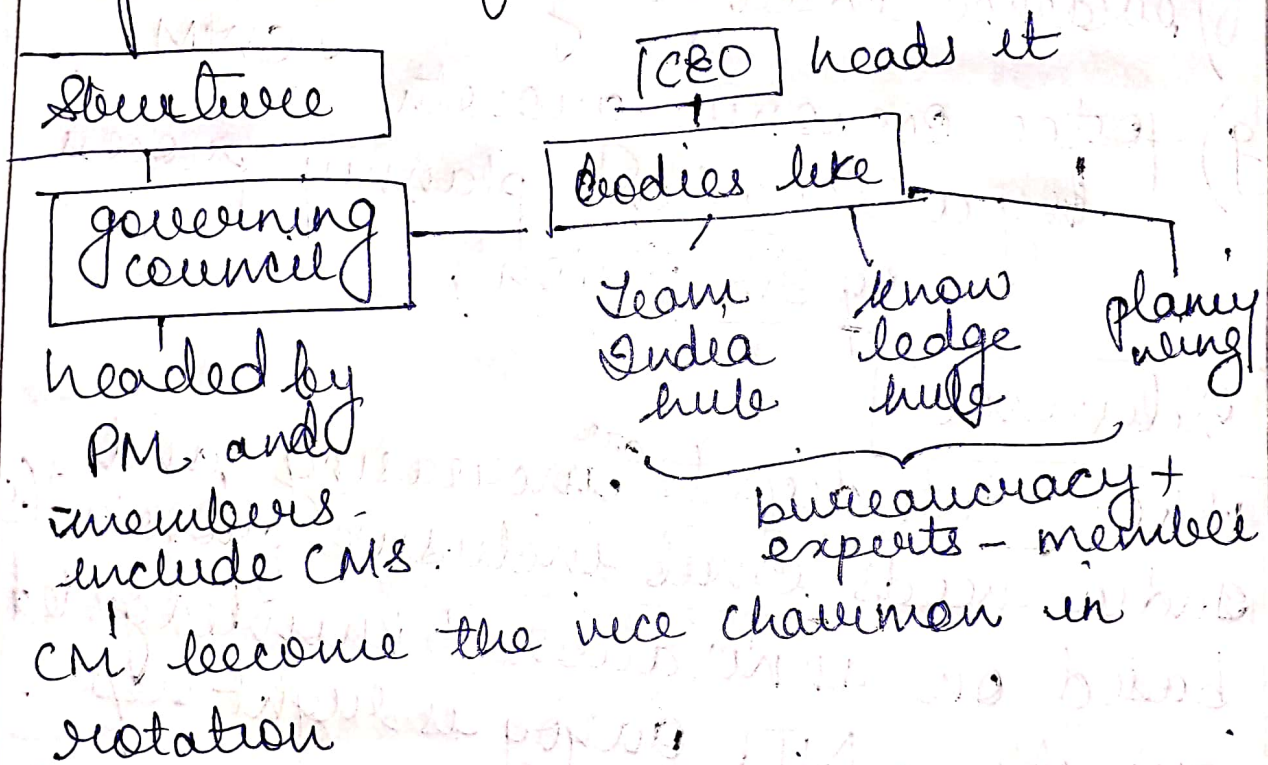


① NITI Aayog, created in 2015 superseding the planning commission was constituted keeping in mind the aspirations of a New India.



The experts plan the issues concerning Indian context and forward it to governing council which is the highest body. The CEO is link.

Function = include a) inclusive

- development eg via NEFT council
- b) democratic decentralized planning process
- c) cooperative federalism
- d) competitive federalism eg by state SDG index
- e) expertise and innovation in policy eg AIM
- f) evidence based policy making eg by CVM
- g) faster economic growth
by a long term planning process
eg 3yr vision,

Relevance

- +) When state dispute ^{are} increasing and India needs equal inclusive growth ^{+(SDG)} based on innovation & knowledge led growth — NITI parog is right step. However its dissociation from funding, legal backing, bureaucratization & wide approach causes it lose coherence. Thus NITI needs a reorientation eg link c FC, diversified expertise etc

2) The government recently set up 12 fast track courts for expeditious criminal cases among MPs. Similarly many other courts eg PMLA / POCSO etc are set up.

It's a court where cases are heard on a day to day basis without adjournment or ^{any} stalling.

→ It's usually set up for heavier cases of public importance.

→ In heinous crime

→ In cases where immediate justice required to avoid threat to unity, integrity and concern

→ Immediate access to — free & fair justice (Art 39) consider the daily

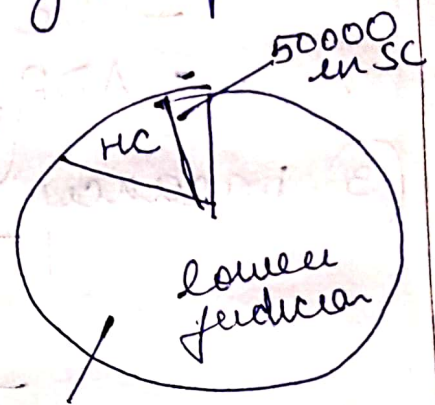
time of 3.8 years (MOLG data)
→ Encourages belief in judicial process — reporting.

Criticism

- ① It's a threat to right to equality as few cases are preferred over others.
 - ② The fast track courts are rarely completed in time eg PMLA courts more than 1 year.
 - ③ The appeal process again stalls the overall justice.
 - ④ Infrastructure of new courts lacking — depends on state will.
 - ⑤ Faster justice may lead to poor quality of judgement.
- The pendency of cases is due to judicial vacancy, court management and infrastructure. Economic survey 2018-19 identifies these to solve. New fast track will not solve the problem.

③ The Indian judicial system provides for 3 tier judiciary

The subordinate courts are that part of the system with maximum public interface and worst efficiency



2.5 cr cases pending (lower court)

challenges faced

① Infrastructure - dependent on state fund.

- already overloaded
- huge case load but centre does not share expenditure

② Cases - less than 100% case clearance rate

- Court manager post not trained

are created -
- the lowest digital penetration
- ADR process not very active

③ vacancy - $\frac{1}{10}$ 180 judges ^{with respect to US-220}
lakh

- inter state disparity eg UP
more than WB

④ pendency of 2.5 cr cases → discourage
reporting

⑤ opacity
measure

① Dedicated court manager post
+ e-courts system

② Aids to uniformity in judges
career + timely appointment

③ Using big data to club similar
cases together

④ Better the police investigation
process

⑤ Limit on adjournment per case and
lawyer's time to argue

⑥ Centre share funds for infrastructure

⑦ RTI in courts

④ The legislature is the prime body responsible to constructing a basic framework of law and president/governor gives assent to it.
(200)

However, post legislative process includes the process of subordinate legislation by executive and its information to various implementation bodies.

Thus the basic aim is achieved by both pre & post process for best results on ground.

Need Currently, the scrutiny process is key committee of subordinate legislation. Also the weak opposition and infrequent meeting leads to

less attention on this process.
The implementation authority
need to be aware about the
process eg 66A of IT act still
invoked by police — reports
so in spite of the mechanisms,
the structure remains very informal
and requires a reform.

Way forward

- ① Parliamentary rules to provide
for accountability of minister to
committee.
- ② Digital process for info camps
to Executive authority and public.
- ③ The process needs to be struck
via a legislative backup.

⑤ The MeITY has released recently a 9 pointed strategy to ^{be} reformed for the 5t economy. e-governance constitutes 1 of it. It's a strategy to govern resources via use of digital power.

Artificial intelligence is a branch of digital technology that uses human like cognitive process to reform areas.

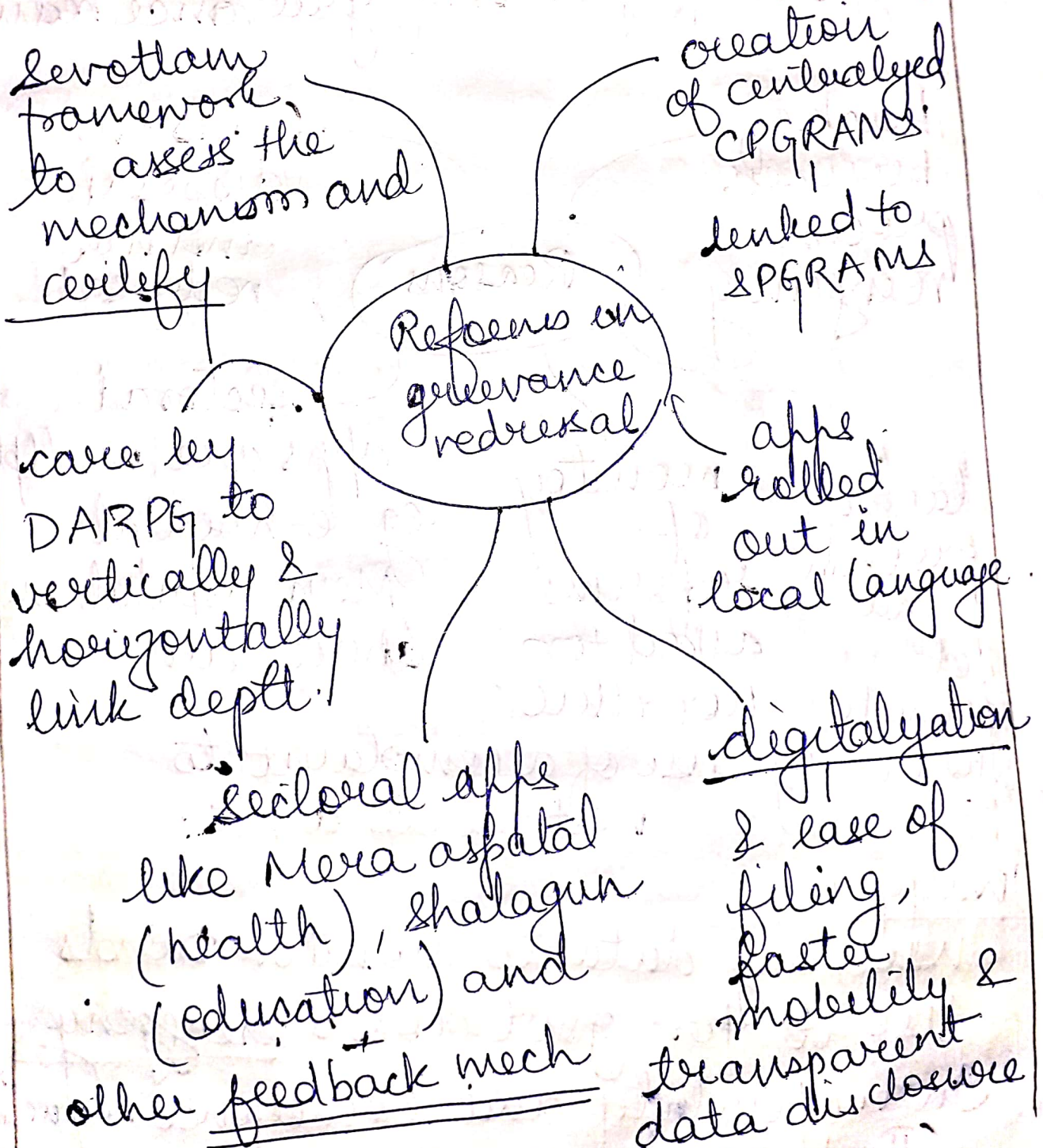
Applications

- ① service delivery - efficient, fast
with last mile connectivity
- ② triage - expands reach
can decide on data policy about priorities
eg who needs

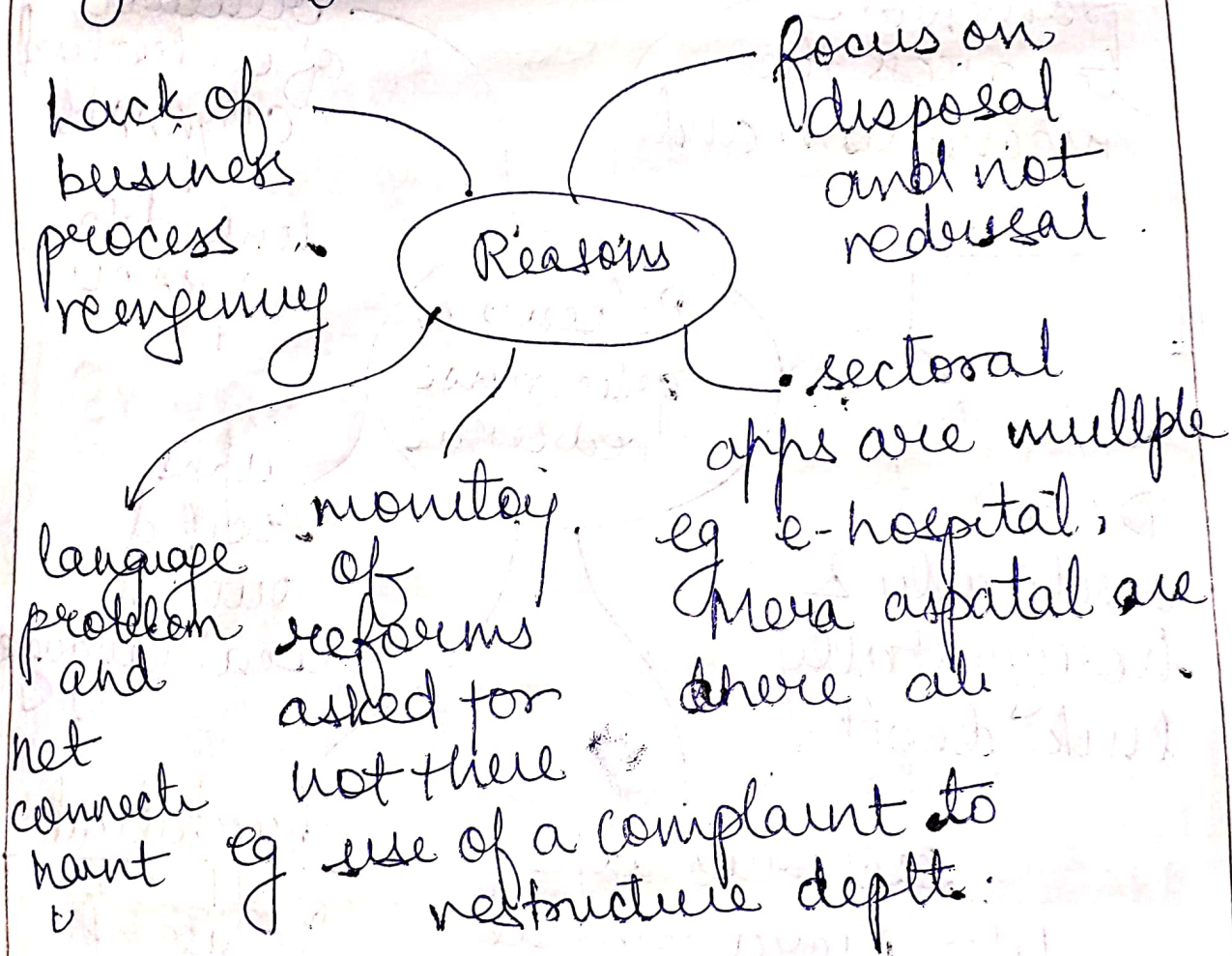
- ③ weeding out fake beneficiaries
- ④ health — eg can immediately identify epidemic hotspots eg in IDSP — and avoid ^{current} Zika like crisis.
- ⑤ education — eg AI can auto-detect children with special ~~pro~~ needs and use their data to give personalized service
- ⑥ storage of records and analysis eg DBT in fertilizer and ^{on} appropriate amount of fertilizer need — recommends subsidy release.
- ⑦ use for grievance redressal — chatbot query reply

The NITI has released an AIRAWAT strategy and envisage to scale it further. Care must to have an transparent AI policy and privacy protection bill.

- ⑥ public grievance redressal is a tool identified by Ind ARC for maximum effective governance.



thence their effectiveness remains low can be seen from our poor e-gov index of UN despite of digital of process of governance redn



way forward

use big data to monitor trends
use it for govt process reengineering
Interoperability and convergence required
(IT and ARC)

- ⑦ The trafficking crime in India has reached enormous levels with it being 3rd largest organized crime post arms & drugs (UNTOC)

Factors that contribute

① geography

② poverty in India

golden crescent
↓
hub of terrorism

↓
trafficking of children for poppy plantation, organ traffic and sex trade

③ mental health & drug addiction also increase vulnerability

India serves as transit point for traffickers from politically unstable neighbour

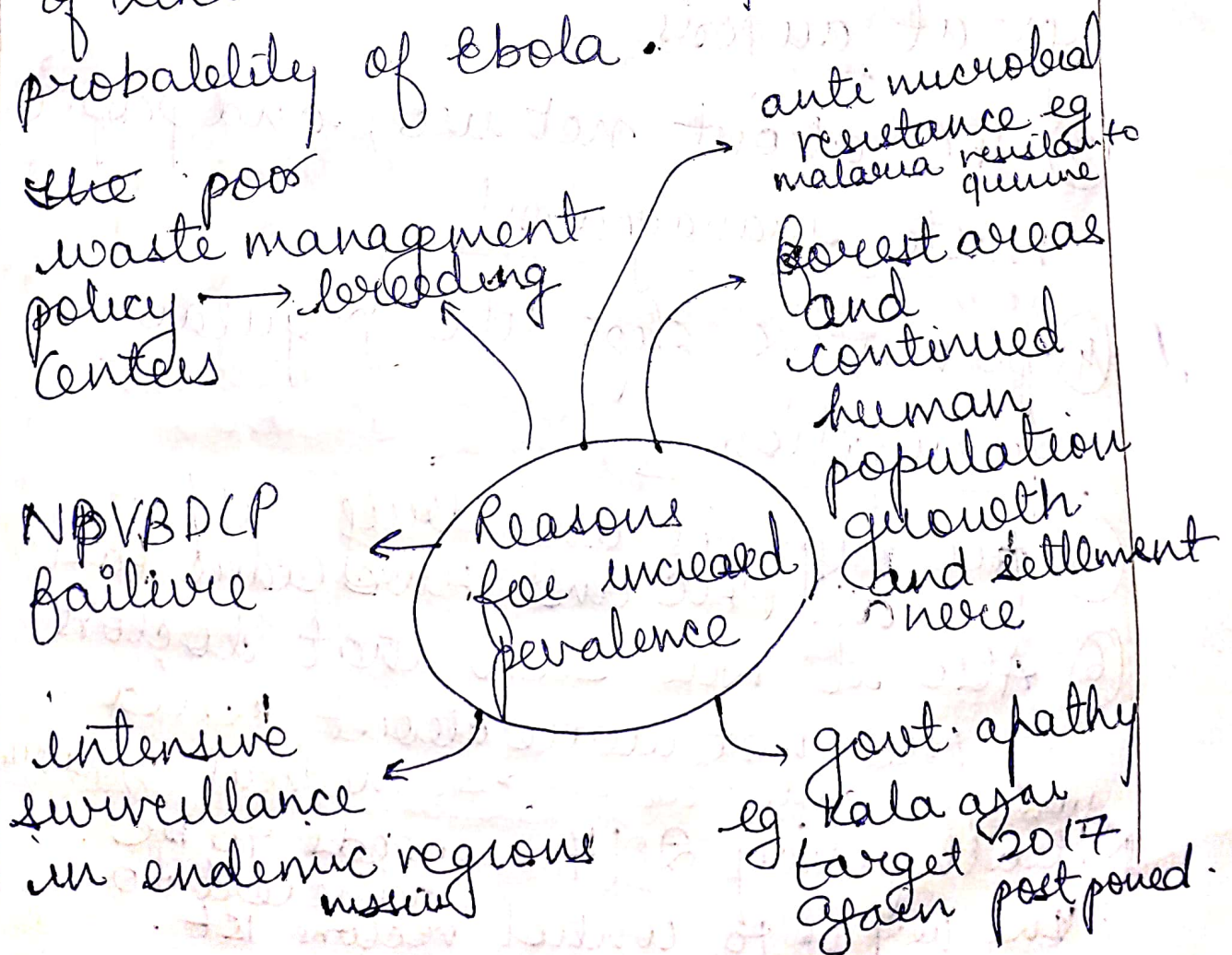
- ④ Illiteracy and patriarchy → no respect for women
- ⑤ Loopholes in laws
eg NRI frauds
- ⑥ Moreover the laws in India have been very biased to the victim eg delay in rehabilitation from foreign country, delay in compensation (post conviction)

Steps taken

- ① Article 23 & 24 - both prohibit child traffickers + Art 21 - life & dignity
- ② IPC Sec 370
- ③ Laws like Immoral Traff. Prevention act, Bonded Labour act
- ④ Ujjwala scheme + One stop center
- ⑤ signatory to UNODC & UNTOC convention
- ⑥ Human trafficking act - 2019
- ⑦ ~~men~~ support to NAG should give necessary boost to anti trafficking efforts

⑧ Vector borne diseases are those that require a animal / vector to complete its full life cycle. Examples are - lymphatic filariasis, Kala Azar, Zika, malaria, Chikengunya etc.

Recently India suffered from a bout of Zika detections in Rajasthan & probability of Ebola.



also the forest areas are increasing in India — indicate more growth especially tribals / remote area

Effective control measure

- ① IDSP program needs to strength for immediate detection
 - ② New virus need to be screened for at airports.
 - ③ IEC about net use, and proper waste management
 - ④ preventive steps like regular fumigation.
 - ⑤ free diagnosis and drug supply at PHC and HWC cadre post
 - ⑥ Also it was seen that doctors were not aware about chikungunya outbreak → so medical syllabus reform
- National Health policy 2017 — needs to be adhered to. The key is to control vectors 1st.

⑨ India and Indonesia are 2 countries ^{separated} with just a 100 km gap. Besides the geographical convergence, both share cultural bonds.

New strategic realities today force both to look beyond cultural bonds to newer areas of cooperation.

New realities

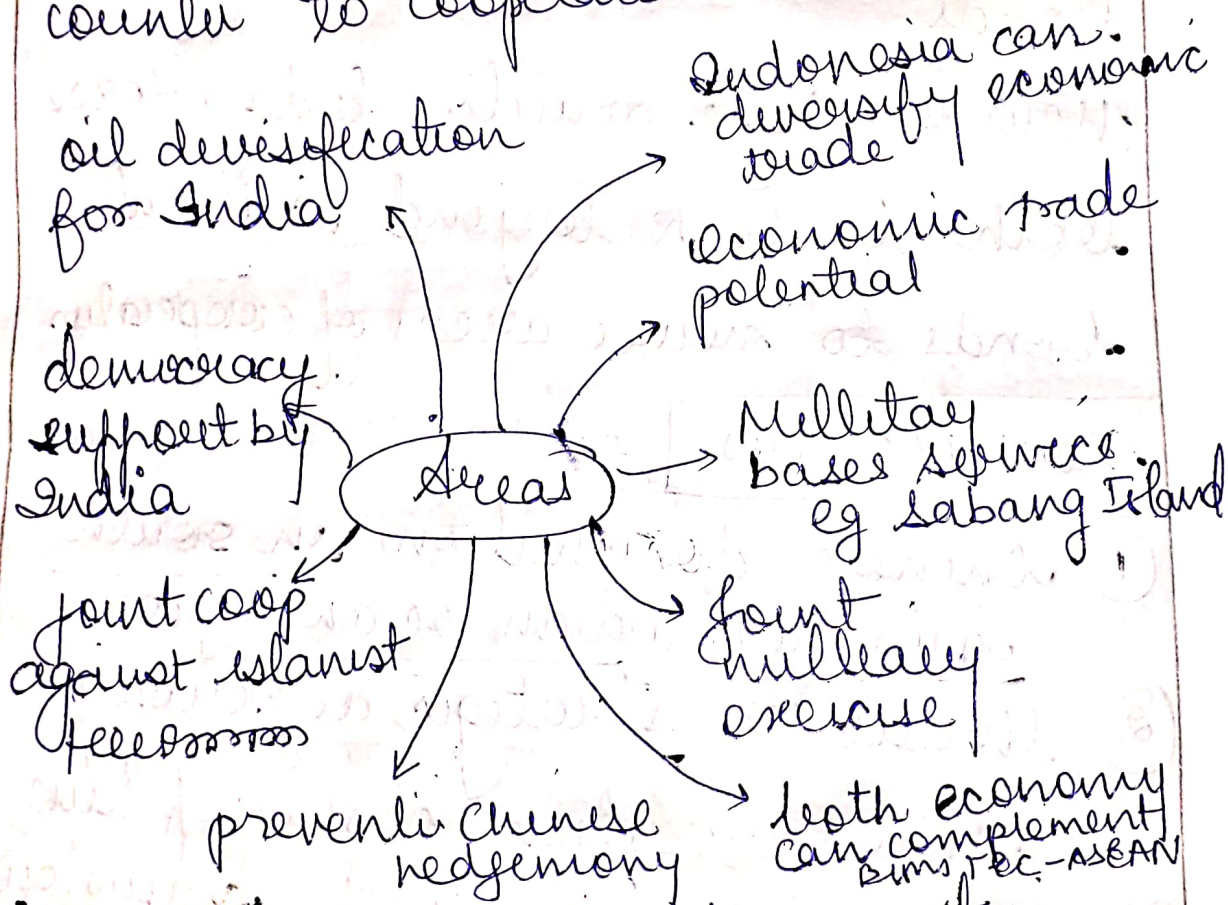
- ① Chinese domination in south asia and Indian ocean region
- ② threat to strategic autonomy
admiss violation of rule of law.
- ③ national security with claims on EEZ of south + dispute
- ④ trade in Indian ocean and associated maritime pollution

⑤ global slowdown, trade war & protectionism

⑥ maintenance of multipolarity

⑦ terrorism

These forces & need both the countries to cooperate in areas like



The need is that both countries build economic and strategic collaboration on civilisation ties that they possess

(10) Indo Nepal relations have historically been like brothers in arms. However with many new global realities, the relations have strain eg post Earthquake block allegation. In 2015, demand of ~~Madhesi~~ Madhesi representation — seen as unilateral autonomy threat, India's big brotherly attitude etc. Attempts that were made to setup ties

- ① 3 silently agreement
- ② MoU on rail, power, dams,
- ③ joint river cooperation mechanisms
- ④ trade cooperation mechanisms.
- ⑤ Recent visit by Nepali PM to India and then of BIMSTEC at enayak

However concerns in relations persists as they are much long standing

a) Demand for renegotiation of 1950 treaty

b) slow infrastructure develop

c) Concern on Pancheswar dam

d) India's refusal to buy trade from Chinese dams

e) Hostility of India to Chinese investment & Nepal resists to China trade & transit treaty

f) though joint cooperations on border and para beti roti relations, issue like Nepali being asked to pay in \$ - i.e. inks

g) political party of KP Oli is seen as anti India

Renegotiate 1950 treaty on line of 2007 treaty - provided for security

way forward

respect to Nepal desire to have Chinese investment facilitate trade + GUGRAL DOCTRINE

⑪ Pressure groups are ~~are~~ association that are large enough to be having an influence on govern^t policy process ~~what~~. They usually are formed on larger causes eg. farmer's pressur group - MKSS. While interest groups are characterized by narrower interest. Their methods are very opaque. eg any e-commerce company — only for their data liberalisation. vs FICCI — collective interest of all business community.

Methods

① Lobbying → they take to

agitate to govt by direct communication to it eg US lobby groups on CNA health India

② propagandizing → dedicated ~~more~~ planned process

③ pressuring public → movement of mass to nudge policy eg MKSS did ~~with~~ ^{for} RTI act

④ electioneering — so that favourable candidates are selected eg by corporate donations

⑤ petitions to govt eg recently all e-concess submitted against data localization

(12) Local self governance institutions were envisioned by Gandhiji - but we have not been the flagbearers of 'effective' local self governance that Article 46 demands. The 6th report of ARC highlights the issues with it.

(1) Funds

- * Dependent on state funds.
- * SFC (243-I, V) not ~~made~~ constituted regularly. 5th report ~~of~~ still not submitted.
- * Reluctance to tax - weak link ^{between} citizen
- * poor boundary demarcation for property tax.
- * Devolution under 11/12th Schedules taxation not happened.

② Functions

- * Devolution of 11/12th schedule is ad hoc
- * Parastatals — overlap eg SPVN statuly
- * NIPADS undermine
- * Gram panchayat dependent on other levels.

③ Functionaries

* No separate municipal cadres and... depend on state

- * Not trained
- * Bureaucratization of DPC
- * Less trained functionaries

Way forward — Dnd ARC

- ① Separate municipal cadres
- ② Separate administrative officer for

municipal management

- ③ use of technology to reduce work burden.
- ④ Continuous reaping of organisational
- ⑤ Social audits and community involvement in governance
- ⑥ New fund resources like municipal bonds.
- ⑦ Amendment to 73/74th created Act 243 to make certain areas compulsory on all states
- ⑧ ~~Has~~ Rotation cycles of more than 2 years to incentivize
- ⑨ Representation of them in SLC to give power.

The govt has rolled out Gram panchayat development and Gram swara Abhiyan to strengthen it.

③ Recent RTI amendment 2005, proposed is an effort by govt. to correct the anomaly in the system i.e. ~~to bring~~ the CIC in same position as the chief justice of India.

The office ~~reasons~~ ^{proposes} claimed by govt. are : -

- a) to appoint the chief information commissioner by the govt's executive only.
- b) It will thus ~~see~~ bring the entire process in harmony with CEC = CJI and CIC being ranked lower along with

being a consultative body

- faulter appointment.
- However, RTI being a basic fundamental right / Under Art 21
- a) absence of strong witness protection law
 - b) biased and flawed ^{other} accountability mechanism
 - c) already diluted law of section 8.

These loopholes require a strong RTI act to ~~strengthen~~ access to info without govt interference. It is a gem in good governance.

Security of tenure of RTI and autonomy of institution is thus necessary for it. The act gives it same service conditions as part with CEC - a constitution along with collegium based appointment.

(B) This amendment will
Review its authority and function
neutrality.

Reforms

- ① RTI act instead of being deleted
be further strengthened
- ② Sec. 4, Sec 8 like action be clear
- ③ Ind ARC provision be follow
eg case of PII, incentive to
state for data storage

14. Delimitation is a process provided under 42nd, 84th and 87th amendment act under ~~Act 324~~ to divide the zones of Indian territory in smaller constituency.

Process

- ① ^{EC with experts} parliament carries out it according to the constitution.
 - ② Parliament can amend the constitutional process eg like done last in 2002.
 - ③ It recommended by EC to president who is the executor.
 - ④ It can't be questioned in court.
- the delimitation process was started

by in 1952 or then by 87th amendment act. - latest of 2002 -

→ done on 2001 census

→ frozen for 25 years

→ done to control population

exemptions to delimitation neither amendment are under Art 371 - Sikkim etc

Controversies

① Not effective, eg UP still has high growth rate of - $TFR > 3$

② Apprehension as next revision will lead to ~~to~~ penalty with lesser seats to southern states or those who have worked for

population control

③ Certain missed eg Jumbos & Samang of Sikkim not adequately represented

④ process opaque plus lesser expert representation plus violation of judicial review

⑤ Can be misused by ruling party

⑥ Migration has altered demography
The Election Commission thus need to act as responsible player here.

not acc. to

Way forward

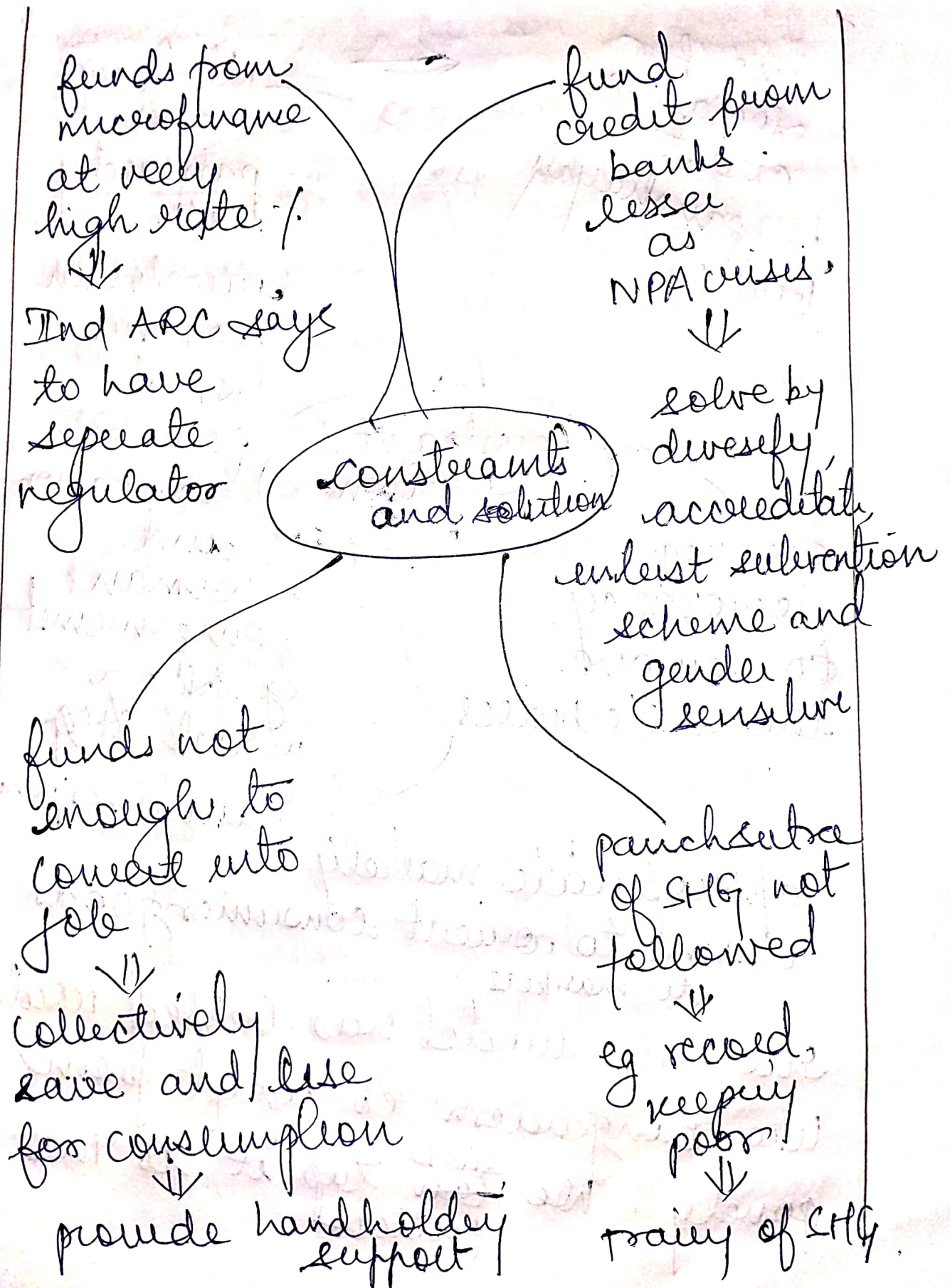
① Transparent body to conduct delimitation

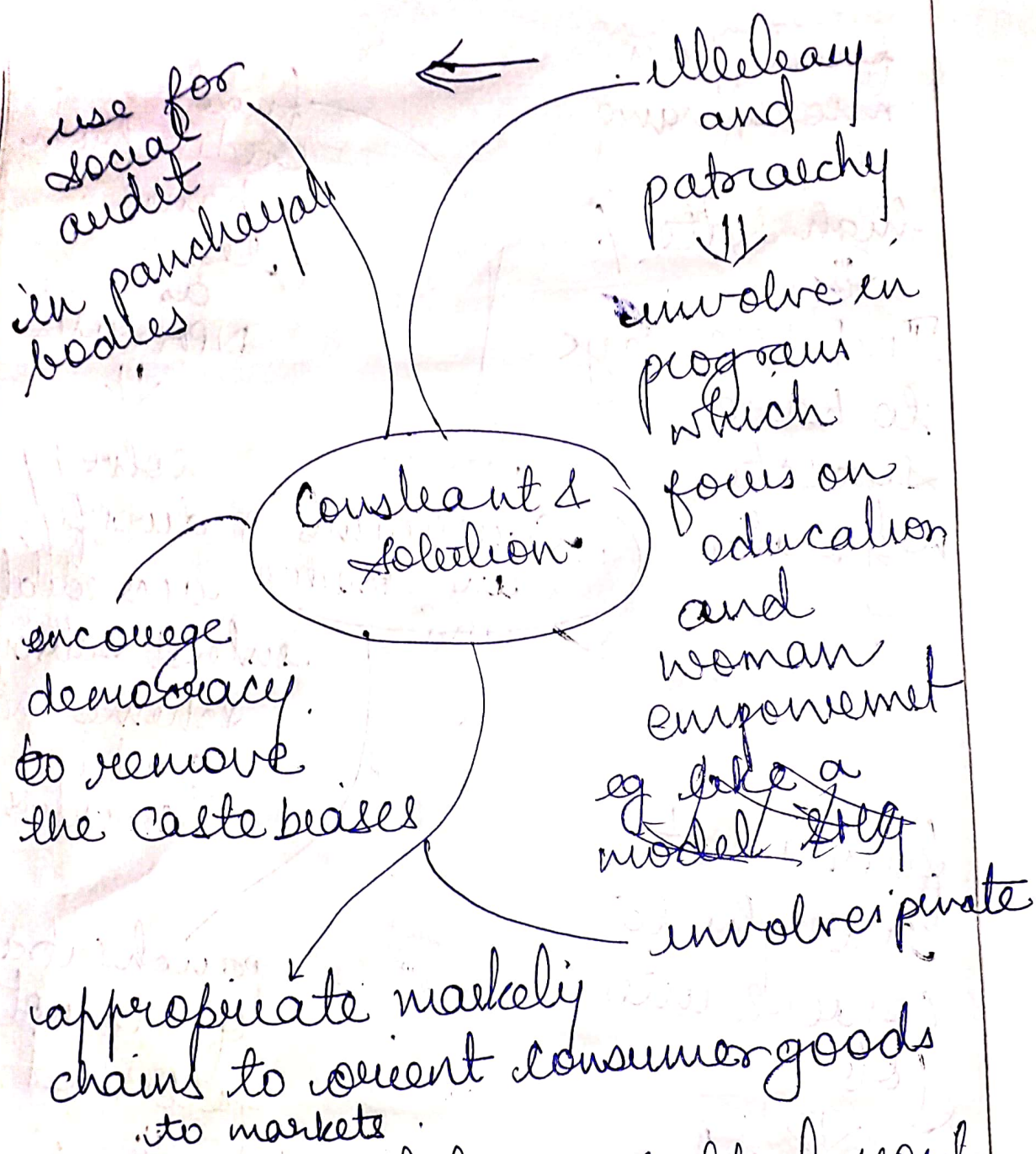
② Issues like Kerala having ~~comparatively~~ proportionately higher seats → need to be looked into

But acc. to 87th amen, we have to wait till 2026. Till then use of other factor eg to reform process

15 self help groups are economic homogeneous affinity groups to collectively save & invest and (NABARD)







The SHG model has helped uplift poor like Bangladesh to uplift poverty. We ~~can~~ ^{should} tap it to the fullest

(16) Swachh Bharat Mission is one of the most successful scheme in the field of WASH. QCI has assessed almost 97% ODF coverage and more than 80% in rural areas.

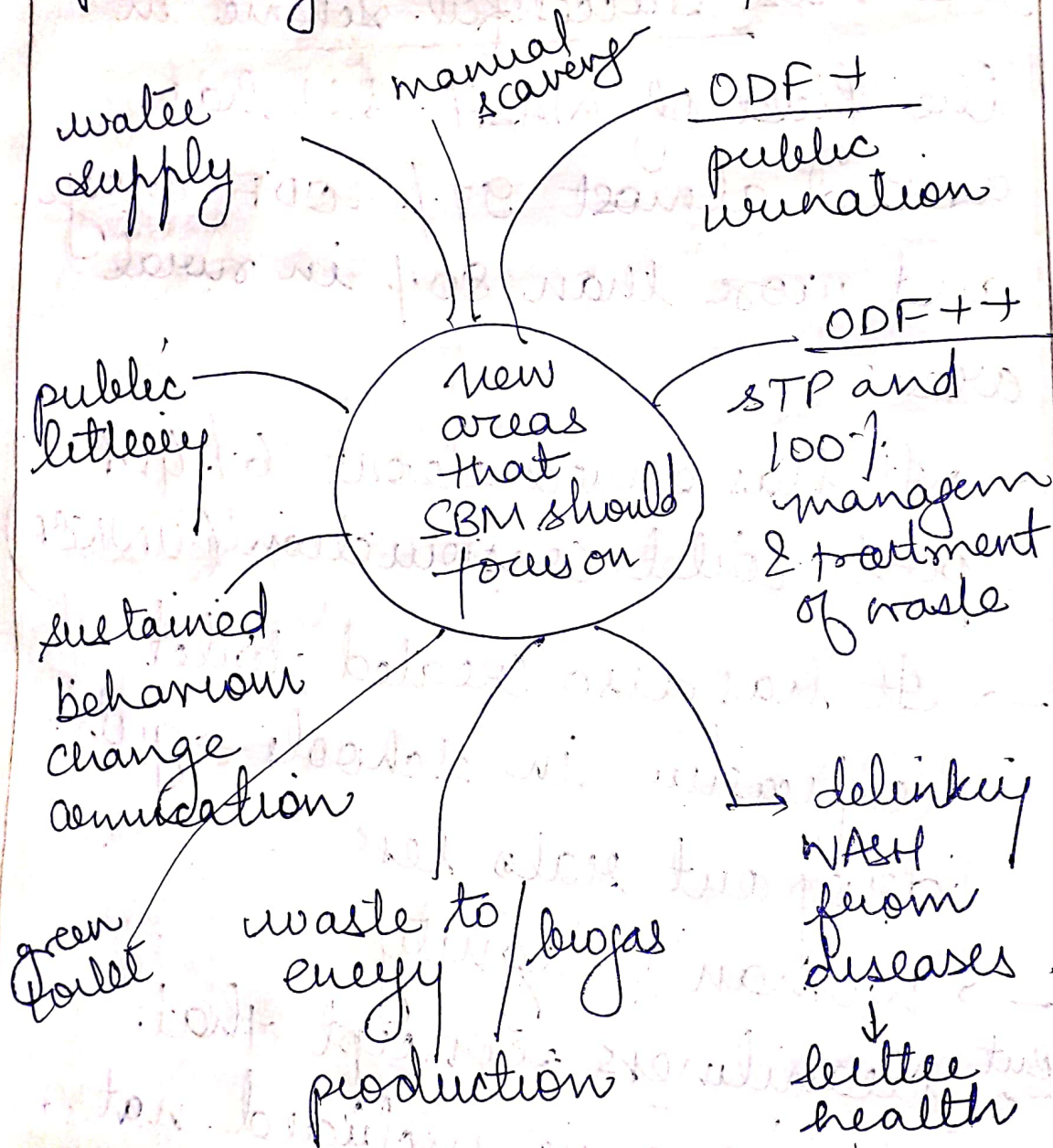
→ It has saved about 6% GDP post toilet construction (UNICEF)

→ It has also created toilet infrastructure in schools → girls' drop out rate less

→ woman's dignity

But → Cleanliness concept that Gandhiji gave included not just toilet construction but.

promoting it as a way of living.



Besides these SBM should also focus on current toilet constructed

are acc. to BIS standards.

way forward for SBM

- ① PPP - STP be made at a decentralized manner in every municipality
 - ② Jal-Sahitya to scrutinize & social audit the functioning of toilet
 - ③ focus on individual toilets than community toilet
 - ④ Use technology eg #100 review campaign to increase usage of public toilets
 - ⑤ Promoting a law implementation and quick follow up on manual scavenger survey - immediate end to caste / sex prejudice and rehabilitate
 - ⑥ Green toilet with private partner eg Bio-toilet, solar toilet etc
 - ⑦ Continued Jan andolan to avoid fallback
- SDG 6 → not just toilet access but holistic swachta reforms.

(17) mission Indradhanush
~~next~~ scheme announced in 2015
to continue vaccination drive
against those left out post UIP-
1985. It ensures vaccination
to children below 2 years and
pregnant mother. It ensures
immunity against 7+5 life threatening
disease including HiB, Hep B, JE,
TB, polio, measles, rubella etc

Progress

The vaccination cover has reached
70% but still not at pace enough
to meet SDG of 90% target

Challenges

(1) To endemic points of low

- immigration in some areas — prevented due to social / religious reasons.
- ② geographical barriers to remote places — especially when vaccine need cold storage
 - ③ the infrastructure and cold chain as poorly maintained → loss in potency of vaccines
 - ④ More vaccines eg PCV, HPV not included under this scheme.
 - ⑤ Trained workers are reluctant to serve in far off places.

Way forward

- ① eVIN is a novel method to use digital tech to efficiently manage vaccine cold chain. It should be scaled up.

- ② vaccination drives be undertaken in efforts in endemic zones.
- ③ mother-child protection scheme to manage the system efficiently.
- ④ Mobile vaccination trucks to ensure last mile delivery.
- ⑤ newer diseases eg recommended in IAP — be included in scheme.
- ⑥ connectivity ASHA for bring all to the PHC/HNC.

Thus it's an important scheme to achieve goal of NHP 2017 & SDG 3.

(18)

According to India skills report,
less than 4% of population of India
is formally skilled.

In light of change structures, skills help

Changes
① innovation
oriented
economy when
conventional
processes become
competitive

→ provide
next level
high output &
productivity work for

② technology
focused manufau
processes

→ digital skills
to operate
tech based
machines

③ dynamic
environment

④ services oriented
economy -
need of
diversification as
software policy

so new
skills to
reorient
services to
world needs to

2019 looks beyond
Outsourcing ser.

see Demographic
audience closes at
2040.

maintain
competitiveness

need of
skilled
workers to
tap dividend

So skilled ^{help India} will move quickly from
a ~~know~~ job seeker to job
creator economy.

Skill India Mission: progress

① It ^{has} ~~aims~~ to create NSDC to unplug
process of skilling

② Multiple bodies like SSC and
accreditation body - NCVET.
are present to integrate with
private sector

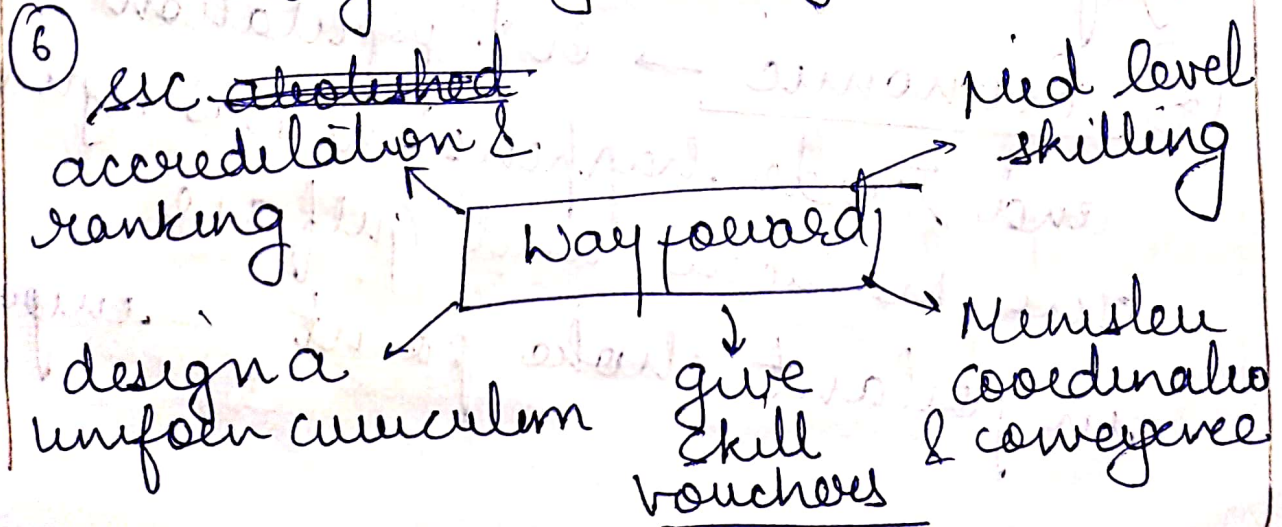
③ It also uses other schemes eg

PM Kaurhal vikash yojana, Ujala, Roshni, seekho aur kamas etc to train weaker segments

- (4) It uses technology to track placement (5) Establish Indian institute of skills, Kanpur.

Limitations

- (1) Not yet achieved target of ^{still} 30% youth in NEET.
- (2) Somaiya committee highlight the quality still being poor of SSC
- (3) ~~Interim~~ poorly managed exams
- (4) placement ratio being poor
- (5) not been able to convince industry to give higher wage



19) NEA recently created a dedicated Indopacific division. It's an obvious response to the growing importance of Indo-Pacific as a new front for economic and geopolitical relevances. • 1st coined by Japan,

Reasons are :-

- ① US and Japan's foreign policy highlights ~~their~~ its growing importance — US-Indo-Pacific & Japan - free and open Indo-Pacific
- ② Economic → 60% population and trade happens in this region. The Malacca and Gulf are important choke point — export

for the oil trade.

③ Political - India and China - 2

Asian giants along with ASEAN, Japan like big countries share the border with it

— Continued political engagements between them - BIMSTEC, IORA, Malabar exercise — hindered by a fragmented approach.

④ geostrategic - Chinese threat and in both oceans — rest countries have a united approach

⑤ ecological - biodiversity being one of the most rich in this area

— fishing / coral reef / mangroves etc

⑥ India due to Indian in western connectivity has continued focus on the East — so a integrated maritime approach needed

challenges

- ① too many foreign powers in Indian Ocean - which is India's strategic domain area
- ② The interest of western power varies largely with respect to China. We being a smaller economy & sharing close border with China can afford direct conflict
- ③ China's string of pearls strategy
- ④ Island nations in Indo-Pacific - under Chinese debt
- ⑤ More ~~trade~~ - threat of coral bleach / oil spills etc - threat to fishing economy + global warming
- ⑥ Thus an Indo Pacific policy kept in mind 'SAGAR - security & good for all needs be followed'

20) SCO is a regional grouping which accounts for major Asian economic cooperation for a close security & economic collaboration. It accounts for more than 40% population.

United by

- ① common interest in Iran, Afghanistan
- ② central Asian security
- ③ connectivity projects like INSTC, IPI etc
- ④ common cultural links
- ⑤ desire for a non western dominated Asian century

Bilateral difference

- ① India - Pakistan once free

(2) Indo-China : on BRI, border dispute, trust issues, trade

(3) Indo-west : on support to ~~BRI~~ and maintenance of strategic autonomy

(4) Indo-Russia : inclination to US

(5) ~~R~~ Russia-China-~~Ind~~-India : more competitive trade interest and SCO not being a China dominated grouping

Thus SCO needs to overcome the bilateral difference

SCO needs to be a democratic group and not a ^{segregated} anti west group to not risk our ~~the~~ relations with west

SCO role in enhancing India's position

- ① being a stakeholder in Afghanistan to ensure a peaceful democracy
- ② platform for India-Pakistan dialogue
- ③ forum to cooperate with Central Asian countries on mineral / main / trade issues
- ④ platform for China-India deal on climate change, IMF reform,
- ⑤ expedite connectivity projects
- ⑥ Also maintain strategic autonomy by ~~following~~ ^{present} US to steps like countd. coop with Iran (as its observer state). Thus SCO is an important group ally in Connect Central Asia policy with dream of Asiango.