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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1247)

Name of Candidate	ANCHAL CHAUHAN		
Medium Eng./Hindi	ENG	Registration Number	199992
Center	DELHI	Date	10/08/2019

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
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18	15	
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20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

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. 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. Mention the structure and functions of NITI Aayog. Also, comment on its contemporary relevance. (150 words) 10

In 2014, Planning Commission of India (beginning 1951) was scrapped & a new era of NITI Aayog as a think tank based on core-principle of Co-operative federalism rather than centralised functioning began in India.

Structure of NITI Aayog

- Chairman of NITI Aayog - The PM of India
- Vice-Chairman appointed by Govt of India.
- Members include CMs and Governors of all states and UTs respectively
- 4 union cabinet ministers appointed by PM

→ special invitees, may include experts & speakers from diverse fields.

Functions :-

① To give a vision and direction to policy formulation (Eg:- NITI three year action agenda, NITI@75) through reports.

② Think-tank and giving model laws like Model Land leasing Act, Model Agri and Livestock Market Act for centre & states to follow.

③ Index and performances of states measured. Like Health Index through State of India Health, composite Water Management Index to induce competition among states.

Relevance :- India needs co-operative federalism where states compete, cooperate & co-exist to make a New India. Thus, NITI Aayog's role is commendable.

2. Critically discuss the practice of setting up Fast Track Courts to reduce pendency of cases in the judiciary. (150 words) 10

According to Economic Survey 2018-19, Indian judiciary have huge pending cases to the tune of 2.5 crore out of which 81% are with lower judiciary, 12% with High courts.

In 2007, Supreme Court realized the altitude of the problem and ordered to set up Fast-track courts to eliminate pendency to establish Rule of law and justice as justice delayed is justice denied.

However, these Fast-track courts lost relevance as there were only 700 fast track courts out of 2500 functioning in 2007-08.

Role of fast-track courts :-

→ Cases such as Rape, child protection, Bonded labour, Criminals ~~in~~ in Politics etc. are tackled fast in time-bound manner if they function in letter and spirit.

Reiterating the role of judiciary in promoting Ease of Doing Business to Ease of living for Citizens, fast track courts must be established so that cases pending for decades are tackled soon.

The target approach should be to have zero pendency in next five years, for this fast-track courts are to be established.

3. Highlight the challenges faced by lower judiciary in India and suggest measures for enhancing their productivity. (150 words) 10

Judiciary is one of the vital organs of the governance. India follows a three-tier hierarchy where courts are:— Lower judiciary, High court & Supreme court.

Challenges faced by lower judiciary:

→ Huge pendency of cases

Out of 2.5 crore pending cases, 81% are in lower judiciary (Eco-Survey 2018-19)

→ Huge Vacancies

The judges vacancies are to the tune of thousands which effectively is the reason for pendency also.

→ Low efficiency & Productivity
due to procedural delays and

Complex documentation work:

- Less number of working days
There are huge vacations in judiciary.
Thus, it compromises the speedy-
justice delivery.

Measures :-

- Use of technology
The tools like e-court, digital tracking of cases like National Judicial Data Grid.
- Filling Vacancies & reducing the holidays → to curb pendency.
- National level Judicial services like IAS, IPS so that productivity & quality of ~~new~~ justice is ensured.
- Setting up Lok Adalats, Nyaya Panchayats, Tribunals, Mediation etc. can provide grass-root justice & thus curb huge pendency.

4. Assess the need to formalise the process of post-legislative scrutiny to improve the effectiveness of laws. (150 words) 10

In success of any scheme, Research and Re-engineering plays a significant role to modify the governance process as per the changing socio-economic & political ecosystem

Post-legislative scrutiny

→ It is effectively this research & re-engineer where after enacting a law, the target is not to measure output but outcome of such law.

→ It does the role of monitoring and oversight to regulate the legislation.

Example :- The government banning the alcohol shops upto 500m from highways. Post-legislative scrutiny in the form of :- Whether accidents are reduced, whether drunk & driving case reduced or not etc. gives policy directions as to what next step must be taken.

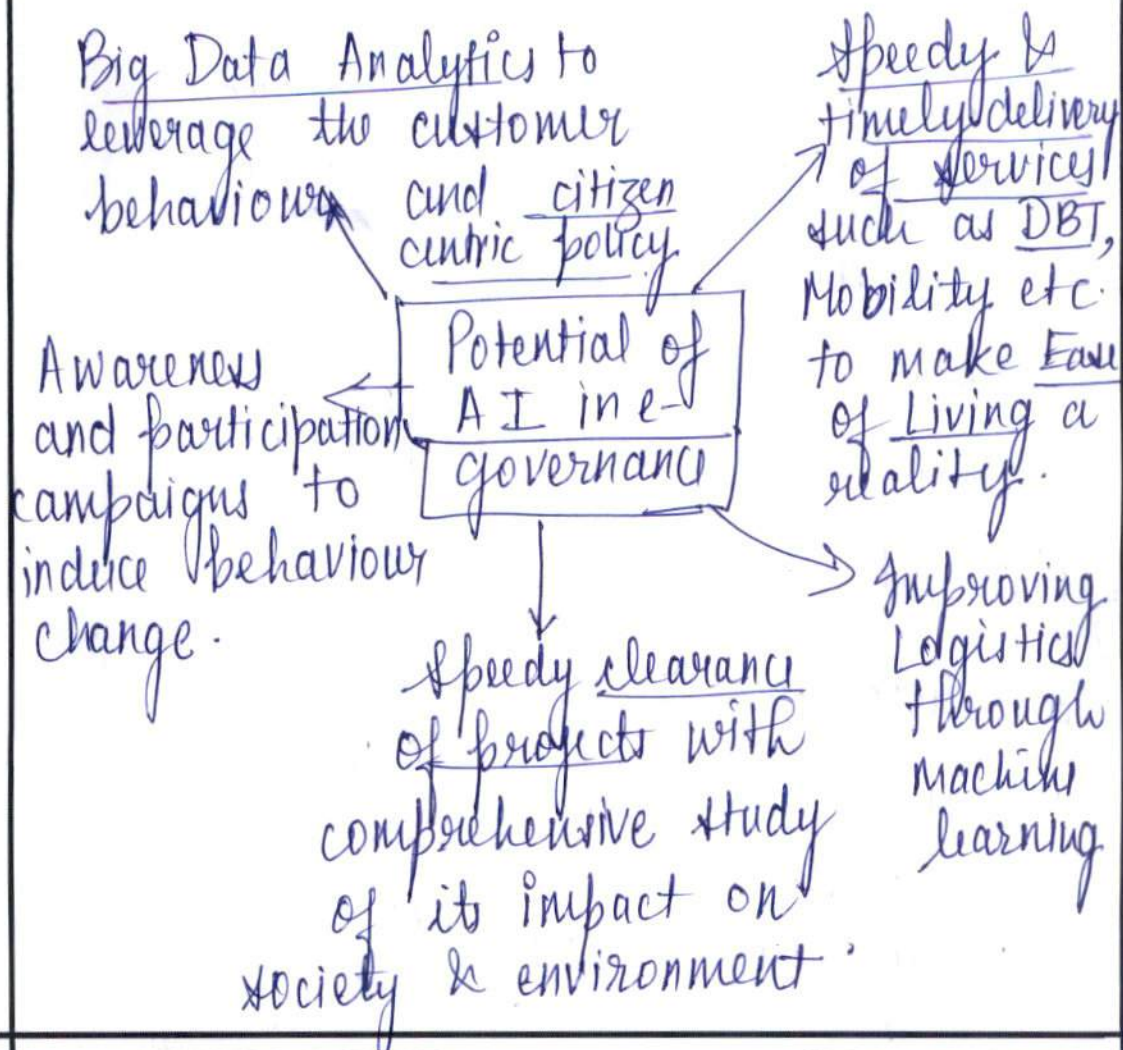
Hence, it must be a part of legislation itself to scrutinize the law after its implementation.

This will ensure :-

- Living and organic, responsive form of governance
- Feedback is citizen-centric legislation
- Grievance redressal and time-bound implementation of laws for ultimate welfare of citizens.

5. Discuss the potential of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in improving the effectiveness of e-governance in India. (150 words) 10

Artificial Intelligence is the buzzword where industry, academia, politicians and economists are pushing its agenda in New Industrial Revolution: - INDUSTRY 4.0 as iterated in World Economic Forum.



AI will be the new normal and hence, its adoption will fast-track the developmental process in India through e-governance.

Benefits :-

- Reduce discretion of bureaucrats
- Reduce delay, nepotism & corruption.
- Avoiding exclusion & inclusion errors in target of a scheme
eg:- Aadhar based, SECC based beneficiaries.
- Targeting the needy through Data footprint.

We need to strengthen cyber-security and respect Right to Privacy before we transform our society into Industry 4.0. NITI Aayog released its report on AI on same lines.

6. Despite various reforms in the public grievance redressal mechanisms, their effectiveness remain limited. Discuss. (150 words) 10

The three pillars on which good governance resides are :- Responsiveness, Transparency and Accountability.

These effectively in one way or other translates to Grievance Redressal Mechanism of Citizens (GRM).

Challenges in GRM :-

→ Secrecy and Delay in providing information under RTI Act, 2005.

→ Huge formalities & documentation

The illiterate and less-aware find it difficult to access authorities to tell their grievances.

→ Corruption & lack of productivity
Bureaucratic Red-tapism hinders

The grievance redressal.

Measures taken :-

① Project SAMVAD :- Here Ministry of women & child development connect with NGOs to take up grievances.

Such projects needs emulation in all govt departments and ministries.

② Enforcing Citizens Charter :- This will help citizens to legally seek grievances related to service delivery from organisation.

Thus, technology can be leveraged for effective participation of people in Governance. The tools such as Social Auditing and role of NGOs & Civil Society is important for GRM of citizens.

7. Explaining the factors that contribute to trafficking of women and children in India, highlight the steps taken in recent times to combat it.

(150 words) 10

The most vulnerable sections of society are Women & children who are often denied the basic freedom and rights to for their overall development: Mental, Physical & spiritual.

Over this, they are disproportionately on the receiving end when it comes to trafficking & physical abuse in the form of Prostitution, Rape, organized crimes etc.

Factors :-

1) Poverty : It's one biggest reason where women & child from poor regions are incentivised through fraud ~~to~~ in lieu of 'work' and

trafficked in illegal activities-

2) Illiteracy :- Illiterate women are subjected to trafficking as they are not aware of their rights & freedom

3) Law & Order :- It has persistent problems in tribals & poor regions

Moreover, before keeping maid and other domestic help, people ignore to verify the background of person. Hence, all these contribute to exploitation of poor & vulnerable women & children.

Steps taken :-

- ⊙ Prevention of Children from Sexual Offences Act
- ⊙ Prevention of Immoral Traffic in Human Being Act.

All these Acts criminalizes the offences and categorize them as heinous.

8. With Vector-Borne Diseases (VBDs) reaching epidemic proportions in India, highlight the factors that have led to their emergence. Also, suggest some measures for their effective control and management. (150 words) 10

Vector-Borne Diseases are health issues which are spread via Mosquitoes (Dengue, Chikengunia, Malaria, Ebola, Zika etc), Virus (Nipah, HIV, H1N1 flu, H1N5 Bird flu etc) and other bacterial diseases like TB etc.

Factors that led to their emergence

- 1) Lack of sanitation & hygiene
→ provide breeding ground for mosquitoes & flies.
- 2) Pollution in Air, Land & Water
→ water borne disease such as Hepatitis B & C and soil Helminths etc. causes diseases.

- 3) Sexual activities :- Unsafe sex leading to Syphilis, HIV, Zika etc.
- 4) Lack of Awareness and unhealthy hygienic eating habits
 → washing fruits before eating,
 eating with a patient suffering from TB or Hepatitis etc.

Measures to Control

- Increase Awareness
- Full course completion in case of TB like diseases.
- Safe sex and hygienic activities
- Good & healthy eating habits
- Do not let water stranded near houses
- Control Mosquitoes & flies in area nearby.
- Immunization and availability of time & cost-effective treatment.

9. After years of neglect, rapidly evolving regional strategic realities are now forcing India and Indonesia to coordinate their policies ever more closely. Discuss. (150 words) 10

India and Indonesia lies at the confluence of Indian ocean, tied with history of thousand years (Ramayana and Buddhism etc)

Reason for convergence of 2 nations:-

→ The nations were pioneer during NAM (Non-Aligned Movement) & hence both value self-determination & peaceful co-existence

→ Interest in Indian Ocean

The island of Sumatra lies near to Indian islands of Andaman & Nicobar.

Both can collaborate to exploit marine resources to spur economic growth.

→ China's Dominance

The interest of India in South China sea (ONGC collaborating there to exploit Natural Gas etc) needed Indonesian help which have stake there.

→ Boost tourism and leverage on historical ties

Both nations have shared history which can transform into economic prosperity.

Recent ~~for~~ Tsunami in Palu, Indonesia, India sent help through Operation Madad is the reflection of India's tilt towards Indonesia besides Humanitarian & Disaster Management Agenda.

10. Despite several attempts at resetting the ties, various barriers continue to be a cause of concern in the India-Nepal bilateral relations. Discuss.

(150 words) 10

India - Nepal are immediate neighbours bounded by culture, history, religion and civilizational connect.

Barriers in ties:—

- 1) India's interference in Nepal in their constitutional framing was disliked by Nepal.
- 2) The issue of Meitū tribe having connect with Terai regions of U.P and Bihar. The Nepal considers them secondary citizens which India doesn't like.
- 3) Nepal tilt to China as seen in recent times is counter-favouring India's projects in Nepal.

4) The delay in projects of infrastructure and road development plus the lack of sea access to Nepal makes them feel alienated to India.

India needs a geopolitical reset ~~of~~ of ties with Nepal not only from security point of view but from economic and cultural point also.

China must not be given the advantage to bitter the ties between two bounded neighbours. Further, India must not behave like 'Big Brother', rather provide Nepal its 'space' in internal affairs.

11. Delineate the differences between pressure groups and interest groups. Citing examples, elaborate on the ways in which pressure groups influence government decisions and policy making in India. (250 words) 15

For a fully representative, vibrant and ever changing, needs based democracy, it is necessary to take on board the local area based, sector-based interests into consideration. For this purpose, civil society organises itself into pressure groups and interest groups.

Pressure groups lobby the government to pressurize them to enact certain laws. Eg:- Environmental NGOs, Animal Rights organisations, Tribal organisations such as Naga Groups, Bodo groups.

Interest groups are like pressure groups. They further their demands to government to get favourable policies to do ease in business.

Eg:- FICCI, ASSOCHAM etc. are industrial groups that take up economic grievances faced by industries to the government.

The ways in which they function are :-

1) Trade unions

Eg:- Every organisation have trade unions which organize meetings, petitions, to plea to the government

2) Strikes

Environmental groups like Narmada Bachao Andolan pressurize government

to take care of Narmada flow and communities dwelling over the area who are evacuated & displaced in lieu of dam construction over it.

3) Mass movements

Some farmer groups like Kisan Sabha take up methods of organising rallies, protests etc. to increase MSP for sugarcane, wheat, rice etc.

4) Students Union

Delhi University, Jawaharlal university are classic examples where students contest elections to acquire posts to influence the curricula and working of Higher Education institutions.

In a multi-cultural, multi-lingual, multi-ethnic & multi-religious society, the presence of such groups are needed.

12. Highlighting the issues faced by the institutions of local self governance in India, suggest measures that can be taken to improve their effectiveness in the delivery of public goods and services at the grassroot level.

(250 words) 15

The 73rd & 74th constitutional Amendment act provided the foundation to constitutional backed grass-root level democracy in India in the form of Panchayati Raj institution and Urban local bodies etc. on the Gandhian principles.

However, the noble idea faces some issues that can be broadly divided into :- (2nd ARC Report)

① Funds :- The budgetary allocation to Panchayati Raj Ministry has been on a steady decline.

The State Finance Commission recommendations are not properly taken up to devolve funds to

PRTs.

Moreover, it is discretionary power of state government to whether allows PRTs or Municipal bodies to tax or not to tax the elements given in their list of functions.

② Functions

The PRTs and Municipal bodies have not in spirit able to do the work they had been provided for like:-

Participatory Democracy through Gram Sabhas, social audits, local Village based planning etc.

States have not given them required autonomy to function as self-governing institutions.

③ Functionaries :- The functionaries like Sarpanch, Mayor in Municipal corporations, Chairmans in Nagar Palikas etc. are not efficient and corruption sometimes overpowers them.

Lately, these posts have become politicised also.

Measures that can be taken are:-

- ① Incentivise the front line workers, chairman to work by devolving more funds & power to them
- ② Convergence of National Plan with local plans as area-based needs are to be incorporated.
- ③ Funds, Functions & Functionaries issues to be addressed by increasing awareness.

Thus, local self government is a brilliant idea in participatory democracy. The need is to leverage them to make a 'New India'.

13. The recent amendment to the Right to Information Act, 2005 will weaken the act and undermine the authority of Information Commissioners. Discuss. (250 words) 15

Information is the tool to transparency, which is foundational value of Good Governance. With long ~~a~~ time of demand, RTI Act was enacted in 2005 which ushered in an era of transparency & openness on Indian political landscape.

However, the amendment in RTI Act is seen as regressive because of following :-

1) Upper hand to Official secret Act.

Transparency is in opposition to secrecy & power of secrecy being given more favour is regressive.

2) Amendment in sec 8 of RTI which bars some information from being disclosed is given a narrow interpretation by increasing the latitude of secrecy in the interest of security of Nation.

Thus, amendments to RTI should be scrutinized properly.

Conflicting Rules & Laws $\Rightarrow$ Lack of Predictability in Action

People's Welfare compromised $\leftarrow$ Discretion is misused

Thus, RTI is a tool for effective, accountable, responsive governance which must not compromise on the foundational values of participative - citizen centric, welfare democracy.

14. Highlight the process of delimitation in India. Also, throw light on the debates surrounding the delimitation exercise in India. (250 words) 15

The delimitation exercise in India done on the basis of population census through an Act of Parliament passed by Simple majority

Process:-

- Every 10 years, ~~if~~ census is conducted & hence on the basis of population, constituencies are carved out.
- The constituencies follows the principle of proportional representation.
- An Act to delimit the constituencies is passed by Parliament.
- The constitution says that delimitation shall not be

deemed to be constitutional
Amendment under Art 368.

→ The Act of Parliament is enacted
based on the recommendations
of Delimitation Commission &
not on Election Commission's advice.

Levels of Delimitations

- ① On the level of state legislative
Assembly, the constituencies are
referred to as MLAs constituency
- ② For National level General Assembly,
the constituencies are MPs constituency
in Lok Sabha.

Debates on delimitation① Population criteria

The southern states have less population & hence, the delimitation on this basis will have effect of south states losing seats in Lok Sabha.

② The Principle of Proportional Representation is violated.

→ In Delhi, there are 7 constituencies. However, the constituency of Chandni Chowk have disproportionately large population than other territory.

The freezing of delimitation on the basis of census 2001 is not in sync with present day conditions. Hence, reforms are needed to make the democracy truly participative.

15. Self Help Groups (SHGs) are vehicles of rural development, which help in the upliftment of marginalized groups. Elucidate. Further, mention the constraints faced by SHGs and how they can be addressed. (250 words) 15

Self-Help Groups (SHGs) are the voluntary organisations of 10-15 members belonging to same socio-economic backgrounds.

SHGs as vehicles of Rural Development

→ Women Empowerment

Most SHGs have women members that provide economic independence to women & this directly have effect on Reproduction, Girl education, Nutrition of family etc.

→ Rural Entrepreneurship

SHGs are grass-root level entrepreneurs who specialize in very small-scale business like Pickle, Papad (Lippat papad is case in point), Handicrafts etc.

Thus, they are the foundations of start-ups at grass root level.

→ Non-Farm Employment

Most SHGs work to alleviate rural poverty & save from agricultural distress through self-employment.

Eg:- Aajeevika Express: The government is providing loans to SHGs to buy local motor vehicles, e-Rickshaws etc. for rural employment.

According to Ministry of Small, Medium and Micro Industries, the $\frac{1}{3}^{\text{rd}}$ funds ~~are~~ from MUDRA Yojana are taken by women entrepreneurs, mostly the SHGs. Hence it highlights their importance in growth & development.

Constraints :-

① Non-availability of institutional credit
→ Most SHGs do not have collateral and hence difficulty to avail loans.

② Absence of forward linkages
→ Rural connectivity, Market to sell the products etc. remains a challenge.

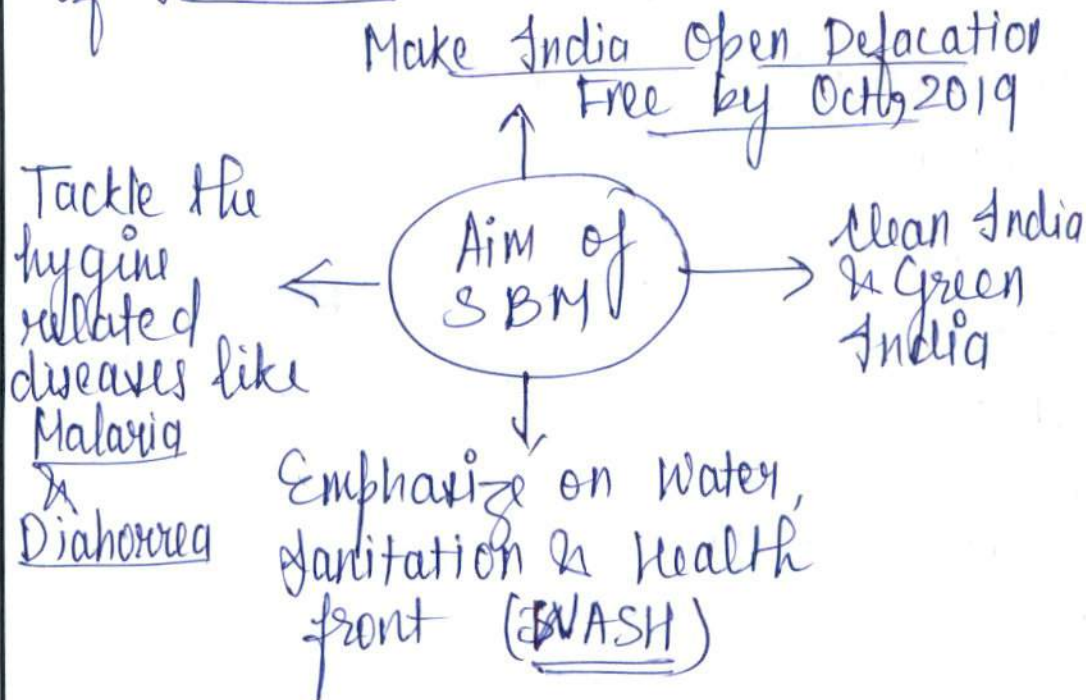
'PM Gram Sadak Yojna' and 'Rural haati' etc. have done ^{work} to address such problems. However, lack of infrastructure still plagues them.

③ Bankruptcy in SHGs
In some places, the SHGs have become non-viable financially & not able to repay back the loans.

The NABARD's 'e-Shakti' project to digitize the SHGs is a good initiative to promote them at national level. However, above issues needs address.

16. With construction of toilets being only one part of the solution for a clean India, it is time that the Swachh Bharat Mission puts more emphasis on the other facets as well. Discuss. (250 words) 15

The overall achievements of sustainable
Goal Development Goals (SDGs) are
closely intertwined with the success
of Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM)



According to NITI Aayog, 99.5%
of India now have access to
toilets. However, the ground-level
challenges are:—

Challenges in SBM

Changing attitude
of people to
make them use
Toilet

⇓
Jan Aandolan,
through campaigns
such as
'Darwaza
Band' +
Swachhagrahi

+
Movies like: Toilet, Ek Prem Katha.

Quality of
construction
& materials
if they are
viable in long-
run

⇓
Using recycled
materials like
Plastic tiles and
demolition scraps

Issues of
solid-waste
management

⇓
Double-
pit
latrines
made to
tackle this

The Economic surveys mentions
that Swachh Bharat is not a single
dimension, the time has come to
upgrade its aim.

Thus, emphasis now is on:—

[Swachh Bharat] to [Sundar Bharat]
via ~~B~~ [Swastha Bharat]

i.e. Converging the aims of Clean
India to Green India via Healthy
India:

The profound effect of Swachh Bharat on curbing the menace of child diseases is acknowledged by World Bank.

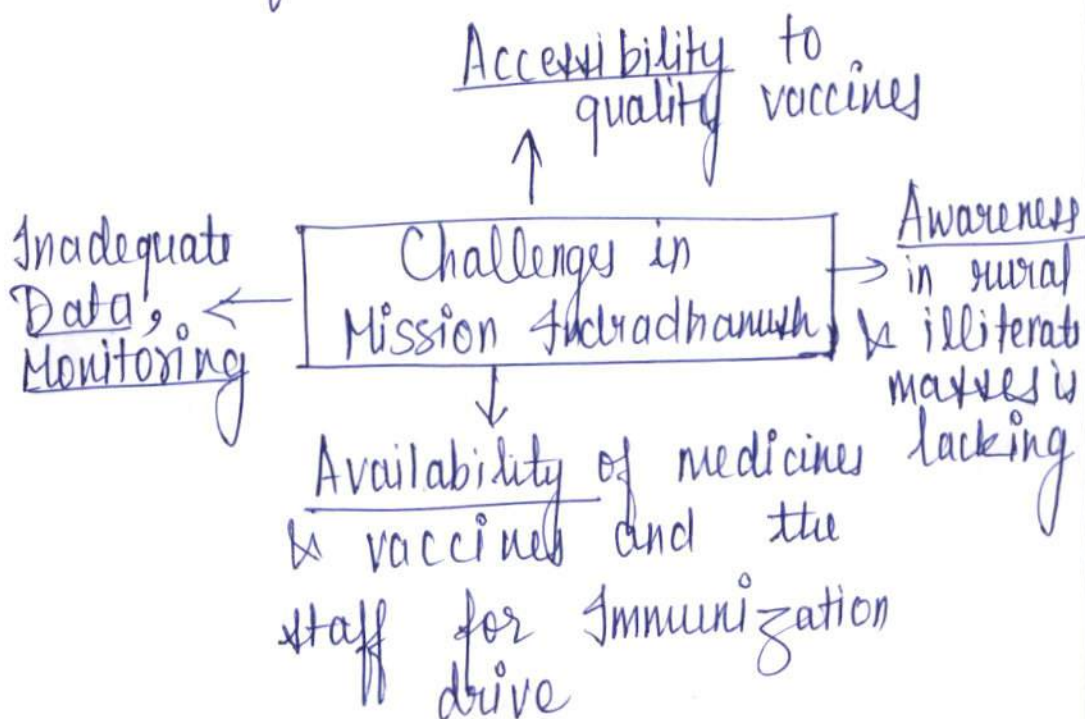
The need is to sustain and reinforce the behaviour change of using toilets.

Swachh Bharat is the train on which the foundation of New India by 2022 will side on. Hence, it has become multi-dimensional encompassing various targets of Indian Govt.

17. Highlight the salient features of Mission Indradhanush. What are the challenges that the mission is facing in its implementation? Suggest measures to address these challenges for progressing towards full immunization coverage. (250 words) 15

Mission Indradhanush is a universal immunization programme of Government of India to tackle the menace of :- Polio, Measles, Diphtheria, TB, Tetanus, Pneumonia.

It aims to provide immunization to children aged 0 to 9 years who were left-over.



The World Nutrition Report, 2018 says India faces triple burden of Over-nutrition (obesity), Under-nutrition (Wasting & stunting) and Mal-nutrition.

Mission Indradhanush aims to tackle ~~these~~ diseases which hinders the overall growth & development of a child from infant age itself. Thus, Under-nutrition & mal nutrition are due to lack of immunity also. Hence, Universal Immunization is must to tackle the menace of Wasting & stunting.

The measures ^{to be} taken to implement these are :-

1) Incentivise the frontline workers
Eg:- ASHA, ANM, Aanganwadi

workers must be given incentives to make the mission a success.

2) Converge the schemes such as Mid-day meal, Integrated child development, Neo-natal care etc with Mission to avoid duplication & enhance efficiency.

3) Technology :- can be leveraged for advertising (like Polio) and increasing awareness regarding scheme.

4) People's Participation is necessary. Thus behaviour change has to be induced. Some people fear vaccination & hence this angle needs addressal.

Re-engineering the schemes in the advent of changing nature of diseases in today's world and Target approach (like reducing Stunting to 25% from current 38.4% by 2025) must be taken up.

18. Assess the importance of skilling in light of changing economic and demographic structure in India. In this regard, how far has the Skill India Mission succeeded in its mandate. (250 words) 15

A huge young population in the working age (15-59 years), less dependency ratio (8.6% are old people in India) is what makes India a special nation to reap the benefits of Demographic Dividend.

But, the huge young population without skills, can ~~be~~ upturn the power dynamics in India's disfavour.

According to UNFPA, currently India's 30% population is below 35 years of age and it will peak in 2026 where average age of Indian will be 26 years.

We are in demographic dividend phase and are going to remain so in next two decades as well. However, Given the fact that India's literacy is ~~73%~~ 73% (census 2011) and there's huge skill deficit, the problem may take a serious turn.

Changing economy

→ The shift towards automation and AI, will make huge jobs redundant & hence, Indian workforce will not be absorbed.

→ The industry-academia disconnect where the vocational training is missing & education has no practical applicability poses a challenge.

Changing Demography

→ Rise in mortality due to NCDs such as Diabetes, Heart attack and pollution related death are decreasing the productivity of workforce.

→ India have small demographic dividend window as TFR is falling and may reach 2.1 as ~~at~~ early as 2020 and ageing poplⁿ will double to ~~16~~ 16% by 2040; will come with its own set of problems.

Steps taken :-

- Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojna to impart skills
- Industrial & Apprenticeship prog.
to give training via Skill India mission.
- Online courses such as SWAYAM to bridge the qualification gap.

19. What according to you are the reasons that motivated India to create a dedicated Indo-Pacific division in the MEA recently? Also, highlight the challenges for India in the Indo-Pacific region. (250 words) 15

Indo-Pacific Region, according to India is a geographic region with ASEAN nations acting as bridge to connect two giant oceans of India and Pacific.

History of shift from Asia-Pacific to India-Pacific

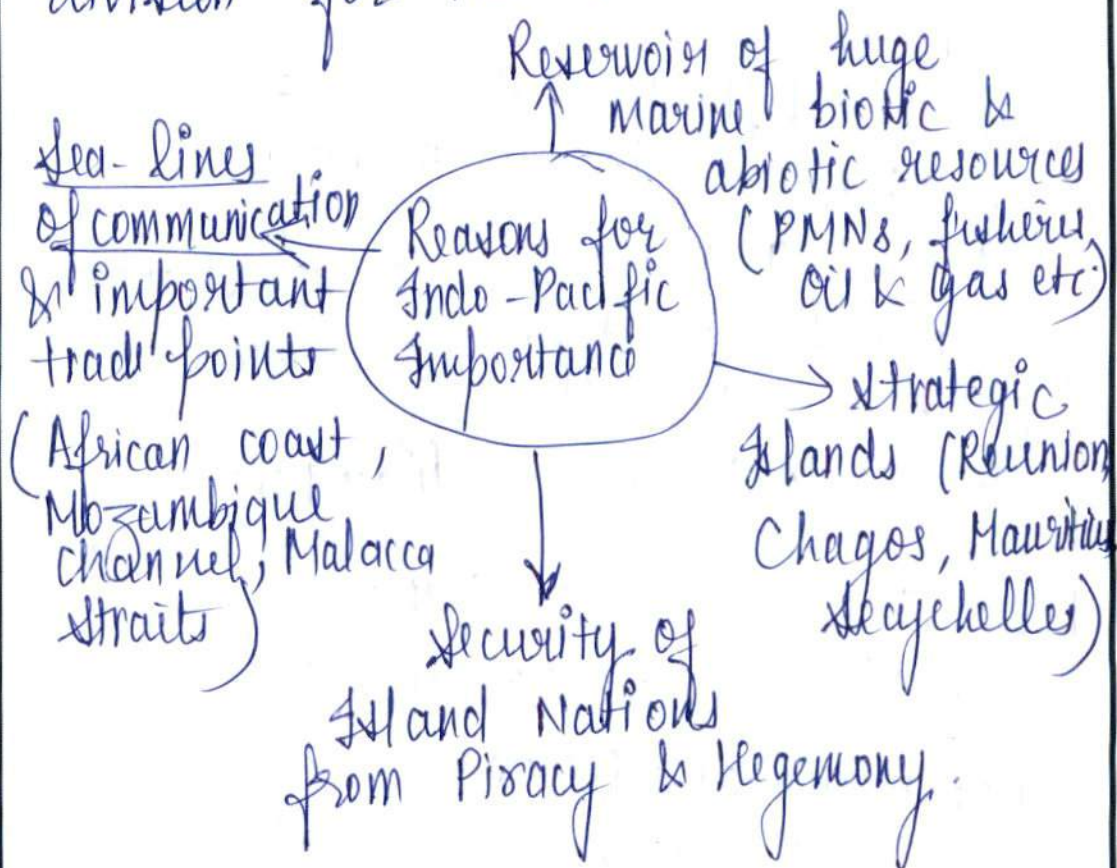
→ It was in 2007, the U.S. President called the region as Indo-Pacific effectively to counter 'Rising China'.

→ From 2016 onward, Trump (US President) has increased the frequency of mentioning the area as Indo-Pacific.



→ In recent ASEAN summit, there was explicit mention of Indo-Pacific region

With all these global callings, India being a pivot to Indo-Pacific region, it had to create a separate division for the same in MEA.



India faces following challenges in Indo-Pacific :-

- 1) China's 'String of Pearl Policy' trying to encircle India through bases in Djibouti, Hambantota (Sri Lanka), Gwadar (Pakistan), Myanmar, Maldives etc. poses security threat to India.
- 2) Hegemony of China in southern China sea which denies the countries like Vietnam, Philippines, Cambodia, Indonesia etc. their due share in exploiting rich oil & Natural gas reservoirs, India having stake in them.
- 3) Rising sea level and climate change induced coastal erosion & extreme events like Tsunami, earthquake in the seismic belt of Indo-Pacific.

The challenges are many, so are opportunities, the recent Indo-Pacific division tries to tackle them.

20. For SCO to become a successful regional grouping, it has to overcome bilateral differences between its members and their respective geopolitical calculations. Comment. Also, discuss the role that SCO can play in enhancing India's interest in the Eurasian region. (250 words) 15

In the recent Bishkek summit of SCO in 2019, Indian PM highlighted the importance of SCO in following acronym: HEALTH.

H - Health co-operation (to achieve universal health → SDG 1 & 2)

E - Economic co-operation (reducing trade barriers to spur growth)

A - Agriculture led development

L - Literature & culture based international co-operation

T - Technology driven market in the advent of 5G and AI to solve social problems

H - Housing for All

The SCO, having 55 members accepted India & Pakistan in 2018 as its full-time members.

Bilateral differences between India-Pak, India-China over border areas, between China-Russia over Manchurian region and others ~~are~~ may hinder the co-operation & put on hold the aims highlighted in HEALTH.

Thus, resolving these disputes is pre-requisite for multi-lateral rule-based organisation to success for peace, prosperity & security for all.

Role of SCO in India's interest

- Vehicle to reach Central Asian markets.
- Ashgabat Agreement, TAPI pipeline for gas, N-S cooperation will succeed if India is able to raise their importance in SCO.
- It may bring to India the benefits of untapped resource like Uranium in Kazakhstan, Natural Gas in Tajikistan and Indo-Russia co-operation in Arctic region.

Thus, any regional grouping ~~such~~ is based on co-operation and co-existence without any issues pending before them. Thus, SCO is an opportunity to build relations with its extended neighbours.