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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1243)

Name of Candidate	Yadav Suryabhan		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	176745
Center	ORN.	Date	10/08/2019

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Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
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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. Reservation of seats in legislature is needed to ensure meaningful political participation of women and to make the democratic process truly inclusive. Discuss the statement in the light of 108th Constitution Amendment Bill.

(150 words) 10

महिलाओं की सार्थक राजनीतिक सहभागिता सुनिश्चित करने एवं लोकतांत्रिक प्रक्रिया को सही अर्थों में समावेशी बनाने हेतु विधायिका में सीटों के आरक्षण की आवश्यकता है। 108वें संविधान संशोधन विधेयक के आलोक में इस कथन की विवेचना कीजिए।

108th constitutional amendment bill advocates for compulsory $\frac{1}{3}$ rd reservation in lok sabha for women.

Need for reservation in legislature:

(1) Poor women representation in Lok Sabha: only 16.7% (2019), while in Rwanda it is 60%.

(2) Non-biased legislation: Participation of women leads to more better policy making due to inclusiveness, women oriented etc.

(3) To realise the fruitfulness of women participation at local level.

(4) to ensure lesser criminals as included; as ADP report points more male criminal get the seat in LS.

(5) ADR report points women in legislative constituency have less corruption, better fund utilisation and better governance

(6) Push for more inner party democracy,

Above all women led legislature is more concerned with vulnerable and marginalised section. Thus their inclusion is step for inclusive, participatory and truly representative democracy

However following issues need to be addressed

① Capacity building of women

② Diminishing phenomenon of Sarpanch patri

③ Running SHGs

(4) Unity in reservation at P.S level and state level

108th Amendment has a potential to transform the development and legislature as women led and women oriented

2. Discuss the issue of reservation in promotions for SCs and STs in public employment in the light of various judicial pronouncements and constitutional amendments. (150 words) 10

विभिन्न न्यायिक निर्णयों और संवैधानिक संशोधनों के आलोक में सार्वजनिक नियोजन में SCs और STs के लिए पदोन्नति में आरक्षण के मुद्दे पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Article 15, 16 mandates the state to take special measures for empowerment of SC/ST. Under such mandate, state has taken measures such as 77th Amendment Act and 84th Amendment Act to ensure reservation in promotion for SC/ST.

Judicial pronouncement:

① Indre Satwaj case: 1993:

- It led for no promotion in employment opportunities.

(2) "Nagraj case" (2006)

- It gave 3 parameters for promotion in employment concerned with SC/ST.

Quantifiable

(1) Data availability to prove the backwardness.

(2) Ensure administrative efficiency.

(3) Ram Singh case (2016) :

SC said that mere caste cannot be tool for identifying backwardness and this class needs to be considered

(4) Recent 2018, August judgement :

SC paved the way for promotion by ruling that no need of quantifiable data to prove backwardness.

Initiative by centre :

77th Amendment : was step for promotion in employment. And thus many officers were promoted. However SC said it is unconstitutional and struck it

84th CAA again centre brought the amendment; but ~~was~~ no progress has been seen till 2018.

Wayforward : so far SC/ST occupy only 2% seat in Central government employment and less than 5% at joint secretary level. This shows the need for their both social & economic mobility in employment

3. Highlight the reasons behind underperformance of the Autonomous District Councils (ADCs). How can their performance be improved?

(150 words) 10

स्वायत्त जिला परिषदों (ADCs) के निम्नस्तरीय कार्य-निष्पादन के पीछे उत्तरदायी कारणों पर प्रकाश डालिए। उनके कार्य-निष्पादन को कैसे बेहतर किया जा सकता है?

Under 6th schedule, governor has power to constitute Autonomous district council in a area where the population (tribe) has remained isolated. It is step for ensuring saving of customs, tradition and simultaneously penetrating the consolidation process.

1. Presently there are 10 ADCs. eg: Jirpa ADC, Karbi Anglong ADC etc.

Issues for their underperformance:

① Ill equiped and poor human resource; led to poor decision making.

② Encroachment by Centre; through governor machinery, as governor has power to hold the legislation passed by AOR.

③ "Corruption" and "insurgents torture": eg: Carhar (ADC) in Assam was found to support

corruption drug trafficking through
insurgents-

(4) Lack of clarity on membership: for
instance women have low representation,
ethnic conflict occurs in search for more
position, Conflict of interest arising to MLAs
representation

(5) 'Bandh culture', poor financial resources,
ineffective SFC, are other reasons for
underperformance

(6) Adherence to tradition and superstition.
for consolidation process and
truly integrating, the center has recently
passed ^{124th} a Constitutional Amendment for
financial empowerment of AOCs

4. Highlighting the rationale behind continuance of the Official Secrets Act, critically discuss whether the Right to Information should be given precedence over it. (150 words) 10

शासकीय गुप्त बात अधिनियम की निरंतरता के पीछे निहित औचित्य पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, समालोचनात्मक चर्चा कीजिए कि क्या सूचना के अधिकार को इस पर वरीयता दी जानी चाहिए।

Official secrets Act, 1924 is colonial
act passed to control the anti-
Government stance. It was meant for

- ① preventing the official communicate to
enemy

- (2) hiding of secret information detrimental
to nation-state

Despite its arbitrary nature, constituent
assembly and other government have not
recommended for its repeal due to

- ① maintain the foreign-relation friendly

- (2) demarcation b/w what citizen should

- know and what not
(3) limitation imposed by Article 19(a).

It apart from the two reasons;
above two reasons also justify.

- Right to information was meant to
① to replace culture of secrecy with
transparency

(2) Culture of personalised despotism to accountability of government.

Law commission has time and again asked for toning down of such draconian law. It argued for limited use of it; such ~~as not~~ against the

state. But for instance OSA can be invoked only when the "state" is concerned and "not government".

Preventive detention can be done under other act ~~too~~ such as NSA (2009) and VAPA (1969). Thus ARC (2nd) called for its repealing as many of provision as included in CrP, NSA, and VAPA

Act.

RTI should not preclude.

- ① maintain the foreign relation
- ② unity and integrity of India
- ③ Article 19
- argues for limited freedom of speech.
- ④ well functioning of state in civil matters such
- [as Rafale deal] defense deal].

5. Write a short note on India Enterprise Architecture (IndEA) framework. Highlighting its main principles, examine how its full fledged implementation can improve the existing governance landscape of India.

(150 words) 10

इंडिया एंटरप्राइज आर्किटेक्चर (IndEA) फ्रेमवर्क पर एक संक्षिप्त लेख लिखिए। इसके प्रमुख सिद्धांतों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, परीक्षण कीजिए कि किस प्रकार इसका पूर्ण कार्यान्वयन भारत के वर्तमान शासन परिदृश्य को उन्नत बना सकता है।

6. What is the rationale behind having a mandatory 'cooling-off' period for retired civil servants? In light of numerous instances of violation of this provision, do you think there is a need to have a relook at Civil Services Conduct Rules? (150 words) 10

सेवानिवृत्त सिविल सेवकों के लिए अनिवार्य 'उपशमन' अवधि होने के पीछे क्या औचित्य है? इस प्रावधान के उल्लंघन के कई दृष्टांतों के आलोक में, क्या आप मानते हैं कि सिविल सेवा आचरण नियमावली पर पुनर्विचार किए जाने की आवश्यकता है?

cooling off period means, civil
demands post retirement as given
2-3 years rest, like the judges. to

Rationale behind so:

- ① to prevent them from "politicisation".
- (2) to ensure they get time to acknowledge their past role and get prepared for new role, else civil servant will act like earlier.
- (3) A rest is meant to distance themselves (anonymous) for government & public machinery. civil services conduct rules is the rule for governing civil servants. It imposes certain restriction on freedom of speech, ~~that~~ provides the discipline required. It is enforced by both state and central government.

Need for a look at civil service conduct rules:

- ① To give state sufficient power to take actions against civil servant. for instance presently majority centre is empowered.
- ② to ensure harmonious balance of fundamental rights and work culture (professionalism required).
- ③ To remove the vagueness, as 2nd APC suggested to such as "to prevent unbecoming of civil servant" is vague in nature.
- ④ to ensure de-politisation of civil servants, also the emergence of IT/social media demands a relook.
- ⑤ to ^{minimise} ~~remove~~ the discretionary role of civil servants.

To avoid the ~~political~~ ^{politicisation} and maintain the foundational values i.e. anonymity, to remove vagueness it is essential to relook civil servant conduct rules, which are half century old.

7. Highlighting the key features of POSHAN Abhiyan, explain how it is an improvement over previous interventions in achieving the goal of malnutrition free India. (150 words) 10

पोषण (POSHAN) अभियान की प्रमुख विशेषताओं पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, समझाइए कि यह कुपोषण मुक्त भारत के लक्ष्य को प्राप्त करने में पिछले हस्तक्षेपों की तुलना में कैसे समुन्नत है।

POSHAN Abhiyan or National nutritional strategy as floated is step for ensuring the malnutrition free India with the following specific objective.

- (i) decrease the stunting by 2.1 percent per year
- (ii) decrease the wasting 2.1 per year
- (iii) reduce the anemia by 3.1 per year
- (iv) reduce the undernutrition by 2.1.

apart from above; it has strategy meant for regular monitoring of schemes, by NITI Aayog, & nutritionist for guidance and dedicated body for its implementation under PM.

How is it different from earlier strategy?

① Inclusiveness: the present approach is more inclusive owing to women oriented, child oriented and adolescent.

- (ii) dedicated fund for implementation-
- (iii) monitoring at highest level by PM -
- (iv) "think tank" and research provided by

NITI Aayog

- (v) dedicated target specific approach -
- (vi) community involvement through ASHA -
- (vii) More focus on hygiene, sanitation,
safe drinking water, health facility,

which earlier were ignored -

The above factors are essential to
combat malnutrition in multi dimensional
way.

Malnutrition free India is pre-requisite
for healthy India and human capital
augmentation, the present national nutrition
and strategy acknowledges this and thus is
~~now~~ follows integrated approach

8. Highlighting the need of generic medicines in India, give an account of the reasons behind their lower availability and adoption. Also, mention some steps taken by the government in this regard. (150 words) 10

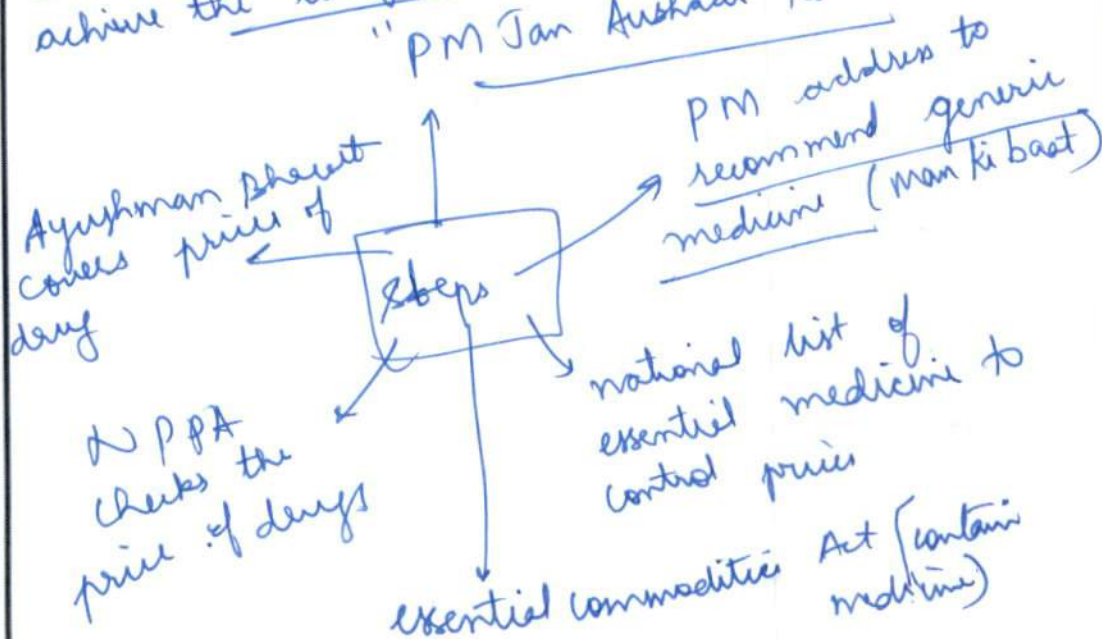
भारत में जेनरिक दवाओं की आवश्यकता पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, उनकी कम उपलब्धता और स्वीकरण हेतु उत्तरदायी कारणों का विवरण प्रस्तुत कीजिए। साथ ही, इस संबंध में सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए कुछ कदमों का भी उल्लेख कीजिए।

Generic medicines are the one which has the same content, chemical composition but without having endorsed by specific brand and not under patent period.

Need of generic medicines.

- ① Increase of therapeutic cost to about 60-75% in rural area.
 - ② Increasing out of pocket expenditure (68%) by citizen.
 - ③ Owing to cost of medicine, as many as 6 lakh people undergo poverty.
 - ④ Affordable, Accessible, Safe medicine is essential for right to health and right to live with dignity.
- Reasons for lower availability & adoption
- ① Brand culture: have ensured branded medicine get a upper hand.

- ② Nexus between public doctors,
chemist & pharmaceutical companies -
ensure the recommendation of branded
medicine
- ③ monopolies by few companies in life
saving drugs, ensure their high cost
- ④ Research shift from general disease to
NCD; has led to lesser availability for
- ⑤ less profit making business
- ⑥ Patent law (3d section) and PPA regime
have ensured lesser sale of branded drugs in
India.
- Steps taken by government as a way to
achieve the "welfare state" ideals.
- "PM Jan Aushadi Kendra"



9. Give an account of the challenges that the multilateral rule-based trading system is facing. With special focus on WTO, discuss how these challenges can be addressed effectively. **(150 words) 10**

बहुपक्षीय नियम-आधारित व्यापार प्रणाली द्वारा सामना की जा रही चुनौतियों का विवरण प्रस्तुत कीजिए। WTO पर विशेष बल देते हुए, चर्चा कीजिए कि किस प्रकार इन चुनौतियों का सफलतापूर्वक समाधान किया जा सकता है।

The world has started witnessing the protectionist trade war which undermine the sanctity of rule based order and institution. challenges faced by multi-lateral rule based trading system:

- ① Dispute settlement: has no of dispute has risen over the year.
- ② USA has withhold the appointment of judge last year.
- ③ Protectionist policy followed under tag of national interest are not getting challenged.
- ④ Emergence of trade block such as SAFTA, MERCOSUR, ASEAN, TPP, NAFTA etc. undermine the integrated global chain.
- ⑤ Emergence of new issues such as IPR, currency manipulation, concerns of developing country, N-S divide.

threaten the WTO; while WTO is ill prepared.

(6) Consensus based decision making at WTO have hampered the decision making process.

To ensure rule based order, following

things can be done:

① Better role to be played by China, EU, India and developing country to fill the void

② Balancing human rights with IPR

regime. such as in generic medicine

(3) Regulating e-commerce, digital economy, hawk trade etc

(4) Revamping WTO through

① 75% vote for decision making

② One-nation, one vote principle.

③ "Democratisation" to ensure voice to south

The role of WTO is essential for the trade based development, and thus it needs to be revamped.

10. Highlight the major impediments affecting India-US trade relations. What possible consequences can the recent withdrawal of Generalized System of Preference (GSP) have on India-US trade relations? (150 words) 10

भारत-अमेरिका व्यापार संबंधों को प्रभावित करने वाले प्रमुख अवरोधों पर प्रकाश डालिए। हाल ही में, अधिमानता की सामान्यीकृत प्रणाली (जनरलाइज्ड सिस्टम ऑफ़ प्रेफरेंस: GSP) की समाप्ति से भारत-अमेरिका व्यापार संबंधों पर क्या संभावित प्रभाव पड़ सकता है?

India-US relation have improved from estranged diplomacy (pre-1991) to engaged diplomacy (post 1991).

However there are few recent impediments:

① Defence: Russian S-400 & CAATSA by USA are against India interest.

② GSP: USA argue India is manipulator and thus recently withdraw GSP for commodities worth \$30bn.

③ WTO dispute: regarding solar manufacturing.

④ Protectionist policy such as increasing the steel and aluminium import.

⑤ CAATSA: hampering India's engagement with Iran, as US-Iran are rivals.

⑥ Immigration policy: strengthened norms for H1B policy (Visa).

GSP is non reciprocal privilege given to developing country by developed one to ensure better trade prospects for former. And thus India was given duty free market of USA;

However, recent trade war ~~protectionism~~ and growing CAD (Current account deficit) of USA have led to its withdrawal.

Following are consequences on India-US relation.

- (1) India will align with Russia for defence import.
 - (2) Better engagement with Iran & China; to ensure trade ~~don't~~ flourish.
 - (3) ~~Also~~ Increased the instability and volatility between two; and thus ~~don't~~ deficit.
 - (4) India will diversify its trade basket with EU, Africa.
- Indo-US remains unpredictable due to present President and protectionism world wide. And thus India needs to move from relying on US to diversify trade.

11. In a democratic setup, it is imperative that independence be balanced with accountability. Discuss in the context of judiciary in India. (250 words) 15

किसी भी लोकतांत्रिक व्यवस्था में, यह अत्यावश्यक है कि स्वतंत्रता को जवाबदेही के साथ संतुलित किया जाए। भारत में न्यायपालिका के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।

The two foundational values are often seen in conflict i.e. independence and accountability. This can be seen with respect to Judiciary, CCI, RBI etc.

Need of judicial accountability

- (i) through inclusion under RTI.
- (ii) reforming the present opaque collegium system for appointment.
- (iii) Removal of judges presently too much politic based and lengthy process. Thus for accountability process simplification is required.
- (iv) Emergence of unle-judge syndrome; i.e. nepotism and favoritism in judiciary.
- (v) Accountability of judges: ~~these~~ Presently the COPC have stringent norms and any person cannot file FIR. Moreover the recent harassment case on CJI, has

strengthened the demand.

(vi) Conduct of judges:

eg: Justice Karmar case is testimony to ensure the proper conduct and thus accountability ensures it.

Need of independence:

(i) ~~Article~~ judicial independence is basic feature of constitution and well functioning democracy

(ii) to uphold fundamental rights of citizen

(iii) to keep checks and balances on executive and legislature functioning

(iv) is a key for upholding constitutionalism, rule of law etc.

(v) unpopular decision making: recent conservative approach by government requires judiciary to be active. eg: in Sabarwal case or triple talac or marital rape case.

How has judiciary tried to bring the blend of two?

- ① Live proceeding of case
- ② MoI (Memorandum of procedure) signed
by b/w executive & judiciary.

(3) e-filing, e-

- (3) Putting the collegium discussion online
and asking for citizen's comment

Way forward:

Legislature shall take following steps:

- ① Judicial Accountability bill to ensure
accountability
- ② Judicial oversight regulation bill for
proper conduct by judges.

Lastly judiciary should walk the talk
by including itself under RTI.

12. Despite various strengths, there are certain weaknesses in the existing structure of departments of the government which render the system slow and cumbersome. Analyze. (250 words) 15

विभिन्न गुणों के बावजूद, सरकार के विभागों की वर्तमान संरचना में कुछ दुर्बलताएं विद्यमान हैं जो व्यवस्था को धीमा और बोझिल बना देती हैं। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

In a good governance, faster decision making. the structure of government and functioning should be robust strength in existing structure of department of government.

(i) Bureaucracy dominated : The permanent executive guide the political executive, which leads to good decision making

(ii) Committed bureaucracy, with zeal in implementing policies / Action

(iii) Citizen charter, PIO / public information officer), independent audit agency (CAG) are other key strength

(iv) Motto, vision and mission statement; highlights the organisational goal

(v) e-governance and adoption of online based system for functioning.

(vi) Budget: The department themselves ask the economic division for fund, and thus bottom up-budget making.

(vii) Robust, well experienced human resource.

Deficiency in present structure-

(i) Bureaucratic apathy & status quest:

slow adoption of online monitoring.

(ii) Poor whistle blow protection, leads to corruption

(iii) Funding: decided by budget division finally, which has been always less than the expectation to work.

(iv) well equipped public information officer, CIO etc

(v) Political executive dominating over

permanent executive due to hierarchy.

(vi) IAS dominated lead to top-down heavy structure. i.e. 75-80% post of secretary level occupied by IAS.

(vii) Generalist headed; when the e-governance, IT based solution demand specialisation.

(viii) Too many autonomous body under the department & ministry, thus over-riding. (eg: under Environmental ministry, NTCA, CPCB, ~~GP~~ GWB, NTCA, WBFB, WTI ~~etc~~, BDA etc.

The slow system is sign of red-tapism and poor governance. Thus steps such as rationalisation of department function, funding balancing autonomy with independence, specialised headed needs to be taken to improve the structure.

13. In the light of criticism surrounding the composition and functioning of Rajya Sabha, do you think it exists merely as a secondary house of the Parliament? (250 words) 15

राज्यसभा की संरचना और कार्यप्रणाली से संबद्ध आलोचना के प्रकाश में, क्या आप मानते हैं कि इसका अस्तित्व केवल संसद के एक द्वितीयक सदन के रूप में है?

RS is upper house of Parliament in India. The purpose of RS is
① space for intellectual, domain expert who cannot undergo rough & tough of election (LS).

② lessening ~~the~~ sharing the burden of LS.

③ representation of states.

④ prevent LS from hasty decision making.

The above points highlight the important of RS - Despite such noble objective, following criticism are:

① Poor functioning. only 153 bill

passed in 2014-19; while 188 in 2009-10, and 254 in 2004-09. Thus efficiency has

reduced.

② RS could function less than 1/4th time in last budgetary session - (out of 48 hrs)

(3) Reduced time for budgetary discussion, such as only 48 hrs while in 1960's it was more than 100 hrs.

(4) Less meeting; such as less than 380 meeting in 2004-15; while the same no. was around 600 in 1960's.
{ i.e. 60-70 meeting in year compared to 120 meeting }.

(5) Recent case of horse trading during the pre-NOTA times.

(6) Issue of whip is concern due to restraint on members' choice & opinion.

Criticism against composition:

- (i) States ~~take~~ get representation according to 1976 census. Thus skewed representation.
- (ii) As many as 5 UT have no representation.
- (iii) Population enlarged (by 3 times) since independence, but no of seat remain same.

(iv) Nominated member depend on whims of government and not other stakeholder such as opposition.

Behind all this criticism, RS's role is not less than LS in ~~to~~ due to its special power:

- ① Article 312: to create new civil service (AIS).
- ② to pass a bill & resolution supporting for

new legislation on state subject (A. 249).

RS have equal role in president appointment, passing ordinary bill and constitutional amendment bill. new its recent criticism cannot be equated to secondary house - ~~best~~ a chamber

14. Despite legislative changes with respect to funding of political parties in recent years, many challenges still exist with regards to transparency in electoral funding. Discuss. Can state funding of elections help in addressing these challenges? (250 words) 15

हाल के वर्षों में राजनीतिक दलों के वित्त-पोषण के संबंध में विधायी परिवर्तनों के बावजूद, चुनावी वित्त-पोषण में पारदर्शिता संबंधी कई चुनौतियां अभी भी बनी हुई हैं। चर्चा कीजिए। क्या राज्य द्वारा चुनावों का वित्त-पोषण इन चुनौतियों को दूर करने में सहायता कर सकता है?

The recent FCRA amendment, Company Act have removed the capping for donation of fund by company and foreign entity.

Also the recent electoral bond are not able to fulfill the gap of transparency following challenges:-

- ① Anonymity in funding; since 17 act exempt from reporting, above (above Rs 200000). Political funding not under RTI)
- ② Issues with electoral bond: the government ruling has upper edge as recently 86% fund was reported to go (ADR report). Government can even check the donors of opposition party by engaging with SB.
- ③ Foreign based funding may also possess threat as many NGOs (greenpeace) have

found to be working against government
Non-transparent

Funding of political parties lead to

- crony capitalism.

- favouritism.

- nepotism.

- lobbying & influence by pressure group.

This particularly is against the
norms of free-fair election. Under such
circumstance, the EC has given a thought

for state funding of election.

Potential of state funding. Pres.

① From a national pool of fund, fund
will be disbursed. Thus every party gets a
due, unlike the only ~~monopoly~~ ruling.

② to prevent corruption, role of black
money

③ may push for women inclusion,
since party democracy & reforms

(4) Non-biased taxation decision

State funding was reported advocated
by taskforce committee, Indrapit sen
gupta committee 2nd, ARC.

However state funding has following issues:

- ① It projects political party as organ of state and not part of civil society
- ② The fear is corruption and other source may help along with state

funding:

- ③ Donors are forced to give to the party, to which ideology they don't subscribe

The foremost criticism is that as many electoral reforms pending, without which ~~state~~ election is unfair, so

But state funding offers the transparency in funding, anonymity of donors, role of ECI in managing fund etc. and thus it is 1st step to pressure political party to come under RTI,

15. Successful and long-lasting urban transformation critically depends on reforming the way our cities are governed. In this context, highlight the challenges plaguing urban governance in India and suggest some strategies to overcome those challenges. (250 words) 15

सफल और चिरस्थायी शहरी रूपांतरण मुख्यतया, हमारे शहरों को शासित करने के तरीके में सुधार पर निर्भर करता है। इस संदर्भ में, भारत में शहरी शासन को दुष्प्रभावित करने वाली चुनौतियों पर प्रकाश डालिए और इन चुनौतियों को दूर करने के लिए कुछ रणनीतियों का सुझाव दीजिए।

Recently, draft urban policy has been floated by government to reform the governance - both structural & functional. The rapid ~~sur~~ rise in urban population from 31% (2011) to ~~46.1~~ 46.1% (2030), is cause of concern if ill prepared. challenges regarding urban governance

① Definition of urban area: Presently the statutory town and census town are differently treated in terms of governance. Moreover the census town are under-estimated presently.

② No proper full fledged policy regarding urban development, slum development and no architectural / town planning exists so far.

(3) Poor data availability, both due to state government lackadaisical attitude and ill equipped municipalities & SFC. (state finance commission)

(4) Ill-equipped human resources: no well established cadre with standard present to carry urban governance smoothly

(5) Poor financial condition. Cities are source of 0.5% of GDP of town highlights the tax variation.

(6) State government have not distributed the subjects of 74th amendment to municipality

Measures taken:

- ① Smart city mission
- (2) "HUIDAY" & AMFVT scheme for urban development
- (3) India urban data exchange ~~for~~ by ISRO for data availability and its use in governance.

4) Safe city project by MHA in Jammu, Mumbai, Bangalore, Delhi, Hyderabad, Pune.

More steps need to be taken:

① "cadre" of municipal officers & personnels: need to built by state government

② Uniformity in structure across India, to ensure portability of human resource.

③ Municipal bonds for fund.

④ Improve tax ^{GDP}-ratio, by crackdown on evaders.

⑤ Environmental conservation

Cities are absorber of age-distress. Moreover urban policy is need of hour to envisage well thought sustainable town planning and inclusive society (for women, child, slum, marginalised friendly).

16. Explain the role that SHGs play in poverty alleviation in India. Highlighting the shortcomings of the SHG-Bank Linkage programme, give some suggestions to improve its performance. (250 words) 15

भारत में निर्धनता उन्मूलन में SHGs द्वारा निभाई जा रही भूमिका को स्पष्ट कीजिए। SHG-बैंक लिंकेज कार्यक्रम की कमियों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, इसके निष्पादन में सुधार लाने हेतु कुछ सुझाव दीजिए।

SHGs are small voluntary association of rural poor, mostly comprising of women.

Role in poverty alleviation.

④ Social role:

- ① lend the support in times of crisis
e.g. Kudumbashree in Kerala, post flood
- ② women engaged with SHGs have found to improve the nutritional status of child, education of child, reduce domestic violence, reduce malnutrition and child mortality rate
- ③ Decision making skills inculcating, resolution of conflict etc. (Society for elimination of rural poor).

Economic role:

- ① lend the money, without collateral.
- ② rotatory savings.

- (3) Act as microfinance institution.
(4) Community / Co-operative farming in Kerala has taken place.

Above all, women empowerment and women role is emphasised in development process.

Also in Kerala, the poverty has reduced owing to participation of women in Kudamashree. This is testimony to their success.

Thus NABARD initiated SHG-Bank linkage programme, for linking their small saving with banks.

Shortcoming:

- ① Digital based; for which SHGs are ill-equipped.
- ② Poor financial literacy; as also only 24% in India are financially literate.
- (3) Irregular saving; micro finance NPA of SHGs has been rising since 2010, reduced the pace of programme.

(H) Above all the SHG have poorly aware regarding the programme.



SHG can play a better role in poverty, and as models

BIMARU state to alleviate

SERP A and Kudumbashree

through BIMARU states can prosper.

17. Despite initiatives taken by the government in recent years to address the challenges of the Indian higher education system, many reforms are still required to improve its quality and enhance its relevance. Analyse.

(250 words) 15

भारतीय उच्च शिक्षा प्रणाली की चुनौतियों का समाधान करने के लिए विगत वर्षों में सरकार द्वारा की गई पहलों के बावजूद, इसकी गुणवत्ता में सुधार लाने और इसकी प्रासंगिकता बढ़ाने हेतु अभी भी कई सुधारों की आवश्यकता है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Indian higher education system has faced myriad of problem from recognition, accreditation, funding, faculty, courses, etc.

Steps taken by Indian government
Institution based

- ① Institution of eminence to build-20 world class institution
- ② Recent SPARC schemes for collaborating with foreign institution

Faculty based:

- (1) AUKAR program, IMPRINT India, TARA programme, to augment research writing skills
- (2) To attract brain-gain: Vajra scheme fellowship programme, etc

Funding :-

— RISE & HEPA have been established
for improving funding

Problems faced still :-

① Poor pupil to teacher ratio (≈ 35).

② Rising NPAs and 1.5% GDP budget for
education is too less & cause of concern

③ Vacancy in institution for post of up to
faculty (around 40-1%)

④ Plagiarism in research is rampant

⑤ Poor ~~teacher~~ state of art lab,
poor & ill equipped human resource
also degrades the efficiency.

⑥ Racism: deter the foreign student
from Africa to come to India

⑦ NO proper globally aligned policy to
ensure portability & recognition of
course

Steps that need to be taken:

- ① CSR activities & funding by corporate in higher education
- ② As Narayan Murthy panel recommends -
taxation incentive for collaborating corporate,
355 year lease of land, full autonomy
etc to make sure quality is maintained.

Recent education policy; has given
significant focus for higher education. However
to ensure the making of Harvard like
institution which took 400 years, will take
time gradually. ~~and thus no need of~~

18. Giving an account of the progress made under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, mention the challenges that it faces in achieving its target. How can the implementation of the programme be fast-tracked? (250 words) 15

प्रधानमंत्री आवास योजना के अंतर्गत हुई प्रगति का विवरण प्रस्तुत करते हुए, अपने लक्ष्य को प्राप्त करने में इस योजना के समक्ष आने वाली चुनौतियों का उल्लेख कीजिए। इस कार्यक्रम के कार्यान्वयन को किस प्रकार त्वरित किया जा सकता है?

Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana
is "housing scheme for all" floated by

government.

It has 4 components: ① for slums
based development

② Credit link capacity scheme

③ for EWS, for economically weaker section

④ for middle income group

Account of progress:

① Slum development has started in
Mumbai, West Bengal,

② Rehabilitation & resettlement of
development induced people have begun
(of Narmada valley)

③ Loans granted have increased and
"housing sector" identified under priority
sector lending.

Challenge

- ① Tribals / slum are ill equipped to use the house; thus many in search of saving money (since less rent) have again shifted to slum.
- ② No capacity building; only housing based ~~has~~
- ③ Documentation issue, and bureaucratic red tapism have slowed the process.

How can implementation be fast tracked?

- ① Regular ^{online} monitoring through Aadhar
- ② Regular on field check, whether people are living or have they given on rent
- ③ Warning of strict rules, to ensure inclusivity in process & avoid inclusion-exclusion error.

Also the community involvement
in maintaining can be helpful.

The need of hour is simultaneously
building the capacity of people to ensure
self employment

"Housing for all" is key for proper
sanitation, and better drinking water.

19. Island nations of the Indian Ocean hold immense strategic value in shaping the geopolitical contours of the region and ensuring maritime security of India. Discuss. (250 words) 15

हिंद महासागर के द्वीपीय राष्ट्र इस क्षेत्र की भू-राजनीतिक रूप-रेखा को आकार देने और भारत की समुद्री सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करने में अत्यधिक रणनीतिक महत्व रखते हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।

Island nation owing to strategic location have key value in geopolitical and geo-economic

Geopolitical contours:

(1) formation of IDRA; is geopolitical organisation for maritime security

(2) Similarly, IONS (Indian Ocean Naval Symposium).

(3) Small island developing states (SIDS);

are key driver in Paris climate change

(4) South South co-operation; owing to developing economy states

(5) Strategic location; be it ports of Singapore (Changi), strait of Hormuz, or Sabang near Indonesia

malacca strait, ~~sea~~ key island
nation are closest to it.

Geoeconomic contour:

- (1) choke point of trade.
- (2) rare earth resources
- (3) Ocean drilling project as ~~the~~ after
cooperation
- (4) fishery, polymetallic nodules, oil
exploration and other geo-economic
importance that shape geopolitics -

Maritime security:

- (1) Role in preventing piracy, specially
along Somalia & Seychelles
- (2) Role in preventing terrorism / hijacking
(deep)
- (3) To combat drug trafficking, human
trafficking etc
- (4) securing sea lanes of communication.
- (5) Combating strains of power of China.

(6) Securing safe trade

Island nations are key for
combating climate change, south
co-operation, rule based institutions
soft power states for India.

This development assistance and
every effort should be putted to
ensure harmonious relation.

20. Development assistance, a key instrument in India's foreign policy, has seen a considerable expansion in the past few years both in its scope and reach. Elucidate. (250 words) 15

भारतीय विदेश नीति के एक प्रमुख साधन के रूप में 'विकास सहायता' के दायरे और पहुँच दोनों में विगत कुछ वर्षों में काफ़ी विस्तार देखा गया है। सविस्तार स्पष्ट कीजिए।

Soon after 2014, the developmental assistance to SAARC nation declined. However lately, the development aid to Africa & SAARC neighbours have increased due to:

- ① Project India as global power.
- ② Project India as donor & not receiver.

(3) Key to combat China's cheque book diplomacy.

(4) In consonance with ASI to help least developed countries

(5) to bid for UNSC seat

(6) to securing their co-operation in south-south co-operation and at various international for a such as IMF, WTO, WB, etc.

Expansion can be seen in :

① Afghanistan :

Development aid for Shahport dam,
Schwa dam, Zaraji-Delaram highway,
dam project on Kabul, Parliament constr-
uction of Afghanistan etc.

② Maldives :

Recently India donated
\$1.4 bn to Maldives for cooperation and in
aid to counter & combat China's role

③ flourishing Africa :

Development assistance
- in form of pan-Africa project
- Asia-Africa growth project
- Team-9-project
- to expand business
- investment in Africa increased

④ Iran : building & Chabahar port &
acquiring of Farzad-B gas block.

⑤ Bangladesh :

Co-operating with Russia
to build Rooper power plants & highway
from Akhaura to Azaitale.

⑥ Bhutan : mangdelhu project,
chukha, kurichu, tola hydroelectric project.

(7) Nepal : Pancheshwar dam project etc.

⑧ Morgue : gave assistance to combat
covid disease among child (\$20000)

However the concern with Nepal
remains port blockade.

Moreover the limitation of
India is there with respect to cheque
book diplomacy of China.

And thus soft power / soft
diplomacy / culture diplomacy should be
accompanied.