- 1) As recommended by 15th FC,
rationalise cesses & surcharges
- 2) incentivise greater devolution by states,
of taxation powers to 2nd tier (15th FC)
- 3) Use of GST Council for timely consensus-building on decisions with
states.

Fiscal federalism is crucial to the realisation
of true federalism in India

14. The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) is often cited as an example of the rising politicisation of public institutions. In this context, identify the issues associated with the CBI's functioning. What steps can be taken to address these issues? (250 words) 15

केंद्रीय अन्वेषण ब्यूरो (CBI) को प्रायः सार्वजनिक संस्थानों के बढ़ते राजनीतिकरण के उदाहरण के रूप में उद्धृत किया जाता है। इस संदर्भ में, CBI की कार्यप्रणाली से संबद्ध मुद्दों की पहचान कीजिए। इन मुद्दों का समाधान करने के लिए क्या कदम उठाए जा सकते हैं?

CBI
Central Bureau of Investigation -
established under Delhi Special Police
Establishment Act - is the central investigating
agency to investigate serious criminal
cases in India.

Recently, SC referred to CBI as 'caged
parrot' - pointing to its rising politicisation.

Issues with functioning:

- 1) Politicization due to lack of
autonomy in functioning:
 - a) under Department of Personnel
 - b) No independent funds
 - c) Personnel drawn from department.
- 2) Lack of independence of directors of
CBI.

- ⑥ Despite sch recommendation of a
2 yr secured tenure, appointments
are politically influenced.
- 3). Need for consent by states to
investigate in their jurisdiction:
Recently, a couple of states including
WB ~~etc~~ withdrew general consent
- 4) overlapping jurisdiction with CVC,
whipal ~~etc~~, NCRB ~~etc~~, NDC ~~etc~~
- 5) Lack of legislative backing:
CBI draws powers from DSPCA, 1941,
x remains an executive body
- 6) lack of credibility - due to scams
like Bofors scandal

Measures that can be taken

- 1) Legal backing: enactment of a
comprehensive act to enable greater
powers, transparent appointment
procedure etc
- 2) transparency in appointments &
transfer of CBI personnel, including

Director .

3) enhance jurisdiction of CBI to cover states - removing need for consent each time & conflicts with states

4) ~~At~~ A separate cadre of central intelligence services via 312 to provide trained personnel to CBI.

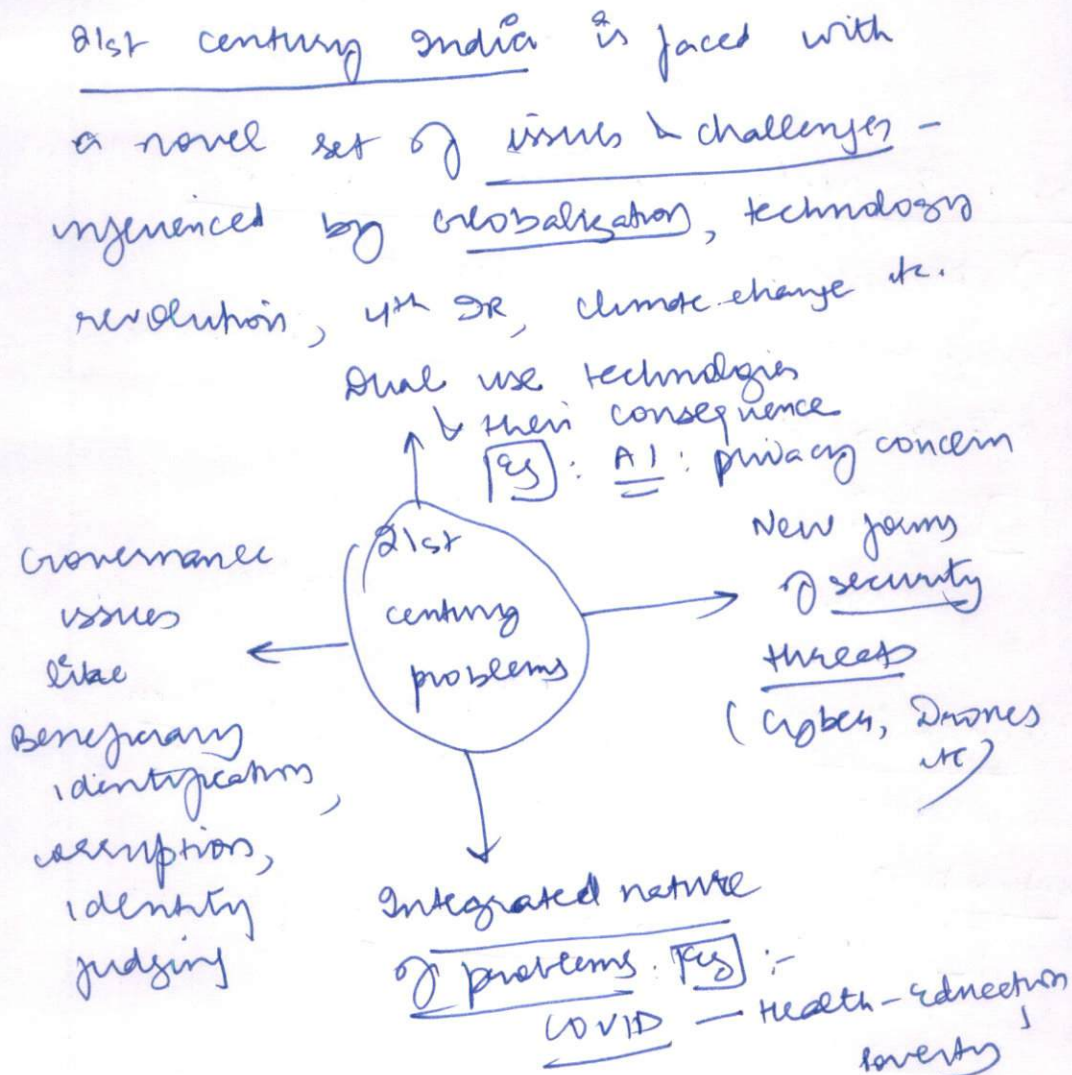
5) Training in modern techniques - such as AI-based investigations & infrastructure upgradation.

CBI plays a crucial role in upholding prudence in administration, & hence its role should be protected from political influences, giving greater credibility

15. The principal constraint for India is trying to find solutions to 21st century problems using 19th century government structures. Discuss.

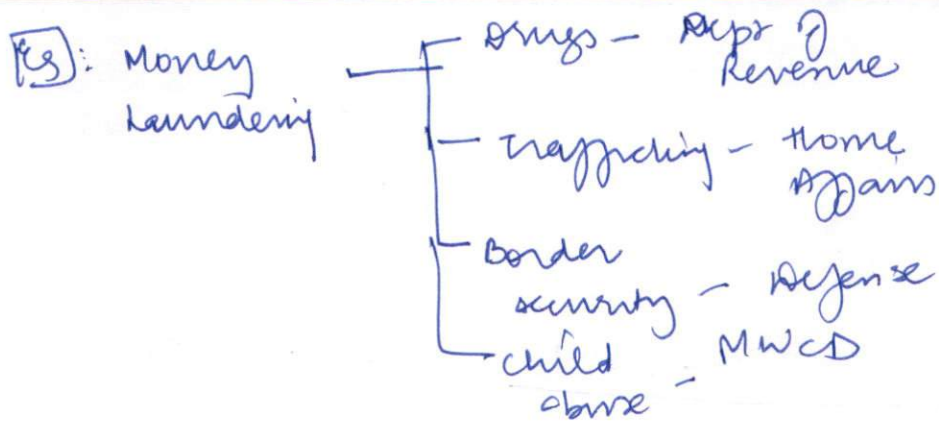
(250 words) 15

भारत के लिए प्रमुख बाधा 19वीं सदी के सरकारी ढांचे का उपयोग कर 21वीं सदी की समस्याओं का समाधान खोजने का प्रयास करना है। चर्चा कीजिए।



Despite changing nature of problem, current
government structures are obsolete:

1) Silo-based approach: lack of integration
b/w various departments & organs of government



2) Lack of adoption of newer technologies :

eg) Absence of smart walls to tackle newer border security issues like drone attacks, chemical leaks.

eg) Hawane syndrome, USA
Drone attack, Jammu airbase

3) Colonial laws emphasizing on prohibition & regulation rather than coordination & cooperation.

eg) IPC section on Sedition - preventing hate speech.

4) Apathetic & red-tapist bureaucracy : with high emphasis on procedures, lack of a proactive & ~~emp~~ empathetic & people driven approach

5) Lack of intelligence inputs & citizen

participation in policy making, i.e. top down approach.

eg:- MANRECA - should be based on data analysis about infrastructure needs of each region.

Way forward:-

- 1) Reform existing departments & ministries to increase coordination & cooperation on cross-sectional issues

eg:- frequent inter-ministerial conferences.

- 2) People-centric bureaucracy - empathy & to become core elements of training.
- 3) technology-driven systems - such as border management
- 4) social audit as an integral element of schemes like PDS, PMAY.
- 5) Bottom-up planning
- 6) Repeal obsolete laws, accept criticism as an integral element of democracy.

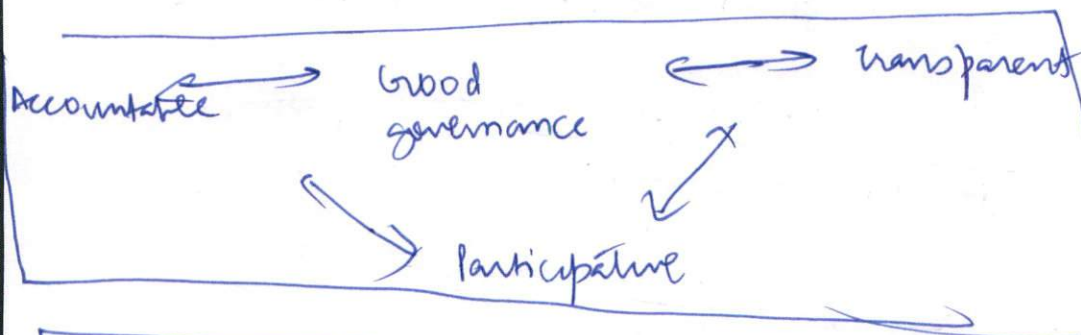
'Change is the only constant'. It is time to align our governance structures to present day needs.

16. How far has the governance in India achieved the twin objectives of transparency and accountability? (250 words) 15

भारत में अभिशासन (गवर्नेंस) ने पारदर्शिता और जवाबदेही के दोहरे उद्देश्यों को कहाँ तक प्राप्त किया है?

~~Governance~~

NITI Aayog's recent step to bring out a good governance index to measure parameters like transparency & accountability has brought focus on India's posture on the two.



Analysis of governance in India

I. Transparency

a). In formulation of schemes :

1. b) Citizen feedback has become an important element of schemes like EIA, MARRGA

2. Implementation of schemes.

- 1) Organization & beneficiaries list for various schemes - (Pg) : PMAY.
- 2) Integration with Aadhaar - to reduce exclusion & inclusion errors (PDS)
- 3) Grievance Redressal in schemes
 - 1) PMGDISHA platform to address grievances & track status online.

Despite above steps

(a.) Accountability

- 1) Social Audit as a tool has become a compulsory component for some schemes (Pg) MGNREGS, Meghalaya Social Audit Law.
- 2) & some states (Pg), Haryana most recently) have come out with laws allowing recall of legislation
- 3) online portals like PRMS, CPGRAMS to track funds & deliverables of schemes
- 4) R71 Act - art section 4 provides for

proactive disclosure by departments

Despite above steps, challenges remain:

<u>Accountability</u>	<u>Transparency</u>
a) Lack of manpower at 3rd tier to carry out effective <u>social audit</u> b) <u>Citizen feedback</u> processes - weak due to low awareness c) Bureaucratic <u>apathy</u> & attitude of <u>superiority</u>	a) Despite RTI, <u>proactive disclosure</u> not a norm b) Many departments still run on <u>pen & paper</u> c) Official secrets Act provides <u>undue protection</u> - Ex: <u>Rajale Deal</u> case

Steps like compulsory digitization across departments, code of ethics & compulsory social audit for all major schemes are needed to usher in truly transparent & accountable governance

17. Identify the barriers that exist in the enjoyment of reproductive health rights by women in India. Also highlight the interventions that have been adopted to remove these barriers. (250 words) 15

भारत में महिलाओं द्वारा प्रजनन स्वास्थ्य अधिकारों का उपभोग करने के समक्ष विद्यमान बाधाओं की पहचान कीजिए। साथ ही, इन बाधाओं को दूर करने के लिए किए गए हस्तक्षेपों पर भी प्रकाश डालिए।

Reproductive health & choices are an important component of fundamental right to life & personal liberty of women, under Article 21 - as ruled by SC in a recent Judgement

Despite above fundamental right, there exist barriers to realisation :-

- 1) Inadequacy of health care infrastructure :-
 - Doctor/ population ratio below WHO recommended 1:1000 ($\sim 1:1400$)
 - PHC/ population ratio also low
- 2). Lack of awareness among families of importance of institutional deliveries
- 3). Outmoded attitudes - leading to

Vaccine hesitancy, etc

- 4) Patriarchal societal norms - leading to early marriage & childbirth among women.

↓
High rates of malnourishment & anaemia
(50% women anaemic)

- 5) Societal practices like women eating less

- 6) Lack of access to safe contraceptives

7) Interventions to remove above barriers

- 1) Policy measures Nutrition support

- Maternal
2) Reproductive Maternal, Neonatal & Adolescent Health scheme : focusing on nutrition of women & children

- 3) Pradhan Mantri Maternal Ashirvadam

- 4) Financial incentives to promote right behaviour

- 5) PM Matru Vandana Yojana to

compensate for wage loss & provide
an adequate rest

3) conditional cash transfers based on
1st dose of vaccines

4) Behaviour change approaches:

a) Beti-Bachao Beti Padhao Andolan

b) PM - Samudhi Yojana - to encourage
delayed marriages

5) Scholarships for girl students to
promote higher education.

Ex: Kisan scheme, UDAN - Aac
wach
uk.

6) Enhanced access to contraceptives

Via Ashes & schemes like Antare

& Uthang

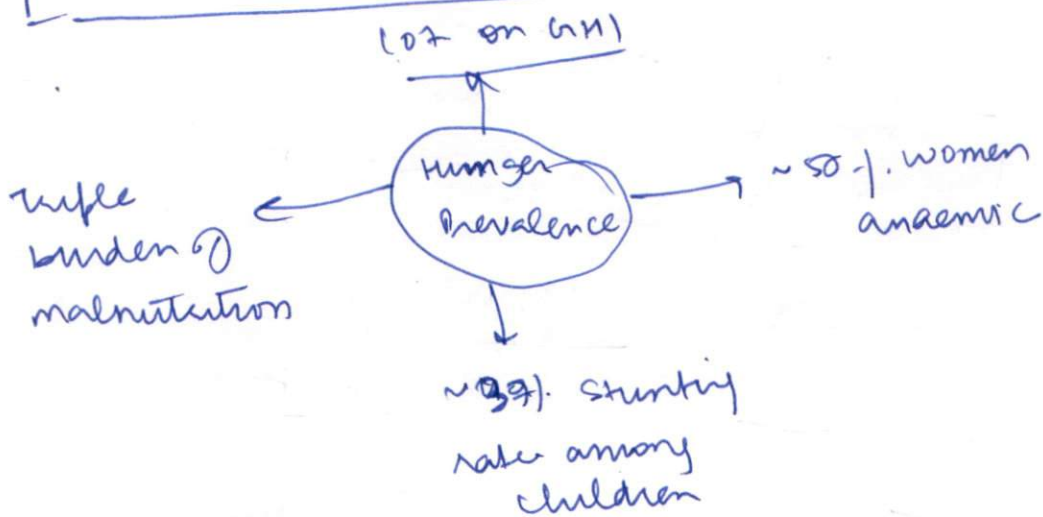
A comprehensive set of interventions are needed
from societal & institutional to financial
to promote reproductive health in
women.

18. India continues to face the problem of hunger despite adequate food stocks and statutory laws that ensure food security. Discuss and provide solutions to deal with this problem. (250 words) 15

पर्याप्त खाद्य भंडार और खाद्य सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करने वाले वैधानिक कानूनों के बावजूद भारत भूख (हंगर) की समस्या का सतत सामना कर रहा है। चर्चा कीजिए एवं इस समस्या से निपटने के लिए समाधान प्रस्तुत कीजिए।

last year, India's ~~so~~ ranked 100th
107 on global hunger index despite
overgrowing FDI godowns & food wastage.

Problem of hunger in India despite
stocks & laws :



3) PM - Aasha for
enhanced
procurement of
pulses, oilseeds etc

3) PM - Sampada:
cold storage

4) overhauling PDS
godowns.

2) Poshan Abhiyan
for children &
adolescents

3) Saba for Adolescent
women

4) Mid-Mang meal schemes
in schools.

Reasons for Dichotomy:

Institutional ineffective management of PDS &
PDS stocks → lack of liquidation
on time

Physical infrastructure:

2) wastage of food due to lack of
transport & cold storage infra.

4) < 1% horticultural produce transported
via rail

less than 10% cold store capability

3) Social:

3/3) inequalities: obesity &
hunger co-exist

4) Gender-bias: women eat least
& least → 75-1% anemia
prevalence

Percy

- exclusion & inclusion error

Fig: PDS Thakhand deaths due to
denial of PDS - lack of Adhaar
verification.

Way forward

1) One Nation One Ration Card - to include
migrants & other excluded categories

2) PPP-mode for investments in cold
storage infra; ~~trans~~

3) change skewed transportation
Fig Kisan Rail

4) encourage contract farming &
market procurement.

5) Social Change:

- gender justice
- Awareness About Right eating
habits.

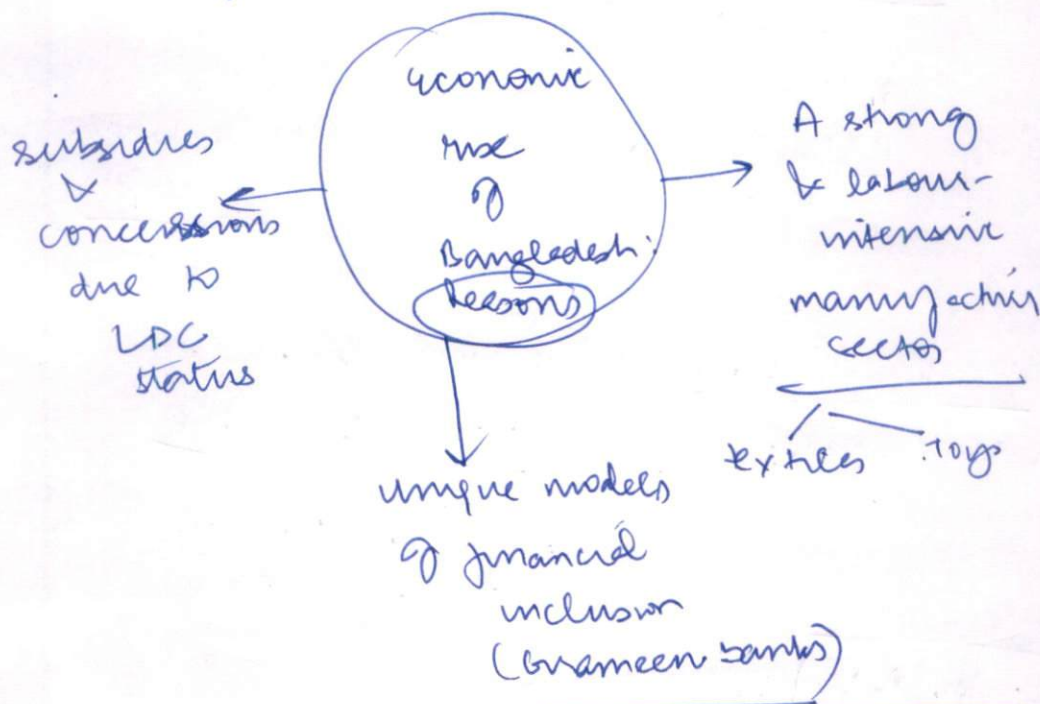
6) Digitalization & Databases.

Shankar Kumar & Ashok Dalwai recommenders
can help attain goal of SDG-12
to do justice to our food adequacy status.

19. The economic rise of Bangladesh is an opportunity for India and hope for South Asia. Examine. (250 words) 15

बांग्लादेश का आर्थिक उदय भारत के लिए एक अवसर और दक्षिण एशिया के लिए आशा है। स्पष्ट कीजिए।

Bangladesh was recently reported to over outgrow India in terms of per capita GDP in future. This economic rise of Bangladesh poses new opportunities & hopes.



Bangladesh's economic rise: Opportunity for India:

1) Synergies w.r.t Global Value Chains:-

India - Bangladesh can build on each other's economic prowess to better integrate with GVCs [4]. Packaging - Jute

2). ~~Growth in~~ near

2) Very A prosperous neighbourhood has
spilling effects $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Growth in tourism} \\ \text{increased demand} \\ \text{for goods, electricity} \\ \text{etc.} \end{array} \right.$

3) Reduced challenges of internal security
for India

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{migrant crisis} \\ \text{[eg]: Chakmas, Hajongs} \\ \text{from Bangladesh} \end{array} \right. \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{low} \\ \text{cross-border} \\ \text{smuggling} \\ \text{insurgency} \end{array} \right.$

4) Greater efficacy of regional trade blocs
with India: [eg] SARAC, BIMSTEC
 $\downarrow$
increased voice in
global arena

Hope for Asia:

1) Regional trade $\Rightarrow$ $\uparrow$ prosperity.
South Asia is among least integrated
regions of world.

Regional trade: < 5% of total

2). increased concentration of prosperity $\Rightarrow$

shift of global balance of power
towards Asia

(Ex): USA's recent recognition for
Indian Indo-Pacific

3) Greater voice of South-Asian region & its
issues in global arena.

(Ex): Migrant crisis
environmental issue

4) Regional issues such as freedom of
Navigation in IOR will gain prominence

5) Greater FDI inflow into Asia

Challenges & way forward:

Challenge	Way forward
- closeness with China	- Panchsheel principles + Deliver on promised projects
- India's Big brotherly attitude	- Greater confidence building measure
- integrity with <u>GVCs</u>	focus on strengths - such as synergy in territory, etc.

Bangladesh issue is a step towards redrafting of
Asian century, & must be capitalised wisely

20. Outcome of the Afghan peace process may have serious implications for the wider region. Discuss. (250 words) 15

अफगान शांति प्रक्रिया के परिणाम का अपेक्षाकृत व्यापक क्षेत्र के लिए गंभीर निहितार्थ हो सकते हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।

Afghan Peace Process refers to dialogue & negotiations between Afghanistan's - Taliban as well as regional governments (India, Pakistan, Iran) & other players (USA)

Imp
Recent Developments

- USA's announcement of exit plan
- Negotiations with on forums like Afghan Peace Deal
- Taliban's takeover of Afghanistan in a coup.

Outcome of Peace process : complications:

1.) On human rights & social justice:

- a) threat of violation of rights of minority communities in Afghanistan
- b) freedom & personal liberties of women

stand threatened.

✗ child rights threatened.

12. or regional security:

a) ~~Ma~~ ungoverned / poorly governed regions in Afghanistan → proliferation of terrorism in neighbouring region.

b) Radicalization of the region based on extremist ideologies



3) Global power equations:

a) Talibans perceived closeness with China & Russia - many work against USA

b) Threat of India in backdrop of some historical relations.

4) Economic specific to India

a) Threat to infrastructure projects in Afghanistan

(Key) Salma Dam, Parliament building

- b) Indian official-representatives to
dispute & their security
- c) India's connectivity to Central Asia
vi. Afghanistan is a major concern
(~~also~~ b)

way forward:

- a) Negotiations with Taliban to be
governed by 'Red lines' as
well as 'Afghan-controlled,
Afghan-led' stand.
- b) Active engagement on global forums
to counter any power imbalance
- c) engage with Taliban for a peaceful,
inclusive & diverse Central Asian &
South Asian region

2. Practical Diplomacy demands changing
strategies as per changing times. However,
underlying ideals of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam'
should remain.